

= Simon Wormull =

Simon James Wormull ( born 1 December 1976 ) is an English former footballer who is head coach of Isthmian League club Three Bridges .

As a junior , Wormull played for Tottenham Hotspur in the final of the 1995 FA Youth Cup and in the Intertoto Cup . Although he made a few appearances in the lower divisions of the Football League for Brentford and Rushden & Diamonds , the majority of his playing career was spent in non @-@ league football in the south @-@ east of England . He was capped seven times for the National Game XI , the team that represents England at semi @-@ professional level .

After retirement as a player , Wormull joined the coaching staff of Isthmian League club Lewes , where he was first @-@ team manager from January 2012 to the end of the 2012 ? 13 season . He spent a few months as manager of Crawley Down Gatwick before returning to Three Bridges first as academy head , then as first @-@ team coach .

= = Playing career = =

= = = Early career = = =

Wormull was born in Crawley , West Sussex , and played for the under @-@ 15 team at local club Three Bridges before beginning his football career as a schoolboy with Brighton & Hove Albion . He joined Tottenham Hotspur while still a junior , and at the age of 15 became one of the youngest players ever to appear for their reserve team . In 1995 , he played in the final of the FA Youth Cup against Manchester United youth team , scoring the opening goal in the first leg , which Tottenham won 2 ? 1 . By the time the second leg went to a losing penalty shootout , Wormull had been substituted by Stephen Clemence . The closest he came to first @-@ team football in six years at the club was in the Intertoto Cup , a competition in which Tottenham fielded extremely weak sides , including that which lost 8 ? 0 to FC Cologne .

Released by Tottenham at the end of the 1996 ? 97 season , Wormull joined Second Division club Brentford on a free transfer , marking his debut in the Football League by missing the best chance of the match . He fell out of favour , and following a trial in Brighton & Hove Albion 's reserves , was given a month 's contract by manager Brian Horton , who described the player as someone who " uses the ball well , ... gets forward and is quite aggressive " . Injury prevented him playing for the first team during that period , or during another month at the start of the 1998 ? 99 season ; much to Horton 's displeasure , Wormull rejected the offer of a further month , preferring to drop down to the Conference with Dover Athletic .

= = = Dover Athletic = = =

He scored twice in 30 Conference games in his first season with Dover , and his performance earned him international selection , chosen for England 's National Game XI for the first time in March 1999 . He maintained the standard the following season ; Dover 's best player against rivals Rushden & Diamonds , he was eventually stretchered off with a damaged Achilles tendon after three opponents were booked for fouling him . Sidelined for a month due to injuries sustained in that match , Wormull returned to play 20 minutes as a substitute before joining Rushden for a fee of £ 50 @, @ 000 later that same week . BBC Sport 's 2000 ? 01 Football Conference preview said that Dover would miss him , a view later echoed by then assistant manager Clive Walker , who described the 1999 ? 2000 season as " a year when we had players like Simon Wormull , Joe Dunne and Dave Clarke in the team . In all honesty , we weren 't far away from having a side good enough to win the division . We needed perhaps two more players to compete at the top ? but sadly we ended up selling Dunne and Wormull halfway through the season . "

= = = Rushden & Diamonds = = =

He helped Rushden to runners @-@ up spot in the Conference in 2000 , and retained his place in England 's semi @-@ professional side . In the 2000 ? 01 season , his appearances were infrequent , and in December 2000 , Dover made an unsuccessful attempt to buy him back . He played his part in Rushden 's Conference title , and consequent promotion to the Football League . After five games for the club in Division Three , manager Brian Talbot sold Wormull together with striker Jean @-@ Michel Sigere to Conference club Stevenage Borough for " a five @-@ figure sum " .

= = = Stevenage Borough = = =

Wormull helped Stevenage to reach the final of the FA Trophy in 2002 , which they lost 2 ? 0 to full @-@ time professional club Yeovil Town . While with the club he won his seventh international cap , and maintained his reputation as a good crosser of the ball who was willing to shoot ; in his first two seasons with the club he contributed more shots than any of his team @-@ mates , and in his second and third seasons he made most assists . Stevenage began to move towards full @-@ time status before the 2002 ? 03 season . At the end of that season , Wormull submitted a transfer request , because he was struggling to balance work and football commitments . Manager Graham Westley rejected the request , but in April 2004 his contract was cancelled by mutual consent , citing the player 's injury record and his difficulties adjusting to the demands of full @-@ time football .

= = = Hornchurch and Crawley Town = = =

Home @-@ town club Crawley Town 's manager Francis Vines hoped to sign Wormull , describing him as a good all @-@ round player who " can play in the middle or wide right and passes the ball well , as well as being useful with set @-@ pieces . He is also good in the tackle " , capable of strengthening an already strong midfield . They were unable to match the offer ? believed to be £ 800 a week ? from Conference South club Hornchurch , dubbed the " Chelsea of the Conference " because they had a well @-@ paid full @-@ time professional squad despite playing only in the sixth tier of English football . A back injury restricted his Hornchurch appearances , and he had not played for several weeks when , in November 2004 , the owner 's business collapsed , the players ' pay cheques were stopped , and most of the squad left .

Wormull returned home to join Crawley , on much reduced wages , but he failed his medical examination ; the club initially offered him a short @-@ term deal while he proved his fitness . At the end of the 2004 ? 05 season he agreed a two @-@ year contract . He turned down offers of full @-@ time football , preferring to stay near home and combine his playing role with running the club 's new youth coaching scheme in local schools . A succession of managerial changes following the club 's takeover resulted in Wormull acting as caretaker manager for four matches in November 2005 , a role in which he made a positive start . During this period he agreed a new contract , but the offer was later withdrawn , and he was given permission to speak to other clubs . Unwilling to leave the Sussex area , he decided to stay with Crawley , but when the club halved the players ' wages , thereby breaching their contracts and allowing them to leave on free transfers , Wormull chose to join Conference South club Lewes .

= = = Lewes = = =

In his first full season with Lewes , Wormull was used in a number of different positions , but in 2007 ? 08 , he usually played in central midfield , and felt that the continuity helped his performance . He scored the winning goal against Sutton United in the third qualifying round of the FA Cup , and made an assist for one goal and was involved in the second in the fourth qualifying round , to take the club through to the first round proper for the second year running . Wormull contributed five goals from midfield towards his club winning the Conference South title , though an injured ankle meant he missed the last few weeks of the season .

Following the departure of manager Steve King , the vast majority of the title @-@ winning side left

the club . Despite new Lewes manager Kevin Keehan 's view that " if I could have had only one player I could keep from last season , it would be Simon " being reflected in the club offering him better terms than did Eastbourne Borough , Wormull , together with team @-@ mate Jean @-@ Michel Sigere , joined their local rivals in June 2008 .

= = = Eastbourne Borough = = =

Wormull and Sigere made their debuts in the opening @-@ day defeat to former club Rushden & Diamonds , making Eastbourne the fifth club ? following Rushden , Stevenage , Hornchurch and Lewes ? where they played alongside each other . After just one season with the club , in which he scored six goals from 37 appearances in all competitions , Wormull 's contract was cancelled by mutual consent . He did leave with a winners ' medal , earned as an unused substitute in the Sussex Senior Cup final in May 2009 , in which Eastbourne beat a Brighton & Hove Albion reserve team 1 ? 0 .

= = = Farnborough and after = = =

Wormull promptly signed a two @-@ year deal with Farnborough , where he linked up with Steve King , his former manager at Lewes , and , for the sixth time in his career , with Jean @-@ Michel Sigere , though only briefly , as Sigere was released a few days later . Wormull helped Farnborough win the 2009 ? 10 Southern League title , playing 39 games in all competitions ( 20 in the league ) , before cancelling his contract by mutual consent at the end of that first season . He rejoined Lewes a few days later , staying with them until December , when he joined Sussex County League side Three Bridges , preferring for family reasons to play for a club nearer his home . According to Three Bridges ' manager , the club were " absolutely chuffed to pieces to have such a magnificent player playing for us " . Wormull tore knee ligaments in April 2011 , and retired from competitive football at the end of the season .

= = Coaching career = =

Wormull then returned to Lewes , to join Steve King 's management team in the role of under @-@ 18 team manager with support coaching involvement with the first team . When King was suspended by the club in January 2012 , Wormull was " asked to assist with First Team Management duties " . and the following week , after King 's departure , he was appointed caretaker manager until the end of the season . He registered as a player , and made his third debut for Lewes from the substitutes ' bench as his team lost 2 ? 1 at home to Canvey Island in the Isthmian League Premier Division . In April , with Lewes on the verge of the play @-@ offs , Wormull 's appointment was made permanent . The club 's directors said he had " impressed everybody with his combination of professionalism , diligence and approachability " , and that " his new regime of training and insightful , value for money signings has transformed the team " . In his second season , Lewes narrowly avoided relegation . The board 's view was that " being involved in a relegation battle was extremely disappointing " , and an experience that was " particularly difficult " in context of the club 's hard work towards " creat [ ing ] a platform from which to start building again " , and Wormull was dismissed at the end of the season . He was " devastated " by the decision , believing he had " buil [ t ] a good foundation " for the future , despite being " decimated with injuries " and working to what he described as " a huge reduction in the budget " .

Wormull took over as manager of Isthmian League Division One South club Crawley Down Gatwick in June 2013 . Wormull led the team to the top of the table with five wins and a draw from their first six matches , a performance that earned him the Isthmian South Manager of the Month award for August . They had fallen to sixth by early November , when he resigned his post for what were described as " personal and family reasons " .

In February 2014 , Wormull returned to football as head of the youth academy at one of his former employers , fellow Isthmian South club Three Bridges . At the end of the season , he was appointed

head first @-@ team coach , to work with manager Paul Faili .

= = Honours = =

Tottenham Hotspur

FA Youth Cup finalist : 1995

Rushden & Diamonds

Football Conference : 2000 ? 01

Football Conference runners @-@ up : 1999 ? 2000

Stevenage Borough

FA Trophy finalist : 2002

Lewes

Conference South : 2007 ? 08

Eastbourne Borough

Sussex Senior Cup : 2008 ? 09

Farnborough

Southern League Premier Division : 2009 ? 10