WATFORD

V

MILLWALL FOOTBALL CLUB 1885

PREVIEW

VICARAGE ROAD

SAT JAN 17 | 12:30PM

sky bet CHAMPIONSHIP | EFL



SCARF RAISE

Today is our Graham Taylor Matchday, and as is tradition fans will raise a scarf in honour of our greatest ever manager when the players enter the field.

Please be in your seats by 12:15pm at the latest so you are ready to take part in the display!

There will also be a minute of applause in the 72nd minute of the game – marking the age of GT when he sadly passed away on January 12, 2017.

This will once again be a chance to raise your scarf aloft as we continue to pay our respects.



WELCOME BACK

We are delighted to welcome club legend Nigel Gibbs back to The Vic today – a man more than worthy to celebrate the Graham Taylor Matchday with us!

It was GT who handed the local lad his senior debut in 1983, remarkably in a UEFA Cup tie against Sparta Prague. Taylor then established the right-back as a first-team regular, with the one-club man going on to play 491 times and end up second on our all-time appearance list.

“I owe him a lot,” Gibbs has said previously about the great man. “He signed me as an apprentice, as a pro, gave me my debut, and played me regularly.

“He gave me advice along the way, and was on the end of the phone if I wanted to call him – even when I wasn’t at the club and he was chairman.

“He would do that to any player to help in any way he could.”

Please join us in giving Nigel a warm welcome back to The Vic today!

KELME

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Friday January 16 – Monday January 19

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FROM THE TOP

Graham was the first person to ring me when the Pozzo family took over this great football club. He spoke of the values of the football club and even told me how to run it! He had every right as the club's greatest ever manager, its one-time interim chairman and, above all, a supporter.

We inherited a family club at the heart of the community; one with rich history, respected and admired. This was solely down to the legacy of Graham and Elton who together powered the club from the Fourth Division to the top flight, and even into Europe.

Graham will never be forgotten – and this special matchday allows everyone who admired him to pay their own tribute.

Scott Duxbury
Chairman and CEO



HEAD COACH

Graham's achievements here speak for themselves. Everybody knows. They are so difficult to achieve and yet he did them all – and he did it twice! But the amazing thing is the way he did it. He achieved it with kindness and compassion. I love this.

You have to be a good manager to achieve the amazing things he did, but to create something special, you have to have more than this. He had it. He will have had difficult moments. I have no doubt. And you cannot overcome these moments unless you have support around you. He had the support of everybody because of his values and the way he cared about people.

Javi Gracia

WATFORD

2025/26

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COVENTRY CITY FOOTBALL CLUB



BEEN AT BOTH

Darren Ward enjoyed two separate spells at both Watford and Millwall – and he knows a thing or two about Graham Taylor as well!

Taylor had no qualms about handing the defender a real baptism of fire for his debut in 1997, a trip to Kenilworth Road to take on Luton Town.

Ward was only 17 at the time and had been a schoolboy the year before, but he helped the Hornets keep a clean sheet in a 0-0 draw.

The centre-back ended up playing 77 times for Watford across his first spell and a later loan, while his two stints at Millwall included reaching the FA Cup final in 2004.

He will be here today to enjoy the game and remember GT, so please give him a good reception to welcome him back to The Vic!



ACADEMY

Graham had a huge influence on my career, not only as a player but also as a person.

He was always supportive of the young players at the club, players like me, Robbo and Pagey who had come through the Academy, giving us an opportunity to play first-team football. His values and work ethic still resonate with me. I have tried to pass this on to the players and the staff, so they realise what this football club means to not only the fans but to the community.

Richard Johnson
Academy Director



MEMORABLE MOMENT

It was June 24, 1977 when GT's love affair with the Hornets began with his unveiling at Vicarage Road.

The great man was joined on the pitch by chairman Elton John with the club marooned in the Fourth Division.

An audacious plan was hatched to take the club into the top flight and in just five years the miracle man had achieved it, following a treble of promotions.

A runners-up finish behind Liverpool in Division One followed, as well as European football and a place in the FA Cup final.

GT would end up with a remarkable five promotions with the Hornets in all, across two permanent spells.

What a man and what a story!



GOLDEN GIRLS

I met Graham in the early 90s when I was about eight. I hadn't been into football long, but he and Luther were at a family fun day, and he was just so personable, so friendly and had time for everyone.

I didn't know then what a great man he was, but as I grew up and became a Watford fan, that soon became abundantly clear. Being at Wembley with my big brothers in 1999 to see him lead the team out with that huge grin on his face is one of my favourite football memories. I watched that game over and over, just to relive the joy it brought us all. He was absolutely the catalyst.

Helen Ward
Head of Women's Football



TRUST

I remember being interviewed by Graham when I applied for the role of Assistant Football in the Community Officer back in 1996! The fact that he was on the interview panel demonstrated how important the club's community work was to him.

Graham's vision of making Watford a football club for the community, backed up by his dedication and commitment to take the club to the community, as well as welcome the community to the club, continues to inspire the work of the Trust.

We will ensure that Graham's legacy off the field continues to live on through the work of the Trust.

Rob Smith
Community Director



GRAHAM TAYLOR QUIZ

Can you answer these quiz questions about GT?

TAP HERE TO PLAY

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YOU 'ORNS



Wishing Harry and Charlie a very happy ninth birthday!
Lots of love from Mum, Scott, Lillie and Rufus.



Happy 60th birthday to former club employee Julia Bateson! Julia joined us as Playing for Success Manager in 2000 and set up Watford Learning with Glen Calverley until 2008.

STAT ATTACK

WATFORD'S LAST FIVE MATCHES v THE LIONS

W1	D1	L3

LEAGUE FORM

WATFORD	MILLWALL
DWWWW (6TH)	LDWDW (5TH)

TOP SCORERS

WATFORD	MILLWALL
KJERRUMGAARD (7)	**AZEEZ** (6)

ONE TO WATCH: TRISTAN CRAMA

Standing at 6ft 4in, the imposing former Brentford defender is a powerful player at the heart of defence or at right-back. Crama has chipped in with two goals and a pair of assists this season and will be a danger from set pieces.



IRANKUNDA'S INSIGHT

We want to beat them because we lost to them in the first game.

It really helps that everyone wants to work for each other, and us being more of a team rather than individuals.

We are hungry to keep winning games and we will see what happens.

YOUR GOLDEN BOYS
WATFORD

HEAD COACH
JAVI GRACIA

1	E	**SELVIK** (GK)	**20**	M	**DOUMBIA**
2	J	**NGAKIA**	**22**	J	**MORRIS**
4	K	**KEBEN**	**23**	N	**MENDY**
5	H	**KYPRIANOU**	**25**	J	**ABANKWAH**
6	M	**POLLOCK**	**27**	F	**MENDY**
7	T	**INCE**	**29**	J	**PETRIS**
8	G	**CHAKVETADZE**	**34**	K	**BAAH**
9	L	**KJERRUMGAARD**	**39**	E	**KAYEMBE**
10	I	**LOUZA**	**41**	A	**MARRIOTT** (GK)
11	R	**VATA**	**42**	O	**MAAMMA**
12	N	**BAXTER** (GK)	**43**	J	**GRIEVES**
14	P	**DWOMOH**	**50**	J	**MULLINS**
16	M	**BOLA**	**53**	A	**NABIZADA**
17	M	**SISSOKO**	**57**	I	**KAMGA**
18	V	**SEMEDO**	**66**	N	**IRANKUNDA**

TODAY'S WATFORD FC MATCHDAY MASCOTS

ALFIE **EDWARDS**
ELISE **JAMES-EDWARDS**
HENRY **KIPPING**
CHESTER **PETTIT**
HUNTER **SHARPE**

OUR VISITORS

MILLWALL

MANAGER
ALEX NEIL

1	L **JENSEN** (GK)	**19**	J **COBURN**
2	D **MCNAMARA**	**21**	M **LUONGO**
3	Z **STURGE**	**22**	A **EMAKHU**
4	T **CRAMA**	**23**	J **BRYAN**
5	J **COOPER**	**24**	C **DE NORRE**
6	C **TAYLOR**	**25**	L **CUNDLE**
7	T **BALLO**	**26**	B **BAKER**
8	B **MITCHELL**	**28**	A **MATTHEWS**
9	M **IVANOVIĆ**	**29**	Z **LOVELACE**
10	C **NEGHLI**	**31**	R **BANGURA-WILLIAMS**
11	F **AZEEZ**	**39**	W **SMALLBONE**
14	A **DOUGHTY**	**41**	G **EVANS** (GK)
15	M **CROCOMBE** (GK)	**43**	J **COLEMAN** (GK)
16	D **KELLY**	**45**	W **HARDING**
17	M **LANGSTAFF**	**49**	D **MAZOU-SACKO**
18	R **LEONARD**		

NEXT UP AT HOME

PORTSMOUTH

VICARAGE ROAD | WED JAN 21 | 19.45PM

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