

Andover Town Football Club est. 2013



Saturday 6th August 2022
Wessex League Division 1
Andover Town v Hamworthy Recreation



Club Management Structure

- **Manager—Ron Bertie**
- **Assistant Manager—Gerwyn Griffiths**
- **Coach—Kieran Stockwell-Smith**
- **Sports Therapy—Caroline & Darren Cross**

ATFC History

The Background

Andover Town Football Club was formed in 2013 by Andover and Sparsholt Colleges. Its aim was to return football to the Portway Stadium, by providing:

1. A teaching and coaching venue for the Andover College Football Academy
2. A playing venue for the Southampton (Sparsholt) Second Chance Academy programme
3. A senior Football side which would provide an opportunity for talented academy players to further develop within an adult setting, whilst providing further opportunities for local players to play at the highest possible level
4. A pathway for young people from 6-19 which enables them to identify both playing and studying opportunities within Andover

International Honours

The club finally moved into the stadium in December 2013 and, after an abortive start due to the weather, played its first competitive game in the newly refurbished Portway Stadium beating Team Solent 4-0 in front of a crowd of 161. Success in our first year was beyond that we could have hoped for, including witnessing a crowd of over 300 for our early March fixture with Andover Lions in the Andover Open Cup. In addition, a number of Sparsholt Saints Academy scholars appeared within the Andover Town Senior side over the last few years with Adam Grange following in the footsteps of Charlie Gunson, becoming Andover Town's second player to represent England at an international level.

Andover enjoyed their most successful year since their formation in 2017/18. The new season opened with a 6-1 home league win against Bemerton Heath Harlequins. The club then progressed on an unbeaten run in the league of 16 games, finally losing 3-0 at Alresford Town on 8th November. Whilst their cup encounters didn't fare as well - after two wins in the F.A. Cup, including beating Southern League, Wimborne Town after a replay, before losing at home to Cadbury Heath from Bristol. Then a quick exit from the F.A. Vase losing to Horndean after extra time. Half way through the season after 21 games, the club were riding high at the top of the table. By the end of the season with two matches left, the club clinched promotion to the Southern League West division, for the first time in their short history.

Honours Board

**Club of month—August 2017,
October 2017, October 2021,
December 2021, January 2022**

Russell Cotes Cup—2018

**Wessex Premier Division—
Runners up 2018**

**Wessex League 1—Runners up
2014**

Salisbury Hospital Cup—2014

Player Performance

Most Appearances—Alex

Dockree 166

**Top Goalscorer—Josh Bertie 71
(in 116 appearances)**



The season also saw us achieve the most goals scored (116) since our formation in 2013 and the most points in a season (99) plus of course the highest ever finish as runners up (second place) in the Sydenhams Wessex Premier league. The club won the final of the Russell Cotes Cup beating AFC Stoneham 1-0. The club won "Club of the Month" twice during the season - August & October 2017. Another success for the 2017 / 18 season, for the second year in succession, our Portway groundsman Chris White was been nominated for the National FA Groundsman of the Year awards, representing the entire Wessex League (i.e. best Wessex League groundsman) and, of course Andover Town Football Club.

A New Chapter

The loss of playing staff and the management team meant 2018/19 was built around trying to establish the foundations for future success. A difficult year resulted in Andover finishing second from bottom but progressing to the semi-finals of the Andover Open Cup. Further changes during the summer with the introduction of some new faces on the field provided renewed optimism that the club will be on the rise again very soon. This led to a much improved performance during the curtailed 2019/20 season although when the league was finished due to the pandemic, the club were mid-table. Nevertheless, it was a step in the right direction and this optimism continued in the first part of the 2020-21 season, challenging for top position and progressing to the quarter-finals of the League cup. The season was halted in November for another lockdown and when the league and cup resumed, Andover's form slumped losing three quick games in succession before the season was paused again with the club fighting for a top four position but having been deposed from the league cup convincingly by US Portsmouth. Sadly, the season was again curtailed with Andover in 6th place.

In 2021/22, Andover made significant strides, going top of the league in the Autumn after a 16 game winning streak. It looked like Town would be serious title contenders and, at the very least, play off certainties. However, injuries in the final few months crippled the side and a loss of form saw Town end the season one place outside the playoffs and facing another year in Wessex 1.





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The Wessex Football League Show is the official podcast of the Wessex Football League. We are on air live from Awaaz 99.8FM studios & simultaneously on Fiesta 95FM based in Southampton from 14:00 to 16:00 every Sunday and you can also listen live on www.awaazfm.co.uk from anywhere in the world. You can listen back again from the following link <https://awaazfm.co.uk/listen-back/wessex-football-league/>

Our aim is to promote all local football but specifically the 40 teams of the Wessex Football League. So far, we have had managers, chairpersons, players, press officers and secretaries joining us as studio guests, and via zoom and phone guests from many Wessex Football League clubs, as well as guests from local teams both higher up and lower down the pyramid. This is your show and is a platform for your club to promote its events and raise its profile. If your club produces post-match interviews, please either email us a copy of the audio or give permission for us to play them on air straight from your website or social media sites, as we will aim to play them on the show.

Please come and join us one Sunday, we do have access to the two studios so it is easy to accommodate guests in the studio, for more information please email gregdickson94@gmail.com or cliffpledge@hotmail.com

Andover Town Fixt

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Wessex League—Fixture List

ATFC Upcoming Fixtures

- 06/08/22—Home v Hamworthy Recreation (3pm KO)
- 13/08/22—Away v Petersfield Town (3pm KO)
- 16/08/22—Home v Whitchurch Utd (7.45pm KO)
- 20/08/22—Home v Totton & Eling (3pm KO)

Tuesday August 2nd

Premier Division

AFC Portchester v Cowes Sports (19:30)
 Baffins Milton Rovers v Hamble Club
 Blackfield & Langley v Bemerton Heath H'quins
 Brockenhurst v Christchurch
 Fareham Town v AFC Stoneham
 Horndean v Moneyfields
 Hythe & Dibden v Laverstock & Ford
 Pagham v U.S. Portsmouth
 Portland United v Bournemouth
 Shaftesbury v Alresford Town

Division One

Ash United v Newport IOW
 Andover New Street v Fleetlands
 Fawley AFC v Folland Sports

Friday August 5th

Emirates F.A. Cup Extra Preliminary Round

Baffins Milton Rovers v Alton

Saturday August 6th

Emirates F.A. Cup Extra Preliminary Round

AFC Stoneham v Bashley
 Alresford Town v Laverstock & Ford
 Badshot Lea v Brockenhurst
 Christchurch v Blackfield & Langley (at Blackfield)
 Corsham Town v AFC Portchester
 Cowes Sports v Hamble Club
 Fareham Town v Hythe & Dibden
 Fleet Town v Newport IOW
 Larkhall Athletic v Folland Sports
 Lymington Town v Portland United (at Portland)
 Moneyfields v Bemerton Heath H'quins
 Pagham v Erith Town
 Shaftesbury v Camberley Town
 Thatcham Town v Horndean
 Warminster Town v Andover New Street
 Welton Rovers v U.S. Portsmouth
 Westbury United v Bournemouth

Division One

Andover Town v Hamworthy Recreation
 Ash United v Fleetlands
 East Cowes Victoria v Amesbury Town
 New Milton Town v Millbrook
 Petersfield Town v Downton
 Ringwood Town v Fleet Spurs
 Romsey Town v Totton & Eling
 Verwood Town v Whitchurch United

Tuesday August 9th

Hampshire Senior Cup Preliminary Round

Brockenhurst v Alresford Town
 Moneyfields v Millbrook
 Romsey Town v Fareham Town

Saturday August 13th

Premier Division

Bemerton Heath H'quins v Christchurch
 Blackfield & Langley v AFC Portchester
 Bournemouth v Pagham
 Brockenhurst v Fareham Town
 Cowes Sports v Alresford Town
 Hamble Club v Portland United
 Horndean v Shaftesbury
 Hythe & Dibden v U.S. Portsmouth
 Laverstock & Ford v Moneyfields

Division One

Amesbury Town v Verwood Town
 Andover New Street v Fawley AFC
 Downton v Ash United
 Fleet Spurs v East Cowes Victoria
 Fleetlands v Totton & Eling
 Millbrook v Hamworthy Recreation
 Newport IOW v Folland Sports (at East Cowes)
 Petersfield Town v Andover Town
 Romsey Town v New Milton Town
 Whitchurch United v Ringwood Town

Tuesday August 16th

Premier Division

Baffins Milton Rovers v AFC Stoneham
 Division One
 Andover Town v Whitchurch United
 Downton v Amesbury Town
 Fleet Spurs v Petersfield Town
 Verwood Town v New Milton Town

Thursday August 18th

Division One

Fawley AFC v Romsey Town

Saturday August 20th

Emirates F.A. Cup Preliminary Round

Division One

Amesbury Town v Fleet Spurs
 Andover Town v Totton & Eling
 Ash United v Folland Sports
 Millbrook v Petersfield Town
 New Milton Town v Downton
 Newport IOW v Andover New Street
 Ringwood Town v East Cowes Victoria
 Verwood Town v Fleetlands
 Whitchurch United v Hamworthy Recreation

Tuesday August 23rd

Hampshire Senior Cup 1st Round

AFC Stoneham v Cowes Sports (20:00)
 Andover New Street v Hamble Club
 Baffins Milton Rovers v Ringwood Town
 Brockenhurst v Alresford Town v Horndean
 Christchurch v Royal Navy FA

THE WESSEX FOOTBALL LEAGUE



**NO DISSENT
MEANS
NO SIN BIN**



FOR ALL

RESPECT

Wessex League Preview

Another season, the 37th in Wessex League history, with two unfinished of course, and as is the custom of late, a midweek start to ensure that those Clubs involved in the FA Cup on the first Saturday in August have a competitive match under their belts before embarking on the Wembley trail.

So, a full Premier Division Programme on Tuesday plus three games in Division One since happily three Clubs from that Division have been included in the draw. Taking the Premier Division matches in alphabetical order, AFC Portchester entertain Cowes Sports and as favourites for the title in many eyes they should start with a win. Baffins Milton Rovers host Hamble Club in a fixture that has been reversed from the original listing. The Portsmouth based Club enjoyed a strong start to last season before falling away in the second half but should start this time round with the three points. Newly promoted Bemerton Heath Harlequins travel to Blackfield & Langley and will be hoping for at least a share of the spoils while based on last season's form Brockenhurst should be too strong for Christchurch in the New Forest. Fareham scored goals for fun on occasions last season but were also prone to conceding at the other end, and AFC Stoneham may well come out on top at Cams Alders. The Match of the Evening could well be at Five Heads Park where Horndean meet Moneyfields. The Deans were there or thereabouts all last season and will be hoping to improve on their eventual fourth place while the visitors have title ambitions of their own. Should be a healthy attendance as well. Hythe & Dibden avoided relegation last time with a storming finish to the season and welcome Laverstock & Ford who gained promotion through the Play Off system and the result could go either way. New boys Pagham, who have moved over from the Southern Combination League, could start their campaign with a home victory at the expense of U.S. Portsmouth and it also may well be a home victory at Portland United where Bournemouth are the visitors. Finally, Shaftesbury, third last season as well as being League Cup Winners, will be looking for a similar campaign and could get off to a successful start against visitors Alresford Town.

As stated earlier, three games in Division One involving the three Clubs who missed out on promotion at the playoff stage. Newport IOW travel to Ash United, who fell away last season after a good start, and the three points could go back to the Island while Andover New Street travel to Fleetlands for a game which in a sense is a step in the dark for both Clubs. It will be the home Club's first game back in the Wessex League after an absence of 16 seasons and also the first ever meeting between the two sides. Too many imponderables to suggest a result.

Lastly Folland Sports entertain Fawley in what, based on last season, should be a home win.

Good wishes to all for the evening and of course the season ahead.



THE WESSEX FOOTBALL LEAGUE



Anti-Racist Notice

The use of unacceptable language is prohibited anywhere within the club facilities or on the pitch.

Any Racist or Discriminatory comments related to Gender, Sexuality, Disability, Racial Origin, Ethnicity or Religion by Players, Spectators, or Officials must be reported to the Club, Referee or League who are required to take the appropriate action.

This includes any comments made on a Social Media platform.

Any infringement of the above may first be dealt with by the relevant F.A. then by the league under Rule 4.2 & Rule 17. If you are unsure or would like guidance; contact the league's Race Relations and Youth Protection Officer.

**IF YOU HEAR IT OR SEE IT, REPORT IT.
THE DO-NOTHING OPTION DOES NOT EXIST.**

Welcome to our Visitors

Hamworthy Recreation Football Club was formed in 1948 as Hamworthy Engineering FC and played on the Sports Ground opposite the factory at Fleetsbridge in Poole (where the Tesco supermarket now stands).

When the site at Fleetsbridge was sold to Tesco in the late 1980's the football, along with the Sports & Social Club, moved to its current home at Magna Road, Canford Magna. At that time 'Hamworthy Engineering FC' were playing in the Bournemouth League (Division 1). The Club won the Bournemouth Senior Cup in the 1988-89 season, and after winning the Division One Championship in 1990/91 'The Rec' successfully applied to join the Dorset Combination League for season 92/93 when they finished 3rd.

Success soon followed when the Club won a hat-trick of Combination League Championships in 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96.

'The Rec' have lifted the League Championship Trophy on another eight occasions, 2000/01, 2001/02, 2004/05, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2014/15, 2017/18 and 2018/19.



The Club have won the League Cup on five occasions - 2000/01, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2013/14 & 2014/15.

'The Rec' consider that their greatest achievement was in 1995, when not only did they win the League Championship, they also won the Dorset Senior Cup, defeating Weymouth Football Club from the Southern League by 3 goals to nil at Magna Road in the Semi-Final, and Poole Town FC, another Southern League team, 4 - 1 in the Final.

The 2001-01 season saw the Club change its name to Hamworthy Recreation FC to reflect the name of their current headquarters.

On winning both the Dorset Premier League and Premier League Cup in 2021/2022 the First Team have been promoted to the Wessex League Division 1.

For the 2022/2023 Season our Reserves have been renamed the Development Team and play in the Hampshire Combination and Development League.