



THE ROBINS



Abridged online version

Buidbase FA Vase Round 2 | Saturday 05 December 2020

Welcome to Fairfax Park

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN



Season 2020/21

#11

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THE BUILDBASE FA VASE

Saturday 5th December

ROUND 1

Brockenhurst	
Street	
Cheddar	
Ashton & Backwell United	
Fareham Town	
Roman Glass St George	
Millbrook	
Sherborne Town	

*Winners to play their Round 2 ties on
Saturday 12th or Sunday 13th December*

ROUND 2

Bradford Town	
Brimscombe & Thrupp	
Bridgwater Town	
Royal Wootton Bassett Town	
Christchurch	
Cribbs	
Clevedon Town	
Bitton	
Wells City	
Buckland Athletic	

ROUND 3

**To be played on Saturday 19th
or Sunday 20th December**

FROM THE DUGOUT!

'Good afternoon all...

After five weeks, finally we have a game of football - and what a game we have in prospect!

The whole squad have embraced the intensive training programme they have been set during the lockdown and we are sure that will pay off as we look to kick on from where we left off in October.

The Buildbase FA Vase is a special competition and we are expecting to put in a big performance and do all we can to be in the hat for the third round draw on Monday.

As always,
your support
will make a huge
difference.



Pearsey



*Cover photo by
DEBBIE GOULD*



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CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME



On behalf of the club it gives me great pleasure today to extend a warm Bridgwater welcome to our visitors, **Royal Wootton Bassett Town** for the first ever meeting. We hope their supporters, players and officials enjoyed a stress free journey getting here this afternoon and have a safe journey home.

We of course extend our welcome to the match officials today, too. Today's fixture is the second round proper of the Buildbase FA Vase and marks a return to competitive action after a five week break enforced by the national pandemic lockdown.

The lads have fully embraced a very comprehensive fitness regime that has been in place since our last game back on 31st October. Karl, Dave, will, I am certain, be expecting to see the benefits of that programme as they and the players strive to obtain the result we all want and ensure that we are 'in the hat' for the draw at FA Headquarters this upcoming Monday.

Many of you will be aware of the arrival at our club of Adam Murry, former co-owner of AFC Bournemouth who has been working very closely with your Executive Committee over the past six weeks or so.

You will have read of the planned developments both on and off the pitch and we will have more news to share with you soon. Meanwhile, my good friend and colleague Adrian Byrne has decided to step down as Chairman,

a position he has held since the summer of 2016.

Adrian, alongside my fellow Committee colleagues, has worked tirelessly to restore the fortunes of the club over the past four years. We have been honoured to have him as our Chairman and are delighted that he will continue to serve the club as a member of the Executive Committee.

As a consequence, I have been humbled and honoured in equal measure to have been appointed as Chairman of the new board of directors, full details of which will be announced shortly.

We are delighted to back here at Fairfax Park and look forward to more of your outstanding vocal support of the lads again today.

Thank you once again for your close adherence to the social distancing and other anti-Covid measures in place around the ground.



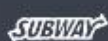
Bob Buckingham
Chairman

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A BRIEF HISTORY OF SENIOR FOOTBALL IN BRIDGWATER



BACKGROUND

Early attempts to establish a senior association football club in the rugby stronghold of Bridgwater failed to attract supporters, were beset with financial woes and were thus short-lived.

It was not until after the Second World War that solid foundations for a club were finally laid. A group of enthusiasts formed **CROWN DYNAMO FC** in 1946 based at a public house in St John Street. The team quickly gained a substantial following and became the forerunner of **BRIDGWATER TOWN AFC**.

The purchase of land off Bristol Road for a home ground, the backing of a large supporters' organisation and the support of prominent local businessmen, who became directors, enabled the club to flourish.

Soon the club owned a portfolio of residential property and was able to offer a house, a job and a good part-time wage to prospective footballers. This enabled the club to attract many ex-Football League professionals and field strong, competitive teams, which enjoyed great success as one of the Western League's leading sides.

Two Western League championship mantles, cup final wins and thrilling runs in the FA Cup and FA Trophy were experienced throughout the 1960's, 70's and 80's. In 1982 Bridgwater Town became members Southern League. It all came to an abrupt end in June 1984 when substantial debts forced to club into voluntary liquidation.

THE CURRENT CLUB

A new club, **BRIDGWATER TOWN (1984) FC** was quickly established by a band of loyal supporters and from humble beginnings worked all the way back up from Somerset County League origins to attaining Southern League membership inside a twenty-three year timespan.

On the way the club enjoyed a hat trick of Somerset County Premier titles, a Screwfix Western League Division 1 championship and two Les Philips Cup Final wins. As members of the Southern League they reached the Final of the Southern League Cup (2009) and were beaten finalists in the promotion play-offs (2010). However after 2010 leaner times returned, eventually leading to relegation in 2017.

Now, again playing Step 5 level, the club remains ambitious and after a short period of consolidation, aims to compete strongly for the title and regain its previous status.

EXTRA CONTENT IN THE 60-PAGE PRINTED VERSION OF THE PROGRAMME ON SALE AT THE GAME...

BTFC - RWBTFC last 10 season FA Vase comparison

Mark Hollidge's "Water Under The Bridge" & "Memorable Match" articles

Last TWL Premier Division Round-up

Tony Incenzo... "Why you should be proud to be a Non-League fan"

The EXCLUSIVE Non-League Paper Programme Column

16-page 'Extra Bedtime Reading' supplement - general interest footy articles

Plus a Christmas Card / Mini 2021 Year Planner

Dave Pearse: Hugely experienced, Dave returned to Bridgwater Town as joint player-manager with Karl Baggaley in season 2017/18 and will be looking to build on the progress made in recent years.

Jake Viney: Fantastic shot stopper and sweeper keeper. After suffering a serious injury which kept him out for a whole season in 2016/17, he has come back stronger than ever with a string of outstanding performances.

Reece Bannister: Reece is a promising young goalkeeper who has a great future ahead of him. Impressed pre-season and has been rewarded with being in the 1st team squad.

Mark Armstrong: Captain of the club and a born leader, Mark is an experienced, hardworking, tough tackling midfielder, equally comfortable in central defence.

Medhi Bakoura: A 19 year old aggressive, attack minded full back, with a love for a 1v1 duel and an eye for goal. Joins from Football Class Academy in Cardiff.

Ryan Brereton: Ryan is an exciting and dynamic midfielder with a great left foot who will be looking to make a big impression in his first season with the club.

Conor Bryant: Conor joins for 2020/21 looking to build on experience gained at Buckland Athletic and Wellington. Good in the air and an excellent target man who will create numerous chances for others and expect to get amongst the goals himself.

James Cottrell: James is a promising midfielder who has earned promotion to the squad after a series of excellent performances for our U18s.

Sam Crumb: Striker Sam joined from Cadbury Heath having spent last season with TWL Div 1 Longwell Green Sports, where he scored 11 goals in 27 games.

Mike Duffy: Mike, returns to the club for the 2020/21 season and will be looking to establish his place in the starting line-up with high energy, combative performances.

Tom Ellis: In his third season with the club, a 'no nonsense' defender, Tom was captain of the Wellington side that won the TWL Division One title in 2016/17. His height makes him a real threat from set pieces. His long throws are legendary.

Tom Fry: Tom Is a talented midfielder from Newport, Gwent. He spent 11 years at Bristol City before playing in the Scottish League for Airdrie and Motherwell. More recently he has played for Barry Town in the Welsh Premier League and Hednesford Town in the Northern Premier League.

Tyne Govier: Long serving defender (since 2003/04) who returns to the club after a year spent travelling.

Jordan Greenwood: Jordan is a widely experienced, 'body on the line' defender who is equally comfortable as central defender or on the left flank.

Adnan Hiroli: Adnan is a very experienced attacker who was a key member of the Odd Down side that won the Western League title in 2015/16. He brings a winning mentality to the squad and will add goals and goal scoring chances to the team.

Jake Horsey: A talented defender who re-joined the club this season on dual-registration with Somerset County League side Middlezoy Rovers.

Paul Jehanno: 19 joins from Cardiff based Football Class Academy. A tenacious tough tackling midfielder who'll provide an energy and robustness to the spine of the team.

Marcus Jones: Joined the club in October 2020, Marcus is a striker or midfielder who recently played in the Welsh Premier League with Barry Town.

Ben Kirk: Vastly experienced midfielder who returns to the club after some time away. He was a key member of the BTFC squad that reached the Southern League D1 S&W play-off final in season 2009/10. Previous clubs include Chippenham Town, Taunton Town and Weston super Mare.

Jake Llewellyn: Top quality defender who has played at National League South Level for Weston Super Mare; great going forward with a wand of a left foot.

Chris McGrath: Chris returns to Fairfax Park following stints at Buckland Athletic and Helston Athletic last season. A towering central defender, he has also been on the books of Taunton Town, Bideford, Bridport, Tiverton Town and Frome Town.

Ollie Morris: Versatile and energetic midfielder who returned to the club last season after spells with Street, where he was part of the squad that won the Western League title, and Larkhall Athletic.

George Painter: George re-joins the club after a season out with injury. Made a great impression when joining the squad part way through 2018/19 and will be looking to replicate those top class performances in the new campaign.

Archie Sturdy: An exciting, talented striker recently released by Yeovil Town. Joins on dual-registration with Taunton Town.

Jack Taylor: 'Fan's favourite' Jack signed from Wellington three seasons ago and has won numerous end of season awards in Robins' colours.

Dave Thorne: Now in his fourth season at the club. 'Mr consistent', Dave is a committed tough-tackling defender who always gives everything.

Sam Towler: Sam returned to Bridgwater after a successful spell with Wellington where he was part of the Div 1 winning squad. Technically gifted, Sam is a 'box to box' midfielder with an eye for goal.

Finley Wilkinson: A young talent coming through with a big future. Has great ability with set piece deliveries and can get up and down the pitch to join in with attacking play.

Josh Williams: Forward who joined in Sept 2020 from Ashton & Backwell United. His former clubs include Brislington, Cadbury heath and Larkhall Athletic.

Jamie Wilson: Jamie, 24 is a talented, attacking midfielder who made his debut for the British Virgin Islands (BVI) in October 2018 and has since gained three further international caps and 1 international goal to his name. His previous clubs include New Milton Town, Wolues FC (BVI National League), South Tampa FC (Suncoast Soccer League) and Bournemouth FC.

Also registered

Karl Baggaley
Harry Hamblin
Lewis Hembrey
Liam Kingston
Steve Laker

Luke Purser
Matt Redman
Ryan Turner
Andy Venning
Josh Wadham
Callum Watts

Karl Baggaley: Joint Manager

Josh Crook: Coach

Jeremy Frost-Wilson: Sports Therapist

Click on image to see
more of Debbie's
photos from the game.

Buildbase FA Vase First Round Proper
Fairfax Park, Bridgwater / Attendance: 173

ACTION REPLAY

BRIDGWATER TOWN 5 WELTON ROVERS 0

DEBBIE GOULD PHOTOGRAPHY

BRILLIANT BRIDGY DISMANTLE THE LEAGUE LEADERS

TOWN TEAM:

Jake Viney

Dave Thorne

Jordan Greenwood
(Jake Llewellyn 63)

Mark Armstrong
(Mike Duffy 63)

George Painter

Tom Ellis

Archie Sturdy

Tom Fry

Sam Crumb

Jack Taylor

Conor Bryant
(Ollie Morris 63)

On Halloween it was the case that Covid had put paid to “trick or treat” but that didn’t stop Town from serving up their own football treat and a hat-trick from super shooter Jack Taylor *writes Mark Hollidge.*

Yet this was far from a one man show as Town were a compelling, constructive, collective comprising all the good things about the game. Fans can only hope that when we emerge from the impending lockdown the team will be able to rediscover such outstanding form.

Welton, unbeaten in all competitions before this game, were expected to present a serious challenge. However they were blown away, especially in the second half, and rarely caused Town any alarms.

Town looked up for it immediately. Taylor raced onto a through ball and lashed a powerful shot at goal. Matt Dunk was able to divert the ball at the expense of a corner. Tom Fry took the corner kick and bent the ball straight into the net. He has done this sort of thing before.

At the time, the wind was blowing away from the goal, so this was some achievement.

Town could have added a couple of goals in the next 10 minutes. Dave Thorne escaped from his right back post and, after sidestepping a defender, rattled a left footed shot at goal but Dunk was able to hold the ball. Thorne, like many of his team mates, had a superb game and he was right back to his best.



Next, Sam Crumb thumped the ball into the net after Tom Ellis had nodded a corner kick down to him. He was flagged offside and he probably was.

For the next fifteen minutes Welton came into the game. They won 6 corners in this period but all of them were dealt with by Town's solid defence. Throughout this spell they only threatened to score once. Courtney Charles cut the ball back from the byline but Dawid Regula scuffed his shot when only a few yards out.

The very industrious Archie Sturdy toe-poked a shot narrowly wide after a smart run by Taylor and then Fry scored his second, which effectively decided the outcome. Nice play from Crumb and Taylor led to Fry receiving the ball on the edge of the box. He aimed for the left corner of the net and found it.

Town have been harshly dealt with this season as far as penalties go. They have sometimes been given unjustly against the team and none in the team's favour. Until now. Ellis's long throw squirted out beyond the far post and Taylor decided to retrieve it. In tussling for the ball with Keenan Mastouras the ball struck the Welton player's arm. Maybe a bit of a lucky one. Jake Llewellyn was on the bench so Taylor took the spot kick and scored low to the keeper's right.

Welton now seemed short of self-belief, giving the ball away carelessly, and Town looked like running riot. Crumb was winning more than his fair share of balls in the air and from his knock down Conor Bryant spun and shot but Dunk saved at the second attempt.

The fourth goal was created by the clever and influential Fry. His curving ball into the area was too good for the defenders

but inviting to both Crumb and Taylor. Crumb wasn't able to make contact with the ball but Taylor did and his side footed half volley ripped into the top of the net.

Fry then surprised us all by missing the target with a free kick. Mind you it only missed by inches!

Town were looking relentless and number five sealed a cracking performance. Ellis was masterful throughout the game and his thumping defensive header cleared the labouring Welton back line and Taylor went after it. The keeper came out but Taylor rammed the ball to the keeper's left for his third goal. That is now 8 goals for Town's top marksman.

This report hasn't described a save from Jake Viney yet. That is because he didn't have to make one until the 79th minute. Regula finally got one on target from 15 yards but it was easy enough for Viney to dive to his right and clutch the low shot.

Mike Duffy and Ellis could have added to Welton's pain but both missed the target. Five goals was enough. Great entertainment and good refereeing from Kevin Slade.



M-o-t-M was hat-trick hero Jack Taylor pictured with chairman Adrian Byrne

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***Proud Sponsors of Bridgwater Town FC
C'mon Bridgy give us a win!***

TWL PREMIER DIVISION STANDINGS

@ Wednesday 04 November 2020

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pts
1 PLYMOUTH PARKWAY	13	11	2	0	40	35
2 TAVISTOCK	11	8	1	2	16	25
3 CRIBBS	12	7	2	3	8	23
4 STREET	13	7	1	5	7	22
5 EXMOUTH TOWN	10	7	0	3	13	21
6 CLEVEDON TOWN	12	6	3	3	5	21
7 BUCKLAND ATHLETIC	15	6	3	6	1	21
8 WESTBURY UNITED	10	6	2	2	7	20
9 BITTON	8	6	0	2	16	18
10 BRADFORD TOWN	12	5	3	4	2	18
11 ROMAN GLASS ST GEORGE	11	6	0	5	2	18
12 BRIDGWATER TOWN	11	5	1	5	-2	16
13 SHEPTON MALLET	10	3	4	3	-2	13
14 CADBURY HEATH	10	4	0	6	-5	12
15 BRISLINGTON	10	3	2	5	-7	11
16 ODD DOWN	12	3	1	8	-20	10
17 KEYNSHAM TOWN	11	2	3	6	-7	9
19 HALLEN	13	2	3	8	-10	9
18 WELLINGTON	13	2	3	8	-16	9
20 BRIDPORT	9	1	0	8	-23	3
21 CHIPPING SODBURY TOWN	10	0	2	8	-25	2

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MIKE DUFFY

Home: Mike Moran

TOM ELLIS

Home: Nick Crocker & Sue Chilcott

JAKE LLEWELLYN

Home: Wise Buys Weymouth



BRIDGWATER TOWN

FIXTURES SEASON 2020/21

01	Sep	Sat	05	LGE	Away	Buckland Athletic	Lost	2 - 4
02		Tue	08	LGE	Home	CLEVEDON TOWN	Won	2 - 1
03		Sat	19	LGE	Home	HALLEN	Won	2 - 1
04		Tue	22	LGE	Away	Bridport	Lost	0 - 2
05		Sat	26	LGE	Home	EXMOUTH TOWN	Lost	1 - 3
06		Tue	29	LGE	Home	BUCKLAND ATHLETIC	Won	1 - 0
07	Oct	Sat	03	LGE	Away	Westbury United	Drew	2 - 2
08		Tue	06	LGE	Home	WELLINGTON	Won	2 - 1
09		Sat	10	LGE	Away	Plymouth Parkway	Lost	1 - 4
10		Sat	17	LGE	Away	Clevedon Town	Lost	0 - 2
11		Sat	24	LGE	Home	CHIPPING SODBURY TOWN	Won	5 - 0
12	Dec	Sat	12	LGE	Home	BRADFORD TOWN	OFF - TBA	
13		Tue	15	LGE	Home	PLYMOUTH PARKWAY	OFF - TBA	
14		Sat	19	LGE	Home	BITTON (or FAV R3)		
15		Sat	05	LGE	Away	Odd Down		
16		Sat	26	LGE	Away	Street	12.00	
17		Mon	28	LGE	Away	Bitton	15.00	
18	Jan	Sat	02	LGE	Home	WESTBURY UNITED		
19		Sat	09	LGE	Away	Cadbury Heath		
20		Sat	16	LGE	Home	ROMAN GLASS ST GEORGE		
21		Wed	20	LGE	Away	Wellington	19.45	
22		Sat	23	LGE	Home	BRIDPORT		
23		Tue	26	LGE	Away	Cribbs	19.45	
24	Feb	Tue	02	LGE	Home	CADBURY HEATH	19.45	
25		Sat	06	LGE	Away	Keynsham Town		
26		Sat	20	LGE	Home	SHEPTON MALLET		
27		Wed	24	LGE	Away	Roman Glass St George	19.30	
28		Sat	27	LGE	Home	ODD DOWN		
29	Mar	Sat	06	LGE	Away	Chipping Sodbury Town		
30		Sat	13	LGE	Home	CRIBBS		
31		Sat	20	LGE	Away	Tavistock		
32		Sat	27	LGE	Away	Brislington		
33	Apr	Fri	02	LGE	Home	STREET	Good Friday	
34		Mon	05	LGE	Away	Exmouth Town	Easter Monday	
35		Sat	10	LGE	Home	KEYNSHAM TOWN		
36		Sat	17	LGE	Away	Bradford Town		
37		Sat	24	LGE	Away	Shepton Mallet		
38	May	Sat	01	LGE	Home	TAVISTOCK		
39		Sat	08	LGE	Home	BRISLINGTON		
40		Sat	15	LGE	Away	Hallen		

CUP FIXTURES

EP	Sep	Tue	01	FAC	Away	Millbrook	Won	1 - 0
PR		Sat	12	FAC	Home	BITTON	Lost	2 - 3
R1	Oct	Sat	31	FAV	Home	WELTON ROVERS	Won	5 - 0
R2	Dec	Sat	05	FAV	Home	ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN		
R3		Sat	19	FAV				
SF	Mar	Tue	23	LPC	Home	TAVISTOCK (from season 2019/20)	19.45	

BTFC PLAYER STATS

14 games / 31/10/20	App	Sub	Gls
MARK ARMSTRONG	13		1
RYAN BRERETON	2		
CONOR BRYANT	4	4	1
JAMES COTTRILL		3	
SAM CRUMB	2		2
MIKE DUFFY	9	2	1
TOM ELLIS	10		1
TOM FRY	4		3
TYNE GOVIER	1	4	
JORDAN GREENWOOD	11		
ADNAN HIROLI	10	3	1
JAKE HORSEY	2	1	
LIAM KINGSTON	1		
BEN KIRK		2	
JAKE LLEWELLYN	8	1	1
OLLIE MORRIS	11	1	
GEORGE PAINTER	7		
DAVE PEARSE	1	2	
ARCHIE STURDY	6	2	1
JACK TAYLOR	13		8
DAVE THORNE	7	2	
SAM TOWLER	12		3
JAKE VINEY	13		
JOSH WADHAM	4		2
FINLEY WILKINSON	1	1	
JOSH WILLIAMS	1	1	
	Own goals		1

Also registered

KARL BAGGALEY	CHRIS MCGRATH
MEHDI BAKOURA	LUKE PURSER
REECE BANNISTER	MATT REDMAN
HARRY HAMBLIN	RYAN TURNER
LEWIS HEMBREY	ANDY VENNING
PAUL JEHANNO	CALLUM WATTS
MARCUS JONES	JAMIE WILSON
STEVE LAKER	

No longer with the club

JAKE MAWFORD	1
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The ROBINS NEST Club Shop

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And if he hasn't already got just what you are searching for, he will do his best to try and get it for you.



WE'VE MET BEFORE!

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN

		P	W	D	L	Gd	Pts
1	FLACKWELL HEATH	7	6	0	1	12	18
2	BINFIELD	7	5	2	0	11	17
3	READING CITY	8	5	2	1	7	17
4	BISHOPS CLEEVE	8	5	0	3	7	15
5	FAIRFORD TOWN	7	4	1	2	6	13
6	HOLMER GREEN	8	4	1	3	3	13
7	EASINGTON SPORTS	7	4	0	3	1	12
8	BRIMSCOMBE & T	5	3	2	0	12	11
9	VIRGINIA WATER	7	3	2	2	2	11
10	LONGLEVENS	6	2	3	1	2	9
11	BURNHAM	7	2	3	2	-3	9
12	TUFFLEY ROVERS	7	2	0	5	-9	6
13	WINDSOR	8	1	2	5	-4	5
14	LYDNEY TOWN	6	1	2	3	-6	5
15	WESTFIELDS	4	1	1	2	-2	4
16	ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN	7	0	4	3	-6	4
17	ARDLEY UNITED	9	1	1	7	-10	4
18	SHRIVENHAM	8	1	0	7	-23	3

League positions:

Above: 2020-21 at the start of latest lockdown period

Below: 2019-20 at time of abandonment

		P	W	D	L	Gd	Pts
1	WESTFIELDS	26	20	6	0	57	66
2	BINFIELD	22	17	2	3	32	53
3	FAIRFORD TOWN	23	16	1	6	20	49
4	SHRIVENHAM	27	13	4	10	1	43
5	BRACKLEY TN STS	27	12	2	13	3	38
6	LONGLEVENS	25	11	4	10	11	37
7	BURNHAM	27	12	1	14	0	37
8	EASINGTON SPTS	23	11	3	9	0	36
9	FLACKWELL HEATH	24	9	6	9	1	33
10	READING CITY	26	9	6	11	-3	33
11	WINDSOR	26	9	5	12	-2	32
12	LYDNEY TOWN	25	9	5	11	-6	32
13	BISHOPS CLEEVE	21	9	4	8	16	31
14	VIRGINIA WATER	26	8	5	13	-6	29
15	TUFFLEY ROVERS	21	7	7	7	-3	28
16	ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN	27	8	4	15	-15	28
17	BRIMSCOMBE & T	24	6	9	9	-13	27
18	ARDLEY UNITED	26	5	8	13	-30	23
19	HOLMER GREEN	26	2	4	20	-63	10

We have not had any previous meetings between the two clubs and our opponents remain very much an unknown quantity.

To reach this stage of the FA Vase competition Wootton have defeated Stonehouse Town (1-0) and Camelford (4-0) but since both of their opponents are equally unknown to us this does not provide much of a gauge.

In the Hellenic League Premier Division this season the club is currently placed low in the table. However, in the FA Cup, Oxford City (who recently took the scalp of Northampton Town and play in the National League South) had to work very hard to get a narrow 2-1 victory against them. It seems, therefore that we underestimate them at our peril.

TJ Bohane is their leading marksman with four goals, two of which he scored against Camelford. Tom Culdrige has bagged three.



PICTURE: GOOGLE IMAGES

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN FC

BRIEF CLUB HISTORY

**SITUATED SIX MILES FROM SWINDON,
ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB
WAS FIRST ESTABLISHED IN 1882, MAKING THE
CLUB ONE OF THE OLDEST IN WILTSHIRE.**



The club's early achievements came in the Wiltshire Senior Cup, making the final in both 1902/03 and 1903/04, although losing both.

The club folded for a period pre-World War 1 before re-forming in the Calne & District League when it began playing at the Gerard Buxton Sports Ground which had been donated by a local dignitary for sporting activities within the town and opened in 1930.

Early successes included winning the Calne and District League in the 1930/31 season, having finished runners-up the previous season, and then again in 1934/35.

Following a move up to the Wiltshire League Division 2 promotion was earned again the following season and the team then remained in the top division in the county until the outbreak of World War 2.

After the war Wootton Bassett Town F.C. recommenced in the County League with limited success until 1958/59 when they won their first Wiltshire League title. In 1987/88 the Wiltshire League Division 1 title was won, elevating the club into the Hellenic League, where they have remained ever since. The club finally won the Wiltshire Senior Cup in 1998/99 and repeated this achievement in 2000/01. The club have had three spells in the Hellenic Premier and gained promotion back in 2012/13.

Since the onset of the new millennium the club has expanded significantly, with the establishment of a thriving Youth Section, a

very successful Ladies Section and Veteran's Section. The club now operates 30 teams from U7s upwards. All now play their games at the relocated Gerard Buxton Sports Ground, which opened in mid-2015.

This growth led to the club being awarded Charter Standard Development Club status by the Football Association in 2008 before this was upgraded to Community Club status a year later. Wootton Bassett Town FC was the first club in Wiltshire to achieve this.

International ties have also been established with Dutch amateur side FC 's-Gravenzande who sides from the club's Youth Section visit each year.

Season 2020/21 sees Sam Collier in charge of the First Team for his third full season having taken over part way through Season 2017/18 and he will be assisted by Matt Bulman. In addition, the coaching staff at the club has been greatly enhanced with the addition of former Swindon Town player Tom Jones as the First Team coach.

The more professional approach to training and preparation that Tom brings to the club means this season Royal Wootton Bassett Town will be aiming to improve greatly on last season's showing and hopefully improve on Season 2018/19's highest ever finish of 10th place in the UHlsport Hellenic League Premier Division, as well as going a long way in the various cup competitions.

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Royal Wootton Bassett Town



Harrison Ellis

Goal Keeper

Goalkeeper who joins Royal Wootton Bassett Town from Fairford for whom he made 24 appearances last season having previously been with Carterton and Shrivenham.



Sam Ockwell

Defence

Captain of Shrivenham for the past two seasons, returns for his third spell with the club and offers composure on the ball as well as a robust presence at centre half.



Kyle Lapham

Defence

Experienced defender who made over 300 appearances for Swindon Supermarine having started at Swindon Town as a youngster. Also, previously with Cirencester Town and Dandenong Thunder (Australia).



Adam Corcoran

Defence

Imposing defender with the ability to play either at centre half or full back who last season went past the 200 appearances for the club landmark.



George Ford

Defence

A product of the club's Youth Section who made a big impact in the Dev side earning him his First Team call-up last season. A member of Bassett's 2018-19 County Cup winning U16 side.



Adam Flint

Defence

Recent signing who made his Bassett debut at home to Reading City and has previously played for Salisbury, Paulton Rovers, Hungerford Town and Bashley
Image Upload



Carl Evans

Defence

Experienced defender who plays for the RAF Senior Representative side, a powerful centre-back or striker now in his fourth season with the club.



Jon Beeden

Defence

Solid defender who re-joined the club last season having spent recent seasons with Chippenham Town in the National League South and Thatcham Town in the Southern League.



Daniel Bailey

Defence

A graduate of the Hungerford Town Academy who is on loan from his hometown club looking to get some Step 5 experience and more playing time with a view to playing in the National League South.



David Bampton

Defence

Experienced former Swindon Town defender who also played for Tamworth and Worcester in the Conference and was most recently with Swindon Supermarine in the Southern League.



Iggy Illott

Midfield

Hard working midfielder player who re-joins the club having first played for us back in 2018-19 when he made 21 appearances. Previously with Letcombe and Thatcham Town.



Giorgio Wrona

Midfield

Last season's captain who has now made 118 appearances for the club ahead of the new season. Experienced at this level as previously with Swindon Supermarine, North Leigh, Larkhall and Thatcham Town.



Chris Taylor

Midfield

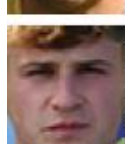
Classy midfielder who spent the majority of his career with Swindon Supermarine but has also featured for Cirencester Town, Highworth Town and also made four substitute appearances for Swindon Town at the start of his career.



Tommy Ouldrige

Midfield

Hard working player who started with Swindon Town and had loan spells with Chippenham Town and Cirencester Town. Has also played for Hungerford Town and is on loan to us from Swindon Supermarine.



Kai Robinson

Forward

Hard working tenacious centre midfield player previously with Wantage Town who returned to Bassett part-way through last season after a long absence due to injury.



Mark Francis

Forward

Joined the club last season from Didcot Town and previously with Wantage Town, Salisbury and Evesham United. A hard-working striker with a natural eye for goal.



Jack Baker

Forward

Another promising youngster who featured for Chippenham Town Academy and Devizes Town in the Western League last season, making 12 appearances.



Jack Stirland

Forward

Forward who was part of the Hungerford Town squad when gaining promotion to the National League South. Arrives having studied at University of Leeds where he was football captain.



TJ Bohane

Forward

Prolific goal scorer who re-joined Royal Wootton Bassett Town at the back end of last season from Highworth Town. Our top scorer back in Season 2018-19 with 20 goals.



Brad Pagliaroli

Forward

After a frustrating 2019-20 due to injury and suspension skilful forward returns for a third season at the Gerard Buxton Sports Ground. Popular player who was Players' and Supporters' Player of the Year in 2018-19.

A picture series based on former Football League players, who over the years have donned the colours of BRIDGWATER TOWN

BTFC LEAGUE BOOTS

**Jimmy
Crawford**



Jimmy was born in Bellshill, near Motherwell in Scotland in 1930, however he grew up in Corby after his father moved down to work in the giant steelworks set up there.

He signed for (then) Second Division, Leicester City on 1st October 1947 but National Service in the RAF intervened before he could make a first team appearance.

He was posted to Somerset, possibly to RAF Westonzoyland and joined Bridgwater Town AFC for the maiden 1949 season in the Western League. Whether by accident or design he was listed as Jimmy Campbell in newspaper reports and official programmes. In his one season at the club he made 26 appearances and top scored with 18 goals including hat tricks in both fixtures with Radstock Town.

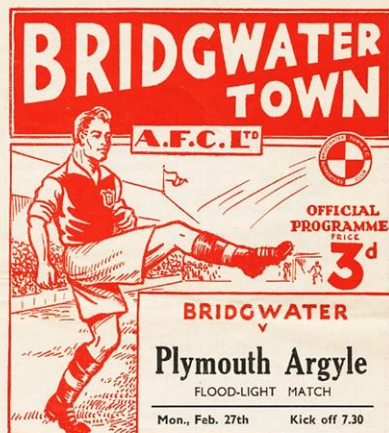


Jimmy returned to his parent club when his RAF days ended and made his League debut for the Foxes in a 0-0 draw with Grimsby Town on Boxing Day 1950. In all Jimmy made 11 appearances for them including playing against Manchester City, Notts Forest and Birmingham City and was only on the losing side twice. He scored 2 goals but was regarded as a fringe player and never really had a settled run in the side.

He was transferred to Second Division, Plymouth Argyle in March 1954 and made his debut at inside right in a 2-2 draw with Hull City at Home Park watched by 17,950 spectators. Initially he was a great success and had a starring role in Argyle's 1954 tour of the USA, taking part in all ten fixtures, including two exhibition matches with Borussia Dortmund and scoring 6 goals. However, once again he slipped down the pecking order and in total made just 26 league appearances with the longest run being six consecutive matches. He scored four goals including two in a 5-0 Boxing Day 1955 victory over Bristol City.

In the winter of 1956 with Argyle struggling against relegation and wishing to release players in order to bring in new blood it was agreed that he should return to Bridgwater on loan with a view to a permanent signing the following season. As part of the agreement a floodlit fixture, in which he played, was arranged with Argyle and drew a crowd of 2000 to Castlefield. Plymouth won the fixture by 2-1.

However, at the eleventh hour Peterborough United stepped in with a full-time contact offer, which would permit him a return to the East Midlands and he signed for the Posh instead. Jimmy spent two seasons at Peterborough making 24 appearances and adding one goal to his tally.



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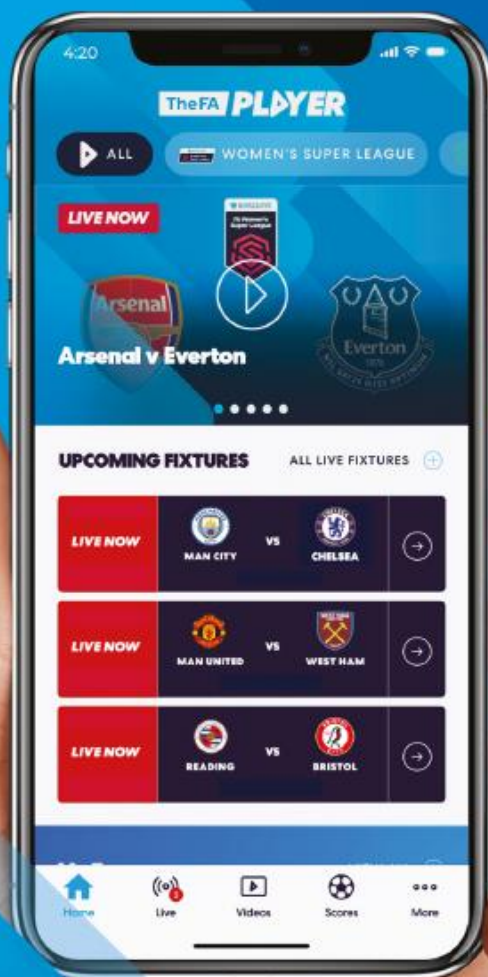
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GROUND REGULATIONS



Persons entering the ground must abide by the Ground Regulations displayed in the clubhouse and printed in the match-day programme. Failure to do so may result in ejection from the premises and a ban from attending any future events.

Admission to and the right to remain within the grounds is strictly on condition that any person attending **SHALL NOT** commit any of the following acts.

1. Fail to comply with the directions given by a Steward, Club Official or Police Officer
2. Encroachment onto the playing area or its adjoining parts
3. Climb on any building, wall or fence
4. Throw any object onto the pitch or within the spectator areas
5. Light any firework or flare
6. Chant or sing any song of an obscene, indecent, discriminatory or offensive nature
7. Use obscene, indecent, discriminatory, offensive or threatening language
8. Make an obscene or insulting gesture
9. Behave in a threatening manner
10. Damage or deface any Club property including any notice or advertisement within the Club premises
11. Consume alcohol, except in the designated bar area, unless a specific and authorised waiver is issued
12. Bring, or attempt to bring, alcohol to the stadium
13. Fail to control and take responsibility for the behaviour of minors attending with them.

THE CLUB RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ADMISSION TO ANY PERSON

All vehicles and their contents are left entirely at the owner's/user's risk at the grounds. The Club accepts no responsibility or liability whatsoever for any loss or damage to vehicles or their contents, or any other personal property brought onto the Club's premises.

*If you're hungry and want a treat,
The Robins Café
is the place to eat.*

*Delicious food cooked on the day...
It's all so good you'll want to stay.*

*Hot & Cold food and drinks served with a cheery
word and a smile by Sue and the girls.*

The Faggot, Chips & Peas is famous throughout the league!

A journey with Jim.

All photos taken by
the late Mr Jim Perry.



Didn't we have a louverly time... the day we went to



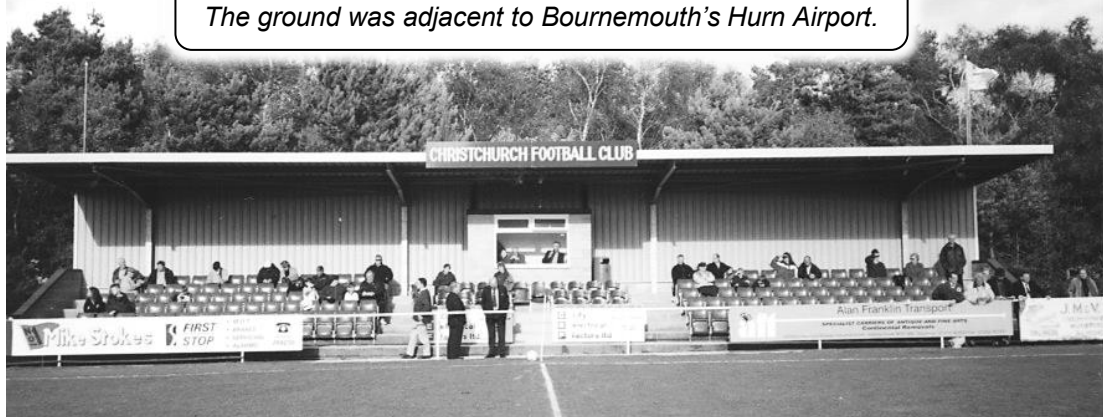
Saturday 23rd October 1999

FA VASE 1st ROUND

CHRISTCHURCH 1
BRIDGWATER TOWN 0



*(Above) The impressive clubhouse at Hurn Bridge.
The ground was adjacent to Bournemouth's Hurn Airport.*



The team that day was: I Pople, Dyer, Winter, C Rice, Copeland, Graddon, Stearns, D Pople, Lewis, Francis, Milford. *Subs: Antonelli, Williams, Wheadon, Strange, Bowering.*



(Left) President, Keith Setter with Chairman, Steve French and Treasurer, Gordon Nelson at the journey pitstop at the Struan Country House, Ringwood.

The 'Town team was floored by an injury time winner just 23 seconds from the end of a game that it had dominated. The Bridgwater line-up was without leading goalscorer, Richard Hill, who had decided to re-join Barnstaple Town and showed several first team regulars rested for a game, which the club was quite confident of winning.

Wessex Leaguers, Christchurch with the slope and wind in their favour started brightly and forced several early corners. The swirling wind caused problems for both teams but eventually the Robins' settled and began to get on top but were unable to finish any of the many of the half-chances that were created.

With the slope advantage in the second half Bridgwater piled forward and Justin Lewis, Matt Francis, Julian Stearns and Dave Pople all went close to breaking the deadlock.

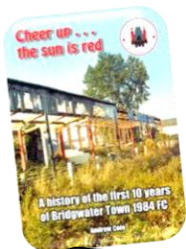
For all the visitors' attempts on goal it was Christchurch who eventually succeeded in scoring. The killer blow came with extra-time looking a certainty. A low cross from the left wing looked to be going safely wide when Pete King dived at full stretch to send the merest glances of a header wide of the clutches of a diving Ian Pople and into the corner of the net. It was a cruel way for Bridgwater's Vase hopes to be cut short.



(Left) Danny Milford, Jon Bowering (the newly appointed player-manager) and Marc Antonelli look in sombre mood after the disappointing exit from the FA Vase.

(Right) Jamie Winter, Colin Paczoski, Peter Copeland & Tony Rice chat in the clubhouse bar after the match.





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The first three instalments of the combined history of Bridgwater Town AFC and Bridgwater Town (1984) FC.

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Book 1: Cheer up... the sun is red

Charts the first ten years of the current Club: from the struggle to maintain senior football in the town, to the Club successfully gaining entry to the Western League.

Book 2: Throbbin' their own sweet song...

This edition chronicles the ten-year managership of Peter Thomas (1965 to 1975), who steered his charges through what many consider to be the most successful period in Bridgwater's senior footballing history.

Book 3: Rockin' Robins...

The latest volume covers the unsettled years which separated Book 1 from Book 2. This period was to see five managers and three chairmen in the space of nine seasons, a dramatic drop in support and the eventual voluntary liquidation of Bridgwater Town AFC.

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MATCH SQUADS

Please note the players are listed in alphabetical order and the actual line-ups will be announced and made available before the game



BRIDGWATER TOWN *from*

MARK ARMSTRONG ©
MEHDI BAKOURA
REECE BANNISTER (GK)
CONOR BRYANT
SAM CRUMB
MIKE DUFFY
TOM ELLIS
TOM FRY

TYNE GOVIER
JORDAN GREENWOOD
PAUL JEHANNO
MARCUS JONES
ADNAN HIROLI
JAKE LLEWELLYN
OLLIE MORRIS
GEORGE PAINTER

ARCHIE STURDY
JACK TAYLOR
DAVE THORNE
SAM TOWLER
JAKE VINEY (GK)
JAMIE WILSON

Management: Karl Baggaley & Dave Pearse

Coach: Josh Crook / Therapist: Jeremy Frost-Wilson

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN *from*

DANIEL BAILEY
JACK BAKER
DAVID BAMPTON
JON BEEDEN
TJ BOHANE
ADAM CORCORAN
ALEX DINSMORE
HARRISON ELLIS (GK)

CARL EVANS
ADAM FLINT
GEORGE FORD
MARK FRANCIS
IGGY ILLOTT
KYLE LAPHAM
SAM OCKWELL
TOMMY OULDRIDGE

BRAD PAGLIAROLI
KAI ROBINSON
ZAC SKINNER
JACK STIRLAND
CHRIS TAYLOR
GIO WRONA

Manager: Sam Collier / Assistant: Matt Bulman

Coach: Tom Jones / Therapist: Chris Chadwick

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: _____

Assistants: _____

(To Be Announced)

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT...
WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AGAIN SOON!