

= Yemi Odubade =

Yemi Odubade ( born 4 July 1984 ) is a Nigerian footballer who plays for Eastleigh as a striker .

Odubade began his football career in England , playing in the Sussex County League for Eastbourne Town in 2002 , where he scored over 70 times in just two seasons at the East Sussex club in all competitions . This attracted the interest of Yeovil Town , and he later signed for the club in July 2004 . At Yeovil , Odubade found first @-@ team opportunities sparse , playing a total of six times during the club 's 2004 ? 05 campaign , scoring once . He left the club in February 2005 and joined Eastbourne Borough shortly after . The following season , Odubade impressed Oxford United manager Brian Talbot in two FA Cup ties , and he joined the League Two side two months later for a fee of £ 25 @, @ 000 .

He spent three and a half years at Oxford , playing a total of 145 games for the club . Shortly after the 2008 ? 09 season he was released , and joined Stevenage on a free transfer in May 2009 . His first season at the club was a successful one , finishing the season as the club 's top goalscorer , as well as helping the Hertfordshire outfit earn promotion to the Football League for the first time in the club 's history . In January 2011 , Odubade joined Newport County on loan until the end of the 2010 ? 11 campaign . On returning to his parent club , Odubade signed for Conference Premier side Gateshead on a free transfer in June 2011 . After spending two years at Gateshead , during which he spent a brief time on loan at Forest Green Rovers , Odubade then joined Eastleigh in May 2013 .

= = Career = =

Despite being born in Lagos , Nigeria , Odubade grew up in East Sussex . He attended The Bishop Bell School in Eastbourne . He began his football career in England , playing in the Sussex County League for Eastbourne Town in 2002 . He scored over 70 times in just two seasons at the East Sussex club in all competitions , before attracting the attention of then ? Yeovil Town manager Gary Johnson before the start of the 2004 ? 05 season , he subsequently joined the club on a one @-@ year contract in July 2004 after a successful trial . He made his debut as a substitute for the Somerset side in a 4 ? 3 defeat against Torquay United in the Football League Trophy in September 2004 . He made his second Yeovil appearance in a 3 ? 1 victory away at Histon in an FA Cup tie , scoring his only goal for the club deep into injury @-@ time . He made a further four appearances for the side , before leaving the club in February 2005 due to personal reasons , and subsequently joined Conference South side Eastbourne Borough two days later . Odubade made his Eastbourne Borough debut in the club 's 2 ? 0 victory against Basingstoke Town just three days after signing for the club , playing 45 minutes of the match . In the following game , he scored twice as Eastbourne came from back from a two @-@ goal deficit to draw 2 ? 2 at Cambridge City , scoring both goals within the space of five minutes . Odubade made it five goals in his first three games for Eastbourne , as he scored a hat @-@ trick in the club 's 4 ? 0 home victory against Thurrock . He also scored Eastbourne 's third goal in a 3 ? 1 win in the following game against Newport County , latching onto a long ball and beating the goalkeeper first time . Throughout March 2005 , Odubade scored in four consecutive games , netting against Cambridge City , Havant & Waterlooville , Sutton United , and Hayes to take his tally to ten goals for the club . He also provided the assists for two of Eastbourne 's goals in a 3 ? 0 win against Redbridge , and scored two goals in late April 2005 against Bishop 's Stortford and Weston @-@ Super @-@ Mare respectively . He scored his last goal of the season in Eastbourne 's 3 ? 0 away win against Cambridge City in the play @-@ off , and was in the side that lost 2 ? 1 to Altrincham in the final . Odubade made a total of 17 appearances for Eastbourne during the second half of the 2004 ? 05 campaign , scoring 13 times .

Odubade opted to stay at Eastbourne Borough ahead of the 2005 ? 06 season , and subsequently started in the club 's first game of the season , scoring the only goal of the game in a 1 ? 0 away win against Bishop 's Stortford . Odubade scored his second goal of the season a week later , scoring the opening goal of the match as Eastbourne lost 3 ? 2 against Basingstoke Town , as well as scoring in the club 's 2 ? 1 home loss to Weston @-@ Super @-@ Mare . After scoring three goals

in the club 's first five matches of the season , Odubade failed to score again until November 2005 ? scoring Eastbourne 's goal in a 1 ? 1 draw against Carshalton Athletic . He also scored and assisted a goal in the club 's 3 ? 2 away victory against Farnborough Town at Cherrywood Road . Odubade impressed in the club 's FA Cup run during the same season , helping the club take Oxford United to a replay in November 2005 . After impressing Oxford manager Brian Talbot in the two ties , Odubade joined Oxford two months later for a fee of £ 25 @, @ 000 on an 18 @-@ month contract . On joining Oxford , Odubade said " It brings a tear to my eye just the thought of leaving Eastbourne . But I wanted to get back into the Football League and I just feel I am very lucky to have this second chance " . In total , Odubade played 40 times for Eastbourne Borough in all competitions , scoring 20 goals .

= = = Oxford United = = =

Odubade was assigned the number 7 shirt ahead of his first game for Oxford . He subsequently made his debut a day after signing for the club , starting in a 3 ? 0 defeat against Rushden & Diamonds at Nene Park , but was substituted after just 33 minutes with Rushden three goals up . He was an unused substitute in the club 's next two matches , but returned to first @-@ team action in Oxford 's 1 ? 1 draw against Cheltenham Town , coming on as a 59th @-@ minute substitute . In the club 's following game , he scored his first goal for Oxford in a 2 ? 1 loss away to Wycombe Wanderers , having come on at half @-@ time . He started one further match against Stockport County , but was an unused substitute for the club 's last two matches of the 2005 ? 06 season . Odubade played a total of 8 games throughout Oxford 's 2005 ? 06 campaign , scoring once , as the club were relegated to the Conference National . Under the new management of Jim Smith , Odubade started the 2006 ? 07 campaign by appearing as a 60th @-@ minute substitute in Oxford 's 2 ? 0 win against Halifax Town . Three days later , Odubade came on as a half @-@ time substitute against Dagenham & Redbridge , and scored the only goal of the game in the 57th minute . He also scored in Oxford 's 5 ? 1 home victory against Northwich Victoria , again appearing as a substitute . He scored the winner in the club 's 2 ? 1 win against St Albans City , as well as scoring in Oxford 's 5 ? 1 away win at Forest Green Rovers in October 2006 . Odubade 's first 15 appearances of the 2006 ? 07 season were made as a substitute , and he started his first game of the season in Oxford 's 1 ? 1 draw against Altrincham . A week later , he was in the starting line @-@ up once more , scoring twice in Oxford 's 3 ? 0 win against Cambridge United at the Abbey Stadium . He provided assists for goals in draws against Stevenage and Cambridge United respectively , before scoring in a 1 ? 1 draw against Aldershot Town in February 2007 . He scored Oxford 's first goal after 11 minutes in the club 's 3 ? 1 away win against Tamworth . A brace against Dagenham & Redbridge in a 2 ? 2 draw took Odubade 's tally to 10 goals for the season . His 11th of the season followed shortly after , scoring a headed goal in a 2 ? 0 away victory at St Albans City . Oxford failed to gain promotion back to the Football League after losing on penalties to Exeter City , although Odubade scored and assisted another during the two ties . Consequently , he was voted Oxford 's Player of the Year at the end of the season . Odubade scored a total of 12 goals in 46 games during the campaign .

He started in Oxford 's first game of the 2007 ? 08 season , a 1 ? 0 home win against Forest Green Rovers , coming on at half @-@ time . Eight days later , he scored his first goal of the campaign in the club 's 2 ? 1 away win at the Pirelli Stadium against Burton Albion , latching onto Eddie Odhiambo 's cross to score from six yards . He started his first game in a 0 ? 0 draw against Stevenage at Broadhall Way in late August 2007 , and started once more in a game against Altrincham at Moss Lane a month later , scoring in injury @-@ time to seal a 3 ? 1 victory , having previously assisted the first goal . Odubade 's third goal of the campaign came in Oxford 's 2 ? 1 home win against Salisbury City , scoring from just inside the area . He also scored a consolation goal for Oxford in the club 's 3 ? 1 away loss to relegation candidates Droylsden , as well as scoring twice in the following game as Oxford raced into a three @-@ goal lead against Torquay United , although the game ended 3 ? 3 . Odubade scored again against Northwich Victoria in the FA Cup in November 2007 , but failed to net again until January 2008 ? scoring Oxford 's goal in a 3 ? 1 loss

away to Salisbury City . After a 0 ? 0 draw against Grays Athletic , a game in which Odubade was substituted on 64 minutes , he failed to start a game for three months . Subsequently , in March 2008 , he was transfer @-@ listed by manager Darren Patterson . Shortly after Odubade had been transfer @-@ listed , it was announced that he had played his last game for the club , with Patterson saying " I think the best thing for him and us is that we go our separate ways " . However , just a week later , Odubade was told by Patterson that he " must start producing performances " if he wants to be taken off the transfer list . He was taken off of the list after scoring three goals in four games at the end of the season , as well as starting in the club 's last two games of the season . Patterson said that Odubade was removed from the transfer list because " he 's now putting in a shift " every game . He finished the season as Oxford 's top goalscorer , as Oxford finished the season in ninth place . In total , Odubade played 43 games in all competitions , scoring 11 times as Oxford finished in ninth place .

Odubade started the first six games of the 2008 ? 09 season , but sustained an injury in a 1 ? 1 draw away Ebbsfleet United , and subsequently missed the following match . He returned to first @-@ team action against Kettering Town , coming on as a 64th @-@ minute substitute and scoring eight minutes later from close range . He scored his second goal of the season in Oxford 's 2 ? 1 home defeat against Crawley Town , and assisted Phil Trainer 's goal in a 2 ? 1 win against Rushden & Diamonds in October 2008 . He scored the only goal of the game as Oxford beat York City 1 ? 0 at the Kassam Stadium , scoring an 87th @-@ minute penalty having been fouled in the area . He scored in the FA Cup for the third consecutive year , scoring in a 3 ? 1 win against Dorchester Town , scoring Oxford 's third in the 120th minute , after the tie had gone to extra @-@ time . His fifth goal of the season came in Oxford 's 5 ? 1 win against Ebbsfleet United , scoring the third goal with a " precise finish " . Two weeks later , he came off the substitutes bench to score a goal and assist another in Oxford 's 2 ? 1 win against Forest Green Rovers . He also scored in a 3 ? 0 win against Barrow , his final goal for Oxford . He featured mainly off the bench during the latter stages of the season , although did start in the final game of the season as Oxford lost 2 ? 1 against Northwich Victoria . He scored a total of seven times in 46 appearances , although in 25 games he featured as a substitute . In April 2009 , new manager Chris Wilder opted not to renew Odubade 's contract at the Kassam Stadium due to " the financial terms in his contract " , as well as him playing a peripheral role during the 2008 ? 09 season , and subsequently he was allowed to leave the club on a free transfer . During his three and a half @-@ year tenure at Oxford , Odubade made a total of 145 appearances , scoring 32 goals .

= = = Stevenage = = =

Odubade signed for Conference Premier side Stevenage on a free transfer in May 2009 . He made his debut for the club as a substitute in Stevenage 's 1 ? 1 draw with Tamworth in the opening game of the 2009 ? 10 season . He scored his first goal for the club in a 2 ? 1 defeat against his former employers , Oxford United , scoring from close range at the back post . He scored his second goal for the club as Stevenage came from two goals down to beat Mansfield Town at Field Mill , scoring the equalising goal . Odubade made his first eight appearances for Stevenage as a substitute , but started the next game ; a 4 ? 0 win over Hayes & Yeading , assisting Stevenage 's second goal . In the following match , he started once more , and assisted two of the club 's goals in a 3 ? 1 win against Salisbury City . Throughout November 2009 , Odubade became a regular feature in the Stevenage squad , scoring twice in games against Gateshead and Chester City respectively . He also notched the club 's solitary goal in a 2 ? 1 defeat against Ebbsfleet United in early December , a game in which he was injured and was subsequently substituted at half @-@ time . Odubade then returned to first @-@ team action on Boxing Day to score a penalty against Cambridge United , as well as setting up the third goal in a 3 ? 1 victory . He then played a major part in the reverse fixture at Broadhall Way six days later , scoring one and claiming two assists in a 4 ? 1 win . He scored his eighth goal of the season in Stevenage 's 4 ? 1 victory against Dover Athletic ; coming on as a substitute and volleying home the fourth in injury @-@ time . A brace against Mansfield Town ensured his goal tally reached double figures in his first season at the club , helping the club come

from a goal behind to win 3 ? 1 . A month later , he scored a hat @-@ trick in a 4 ? 0 home victory against Barrow . He followed this up with another goal four days later against Kidderminster Harriers in the FA Trophy . Odubade scored his 15th and 16th goals of the season against Crawley Town , scoring both goals in the first @-@ half as Stevenage ran out 3 ? 0 winners . Odubade played a total of 47 times during his first season at Stevenage , scoring 16 times and finishing as the club 's top goalscorer for the season ? a season that witnessed the club reach the Football League for the first time in their history after finishing as league champions .

Ahead of the 2010 ? 11 season , Odubade scored in a pre @-@ season friendly against Histon , in a 2 ? 0 win . He featured in the club 's first Football League match , against Macclesfield Town in August 2010 , coming on as a 60th @-@ minute substitute in a match that ended 2 ? 2 . He subsequently started his first game of the season in Stevenage 's 2 ? 1 loss to Portsmouth in the League Cup . Odubade scored his first goal of the season in the club 's 1 ? 1 home draw against Crewe Alexandra in September 2010 , tapping in from close range to give Stevenage the lead . He scored his second goal of the season in Stevenage 's 2 ? 0 televised FA Cup victory against AFC Wimbledon .

In January 2011 , Odubade went on loan to Conference National side Newport County until the end of the 2010 ? 11 campaign . He made his Newport debut in the club 's televised 3 ? 3 away draw against Mansfield Town , coming on as an 82nd @-@ minute substitute in the match . Odubade made his first start for Newport in a 2 ? 2 away draw against Bath City on 22 February 2011 , scoring Newport 's first goal after 14 minutes . It was to be Odubade 's only goal for Newport in the eleven appearances he made for the club , seven of which were as a substitute . He returned to his parent club on 17 May 2011 .

= = = Gateshead = = =

Having been released by Stevenage at the end of the 2010 ? 11 season , Odubade signed for Conference National side Gateshead on 7 June 2011 . He joined Gateshead on a free transfer , signing for the club alongside Eddie Odhiambo ; the two had previously played alongside each other at Oxford United , Stevenage , and Newport County . On joining Gateshead , Odubade said " I have parted company with Stevenage on good terms and this is now a new chapter for me . Gateshead is a good club that is moving in the right direction and I 'm sure we can kick on next season . I don 't look back with any regrets as things happen for a reason . I am always looking forward . Gateshead is a new challenge for me and I can only see good things coming from it " . He made his Gateshead debut on 13 August 2011 in the club 's 3 ? 2 away win against Kidderminster Harriers at Aggborough , assisting Kris Gate 's goal in the 80th minute . Odubade scored his first goal for Gateshead three days later at Gateshead International Stadium in Gateshead 's 3 ? 0 win against Mansfield Town , which was voted Goal of the Season in the club 's end of season awards . His first season at Gateshead was disrupted by two @-@ foot injuries mid @-@ way through the campaign , with Odubade breaking his metatarsal bone on two occasions , subsequently missing a total of 18 games . Despite the injuries , he made 34 appearances throughout the season , scoring seven times . He signed a one @-@ year contract extension with Gateshead in May 2012 .

Despite appearing 24 times for Gateshead during the opening half of the 2012 ? 13 season , although eight of which were as a substitute , Odubade was loaned to Conference National side Forest Green Rovers on 17 January 2013 , for the remainder of the campaign . He made his debut on 19 January as a second @-@ half substitute against Stockport County , a game in which Forest Green lost 2 ? 1 . He scored his first goal for Forest Green on 12 March 2013 in a 2 ? 1 win over Southport . It proved to be his only goal during his time at Forest Green , making 14 appearances , all of which in the league . Odubade returned to Gateshead following the conclusion of the 2012 ? 13 season , and was told he was one of seven players released by the club in April 2013 .

= = = Eastleigh = = =

Following his release from Gateshead , Odubade joined Conference South side Eastleigh on a free

transfer on 31 May 2013 . On acquiring Odubade 's services , Eastleigh manager Richard Hill stated ? " I was impressed with his own personal ambition and his desire to be successful and Yemi opted to sign for Eastleigh as he wants to be with a Club that hold the same ambitions " . While playing for Eastleigh , Odubade went on loan to Woking during the 2014 / 15 season and made his debut as a substitute against Alfreton . He soon became a regular starter and scored in half the games he played in for the club .

= = Style of play = =

Odubade is generally deployed as a striker , but has also been used as a winger . He believes that his best asset is his turn of pace , and that he is at his most dangerous when he is " running at opposition defences " . He is predominantly right @-@ footed , and scores the majority of his goals with his right foot , but is also comfortable using his left . During his time at Stevenage , manager Graham Westley has used Odubade as the second striker as part of a 4 ? 4 ? 2 formation sitting off the shoulder of the centre forward . Westley has also used him as part of a 4 ? 3 ? 3 formation , usually on the right side of a three @-@ pronged attack . Odubade has been described as possessing " blistering pace " , which was emphasised following two goals away at Crawley Town in March 2010 , whereby his pace left the Crawley defence " in their tracks " . Former Oxford United manager Darren Patterson said that Odubade needs " to work on his movement up front , and he 's got to realise what his assets are and play to them " .

= = Honours = =

Individual

Oxford United Player of the Season : 2006 ? 07

= = Career statistics = =

As of 26 April 2015 .