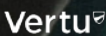




v CHELTENHAM TOWN

Vertu Trophy Group Stage
Tuesday, 2 September, 2025
7pm Kick-Off





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A photograph of Tom Cleverley, a man with short brown hair and a beard, wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt. He is gesturing with both hands, palms facing each other, as if in the middle of a conversation or giving instructions. The background is a blurred crowd of spectators at a stadium.

Tom's Preview

Defeat at Cardiff City on Saturday has potentially altered how Tom Cleverley will approach Tuesday night's game against Cheltenham Town.

Having had a positive week, with a league win over Blackpool followed by a strong performance against Swansea City in the Carabao Cup, the 4-0 loss against Cardiff was a bit of a morale-sapper.

There are no guarantees of anything against Cheltenham, when they visit; we are all aware of how English cup competitions can go. However, a home game against a side bottom of the division below has to be seen as an opportunity to pick

up a win at a good time, with another home league fixture, against Stockport County, on the horizon on Saturday.

"I think the game has taken on a level of importance, for sure," said Cleverley. "We're all winners on the staff, so we want to win every game that we go into. But I think this game's taken on a level new level of importance.

"It's important to me that we get into the habit of winning football matches. We want our forward players to get the confidence of goals and assists, so we're approaching the game very, very seriously.

>>

"With a view to the weekend, we want people to get confidence. I'm not disrespecting Cheltenham at all. They'll come here, they'll be a tough test. They almost got a great result on Friday night at Salford, and I'm not saying that they're just here to roll over.

"It won't be easy for us. We're going to have to work hard to create our chances, but I expect us to dominate the ball, and I expect us to get into areas to create more than we are doing right now.

"I'd expect to see a real dynamic performance. Individually, you try to use these cup competitions to get a little bit of form or rhythm. It's important for us that we do that."

"We're going to have to work hard to create our chances, but I expect us to dominate the ball, and I expect us to get into areas to create more"





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Opposition

CHELTONHAM TOWN

Gloucestershire-based outfit Cheltenham Town were founded in 1887, making them 137 years old. Albert White, a local teacher, formed the club in conjunction with the local cricket team, providing members a sport to play throughout the winter months.

After trials were held at the cricket ground, Cheltenham Town as it is known today was formed. The club is commonly referred to as 'The Robins' in reference to their red and white home strip. This has been a convention of Cheltenham since 1932; prior to this, the team donned ruby-coloured shirts.

Cheltenham play their home matches at Whaddon Road, or The EV Charger Points Stadium as it is known for sponsorship reasons. The 7,066 capacity stadium has been the home of Cheltenham since 1932, the club previously playing home games at the Agg-Gardner's Recreation Ground, Whaddon Lane, and Carter's Field.

At Whaddon Road, there are four stands: the Autovillage Stand, the Whaddon Road End, the Colin Farmer Stand, and the Prestbury Road End. The latter houses the noisiest home supporters and

backs onto the road after which it is named. Behind the other goal is the Whaddon Road End, where Argyle supporters would find themselves seated. The name is taken from the road which the stand backs onto, and also the road which the stadium is named after.

On one side is the Colin Farmer Stand, named in honour of a former club director who died in 2016. Farmer was credited with doing lots of good work for the Robins over a vast period of time. Finally, the Autovillage stand houses the tunnel, hospitality areas, dressing rooms, and other player amenities. It is the largest of the club's four stands with a capacity of over 2,000.

The Robins began playing their football in local leagues before eventually joining the Southern League in 1935. They spent half a century at the level before eventually reaching the Football Conference. It did not take them too long to breach the football league, having won the Conference title in 1999. Since then, the Robins have bounced between the third and fifth tiers of English football and are keen to write more history.



Manager

43-year-old Flynn is no stranger to the EFL despite still being a relatively young manager. After making 110 appearances for Newport County across four spells at Rodney Parade, it was no surprise when he was made caretaker manager of the Welsh club in 2017. After saving Newport from relegation to the National League in 2016/17, he was given the full-time job at the end of the season.

Flynn spent four years with the Exiles, which included FA Cup upsets and a play-off final. Flynn resigned in October 2021 and four months later took the Walsall job. He spent 14 months with the Black Country outfit before receiving the sack towards the end of the 2022/23 season.

His next move was to Swindon Town in May 2023, another side in the fourth tier. His time with the Robins started brilliantly, the team were scoring for fun and was towards the top of the table. However, things quickly went wrong, and Flynn was sacked in January 2024 after the Reds lost ten of their previous 15 games. Flynn arrived in Gloucestershire in May 2024, following the Robins' relegation, with the clear aim of returning Cheltenham to the third tier.



MICHAEL FLYNN



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April 2026



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Last Season

Michael Flynn's side went into last season with aspirations of a return to League One at the first time of asking. After a dramatic stoppage-time victory against Newport on the opening day, the Robins looked value for money in the fourth tier. However, just one win in the next seven saw Flynn's side drop down the table, a cause for concern.

Things looked to be back on the up when Cheltenham lost just twice in 16 games, putting them back in reach of the top seven. Inconsistent form ensued over Christmas and the New Year, but critical victories against both Salford City and Chesterfield proved that, on their day, the Robins were a match for anyone at the level.

It was too little, too late, however, for Cheltenham; six defeats in eight spanning five weeks meant the Robins were going to be subject to another season in League Two. Despite this, they ended the season strongly with just one defeat in their final five, including wins against Crewe Alexandra, Notts County, and Carlisle United.



Darragh Power



Joe Day

Veteran goalkeeper Day joined Cheltenham Town as a player-coach last summer. The 35-year-old impressed in non-league at the start of his career before earning a league move to Peterborough United in 2011. He moved permanently to Newport County in January 2015 and would go on to spend five seasons in South Wales, three of which under current Robins manager Michael Flynn. Day spent time at Cardiff City, AFC Wimbledon and Bristol Rovers before eventually returning to Rodney Parade in 2021. 62 appearances followed across the next two seasons before Day's move to the Robins.

Mamadou Diallo

Robins' academy graduate Diallo first arrived at Whaddon Road when he was an under-9 player. After a brief spell with West Bromwich Albion, the goalkeeper returned to Cheltenham to complete his scholarship. After a loan at Bath City, the youngster was made Joe Day's backup, this continuing into 2025/26.

Darragh Power

Irish full-back Power came through the ranks with his boyhood club Waterford. After progressing into the first team, the defender went on to feature 138 times for the League of Ireland side across five-and-a-half years. Last January, he made the jump to the EFL, signing for Cheltenham Town. In his first half-season in Gloucestershire, Power made 14 appearances for Michael Flynn's side.

George Harmon

Diminutive wing-back Harmon is a West Bromwich Albion academy graduate; however, he only ever featured for the Baggies' under-21 side. Following his release in 2021, the left wing-back spent a season at Oxford City in the National League South before joining Ross County. Three seasons in Scotland saw 105 senior outings, 82 of which came in the Scottish Premiership before a move to Cheltenham Town this summer.

>>





Arkell Jude-Boyd

22-year-old Jude-Boyd signed for Cheltenham Town in 2024 following his release from boyhood club QPR, whom he joined aged nine. The forward-thinking right-back had spells out on loan with both Dagenham & Redbridge and Torquay United whilst with the R's. During 2023/24, he registered six goals in 17 appearances for the Gulls, winning Torquay's Young Player of the Season award. In his first season at Cheltenham, Jude-Boyd featured 41 times in all competitions.

James Wilson

Ex-Argyle promotion winner Wilson started his career at Bristol City, having graduated through the Robins' academy. After loans with Brentford and Cheltenham Town, the centre-back signed permanently for Oldham Athletic. After two-and-a-half seasons, Wilson joined Sheffield United and spent time on loan at Walsall. Further moves came to Lincoln City and Ipswich Town before arriving at Home Park in June 2021. Two seasons were spent at Argyle, in which he featured 95 times under Steven Schumacher. Bristol Rovers came next before a return to Cheltenham, this time permanently, ahead of 2025/26.

Scot Bennett

Bennett is another player signed by the Robins last summer. The 34-year-old was brought in following his departure from Newport County. Bennett started his career in Devon, coming through Exeter City's academy, playing 141 times in total for the Grecians. He moved to Notts County in 2015 and struggled for minutes, spending time out on loan at both Newport and York City before making the permanent switch to the Exiles ahead of the 2016/17 season. He is another of the Robins' players to have played under current boss Michael Flynn in his eight-year stint in South Wales.

Ibrahim Bakare

Another of last season's recruits, Bakare joined Cheltenham Town after impressing on trial in pre-season. The defender began his footballing career aged 16 when he joined Morecambe's academy; he went on to sign his first professional deal with the Lancashire side in 2019. Since then, he has played for Cardiff City, Weymouth Town, Kettering Town, Macclesfield Town and Cheshunt before making the switch across the Atlantic to join Vancouver FC in Canada. Last summer, Bakare returned home to sign for the Robins, having since made 36 appearances.

Liam Kinsella

28-year-old midfielder Kinsella began his career at Walsall, where he signed as an eight-year-old. The former Ireland youth international went on to make 212 senior appearances for the Saddlers across nine years. He signed for Swindon Town upon the expiry of his contract in 2023, linking up with current Robins' boss Michael Flynn. After a short spell in Wiltshire, Kinsella joined Cheltenham in January 2024 on an 18-month deal, now once again working with former manager Flynn.

Luke Young

A former Pilgrim, Young signed for Cheltenham last summer following his release from Wrexham. Whilst at Home Park, Young made 99 appearances across three years for the Greens, most notably winning the club's Young Player of the Year award for the 2011/12 season. In 2014, he moved across Devon to Torquay United, where he spent two seasons before making the switch to Wrexham in 2018. The midfielder enjoyed a successful spell in Wales, winning successive promotions with the Red Dragons before his release. >>



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Ethon Archer

Harrison Sohna

Sohna was born in Gloucestershire but started his career as a youngster at Aston Villa, coming through the ranks at Bodymoor Heath. In 2021, he signed for Sunderland's academy as a 19-year-old, making his senior debut in the Carabao Cup against Sheffield Wednesday. The midfielder was released at the end of the 2022/23 season and, after a year without a club, joined Cheltenham Town last summer. In his first season with the Robins, Sohna featured 12 times, also spending a period on loan at Wealdstone.

Josh Martin

23-year-old attacker Martin represented both Arsenal and Norwich City as a youngster. The latter was where he made his professional debut, in the Premier League against Southampton in 2020. Loans followed at Milton Keynes Dons, Doncaster Rovers and Barnsley before a permanent switch to Portsmouth. With game time limited at Fratton Park, Martin was on the move again the following summer, joining Notts County. In January, the wideman arrived at Newport County before making the switch to divisional rivals Cheltenham Town this summer.

Ryan Broom

Another former Pilgrim among the Robins' ranks, Broom has his roots in Bristol, having graduated from Rovers' academy

as a junior. Development loans came with Taunton Town, Bath City, and Eastleigh before joining Cheltenham Town. Two successful seasons were spent at Whaddon Road before the Welshman was picked up by Peterborough United in 2020. Broom was loaned out to Burton Albion and Argyle before he rejoined Cheltenham in 2022. After a season, he would join Fleetwood Town, where he would go on to feature 77 times across two seasons before joining Cheltenham for a third time.

Ethon Archer

Versatile attacker Archer has his roots in non-league, having played for Whyteleafe, Bedfont Sports, Sutton Common Rovers, Horley Town, Raynes Park Vale, and Three Bridges, all in the South East. National League South outfit Torquay United took a chance on Archer in November 2023; he spent nine months at Plainmoor, making 26 appearances and scoring twice. Cheltenham Town recruited the attacker ahead of last season, in which he scored seven and assisted six in League Two.

Jordan Thomas

Dynamic winger Thomas is another non-league hotshot, scoring goals for Didcot Town and North Leigh before linking up with National League South side Bath City. After scoring ten times in 28 league games during his debut season, Thomas was picked up by Cheltenham Town in

February 2024. During his first full season with Town, the 24-year-old netted eight league goals, setting up a further two.

Jake Bickerstaff

On-loan Bickerstaff started his career with Wrexham, signing professionally for the Welsh side in 2020. During the five years that have since passed, the striker has featured 28 times for Wrexham, also spending periods out on loan with Caernarfon, Accrington Stanley, and Altrincham. This season, Bickerstaff finds himself out on loan once again, this time at Cheltenham Town.

George Miller

Striker Miller began his career with Bury, scoring eight goals in 32 games after becoming a professional. Middlesbrough picked the forward up in 2017, he would go on to have loans with Wrexham, Bradford City, and back at Bury. Miller's next permanent club was Barnsley, the Tykes paying a reported £200,000 fee to bring him to Oakwell. Further loans came with Scunthorpe United and Walsall before a move to Doncaster Rovers. Miller netted 15 goals across two seasons for Rovers before signing for Cheltenham ahead of last season.

Lee Angol

Experienced goalscorer Angol started out at Wycombe Wanderers, following his departure from the Spurs academy. After loans at Hendon, Maidenhead United and Boreham Wood, Angol joined Luton Town permanently. Another loan came with Boreham Wood before a switch to Peterborough United in 2015. The marksman also scored goals in spells with Lincoln City, Mansfield Town, Shrewsbury Town, and Leyton Orient, before he arrived at Bradford City in 2021. After a season-and-a-half at Valley Parade, Angol would move on to Sutton United, Woking and Morecambe. The latter, where he featured last season, saw him score eight goals in 28 games.



Jake Bickerstaff



Match Action

REPLAY

Tuesday, 21 February, 2023



1

Hardie 63'
3-2 to Argyle on pens



1

May 49'



Match Action

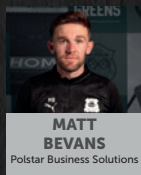
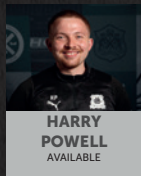
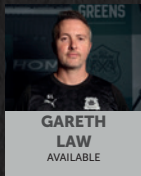
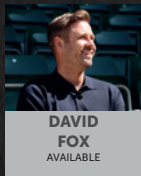
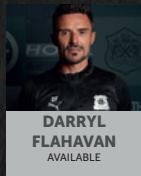
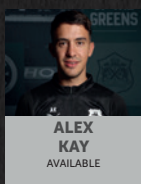
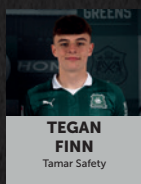
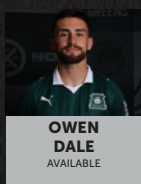
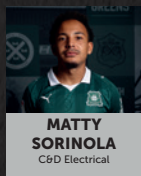
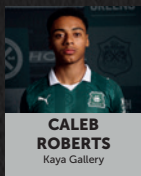
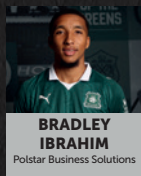
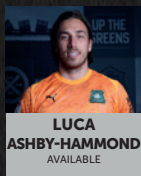
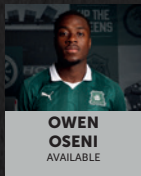
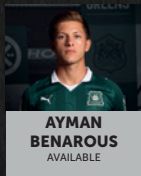
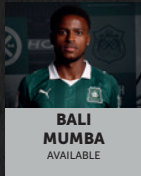
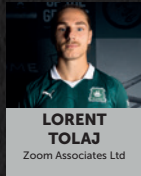
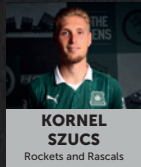
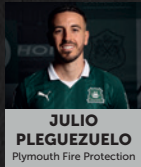
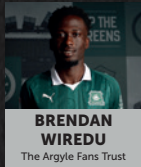
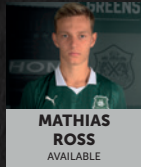
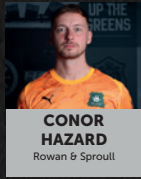
REPLAY



Plymouth Argyle 2025/26

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ARGYLE FIXTURES

F-A ATT (AWAY) GK 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

AUGUST

SAT 2	BARNSELEY	1-3	16,483 (888)	A-HAMMOND	SORINOLA	GALLOWAY	SZUCS	PALSSON	BOATENG	AMAECHI	WIREDU
SAT 9	BOLTON WANDERERS	0-2	21,570 (1,600)	A-HAMMOND	SORINOLA	GALLOWAY	SZUCS	PALSSON	BOATENG	AMAECHI	IBRAHIM
TUE 12	QUEENS PARK RANGERS CC	3-2	10,884 (986)	A-HAMMOND	SZUCS	BENAROUS	WIREDU	PALSSON	BOATENG	FINN	IBRAHIM
SAT 16	LINCOLN CITY	2-3	8,503 (1,097)	A-HAMMOND	SZUCS	SORINOLA	WIREDU	PALSSON	BOATENG	AMAECHI	IBRAHIM
TUE 19	LEYTON ORIENT	0-1	15,422 (420)	A-HAMMOND	SZUCS	BENAROUS	MITCHELL	GALLOWAY	BOATENG	FINN	WATTS
SAT 23	BLACKPOOL	1-0	15,322 (441)	A-HAMMOND	SZUCS	BENAROUS	MITCHELL	GALLOWAY	BOATENG	AMAECHI	IBRAHIM
TUE 26	SWANSEA CITY CC 2	1-1	7,729 (463)	A-HAMMOND	EDWARDS	SORINOLA	MITCHELL	WIREDU	ROBERTS	FINN	IBRAHIM
SAT 30	CARDIFF CITY	0-4	21,813 (3,030)	A-HAMMOND	SZUCS	SORINOLA	MITCHELL	WIREDU	BOATENG	BENAROUS	IBRAHIM

SEPTEMBER

TUE 2	CHELTENHAM TOWN VT
SAT 6	STOCKPORT COUNTY
SAT 13	LUTON TOWN
SAT 20	PETERBOROUGH UNITED
SAT 27	BURTON ALBION

OCTOBER

SAT 4	WIGAN ATHLETIC
SAT 11	MANSFIELD TOWN
SAT 18	AFC WIMBLEDON
SAT 25	EXETER CITY

NOVEMBER

SAT 8	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN
SAT 15	BRADFORD CITY
SAT 22	PORT VALE
SAT 29	NORTHAMPTON TOWN H

DECEMBER

TUE 9	WYCOMBE WANDERERS A
SAT 13	ROTHERHAM UNITED H
SAT 20	DONCASTER ROVERS A
FRI 26	READING H
MON 29	WYCOMBE WANDERERS H

JANUARY

THU 1	STEVENAGE A
SUN 4	BURTON ALBION
SAT 10	WIGAN ATHLETIC
SAT 17	PETERBOROUGH UNITED
SAT 24	LUTON TOWN
TUE 27	MANSFIELD TOWN
SAT 31	STOCKPORT COUNTY

FEBRUARY

SAT 7	LINCOLN CITY
SAT 14	BLACKPOOL
TUE 17	LEYTON ORIENT
SAT 21	CARDIFF CITY
SAT 28	ROTHERHAM UNITED

MARCH

SAT 7	DONCASTER ROVERS
SAT 14	READING
TUE 17	STEVENAGE
SAT 21	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN
SAT 28	BRADFORD CITY

APRIL

FRI 3	BOLTON WANDERERS
MON 6	BARNSELEY
SAT 11	EXETER CITY
SAT 18	AFC WIMBLEDON
SAT 25	PORT VALE

MAY

SAT 2	NORTHAMPTON TOWN
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2025-26



	9	10	11	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 3	SUB 4	SUB 5	UNUSED SUBS	REF
	WATTS	IBRAHIM	MUMBA	PATERSON	EDWARDS	ISSAKA	OSENI		BAKER, BENAROUS, FINN	D BOURNE
	PEPPLE	WATTS	MUMBA	PATERSON	FINN	ROBERTS	WIREDU	BENAROUS	BAKER, OSENI	R JOYCE
	OSENI 2	PATERSON	HATCH	WATTS	MUMBA	AMAECHI	SORINOLA	PEPPLE	BAKER, FLOWER, MWARO, CAMPBELL	J BUSBY
	PEPPLE	WATTS	MUMBA	ROBERTS	GALLOWAY	FINN	OSENI	BENAROUS	BAKER, HATCH	C BROOK
	OSENI	AMAECHI	MUMBA	IBRAHIM	PEPPLE	HATCH	SORINOLA		BAKER, ROBERTS, PALSSON	B SPEEDIE
	TOLAJ	WATTS	MUMBA	SORINOLA	WIREDU	PEPPLE			BAKER, EDWARDS, HATCH, FINN	D ROCK
	PEPPLE	OSENI	HATCH	TOLAJ	WATTS	MUMBA	ISSAKA	BOATENG	BAKER, BENAROUS, MWARO, CAMPBELL	E BELL
	TOLAJ	WATTS	MUMBA	PEPPLE	ISSAKA	EDWARDS	HATCH		BAKER, GALLOWAY, ROBERTS	S OLDHAM



ARGYLE

Head Coach Tom Cleverley

- 1 Conor **Hazard** 🍀
- 2 Mathias **Ross**
- 3 Jack **MacKenzie**
- 4 Brendan **Wiredu**
- 5 Julio **Pleguezuelo**
- 6 Kornel **Szucs**
- 7 Jamie **Paterson**
- 8 Joe **Edwards**
- 10 Xavier **Amaechi**
- 11 Bali **Mumba**
- 13 Zak **Baker** 🍀
- 14 Ayman **Benarous**
- 15 Alex **Mitchell**
- 17 Caleb **Watts**
- 18 Owen **Oseni**
- 19 Malachi **Boateng**
- 20 Law **McCabe**
- 21 Luca **Ashby-Hammond** 🍀
- 22 Brendan **Galloway**
- 23 Bradley **Ibrahim**
- 24 Caleb **Roberts**
- 27 Bim **Pepple**
- 29 Matty **Sorinola**
- 35 Owen **Dale**
- 37 Jack **Matthews**
- 38 Joe **Hatch**
- 39 Tegan **Finn**



CHELTENHAM

Manager Michael Flynn

- 1 Joe **Day** 🍀
- 2 Arkell **Jude-Boyd**
- 3 George **Harmon**
- 4 Liam **Kinsella**
- 5 James **Wilson**
- 6 Robbie **Cundy**
- 7 Harry **Pell**
- 8 Luke **Young**
- 9 Lee **Angol**
- 10 George **Miller**
- 11 Jordan **Thomas**
- 12 Darragh **Power**
- 14 Ryan **Broom**
- 16 Josh **Martin**
- 17 Scot **Bennett**
- 18 Ibrahim **Bakare**
- 19 Jokubas **Mazonis**
- 20 Jake **Bickerstaff**
- 22 Ethon **Archer**
- 23 Taine **Anderson**
- 25 Harrison **Sohna**
- 28 Tommy **Backwell**
- 29 Tom **King**
- 30 Freddy **Wilcox**
- 38 Harry **Tustin**
- 41 Mamadou **Diallo** 🍀
- 42 Mark **Barber**
- Sam **Sherring**
- Isaac **Hutchinson**
- Tommy **Taylor**

OFFICIALS

Referee **Ross Martin**
Assistant Referee 1 **Daniel Flynn**
Assistant Referee 2 **Richard J. Morris**
Fourth Official **Adam Ricketts**



NEXT UP AT HOME PARK

Saturday, 6 September, 2025
3pm
Sky Bet League One