# Merstham FC - Player Profiles 2023/24

### Jamie Decruz

Manager Jamie started his managerial career at Sutton United where he was first the U18s manager and from there he progressed to the U23s, before gaining experience working with the first team. In 2021, Jamie took the reins at Colliers Wood United. He gave the club their highest finish in 20 years and received considerable praise for who his team played in the two years he was there. In the summer of 2023, he joined Kingstonian as their assistant manager, before accepting the Merstham job at the end of September.

### **Endurance Johnson**

**Goalkeeper.** Endurance was at Kingstonian with Jamie Decruz and the Merstham boss was quick to add him to the first team squad. Endurance started his career in Brentford's development squad at the age of 15 before signing for Colchester United. He was with the Essex side for three years, signing for Hampton and Richmond Borough at the start of last season. For most of the season Endurance was on loan with Sutton Common Rovers.

# **Zack Basey**

**Goalkeeper.** Joins us having spent the previous season just up the road at South Park. Highly rated young keeper who is an excellent shot stopper

#### **Dean Gunner**

**Defender.** A commanding central defender with vast experience, Dean was part of the Merstham side that won promotion to the Isthmian Premier in 2014-15 and then did the same with Dorking Wanderers in 2016-17. He spent last season at Haywards Heath, but he has a great deal of experience at this level, turning out for Three Bridges, Horsham YMCA, Whyteleafe, Greenwich Borough, Chipstead, Sevenoaks and East Grinstead Town.

# **Tobi Ogundega**

**Defender.** Currently on loan to us from Sutton United. A powerful commanding central defender. He started the season on loan at Bognor Regis Town and spent some time at Kingstonian at the start of last season, making a dozen appearances. He had moved to Gander Green Lane after playing Under 18 football for MK Dons, and spent the closing stages of last season on loan at Salisbury in the Southern South Premier.

## **Harry Pointing**

**Defender.** A commanding central defender, very comfortable with the ball at his feet. Harry is dual registered with Walton & Hersham and of course Merstham. Moved to the Moatside after Jamie Decruz's arrival from Redhill.

## **Harry Murphy**

**Defender.** Harry was one of Jamie's first signings from Kingstonian. He joined the K's in the summer, where Jamie was the assistant manager and had previously played for the Gaffer at Colliers Wood United.

### **Michael Abnett**

**Defender.** Yet another player returning to the Moatside. Michael was part of the Merstham side that went on its historic run to the First Round of the FA Cup, and was also in the side that went to the Isthmian Premier Play Off Final in the 2018-19 season. Originally a full back, Michael has been playing more as a holding midfielder in pre-season.

### **Callum Corbin**

**Midfield.** Callum joined us on loan from Bromley. Callum came through the Bromley youth Academy and signed his first-year professional contract in the summer. The midfielder has been with the club for seven years, played for the first team in pre-season, and is an important part of the Under 21 squad.

## Samir Bajja

**Midfield.** A defensive midfielder with good range of passing, Samir joined us from Hungerford in October. He also had spells at Hendon and Leatherhead.

# **Billy Oram**

**Midfield.** One of the new manager's first signings, Billy moved to the Moatside from Isthmian South-Central side Badshot Lea. He has made ten appearances for the Baggies since joining the club in the summer. He was with Jamie at Colliers Wood United last season where he picked up over 30 assists. Previously at Fleet Town, where he played for a number of seasons.

## **Richie Mbele**

**Midfield.** Another Christmas signing from Harrow Borough. A defensive midfielder who began his career at AFC Wimbledon's Academy. Richie also had spells at Farnham Town and Walton Casuals.

### Ben Jordan

**Midfield.** Ben signed for the Moatsiders a few days before Christmas from South Park, where he had made 15 appearances, scoring 3 times. The previous season he appeared for them 29 times and netted 5 times.

#### **Lorenzo Lewis**

**Forward.** Lorenzo joined Merstham last season from Lancing and his direct style and powerful shooting soon made him a fan favourite, though injuries disrupted much of his campaign. He was voted Clubman of the Year for his enthusiasm and efforts on and off the pitch. Prior to his time as a Lancer, Lorenzo played for Oxford City, Carshalton Athletic and Lingfield.

#### **Ben Senior**

**Forward**. Ben joined the Moatsiders in October from Cobham where he won the Players Player, Managers and Supporters Player of the Season last season. Has also had spells at South Park and Sutton Common Rovers.

#### Will Kendall

**Forward.** Will joined us from Redhill. Last season he was at Colliers Wood United, where he scored an impressive twenty-six goals from forty five games. He got his first Merstham goal from the spot on his debut against Beckenham.

## **Korrey Henry**

**Forward.** Korrey became a fans' favourite when Frank Wilson signed him for the Moatsiders. He formed a prolific partnership with John Ufuah and the two were banging in goals for fun before Carshalton came calling and signed the striker. He started his career in West Ham United's U18's and also has had spells at Yeovil, Poole, Braintree, Bromley & Dulwich Hamlet.

## **Tom Collins**

**Forward.** Tom also joined us at Christmas on loan from Kingstonian. He rejoined K's last March and netted 5 times in 8 games to help their fight against the drop last season. Tom started life at Stevenage and Stockport County. Prior to joining Ks last season, he was at Haywards Heath and has also had recent spells at Hanwell Town and Chipstead. He has the likes of Tonbridge, Enfield, Wealdstone and Hampton & Richmond on his football resume.