



WELCOME TO EDITION NUMBER 8 - WEEK ENDING SATURDAY 15 AUGUST

Hello and welcome to the latest edition of your Newsletter, if you have any contribution, be it Match Reports, player news or photos please get in touch at - newsletter.wessexleague@gmail.com.

Keep up to date with all the news from around the League by following us on [Twitter/X](#) @WessexLeague That is where our main social output goes at present, but you may also find us on [Instagram](#) @wessexleague [Threads](#) @wessexleague [Bluesky](#) @wessexleague.bsky.social and also [TikTok](#) @wessex.football.l

You are more than welcome to use any material (excluding attributed photographs) but it would be appreciated if any material used is acknowledged. It is hoped you enjoy reading this each week. With readership quite widespread, not only within our own competition, but across the three counties and beyond- if ANY club has anything they would like to have published in here, whether that be a request for helpers, promotion of forthcoming events, items required or available for sale please do get in touch.

The Wessex Post will be published each Saturday night. Please would all contributors note that the deadline for anything is 21:30 on the Saturday and this includes match reports- all home clubs are reminded to get their reports in before then, although if an away side does the report that will also be welcome. It should also be noted that whilst all contributions are welcome, they are subject to editorial scrutiny.

KICK OFF



Midweek action from Ringwood Town (red) against Hamworthy United. Captured here by Matt Gale the contest ended one apiece.

TUNE IN

WESSEX LEAGUE FOOTBALL SHOW



Tune in to our official podcast live on Fiesta 95FM and www.fiestafm.co.uk every Sunday between 12-2pm, with Greg Dickson and Josh Barton.

Featuring guest interviews and rounding-up all the latest news from around the Wessex League.

Listen back via the QR code!



Get In Touch with the Show!

greg.fiestafmuk@gmail.com
jpbarton2@gmail.com





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The Wessex League - Partners Page



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PROGRAMME ADVERTS

Just a quick reminder that all Clubs must include the advertisements indicated by the League in **every** Match Programme they produce- in either the PRINTED or ON-LINE version.

New ones for 2026/27 are now available. Page 4 shows our Partners for 2026/27, this **must** be a full page and must also be in all programmes issued.

That for the "Wessex League Football Show" and the "Kick it Out" campaign are no longer **compulsory** for reproduction in club programmes.

THROUGH THE DOORS



These attendance weekly total figures are those **reported** by the home club this season for all their games in accordance with League requirements.

They do **not** include FA Youth Cup ties but, in addition to League and League Cup games do include FA Cup, FA Vase and any County or District FA cup matches

WEEK ENDING	TOTAL	QUALIFYING GAMES	AVGE	+/- ON LAST WEEK	+/- ON LAST YEAR	RUNNING TOTAL
01-Aug-26	2,918	19	153.58	2,918	-1,197	2,918
08-Aug-26	5,395	34	158.68	2,477	1,767	8,313
15-Aug-26	3,958	31	127.68	-1,437	195	12,271
22-Aug-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
29-Aug-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
05-Sep-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
12-Sep-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
19-Sep-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
26-Sep-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
03-Oct-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
10-Oct-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
17-Oct-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
24-Oct-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
31-Oct-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
07-Nov-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
14-Nov-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
21-Nov-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
28-Nov-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
05-Dec-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
12-Dec-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
19-Dec-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
26-Dec-26	*	*	*	*	*	*
02-Jan-27	*	*	*	*	*	*
09-Jan-27	*	*	*	*	*	*
16-Jan-27	*	*	*	*	*	*
23-Jan-27	*	*	*	*	*	*

CLUB NEWS

If you have any items- stories, initiatives etc., you wish to include please do send them in to the Editor.

Toby Bailey recently joined the Wessex Centurion club, making his 100th appearance for **Brockenhurst** in their game against Hamworthy Recreation.

On the Island, Charlie Hart is another centurion announced, for **East Cowes Victoria**

TOP TWENTY STEP FIVE AND STEP SIX SIDES - RATED BY POINTS PER GAME

Reproduced courtesy of the Non-League HQ team, an invaluable source of information, to find out more check them out here- <https://www.nonleaguehq.com/>

League	Pos	STEP 5	Pl	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	PPG
5. NCP	1	Bottesford Town	4	4	0	0	16	1	15	12	3.000
5. UCS	5	Knowle	3	3	0	0	13	0	13	9	3.000
5. UCS	6	Atherstone Town	3	3	0	0	12	2	10	9	3.000
5. MLP	2	Runcorn Town	2	2	0	0	11	2	9	6	3.000
5. SCP	3	Roffey	2	2	0	0	11	2	9	6	3.000
5. NCP	3	Dearne & District	3	3	0	0	10	3	7	9	3.000
5. ECP	2	March Town United	3	3	0	0	6	0	6	9	3.000
5. ECP	1	Walsham-le-Willows	3	3	0	0	8	2	6	9	3.000
5. HLP	2	Bradford Town	2	2	0	0	6	0	6	6	3.000
5. MLP	1	Winsford United	3	3	0	0	6	0	6	9	3.000
5. SMP	2	Biggleswade United	2	2	0	0	7	1	6	6	3.000
5. SMP	3	Tring Athletic	2	2	0	0	7	1	6	6	3.000
5. UCN	1	Clay Cross Town	3	3	0	0	9	3	6	9	3.000
5. UCS	1	Northampton ON Chenecks	4	4	0	0	9	3	6	12	3.000
5. SMP	4	Kempston Rovers	2	2	0	0	7	2	5	6	3.000
5. UCS	2	Desborough Town	4	4	0	0	8	3	5	12	3.000
5. WLP	5	St Blazey	3	3	0	0	8	3	5	9	3.000
5. HLP	1	Hereford Pegasus	3	3	0	0	6	2	4	9	3.000
5. MLP	3	Stockport Georgians	2	2	0	0	7	3	4	6	3.000
5. SCP	4	Guernsey	2	2	0	0	4	0	4	6	3.000
5. NCP	1	Bottesford Town	4	4	0	0	16	1	15	12	3.000
League	Pos	STEP 6	Pl	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	PPG
6. ML1	1	GNG Oadby Town	4	4	0	0	16	4	12	12	3.000
6. ML1	2	Lutterworth Athletic	4	4	0	0	13	3	10	12	3.000
6. UC1	1	Clipstone	5	5	0	0	12	2	10	15	3.000
6. E1S	3	May & Baker Eastbrook	3	3	0	0	9	0	9	9	3.000
6. SWE	1	Elburton Villa	2	2	0	0	9	1	8	6	3.000
6. SWE	2	Ilminster Town	2	2	0	0	8	0	8	6	3.000
6. SE1	1	Croydon	2	2	0	0	10	2	8	6	3.000
6. WX1	1	New Milton Town	3	3	0	0	10	2	8	9	3.000
6. SWW	2	Sticker	2	2	0	0	8	1	7	6	3.000
6. WL1	4	AEK Boco	2	2	0	0	7	1	6	6	3.000
6. WL1	1	Longwell Green Sports	3	3	0	0	9	3	6	9	3.000
6. SWE	3	Bridport	2	2	0	0	5	0	5	6	3.000
6. SWW	5	Helston Athletic	1	1	0	0	6	1	5	3	3.000
6. SWW	3	Callington Town	2	2	0	0	7	3	4	6	3.000
6. SE1	2	Rochester United	2	2	0	0	5	1	4	6	3.000
6. SWE	4	Cullompton Rangers	2	2	0	0	3	0	3	6	3.000
6. SWW	4	Camelford	2	2	0	0	4	1	3	6	3.000
6. SWW	6	Hayle	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3	3.000
6. SC1	2	Selsey	1	1	0	0	4	1	3	3	3.000
6. SE1	5	Lordswood	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3	3.000

STAT ATTACK

TOP FIVE LEADING GOALSCORERS - LEAGUE GAMES ONLY

PREMIER DIVISION

George Coleman	Sturminster Newton United	3
Josh Neale	East Cowes Victoria	3
[four on]	-	2
-	-	-
-	-	-

DIVISION ONE

Dan Bone	Frimley Green	4
[seven on]		3
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

*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

Sturminster Newton United	vs	Christchurch	402	4 August
Bashley	vs	Hamble Club	253	1 August
Sturminster Newton United	vs	Fareham Town	243	1 August
Andover New Street	vs	Bashley	238	4 August
Cowes Sports	vs	Brockenhurst	223	1 August

DIVISION ONE

Top five league attendances

New Milton Town	vs	Cove	263	1 August
Fawley AFC	vs	Lymington Town	202	31 July
New Milton Town	vs	AFC Aldermaston	221	8 August
Romsey Town	vs	Cove	201	8 August
Alresford Town	vs	Blandford United	192	1 August

PREMIER DIVISION- HIGH WINNING SCORES

Home win	Sturminster Newton United	vs	Christchurch	5-1	4 August
Away win	Sherborne Town	vs	Petersfield Town	1-3	15 August
	Bournemouth	vs	Hythe & Dibden	0-2	1 August
	Cowes Sports	vs	Brockenhurst	0-2	1 August

DIVISION ONE- HIGH WINNING SCORES

Home win	New Milton Town	vs	Cove	6-1	1 August
Away win	Whitchurch United	vs	Sandhurst Town	0-5	5 August

BERKS AND BUCKS SENIOR CUP 2026/27

First Round

Amersham Town v Maidenhead Town
Aylesbury Vale Dynamos v Buckingham
Burnham v Holyport
Holmer Green v Langley
Kintbury Rangers v Wantage Town
New Bradwell St Peter v Milton Keynes Dons
Penn & Tylers Green v Berks County
Reading City v Thatcham Town
Risborough Rangers v Newport Pagnell Town
Sandhurst Town v Woodley United
Wallingford & Crowmarsh v Abingdon United
Wokingham Town v AFC Aldermaston

Ties to be played in week commencing
7 September, subject to confirmation.

SOUTHAMPTON SENIOR CUP 2026/27

First Round

AFC Totton v Folland Sports
Bashley v AFC Stoneham
Bishops Waltham Dynamos v Hedge End Town
Fawley AFC v Braishfield
Hedge End Rangers v Waterloooville AFC
Michelmersh & Timsbury v Sholing
Select Generation v Millbrook

Byes:- AFC Netley, AFC Shirley, AFC Stoneham Reserves, BTC Southampton, Blackfield & Langley, Brockenhurst, Broughton, Colden Common, Downton, Fleming Athletic, Folland Sports A, Fordingbridge Turks, Hamble Club, Hythe & Dibden, Locks Heath, Lymington Town, New Milton Town, Nursling & Shirley, Ringwood Town, Romsey Town, Sherfield English, Stockbridge, Totton & Eling and Upham

Second Round

AFC Netley v Blackfield & Langley
AFC Shirley v Stockbridge
AFC Stoneham Reserves [BYE]
AFC Totton or Folland Sports v Hamble Club
BTC Southampton v Romsey Town
Brockenhurst v Hedge End Rangers or Waterloooville AFC
Downton v Bashley or AFC Stoneham
Fleming Athletic v Folland Sports A
Fordingbridge Turks v Fawley AFC or Braishfield
Lymington Town v Colden Common
Michelmersh & Timsbury or Sholing v Totton & Eling
New Milton Town v Bishops Waltham Dynamos or Hedge End Town
Nursling & Shirley v Locks Heath
Ringwood Town v Hythe & Dibden
Sherfield English v Broughton
Upham v Select Generation or Millbrook

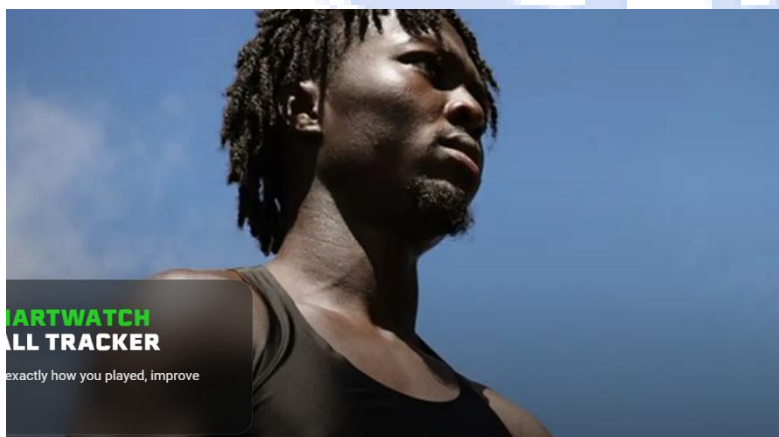
DORSET SENIOR CUP 2026/27

First Round

Gillingham Town v Dorchester Town
Hamworthy United v Portland United
Shaftesbury v Wimborne Town
Sherborne Town v Bridport
Swanage Town & Herston v Blandford United
Weymouth v Poole Town

Ties to be played in week commencing 10 November, subject to confirmation. Hamworthy Recreation and Sturminster Newton United receive a bye.

PARTNERS PAGE UPDATE



We have agreed for Scorza to become our performance partner. For more details visit their website at corza.com. There will be an article on our website in due course with more information. Scorza is a football performance tracking system that uses a specialized vest and companion app to let players track metrics like distance, heatmaps, and sprints using their Apple Watch or Garmin smartwatch.

How do our teams rank across Step 5 and Step 6 nationally based on PPG

STEP 5 PPG RANKING

Andover New Street	109
Baffins Milton Rovers	268
Bashley	268
Bemerton Heath Harlequins	192
Bournemouth	257
Brockenhurst	67
Christchurch	268
Cowes Sports	268
Downton	48
East Cowes Victoria Athletic	67
Fareham Town	1
Fleetlands	67
Hamble Club	115
Hamworthy Recreation	48
Horndean	268
Hythe & Dibden	192
Laverstock & Ford	244
Millbrook	123
Petersfield Town	164
Sherborne Town	185
Sturminster Newton United	67

STEP 6 PPG RANKING

AFC Aldermaston	176
Alresford Town	128
Amesbury Town	128
Ash United	295
Blandford United	254
Colden Common	254
Cove	141
Fawley AFC	123
Folland Sports	295
Frimley Green	88
Hamworthy United	276
Hedge End Rangers	56
Kintbury Rangers	128
Lymington Town	276
New Milton Town	1
Newport (Isle of Wight)	1
Ringwood Town	188
Romsey Town	295
Sandhurst Town	56
Totton & Eling	295
Whitchurch United	188

RESULTS ROUNDUP

An asterisk in this section indicates that the club failed to provide attendance and or scorer details.



Tuesday 11 August

Emirates FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round Replay

Bashley	2-3 aet	Shepton Mallet AFC	263
Luke Delaney 2, 43		Harry Warwick Monty Burgess Ali Sen	

Wessex League Cup Second Round

Alresford Town	3-4	Whitchurch United	169
Billy Grimes		Leo Downing [pen]	
Alfie Jones		Tyrell Reid	
James Tennant		Charlie Dobson [2]	
Premier Division			
Bemerton Heath Harlequins	1-1	Sherborne Town	100
Tyler Sheath 10		Anth Herrin 18	
Bournemouth Poppies	2-2	Laverstock & Ford	63
OG 37		Harvey Roberts 28	
Charlie King 88		Cameron Roach 60	

Brockenhurst <i>Ashton Palmier 79</i>	1-4	Hamworthy Recreation <i>Bailey Rowe 29 pen</i> <i>Chris Long 38</i> <i>Lewis McMurdo 58</i> <i>Sean Wright 81</i>	125
Downton <i>Luke Burbidge 14, 80</i> <i>Max Wilcock 25</i> <i>OG 82</i>	4-3	Christchurch <i>Addwell Chipangura</i> <i>Marcus Smith</i> <i>Angel Younger</i>	159
Fleetlands <i>OG 9</i> <i>Charlie Merritt 69</i>	2-2	Hamble Club <i>OG 21</i> <i>Ed Sanders 74</i>	156
Millbrook <i>Archie Greenough</i>	1-0	Andover New Street	90
Petersfield Town <i>George Comben 10</i> <i>Austen Giles</i>	2-3	East Cowes Victoria Athletic <i>Josh Neale 15, 28</i> <i>Gabriel Wall 67</i>	124
Division One			
Ringwood Town <i>Lee Vint 63 pen</i>	1-1	Hamworthy United <i>Josh Taylor 25</i>	80
Wednesday 12 August			
Premier Division			
Fareham Town <i>Stan Bridgman</i> <i>Sam Paul</i>	2-1	Hythe & Dibden <i>Dominic Cupid</i>	136
Friday 14 August			
FA Vase First Round Qualifying			
Clanfield <i>Brandy Nduem 57</i> <i>Harry Swatton 88</i>	2-3	Romsey Town <i>James Martin 20</i> <i>Adam Bicknell 59, 73</i>	*
Sandhurst Town <i>Jacobi Cowler 12, 51</i> <i>Reece Miller 30</i> <i>Jude New 62</i>	4-1	Wokingham Town <i>Sam Lynskey 30</i>	312
Division One			
Fawley AFC	0-1	New Milton Town <i>Elliott Pearce-Eavis 77</i>	191
Saturday 15 August			
FA Vase First Round Qualifying			
Andover New Street <i>Claudio Herbert</i>	1-0	Bemerton Heath Harlequins	230
Bashley <i>Luke Delaney 12</i>	1-3	Blandford United <i>Lucas Phillips 28</i> <i>Jimmy Fry 57</i> <i>Bobbie Redknapp 59</i>	21
Bridport <i>Callum Arnold</i> <i>Owen Kemp</i>	2-0	Folland Sports	127
Bristol Telephones <i>Jamie Noble 82</i>	1-2	AFC Aldermaston <i>Jayden Wiggins 16, 45</i>	*
Cove <i>Cav Atkinson 82, 89</i>	2-1	Laverstock & Ford <i>Billy Campbell-Smith</i>	90
Fareham Town	0-0	Baffins Milton Rovers <i>[3-5 on penalties]</i>	*

Fleetlands <i>Max Blake 46</i> <i>Brad Snelling 52</i> <i>Oli Page 82</i>	3-0	Wincanton Town	40
Hamble Club <i>Jake Adams.</i> <i>Ildis Beqiri</i>	2-4	Cowes Sports <i>Charlie Marsek 13, 48, 55</i> <i>Fin Phillips 40</i>	103
Horndean <i>Kevin Ngombi 68</i>	1-1	Totton & Eling <i>[2-4 on penalties]</i> <i>Alfie Male 86</i>	64
Kintbury Rangers	0-1	Mangotsfield United <i>Curtis Jemmett-Hutson 40</i>	110
Newport (IOW) <i>Jordan Browne 45, 73</i>	2-1	Colden Common <i>Jack Nicholas</i>	153
Pagham <i>Toby Hewett</i>	1-0	Millbrook	130
Selsey <i>Freddie Chipp-Smith</i>	1-1	Hamworthy United <i>[3-4 on penalties]</i> <i>Jack Kinge-Phillips 17</i>	*
Wessex League Cup First Round			
Ash United <i>Tayo Adekoya</i>	1-2	Hamworthy Recreation <i>Oli Davies</i> <i>Bailey Rowe</i>	50
Premier Division			
Brockenhurst <i>Elliott Wells</i>	1-0	Christchurch	157
East Cowes Victoria Athletic <i>Char Hart</i> <i>Josh Neale</i> <i>Will Bridi</i>	3-0	Bournemouth Poppies	156
Sherborne Town <i>Ollie Crisp</i>	1-3	Petersfield Town <i>Jean-Pierre Alexander 69, 86</i> <i>George Bowerman 81</i>	122
Sturminster Newton United <i>George Adair-Charlton 22</i>	1-0	Hythe & Dibden	174
Division One			
Amesbury Town <i>Terry Brooks 3</i>	1-1	Whitchurch United <i>Noah Chengun 85</i>	78
Hedge End Rangers <i>Sanchez McLean</i> <i>Owen Hurst</i> <i>Kian Dugdale</i>	3-1	Lymington Town <i>Charlie Cox</i>	131
Ringwood Town <i>Ben Bradwell 20</i> <i>Ben Harris 47, 50</i>	3-2	Frimley Green <i>Tyler Garratt 41</i> <i>Benji Colson 71</i>	54

MATCH REPORTS

Whilst it is not mandatory to send in match reports, any budding Fabrizio Romano's, Henry Winter's or Miguel Delaney's are more than welcome to send in their offerings which will be included each week. Midweek reports need to be in by the Friday evening of the relevant week, whilst for Saturday games I must have them before 21:30 to allow time to process for the publication deadline. Thanks in advance.



TUESDAY 11 AUGUST- WESSEX LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION FLEETLANDS 2-2 HAMBLE CLUB

Paul Harris was pitchside

The home side, first time at this level, have made a good start to their season; Hamble, who have lost some important players (and a couple more weren't available tonight), have lost three cup games but haven't lost either league game that they've played, and are one of the favourites again this season. This was the expected hard-fought game with two battling teams, lots of shouting, and a fair result.

The visiting Monks had an early chance as a move on the right saw a header down and Ford, under pressure, firing over. The Coptermen took the lead after only nine minutes with an own goal - a corner from the left hit Hamble player Ford at the far post and went in. The visitors came back and Barrow's cross/shot on the right was easily gathered by Trojanowski. Cunningham then came close with another effort.

On 21 minutes they got their equaliser, another own goal - a cross from the right wasn't dealt with and Pointon stuck a leg out to divert it past his own keeper. The home manager was not happy.

Barrow then had another shot saved, the game then became more of a midfield battle with neither team able to gain the advantage. It was also a bit feisty, there was a small coming together after one foul. Near to the break the visitors had a bit of pressure and the ball hit the post after a scramble from a corner.

HT 1-1

The home side started the second half well and put some pressure on. A shot from distance by Snelling hit the top of the bar. A cross from the left saw Lis just unable to get the ball fully under control. After 69 minutes a corner from the right by MERRITT beat everyone and ended up going directly into the net to give the hosts the lead again. The Monks came back and a decent shot by Cunningham was pushed away for a corner by Trojanowski. From the corner SANDERS, beyond the far post, headed back past a crowd of players into the net to tie the game up again on 74 minutes.

Both teams looked for the win; Merritt curled a free-kick just wide for the hosts, then Pointon put a shot over. Hamble had a great chance near the end when a cross from the left reached Mason on the edge of the area, but he fired over from close range. Pointon forced a save from Doe near the end, and a scramble from a visiting long throw saw the ball cleared off the line, a point for each side which they will probably be satisfied with in the end.

FT 2-2

TUESDAY 11 AUGUST- WESSEX LEAGUE DIVISION ONE RINGWOOD TOWN 1-1 HAMWORTHY UNITED

Matt Gale was pitchside

Ringwood Town and Hamworthy United shared the points following an entertaining and physical 1–1 draw at the Ringwood Community Hub.

Both sides created opportunities during a competitive encounter, with neither able to take control as play moved from end to end.

Hamworthy made the breakthrough when Josh Taylor was played in behind the Ringwood defence. TAYLOR kept his composure as he raced through on goal, slotting the ball beyond Ringwood goalkeeper Ollie Bull to give the visitors the lead.

HT 0-1

Ringwood continued to push for a response and found their way back into the contest during the second half.

Harrison Clarke was brought down inside the penalty area, leaving the referee to point to the spot. Lee VINT stepped up for the hosts and converted the resulting penalty to bring Ringwood level.

With the scores tied at one apiece, both sides continued to search for a winner as the physical and competitive nature of the contest remained right through to the closing stages.

Hamworthy came close when a chance from point-blank range looked set to restore their advantage, only for Bull to remain composed and produce an excellent close-range save to keep Ringwood level.

The hosts then came agonisingly close to snatching all three points in injury time, striking the inside of the post as an entertaining contest threatened one final twist.

Neither side could find the decisive breakthrough, however, and the final whistle brought an absorbing evening at the Ringwood Community Hub to a close, with the sides taking a point apiece from a hard-fought Wessex League Division One encounter.

FT 1-1

TUESDAY 11 AUGUST- WESSEX LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION BROCKENHURST 1-4 HAMWORTHY RECREATION

John Hutchings was pitchside

After a defeat in the FA Cup the previous Saturday Rec needed to get back on track at local rivals, Brockenhurst - and they certainly did, with an excellent performance and a resounding 4-1 victory. After an even start, Rec took control mid-way through the first half and scored twice. A third followed early in the second and despite Brock pulling one back, Rec immediately added a fourth, to run out deserved winners. To their credit, Brock never let their heads drop and had chances of their own, but the Rec defence, with Lewis McMurdo and keeper, Shane Murphy outstanding, held firm.

The Badgers looked to attack down the flanks and Bullard's cross caused danger before being cleared. For Rec, Tyler Rudd sent Chris Long away, on the left, but his shot was over the bar. Then, Long's turn and shot was beaten away by Valero, in the home goal, with the keeper then denying Bailey Rowe with the follow up.

Rec were getting on top and went close when Ollie Davies' low cross just eluded Long. But they took the lead, on 29 minutes, when Aaron Roberts was felled, in the area, for a penalty. Up stepped Bailey ROWE to smash his spot-kick to Valero's right, for 0-1.

The ever-dangerous LONG was then unlucky with a right-footed shot, saved by Valero, but he was not to be denied on 38, when he burst down the left and unleashed a powerful, low shot into the far corner, for number two.

Brock rallied and missed a good chance when Rec keeper, Murphy made a vital save, to deny Bullard.

HT 0-2

Rec went close again, when Rowe's 25 yarder flew inches wide. Rudd was causing problems for the home defence and his jinking run won a corner, on 58 minutes, from which McMURDO rose highest, to thump in a header, for 0-3. Rec were looking impressive and Long's cross just eluded a green shirt, before the Rec striker was unlucky, with a header, just over the bar.

On 79 minutes Brock scored a consolation, when the visiting defence failed to clear and Ashton PALMIER scored, but home hopes of a comeback were dashed, just two minutes later, when Sean WRIGHT crashed in an unstoppable header, from another corner.

There was still time for Murphy to show his class, with two brilliant saves - diving to his right to push away a booming volley and then clawing away the ball, from under the bar, from the resulting corner.

FT 1-4

Credit to both sides for a thoroughly entertaining match, played in good spirit - a good advert for Wessex League football.



**TUESDAY 11 AUGUST- WESSEX LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION
BROCKENHURST 1-4 HAMWORTHY RECREATION**

Jon Renyard was pitchside

First home game of the season for Brock, up against Ham Rec – who haven't played at home yet either, and on this evidence won't be too bothered about that! The visitors were two clear by half-time and deservedly so, and they ran out comfortable winners on a disappointing night for the Badgers.

The early chances were for the visitors in green, starting in the 7th minute when Chris Long was too strong for Burgess on the left but shot across goal and wide from a tight angle. Three minutes later, Long again, a deflected shot superbly saved by Jordi Valero, a fierce shot on the rebound from Bailey Rowe bringing another excellent save. Barham, set free down the left in space, Wellman with an excellent last-ditch tackle. Rowe, in space at the edge of the box, dallied too long looking for the perfect angle and eventually passed to Rudd whose shot was blocked. Davies with a great cross from the left – everything from the left! – which was just too strong for Long's despairing boot.

There had been some rare moments for the Badgers, Harry McGrath with a powerful run, he might have shot but pulled the ball back for Toby Colmer instead, not quite strongly enough and a defender intercepted... No surprise, then, that Rec opened the scoring on 28: Roberts adjudged to have been fouled in the box, it looked incredibly soft, but ROWE made no mistake with the spot-kick. Long should have doubled the advantage on 31, superb save from Valero; but 38 minutes, Brock tried to play out, lost the ball, Chris LONG eased past Wellman and fired across goal and in for 2-0. Brock might have nicked one back almost immediately, Freddie Bullard supporting the press, winning the ball on the edge of the box and clean through on goal, but his shot was much too close to Murphy... and then Tyler Rudd should have sealed the deal just before the break, running through empty space but placing his shot wide.

HT 0-2

Better intensity from Brock at the start of the second half, with Will Giles and Gian Aga-In introduced, although Rowe had a good chance on 50 minutes when he picked up a loose ball but drove it wide of the near post.

But, just when the Badgers were looking more threatening, a completely avoidable goal – corner, headed home by Lewis McMURDO, watched by a group of blue and white statues. After that the game settled into a pattern – Brock playing more to feet and trying to put the visiting defence under pressure, while Rec were happy to play on the break and very sharp when they did so. Some very neat patterns and a good understanding – both Long and Rudd might have added to the tally.

Instead, with 12 to go, the Badgers found themselves a lifeline – Will Giles winning the ball high up the pitch, cross not cleared, hooked home by Ashton PALMIER for 1-3. One minute later, another corner, another header past admiring blue and white statues, this time from Sean WRIGHT, and any hope of a comeback was snuffed out before it was begun.

Brock did then play some really nice stuff towards the end – their best move of the game, ending with a Moore cross and McGrath's shot superbly saved by Murphy; and then Toby Bailey with a powerful header which came back off the bar (he's destined never to score again!).

But Ham Rec were comfortable, and deserved winners.

FT 1-4

**TUESDAY 11 AUGUST- WESSEX LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION
MILLBROOK 1-0 ANDOVER NEW STREET**

Tim Smith was pitchside

An Archie Greenough goal early in the second half was enough to earn Millbrook a 1-0 win in a close encounter at Test Park.

A warm summer evening, but with the worst of the day's heat gone, provided ideal viewing conditions for the 90-strong crowd. New Street certainly looked best dressed for the temperature as they lined-up in their Persil-white change strip.

Andover came into the match top of the early season table and off the back of a 5-0 FA Cup victory over Christchurch. They made four changes from their cup side, while hosts Millbrook made just one change from the team that beat Bradford Town 2-0 in the cup, Ben Clarke coming in at the back for Pip Nolan.

It was the Dockers who forged the early chances – Ryan Batley heading over from a corner and a cross headed wide by Mikey O'Connell. Keegan Kelly then went on a good run down the left to play in Greenough

whose shot from inside the box was tipped away by visiting keeper Luke Cairney. New Street also had an early sight of goal when Malachi Dotse's shot was saved at the near post by Luke Deacon.

There was a real blow for Millbrook after just twelve minutes when the influential O'Connell was taken off with what turned out to be a metatarsal injury which will sideline him for six to eight weeks.

Andover then came more into the game and looked the stronger side as the first half progressed with Claudio Herbert and Harry Beckley combining well down the right hand side. They had strong shouts for a penalty when a shot hit a Millbrook player from close range inside the box and nearly benefited from an own goal when a defender propelled the ball across his own goal area and just wide of the post.

Millbrook had their best chance of the remainder of the half when Kelly turned a defender and his cross fell to Greenough whose shot from 20 yards was pushed wide by Cairney, leaving the game goalless at the break.

HT 0-0

Millbrook made a strong start to the second period with Tommy Wright chesting the ball down and shooting just wide. The decisive moment in the game then came in the 53rd minute when, after a Millbrook free-kick had been headed across goal, Greenough's deft flick diverted the ball into the net (1-0).

New Street then came more into the game, applying pressure to the Dockers back line which stood firm, particularly in defending some dangerous crosses. For all their efforts, Andover created few chances, a shot blazed over and a Callum Drake flicked header over his own bar causing the most alarm. Kelly was continuing to threaten for Millbrook and had a shot saved by Cairney at his near post.

New Street's best chance of saving the game came right on the 90-minute mark when they had an effort from the corner of the box well saved by Deacon and a header cleared off the line. They faced their own injury worry in the eighth minute of added time when Ethan Gee had to be carried off by his team-mates.

Two minutes later the final whistle blew on a hard-fought and enjoyable game. A good first league win of the season for Millbrook against a New Street side who look like they will be among the promotion contenders again.

FT 1-0

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST- WESSEX LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

RINBWOOD TOWN 3-2 FRIMLEY GREEN

Matt Gale was pitchside

Ringwood hold off Frimley Green in five-goal thriller, securing all three points after an entertaining 3-2 victory over Frimley Green in the Wessex League Division One.

The hosts made a bright start at the Ringwood Community Hub and were rewarded when Ben BRADWELL opened the scoring following good work from Benny Harris.

Frimley responded well and showed plenty of determination to work their way back into the contest, with Tyler GARRATT finding the equaliser late in the first half to send the sides into the break level.

HT 1-1

Ringwood emerged strongly after the interval and quickly regained control of the game. Ben HARRIS struck twice in quick succession, first converting after being set up by Claxton before adding his second following an assist from Chamberlain, giving Ringwood a 3-1 advantage.

However, Frimley refused to let the game get away from them.

A dangerous run from the left ended with a shot that forced Ringwood goalkeeper Felix Bruce into a save, but Benji COLSON reacted quickest to the loose ball and finished the rebound to reduce the deficit to 3-2.

The goal set up a tense final 20 minutes as Frimley pushed for an equaliser and Ringwood looked for opportunities to put the contest beyond doubt.

Both sides continued to play at a high tempo, but Ringwood held firm through the closing stages to secure a hard-earned three points.

Frimley deserved credit for continuing to push until the final whistle, contributing to an entertaining and competitive afternoon between two fast-paced sides.

For Ringwood, Bradwell's opener and Harris' second-half double ultimately proved enough to secure a 3-2 victory at the Community Hub.

FT 3-2

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST FA VASE FIRST ROUND QUALIFYING HAMBLE CLUB 2-4 COWES SPORTS

Robin Caddy was pitchside

A very unexpected afternoon at The Abbey today, as Hamble Club welcomed Cowes Sports for their FA Vase encounter. The two teams met just last week in the FA Cup on the Isle of Wight, a match which Hamble won 3-1. Both teams had players missing, it is the holiday and wedding season isn't it, so pre-match predictions were largely of the "hard to tell" kind. The crowd of 103 tried their best to find any shade or breezy spots.

The game had a bitty and niggly feel from the start, with neither side able to assert themselves as they'd wish. On 13 minutes a long clearance is turned in to a half-chance by the Yachtsmen's number 10 Charlie MARSEK who is starting the season in good form. He takes the ball on from a very long way out, beats Jack Francis for pace, and slots the ball past Harvey Doe with aplomb. Well played Marsek, perhaps not so well played Hamble. 0-1

Nine minutes later Marsek nearly doubles the lead, but somehow can't wrap his foot around the ball around 3 yards out after good work by George Colson - another dicey moment at the back, Hamble breathe a sigh of relief. With 33 minutes played Mark Woodhouse, Cowes manager, is booked for dissent, and two minutes later Hamble's Jordan Cunningham creates a half-chance. That's the issue really, Hamble aren't playing badly they just aren't converting possession to decent chances.

Cowes respond with another quick break, which ends in St John Biggs dragging a shot wide of the far post. On 40 minutes, from a Hamble corner, a mishit pass at the back for Hamble lets in Finley PHILLIPS for the visitors second, and would you believe it in added time at the end of the half MARSEK finds himself on the end of a ball from another quick break down the right to make it 0-3 at half time. The goals have not been at all good from Hamble's perspective, the Yachtsmen have the wind in their sails!.

HT 0-3

The second half can't be the same can it? Hamble must have been given an absolute rollicking by their manager Matthew Gregory at half time. They do come out looking more positive. We see good progress made by Cunningham, Will Gange, shots are coming in, headers going just over, and one header from Mac Gange hits the outside of the post and goes wide. A minute after this last effort Cowes get a throw deep in the Hamble half, which out of nowhere really Charlie MARSEK heads in for his hattrick. 55 minutes played it's Hamble Club 0-4 Cowes Sports.

Hamble don't give up, and continue to make some pretty decent chances. On 77 minutes the ball ends up in the net from a tasty Hamble corner, it looks to me like debutant Jake ADAMS does the damage. Cowes want a handball. The ref gives the goal - 1-4. Then with 6 minutes of normal time to play, and after Cunningham has been sinbinned for dissent, Ildis BEQIRI heads in another to make it 2-4. At this point honestly any outcome was possible. Beqiri is putting himself around well, offering something different but eventually the clock runs down and Cowes Sports are deservedly in to the next round.

FT 2-4

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST WESSEX LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION BROCKENHURST 1-0 CHRISTCHURCH

Jon Renyard was pitchside

Second home game this week for Brock, as they picked up a deserved three points despite a nervy, breathless last few minutes. It's tempting to say that they made it hard for themselves, but there were seven absentees, some debutants and several players out of position – and visiting keeper Harry Dillon had a blinder, by a distance their man of the match with at least three top-class saves. But he was beaten once; and once was enough.

The Badgers played some really good football at times, on a pitch which has held up remarkably well through the drought season. 9 minutes, the first such move, Colmer to McGrath to Palmier, good low shot, excellent save from Dillon tipping the ball round for a corner. A couple of half-chances followed – but Church reminded everyone that they could play too, speedy wingers and a willingness to chase, Basiru-Jammeh picked up a loose ball on 15 minutes but shot wide of the near post. 20 minutes... corner to Brock... great routine, pulled back to Harry McGrath on the edge of the box, driving shot which seemed sure to find the net but a superb save from Dillon. That was his best of the afternoon; top notch.

The Badgers needed something special, almost provided by Elliot Wells, a magical run down the left leaving two defenders in his wake, cross just missed by Palmier and then by Walker at the back post, allowing Dillon to grab at the feet of a defender.

For all their attacking threat and half-chances, half-time was approaching and the scores still level – but the Badgers found a way, a ball into the box not properly cleared and reaching Elliot WELLS on the edge of the box who hammered home his first senior goal for the club. It was a fine way to cap an afternoon when he looked like a difference-maker.

HT 1-0

I think you'd have got long odds on there being no goals added in the second half, but surprisingly... Four minutes into the half, Jordi Valero was demonstrating his prowess as a sweeper keeper with two tackles about ten yards outside his box... and two minutes later, the visitors did have the ball in the net, but instantly flagged offside by the assistant. Was that a let-off?

Brock created enough chances to put the game to bed – first Palmier won the ball 25 yards out and tried to lob the keeper ... he did exactly the same 20 minutes later, from slightly further out, both times simple catches for Dillon. 64 minutes, neat move from the visitors, Chipangura running into the box down the right – he took the ball past Valero but was too close to the byline and his attempt, whether cross or shot, was blocked and smuggled away, Bailey and Esteban Batista combining for the clearance. A word on those two – Toby Bailey at centre half, Esteban Batista at right-back, two quality midfielders having superb games in unfamiliar positions.

When Harry McGrath had to drop into the back four later in the game, you'd have to say it was a very experimental back line! – but it did its job. Anyway, back to the game – another Brock chance, McGrath to Palmier, powerful shot and good blocking save from Dillon at his near post. Sub Taylor Broadley for Christchurch came on and looked lively, a couple of shots to get his eye in and then a real chance, seven minutes to go, excellent low block from Valero and the ball was cleared. Time running out... yet another Brock ball into the box which wasn't dealt with, falling to Toby Colmer ten yards out, blasted goalwards – another amazing save from Dillon. So the second goal wouldn't come, and the visitors still had a chance of nicking an unlikely point... and they probably should have done, Brock with a corner and far too many men caught upfield, Broadley broke superbly, laid the ball off to Connor Ford who curled his shot over Valero from the edge of the box... and off the bar.

Even then, there were eight minutes of overtime, and Wilson put a free header wide... Badgers on the break, Aaron Batista with a powerful goalbound shot well saved by Dillon, then (we attack, you attack), Ford saw his cross blocked by Valero's leg... not properly away, sub Clarke blocked a shot almost on the line– and before anyone could draw breath, ball forward, Aaron Batista this time in splendid isolation, freedom of the half, bore down on Dillon and... poked his shot just wide of the far post. But, in the end, it was enough.

FT 1-0

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST- FA VASE FIRST ROUND QUALIFYING NEWPORT IOW 2-1 COLDEN COMMON

John Davies was pitchside

Newport came from behind to secure their place in the next round and a return trip to Pagham beckons. On another roasting afternoon in 30 degree heat on a brown pitch, it has to be said the pitch played much better than could have been hoped.

The early exchanges were tight, neither side creating too much but Leon Pitman in the home goal was certainly the busier. Just before the first hydration break the visitors took the lead, Jack NICHOLAS slotting home across Leon Pitman from the left hand side of the box. Newport needed to find a reaction and Ji Nash had an effort well saved before right on the stroke of half time Newport's best move of the half saw Jordan BROWNE place a precise shot into the corner of the net.

HT 1-1

With last season's games between the two sides decided by only one goal each at half time it looked like a similar scenario would play out today. Newport were more on the front foot, Keelan Walsh and Jacob Reynolds started to boss midfield and the front line became more threatening. At the back the excellent

pair of Jez Conway and George Holbrook were mopping up the counter attacks, Colden Common playing deeper now and certainly not looking as threatening in open play, set pieces were their most likely source of a goal. Their best chance came late on when a free header at the far post flashed just wide, two more important Leon Pitman blocks kept the Stallions at bay and the game looked to be heading for a penalty shoot-out.

However the decisive moment came in the 73rd minute, again Jacob Reynolds was instrumental and his slipped through ball to the left saw Jordan BROWNE cut inside and bury the ball into the far corner.

With the conditions meaning both benches were required it was great to see the youthful substitutes of Newport see the game out in a controlled manner, Kudzai Mazambara rasping a shot just over and late on Jacob Reynolds nearly caught the keeper off his line from distance.

In the end there was no way back for the visitors but they will like last season be a force in the league , for Newport a trip east in September to Pagham in the next round, and like today no doubt the team will be well supported on the road.

FT 2-1

FIXTURES 2026/27

A general reminder that fixtures are subject to alteration and or cancellation at short notice.

Tuesday 18 August

Hampshire Senior Cup First Round

Alresford Town v Totton & Eling

Alton v East Cowes Vics

Bashley v Colden Common

Brockenhurst v Lymington Town

Fareham Town v Fleetlands

Horndean v Cove

Millbrook v Andover New Street

Petersfield Town v Eversley & California

Ringwood Town v Christchurch

Premier Division

Hythe & Dibden v Baffins Milton Rovers

Laverstock & Ford v Hamble Club

Sturminster Newton United v Downton

Division One

Frimley Green v Kintbury Rangers

Hamworthy United v Romsey Town

Sandhurst Town v Amesbury Town

Wednesday 19 August

Hampshire Senior Cup First Round

Whitchurch United v Cowes Sports

Division One

AFC Aldermaston v Ash United

Friday 21 August

Division One

Folland Sports v Lymington Town

Saturday 22 August

Emirates FA Cup Preliminary Round

Andover New Street v Shaftesbury

Baffins Milton Rovers v Hartley Wintney

Downton v Millbrook

Fleetlands v Yateley United

Hamble Club v Tadley Calleva

Petersfield Town v Laverstock & Ford

Premier Division

Baffins Milton Rovers v Horndean

Bemerton Heath H'quins v Christchurch

Bournemouth Poppies v Sherborne Town

Cowes Sports v Hythe & Dibden

Fareham Town v Brockenhurst

Sturminster Newton United v Hamworthy Rec

Division One

Alresford Town v Newport (IOW)

Amesbury Town v AFC Aldermaston

Colden Common v Cove

Frimley Green v Fawley AFC

Kintbury Rangers v Hamworthy United

New Milton Town v Ash United

Romsey Town v Blandford United

Sandhurst Town v Hedge End Rangers

Totton & Eling v Whitchurch United

Tuesday 25 August

Wessex League Cup First Round

Bashley v Romsey Town

Wessex League Cup Second Round

Hamworthy United v New Milton Town

Premier Division

Andover New Street v Petersfield Town

Baffins Milton Rovers v East Cowes Vics

Brockenhurst v Bournemouth Poppies

Hamble Club v Downton

Horndean v Cowes Sports

Hythe & Dibden v Sherborne Town

Laverstock & Ford v Sturminster Newton United

Millbrook v Fareham Town

Division One

Ringwood Town v Blandford United

Totton & Eling v Lymington Town

Wednesday 26 August

Division One

AFC Aldermaston v Whitchurch United

Friday 28 August**Premier Division**

Downton v Bemerton Heath H'quins

Saturday 29 August**Wessex League Cup First Round**

Sturminster Newton United v Lymington Town

Premier Division

Bashley v Brockenhurst

Bournemouth Poppies v Christchurch

East Cowes Vics v Hamble Club

Fareham Town v Cowes Sports

Fleetlands v Baffins Milton Rovers

Millbrook v Hythe & Dibden

Petersfield Town v Horndean

Sherborne Town v Andover New Street

Division One

AFC Aldermaston v Kintbury Rangers

Ash United v Sandhurst Town

Colden Common v Folland Sports

Cove v Frimley Green

Hamworthy United v Blandford United

Hedge End Rangers v Newport (IOW)

New Milton Town v Amesbury Town

Ringwood Town v Totton & Eling

Romsey Town v Fawley AFC

Whitchurch United v Alresford Town

Tuesday 1 September**Wessex League Cup First Round**

Christchurch v Totton & Eling

Premier Division

Bemerton Heath H'quins v Fleetlands

Brockenhurst v Sturminster Newton United

Cowes Sports v Baffins Milton Rovers

Horndean v Fareham Town

Hythe & Dibden v East Cowes Vics

Millbrook v Bournemouth Poppies

Petersfield Town v Laverstock & Ford

Division One

Alresford Town v AFC Aldermaston

Folland Sports v Hedge End Rangers

Frimley Green v Colden Common

Kintbury Rangers v Amesbury Town

Newport (IOW) v Fawley AFC

Romsey Town v New Milton Town

Sandhurst Town v Cove

Wednesday 2 September**Premier Division**

Sherborne Town v Downton

Saturday 5 September**Emirates FA Cup First Round Qualifying****Wessex League Cup First Round**

Bournemouth Poppies v Kintbury Rangers

Premier Division

Andover New Street v Fleetlands

Baffins Milton Rovers v Millbrook

Bashley v Bemerton Heath H'quins

Brockenhurst v Horndean

Cowes Sports v Christchurch

Hamble Club v Sherborne Town

Hamworthy Recreation v Petersfield Town

Hythe & Dibden v Downton

Laverstock & Ford v Fareham Town

Sturminster Newton United v East Cowes Vics

Division One

AFC Aldermaston v Folland Sports

Amesbury Town v Newport (IOW)

Ash United v Totton & Eling

Blandford United v Frimley Green

Cove v Ringwood Town

Fawley AFC v Whitchurch United

Hedge End Rangers v New Milton Town

Lymington Town v Colden Common

Romsey Town v Alresford Town

Sandhurst Town v Hamworthy United

Tuesday 8 September**Berks and Bucks Senior Cup First Round**

Kintbury Rangers v Wantage Town

Sandhurst Town v Woodley United

Wokingham Town v AFC Aldermaston

Wessex League Cup First Round

Fawley AFC v East Cowes Vics

Wessex League Cup Second Round

Downton v Fleetlands

Millbrook v Horndean

Newport (IOW) v Folland Sports

Premier Division

Andover New Street v Hamworthy Recreation

Baffins Milton Rovers v Hamble Club

Bashley v Cowes Sports

Bemerton Heath H'quins v Laverstock & Ford

Christchurch v Sherborne Town

Fareham Town v Petersfield Town

Sturminster Newton Utd v Bournemouth Poppies

Division One

Totton & Eling v Romsey Town

Another week under the belt for many clubs. Sadly the road to Wembley has passed with a number of our teams falling at the first hurdle, but congratulations go out to Andover New Street, Blandford United, AFC Aldermaston, Cove, Baffins Milton Rovers, Fleetlands, Cowes Sports, Totton & Eling, Newport IOW, Hamworthy United, Romsey Town and Sandhurst Town who progressed to the next round. See page 20 for the ties.

FA CUP PRELIMINARY ROUND PREVIEW- SATURDAY 22 AUGUST

21 Wessex League Clubs set out on the road to Wembley in the Extra Preliminary Round with eight still en route with the draw for the above as follows:-

ANDOVER NEW STREET v Shaftesbury
PETERSFIELD TOWN v LAVERSTOCK & FORD
BAFFINS MILTON ROVERS v Hartley Wintney

HAMBLE CLUB v Tadley Calleva
FLEETLANDS v Yateley United
DOWNTON v MILLBROOK

A look at these ties in more detail and with 2 all-Wessex ties, we can at least guarantee a team progressing. **ANDOVER NEW STREET** defeated Christchurch in the previous round but do not have a good overall record at this stage as they have only reached the next round on one previous occasion. This is Shaftesbury's first game in the Competition this season, but they reached the First Qualifying Round last season before losing to Frome Town. Everything points to the club from the Southern League club being victorious.

PETERSFIELD TOWN, who defeated Fareham in a fiercely contested encounter in the previous round, reached the Third Qualifying Round in 2016, beating Weymouth en route before losing to St Albans City. **LAVERSTOCK & FORD** are unpredictable but are doughty Cup fighters and had a painless six goal victory over Combined Counties side Eversley & California to set up this tie. Difficult to split these sides but home advantage could be the key.

HAMBLE CLUB face former Wessex League opposition when Tadley Calleva come visiting, though the two sides last met in pursuit of league points in 2020/21. The Monks crossed the Solent to beat Cowes Sports in the previous round, but they have never passed this current stage. Tadley beat Bemerton Heath Harlequins to reach this tie and reached the Second Qualifying Round last season after they defeated Weymouth in a game that was televised. A close game which could go to a replay.

DOWNTON beat Bournemouth by the odd goal in three in the previous round, the first time they have progressed this far for many years, though they have the experience of a good Vase run last season to draw upon. For **MILLBROOK** it is only their third season in the FA Cup and It was a good result against Bradford Town last time out. Previously they have taken AFC Stoneham to a replay in the Competition. Downton are managing to win close games without really finding form - can this winning habit continue this time?

BAFFINS MILTON ROVERS entertain Hartley Wintney with the North Hampshire side having easily disposed of Horndean in the previous round. The Wessex League side have only been in the Competition since 2018/19 and have twice reached the First Qualifying Round. Their opponents, who play in the Isthmian League South Central, reached the Fourth Qualifying Round in 2020/21 before losing to Dagenham & Redbridge and will expect to progress.

FLEETLANDS gained one of the best results of the last Round at Paulton Rovers in this, their first season in the Competition. They now entertain Yateley United who were in the Wessex League last season and now ply their trade in the Combined Counties. They qualified for the trip to Fleetlands by winning at Alton in a replay. Given that both sides were promoted from Wessex One last season, the game will be close with champions Fleetlands hoping that home advantage will work in their favour.

Good luck to all our teams.

FA VASE SECOND ROUND QUALIFYING- UPDATED TIES

Saturday 12 September

AFC Aldermaston v Newent Town
Baffins Milton Rovers v New Milton Town
Camberley Town v Cove
Cowes Sports v Christchurch
East Cowes Victoria v Fleetlands
Fawley AFC v Ash United
Frimley Green v Brockenhurst
Hedge End Rangers v Totton & Eling

Pagham v Newport (IOW)
Petersfield Town v Andover New Street
Ringwood Town v Hamworthy United
Romsey Town v Bournemouth
Sandhurst Town v Carterton
Sherborne Town v Blandford United
Whitchurch United v Midhurst & Easingbourne

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Fixtures shown are reproduced in good faith and subject to alteration or late cancellation. Kick off times may vary at grounds where there are no floodlights, if you intend going, please check with the hosts
In this section, an [] in any league table means point adjustments have been made.*

DORSET PREMIER LEAGUE

RESULTS

Tuesday 11 August

Balti Sports 0-1 Dorchester Sports
 Bournemouth Electric 1-1 Cobham Sports
 Bournemouth Sports 6-0 Hamworthy Recreation Reserves
 Gillingham Town 4-2 Mere Town
 Hamworthy United Reserves 4-0 Wimborne Town Reserves
 Verwood Town 0-3 Holt United

Wednesday 12 August

Sherborne Town Reserves 2-2 Westland Sports
 Swanage Town & Herston 3-2 Wareham Rangers

Saturday 15 August

Balti Sports 6-1 Wareham Rangers
 Cobham Sports 3-2 Bournemouth Sports
 Dorchester Sports 4-1 Mere Town
 Gillingham Town 4-0 Hamworthy Recreation Reserves
 Hamworthy United Reserves 1-5 Swanage Town & Herston
 Holt United 0-5 Bournemouth Electric
 Portland United Reserves 0-2 Verwood Town
 Westland Sports 3-1 Wimborne Town Reserves

TABLE

POS	DORSET PREMIER	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS	PPG
1	Bournemouth Electric	3	2	1	0	9	2	7	7	2.333
2	Cobham Sports	3	2	1	0	8	3	5	7	2.333
3	Gillingham Town	3	2	0	1	12	7	5	6	2.000
4	Dorchester Sports	2	2	0	0	5	1	4	6	3.000
5	Swanage Town & Herston	3	2	0	1	9	6	3	6	2.000
6	Hamworthy United Reserves	3	2	0	1	10	9	1	6	2.000
7	Holt United	3	2	0	1	6	6	0	6	2.000
8	Westland Sports	3	1	2	0	8	6	2	5	1.667
9	Sherborne Town Reserves	2	1	1	0	6	4	2	4	2.000
10	Verwood Town	3	1	1	1	5	6	-1	4	1.333
11	Bournemouth Sports	3	1	0	2	10	7	3	3	1.000
12	Balti Sports	3	1	0	2	9	9	0	3	1.000
13	Wimborne Town Reserves	3	1	0	2	8	10	-2	3	1.000
14	Wareham Rangers	3	1	0	2	6	9	-3	3	1.000
15	Portland United Reserves	2	0	0	2	0	5	-5	0	0.000
16	Mere Town	3	0	0	3	3	12	-9	0	0.000
17	Hamworthy Recreation Reserves	3	0	0	3	1	13	-12	0	0.000

FIXTURES

Tuesday 18 August

Bournemouth Electric v Bournemouth Sports
 Cobham Sports v Hamworthy Recreation Reserves
 Gillingham Town v Sherborne Town Reserves
 Holt United v Hamworthy United Reserves
 Westland Sports v Mere Town

Wednesday 19 August

Portland United Reserves v Dorchester Sports
 Swanage Town & Herston v Verwood Town
 Wareham Rangers v Wimborne Town Reserves

Saturday 22 August

Balti Sports v Hamworthy Recreation Reserves
 Bournemouth Electric v Westland Sports
 Bournemouth Sports v Dorchester Sports
 Holt United v Mere Town
 Portland United Reserves v Hamworthy United Reserves
 Swanage Town & Herston v Cobham Sports
 Verwood Town v Sherborne Town Reserves
 Wimborne Town Reserves v Gillingham Town

HAMPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE**RESULTS****Tuesday 11 August**

Whitehill & Bordon 1-0 Liss Athletic

Wednesday 12 August

AFC Netley 1-2 Hook

Saturday 15 August

Bishops Waltham Dynamos 1-4 AFC Shirley
 AFC Netley 2-2 Meon Milton
 Denmead 3-3 Hook
 Moneyfields Reserves 4-2 Liphook United
 Southsea Sports 3-0 Blackfield & Langley
 US Portsmouth 3-1 Broughton
 Whitehill & Bordon 2-1 Crofton Saints

TABLE

POS	HAMPSHIRE PREMIER	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS	PPG
1	Whitehill & Bordon	5	4	0	1	7	5	2	12	2.400
2	Hook	4	3	1	0	16	11	5	10	2.500
3	Moneyfields Reserves	3	3	0	0	13	4	9	9	3.000
4	AFC Shirley	3	3	0	0	8	2	6	9	3.000
5	Southsea Sports	4	3	0	1	8	4	4	9	2.250
6	Blackfield & Langley	4	2	1	1	6	6	0	7	1.750
7	Liphook United	4	2	0	2	7	7	0	6	1.500
8	Liss Athletic	3	1	1	1	4	3	1	4	1.333
9	AFC Netley	4	1	1	2	6	6	0	4	1.000
10	Overton United	2	1	0	1	5	2	3	3	1.500
11	Bishops Waltham Dynamos	4	1	0	3	10	14	-4	3	0.750
12	US Portsmouth	4	1	0	3	8	12	-4	3	0.750
13	Broughton	3	1	0	2	4	8	-4	3	1.000
14	Meon Milton	3	0	1	2	3	7	-4	1	0.333
15	Denmead	3	0	1	2	3	10	-7	1	0.333
16	Crofton Saints	3	0	0	3	3	6	-3	0	0.000
17	Locks Heath	2	0	0	2	2	6	-4	0	0.000

FIXTURES**Wednesday 19 August**

Meon Milton v US Portsmouth
 Southsea Sports v Denmead

Saturday 22 August

Bishops Waltham Dynamos v Crofton Saints
 Blackfield & Langley v Moneyfields Reserves
 Liphook United v Hook
 Liss Athletic v AFC Netley
 Meon Milton v Locks Heath
 Southsea Sports v AFC Shirley
 US Portsmouth v Overton United
 Whitehill & Bordon v Broughton

WILTSHIRE SENIOR LEAGUE**RESULTS****Tuesday 11 August**

Down Ampney 2-0 Wroughton
 Fairford Town Reserves 1-1 Park United
 Faringdon Town 5-2 Hungerford Town Development
 Pewsey Vale 2-0 Purton Kingsdown
 Royal Wootton Bassett Town Development 1-3 Shrivenham
 Shrewton United 5-1 Bishops Cannings

Wednesday 12 August

Melksham Town Reserves 4-2 Devizes Town Reserves

Saturday 15 August

Bemerton Heath Harlequins Reserves 6-0 Wroughton
 Bradford Town Reserves 2-3 Bishops Cannings
 Down Ampney 2-3 Park United
 Larkhall Athletic Development 4-4 Hungerford Town Development
 Melksham Town Reserves 4-0 Faringdon Town
 Purton Kingsdown 1-1 Devizes Town Reserves
 Royal Wootton Bassett Town Development 1-1 Trowbridge Town
 Shrewton United 3-0 Fairford Town Reserves
 Shrivenham 7-1 Pewsey Vale

TABLE

POS	WILTSHIRE SENIOR	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS	PPG
1	Shrivenham	3	3	0	0	14	2	12	9	3.000
2	Shrewton United	3	2	0	1	8	2	6	6	2.000
3	Melksham Town Reserves	3	2	0	1	8	4	4	6	2.000
4	Faringdon Town	3	2	0	1	9	7	2	6	2.000
5	Park United	3	1	2	0	5	4	1	5	1.667
6	Larkhall Athletic Development	2	1	1	0	6	4	2	4	2.000
7	Down Ampney	3	1	1	1	5	4	1	4	1.333
8	Devizes Town Reserves	3	1	1	1	4	5	-1	4	1.333
9	Bemerton Heath Harlequins Reserves	1	1	0	0	6	0	6	3	3.000
10	Bishops Cannings	2	1	0	1	4	7	-3	3	1.500
11	Pewsey Vale	3	1	0	2	4	11	-7	3	1.000
12	Trowbridge Town	2	0	2	0	3	3	0	2	1.000
13	Purton Kingsdown	3	0	2	1	3	5	-2	2	0.667
14	Royal Wootton Bassett Town Development	3	0	2	1	3	5	-2	2	0.667
15	Hungerford Town Development	3	0	2	1	7	10	-3	2	0.667
16	Fairford Town Reserves	2	0	1	1	1	4	-3	1	0.500
17	Bradford Town Reserves	2	0	0	2	2	7	-5	0	0.000
18	Wroughton	2	0	0	2	0	8	-8	0	0.000

FIXTURES

Tuesday 18 August

Bishops Cannings v Bemerton Heath Harlequins Reserves
Faringdon Town v Royal Wootton Bassett Town Development
Hungerford Town Development v Fairford Town Reserves
Pewsey Vale v Larkhall Athletic Development

Wednesday 19 August

Park United v Bradford Town Reserves
Shrewton United v Trowbridge Town
Shrivenham v Down Ampney
Wroughton v Purton Kingsdown

Saturday 22 August

Bishops Cannings v Purton Kingsdown
Bradford Town Reserves v Pewsey Vale
Devizes Town Reserves v Shrewton United
Down Ampney v Melksham Town Reserves
Fairford Town Reserves v Larkhall Athletic Development
Hungerford Town Development v Faringdon Town
Park United v Trowbridge Town
Shrivenham v Bemerton Heath Harlequins Reserves
Wroughton v Royal Wootton Bassett Town Development

HAMPSHIRE COMBINATION & DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE

RESULTS

Tuesday 11 August

Under 23 Premier Division

AFC Totton 6-2 Poole Town

Thursday 13 August

Under 23 West Division

Laverstock & Ford 0-5 Fawley AFC

Saturday 15 August

Premier Division

Hythe & Dibden 0-8 Pagham

Laverstock & Ford 7-2 Clanfield

Meon Milton 1-1 Liss Athletic

Division One

AFC Netley 3-3 Fawley AFC

Clanfield Development 3-0 Denmead

FIXTURES

Wednesday 19 August

Under 23 East Division

Fleetlands v Whiteley Wanderers

Under 23 West Division

Fawley AFC v Totton & Eling

Thursday 20 August

Under 23 Premier Division

Ringwood Town v AFC Totton

Under 23 East Division

U.S. Portsmouth v Hayling United

Saturday 22 August

John Stimpson Memorial Shield 1st Round

Brockenhurst v Meon Milton

John Stimpson Memorial Shield 2nd Round

Hythe & Dibden v Crofton Saints

Premier Division

Clanfield v Pagham

Laverstock & Ford v Petersfield Town

Division One

Bishops Waltham Dynamos v Fawley AFC

Denmead v Hedge End Rangers

GETTING TO KNOW YOU - PAUL SCOBLE



The next subject in this occasional series is our League Treasurer - Paul Scoble. Paul was born in Portsmouth and has devoted much of his life to football, combining a long and respected refereeing career with decades of service to local leagues and the Hampshire FA.

Early Years and Introduction to Refereeing

Educated at Portsmouth Southern Grammar School, Paul represented the school in both football and cricket, though he modestly notes that most of his appearances were for the Second XI. It was during his final year at school, aged 17, that refereeing first captured his interest, leading to his debut appointment in the Hampshire Youth League.

From there he progressed to the Portsmouth Youth League where his first match, played throughout in relentless rain, produced a remarkable 20–0 scoreline. His university years in Sussex saw him continue officiating in local football while studying Mathematics, a subject that would determine his subsequent teaching career.

Progression Through the Refereeing Ranks

While still in Sussex, Paul achieved Class One refereeing status before transferring his allegiance back to Hampshire. Promotion to the Hampshire county list followed, and in 1981 he became an Assistant Referee on The Football Combination. The introduction of the pyramid system for referee promotion led to him being moved to the Southern League as an Assistant Referee. He was promoted to the Southern League referee's list in 1987, and as a Football League Assistant in 1989 and a Football League referee in 1991. His first Football League appointment as a referee was Gillingham v Scunthorpe United.

Several matches remain vivid in his memory. One was a reserve fixture at The Dell, where Kevin Keegan returned from injury and the unexpectedly large crowd created significant challenges, at the gate, for the home club. In another, he dismissed the Hartlepool United goalkeeper inside five minutes for what is termed today as DOGSO (denial of an obvious goalscoring opportunity) when they played away at Brighton. A more dramatic evening came during a midweek FA Cup replay at Farnborough, where Paul and Ian Craig served as assistants. The referee had a torrid evening and, at full time, the crowd spilled onto the pitch, forcing the officials to make a hasty retreat down the tunnel to the safety of the dressing room.

Balancing Teaching and Football

Throughout his refereeing career, Paul was a teacher of Mathematics, a demanding profession, at Cowplain. Eventually, feeling that the enjoyment had faded, he stepped away from the Football League. He missed the game, though not the trips to Exeter's St James Park, where — in his own words — “nothing ever seemed to go right.”

He did, however, take charge of the second leg of the first Wessex League Cup Final, contested between Horndean and Road Sea, with Bob Purkiss refereeing the first leg.

Continued Service to Local Football

Paul's involvement in football continued long after his refereeing career at higher levels had ended. He served as Hampshire League Referees' Secretary, having previously acted as Registration Secretary, Treasurer and Referees' Appointments Secretary in local leagues before becoming Chair of the Referees' Committee at the Hampshire FA. He served as their President from 2022–2025. Following the passing of Bob Rose, Paul was invited to become League Treasurer, a position he continues to fulfil with distinction.

He also acts as a Referees' Observer at Contributory and Supply League level, guiding and mentoring officials who aspire to follow the path he once took — and few could hope for a more experienced or supportive mentor.

Life Beyond the Pitch

Away from football, Paul expanded his role in education when his partner retired from her support position, taking on additional responsibilities alongside his teaching. For many years he has worked as the lead Examination Coordinator/Invigilator, a role he continues to perform today.

LEAGUE TABLES

In the League Tables section, an asterisk in any table means point adjustments have been made.

POS	PREMIER DIVISION	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS	PPG
1	Hamworthy Recreation	3	2	1	0	7	3	4	7	2.333
2	Downton	3	2	1	0	8	6	2	7	2.333
3	Andover New Street	4	2	1	1	5	3	2	7	1.750
4	Sturminster Newton United	3	2	0	1	6	2	4	6	2.000
5	East Cowes Victoria Athletic	3	2	0	1	6	3	3	6	2.000
6	Fareham Town	2	2	0	0	3	1	2	6	3.000
7	Brockenhurst	3	2	0	1	4	4	0	6	2.000
8	Hamble Club	3	1	2	0	5	4	1	5	1.667
9	Sherborne Town	4	1	2	1	5	6	-1	5	1.250
10	Petersfield Town	3	1	1	1	6	5	1	4	1.333
11	Fleetlands	2	1	1	0	4	3	1	4	2.000
12	Hythe & Dibden	3	1	0	2	3	3	0	3	1.000
13	Millbrook	2	1	0	1	2	2	0	3	1.500
14	Bemerton Heath Harlequins	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1.000
15	Laverstock & Ford	2	0	1	1	3	4	-1	1	0.500
16	Bournemouth Poppies	3	0	1	2	2	7	-5	1	0.333
17	Baffins Milton Rovers	1	0	0	1	2	3	-1	0	0.000
18	Horndean	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0	0.000
19	Cowes Sports	1	0	0	1	0	2	-2	0	0.000
20	Bashley	2	0	0	2	0	3	-3	0	0.000
21	Christchurch	3	0	0	3	4	10	-6	0	0.000

POS	DIVISION ONE	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS	PPG
1	New Milton Town	3	3	0	0	10	2	8	9	3.000
2	Sandhurst Town	3	2	1	0	10	2	8	7	2.333
3	Hedge End Rangers	3	2	1	0	6	3	3	7	2.333
4	Fawley AFC	4	2	1	1	4	3	1	7	1.750
5	Frimley Green	3	2	0	1	6	3	3	6	2.000
6	Kintbury Rangers	3	1	2	0	5	2	3	5	1.667
7	Amesbury Town	3	1	2	0	7	5	2	5	1.667
8	Alresford Town	3	1	2	0	6	5	1	5	1.667
9	Ringwood Town	4	1	2	1	7	7	0	5	1.250
10	Whitchurch United	4	1	2	1	7	11	-4	5	1.250
11	AFC Aldermaston	3	1	1	1	5	5	0	4	1.333
12	Newport (IOW)	1	1	0	0	3	2	1	3	3.000
13	Cove	2	1	0	1	4	7	-3	3	1.500
14	Blandford United	2	0	1	1	2	3	-1	1	0.500
15	Hamworthy United	3	0	1	2	3	5	-2	1	0.333
16	Colden Common	2	0	1	1	5	8	-3	1	0.500
17	Lymington Town	3	0	1	2	2	7	-5	1	0.333
18	Romsey Town	1	0	0	1	1	3	-2	0	0.000
19	Folland Sports	2	0	0	2	5	8	-3	0	0.000
20	Totton & Eling	2	0	0	2	0	3	-3	0	0.000
21	Ash United	2	0	0	2	0	4	-4	0	0.000

PHOTO FINISH



Midweek action from the New Forest. Sara Taylor was at Bashley (gold) for their Emirates FA Cup replay against Shepton Mallet. The Somerset side went through by the odd goal in five, after extra time.



Midweek action from Victoria Park, where Bournemouth (red) needed a late goal to secure a share of the points in a 2-2 draw with Laverstock & Ford.



Goalmouth action today caught by Robin Caddy who was at the FA Vase game between Hamble (yellow) and Cowes Sports where the hosts went down 4-2



Roger Allen was at Amesbury Town (blue) where two goals and the points were shared with visitors Whitchurch United in this Division One clash.



Action today from Long Lane, where Ringwood Town (red) secured the points with a best of five win against Frimley Green who ended the game with nine players. Photo courtesy of Matt Gale.



Sara Taylor was at Bashley (gold) where Wessex new boys Blandford United pulled off a 3-1 win in the FA Vase First Round Qualifying Round tie.