

Andover Town Football Club est. 2013



Tuesday 14th February 2023
Wessex League Cup Quarter Final
Andover Town v Shaftesbury



Club Management Structure

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

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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CAN YOU HEAR ME?

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



ATFC Upcoming Fixtures

- 18/02/23—Away v Ash United—3pm KO
- 21/02/23—Away v Downton—7.45pm KO
- 25/02/23—Home v New Milton—3pm KO
- 01/03/23—Away v Fleetlands—7.45pm KO

Monday 13 February

Division One

Totton & Eling v Newport (IoW)

Tuesday 14 February

Wessex League Cup Quarter Final

Andover Town v Shaftesbury

Premier Division

Alresford Town v Cowes Sports

Bemerton Heath H'quins v Pagham

Horndean v Bournemouth

Laverstock & Ford v Hamble Club

Division One

Amesbury Town v Whitchurch United

Andover New Street v Petersfield Town

Folland Sports v Ash United

Hamworthy Recreation v Downton

Wednesday 15 February

Division One

Fawley AFC v Ringwood Town

Millbrook v Verwood Town

Portsmouth Senior Cup Quarter Final

Fleetlands v Fareham Town U23

Thursday 16 February

Southampton Senior Cup Quarter Final

Hythe & Dibden v Locks Heath

North Hants Senior Cup Quarter Final

Alresford Town v Andover New Street

Friday 17 February

Premier Division

Moneyfields v AFC Stoneham [KO 20:00]

Saturday 18 February

Premier Division

Alresford Town v Shaftesbury

Baffins Milton Rovers v Laverstock & Ford

Blackfield & Langley v U.S. Portsmouth

Bournemouth v AFC Portchester

Cowes Sports v Horndean

Fareham Town v Christchurch

Hamble Club v Bemerton Heath H'quins

Hythe & Dibden v Brockenhurst

Portland United v Pagham

Division One

Amesbury Town v Fleetlands

Andover New Street v Hamworthy Recreation

Ash United v Andover Town

Downton v Totton & Eling

Fleet Spurs v Fawley AFC

Newport (IoW) v Millbrook

Petersfield Town v New Milton Town

Ringwood Town v Folland Sports

Verwood Town v Romsey Town

Whitchurch United v East Cowes Victoria

Tuesday 21 February

Hampshire Senior Cup Third Round

Baffins Milton Rovers v Lymington Town

Premier Division

AFC Portchester v Laverstock & Ford

Alresford Town v Bemerton Heath H'quins

Bournemouth v Portland United

Christchurch v Pagham

Cowes Sports v Blackfield & Langley

Horndean v AFC Stoneham

Shaftesbury v Hythe & Dibden

Division One

Downton v Andover Town

Folland Sports v Totton & Eling

Newport (IoW) v Romsey Town

Petersfield Town v Fleetlands

Southampton Senior Cup Quarter Final

Hamble Club v Brockenhurst

Portsmouth Senior Cup Quarter Final

Fareham Town v Gosport Borough

Wednesday 22 February

Division One

Fawley AFC v East Cowes Victoria

Millbrook v Ringwood Town

Whitchurch United v Andover New Street

Friday 24 February

Premier Division

Moneyfields v Brockenhurst [KO 20:00]

Saturday 25 February

Premier Division

AFC Portchester v Portland United

AFC Stoneham v Baffins Milton Rovers

Bemerton Heath H'quins v Fareham Town

Horndean v Blackfield & Langley

Hythe & Dibden v Hamble Club

Laverstock & Ford v Cowes Sports

Pagham v Bournemouth

U.S. Portsmouth v Christchurch

Division One

Andover Town v New Milton Town

East Cowes Victoria v Downton

Fawley AFC v Whitchurch United

Fleet Spurs v Amesbury Town

Folland Sports v Fleetlands

THE WESSEX FOOTBALL LEAGUE



**NO DISSENT
MEANS
NO SIN BIN**



RESPECT

Wessex League Preview

PLENTY of games in both Divisions with virtually all the results going as per the form book so to speak. In the Premier Division, with leaders AFC Portchester involved elsewhere both AFC Stoneham and Horndean took the opportunity to narrow the gap at the top with home wins. Stoneham defeated Shaftesbury 3-1 with goals from Liam Callaghan, Duarte Martins and Scott Hills against one from Tyler Forbes whilst two goals from Zack Willett and one from Rudi Blankson gave Horndean a three goal win over Baffins Milton Rovers in one of the evening's many local derbies. The largest attendance of the evening, almost 300, saw a one all draw between Laverstock & Ford and Bemerton Heath Harlequins - Russell Jones and Danny Young respectively – but we understand there were a couple of nasty injuries and wish both Jordon Matthews and Ronan Clancy a speedy recovery. After a mixed run of results Hamble Club rediscovered their form with a 6-2 defeat of US Portsmouth and five different scorers in Clayd Roach (2), Matt Casey, Braydon Douglas, Leo Taylor and Nathan Gray with the visiting goals from Elliott Holmes and Danny Burroughs. The Waterside derby between Hythe & Dibden and Blackfield & Langley ended all square at one apiece - Craig Feeney for the hosts cancelling out an early goal from Harry Edmondson- while Christchurch returned from the Island with three points after beating Cowes Sports by the odd goal in three. Fin Phillips gave the home side the lead before goals from Conor Jevon and Kyran Samadi gave the visitors the spoils. Finally varying fortunes for the two sides at the bottom of the table. Pagham climbed out of the relegation zone, leaving Bournemouth to take their place, with their best result of the season, a 5-0 defeat of Brockenhurst thanks to first half goals from Howard Neighbour and Alfie Davidson with two apiece and a single from Jamie Smith. But for Alresford it was an almost familiar story of game postponed. They are going to have a very busy second half to the season. In Division One the congestion at the top of the table remains the same with the leading four sides all winning at home. A hat trick from Luke Stone gave New Milton Town a 3-0 win over Fleetlands while Newport scored seven without reply against Fawley thanks to goals from Connor Kelly and Jordan Chapman with two apiece and singles from Rafferty Boyd-Kerr, Joe Craig and Jordan Browne. Andover New Street overcame fifth place Downton by the odd goal in three with Ross Cook claiming both the home goals and Sam Howe, with his 50th in a Robins' shirt the Downton consolation- not bad considering this is only his second term up front for the Wick Lane side. Completing the top quartet are Petersfield, who scored three times without reply against Millbrook courtesy of Archie Greenough, Connor Hoare and Oli Davies.



In another of the night's local derbies Ringwood and Verwood shared four goals with Sam Farndell and Keiran Burpitt on target for the visitors, with Harry Smith and Ben Harris notching for the home side. Hamworthy Recreation maintained their place on the edge of the top five with a best of three goals win at Romsey. Jack Odam scored for the home side but Frank Rosenwald and, almost inevitably, Chris Long ensured the Rec took the points. A welcome point for Ash United in a one all draw with Totton and Eling – Gavin Muir equalising after Archie Ford had put the Millers in front and the big match at the bottom of the table between Amesbury and East Cowes Vics ended goalless, a better result for the visitors who are now out of the bottom three for the first time in many weeks, having taken ten points from their last twelve. Away from the League AFC Portchester fielded a much weakened side at National League Farnborough in the Third Round of the Hampshire Senior Cup and went down 8-0. One First Division game on Wednesday where second half goals from Lewis Williams and Matty Morris gave Andover Town a 2-0 victory at Whitchurch. Given the still inclement weather it was good to see so many games played and thanks to all, and then to round off the week, a full programme completed over Friday evening and Saturday afternoon and defeat for the table toppers in both Divisions. In the Premier Division the top two met at Stoneham with the hosts overcoming AFC Portchester by the odd goal in three thanks to goals from Duarte Martins and Liam Callaghan against one from Brett Pitman. Third place Horndean were three two down at the break at Shaftesbury before coming back to win 5-3. The winning nap hand came from Ben Anderson, Zack Willett, Harry Jackson, Chad Field and Connor Duffin with the hosts replying through Jake Smeeton and a double from Ash Pope. Bemerton Heath remain in fourth place after a comfortable 3-0 win at Bournemouth with George Higgins, Henry Lander and Greg Peel on target while Moneyfields' 1-1 draw with Pagham on Friday evening kept them in fifth place, Steve Hutchings and Stan Bridgman the respective marksmen. Hamble Club were in the goals again with a 6-0 demolition of Cowes Sports thanks to two goals apiece from Clayd Roach and Braydon Douglas plus singles from Matt Casey and Nathan Grey. That result leaves the Island side very much in relegation trouble. A lone goal from Jason Parish gave Baffins Milton Rovers the points at home to Portland while Brockenhurst bounced back from their midweek defeat with a 2-0 home win over US Portsmouth thanks to goals from Matt Sheedy and Jaden Medcraft. The two games on the Waterside resulted in wins for Blackfield & Langley and Fareham. Craig McAllister and Harry Edmondson scored for Blackfield against one from Cameron Roach for Laverstock & Ford while Ronan Galloway's two goals trumped Ben Slade's lone strike for Hythe & Dibden. And to complete the Premier Division, still no joy for Alresford as Christchurch netted four without reply at Hurn Bridge through Callum Horton, Fawzi Saadi, Josh Taylor and Kyran Samadi. In Division One Hamworthy Recreation, who give every indication in being in the play-off spots at least at the end of the season, pulled off a creditable 4-1 win at New Milton thanks to two goals from Chris Long and one apiece from Frank Rosenwald and James King with the hosts getting the opener from Charlie Turner. Newport won 3-1 at Verwood with two goals from Connor Kelly and one from Joe Craig – Louis McWilliams for the Potters – but Andover New Street were held to a goalless draw by the much improved East Cowes Vics on the Island. No problems for Petersfield with goals from Archie Greenough, Matt Dougan, Alex Barsa and Marvin Orepo giving them a 4-0 victory at Andover Town. Downton were three one ahead at the break at Fawley only for the home side to recover to three each Saturday, 11 February 2023 The Wessex Post Page 17 of 25 and share the points. Dylan Knight led the comeback with two aided by Adam Davis with Sam Howe, Kris Krystofowicz and Ollie Davies on the mark for the Robins.

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young carers

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Shaftesbury Football Club

Shaftesbury Football Club was established in 1888 and the club's first success was winning the League Cup in 1900 and then again in 1905/06 along with the League Title.

In 1908/09 season Shaftesbury formed a reserve side and also a mid-week league side known as Shaftesbury Wednesday. In the early 1920's the first youth team was formed called Shaftesbury Athletic. Shaftesbury's next success was in 1932/33 season winning the Dorset Senior League, then the most successful period came in the 1940/50's when Shaftesbury won 12 cup competitions in a 10 year period.

Shaftesbury then moved to the ground known as Cockrams in 1974, even today still playing here but in a slightly different located pitch due to the arrival of Tesco Supermarket. Many more titles were won over the years with winning the League Cup in 1976, League Champions and Combination Cup in 1988/89, Combination Cup Winners 1994/95, League Winners 1996/97.

In 2004/05 Shaftesbury entered the Wessex League and for the first time in 2005/06 entered the FA Vase and 2006/07 the FA Cup. 2011/12, Shaftesbury re-joined the Dorset Premier League, many changes happened on and off the pitch and the re-growth of the team showed as they started to shine year on year in this league.

2015/16 season saw Shaftesbury Football Club have a successful year for some time, under new management, the 1st team won the Dorset Premier League meaning promotion into the Wessex League (Div 1). 2016/17 season was the first return to the Wessex League since 2004 and with a more than expected performance through-out the season, a top three finish saw promotion to the Wessex Premier and Shaftesbury's highest level of football to come in 2017/18.

2017/18 was a successful year for the club with retaining a position in the Wessex Premier League and also reaching the Dorset Senior Final, unfortunately with a loss to Wimborne Town. The final success of the year was to win the Salisbury Hospital Cup.

FA CUP

Furthest progress - 2018/19 1st Qualifying Round - Poole Town

Record victory - 2018/19 Extra Preliminary Round - Wells City 5-2

FA VASE

Furthest progress - 2016/17 2nd Round - Team Solent

Record victory - 2018/19 2nd Qualifying Round - Andover New Street 5-1

Match Report

Whitchurch 0 v 2 Andover Town

On a bitterly cold evening when in fact there had been an afternoon pitch inspection because of frost the North Hants derby against Whitchurch United (aka The Jam Boys) kicked off a few minutes late caused by severe traffic delays on the M3. Andover Town fielded a particularly strong bench which included both Brendan Holmes and Lewis Williams who had both played a full 90 minutes in afternoon matches. It was important that the performance in the Totton game on Saturday was quickly forgotten and put to right for tonight's encounter. Despite Whitchurch's lowly league matches historically they have always been doughty opponents and tonight would surely be no exception.

Both sides started brightly with lots of fast passing movements and in the 10th minute Malachi Johnson found Zach Hine in space and he fired in a fine shot from the left edge of the area which the keeper parried away. This was to be the first of many interventions from Hines which would later earn him the man of the match accolade. The half progressed at a brisk pace and Whitchurch pressed hard with several breakaways. Indeed in the 27th minute Town keeper Daniel McCarthy saved very well from a shot by Whitchurch striker Denham. Again McCarthy impressed throughout the game with his safe handling, excellent positional sense and good shot stopping ability. As the first half progressed both teams were pushing hard for the opening goal with some fierce encounters particularly in midfield. But half time arrived with no breakthrough from either side and the score remained at 0-0.

The second half started scrappily and Town needed to establish some rhythm if they were to break down United's defensive cover. In the 53rd minute Nehniah McKinley-Burke had a shot from long distance which just skimmed over the bar. This was matched by a cross and shot from the Whitchurch number 9 which shaved the far post. Substitutions then followed from the 68th minute onwards when first Lewis Williams and then Brendan Holmes took the field. The speedy Lewis Williams looked lively and when it looked like it was going to finish 0-0 he opened the scoring when he coolly slid the ball home in the 81st minute. Andover were looking comfortable at this stage and were managing the game well in the last ten minutes and then substitute Matty Morris broke free in the penalty area and fired in a low shot in the 92nd minute which easily beat the keeper to make the score 2-0 to Town.

The game ended with a 2-0 scoreline which was a fair enough result and it was certainly an improvement from Town after their very disappointing performance against Totton. The next game is at Portway on Saturday February 11th kick off 3pm where the visitors are Petersfield Town who are going very well this season and are currently in 4th position in the league. So another tough match in prospect.

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.

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By order of The Wessex League Management Board.

STAT ATTACK

TOP FIVE LEADING GOALSCORERS - LEAGUE GAMES ONLY

PREMIER DIVISION

Brett Pitman	AFC Portchester	33
Zack Willett	Horndean	23
Duarte Martins	AFC Stoneham	16
Callum Laycock	Moneyfields	15
Reece Rusher	Bemerton Heath Harlequins	15

DIVISION ONE

Chris Long	Hamworthy Recreation	23
Luke Stone	New Milton Town	23
Ross Cook	Andover New Street	20
Jack Odam	Romsey Town	18
Ben Cooper	New Milton Town	17

Details are based on clubs being up to date with records on Full Time at time of publication.

This may or may not include League goals from this weekend.

PREMIER DIVISION

Top five league attendances

AFC Portchester	vs	Fareham Town	1,598	2 January
Moneyfields	vs	AFC Portchester	1,012	27 December
AFC Portchester	vs	Bemerton Heath Harlequins	552	4 October
AFC Portchester	vs	Alresford Town	407	12 November
Baffins Milton Rovers	vs	Moneyfields	400	26 October

DIVISION ONE

Top five league attendances

Andover Town	vs	Andover New Street	340	27 December
East Cowes Victoria	vs	Newport IOW	324	26 December
Downton	vs	New Milton Town	193	19 November
Andover Town	vs	Whitchurch United	192	16 August
Andover Town	vs	Amesbury Town	188	19 November

PREMIER DIVISION

Sharpest Attack

AFC Portchester	81
Bemerton Heath Harlequins	77
AFC Stoneham	71

Meanest Defence

Horndean	17
Bemerton Heath Harlequins	25
AFC Stoneham	26

DIVISION ONE

Sharpest Attack

New Milton Town	85
Downton	62
Newport IOW	62

Meanest Defence

Andover New Street	19
Newport IOW	20
Petersfield Town	20

POINTS PER GAME - TOP THREE

PREMIER DIVISION

AFC Portchester	2.708
Horndean	2.545
AFC Stoneham	2.440

DIVISION ONE

Andover New Street	2.524
Newport IOW	2.435
Petersfield Town	2.125

GOALS PER GAME - TOP THREE

PREMIER DIVISION

AFC Portchester	3.375
Bemerton Heath Harlequins	3.348
Horndean	3.091

DIVISION ONE

New Milton Town	3.148
Newport IOW	2.696
[two on]	2.619