

Andover Town Football Club est. 2013



Tuesday 30th August 2022
Wessex League Cup Round 2
Andover Town v Bournemouth



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

- 30/08/22—League Cup v Bournemouth (Home)
- 03/09/22—League v East Cowes (Away)
- 10/09/22—League v Downton (Home)
- 13/09/22—Hampshire Senior Cup 2nd round v Aldershot Town (Away)

Tuesday August 30th

Hampshire Senior Cup First Round

AFC Stoneham v Cowes Sports (20:00)

Wessex League Cup First Round

Bemerton Heath H'quins v Hythe & Dibden

Horndean v Laverstock & Ford

Portland United v Fareham Town

New Milton town v Moneyfields

Petersfield Town v Newport IOW (19:30)

Ringwood Town v Hamworthy Recreation

Wessex League Cup Second Round

Amesbury Town v Hamble Club

Andover Town v Bournemouth

Ash United v Pagham

Fleet Spurs v Andover New Street

Millbrook v Shaftesbury

Romsey Town v Christchurch

Whitchurch United v Baffins Milton Rovers

Premier Division

Alresford Town v U.S. Portsmouth

Division One

East Cowes Victoria v Totton & Eling

Wednesday August 31st

Hampshire Senior Cup First Round

Folland Sports v Fawley AFC (at Fawley)

Wessex League Cup Second Round

Fleetlands v Blackfield & Langley

Friday September 2nd

Emirates F.A. Cup First Round Qualifying

Baffins Milton Rovers v Winchester City

Saturday September 3rd

Emirates F.A. Cup First Round Qualifying

Blackfield & Langley v Shepton Mallet

Cinderford Town v Laverstock & Ford

North Leigh v AFC Stoneham

Premier Division

Bemerton Heath H'quins v Moneyfields

Bournemouth v Christchurch

Fareham Town v Cowes Sports

Hythe & Dibden v Horndean

Pagham v Hamble Club

Portland United v Alresford Town

Shaftesbury v AFC Portchester

U.S. Portsmouth v Brockenhurst

Division One

Amesbury Town v Ringwood Town

Andover New Street v New Milton Town

Downton v Newport IOW

East Cowes Victoria v Andover Town

Fleetlands v Millbrook

Folland Sports v Fleet Spurs

Hamworthy Recreation v Fawley AFC

Petersfield Town v Whitchurch United

Romsey Town v Verwood Town

Totton & Eling v Ash United

Tuesday September 6th

Premier Division

Alresford Town v AFC Stoneham

Baffins Milton Rovers v AFC Portchester

Brockenhurst v Bemerton Heath H'quins

Cowes Sports v Moneyfields

Horndean v Pagham

Laverstock & Ford v Bournemouth

Shaftesbury v Christchurch

Division One

Folland Sports v Petersfield Town

Verwood Town v Ringwood Town

Wednesday September 7th

Premier Division

U.S. Portsmouth v Fareham Town

Division One

Fawley AFC v New Milton Town

Saturday September 10th

Premier Division

AFC Portchester v Bemerton Heath H'quins

AFC Stoneham v Moneyfields

Baffins Milton Rovers v Blackfield & Langley

Bournemouth v Alresford Town

Christchurch v Hythe & Dibden

Cowes Sports v Laverstock & Ford

Hamble Club v Brockenhurst

Horndean v Fareham Town

Pagham v Portland United

Shaftesbury v U.S. Portsmouth

Division One

Andover Town v Downton

Ash United v Romsey Town

Fawley AFC v Fleetlands

Fleet Spurs v Totton & Eling

Hamworthy Recreation v East Cowes Victoria

New Milton Town v Petersfield Town

Newport IOW v Verwood Town

Ringwood Town v Andover New Street

Whitchurch United v Folland Sports

Monday September 12th

Division One

Millbrook v Amesbury Town

Tuesday September 13th

Hampshire Senior Cup First Round

Christchurch v Royal Navy FA

Hampshire Senior Cup Second Round

AFC Portchester v AFC Totton

Aldershot Town v Andover Town

Andover New Street v Gosport Borough

THE WESSEX FOOTBALL LEAGUE



**NO DISSENT
MEANS
NO SIN BIN**



FOR ALL

RESPECT

Wessex League Preview

The First Round Qualifying of the Isuzu FA Vase and a successful day for Wessex League Clubs with twelve progressing to the next round. Seven in all Wessex Ties and five against opposition from other Leagues.

Taking the all-Wessex ties first, Bournemouth got the ball rolling on Friday evening with a best of three goals victory at near rivals Christchurch. Steffi Pilsoiu gave the home side the lead but two goals from Marcus Culen saw the Poppies progress.

On to Saturday and Petersfield's good start to the season continued with a 3-0 win at Ash United, all the goals coming in the first half from Zak Sharp, Marvin Orepo and Keiran Alcock. Bemerton Heath won the Wiltshire derby at Downton by a similar score thanks to goals from George Higgins, Danny Young and George Bennett and Fareham found their shooting boots with a convincing 5-0 win over Romsey at Cams Alders - Josh Benfield (2), Morris Dench, Ethan Jones and Calum Benfield on target. Follands held Premier Division Shaftesbury to a one all draw at the end of ninety minutes - Luke Hooper for the home side but Shaftesbury, who eventually went through four two on penalties, did not report their goal scorer, although it was later ascertained it was Luke Delaney.

Hythe & Dibden were the days highest scorers with a 7-1 defeat of Hamble Club, Craig Feeney leading the way with four, Callum Chugg with two and a single from Filippos Terzidis against a lone strike from Jake Hoole. The tie between Ringwood and Andover Town went to penalties after a two all draw in normal time with Andover coming out on top in the shoot-out by four two. Jake Watson and Brendon Holmes scored the Andover goals, Ringwood goals coming from Harry Smith and Joe Hughes.

The five victories over "foreign opposition" started on Friday night with a goal fest at Fawley where the home side held Western League Wincanton Town to a five all draw over the ninety minutes before winning 3-1 on penalties. The Fawley nap hand came from Dylan Knight with a hat trick, James Clifton and Dec Hartigan. Records tend to suggest that this is the joint highest scored draw in Vase history- unless of course you know differently. Anyone?



Horndean proved too strong for former Wessex League side Alton, a Connor Duffin hat trick and a goal from Zac Willett giving them a 4-1 victory, while Newport switched their tie to Warminster, held the hosts to a goalless draw after ninety minutes and then went through by a convincing 4-1 on penalties. The remaining two victories also needed penalties to decide the outcome. A last-minute penalty gave Sherborne a two all draw with Andover New Street – Ross Cook with both the Street goals- before the visitors went through 3-2 with keeper George Baxter saving three penalties.

Pagham travelled to Maidstone and were level with Staplehurst Monarchs at two goals apiece in normal time – strikes from Junior Kamara and Phil Turner -before winning the shootout 4-2. The two defeats against sides from other Leagues both came in Surrey, Baffins Milton Rovers went down 2-1 at Badshot Lea – Kelvin Robinson with the lone goal – while some ten or so miles away Alresford were beaten 4-3 by Godalming Town. It was three each at half time with the Alresford goals coming from Nick Yeomans with two and James Parker Trott but it was the home side who scored the all-important goal in the second half.

The Vase ties meant only three games were played in the Premier Division and AFC Portchester joined Bemerton Heath Harlequins at the top of the table after beating Brockenhurst 5-0 in front of an attendance approaching three hundred. Five different scorers as well in Ryan Wilkins, Liam Robinson, Harrison Brooks, Brett Pitman and Jake Rayne.

The other two games ended in single goal victories with Jamie Ovington giving AFC Stoneham the points at Blackfield & Langley and a first half goal from Archie Lovegrove seeing Laverstock & Ford home against Portland.

In Division One Fleetlands recorded their first victory, 2-0 over Hamworthy Recreation, Cameron Stone with a brace, and a two all draw at East Cowes Vics gave Millbrook their first point. Toby Snow and Sam Cant were the Vics marksmen the Millbrook scorers reported by the hosts as Callum Drake and Rich Sesay. New Milton came out on top by four goals to two at home to Totton & Eling – George Deem (2), Elliot Pearce-Eavis and Brandon Hamerston for the Linnets, with Connor Ings and Tokia Russell for the visitors - while Whitchurch won for the second week running with a 2-0 defeat of Amesbury, courtesy of goals from Kyle Williams and Sam Freeman.

Lastly, Fleet Spurs are still seeking their first point after a 3-0 home reverse to Verwood for whom Ethan Fishlock, Louis McWilliams and Jake Carswell were on target.

So, a full day with some excellent performances in the Vase but we are still suffering from the reluctance of some Clubs to provide their goal scorers. It is not that difficult!



THE STORY OF “THE POPPIES”

The club was founded at a Meeting held in Abbotts Auction Mart in Old Christchurch Road by eight enthusiastic gentlemen presided over by Alderman J Nethercoate (later to become Mayor of Bournemouth) on 11 September 1875. It was decided to call the club Bournemouth Rovers and is one of the oldest clubs in the country being founder Members of the Football Association, the Hampshire F.A. and the Bournemouth F.A. A brief spell as Bournemouth Dean Park (where an all white kit was chosen) Bournemouth FC was adopted in 1889 having amalgamated with another local side- Bournemouth Arabs. The club was among founder members of the Hampshire League and up to joining the Wessex League in 1986 had played entirely in the Hampshire League, except for a short spell at the turn of the 20th century. Earliest record of playing in the FA Cup was a 6-0 defeat at Kennington Oval against Old Westminsters back on 1 November 1884. The club played the second game in the inaugural Hampshire League campaign of 1896/97, going down 1-0 to Ryde Sports on 12 September 1896, finishing sixth from eight.

The club has had three homes during its history with their first ground being at a place called East Common near the Bournemouth railway station and Dean Park (current home of Dorset County Cricket) before moving to Victoria Park, which was formerly a farmer's field.

The first taste of County success came in winning the West Division in 1905 and then again in 1910. Poppies became County Division Champions either side of the Great War in 1914 and 1922, picking up the Hampshire League Shield in 1913, with Wheeler scoring 76 goals that season from 47 matches including 9 in a 19 day period. The furthest progress in the FA Amateur Cup came at that time as well, reaching the 3rd Round in 1923/24 but a 1-0 home reverse against Botwell Mission (who in later years became Hayes) put an end to hopes of silverware that time. However in 1929 the club was relegated into the newly formed Division 2 regaining top flight status by winning the Division 2 Championship in 1932. The club languished in the bottom half of Division 1 for several seasons before finally falling back into Division 2 when football restarted after the Second World War. The club recovered some of its past glories by winning the Hampshire Intermediate Cup in 1950 and again in 1970 and 1972.

Division 1 status was regained for the 1979/80 season but relegation quickly followed in 1980/81 and again in 1982/83 when we slipped into Division 3 remaining there until being admitted to the newly formed Wessex League in 1985.

The Wessex League Championship has remained elusive coming close on two occasions with a 3rd place in 1990/91 under the guidance of Tommy Taylor and runners up spot in 1994/5 to Fleet Town when Alex Pike was the manager.

The first piece of silverware for a number of years arrived in 2010/11, in the 25th Wessex League season, in the shape of the League Cup, with a 1-0 win over Winchester City. 2011/12 saw the team reach the FA Carlsberg Vase Quarter Final for the first time- going out to 0-2 in a home reverse against West Auckland Town. Indifferent seasons followed in 2012/13, 2013/14 and last term. The end of 2014/15 couldn't come soon enough as the club were locked in a struggle to avoid the drop from the turn of the year, and only a couple of wins on the road at Andover and Brockenhurst ensured Premier Division safety. The team has again been rebuilt with almost a complete new look squad, we are proud to be the sole club to have played in the top flight in each Wessex League season, and will be looking for a big improvement on last season's ranking.

Tuesday 26 November 1878 is another significant date in the club's history- when the club played under experimental electric lights at Dean Park for "a grand exhibition of the new electric light"; conditions weren't perfect though with part of a cinder cycle track cutting the field of play. The club has also changed names; Bournemouth Rovers, Bournemouth Wanderers and also Bournemouth Dean Park for about one year with a rather "modern" kit choice of claret and lemon quarters before evolving into Bournemouth FC in Summer 1889 and absorbing the Arabs a further year on adopting a green kit. The club eventually adopted the colour poppy red in season 1895/6 from green and white hoops hence the club nickname.

One of the clubs most famous members was William Pickford (who later became Chairman of the English Football Association). Mr. J Joy, a local landowner and supporter of the club, gave the present Namu Road ground to the club. Bournemouth Council bought the ground after in October 1944 for £3,750 providing a lease on a peppercorn rent.

The new clubhouse was opened in 1985- just in time for entering the Wessex League and the current 205-seater stand provides adequate cover from the elements with several rows of bench seating replacing the old wooden stand that was destroyed by fire during 1974. This stretches about a third of the length of the pitch – next to the glass-fronted clubhouse.

CLUB RECORD RESULTS-

From the start of the Sydenhams Football League (Wessex) era, up to the end of season 2014/15

RECORD LEAGUE VICTORIES

HOME

15 October 1994 8-0 against BAT.

8 April 2008 8-0 against Downton.

AWAY

24 February 1996 11-0 against Swanage Town & Herston.

RECORD LEAGUE CUP RECORD VICTORY

24 October 2006 11-0 against QK Southampton

LEAGUE CUP BEST SEASON Winners

2010/11 versus Winchester City (won 1-0 at AFC Totton)

BEST SEASON IN FA VASE

2011/12 Quarter Final versus West Auckland Town (lost 0-2)

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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THE DO-NOTHING OPTION DOES NOT EXIST.**

Failure to display this sign is subject to a £50 fine.

By order of The Wessex League Management Board.

STAT ATTACK

Fairly meaningless at this stage of the season, considering the low number of League games played.

LEADING GOALSCORERS - LEAGUE GAMES ONLY

PREMIER DIVISION			DIVISION ONE		
Eder Batista	Christchurch	5	Kris Krysztofowicz	Downton	6
Greg Peel	Bemerton Heath Harlequins	4	Luke Stone	New Milton Town	5
Reece Rusher	Bemerton Heath Harlequins	4	[three on]	-	4

Details are based on clubs being up to date with records on Full Time at time of going to press and may or may not include League goals from this weekend.

PREMIER DIVISION		Top three league attendances	
AFC Portchester	v	Cowes Sports	384 2 August
Horndean	v	Moneyfields	331 2 August
Fareham Town	v	AFC Stoneham	314 2 August
DIVISION ONE		Top three league attendances	
Andover Town	v	Whitchurch United	192 16 August
Downton	v	Amesbury Town	165 16 August
Andover New Street	v	Fleetlands	153 2 August

PREMIER DIVISION

Sharpest Attack	Meanest Defence	League Goals this week
Bemerton Heath Harlequins 15	Horndean 0	7
Christchurch 9	[four on] 1	
[two on] 8		

DIVISION ONE

Sharpest Attack	Meanest Defence	League Goals this week
Downton 19	Folland Sports 2	17
Andover Town 13	Andover New Street 3	
New Milton Town 12	Downton 3	

POINTS PER GAME - TOP THREE

PREMIER DIVISION		DIVISION ONE	
Bemerton Heath Harlequins	3.000	Ringwood Town	3.000
AFC Portchester	3.000	Andover Town	2.500
Horndean	3.000	Downton	2.500

GOALS PER GAME - TOP THREE

PREMIER DIVISION		DIVISION ONE	
Bemerton Heath Harlequins	5.000	Downton	4.750
Christchurch	3.000	Andover New Street	3.500
[two on]	2.667	Ringwood Town	3.333

HAT TRICK HEROES THIS WEEK

4

Neemo Nixon bagged a hat trick for Bournemouth in their midweek Hampshire Senior Cup victory over Moneyfields. Dylan Knight hit three for Fawley in their Vase contest on Friday. On to Saturday and we have two more to report. Connor Duffin for Horndean and Craig Feeney (with three plus one!) for Hythe & Dibden in their Isuzu FA Vase ties.