

Andover Town Football Club est. 2013



Saturday 1st October 2022
Wessex League Division 1
Andover Town v Fleetlands



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

- 05/10/22— League v Fawley (away)
- 10/10/22—League v New Milton (away)
- 11/10/22—League v Downton (Home)

Tuesday 4 October

Hampshire Senior Cup Second Round

Tadley Calleva v Bournemouth

Premier Division

AFC Portchester v Bemerton Heath H'quins

Baffins Milton Rovers v Blackfield & Langley

Cowes Sports v Laverstock & Ford

Hythe & Dibden v AFC Stoneham

Division One

Andover New Street v Amesbury Town

Downton v Fleetlands

Fleet Spurs v Totton & Eling

Wessex League Cup Second Round

East Cowes Victoria v Fareham Town

Petersfield Town v U.S. Portsmouth

Ringwood Town v Verwood Town

North Hants Senior Cup First Round

Romsey Town v Overton United

Southampton Senior Cup Second Round

Alresford Town v AFC Netley

Brockenhurst v AFC Stoneham Reserves

New Milton Town v Warsash Wasps

Wednesday 5 October

Division One

Fawley AFC v Andover Town

North Hants Senior Cup First Round

Whitchurch United v Winchester Castle

Saturday 8 October

Premier Division

AFC Portchester v Hythe & Dibden

AFC Stoneham v Blackfield & Langley

Alresford Town v Christchurch

Baffins Milton Rovers v Pagham

Bemerton Heath H'quins v Bournemouth

Hamble Club v Shaftesbury

Horndean v Cowes Sports

Laverstock & Ford v Brockenhurst

Portland United v Fareham Town

U.S. Portsmouth v Moneyfields

Division One

Amesbury Town v Folland Sports

Andover New Street v Verwood Town

Downton v Hamworthy Recreation

East Cowes Victoria v Ash United

Fawley AFC v Newport (IoW)

Fleet Spurs v Romsey Town

Fleetlands v Petersfield Town

New Milton Town v Andover Town

Ringwood Town v Totton & Eling

THE WESSEX FOOTBALL LEAGUE



**NO DISSENT
MEANS
NO SIN BIN**



RESPECT



Wessex League Preview

The League moved into October with Bemerton Heath and AFC Portchester holding 100% records and after day one of the new month the position remains the same. Bemerton probably had the harder task on the day with a trip to Shaftesbury and returned home with a best of five goals victory thanks to strikes from Phil Bright, Ronan Clancy and Danny Young with Dom Panesar-Dower and Joe Wickham claiming the home goals. Portchester were also on the road and kept their run going by scoring three without reply at Christchurch with Brett Pitman, Ryan Wilkins and George Barker on target.

Hamble Club remain in third spot after four goals without reply left Blackfield & Langley still seeking their first point, Harvey Ingledew-Coak with two, Will Gange and Braydon Douglas the sharpshooters. Horndean travelled to Bournemouth for the second week running and added three League points to their Vase win, courtesy of goals from Zack Willett (2), Connor Duffin and Tom Tierney but the biggest win of the day was at Brockenhurst where visitors Baffins Milton Rovers came out on top 6-1. Three goals in each half from Kelvin Robinson and Jason Parish with two apiece, Obi Saidy and Alpay Ali with a late penalty from Mitchell Speechley-Price the home consolation.

Fareham scored twice in the opening five minutes through Jack Breed and Josh Benfield with Ethan Fox adding a third in the 3-1 home defeat of Laverstock & Ford for whom Russell Jones was on target. No goals on the Island between Cowes Sports and Portland but plenty at Hythe & Dibden where Alresford, struggling badly at present, went down 5-1. Five scorers for the home side in Filippou Terzidis, Harrison Fay, Craig Feeney, Charlie Drury and Jon Blazicek after Kai Mellor had opened the scoring for the visitors.

Moneyfields won 2-1 at Pagham Chad Cornwell and Callum Laycock finding the back of the net for the visitors either side of a George Britton goal for the Lions, while in the final game AFC Stoneham won 4-1 at US Portsmouth, A hat trick for Duarte Martins and one from Liam Callaghan after Luke Richards had put the home side in front.

In Division One Downton now top the table following a 2-1 home win over Fawley. Dylan Knight opened the scoring for the visitors but two goals from Ollie Davies allowed his side to take advantage of New Milton's defeat at Follands by the same score. Clayd Roach, back at Hamble, and Harvey Clark scored the all-important goals with George Deem the Linnets marksman.

Andover Town retained their position in the top five with a 3-2 win at The Portway over the improving Fleetlands – Brendan Holmes, David Jerrard and Harrison Hale's goals outweighing those from Jamie Wrapson and Jack Farrier.

Newport and Andover New Street, both playing catch up as far as games are concerned, both scored five, Newport at home and Street at Romsey. On the Island Fleet Spurs went down 5-1 with Joe Butcher scoring three and single strikes from Josh Younie and Jacob Reynolds while at the AEC Protection Stadium New Street twice came from behind thanks to two goals from Ross Cook added to those from Harry Lawton, Josh Moore and Shane Lock with Charlie Hawes and Jack Odam on target for the home side.

In terms of goals scored Millbrook went one better by scoring six against Whitchurch who had been enjoying a good run of results. The six shooters were Ashton Goodger with two and singles from Mark Barker, Morgan Callaway, Robbie Stapleton and Jude Nwachukwu - Kieran Rogers and Adam Brown replying for the Jamboys. Petersfield have been difficult to beat on their travels so far and collected three more points with a 2-1 win at Amesbury – Mino Djaura and an own goal against one from Rhys Sullivan - while there were seven goals at Ash with the home side notching four against three from Ringwood Town. The home scorers were Andre Smith with two, Jake Martin and Hamza Abubakari with Harry Smith, two, and Charlie Hitchings the Ringwood marksmen.

Finally, a one all draw at Potterne Park between Verwood and East Cowes Vics – Louis McWilliams and Jordan Chapman with their names in lights.

So Bemerton and Portchester still reign supreme in the Premier Division and Downton and New Milton lead Division One but Blackfield & Langley and Fleet Spurs are beginning to become detached.



Fleetlands

Fleetlands were formed in 1947 and joined the Hampshire League Division 3 East the following year and generally remained a steady mid-table outfit. In 1955 the league was re-structured with the East and West Divisions being merged into one, and in 1960 they won promotion as runners-up. After a couple of tough seasons, in 1963 they finished bottom of Division 2 and dropped out of county football. The club then played in the Portsmouth League and after some successful seasons they re-joined the Hampshire League Division Two in 1988. They were promoted to Division 1 after finishing runners-up in 1989-90. They were founder members of the Wessex League Division 3 in 2004-05, which, after two seasons, was renamed Division 2. In 2006-07, Fleetlands were crowned champions of Division 2, but the club left the league to become founder members of the Hampshire Premier League. The League and Cup double combination winning side of the 2012/13 season were promoted to the first team. In 2020 the club launched its Youth & Development section which encourages kids of all ages up to under 18s. In 2021 Fleetlands Women was relaunched after a long break. Fleetlands Football Club is affiliated with the Sands

United FC Solent, a unique football team supporting dads and other bereaved family members who have suffered the loss of a baby. They are made up solely of dads or family members who have directly been affected by the loss of a child through miscarriage, stillbirth or neo-natal death.

Honours Wessex League Division Two Champions 2006-07 Hampshire League Division Two Runners-up 1989-90 Hampshire Premier League Senior Division Runners-up 2016-17

Match Report

Andover Town 3—2 Fleetlands

TOWN welcomed league newcomers Fleetlands to the Portway on a chilly blustery October afternoon. A game which saw skipper Brendan Holmes make his 174th appearance, the highest ever number of matches for Andover *writes Roger Fawcett*.

the August team of the month in Division 1 [*picture above reproduced courtesy of James Charlwood*]. An unbeaten start to the season for Andover with 4 wins and a draw in the league and 2 cup victories.

Town were hoping to end their recent run of 3 defeats albeit in cup competitions against a team who have started solidly in the league and now sit comfortably in mid-table. A bad run of injuries continued with defensive stalwart Owen Trapnell now side-lined for at least 6 weeks after suffering a dislocated shoulder and a broken wrist in the cup match against Laverstock.

Fleetlands were looking sharp right from the off and almost scored in the third minute when a great chance saw them presented with an open goal but their striker's header luckily flew over the bar. More injury worries followed though when in the 11th minute leading scorer Ryan Griffiths sustained a very nasty looking knee injury which forced him off. He had to be carried off the pitch clearly in obvious distress. Matty Morris came on for Griffiths and started brightly. But Fleetlands looked increasingly like breaking the deadlock which they did in the 21st minute putting Jamie WRAP-SON through for him to slide the ball into the net from 10 yards out.

Andover urgently needed to stem the tide and they did so magnificently in the 27th minute when David JERRARD beat a couple of defenders on the right edge of the penalty area and fired in an unstoppable 25 yarder into the top right corner. Definitely a contender for goal of the season. So 1-1 on the half hour with Fleetlands definitely missing a couple of relatively easy chances.

It was no surprise then when they scored their second in the 39th minute with a neat turn in the penalty area by full back Jack FARRIER who slotted home. After that Fleetlands could have easily added another couple of goals with the chances they created.

It looked like they would be going in at half time with a fairly comfortable 2-1 lead but the odds certainly swung in Andover's favour when the opposition keeper was sent off in the 42nd minute for coming out of his area and denying a clear goal scoring opportunity. As half time approached and with a man down would Fleetlands in the second half come to rue missing some of the several chances which they had created.

HT 1-2

The second half started with Andover keen to capitalise on their numerical advantage but equally Fleetlands were anxious to stifle the play as much as possible and limit all goal scoring opportunities. The half proceeded uneventfully until in a real goal mouth scramble in the 67th minute Harrison HALE stabbed the ball into the net from close range. Perhaps the 10 men were tiring but Town grew more and more into the game and spent long periods of time in the opposition's half. The continuing pressure paid off in the 76th minute when skipper HOLMES, maybe to celebrate his 174th appearance, converted from close range thereby putting Andover in the lead for the first time in the match. Determined to hold onto their lead Town carefully controlled the remaining ten minutes or so to see out the game.

FT 3-2

Not a game which was easy on the eye but a much better second half performance which ensured that Town maintained their top 3 position in the league.

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

By order of The Wessex League Management Board.

STAT ATTACK

LEADING GOALSCORERS - LEAGUE GAMES ONLY

PREMIER DIVISION

Eder Batista	Christchurch	10
Brett Pitman	AFC Portchester	7
Reece Rusher	Bemerton Heath Harlequins	7

DIVISION ONE

Luke Stone	New Milton Town	10
Kris Krystofowicz	Downton	9
Jack Odam	Romsey Town	8

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 32	Horndean 1	45
AFC Portchester 25	[four on] 7	
[three on] 19		

DIVISION ONE

Sharpest Attack	Meanest Defence	League Goals this week
New Milton Town 30	Andover New Street 8	47
Downton 28	Andover Town 8	
Millbrook 25	[two on] 9	

POINTS PER GAME - TOP THREE

PREMIER DIVISION

AFC Portchester	3.000
Bemerton Heath Harlequins	3.000
Horndean	2.500

DIVISION ONE

Andover Town	2.429
Newport IOW	2.400
Downton	2.375

GOALS PER GAME - TOP THREE

PREMIER DIVISION

Bemerton Heath Harlequins	4.571
AFC Portchester	3.571
Fareham Town	2.714

DIVISION ONE

Newport IOW	3.600
Downton	3.500
Andover New Street	3.200

HAT TRICK HEROES THIS WEEK

5

Ross Cook again on report, this time for a four bagger in Andover New Street's derby Cup victory in midweek. Elsewhere Harrison Fay (Hythe & Dibden) and Will Gange (Hamble Club) bagged hat tricks in their club's Southampton Senior Cup victories. Saturday saw two with Duarte Martins hitting one for AFC Stoneham and Joe Butcher doing likewise for Newport IOW.