



# THE ROBINS



THE  
BUILDBASE  
FA VASE



**Abridged online version**



Buildbase FA Vase Round 1 | Saturday 31 October 2020

Welcome to Fairfax Park

## WELTON ROVERS



Season 2020/21  
#10



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# FROM THE DUG OUT



*'Good afternoon all...*

It was great to get back to winning ways last Saturday, scoring five, a clean sheet and three points is just what we needed.

Equally good was to have something approaching a full squad available with just three (Ryan Brereton, Josh Williams and Chris McGrath) sidelined.

Hopefully the players can all stay fit and ensure that we start our FA Vase campaign with a win today. Welton are top of division one and unbeaten so we are expecting a really tough test.

More of your usual fantastic support will make all the difference.

**C'mon Bridgy!**

*Pearsey*

## **EXTRA CONTENT IN THE 64-PAGE PRINTED PROGRAMME ON SALE AT THE GAME...**

**BTFC / WRFC 10-season FA Vase comparison.**

**A brief history of The FA Vase.**

**Buildbase FA Vase 2nd Qualifying Round stats.**

**MH's 'Memorable Match' & 'Water Under The Bridge'.**

**This week's Exclusive Non-League Paper programme article.**

**Football isn't just a game?**

**And... an additional supplement (Extra Bedtime Reading!)  
containing 6 general interest football articles!**



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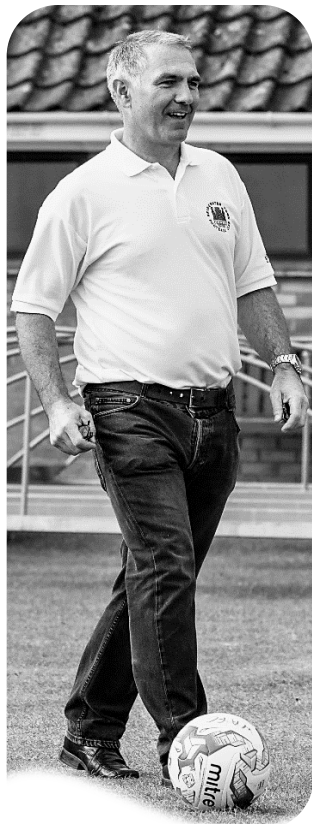
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*Adrian Byrne*  
Club Chairman  
***Come on  
Bridgy!***

# CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME



**On behalf of the club it gives me great pleasure today to extend a warm Bridgwater welcome to our visitors, Welton Rovers FC.**

We hope their supporters, players and officials enjoyed a stress-free journey getting here this afternoon and a safe journey home. We of course extend our welcome to the match officials today, too.

Today's fixture is the 1st round proper of the Buildbase FA Vase: an all-Western League tie of this prestigious non-league cup.

We go into this game confident, of course, buoyed by a terrific win last time out, winning 5-0 at home to Chipping Sodbury.

Hopeful Karl, Dave and the players can continue the "Magic of the Cup" and get a result for us today to put us in the hat for the next round.

It is always nice to get a home draw in any cup, but we still have our work cut out today. Welton Rovers currently sit unbeaten atop the Western League first division so they will fancy their chances of a cup upset - it will be a tough, competitive game for us for sure.

I appeal once more to our loyal fans - you have been terrific this season - please be vocal in your support of the team again today and, above all, enjoy the game.

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



*We are in the fortunate position of being allowed spectators at our football matches. Clubs have worked hard to abide by the Government guidance so fans can come into grounds. But spectators also have a part to play. Please follow the Covid-19 regulations issued by the Government. Maintain social distancing at matches.*

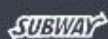
*If YOU play your part then we can all continue to enjoy watching live football where it should be watched – in grounds and not on television.*

*Please help us to **PLAY THE GAME or LOSE THE GAME!***



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# Bridgwater Town 1984 Football Club

Is an Unincorporated Members' Club

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <i>Chairman</i>                               | Adrian Byrne        |
| <i>Vice Chairman<br/>&amp; Commercial</i>     | Bob Buckingham      |
| <i>Hon. Treasurer</i>                         | Paul Welham         |
| <i>Football Secretary</i>                     | Kerry Miller        |
| <i>Marketing Manager</i>                      | Giuseppe Fraschini  |
| <i>Welfare Officer</i>                        | Ian Barber          |
| <i>Club Photographer<br/>&amp; Designated</i> | Debbie Gould        |
| <i>Covid-19 Officer</i>                       |                     |
| <i>Fan Liaison Officer</i>                    | Alan King           |
| <i>Committee</i>                              | Andrew Cattle       |
|   | Will Rich           |
| <i>Social Club Manager</i>                    | Marc Crisp          |
| <i>Bar Member</i>                             | Corinne Bowdige     |
| <i>Matchday Catering</i>                      | Sue Chilcott        |
|   | Chloe Rich          |
| <i>Groundsman</i>                             | Nick Crocker        |
| <i>Assistants</i>                             | Eddie Pike          |
|   | & Bill Baker        |
| <i>Social Media</i>                           | Ben Dennison        |
| <i>Matchday Announcer</i>                     | Mark Hollidge       |
| <i>Club Shop</i>                              | Will Pilborough     |
| <i>Life Members</i>                           | Peter Besley        |
|   | Peter Criddle       |
|   | Alan Hurford        |
|   | Eddie Pike          |
|   | Keith Setter        |
|   | Sally Wright        |
| <i>First Team</i>                             | Karl Baggaley       |
| <i>Joint Managers</i>                         | & Dave Pearse       |
| <i>Sports Therapist</i>                       | Jeremy Frost-Wilson |
| <i>Coach</i>                                  | Josh Crook          |
| <i>GK Coach</i>                               |                     |
| <i>Team BTC/BTFC</i>                          |                     |
| <i>U18 Manager</i>                            | Mo Hopkins          |

## 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.

**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.

**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 Cottrill:** 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.

**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 Division 1 S&W play-off final in 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.

**Josh Wadham:** Josh is a talented and exciting forward who, after a season with our club in 2014/15, has gained experience at Bideford, Willand Rovers and Wellington and was part the Street squad that won the Toolstation Western League title by a wide margin in season 2018/19.

**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.

## PLAYER SPONSORS

**JAKE VINEY**

Home: **Debbie Gould**

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**TOM ELLIS**

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**JAKE LLEWELLYN**

Home: **Wise Buys Weymouth**

## IN THE DUGOUT

**Karl Baggaley:** Joint Manager

**Josh Crook:** Coach

**Jeremy Frost-Wilson:** Sports Therapist

# ACTION REPLAY

Toolstation Western League Premier Division  
Fairfax Park, Bridgwater / Attendance: 231

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



## Bridgwater Town 5, Chipping Sodbury 0

### Bridgwater squad:

Jake Viney

Dave Thorne

Jordan Greenwood

Mark Armstrong  
(Adnan Hiroli 68)

George Painter

Tom Ellis

Tom Fry  
(Ben Kirk 79)

Sam Towler

Sam Crumb  
(Mike Duffy 62)

Archie Sturdy

Conor Bryant

**Subs not used:**

Tyne Govier

Ollie Morris

## CRUMB'S OF COMFORT AND TOWN ARE FRY-ING TONIGHT!

Recent signings Sam Crumb and Tom Fry took centre stage as Town eventually overpowered and outplayed the division's bottom club *writes Mark Hollidge.*

Crumb crowned his impressive debut with the two goals that put Town in charge and Fry's home debut was utterly scintillating. He was integral and instrumental in almost all the best parts of Town's display.

Town won at a canter in the end but the first half hour was even. Town lofted several high balls towards their new target man and Crumb showed that he knew how to win the ball in the air. However, the visitors showed that they could move the ball around and a fierce shot on the run from Josh Combe only cleared the bar by a foot.

Town had the ball in the net after 11 minutes when Tom Ellis headed in a Fry free kick but the whistle had blown for a foul.

10 minutes later Fry had another go with a free kick and he struck the inside of the left post with goalkeeper Josh Langley motionless.

Town's threat was increasing and they took the lead with 10 minutes to play in the first half. Fry passed across the edge of the box from left to right towards Crumb. Showing commendable confidence he shot first time and his low drive found the right corner of the net.

Chipping Sodbury then caused some flutters when a cross flashed across the Town area and Justin Bishop just missed turning it in at the far post.

The second goal came courtesy of the long throw prowess of Ellis. His throw reached the 6 yard box. When the ball fell to ground Crumb instantly met it with a sharp left footed half volley which flew past and through the packed goalmouth, giving Langley no chance.

The half ended as Fry's dipping long range free kick forced Langley to push the ball over.

One sensed that Town would ram home their advantage in the second half and almost immediately the hard-pressed Langley had to make a double save from Fry and Sam Towler. However play then switched down the other end as Chipping Sodbury sent out a warning. Jake Slocombe, at the far post, headed over when he should have scored.

A hot spell of three goals in 18 minutes put Town out of sight. Fry crowned his virtuoso efforts with a deserved goal. His corner kick was cleared back to him and he drilled the ball low and hard towards

the near post and the visitors couldn't keep it out.

Archie Sturdy and Conor Bryant both had shots which went wide before the visitors were reduced to 10 men. Will Davidson had a hack at Bryant and was sent off for a second yellow card.

Within a minute Town had made their numerical superiority count. Towler was sent clear in oceans of space. His first shot was parried by the deserving Langley but his second shot was placed wide of him.

Jake Viney, not having much to do, fancied joining in the fun and his wind assisted clearance had to be pushed over the bar by the back pedalling Langley. But Town's keeper was soon feeling relieved when a deflected shot by Josh Pandolfino struck the outside of the post.

Ellis's long throw was again a factor in the final strike. If anything, this one didn't quite have the trajectory of his best ones but Adnan Hiroli twisted his body and his headed flick somehow found the net.

Things went from bad to worse for the Sods. A bad foul, a tackle from behind on Mike Duffy, resulted in substitute Keane Ashwood receiving a red card. There were only a few minutes left and the nine men managed to stop Town from adding to their tally.

A good, positive, afternoon for the Robins who will now approach the FA Vase match next week with more confidence. Well done to all those responsible for the inspired signings of Messrs Fry and Crumb!



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Sunday: Closed

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# TWL PREMIER DIVISION STANDINGS

@ Wednesday 28 October 2020

|                           | P         | W        | D        | L        | Gd        | Pts       |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 PLYMOUTH PARKWAY        | 12        | 10       | 2        | 0        | 32        | 32        |
| 2 STREET                  | 12        | 7        | 1        | 4        | 15        | 22        |
| 3 TAVISTOCK               | 10        | 7        | 1        | 2        | 14        | 22        |
| 4 CLEVEDON TOWN           | 12        | 6        | 3        | 3        | 5         | 21        |
| 5 BUCKLAND ATHLETIC       | 15        | 6        | 3        | 6        | 1         | 21        |
| 6 CRIBBS                  | 11        | 6        | 2        | 3        | 6         | 20        |
| 7 BITTON                  | 8         | 6        | 0        | 2        | 16        | 18        |
| 8 EXMOUTH TOWN            | 9         | 6        | 0        | 3        | 11        | 18        |
| 9 BRADFORD TOWN           | 12        | 5        | 3        | 4        | 2         | 18        |
| 10 ROMAN GLASS ST GEORGE  | 11        | 6        | 0        | 5        | 2         | 18        |
| 11 WESTBURY UNITED        | 9         | 5        | 2        | 2        | 6         | 17        |
| <b>12 BRIDGWATER TOWN</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>-2</b> | <b>16</b> |
| 13 SHEPTON MALLET         | 10        | 3        | 4        | 3        | -2        | 13        |
| 14 CADBURY HEATH          | 10        | 4        | 0        | 6        | -5        | 12        |
| 15 BRISLINGTON            | 9         | 3        | 2        | 4        | -5        | 11        |
| 16 ODD DOWN               | 11        | 3        | 1        | 7        | -18       | 10        |
| 17 KEYNSHAM TOWN          | 11        | 2        | 3        | 6        | -7        | 9         |
| 18 WELLINGTON             | 12        | 2        | 3        | 7        | -14       | 9         |
| 19 HALLEN                 | 12        | 1        | 3        | 8        | -15       | 6         |
| 20 BRIDPORT               | 8         | 1        | 0        | 7        | -18       | 3         |
| 21 CHIPPING SODBURY TOWN  | 9         | 0        | 2        | 7        | -24       | 2         |

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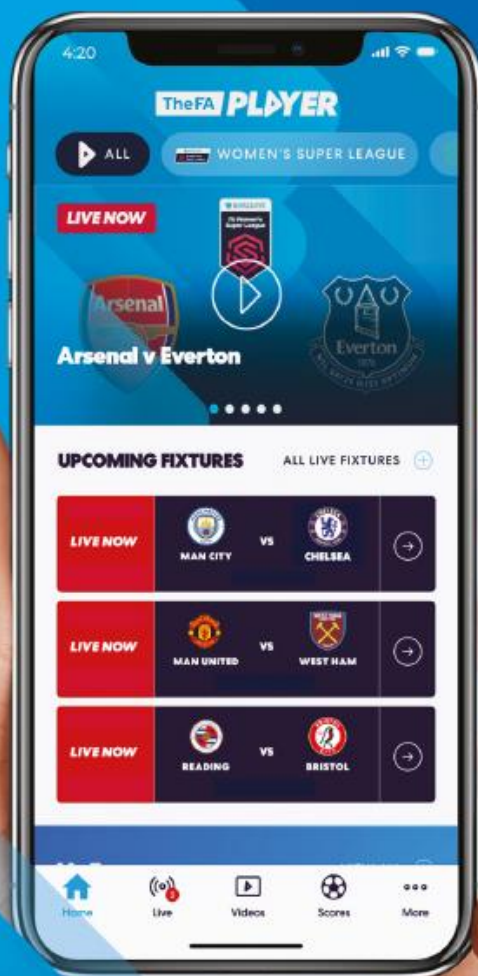
# BRIDGWATER TOWN

## 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 | Nov | Wed | 04 | LGE | Away | Wellington               | 19.45         |       |
| 13 |     | Sat | 07 | LGE | Away | Roman Glass St George    |               |       |
| 14 |     | Tue | 10 | LGE | Away | Bitton                   | 19.30         |       |
| 15 |     | Sat | 14 | LGE | Home | CADBURY HEATH            |               |       |
| 16 |     | Sat | 21 | LGE | Home | PLYMOUTH PARKWAY         |               |       |
| 17 |     | Sat | 28 | LGE | Away | Cribbs - (OR FA VASE R2) |               |       |
| 18 | Dec | Sat | 05 | LGE | Away | Odd Down                 |               |       |
| 19 |     | Sat | 12 | LGE | Home | BRADFORD TOWN            |               |       |
| 20 |     | Sat | 19 | LGE | Home | BITTON                   |               |       |
| 21 |     | Sat | 26 | LGE | Away | Street                   | Boxing Day    |       |
| 22 | Jan | Sat | 02 | LGE | Home | WESTBURY UNITED          |               |       |
| 23 |     | Sat | 09 | LGE | Away | Cadbury Heath            |               |       |
| 24 |     | Sat | 16 | LGE | Home | ROMAN GLASS ST GEORGE    |               |       |
| 25 |     | Sat | 23 | LGE | Home | BRIDPORT                 |               |       |
| 26 | Feb | Sat | 06 | LGE | Away | Keynsham Town            |               |       |
| 27 |     | Sat | 20 | LGE | Home | SHEPTON MALLET           |               |       |
| 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                   |       |       |
| R2 | Nov | Sat | 28 | FAV |      |                                 |       |       |
| SF | Mar | Tue | 23 | LPC | Home | TAVISTOCK (from season 2019/20) | 19.45 |       |



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# BTFC PLAYER STATS

13 games / 24/10/20

|                  | App       | Sub | Gls |
|------------------|-----------|-----|-----|
| MARK ARMSTRONG   | 12        |     | 1   |
| RYAN BRERETON    | 2         |     |     |
| CONOR BRYANT     | 3         | 4   | 1   |
| JAMES COTTRILL   |           | 3   |     |
| SAM CRUMB        | 1         |     | 2   |
| MIKE DUFFY       | 9         | 1   | 1   |
| TOM ELLIS        | 9         |     | 1   |
| TOM FRY          | 3         |     | 1   |
| TYNE GOVIER      | 1         | 4   |     |
| JORDAN GREENWOOD | 10        |     |     |
| ADNAN HIROLI     | 10        | 3   | 1   |
| JAKE HORSEY      | 2         | 1   |     |
| LIAM KINGSTON    | 1         |     |     |
| BEN KIRK         |           | 2   |     |
| JAKE LLEWELLYN   | 8         |     | 1   |
| OLLIE MORRIS     | 11        |     |     |
| GEORGE PAINTER   | 6         |     |     |
| DAVE PEARSE      | 1         | 2   |     |
| ARCHIE STURDY    | 5         | 2   | 1   |
| JACK TAYLOR      | 12        |     | 5   |
| DAVE THORNE      | 6         | 2   |     |
| SAM TOWLER       | 12        |     | 3   |
| JAKE VINEY       | 12        |     |     |
| JOSH WADHAM      | 4         |     | 2   |
| FINLEY WILKINSON | 1         | 1   |     |
| JOSH WILLIAMS    | 1         | 1   |     |
|                  | Own goals |     | 1   |

Also registered

|                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| KARL BAGGALEY   | CHRIS MCGRATH |
| REECE BANNISTER | LUKE PURSER   |
| HARRY HAMBLIN   | MATT REDMAN   |
| LEWIS HEMBREY   | RYAN TURNER   |
| MARCUS JONES    | ANDY VENNING  |
| STEVE LAKER     | CALLUM WATTS  |

Not longer with the club

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| JAKE MAWFORD | 1 |
|--------------|---|

E&OE

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# The ROBINS NEST Club Shop

for all your BTFC gifts and goodies... you will be surprised what he's got in there!

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!

## WELTON ROVERS

|    |     |    |   |   |   |   |     |     |
|----|-----|----|---|---|---|---|-----|-----|
| 23 | Aug | 94 | H | 4 | 2 | Lazenby 2, Howe, Kitchener                | 302 | WL1 |
| 13 | Mar | 95 | A | 1 | 1 | Butt                                      |     | WL1 |
| 25 | Nov | 95 | A | 1 | 1 | Meare                                     |     | WL1 |
| 09 | Dec | 95 | H | 3 | 1 | Hawkins, Kitchener, Pople (D)             | 146 | WL1 |
| 05 | Sep | 98 | H | 5 | 0 | Hill, Laird 2, Underhay, Winter           | 163 | FAC |
| 25 | Sep | 99 | H | 4 | 1 | Francis 2, Hill, Pople (D)                | 146 | FAV |
| 30 | Oct | 99 | H | 2 | 1 | Caldwell, Strange                         | 91  | LPC |
| 03 | Feb | 01 | A | 0 | 1 | AET                                       |     | LPC |
| 24 | Apr | 01 | A | 3 | 2 | Bowering, Spence 2                        |     | WLP |
| 17 | May | 01 | H | 1 | 0 | Bowering                                  |     | WLP |
| 30 | Oct | 01 | H | 1 | 0 | Young                                     | 204 | WLP |
| 29 | Apr | 02 | A | 2 | 1 | Diaz, Young                               | 78  | WLP |
| 10 | Dec | 02 | H | 6 | 0 | Cheeseman 2, Kirk, Milford, Peters, Young | 188 | WLP |
| 15 | Feb | 03 | A | 0 | 0 |   | 110 | WLP |
| 10 | Feb | 04 | A | 1 | 4 | Vaughan                                   | 93  | WLP |
| 27 | Mar | 04 | H | 3 | 1 | Peters, Rice (G) 2                        | 216 | WLP |
| 11 | Sep | 04 | H | 1 | 0 | Kenny                                     | 189 | WLP |
| 19 | Apr | 05 | A | 3 | 1 | Shaxton, Sokol, Young                     | 80  | WLP |
| 08 | Oct | 05 | H | 0 | 2 |   | 174 | WLP |
| 07 | Jan | 06 | A | 0 | 2 |   | 107 | WLP |
| 09 | Sep | 06 | H | 1 | 0 | Mackay                                    | 265 | WLP |
| 10 | Mar | 07 | A | 0 | 1 |   | 115 | WLP |
| 04 | May | 10 | N | 0 | 0 | AET (2-4 pens)                            |     | SPC |
| 27 | Sep | 16 | A | 1 | 0 | Kellow                                    | 66  | SPC |

The two sides have only met in the FA Vase on one occasion before today.

This was back in September 1999 and 'Town were 4-1 victors on the day.

Since our club was reformed the matches have gone strongly in our favour, with fifteen wins as opposed to Welton's six. However, in May 2010 when the two sides met in the Final of the Somerset Premier Cup, played at Yeovil Town FC's Huish Park, our opponents today completed a huge giant killing act when they defeated our then highflying Southern League team in a penalty shootout after the match had finished 0-0 at the end of extra time. Welton's hero that day was their goalkeeper, Tristan Westlake, who saved penalties taken by Ben Kirk and Jak Martin. Admittedly, Bridgwater had had a gruelling end to the season and were leg weary and fielding a patched up side but it was still a shock result.

# WELTON ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB



## HISTORY

Founded as Welton Red Star, in the coal mining town of Midsomer Norton, in 1887, Welton Rovers are five time winners of the Western League and its longest serving members. Rovers' relationship with the Western League began in the 1903/04 season. The club's first few decades saw them triumph in multiple Somerset Senior Cups, and win their first Western League title in 1912, but a failed attempt at professionalism would eventually see the club go bankrupt and unable to compete in the 1923/24 season.

This blip is the only break in Welton's membership of the Western League from 1903 to the modern-day, the club holding the dubious honour of having never been relegated - or promoted - outside of the two division set-up. In the years following World War Two, Welton Rovers FC built the most successful Amateur side in the area with four consecutive Amateur Cup victories, and in Brian Barker, Keith Simmons and Eddie Attwood, the best forward line for miles around.

Rovers' golden period came in the mid-1960s following the appointment, in 1963, of the club's first official manager, former Huddersfield Town and Bristol City striker Arnold Rodgers, and the return to professionalism. Welton became only the second club to win the Western League 3 times in a row - after Portsmouth FC - at the turn of the century, with wins in '65, '66 (undefeated!) & '67.

Potent throughout the time was the club's record goalscorer, Ian Henderson, who scored 321 goals in his spells with Welton. Rovers' triumphs brought with them an inflated reputation and showpiece matches, with the club's best ever FA Cup performance seeing them face AFC Bournemouth (then known as Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic) in 1966 as well as exotic away days for end of season matches against a Guernsey XI in 1965 and to the Costa Brava the following year.

As is often the case, Welton's successes brought excesses and financial problems, and following the departure of Rodgers and 10 of his first-team squad, to Bath City, a period of uncertainty and mediocrity followed. That was until Dave Stone took the managerial reins in 1971 and led Welton to their fourth, and most recent, league title in the 73/74 season.

Other showcases of the early '70s would see Juventus and Leeds United legend John Charles play and score at West Clewes for Merthyr Tydfil in the FA Trophy, and a Rothmans Cup final against now League 1 side Wycombe Wanderers.

The tail end of the 20th century saw Welton trade promotions and relegations, creating many a club legend along the way. Managers such as Geoff Elliott and Steve Coles brought good times, while legendary players like Malcolm Beck and Graham Withey commanded transfer fees to move on to Football League clubs. The 1980s saw huge improvements to facilities with the expansion of the club house - which remains one of the best in the league to this day - and the installation of floodlights in 1988, the erection of which were celebrated with a friendly against Oxford United, then managed by Mark Lawrenson.

The 1990s started with possibly the club's most ridiculous season, finishing rock bottom of the Premier Division and getting through 3 managers. The third of which, Peter De Sisto, brought former Football League players Alan Biley and Gary Stanley to the club, but could only win 3 games all season. As bad as the decade began, it ended on a high with Rovers' locally assembled side winning promotion back to the Premier Division, under the tutelage of Adie Britton.

The past two decades have brought plenty of good times for Rovers' large and vociferous support, known as the Green Army. In 2006, Chris Mountford led Welton to their most successful season since the 1970s, with a 4th place Premier Division finish and Les Phillips Cup Semi-Final. Then, under Mark Harrington in 2010, Rovers won the Somerset Premier Cup for the first time, at Huish Park. A semi-final victory vs. Yeovil Town landed Rovers a final with Bridgwater Town, who they defeated on penalties to claim the silverware.

That side contained Nick Beaverstock, the man who would lead the Greens to their next taste of glory - as manager - when they won promotion to the Western League Premier Division in 2015. Beaverstock would go on to become the Rovers manager to take charge of the second highest number of matches, totalling 223 after a caretaker spell last season.

The club began the 2019/20 season with Jared Greenhalgh at the helm, but this did not bring the anticipated results, and shortly after Christmas the manager and club parted ways. After a rigorous application process, Tom Smith and assistant Will Justin took the helm, but before they could make their mark, Coronavirus caused the curtailment of the season. The Summer of 2020 has seen huge efforts to bring together a strong and exciting squad to push Rovers forward into the 2020s.

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

# BTFC LEAGUE BOOTS **BILL DEPLIDGE**



As a fifteen year old, Bill signed for his hometown club, Bradford Park Avenue, but professional football was put on hold as he spent the Second World War serving in the Royal Navy.

In 1946 he rejoined the club and went on to give nine years of service to the then prominent Second Division club.

In his heyday he formed a right wing partnership with the legendary, Len Shackleton but whereas Len was allowed to move to First Division Newcastle United - and then on to Sunderland - the Park Avenue directors refused to entertain any bids that came in for Bill and his chance in the top flight was denied.

In total he made 274 starts for Bradford, scoring on 62 occasions.

In 1955 he moved to join Yeovil Town and in 1956 followed his former Bradford and Yeovil teammate, Scottish international Jimmy Stephen to Bridgwater Town. He was 31.



*Above: The 'Town team warm up before the game at Welton, 18th November 1961. This was a publicity photo taken the week before the Crystal Palace FA Cup match.*

*Welton won 1-0 (as one would suspect with such a big match looming).*

*Players: from left to right: Roy Richards, Jock Henderson, trainer Jock Montrose, Ernie Emmonds, Norman Packer, partly obscured Brian Burr, Tony Irons, Mel Griffiths, out in front: Capt Bill Deplidge and Bill Brown.*

*Kevin McLaughlin and Bobby Black not clearly visible.*

***Bill made 183 appearances for Bridgwater and got on the score sheet 21 times.***

Bill made a very successful conversion to halfback and went on to be the cornerstone of the Robins defence for six seasons. Bill's mobility, high level of fitness and ability to read the game enabled him to be a superb and consistent performer.

He was quite brilliant in the FA Cup campaigns of 1960 and 1961 that ended in ties against Oxford United and Crystal Palace and he must be ranked amongst the all-time greats performers in Bridgwater Town colours.

He eventually departed for Taunton Town in 1962 after being unable to agree terms.





# **WARNING !**

## **OBJECTIONABLE BEHAVIOUR**

**It has been stated many times that neither FOUL, ABUSIVE nor RACIST LANGUAGE will be tolerated within the League.**

**The FA has now issued further guidelines to match officials regarding the handling of any situation which may bring the club, League or indeed the whole of the game into disrepute.**

**It is a problem that everyone involved in the game must take responsibility for in an effort to eradicate it.**

**Paying spectators are the lifeblood of every club and if they stay away from matches because of the objectionable behaviour of others everyone will suffer.**

**TEAM MANAGERS AND PLAYERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO LEAD THE WAY IN RIDDING THE GAME OF AN UNNECESSARY EVIL, AND SET AN EXAMPLE BOTH ON AND OFF THE FIELD OF PLAY.**

**RACIST REMARKS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND ALL REPORTED INCIDENTS WILL BE DEALT WITH IN THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE WAY.**

# 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

**Tuesday 19th April 2005**  
**Screwfix Direct Western League**  
**Premier Division**

**WELTON ROVERS 1**  
**BRIDGWATER TOWN 3**



The team that day was:

Fellows, D Forward, D Short (Thomas 73), Vaughan, Snook, Whalley, Sokol, J Porter, Young (Shaxton 80), Kenway, Stephens. Sub not used: Diaz

*Right:  
Dave Whalley,  
Mark Kenway  
and Tony Diaz,  
our Dorset  
contingent.*





*A good number of supporters travelled up from Bridgwater to boost the crowd to 80.*

*Left: Derek Fear and Colin Jones pictured in the Welton grandstand.*

*Below: Adrian Clarke and Russell Neilson,*



**Bridgwater were almost back to their best in this match played at Welton's West Clewes ground after a poor showing against Brislington on the previous Saturday.**

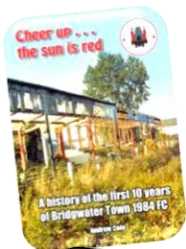
The Town team dominated the first 45 minutes and played the ball around with style and confidence. However, the neat approach work failed to bring goals and Welton's goal scoring machine, Aaron Blakemore always looked a threat on the break. The referee denied Bridgwater what appeared to be two clear-cut calls for a penalty and the teams went in all square at the interval.

Torrential rain fell just before the break and soon large puddles were in evidence all over the pitch. The second half began with Bridgwater still on top but in the worsening conditions, unable to find their scoring touch. It was against the run of play that Welton took the lead. A corner from the right caused panic in the Town defence and Pete Shepherd poked home in the resulting goalmouth scramble.

Bridgwater forced a deserved equaliser in the 75th minute when Rob Snook's 25 yard free kick squirmed under the body of the diving Welton goalkeeper. And a minute later a cross from Dave Whalley stuck in a puddle and Chris Young reacted fastest to poke the ball past the wrong-footed defenders.

Matt Shaxton made victory safe in the dying seconds when he sprinted on to a through ball, rounded Allward in the Welton goal and put the ball into the empty net.





# STILL AVAILABLE!

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

**Priced at £5 each with all monies going to club funds.**

## **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.

Email: [btfc84books@yahoo.com](mailto:btfc84books@yahoo.com) to place your order

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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 ©  
REECE BANNISTER (GK)  
RYAN BRERETON  
CONOR BRYANT  
JAMES COTTRILL  
SAM CRUMB  
MIKE DUFFY  
TOM ELLIS

TOM FRY  
TYNE GOVIER  
JORDAN GREENWOOD  
MARCUS JONES  
BEN KIRK  
ADNAN HIROLI  
JAKE LLEWELLYN  
OLLIE MORRIS

GEORGE PAINTER  
ARCHIE STURDY  
JACK TAYLOR  
DAVE THORNE  
SAM TOWLER  
JAKE VINEY (GK)  
JOSH WILLIAMS

Management: Karl Baggaley & Dave Pearce

Coach: Josh Crook / Therapist: Jeremy Frost-Wilson

## **MATCH OFFICIALS**

Referee: KEVIN SLADE

Assistants: DAVE TREVASKUS

SIMON MIDDLETON

(As listed - subject to change)

## **WELTON ROVERS** *from*

KYLE BOX  
COURTNEY CHARLES  
LEON CLAYTON-CLARKE  
ROBSON COLE (GK)  
LEWIS COLEMAN  
MATT CURNOCK  
MATT DUNK (GK)

JOE ELLIS  
MASON FARRINGTON  
JOE GARLAND  
SCOTT HATCHER  
KEELAN MASTOURAS  
CHRIS PILE  
DAWID REGULA

SAM ROBERTS  
LEWIS RUSSELL  
TOM SMITH  
SAM STOPPARD  
DAN VEAL  
ALEX WYCH ©

Manager: Tom Smith / Assistant: Will Justin

Therapists: John Carver & Ashley Bird

## **NEXT HOME GAME**

TWL Premier Division

Saturday 14 November 2020

v CADBURY HEATH (3pm)

