

= David Bridges =

David Stephen Bridges (born 22 September 1982) is an English footballer who plays for King 's Lynn Town as a midfielder .

Bridges started his career with local side Cambridge United , progressing through the club 's youth system and eventually breaking into the first @-@ team in 2001 . He spent three seasons at Cambridge , but was released at the end of the 2003 ? 04 season after failing to agree terms on a new contract . Bridges had a brief spell in Latvia playing for FK R?ga , before returning to England to play four games for Braintree Town in January 2005 . He joined Histon in March 2005 , playing for the club until the end of the season . He left Histon at the end of the season , and subsequently earned himself a one @-@ year contract to rejoin Cambridge United in July 2005 . He played regularly for the club for two seasons , but was released again in 2007 .

Bridges then joined Kettering Town ahead of the 2007 ? 08 season , playing an important part in the club achieving promotion from the Conference North to the Conference National in his first season at the club . At the end of the season he rejected a contract offer from Kettering and joined Stevenage on a free transfer . In his first season at the Hertfordshire club , he helped the side to FA Trophy success , as well as helping the club earn promotion to the Football League for the first time in the club 's history the following season . He was also part of the squad that helped Stevenage earn back @-@ to @-@ back promotions during the 2010 ? 11 season . Ahead of the 2011 ? 12 campaign , Bridges re @-@ joined Conference National side Kettering Town . He left the club after one season , and spent a year at Chelmsford City , before signing for Bury Town in May 2013 . Bridges has also earned one cap for the England C team , playing in a game against Italy C in January 2006 .

= = Club career = =

= = = Cambridge United = = =

Born in Huntingdon , Cambridgeshire , Bridges began his career with local side Cambridge United , whom he joined at the age of 8 , he progressed through the club 's youth system before signing his first professional contract in February 2002 . He broke into the first @-@ team towards the end of the 2001 ? 02 season , making his debut as a substitute in a 1 ? 0 defeat against Huddersfield Town at the Abbey Stadium . He played six further games in the same season , scoring his first goal for Cambridge in a 2 ? 1 home win against Tranmere Rovers . Bridges featured regularly in the opening half of the 2002 ? 03 season , playing a total of 25 times and scoring once in a 3 ? 0 victory against York City . However , a " persistent " ankle injury cut his run in the first @-@ team short , and he did not feature from February onwards . He returned to first @-@ team action in a 1 ? 0 defeat to Wycombe Wanderers in October 2003 , and played a further 22 times for the club throughout the 2003 ? 04 campaign . However , Bridges left Cambridge at the end of the season after failing to agree a contract with manager Hervé Renard . On leaving Cambridge , Bridges said " I was offered a contract that was almost a kick in the teeth after the time I had been at the club when players were coming in from all over the place who did not care about the club . They were getting paid five or six times what I was offered , and I thought it was probably time to move on " . During his three seasons with the club , Bridges made a total of 55 appearances in all competitions , scoring four times .

= = = Journeyman = = =

Bridges trialled at a number of clubs before the start of the 2004 ? 05 season , most notably Chesterfield and Northampton Town , without successfully securing a deal . He also spent the majority of the close season in America training with two professional American football clubs , before realising it was not financially viable to move to America on a permanent basis . Bridges struggled to find a club ahead of the 2004 ? 05 campaign , and took up an offer to play for FK R?ga

in Latvia . However , Bridges suffered a fractured foot just ten days after signing for the club , and failed to feature for the Latvian side . Despite the injury , he spent three months in Latvia before returning to England to " assess his options " . After returning to England in November 2004 for rehabilitation at Lilleshall , he began part @-@ time training with Cambridgeshire side Histon in January 2005 . However , he signed for Braintree Town on a short @-@ term contract shortly after training with Histon , making his debut for the club in a 2 ? 1 home victory against Slough Town a day after joining the club . In the following game , Bridges assisted two of Braintree 's goals in the club 's 4 ? 2 win away at Wealdstone , as well as making another assist a week later in a 5 ? 0 win against Billericay Town . He played in the club 's next league fixture , a 3 ? 1 away win at Hendon , but was taken off at half @-@ time after suffering another foot injury . It proved to be his last game for the club , he played four times for Braintree , all of which were victories . A month later , Bridges joined Histon on a short @-@ term basis , making his debut for the club in March 2005 ? playing the whole match in a 3 ? 1 home win against Tiverton Town . He scored once for Histon in a 3 ? 0 home win against Solihull Borough . Bridges made eleven appearances for Histon and helped the club achieve promotion to the Conference South in his two months at the club . He left Histon at the end of the season , and subsequently earned himself a one @-@ year contract to re @-@ join his former employers , Cambridge United , following a successful trial at the club . Bridges said he " did not hesitate in joining Cambridge for a second time " when he was eventually offered a full @-@ time contract in June 2005 .

= = = Return to Cambridge = = =

During the 2005 ? 06 season , Bridges was a regular in the centre of Cambridge 's midfield . He made his second debut for Cambridge in a 1 ? 0 defeat at Forest Green Rovers , and scored in the following two games against both Hereford United and Accrington Stanley respectively . He also scored in the club 's 3 ? 0 win in the Football League Trophy against Chester City , scoring the first goal of the game . Bridges scored the only goal of the game as Cambridge secured their first away victory of the season in November 2005 ? winning 1 ? 0 against Morecambe at Christie Park . His fifth goal of the campaign came in Cambridge 's 4 ? 2 away defeat to Macclesfield Town in the Football League Trophy , before scoring a " glancing header " in the next game as Cambridge beat Stevenage 1 ? 0 at the Abbey Stadium . His last goal of the season came in February 2006 in a 2 ? 1 defeat to Altrincham . Bridges played 40 times during the season , scoring seven goals from midfield . Consequently , he won the ' Player of the Season ' award at Cambridge in the same season , and more importantly earned a one @-@ year contract extension in May 2006 . He continued playing regularly under new manager Jimmy Quinn in the 2006 ? 07 season . He scored his first goal of the season in a 3 ? 0 home win against Gravesend & Northfleet in November 2006 , and scored again two weeks later in the club 's 2 ? 1 away win at Southport at Haig Avenue . However , after Cambridge 's 2 ? 0 home defeat to St Albans City in December , Bridges did not feature in the first ? team for two months . He returned to first @-@ team action in Cambridge 's 3 ? 0 win against Woking , and scored his third of the campaign in a 2 ? 1 away victory against Stafford Rangers . He played 31 games during the season , scoring three times ? playing his last game for the club in a 1 ? 0 home win against Tamworth . He was released by Quinn in May 2007 as he re @-@ vamped the entire squad . During his second spell at Cambridge , Bridges made 71 appearances in all competitions over two seasons , scoring ten times .

= = = Kettering Town = = =

Two months later , Bridges joined Conference North side Kettering Town on a one @-@ year deal . Bridges made his debut for Kettering in late August 2007 , starting in the club 's 3 ? 2 away win against Worcester City . He scored his first goal for the club in the following game , scoring in the 60th minute to double Kettering 's lead in a victory against Tamworth , and followed this up with another goal in the club 's 4 ? 1 win against Leigh RMI . Bridges made it four goals in as many games by scoring against both Boston United and Workington respectively . However , he suffered

an injury in Kettering 's 2 ? 0 home loss to Hyde United in October 2007 , ruling him out for two months . He returned to first @-@ team action in December , coming on as a second @-@ half substitute in the club 's 3 ? 2 loss against Cambridge City , and scored twice the following week in Kettering 's 3 ? 0 home win against Leigh RMI . He started 2008 by scoring Kettering 's fifth in a 6 ? 1 victory against Solihull Moors , as well as scoring in the next game ? heading in Kettering 's second in a 3 ? 1 win against Harrogate Town . Bridges scored his ninth goal of the campaign shortly after , doubling the club 's lead in a 2 ? 0 away win at Hucknall Town . Bridges featured regularly during the club 's second half of the season , getting on the scoresheet in a 3 ? 0 away victory at Hyde United , before scoring Kettering 's third in another 3 ? 0 win , this time against AFC Telford United ? his last appearance for the club . He was instrumental for the Northamptonshire club throughout Kettering 's 2007 ? 08 league campaign , scoring a total of 11 goals in 27 appearances to help guide Kettering to promotion to the Conference National .

= = = Stevenage = = =

He was offered a new contract by manager Mark Cooper , which was rejected , as he opted to join Craig Westcarr and Gary Mills at Stevenage . However , Bridges suffered a knee injury during pre @-@ season and subsequently missed the first half of the 2008 ? 09 season . He eventually made his debut for the Hertfordshire club in a 1 ? 1 draw against Oxford United in December 2008 , scoring Stevenage 's goal with an " unstoppable drive from outside the area " . In the following match , Bridges set up two of Stevenage 's goals in the club 's 3 ? 1 home win against Rushden & Diamonds , as well as hitting the crossbar with a " looping header " in the second @-@ half . Two days later , he won Stevenage 's penalty in the 93rd minute against one of his former employers , Cambridge United , as Stevenage salvaged a 1 ? 1 draw at the Abbey Stadium . Bridges ' return to the first ? team coincided with an upturn in form for the club , and he continued his goalscoring form from midfield with another goal in a 3 ? 0 home win against Barrow in January 2009 . He also scored three goals in the club 's successful FA Trophy campaign , scoring in 4 ? 0 victories against both Burton Albion and Forest Green Rovers , as well as scoring the winner in Stevenage 's 3 ? 2 home win against Ebbsfleet United in the first leg of the semi ? final . However , his season was cut short when he suffered an injury in a 1 ? 1 draw against Oxford United at Broadhall Way , a game in which he scored Stevenage 's goal , but ultimately missed the rest of the season . In total , Bridges made 19 appearances during the club 's 2008 ? 09 campaign , scoring six times .

Bridges returned from injury at the start of the 2009 ? 10 season , starting in a 0 ? 0 draw against Barrow at Holker Street . However , he sustained an injury shortly after the match and did not feature again until October 2009 , starting in a 1 ? 1 draw away at Kettering Town . He scored his first goal of the season in a 2 ? 0 win over Ebbsfleet United , and followed this up by scoring twice against Vauxhall Motors in the FA Trophy . The following month , Bridges scored the winner in a 1 ? 0 victory away at Wrexham . He followed this up with another headed goal the following week in a 6 ? 0 victory away at Eastbourne Borough . Bridges scored a further two goals for Stevenage in the club 's 5 ? 1 victory over Kidderminster Harriers at Aggborough in the FA Trophy . He also provided two assists for Yemi Odubade 's brace in Stevenage 's 3 ? 0 win against Crawley Town in March 2010 . He scored his eighth goal of the club 's 2009 ? 10 campaign in a 1 ? 0 win over York City as Stevenage bowed out of the Conference National as league champions . Bridges played a total of 38 times during the season , scoring eight goals from midfield .

Bridges missed the first three games of the 2010 ? 11 season as a result of the red card he received in the FA Trophy Final . He made his first appearance of the 2010 ? 11 campaign in Stevenage 's 1 ? 1 draw away to Aldershot Town , coming on as a 38th @-@ minute substitute . However , shortly after he suffered an ankle injury in training that ruled him out of first @-@ team action for a month . He returned to the first @-@ team as a second @-@ half substitute in Stevenage 's 2 ? 0 home loss to Wycombe Wanderers , but admitted he was " not fully fit " . The following week , Bridges played a key role in Stevenage 's 1 ? 1 draw with Rotherham United , assisting John Mousinho 's goal in the 82nd minute . He scored his only goal of the 2010 ? 11 season in Stevenage 's 3 ? 1 away win at Port Vale on 22 February 2011 , scoring Stevenage 's

third goal . Bridges played 24 games in all competitions , helping Stevenage earn promotion to League One in their first Football League season .

= = = Return to non @-@ league = = =

Bridges re @-@ joined Conference National side Kettering Town on 1 August 2011 , signing a two @-@ year deal with the club . He joined Kettering on a free transfer , having been out of contract at Stevenage ? " I got injured at the back end of last season and I was out of contract and because of all the deals that needed to be sorted at Stevenage , I wasn 't a priority and I had to wait . There comes a time when you can 't wait any longer and I needed to sort my future out so here we are " . Bridges made his Kettering Town debut in a 2 ? 0 away win at Lincoln City on 10 September 2011 , the club 's first away victory of the season . After making just five appearances for Kettering , Bridges was transfer @-@ listed by new manager Mark Stimson on 29 September . Despite being transfer @-@ listed due to Kettering 's financial problems , Bridges continued to play in the first @-@ team , and he scored his first goal for the club in a 2 ? 2 draw against Ebbsfleet United , scoring from close range to give the club an initial one @-@ goal lead . Bridges scored once again in a 2 ? 1 home defeat to Grimsby Town on 26 November 2011 , scoring in injury @-@ time to half the deficit . Bridges was forced to take training following the departure of Stimson , with only six other Kettering players turning up to train due to unpaid wages . Despite the off @-@ field problems , he remained ever @-@ present for the remainder of the season , playing 38 times in all competitions , and scoring his third and final goal of the campaign in a 1 ? 1 home draw with Barrow in April 2012 . Kettering were relegated , finishing bottom of the league , and faced a further relegation due to entering a Company Voluntary Arrangement . Bridges had one year remaining on his contract at Kettering , but left in July 2012 , calling the campaign the " worst of his career " .

In August 2012 , Bridges signed for Conference South side Chelmsford City on a free transfer . He made his debut for the club in a 3 ? 2 home win over Bromley on 25 August . Bridges scored his first goal for Chelmsford in the club 's 2 ? 2 draw with East Thurrock United in the FA Cup in October 2012 , sweeping the ball through a crowded penalty area after East Thurrock had failed to clear a corner . It took Bridges seven months to open his goalscoring account for the league season , netting on the hour mark in a 6 ? 0 home victory over Farnborough on 18 March 2013 , a game in which he also assisted two other goals . It proved to be his only league goal of the campaign , in a season where Chelmsford would once again make the Conference South play @-@ offs , but ultimately fall short . They lost 2 ? 1 on aggregate in the semi @-@ finals to Salisbury City , with Bridges playing in both games . He made 36 appearances in all competitions during the season , scoring two goals .

Shortly after the end of the 2012 ? 13 season , Bridges signed for Isthmian League Premier Division side Bury Town on a free transfer . On joining Bury Town , Bridges said ? " I 'm good friends with Adam Tann and Craig Parker and they couldn 't say enough good things about the club . They told me that the players are really well looked after and the club is full of good honest people " . He left Bury Town in December 2013 due to the club 's financial problems , and subsequently joined Brackley Town .

Bridges was signed by Northern Premier League side King 's Lynn Town in July 2014 . In February 2015 he was promoted into a coaching role at the club whilst continuing to play regularly for the First Team . King 's Lynn were moved into the Southern Premier League for the 2015 / 16 season and Bridges continued to feature regularly in the Linnets midfield during the campaign , making 39 appearances .

= = International career = =

Bridges was named in the England C team , who represent England at non @-@ League level , in January 2006 , for a friendly against Italy C , staged at Cambridge 's Abbey Stadium , his home ground at the time . He came on as a 73rd @-@ minute substitute as England C won the match 3 ? 1 in front of a crowd of 2 @, @ 711 .

== Style of play ==

Bridges is generally deployed as a central midfielder , and has played their since turning professional . He has also played across all of the midfield areas . Manager Graham Westley said that Bridges is a player with " a lot of off @-@ the @-@ ball intelligence " and that he " reads the game well " .

== Personal life ==

Bridges grew up in Cambridgeshire , and attended St Peter 's School in Huntingdon . He supports Manchester United .

== Honours ==

Histon

Southern Premier League (1) : 2004 ? 05

Kettering Town

Conference North (1) : 2007 ? 08

Stevenage

FA Trophy (1) : 2008 ? 09

Conference National (1) : 2009 ? 10

League Two play @-@ offs (1) : 2010 ? 11

== Career statistics ==

As of 28 May 2013 .

== International ==