

THE OLDEST PLAYERS

These are the oldest to have played for the club in competitive matches in peacetime up to and including the 2016/17 season.

(* = Goalkeeper)

	Last Appearance	Opponents	Competition	Date
J.Goodall	44 years, 87 days	Bradford Park Avenue (a)	Southern League Division 1	14 Sep 1907
A.F.R.Chamberlain *	42 years, 327 days	Newcastle United (h)	FA Premier League	13 May 2007
<i>(Chamberlain's was an extremely brief appearance as a substitute – other than this, his last appearance was at 41 years, 243 days)</i>				
J.Kennedy	41 years, 273 days	Hoddesdon (at St Albans)	Herts County Cup Final	23 Mar 1889
J.McLaren *	41 years, 179 days	Tottenham Hotspur (a)	FA Cup 3rd Round	7 Jan 1939
J.W.H.Calvert *	41 years, 25 days	Bournemouth & Boscombe Ath (h)	Football League Division 3 (South)	28 Feb 1948
A.E.Hufton *	39 years, 353 days	Brentford (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	12 Nov 1932
W.Davies	39 years, 304 days	Brighton & Hove Albion (h)	Football League Division 3 (South)	22 Apr 1950
B.Ratcliffe	39 years, 280 days	Norwich City (h)	Football League Division 3 (South)	29 Jan 1949
F.J.Gregory	39 years, 192 days	Exeter City (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	1 May 1926
M.T.O'Brien	39 years, 192 days	Crystal Palace (h)	Football League Division 3 (South)	18 Feb 1933
E.Fletcher	39 years, 136 days	Millwall (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	30 Apr 1927
F.Galli	38 years, 316 days	Stockport County (a)	Football League Division 1 (2nd tier)	1 Apr 2002
A.J.Elkes	38 years, 280 days	Coventry City (h)	Football League Division 3 (South)	7 Oct 1933
J.McNee	38 years, 124 days	Sheppey United (h)	Southern League Test Match	30 Apr 1900
P.S.Jones *	37 years, 310 days	Ipswich Town (a)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	22 Feb 2005
C.G.R.Powell	37 years, 239 days	Reading (a)	FA Premier League	5 May 2008
H.J.Phipps	37 years, 233 days	Northampton Town (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	5 Sep 1953
F.Barson	37 years, 186 days	Bristol Rovers (h)	Football League Division 3 (South)	13 Oct 1928
R.I.Jobson	37 years, 186 days	Tranmere Rovers (a)	Football League Division 1 (2nd tier)	11 Nov 2000
R.F.E.Saphin *	37 years, 182 days	Coventry City (h)	Football League Division 3 (South)	6 Feb 1954
J.T.Smith	37 years, 89 days	Torquay United (a)	FA Cup 1st Round replay	6 Dec 1947
E.E.Smith	37 years, 25 days	Bournemouth & Boscombe Ath (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	29 Jan 1927
K.Furphy	36 years, 349 days	Bury (a)	Football League Division 3	11 May 1968
M.Almunia *	36 years, 337 days	Queens Park Rangers (a)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	21 Apr 2014
M.Cassetti	36 years, 339 days	Huddersfield Town (h)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	3 May 2014
F.A.Sargent	36 years, 331 days	Watford St Mary's (at St Albans)	Herts County Cup Semi-final 3rd replay	6 Apr 1895
C.C.Holton	36 years, 275 days	Reading (h)	Football League Division 3	29 Jan 1966
M.A.Poom *	36 years, 230 days	Reading (h)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	20 Sep 2008
T.Waterall	36 years, 195 days	Grimsby Town (h)	Football League Division 3	7 May 1921
K.Waugh *	36 years, 161 days	Charlton Athletic (a)	Football League Division 1 (2nd tier)	6 Apr 1993
D.Richards	36 years, 147 days	Gillingham (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	25 Feb 1933
L.T.A.Andrews	36 years, 144 days	Charlton Athletic (h)	Football League Division 3 (South)	2 May 1925
L.Morgan	36 years, 138 days	Port Vale (a)	Football League Div 3 (South)	15 Sep 1947
R.G.Williams *	36 years, 117 days	Exeter City (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	1 May 1926
H.da S.Gomes *	36 years, 95 days	Manchester City (h)	FA Premier League	21 May 2017
C.W.White	36 years, 88 days	Norwich City (h)	Football League Division 3 (South)	11 Apr 1925
M.A.Jackson	36 years, 85 days	Preston North End (a)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	12 Jan 2008
F.Spiksley	36 years, 81 days	Brighton & Hove Albion (h)	Southern League Division 1	16 Apr 1906
L.E.Neill	36 years, 6 days	Barnsley (h)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	15 Mar 2014

Oldest débutant

J.Kennedy	41 years, 273 days	Hoddesdon (at St Albans)	Herts County Cup Final	23 Mar 1889
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Oldest débutant in Southern / Football / FA Premier League

J.W.H.Calvert *	40 years, 362 days	Northampton Town (h)	Football League Division 3 (South)	31 Jan 1948
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Oldest outfield débutant

J.Goodall	40 years, 78 days	Grays United (a)	Southern League Division 2	5 Sep 1903
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Oldest outfield débutant in Football League

B.Ratcliffe	39 years, 119 days	Swansea Town (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	21 Aug 1948
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Oldest player in top tier

A.F.R.Chamberlain *	42 years, 327 days	Newcastle United (h)	FA Premier League	13 May 2007
<i>(Chamberlain's was an extremely brief appearance as a substitute – other than this he was still the oldest, at 41 years, 243 days)</i>				

Oldest outfield player in top tier

C.G.R.Powell	37 years, 239 days	Reading (a)	FA Premier League	5 May 2008
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Oldest goalscorer

J.Goodall	42 years, 289 days	Southern United (h)	United League	4 Apr 1906
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Oldest Southern League goalscorer

J.Goodall	41 years, 309 days	Wellingborough Town (h)	Southern League Division 1	24 Apr 1905
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Oldest Football League/FA Premier League goalscorer

W.Davies	39 years, 295 days	Bristol City (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	15 Apr 1950
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Oldest goalscorer in top tier

P.J.Rice	33 years, 164 days	Everton (h)	Football League Division 1	28 Aug 1982
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Oldest FA Cup goalscorer

J.Goodall	41 years, 174 days	Lincoln City (h)	FA Cup 6th Qualifying Round	10 Dec 1904
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(There were older players in competitive wartime matches. The oldest was G.F.Nidd, who, 15 seasons after his final first-team appearance, played in goal on 9 December 1916 at the age of 47 years and 335 days, the regular goalkeeper R.G.Williams having joined the colours the previous day.)

THE YOUNGEST PLAYERS

A list of the youngest first-team débutants in competitive matches in peacetime, up to and including the 2016/17 season.

	Age on Début	Opponents	Competition	Date
K.Mercer	16 years, 125 days	Tranmere Rovers (a)	Football League Division 3	16 Feb 1973
G.R.E.Noel-Williams	16 years, 247 days	Sunderland (a)	Football League Cup 2nd Round 2nd Leg	24 Sep 1996
A.Campana	16 years, 316 days	Notts County (h)	Football League Cup 1st Round	23 Aug 2005
G.G.Wilkinson	16 years, 319 days	Northampton Town (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	5 Mar 1927
K.E.Forbes	16 years, 362 days	Gillingham (h)	Football League Cup 1st Round	14 Aug 2007
A.Grimsdell	17 years, 30 days	Queens Park Rangers (h)	Southern League Division 1	22 Apr 1911
J.D.Parkes	17 years, 55 days	Accrington Stanley (h)	Football League Cup 2nd Round	19 Sep 2006
J.Osborne	17 years, 85 days	West Ham United (h)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	8 May 2005
T.L.R.S.Robinson	17 years, 91 days	Queens Park Rangers (a)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	22 Apr 2006
D.A.Pygall	17 years, 96 days	Brentford (h)	Football League Division 3 (South)	28 Apr 1956
A.Bangura	17 years, 96 days	Stoke City (a)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	30 Apr 2005
T.M.Hoban	17 years, 103 days	Preston North End (a)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	7 May 2011
W.Eames	17 years, 127 days	Kettering (h)	Southern League Division 1	27 Apr 1901
J.G.Watt	17 years, 158 days	Norwich City (h)	Football League Division 2	29 Apr 1972
T.A.How	17 years, 163 days	Blackburn Rovers (h)	Football League Division 3	18 Jan 1975
D.J.T.Bond	17 years, 165 days	Gillingham (a)	Football League Division 3	29 Aug 1964
J.R.Williams	17 years, 180 days	Portsmouth (h)	Football League Cup 2nd Round	22 Sep 1964
T.W.Smith	17 years, 180 days	Oldham Athletic (h)	Football League Division 2 (3rd tier)	18 Nov 1997
R.C.Thomas	17 years, 188 days	Arsenal (a)	Football League Division 1	15 Apr 1988
G.A.Massey	17 years, 200 days	Coventry City (a)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	2 May 2010
S.M.Murray	17 years, 201 days	Queens Park Rangers (h)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	30 Apr 2011
J.M.Gilligan	17 years, 210 days	Aldershot (a)	Fbl Lge Group Cup Preliminary Group	22 Aug 1981
D.S.Bazeley	17 years, 212 days	Hull City (h)	Football League Division 2	5 May 1990
L.J.S.Hodson	17 years, 214 days	Derby County (h)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	3 May 2009
C.Johnson	17 years, 215 days	Plymouth Argyle (h)	Football League Division 2 (3rd tier)	27 Aug 1996
D.P.Ward	17 years, 220 days	Luton Town (a)	Football League Division 1 (2nd tier)	20 Apr 1996
W.G.Barber	17 years, 222 days	Colchester United (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	29 Apr 1957
D.J.Connolly	17 years, 225 days	Scarborough (h)	FA Cup 3rd Round replay	17 Jan 1995
R.C.M.Strouts	17 years, 227 days	Tottenham Hotspur (a)	FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round	13 Oct 1894
N.I.Callaghan	17 years, 234 days	Burnley (h)	Football League Division 2	3 May 1980
R.M.Johnson	17 years, 246 days	Cambridge United (a)	Football League Division 2	29 Dec 1991
A.McNamee	17 years, 246 days	Coventry City (h)	Football League Division 1 (2nd tier)	16 Mar 2002
F.Bunce	17 years, 248 days	Southampton (a)	Football League Division 3 (South)	22 Oct 1955
L.A.Jakubiak	17 years, 249 days	Huddersfield Town (h)	Football League Championship	3 May 2014
A.W.Currie	17 years, 255 days	Stoke City (a)	Football League Cup 2nd Round	13 Sep 1967
E.A.M.O.A.Oshodi	17 years, 258 days	Reading (a)	Football League Championship (2nd tier)	29 Sep 2009
G.M.Porter	17 years, 272 days	Wolverhampton Wanderers (a)	Football League Division 1	3 Dec 1983
I.W.Roberts	17 years, 276 days	Ipswich Town (h)	Football League Division 1	29 Mar 1986
R.A.Jenkins	17 years, 277 days	Bristol Rovers (h)	Football League Cup 1st Round	12 Aug 2008
R.G.Wright	17 years, 284 days	Tottenham Hotspur (a)	FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round	13 Oct 1894
W.R.Sterling	17 years, 289 days	Manchester United (a)	Football League Division 1	23 Apr 1983
J.C.B.Barnes	17 years, 302 days	Oldham Athletic (h)	Football League Division 2	5 Sep 1981
W.M.H.Gibson	17 years, 317 days	Bristol Rovers (h)	Football League Cup 1st Round	12 Aug 2008
S.G.Terry	17 years, 317 days	Sunderland (a)	Football League Division 2	26 Apr 1980
P.P.Robinson	17 years, 320 days	Luton Town (h)	Football League Division 2 (3rd tier)	29 Oct 1996
G.M.Fitzgerald	17 years, 325 days	Luton Town (h)	Football League Division 1 (2nd tier)	17 Sep 1994
J.Hand	17 years, 332 days	Arsenal (h)	FA Cup 3rd Round	5 Jan 2002
K.W.C.Brooks	17 years, 333 days	Barnet (a)	Football League Cup 1st Round	11 Aug 2009
P.A.Jennings	17 years, 335 days	Queens Park Rangers (a)	Football League Division 3	13 May 1963
K.J.McCarthy	17 years, 339 days	Tranmere Rovers (a)	Football League Division 4	28 Nov 1975
G.R.Harrison	17 years, 357 days	Ipswich Town (h)	Football League Division 2	7 Apr 1990
J.V.Grant	17 years, 362 days	Notts County (h)	Football League Cup 1st Round	23 Aug 2005

(At the age of 15 N.A.Dymock made a wartime appearance in a friendly match against Queens Park Rangers on 26 April 1943)

Youngest in top tier

R.C.Thomas	17 years, 188 days	Arsenal (a)	Football League Division 1	15 Apr 1988
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Youngest top-tier goalscorer

J.M.Gilligan (2 goals)	18 years, 344 days	Manchester City (h)	Football League Division 1	3 Jan 1983
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Youngest Football League goalscorer

G.R.E.Noel-Williams	16 years, 314 days	Blackpool (h)	Football League Division 2 (3rd tier)	30 Nov 1996
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Youngest Southern League goalscorer

A.Grimsdell	17 years, 212 days	Northampton Town (a)	Southern League Division 1	21 Oct 1911
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Youngest FA Cup goalscorer

G.R.E.Noel-Williams	17 years, 15 days	Manchester City (a)	FA Cup 4th Round	5 Feb 1997
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Youngest goalkeeper

P.A.Jennings	17 years, 335 days	Queens Park Rangers (a)	Football League Division 3	13 May 1963
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