

WOLVES
WOLVES
WOLVES



 **Women's
National League**

WOLVES V NOTTINGHAM FOREST
SUNDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2023 | NEW BUCKS HEAD STADIUM

AstroPay



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**MANDER
CENTRE**

Trade Nation

WE ARE WOLVES



COVER STAR:
ANNA MORPHET

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PROGRAMME TEAM

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MANAGER
DAN McNAMARA

“WE WERE DELIGHTED TO GET INTO THE SEMI-FINAL AND TEE UP A GREAT GAME AWAY AT WATFORD...”



Good afternoon,

Welcome back to the New Bucks Head for the third time in three weeks.

Today we welcome Andy Cook and his Nottingham Forest side who are the stand outs heading into the second period of the season. We know how tough today will be to try and not only stop a free scoring Forest but also attempt to cause them some problems.

Last weekend saw a real game of two halves for us. We were delighted to get into the semi-final and tee up a great game away at Watford in three weeks' time. The players were however disappointed with their performances. After a solid week in training, we are hoping to put things right today with a positive performance.

We thank you all for your continued support which has been amazing over the last few weeks.

Hopefully, we can put in a performance to be proud of and get our first points of 2023.

Thank you.

Macca

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WOLVES WAMPFORD

MANDER CENTRE

Trade Nation

CAPTAIN ANNA PRICE

“WE WILL BE GIVING IT EVERYTHING AND ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE CHALLENGE AHEAD.”



Good afternoon,

Welcome to all our supporters who have joined us for today's game versus Nottingham Forest.

After a couple of weeks of cup action we are excited to get back to league action today and are looking forward to the challenge ahead.

Nottingham Forest are having a fantastic season and the past encounters over the last three seasons have always been an exciting watch for a neutral.

We have nothing to lose today. Forest are at the top of the table and will be coming here to get three points to increase their lead going into the second half of the season.

We will be giving it everything and are looking forward to the challenge ahead. They have fantastic players that we are going to have to contain and when we get our opportunities, we have to be ready to take them.

The previous encounter away saw us play some of our best football of the season first half, and that's what we will be aiming for going into today's game. Using the confidence from that first half performance and doing all we can to get something out of the game.

As always, we thank you for your continued support and we all hope you enjoy the game.

Anna Price

RESERVES MANAGER TOM WARREN

“WE PLAYED WELL AND MET THE COMPETITIVENESS OF THE GAME HEAD-ON.”



Good afternoon,

Starting my notes with some negative updates on the injury front, with us finding out over the last week following scan results that we have lost Harriet Wellings and Katelyn Smith for the season with serious knee injuries. I'm gutted for both, not only are they key players for us but more importantly as people it's tough to take. It's important now that the club supports them in their rehab, and we see them healthy in the long term.

Last weekend we had a great result beating Stourbridge 3-2 at home. As expected, they dropped a number of first-team players down which I'm fully supportive of and it made the game a tough test. We played well and met the competitiveness of the game head-on as we had at Durham the week before with Beth Grady, Amy Hare and Daisy Wickett all scoring highlight reel goals.

Mentions also go to Erin Griffiths playing out of position in central midfield alongside the ever-reliable Phoebe Hill who were both excellent in controlling the game.

Best of luck to Macca, his players and staff for today's huge game.

Tom

Reserve Team Fixtures

12/02/23
Sporting Khalsa Development (A)

19/02/23
Stoke City FC Reserves (A)

26/02/23
Loughborough Lightning Development (H)

05/03/23
West Bromwich Albion Development (H) (Cup)

12/03/23
Doncaster Rovers Belles Development (A)

MATCH REPORT

by Tom Alston

Wolves 3 (Toussaint 32, 102, J. Cross 35) - 2 Huddersfield Town (Ibbotson 47, E. Cross OG 62)

FA WNL Cup Quarter Final | Sunday 5th February 2023

A Destiney Toussaint double sent Wolves Women through to the semi-final of the Women's National League Cup as the old gold beat Huddersfield Town in extra-time to book their place in the final four of the competition, where an away trip to Watford awaits.

Two first half goals from Toussaint and Jade Cross were cancelled out in the second by Beth Ibbotson and an Emma Cross own goal, before Toussaint crushed Town's hopes with a close-range effort in the 102nd minute.

The home side's continuous pressure soon paid off with Toussaint breaking the deadlock. Glen Preston's defence saw a handful of miscommunications as Megeary failed to claim two crosses before Toussaint smashed the ball into an open net.

Despite the slow start, Wolves were quick to make it two. Tammi George ran down the left channel and into the area before dragging a ball across the box. Gauntlett arrived looking to tap in but missed her shot leaving Jade Cross at the far post to double the score.

Half-time | Wolves 2-0 Huddersfield Town

Dan McNamara's side were straight back into the action once the second half began. Intricate link-up play between Gauntlett, George and Toussaint saw the latter burst down the right wing. She whipped an inviting cross into the area which was held up by Helen Dermody before Gauntlett smashed a header off the post.

Huddersfield Town took advantage of Wolves' missed opportunity and quickly got themselves back into the match. Kate Mallins curled in a dangerous corner from the right before Ibbotson aimed a powerful header past debutant Nina Wilson.

Teams:

Wolves | Wilson, Morphet, E. Cross, George (Dickens 86), Gauntlett (Miller 59), J. Cross, Dermody (Tah 101), Holmes (Cooper 54), Johnson, Toussaint, Merrick (Price 118).

The goal gave the visitors some newfound confidence and soon reaped the rewards of their high pressure. Mallin struck a shot goalward before Wilson parried the shot, but to her misfortunes, the ball deflected off Cross and into her own net equalling the scores.

Preston's squad continued their pressure into the final minutes of the 90 with the home side struggling to regain control of the game. But a final flurry of chances for Wolves saw two corners headed off the line before Dermody's long-range effort was palmed away by Megeary.

Full-time | Wolves 2-2 Huddersfield Town

Dermody looked to steal the headlines in the first half of extra-time as Katie Johnson targeted a lifted ball through to the Wolves captain. She took down the cross-field pass before trying to nudge the ball over Megeary but her shot lacked any power allowing the goalkeeper to calmly collect the ball.

However, when the ball fell to Toussaint's feet minutes later inside the area, she made no mistake in putting all her force behind the ball.

Anna Morphet delivered yet another corner causing problems for the Huddersfield defence. Megeary came to claim but missed the ball with the resulting header falling to the feet of Toussaint who smashed the ball into an open net.

Full-time after extra-time | Wolves 3-2 Huddersfield Town

Huddersfield | Megeary, Fletcher, Marshall, Housley, Heslam, Stanfield, Ibbotson, Mallin (Anderson 81), Hulme (Parry 89), Mason, Sanderson.

REACTION

Following the dramatic win, McNamara was full of praise for his side's first half performance but said how they played in the second must change.

"It's always great to be in the semi-final of the national cup. I thought it was a game of two halves certainly for ourselves. In the first half, we were excellent in moments and then we go in at half-time and don't come back out, it was like watching two different teams. We've got to change that; we've got to get to the bottom of that and change it. The girls are disappointed with their own performances. But ultimately, we are delighted that we are in the semi-final of the cup, and we've got an away day at Watford to look forward to."

On scoring the winning goal in extra time

"It was amazing. It was great for Destiney as I thought she played fantastic today, she was back to her best but it still didn't mask the disappointment of the performance. I'll be honest with the girls, I'll tell them when they've been fantastic and I'll also tell them when their performance isn't quite there. We're delighted to be through, at half-time I expected us to go through, I expect this team to win most weeks that we play, so I think it's more of a relief that we've made the breakthrough and got that goal that's going to take us through."

On Nina Wilson's debut

"She's got great experience with her time at various clubs in the Championship so it's fantastic to add her quality to our squad. I thought she did well, she commanded her box, she's very loud, talkative and takes ownership. It was great to see her in between the sticks and hopefully there will be many more games to come."



MILLER

19

Dynamic striker Ali joined Wolves in August 2020 and excels not only in goalscoring but also in hold-up play and speed. Before football she competed for England on the trampoline and was the 2013 national champion.



THE INTERVIEW

NINA WILSON

By Megan Garbutt

Our newest signing, Nina Wilson, joins us on loan to the end of the season, giving Hugh McCluskie a trio of goalkeepers to work with and everyone is so excited to welcome Nina to the pack.

Welcome to Wolves, Nina. How are you settling in?

"I couldn't speak any higher of the set-up and the welcome I've received from the girls. I've been looking to come in for a while to work with Macca and everyone, so I've been following the girls over recent months and I've just thought wow, that's something I want to be a part of. To finally get through the door, it's unreal and I'm really happy to be here."

You've come from Sheffield United in the Championship; how much do you enjoy playing for them?

"I've been at Sheffield for about two years now. I moved up just to be part of what is like a huge club, so during my time there I've become a totally different player to the one that walked in the door. Last year I was an understudy to Fran who was golden glove holder in the Championship and probably one of the best keepers in the women's game and someone I've previously looked up to. I've always learnt off some of the best keepers in the Championship so I'm just looking to build on that experience now and use everything I've learnt at a higher level to help Wolves get what they deserve, which is promotion."

At what age did you realise football was going to be your career?

"I started playing football earlier than I can remember. I was probably three when I started and I don't even know how I got into it because we're the least sporty family ever, but as soon as I began to play, all I've ever known is football and the aim has always been to be fully professional. If I do something, I'm going to put not even 100% into it, I'm going to put 200% into it. What's exciting about being here, is I can put all that into it and try and drive us to where we want to be, which is eventually a full-time set-up."

Playing 120 minutes on your debut, bet you weren't expecting that?

"I think what we showed in that game, was the desire to grind out a result. It wasn't the prettiest of games, but it's always exciting to be a part of those games, so it was good to get extra minutes under my belt and start to get to know the team."

Women's football has progressed massively over the past few years. How lucky do you feel to be at the age you are as it's progressing as much as it is?

"I think my best is yet to come and that can be said about the women's game too. I feel very lucky that I've grown up with the growth of the game. I'm almost slightly jealous of the younger girls now, because I'm like wow, how good it is for them to come into what is almost already a professional sport. I never had that opportunity and those role models to look up to at all; I didn't even know of any women's teams until I was about 17 and I joined one. It's a great time for the sport and the investment that's especially going into the top teams and teams like Wolves, it's a great thing to be part of."

Do you do anything alongside your football; any job or studying?

"I work for the Community Foundation at Sheffield United, so the charity part of the club. We interact with the fans and the community of Sheffield and that's something I'm really passionate about, that side of football. Football is nothing without the fans, so I've really been enjoying that, and we've been hosting a few mental health workshops and mental health programmes as part of our wellbeing strand for the community, so it's something I really take pride in, and I always love to give back to the fans."

Goalkeeping is such a competitive position on the pitch, but how does that make you a better player when you're competing with others?

"I've competed throughout my career. I started my senior career at 16 at Brighton, so I've been on both ends of what being a keeper is about. Sometimes you will be disappointed when you're not playing and there is only one spot at the end of the day, but the important thing is and something I love about the goalkeeper union is the respect that's there, so it doesn't matter who's playing, you support that keeper no matter what. I've learnt throughout my career that professionalism and respect for your other keepers is the most important thing and ultimately that competition will make you better as a keeper as well, like it will all over the pitch."





Any hobbies or things you like to do in your spare time?

“I don't really like spare time. I'm a bit obsessed with football, so everything I have goes into it, whether it's gym or doing extra. It's a really boring answer, but it's true and if I've got spare time it's getting put into football. I like to go and watch the sunset every so often and sometimes the sunrise, but football is life.”

SQUAD STATS

	Shan Turner	Laura Cooper	Anna Morphet	Anna Price	Emma Cross	Ria Elsmore	Tammi George	Maz Gauntlett	Jade Cross	Helen Dermody	Amber Hughes	Bec Thomas	Amy Dicken	Kelly Darby	Summer Holmes	Katie Johnson	Ali Miller	Lowri Walker	Destiney Toussaint	Josie Smith	Grace Gregory	Beth Merrick	Marianne Taho	Amy Hare	Nina Wilson
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15	16	17	19	20	21	23	24	28	30	34	44
League apps	2	10	10	5	11	2	10	11	11	11	10	9	6	3	9	10	6	0	5	1	0	10	1	1	0
League goals	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	2	0	10	0	1	0	0	4	3	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
WFA Cup apps	2	4	4	2	4	1	4	3	4	4	3	2	3	0	4	3	3	0	3	0	0	4	2	0	0
WFA Cup goals	0	0	4	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
League Cup apps	2	2	4	4	4	2	4	2	4	3	3	1	4	1	4	3	4	0	2	0	0	4	4	0	1
League Cup goals	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	4	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
B'ham County Cup apps	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	0	2	2	2	0	1	0	1	2	1	2	0
B'ham County Cup goals	0	0	1	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	4	3	0	0
Season total apps	8	18	19	12	20	6	19	17	20	19	17	12	15	4	19	18	15	0	11	1	1	20	8	3	1
Season total goals	0	0	7	3	0	1	4	7	4	1	17	0	4	1	1	4	7	0	9	0	1	10	4	0	0
Career total apps	38	49	94	344	214	28	92	33	219	37	46	82	52	41	57	27	48	63	11	1	1	54	8	3	1
Career total goals	0	2	33	64	3	1	26	16	156	6	42	0	13	5	2	6	14	32	9	0	1	20	4	0	0

TODAY'S OPPONENTS NOTTINGHAM FOREST



The earliest known Forest Ladies team competed in the Notts and Derby League in the early 1970s. In 1972/73 they became the first team to complete the 'grand triple' winning the League Championship, the League Knock-Out Cup and the League Charity Cup.

In the summer of 1996 Donna Hilton and Lisa Dawkins, players from the original 1990s side, continued to play while setting up a Forest Ladies Junior Section which continues to this day.

The senior team progressed, moving from success to success, and after several seasons in the Unison East Midlands League they eventually secured the title of the Premier League in 2002/03 and moved swiftly through the Midland Combination to the national stage.

They captured the Premier League Northern Division Championship in 2007/08, moved into the National Division and survived their first season in the top flight by finishing just one point above the relegation zone. They weren't as lucky the following season, finishing 11th, and should have been relegated to the Northern Division, but the advent of the Women's Super League relieved them.

The loss of several players to Super League teams had a disastrous effect on Forest as they fell to finish bottom of the table in 2011/12 and were relegated back to the Northern Division for the following season where they finished as runners-up to Sheffield FC Ladies. It also saw their application to join the FA WSL as an expansion team fail.

The 2013/14 season was difficult throughout as the club almost folded following the withdrawal of funding from the men's side. A sponsorship deal with E-Lites provided funds to see out the remainder of the campaign, whilst on the field of play they managed to finish fourth.

2014/15 was a poor campaign as the team dropped to a final position of ninth but improved to a mid-table position the following term. Further seasons of struggle followed up to the outbreak of the Covid pandemic, but last season saw an upturn in fortunes as an improved side became outside challengers for the title before eventually having to settle for fifth position. That recovery has been built on this term and they sit top of the table as they meet Wolves today.

FIXTURES, RESULTS & LINE-UPS 2022/23

Home fixtures in CAPS
 ●●●●● Used substitute ○ Unused
 ●¹ Goal scored * Own goal

WFA Cup
 FA WNL Cup
 Birmingham County Cup
 ● Yellow card ● Red card

August

	RES	POS	ATT	REFEREE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15
21 Liverpool Feds	1-1	6	180	Z Ahmed	●		●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	
28 Huddersfield Town	5-0	3	89	B Brighton	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
30 Stoke City	5-0	1	225	M Korpal	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

September

4 LOUGHBOROUGH LIGHTNING	4-0	1	484	M Wilson	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	
18 Nottingham Forest	4-2	1	418	Z Cunningham	●	●	●	○	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○
25 Northampton Town	5-0	-	112	A Clarke	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○

October

2 BURNLEY	1-3	2	582	C Parke	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
9 BOLDMERE ST MICHAEL'S	1-0	2	582	H Gardner	●	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
12 WEST BROMWICH ALBION	3-1	1	823	R Dobson	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
23 Derby County	3-1	1	359	E Chamberlain	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○
30 BRIGHOUSE TOWN	1-0	-	220	M Merriman	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

November

6 BRIGHOUSE TOWN	2-0	1	342	B Brighton	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
13 Shrewsbury Town	8-2	-	250	H Hetherington	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○
20 Chelmsley Colts*	19-0	-	-	M Aujla	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
27 NORTHAMPTON TOWN	5-0	-	276	J Alliband	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○

December

4 DURHAM CESTRIA	7-0	-	235	R Dobson	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○
11 Newcastle United	5-1	-	1386	D Wade	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
18 Boldmere St Michael's	3-1	-	-	G Thrower	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○

January

8 AFC FYLDE	0-2	2	307	R Dobson	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
29 WEST HAM UNITED	0-2	-	1692	N Bria	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○

February

5 HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	3-2	-	282	L Corns	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	○	○
12 NOTTINGHAM FOREST																		
19 Knowle																		
22 STOKE CITY																		
26 Loughborough Lightning																		

March

5 Watford																		
12 AFC Fylde																		
16 West Bromwich Albion (To be played at the Hawthorns)																		
19 Burnley																		
26 HUDDERSFIELD TOWN																		

April

2 Boldmere St Michael's																		
9 LIVERPOOL FEDS																		
16 DERBY COUNTY																		
30 Brighouse Town																		

Additional appearances: Lizzie Bennett-Steele – 4 apps 0 goals, Phoebe Hill – 1 app 0 goals, Skye Owen – 1 app 0 goals, Hannah Sparkes – 1 app, 0 goals



16	17	19	20	21	23	24	28	30	34	44
Summer Holmes	●	●								
Katie Johnson	●	●								
Ali Miller			●	●						
Lowri Walker										
Destiney Toussaint				●	●					
Josie Smith										
Grace Gregory										
Beth Merrick										
Marianne Taho										
Amy Hare										
Nina Wilson										

LEAGUE TABLE 2022/23

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Nottingham Forest	12	10	1	1	36	31
2	Wolves	11	8	1	2	19	25
3	Burnley	11	7	4	0	15	25
4	Derby County	13	7	2	4	13	23
5	Huddersfield Town	10	5	2	3	3	17
6	Brighouse Town	13	3	5	5	-3	14
7	AFC Fylde	12	3	5	4	-12	14
8	Stoke City	12	4	1	7	-12	13
9	Liverpool Feds	12	3	3	6	-11	12
10	Boldmere St Michaels	11	3	1	7	-10	10
11	West Bromwich Albion	10	2	3	5	-9	9
12	Loughborough Lightning	13	0	2	11	-29	2

Correct at time of going to print.

OTHER FIXTURES

FA WNL

- Fylde v Derby County
- Brighouse Town v Boldmere St Michaels
- Burnley v Loughborough
- Stoke City v Liverpool Feds
- West Bromwich Albion v Huddersfield Town

YOUR SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED

Admission to Wolves Women games at the New Bucks Head is free for Wolves and Telford United season ticket holders.

For non-season-ticket holders, tickets can be bought online in advance from the Telford United website for a reduced price of £4 for adults, £3 for concessions and £1 for under 16s.

Payment is also accepted on the gate via card or cash with entry costing £5 for adults and £4 for concessions.

To see our fixtures please scan the QR code to the left or visit wolves.co.uk/fixtures/womens-first-team



Scan here for the latest fixtures, results and match reports.



WOLVES

Manager Dan McNamara

1. Shan **Turner**
2. Laura **Cooper**
3. Anna **Morphet**
4. Anna **Price**
5. Emma **Cross**
6. Ria **Elsmore**
7. Tammi **George**
8. Maz **Gauntlett**
9. Jade **Cross**
10. Helen **Dermody**
11. Amber **Hughes**
13. Bec **Thomas**
14. Amy **Dicken**
15. Kelly **Darby**
16. Summer **Holmes**
17. Katie **Johnson**
19. Ali **Miller**
20. Lowri **Walker**
21. Destiney **Toussaint**
23. Josie **Smith**
24. Grace **Gregory**
28. Beth **Merrick**
30. Marianne **Taho**
31. Skye **Owen**
44. Nina **Wilson**



FOREST

Manager Andy Cook

- Emily **Batty** 1.
- Lyndsey **Harkin** 2.
- Georgia **Hewitt** 3.
- Lauren **Purchase** 4.
- Olivia **Cook** 5.
- Charlotte **Steggles** 6.
- Sophie **Domingo** 7.
- Mai **Moncaster** 8.
- Yasmin **Mosby** 9.
- Amy **West** 11.
- Niamh **Reynolds** 12.
- Arryana **Daniels** 14.
- Laura-Jayne **O'Neill** 15.
- Gianna **Mitchell** 16.
- Rosetta **Taylor** 17.
- Aja **Aguirre** 18.
- Rebecca **Anderson** 19.
- Ellie **Marshall** 20.
- Hayley **James** 21.
- Charlotte **Greengrass** 22.
- Mackenzie **Smith** 23.
- Naomi **Powell** 27.



MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee:
Phillip Lindsey

Assistant referees:
James Scerri & Owen Danylyk

NEXT AT THE NEW BUCKS HEAD

FA WNL

Stoke City
Wednesday 22nd February 2023
Kick-off 7.45pm