

RWBTFC



RWBT v Slimbridge
Uhlsport Hellenic League Premier Division
Saturday 10th January 2026, K.O. 3:00PM
£2.00
Season 2025-26 M18



EST. 2011

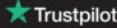
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RWBTFC

Club Directory

Royal Wootton Bassett Town FC

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Head of Men's Section: Rab MacLeod

Head of Women's Section: Bryan Wood

Head of Youth Section: Simon Jones

Head of Girl's Section: Sam Wood

Head of Veterans Section: Martin Ohrlund

Commercial Manager: Mike Price

Men's First Team Manager: Jonny Aitkenhead

Women's Team Manager: James Lally

Club Sports Therapist: Kara Gregory

Men's Dev Team Manager: Mark Simpkins

President & Programme Editor: Mark Smedley

Men's First Team Match Secretary: Paul Curtis

Press and Media Officer: Stuart Smedley

Website Editor and Designer: Scott Smedley

Welfare Officer: Mandy Cox

Respect Officer: Mandy Rouse

Club Development Officer: Adam Wood

Photographer: Steve Green and Banita Mudhar

Club Chaplain: John Maxwell

Life Members

Mick Woolford (1995), Rod Carter (2008), Roger Williamson (2008),

Paul Harrison (2012), Pete Yeardley (2012), Ron Stone (2013),

Dave Topping (2016), Mark Smedley (2016), Bryan Wood (2017),

Scott Smedley (2018), Stuart Smedley (2018), Gordon Reeves (2019)

Paul Burke (2020), Dave Thomas (2021)

First Team Honours

Wiltshire Senior Cup Winners 1998-99, 2000-01

Wiltshire Senior Cup Runners-up 1902-03, 1903-04, 1987-88

Hellenic League Division 1 West Runners-up 2009-10, 2012-13

Hellenic League Div 1 Cup Winners 1989-90, 1993-94

Hellenic League Division 1 Cup Runners-up 1994-95

Wiltshire County League Division 1 Champions 1987-88

Wiltshire County League Runners-up 1905-06

Wiltshire County League Senior Cup Winners 1983-84

Wiltshire County League Division 2 Champions 1984-85

Wiltshire County League Division 2 Runners-up 1978-79

Wiltshire County League Subsidiary Cup Winners 1978-79

Wiltshire League Division 1 Champions 1958-59

Calne & District League Champions 1931-32, 1934-35, 1935-36

Calne & District League Runners-up 1930-31

Calne & District League Cup Winners 1934-35

Calne & District League Cup Runners-up 1935-36

Swindon & District League Advertiser Cup Runners-up 1902-03, 1904-05

Vale of White Horse League Cup Winners 1933-34

Reserve/Dev Team Honours

Wiltshire Senior League Premier Division Champions 2021-22

Hellenic League Reserves Division 2 West Champions 1994-95

Wiltshire County League Division 4 Runners-up 1982-83

Wiltshire County League Junior Cup Runners-up 1984-85, 1988-89, 2012-13

Vale of White Horse League Cup Winners 1953-54

Chippenham & District League Division 2 Champions 1957-58

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Men's First Team

Bassett Bulletin

GOOD AFTERNOON and welcome back to the Gerard Buxton Sports Ground for this first home Uhlsport Hellenic League Premier Division fixture of calendar year 2026 against Slimbridge. Best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year to one and all.

A warm welcome to all our visitors who have made the journey from Gloucestershire for this first meeting of the season between the two sides, we hope you enjoy your brief stay with us this afternoon and wish you a safe journey home.

Before looking at today's game I must apologise for the error that I made with the programme for the last home game against Droitwich that saw just a new cover put on what was actually the Worcester Raiders programme. This was only picked up on the Saturday of the game when manager Jonny Aitkenhead looked at the programme and unfortunately it was then too late to correct the error for the printed version. A PDF copy of the correct programme was made available on the Club website once I got back from London that afternoon and I understand the printed copies were quite rightly given away free at the gate (this is the first time in my tenure as Programme Editor that this error has been made and perhaps the programme will become a collector's item!). Once again apologies for the error. Today's programme includes a catch up on the match reports, including the one from the Worcester Raiders game that would have been in Droitwich programme if I had uploaded the correct file).

Returning to today's game, our overall record against Slimbridge is not a good one, with just four wins in 16 previous meetings. Whilst the overall record is not good, the recent one is actually very good, as we have not lost in any of the last four games, three of which were won and hopefully we can continue that recent run here this afternoon. However, Slimbridge are having an excellent season after a disappointing 2024-25 campaign and look favourites to win the Uhlsport Hellenic League Premier Division this season. They currently sit in third place four points behind leaders Roman Glass St George but with six games in hand and we will need to be at our very best if we are to get anything out of today's game.

Slimbridge are also still in the FA Vase and are set to play Downton next week in that competition and will no doubt be eying up a possible Wembley Cup Final, hopefully their minds today will be on that game next week!

Our last game was the game away at Cirencester the day after Boxing Day when we put in a tremendous performance to return with all three points against one of the form teams in the division. This is the second time we have beaten Cirencester on their 3G pitch this season having also knocked them out of the League Challenge Cup. It was an excellent all round team performance and the win was thoroughly deserved and meant we had taken four points off two of the top sides in the division in our last two games.

Our other adult sides have had mixed fortunes in recent weeks. The Development side are now without a win in four games after they were held to a 1-1 draw by lowly Bemerton Heath Harlequins Reserves in their last game before Christmas. This followed defeats against league leaders Shrewton United, Letcombe and then Western League side Warminster Town in the Wiltshire Senior Cup. Last week's game against Purton Kingsdown, like the first team game at Corsham, was postponed on the day of the game by the referee, Today sees them with another tough match away to Melksham Town Reserves who are one of a number of sides who have applied to the FA for promotion to Step 6 next season.

Meanwhile, our Women's side remain unbeaten. They won their final game of 2025 away at Downend Flyers but then dropped points in their first game of the new calendar year, drawing away at Cirencester Town. The good news is they remain unbeaten in the league and sit second in the table, headed only by Mangotsfield United on goal difference and with a game in hand. That said Corsham Town have dropped fewer points and the two games against our local rivals could go along way to deciding the title race.

Enjoy the match here this afternoon and hopefully we can take some points off high-flying Slimbridge in our quest to climb the table and avoid relegation this season.

Mark



From The Committee Room with Paul Gerrish (Chairman)

GOOD AFTERNOON. HAPPY NEW YEAR – I hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and New Year break. It's a pleasure to welcome our supporters along with the players, officials and supporters from Slimbridge AFC to the Gerard Buxton ground today for this first Hellenic Premier League fixture of 2026.

Our opposition today are having a fantastic season and are many people's choice to be crowned champions come the end of the season. Their two previous seasons back at this level were very contrasting, a disappointing season last time around finishing a couple of places above the relegation zone after just missing out on the play-off the previous season. This year though, everything looks to be going right, currently sitting in third place, four points behind the leaders but with six games in hand. Cups are proving successful too, last week saw them progress in the league cup and next week they travel to fellow Wiltshire club Downton for a 4th round FA Vase fixture having already beaten another Wiltshire side, Amesbury in the previous round. We wish them and fellow Hellenic league side Hallen the best of luck.

We come into this fixture off the back of one of our best performances of the season, a 2-1 win away at Cirencester Town who had been on fine form prior to our visit. December proved to be a successful month for the club, picking up seven of a possible nine points with a win against Pershore and a draw with Droitwich making up the other points. The only defeat coming late in the cup game against Worcester Raiders.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mike Byrne for facilitating the short-term loan signings of Ciaran Walsh and Callum Godfrey, two fine young players from Forest Green Rovers, both of who were excellent at Cirencester.



After a tough December that brought one draw and two defeats, the Development side have a tough start to 2026 with away games at Melksham and Pewsey Vale but will be looking to improve on their current position of 7th in the Wilts Premier league.

Elsewhere, the Women began 2026 with hard fought point in a 1-1 draw at Cirencester Town leaving them one point off top spot with two games in hand but with Corsham Town breathing down their necks.

Finally, a massive congratulations from everyone associated with the club to Alan 'Griff' Griffin and his partner Danni on the birth of their second daughter Pheobe born on 3rd January. Another granddaughter for Maureen – no doubt there will be a cake to celebrate at half-time.

Thanks for your support - UP THE BAS

Paul

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RWBTFC

From The Dugout with Jonny Aitkenhead

Good Afternoon. Thank you for coming to support the team again on this winters afternoon. I hope you all had a great Christmas and new year.

Here we go again, after a much improved December we were hoping that we would have been playing last Saturday but for the ref to call the game off at 2:20 for one line being frozen. Having that been said the majority of the results went in our favour at the weekend, meaning that we now carry games in hand on some of the teams below us and Pershore now only being one point ahead of us.

On to today's game and I know the boys are keen to try and continue the momentum that they have gathered within the last month. However, Slimbridge will be a completely different challenge to what we have faced recently. They're well organised and clinical from what we have seen and their league position reflects the good work that they have put in this season.

For those who were there at the Cirencester game, you will have seen the transformation that has taken place with the shuffle of the squad and the reset in expectations and standards within the group. The efforts and planning that we are doing during the week is now transitioning onto the pitch and the boys are getting their just rewards.

Today will be a real test to see how far we have come after the low point we were at nearly two months ago. I am sure this is a challenge that the boys will relish and truly continue to put all their efforts into trying to improve the league position that we find ourselves in.

On a separate note, I would like to congratulate Griff and his partner on the arrival of their baby girl born last Saturday.

We look forward to a great game and thanks again for your support.

Jonny A



First Team Man of The Match sponsored by



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Thornbury (A) - **Jono Peachey-Score**
Lydney Town (A) - **Bonsa Teshome**
Lydney Town (H) - **Aaron Voller**
Cirencester Town (H) - **Ben Cleary**
Hallen (H) - **Ben Cleary**
Amersham Town (H) - **Aaron Voller**
Fairford Town (H) - **Ed Taylor**
Cinderford Town (A) - **Ollie Smith**
Corsham Town (H) - **Adam House**
Torpoint Ath (H) - **Henry Parry-Williams**
Mangotsfield United (H) - **Jordan Sykes**
Highworth Town (A) - **Marcel Lewis**
Lydney Town (A) - Not awarded
Cribbs (H) - **Lewis Hayward**
Longlevens (A) - **TJ Bohane**
Tuffley Rovers (H) - **Rudi Hopkins**
Droitwich Spa (A) - **Finn Hopkins**
Westfields (A) - **Harry Messenger**
Worcester Raiders (A) - **Otis Lewis**
Pershore Town (A) - **Jack Coward**
Highworth Town (H) - **Marcel Lewis**
Cirencester Town (A) - **Ed Taylor**
Longlevens (H) - **Ollie Smith**
Hallen (A) - **Ollie Smith**
Hungerford Town Res - **Ben Cleary**
Cribbs (A) - **Ollie Smith**
Roman Glass St George (H) - **Ben Cleary**

Pershore Town (H) - **Lewis Thorne**
Worcester Raiders (H) - **Lewis Hayward**
Droitwich Spa (H) - **Rudi Hopkins**
Cirencester Town (A) - **Ed Taylor** (pictured below)



Uhlsport Hellenic League - League Tables

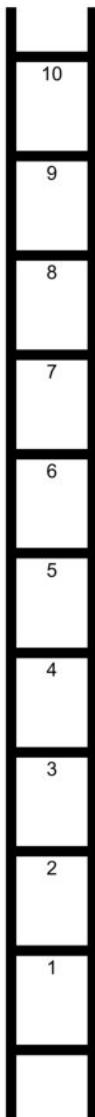
2025-2026 Season UHLSPORT Hellenic League Premier Division								
	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	
1 Roman Glass St George	27	16	4	7	62	37	52	
2 Droitwich Spa	24	15	5	4	53	35	50	
3 Slimbridge	21	15	3	3	51	20	48	
4 Corsham Town	22	14	2	6	38	25	44	
5 Cirencester Town	24	12	5	7	55	35	41	
6 Worcester Raiders	22	12	4	6	43	26	40	
7 Longlevens AFC	21	10	4	7	40	28	34	
8 Westfields	22	10	3	9	37	44	33	
9 Hereford Pegasus	22	10	2	10	45	43	32	
10 Tuffley Rovers	24	9	4	11	37	40	31	
11 Mangotsfield United	23	8	6	9	29	28	30	
12 Fairford Town	20	7	6	7	28	25	27	
13 Highworth Town	23	6	8	9	26	30	26	
14 Cinderford Town	19	6	5	8	25	31	23	
15 Pershore Town	22	6	4	12	23	39	22	
16 Royal W. Bassett Town	22	5	6	11	27	49	21	
17 Lydney Town	23	5	5	13	27	53	20	
18 Thornbury Town	23	4	7	12	25	45	19	
19 Hallen	21	3	7	11	27	40	16	
20 Cribbs	23	3	6	14	26	51	15	

2025-2026 Season UHLSPORT Hellenic League Division One								
	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	
1 Bewdley Town	21	14	3	4	46	25	45	
2 Wantage Town	20	13	5	2	69	31	44	
3 FC Stratford	18	13	2	3	40	15	41	
4 Stonehouse Town	19	10	5	4	47	23	35	
5 Redditch Borough	18	11	1	6	49	28	34	
6 Newent Town	19	10	2	7	41	31	32	
7 Cheltenham Saracens	18	9	4	5	37	30	31	
8 Malmesbury Victoria	18	8	4	6	31	33	28	
9 Ludlow Town	19	8	4	7	37	42	28	
10 Alcester Town	20	7	4	9	26	25	25	
11 Brimscombe & Thrupp	19	7	4	8	27	33	25	
12 Woodford United	19	6	5	8	30	42	23	
13 Chipping Sodbury Town	19	6	4	9	21	27	22	
14 Carterton	17	6	2	9	24	39	20	
15 Shortwood United	17	5	3	9	30	35	18	
16 Wellington	21	4	2	15	37	71	14	
17 Clanfield 85	20	3	4	13	22	46	13	
18 Thame United Reserves	20	1	2	17	21	59	5	



Half Time Quiz Ladder

As inspired by QPR Fanzine "AKUTR's" how far can you climb up the Don Rogers football quiz ladder. The questions get progressively harder as you climb the ladder.



The Big Challenge

How many goals did Don Rogers score for QPR in Season 1974-75 in the old English First Division (equivalent of the Premier League)?

Near Impossible

Against which team did Don Rogers make his QPR debut on 24th September 1974?

Difficult

When Don Rogers left QPR to join Swindon Town in 1976 it was another exchange deal, what was the name of the other player who left Swindon to join QPR?

Hard

When Don Rogers transferred to QPR from Crystal Palace in September 1974 it was an exchange deal for two players, one was centre half Ian Evans who was the other player going to Crystal Palace?

Fairly Hard

In July 1996 Don became joint manager with John Fisher of which local non-league club?

Challenging

What role did Don take on in July 2021 at Swindon Town?

Average

How many goals in extra time did Don Rogers score in the 1969 League Cup Final against Arsenal?

Easy Enough

Against which team did Don Rogers score two goals in a 5-0 win for Crystal Palace in the top division of English football in 1972 (hint Pete Yeardley might be able to help with the answer to this one)?

Very Easy

What was the former name of the Don Rogers Stand at the County Ground immediately before it became the Don Rogers Stand in March 2008?

Dead Simple

Which local club did Don Rogers make 400 appearances for in what is now called the EFL?

Answers on Page 49





Today's Opponents

Slimbridge

Slimbridge Historical Record - Last 15 Seasons

Season	League & Division	FAC	FAV	Pld	Won	Drew	Lost	For	Agst	Pts	Position	Top Scorer
2010/11	Hellenic Premier	n/a	1QR	42	27	7	8	80	52	88	5 out of 22	R. Langworthy 17
2011/12	Hellenic Premier	Pre	1st	40	21	11	8	79	49	74	5 out of 21	J. Martin 18
2012/13	Hellenic Premier	ExP	1QR	36	18	7	11	65	49	61	6 out of 19	M. Roberts 18
2013/14	Western League Prem	ExP	2QR	40	12	7	21	53	70	43	16 out of 21	Not known
2014/15	Western League Prem	Pre	2nd	36	20	6	10	55	36	66	3 out of 19	P. Fahy 18
2015/16	Southern Div 1 SW	2QR	1QR*	42	10	12	20	46	57	42	18 out of 22	Not known
2016/17	Southern Div 1 SW	2QR	Pre*	42	10	7	25	47	90	37	20 out of 22	Not known
2017/18	Southern Div 1 W	Pre	Pre*	42	9	8	25	54	130	35	20 out of 22	Not known
2018/19	Southern Div 1 S	Pre	Pre*	38	8	6	24	43	87	30	18 out of 20	Not known
2019/20	Southern Div 1 S	Pre	Pre*	26	11	2	13	54	53	35	12# out of 20	Not known
2020/21	Southern Div 1 S	Pre	2QR*	9	4	2	3	22	21	14	5# out of 20	J. Malshanskyj 5
2021/22	Southern Div 1 S	Pre	2QR*	36	11	5	20	52	83	38	14 out of 19	W. Hawes 16
2022/23	Southern Div 1 S	1QR	1QR*	38	6	9	23	44	74	27	20 out of 20	Not known
2023/24	Hellenic Premier	ExP	2QR	38	19	8	11	81	62	65	6 out of 20	R. McKinnon 20
2024/25	Hellenic Premier	Pre	2QR	38	11	6	21	61	92	39	16 out of 20	T. Clayton 11

* FA Trophy not Vase

Totals 543 197 103 243 836 1.005

At time Covid-19 brought season to a premature end

Won:Drew:Lost Ratio

36.3% 19.0% 44.8%

Southern League Div 1 South West	84	20	19	45	93	147	Won:Drew:Lost Ratio	23.8%	22.6%	53.6%
Southern League Div 1 West	42	9	8	25	54	130	Won:Drew:Lost Ratio	21.4%	19.0%	59.5%
Southern League Div 1 South	147	40	24	83	215	318	Won:Drew:Lost Ratio	27.2%	16.3%	56.5%
Western League Premier	76	32	13	31	108	106	Won:Drew:Lost Ratio	42.1%	17.1%	40.8%
Hellenic League Prem Div	194	96	39	59	366	304	Won:Drew:Lost Ratio	49.5%	20.1%	30.4%

2024-2025 Season

UHLSPORT Hellenic League Premier Division

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Hartpury University	38	27	7	4	87	23	88
2 Roman Glass St George	38	26	5	7	106	50	83
3 Sporting Club Inkberrow	38	23	9	6	70	36	78
4 Mangotsfield United	38	22	10	6	76	30	76
5 Highworth Town	38	21	6	11	76	48	69
6 Worcester Raiders	38	17	13	8	68	40	64
7 Royal W. Bassett Town	38	19	7	12	78	58	64
8 Pershore Town	38	19	6	13	86	58	63
9 Fairford Town	38	16	10	12	66	50	58
10 Corsham Town	38	15	6	17	62	72	51
11 Tuffley Rovers	38	14	8	16	54	59	50
12 Thornbury Town	38	14	3	21	58	78	45
13 Westfields	38	12	8	18	68	54	44
14 Hereford Pegasus	38	10	9	19	57	69	39
15 Cirencester Town	38	11	6	21	51	72	39
16 Slimbridge	38	11	6	21	61	92	39
17 Longlevens AFC	38	9	8	21	42	73	35
18 Lydney Town	38	10	5	23	51	106	35
19 Malmesbury Victoria *	38	8	4	26	44	105	27
20 Brimscombe & Thrupp	38	5	6	27	35	123	21

* Points deduction - ineligible player



Today's Opponents

Slimbridge



Slimbridge Season 2025-26

	Player	Team	Apps	Goals	Discipline Table				
					Yellow	Red	2Y Red	Sin Bin	Card
1	Jacob Rodgers	30	5	1					
2	Joseph Shutt	30	8	2					
3	Kian Kang	28		5				1	
4	Jack W. Smith	28	19	1					
5	Ogden Ion Mara	27	1	5		1			
6	Toby Soule	27	4	3					
7	Hadyn Evans	25	1	5					
8	Charlie Hitchings	25	1	4			1		
9	Raiyan Ahmed	24	4	3					
10	Charlie Mathews	23	1	2					
11	Stephen Sarkodie	23		2					
12	Jack Smith	23	7	1					
13	Ryan Ponting	21	1	2					
14	Tristan Haswell	17		2					
15	Joseph Stokes	13	3	1					
16	Alexander Bell	12	3	1					
17	Dan Hanson	12	1	1					
18	Jack Hughes	12	2						
19	Joseph Hunt	12		1					
20	Leighton Blacker	10	3						
21	Aaron Evans-Harriott	10	5	1					
22	Alexander Kovacevic	8							
23	Theo Browne	7	1						
24	Casey Collins	7	6					1	
25	Ibrahim Olateju	6	2						
26	Cameron Blacker	4							
27	Oliver Barnes	2	1						
28	Samuel Blackie	2		1					
29	Elliott Emm	2							
30	Connor Callow	1							
31	Callum Dark	1							
32	William Djaha-Nsangoi	1							
33	Samuel Downs	1							
34	Alfie Mann	1							
35	James Tainton	1							

Slimbridge This Season

League Results	SEASON 2025-26	
	Home	Away
Cinderford Town	W 2 - 0	W 4 - 1
Cirencester Town	W 3 - 2	
Corsham Town		L 2 - 3
Cribbs		W 3 - 2
Droitwich Spa		W 6 - 0
Fairford Town		D 1 - 1
Hallen	W 2 - 1	
Hereford Pegasus	W 3 - 1	
Highworth Town		W 4 - 1
Longlevens		L 0 - 1
Lydney Town	D 0 - 0	W 1 - 0
Mangotsfield United	W 2 - 1	
Pershore Town	W 5 - 0	
Roman Glass St George	D 2 - 2	
RWBTF		
Thornbury Town	W 1 - 0	
Tuffley Rovers	W 3 - 0	
Westfields	L 3 - 4	W 3 - 0
Worcester Raiders		W 1 - 0

Slimbridge Last Season

League Results	SEASON 2024-25	
	Home	Away
Brimcombe & Thrupp	L 0 - 4	D 2 - 2
Cirencester Town	W 1 - 0	W 2 - 0
Corsham Town	W 5 - 2	L 0 - 3
Fairford Town	L 0 - 3	D 1 - 1
Hartpury University	W 1 - 0	L 1 - 2
Hereford Pegasus	D 1 - 1	L 1 - 4
Highworth Town	L 0 - 3	L 0 - 5
Longlevens	L 2 - 3	W 3 - 1
Lydney Town	W 10 - 1	L 0 - 4
Malmesbury Vics	W 3 - 1	L 1 - 2
Mangotsfield United	L 1 - 3	L 0 - 2
Pershore Town	D 3 - 3	L 1 - 3
Roman Glass St George	L 2 - 4	L 1 - 5
RWBTF	L 3 - 6	D 2 - 2
Sporting Club Inkberrow	L 2 - 4	L 1 - 3
Thornbury Town	L 0 - 2	W 3 - 2
Tuffley Rovers	W 2 - 1	L 0 - 3
Westfields	W 1 - 0	W 2 - 1
Worcester Raiders	D 3 - 3	L 0 - 3





Today's Opponents - Slimbridge

The Gloucestershire village of Slimbridge is world renowned for its Bird Sanctuary, but much hard work has gone into making Slimbridge better known in football circles. The Club's history can be traced back to the 1899/1900 season, when the team were playing in local football at various venues in and around the village. A gap in the records suggests there may have been a couple of seasons when no games were played, and thus, officially, the Club's centenary was celebrated in 2002/03.

For the next forty-odd years the Club were predominantly members of the Stroud and District League with varying degrees of success and failure, except for a period between 1960 and 1968 when they were in the Gloucester Northern Senior League. It was not until 1951 that the current ground at Wisloe Road (Now renamed as Thornhill Park) became the club's home, and it subsequently became the legal property of the club after former player, and ex-Chairman of the club, Evi Thornhill, bequeathed the land to the Club in his Will, with the Club becoming legal owners in 1960. It was to prove an incredibly valuable treasure in future years.

By 1988, the club had fallen on hard times, but fortunately, a handful of committee members led by Gordon King and Gordon Tudor kept the Club afloat. The following season local businessman Paul Chappell arrived. The Club was stabilised and construction of new changing facilities, to County League standard, were completed. Paul Chappell was to remain a vital part of the club until his retirement from his duties in 2020.

As playing standards improved, 2000 saw the completion of the building of a long-awaited Social Club in an area of the ground that in its old life had housed a cowshed. John Mack, a successful local entrepreneur, joined the club as Chairman, and he remains a committed supporter of the club to this day as Club President. In the summer of 2001, Doug Gray was appointed Manager, and the club began a period of upward momentum.

The team achieved a Runners-up spot in their first season in the Gloucester County League, and were accepted into the Hellenic League. Hellenic Division One West was won by an Eleven Point margin in 2002/03. A creditable fourth place finish was achieved in the Hellenic Premier League in 2003/04. In a marvellous season the club also claimed the Hellenic 'Norman Matthews' Floodlit Cup and the G.F.A. Challenge Trophy. Floodlights arrived at the ground in the summer of 2003. A pre-season visit from Conference side Forest Green Rovers on 22nd July, produced a then ground record attendance of 427 to witness the inaugural game under lights at Wisloe Road.

A few weeks later on Sunday 24th August, that ground attendance record was beaten at a Bank Holiday Hellenic Premier Division fixture that was part of the 2003/04 annual 'Ground Hop' weekend. Local rivals Shortwood United provided the opposition in front of a crowd of 525.

Season 2004/05 again saw a fourth-Place finish in the Hellenic Premier. The club also made their first appearance in the F.A. Vase, which resulted in a run to the third round proper before a 2-1 extra time defeat at Western League side Backwell United. In February 2005, Gray stood down after nearly four seasons at the helm of the club.

The club started season 2005/06 under newly appointed Manager Doug Foxwell. A first entry into the F.A. Cup saw a visit from Wessex League side Wimborne Town. A 1-0 defeat did not dampen the sense of occasion on the first day of the season. A second successful run in the F.A. Vase came to an end in the Third Round Proper, with a 3-1 defeat at South Midland Premier, Welwyn Garden City.

After a record-breaking 64 game season, the team achieved a Fifth-Place finish in the Hellenic Premier, and the club also won the Hellenic 'Norman Matthews' Floodlit Cup and the GFA Challenge Trophy, both for the second time in three seasons.

Season 2006/07 proved to be the most successful in the Club's history to date, with both the First Team and Reserve side recording League and Cup doubles, with the bonus of record-breaking F.A. Cup and Vase runs for the senior side.

In the F.A. Cup, a Five Match run from the Extra-Preliminary Round finished at Merthyr Tydfil in the Third Qualifying Round. Along the way there were memorable wins against two other Southern Premier sides, 2-1 at Yate Town and 3-1 at home to Chippenham Town. It was six matches in the F.A. Vase before defeat was tasted, the run ending in the Fifth Round Proper at home to the eventual winners, Truro City.

In the Hellenic Premier Division, bad weather, which led to a record number of postponements during the subsequently extended season, led to half a Seasons fixture being played in the final two months. A tremendous effort saw the Club Bring the Championship Shield to Wisloe Road, the winning margin being three points over second placed North Leigh. There was a rousing performance in the G.F.A. Trophy Final against Almondsbury Town. A 3-1 victory not only retained the Trophy, but recorded a third success in four seasons in that competition. The Reserve side had an early success in the Gloucester Northern Senior League Cup with a 2-0 win against Division One Tuffley Rovers.



Today's Opponents - Slimbridge



This saw confidence rise and they went on to break a Gloucestershire Northern Senior League record in winning Division Two with a Played 30, Won 30 record.

As a result of winning the league after an inspiring final day victory, and the upgrade to the ground facilities at Wisloe Road, the club were promoted into the BGB Southern League Division One Midlands for Season 2007/08, however, there was a twist to come in the tale.

On July 10th 2007 the club decided not to take up the promotion, and effectively, the first team took over the position in the pyramid occupied by the reserve team, which was disbanded.

The First Team reverted to the Gloucester Northern Senior League. This meant a severe upheaval in the club both on and off the field with the manager Doug Foxwell and several senior players moving on the pastures new.

However, a loyal band of players stayed on including James Cole, who over as player manager with assistance from long term club captain Leon Sterling to begin the next stage of the club's journey.

Four promotions followed as the club regained their previous status. James Cole handed over to Leon Sterling, who moved into the Manager's role, with Leon joined as Assistant Manager by long time Slimbridge stalwart Freddy Ward. The two guided the side to three top six finishes in their first three seasons back in the Hellenic Premier.

After the completion of the 2012-13 season, the Swans applied for a transfer to the Toolstation Western Premier League to reduce prohibitive travelling costs, a move which was approved by the FA in the Summer of 2013.

After two seasons in the Toolstation Western Premier League, a third-place finish at the end of the 2014/15 season gave the Swans a second opportunity to return to the Southern Football League. This time the club accepted the offer and took their place in the South and West Division, finishing a credible 18th in their first season, the highest level the club had ever achieved at that time in their history. Prior to the commencement of that campaign, John Mack had stepped back from Chairman duties and his position was taken up by Barry Gay.

At the start of the 2016-17 season, and prior to our pre-season friendly fixture with neighbours Forest Green Rovers, the football ground in Wisloe Road was formally renamed to Thornhill Park in recognition of the marvellous gift we received from Evil Thornhill 46 years earlier.

Evi's son, Tony and his late wife Margaret were on hand to cut the ceremonial ribbon, and Tony made a short heartfelt speech about how much the renaming meant to him and the entire Thornhill family, and how honoured they were that the football club had recognised their father in this way. A difficult two seasons of struggle at a higher level saw the eventual departure of Leon Sterling as Manager, with Freddy Ward stepping up to the plate, assisted by local footballing legend Lee Driver-Dickerson. With Freddy then stepping aside to concentrate of his last few years of playing having steadied the Swans' ship, 'Drive' took over the reins as Manager of the first team.

The Club's previous ground attendance record was smashed on 4th February 2017, when 898 fans saw the side suffer a 3-0 defeat to Hereford FC, who were working their way back up the league pyramid following their reformation after the collapse of Hereford United.

The last 2 years have seen an incredible expansion of the football club—the establishment of a thriving Youth setup at Under 18 level, and the resurrection of the Reserve side has seen Slimbridge AFC make great strides as a club.

Prior to the Covid suspension of football in March 2020, the Under 18s and the Reserves were top of their respective leagues, while the first team were sitting in 12th place in the Southern League Division One South, the highest placing in the history of the football club. Although the FA has made the season's results null and void, they have been officially added to club statistics and all appearances and goals will stand in our records as a permanent tribute to all who represented the club in a fantastic season in the strangest of all campaigns.

The 2021-22 Season saw the departure of Driver-Dickerson, who decided to accept an opportunity to move to Evesham United, and the assistant team of former Swans' legend Tom Speers and Adam Coyle took over the reins, assisted by Tom Deakin and Tom Hitchens. The 2022-23 season was a very difficult one for the side resulting in the departure of Speers in February 2023 with the side having achieved only four victories at that point. Adam Coyle and Tom Deakin moved into the Management role, but the season resulted in relegation and a return to the Hellenic League for the 2023-24 Season.

Now in their third season in the Hellenic League, Tom Deakin has assumed the role of Team Manager following Adam Coyle's decision to step back from the position during the 2024-25 Season, with Mike Palmer confirmed as his new co-manager and Ben Powell as their assistant and Sam Prior as coach.





Previous Meetings

v Slimbridge



4

RWBTFC Wins

1

Draws

11

Slimbridge Wins

Season	Date	Comp	Match Details				
2003.04	4-Oct-03	League	Wootton Bassett Town	0	Slimbridge	2	Lost
2003.04	6-Dec-03	Sup Cup	Slimbridge	2	Wootton Bassett Town	1	Lost
2003.04	27-Mar-04	League	Slimbridge	2	Wootton Bassett Town	0	Lost
2004.05	5-Oct-04	League	Slimbridge	3	Wootton Bassett Town	1	Lost
2004.05	19-Oct-04	Floodlit Cup	Wootton Bassett Town	2	Slimbridge	3	Lost
2004.05	19-Mar-05	League	Wootton Bassett Town	0	Slimbridge	4	Lost
2005.06	28-Sep-05	Floodlit Cup	Slimbridge	2	Wootton Bassett Town	0	Lost
2006.07	23-Jan-07	League Cup	Wootton Bassett Town	1	Slimbridge	4	Lost
2009.10	22-Aug-09	League	Slimbridge	2	Wootton Bassett Town	0	Lost
2009.10	10-Apr-10	League	Wootton Bassett Town	2	Slimbridge	1	Won
2010.11	13-Nov-10	League	Slimbridge	1	Wootton Bassett Town	0	Lost
2010.11	2-Apr-11	League	Wootton Bassett Town	1	Slimbridge	2	Lost
2023.24	12-Aug-23	League	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	2	Slimbridge	1	Won
2023.24	13-Apr-24	League	Slimbridge	1	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	2	Won
2024.25	5-Oct-24	League	Slimbridge	3	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	6	Won
2024.25	14-Dec-24	League	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	2	Slimbridge	2	Drew



Featured Previous Meeting

v Slimbridge

Bassett dealt blow as Swans snatch stoppage time point

Royal Wootton Bassett Town 2
Slimbridge 2

Saturday 14th December 2025

Royal Wootton Bassett Town passed up the opportunity to move back into the Hellenic League Premier Division playoff places as Slimbridge snatched a dramatic point courtesy of a stoppage time equaliser.

Despite falling behind early in the second half, Sam Collier's side appeared set to complete a season double over the Swans - and to climb above Highworth Town into fifth in the table - courtesy of a pair of quick-fire goals from Chris Zebroski and Brad Pagliaroli.

But Toby Soule scored at the death for the visitors to make it 2-2.

When the two sides met in Gloucestershire earlier in the campaign there was plenty of early drama with Bassett scoring four times in the opening quarter of an hour on their way to a thumping 6-3 win.

The return fixture was much more of a slow burner in comparison. Indeed the first half passed without much incident.

Drama was on its way following the restart though.



Slimbridge would take the lead on 52 minutes as Joe Hunt connected with a Soule free kick, heading beyond James Foster in the Bassett goal.

But Bassett soon turned the game around.

With quarter of an hour to go, Zebroski planted a firm header into the back of the net from an inswinging Pagliaroli corner.

And within the space of two minutes the hosts were ahead. Alfie Presley surged forward before squaring to Pagliaroli, who fashioned the space he needed to shoot before arrowing a fierce 25 yard drive into the bottom right corner, beating 'keeper Travis Wood at the near post.

While not at their best, Bassett seemed set to hold on for all three points.

However, Slimbridge salvaged a point ninety seconds before the final whistle.

Foster could only parry from a Rhys Sarson shot and Soule was on hand to put away the rebound.

Attendance: 111

Bassett Scorers: Zebroski, Pagliaroli

Bassett Lineup: Foster, Hill, Zebroski, Peare, Corcoran, Coates, Pagliaroli, Ouldridge, Hopkins, Presley, Hobson-McVeigh. Sub: Moore



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Match Report v

Worcester Raiders (H)



Bassett suffer Challenge Cup exit

**Royal Wootton Bassett Town 0
Worcester Raiders 3**

Saturday 13th December 2025

Royal Wootton Bassett Town exited the Marsh Hellenic League Challenge Cup following a 3-0 home defeat against Worcester Raiders.

Facing a side who had put them to the sword in a 7-2 thrashing when they met in the league, Bassett were much improved. However, the visitors' greater experience at both ends of the pitch ultimately proved decisive.

The final score arguably flattered Raiders somewhat too, with their second and third goals not coming until the final twenty minutes after Bassett had been reduced to ten men, with defender Kian McNally having received a second yellow card.

After a lively opening in which both sides sought to press forward, Raiders eventually took the lead as the 20 minute mark approached. And they did so in style, Bailey Fuller bending a free kick from just outside in the box around the wall and into the bottom left corner after he had been felled.

Eight minutes later Raiders almost scored another stunner. Patient build up play eventually allowed Ben Sanogo to arrow a shot at goal with the outside of his boot from twenty yards. Lewis Clark in the Bassett goal was beaten - but the ball rattled the post before the rebound fell into the path of Sanogo whose clipped rebound effort was spectacularly tipped over.

Bassett then had a great opportunity to pull level when Dylan Griffin intercepted a wayward pass and immediately set free Ben Cleary in behind the Worcester defence.

However he could only drag across the face of goal and wide from the edge of the area, much to the relief of Raiders 'keeper Charlie Emery.

The team traded opportunities in the second half with no further initial damage to the scoreline.

But Bassett's hopes of getting on terms were made harder when McNally was dismissed with just under twenty minutes to go.

And Raiders took almost immediate advantage. Harry Messenger gave the ball away inside the Bassett half with Fuller feeding Lincoln Hunt who cut back for Kiyan Baker-McKay to finish from close range.

Hunt then completed the scoring in injury time. The Bassett midfield opened up, allowing Fuller to play out wide to Baker-McKay and, after driving forward, he squared for an unmarked Hunt to tap in from six yards.

With Bassett having been underdogs, the outcome was perhaps to be as expected. Though Jonny Aitkenhead's side can be pleased enough with the solid seventy minutes or so they had prior to going down to ten men.

The result does mean that Bassett now just have the league to focus on with a big push required to achieve safety in their remaining 18 fixtures.



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18



Match Report v

Droitwich Spa (H)



Spirited comeback keeps title chasers in check

**Royal Wootton Bassett Town 2
Droitwich Spa 2**

Saturday 20th December 2025

Royal Wootton Bassett Town came from two goals down to earn a deserved point in an entertaining contest against Hellenic League Premier Division title chasers Droitwich Spa.

An assured second half performance, capped by a pair of well-taken Rudi Hopkins' goals, got Jonny Aitkenhead's side back on terms after a somewhat shaky first half display had Bassett staring at defeat.

Bassett had trailed early as Alex Dugmore headed the visitors in front. Dugmore initially did well to hold up the ball before setting back to Reiss Taylor-Randle, who then fed Josh Hurdman on the right. Quick feet allowed Hurdman to get the better of Ollie Smith and he was able to stand up a cross to the far post that Dugmore guided in.

Direct play then created Droitwich's second shortly before the interval. Centre midfielder Cory Rudd whipped a fine first time cross field pass into the right channel behind the Bassett defence, which Hurdman ran onto. And he sidestepped an onrushing Lewis Clark before coolly slotting home.

Against the division's third place team, a 2-0 half time deficit was not the position Bassett wanted to find themselves in.

But much to their credit, Aitkenhead's side summoned an excellent response.

They began the half with intent as Hopkins, following a Harry Messenger through ball, and Ben Cleary, after being played in by Nat Bell, both forced early alert saves from Joe Stockton when well placed.

The hosts then got back into the game on the hour. Smith seized on James Lemon's attempted switch from left to right and quickly shifted play to the opposite end of the pitch with a controlled ball over the top that Cleary latched onto. Cleary held play up before squaring for Hopkins who swept home, with the aid of a slight deflection, from the edge of the box.

Seven minutes later the scores were level. Lewis Thorne and Ciaran Walsh combined well to steal possession from Perry Moss, with the latter feeding Ed Taylor in the right channel. Taylor then cut back for Hopkins on the edge of the box and he placed a cool first time finish into the bottom corner.

Bassett then will have felt they could have potentially gone on to win the game - and Smith forced a fine save from Stockton late on with a curling 30 yard strike that the 'keeper tipped away at full stretch.

A draw against high-flying opposition was a mighty impressive result though - especially given Bassett were forced to come from two down to earn a point.

Despite the positive outcome though, Bassett do slip a place to 18th in the table after Thornbury Town's 2-0 win against underachieving Fairford Town.

But if Bassett can replicate their second half performance in the games to come, they should have no issue in picking up points and improving their position.



RWBTFC First Team Pen Pics



Lewis Clark - Goalkeeper

Highly-rated young shot stopper who joins Bassett this season from Caine Town where he was first choice 'keeper for the Reserve team over the past season and a half. Clark also featured twice for Caine's first team in Western League Division One last season.



Henry Sandys-Lumsdaine - Goalkeeper

an imposing goalkeeper who joins Bassett this season. He is a player who spent time with Hungerford Town and Swindon Town as a youth, but who has mostly played senior football at a District League level. He also has a background in rugby, representing Newbury.



Noah Cranswick-Coates – Defence

A product of Bassett's youth section. A talented defender who made his First Team debut last season. Captained the Bassett U18s teams who finished runners-up in the Wiltshire League Floodlit Division in both 2022-23 and 2023-24, and winning Manager's Player of the Year in 23-24.



Ollie Smith – Defence

Highly talented young full back who has come through the Bassett youth system. A standout performer for the Development team in 24-25, his first year of senior football, being named the club's Young Player of the Year. Made six appearances from the bench last season.



Harvey Fox - Defence

Youngster who made four appearances for Swindon Town in the EFL Trophy. Had loan spells with Highworth Town, Swindon Supermarine, North Leigh and Didcot Town when at Swindon before joining North Leigh on a permanent move. Joins from Thatcham Town..



Jordan Sykes – Midfield

Strong, powerful central midfielder, who joins Bassett this season. Previous Step 5 & 6 experience with Binfield, Milton United, Windsor, Woodley United and AFC Aldermaston. Also gained Southern League experience with Wantage Town.



Miguel Alves – Midfield

Midfielder who joins Bassett after returning from a long-term injury. Natural leader who always looks for his team to be on the front foot & will captain Bassett this season. A product of Chippenham Town's academy with Southern League experience at Highworth, North Leigh and Evesham.



Jack Coward - Defence

Made his Senior breakthrough with Caine Town. He then joined Devizes Town where he was a regular in their promotion winning side from the Wilts League and also in their first season back in the Western League. Moved to Malmesbury Vics last season before coming to Bassett this season.



Rudi Hopkins – Midfield

Left-sided winger who joins this season. Over the past couple of seasons he has featured for the Swindon Town Foundation C6 team - including the 23-24 side that won the Community & Education Football Alliance Cup - and Fairford T U18s & making 1 Hellenic League appearance for Fairford.



Finlay Skittrall - Midfield

Promising young midfielder who is looking to establish himself with Bassett's Men's First Team after shining for the club's U18 Floodlit & Development teams. Made his first team debut last season also playing for Cirencester Town and Brimscombe & Thrupp in the Hellenic Premier.



Lewis Hayward - Midfield

Central midfielder who joins Bassett this season. Spent time in Southampton's Academy as a youth & is currently a member of Chippenham Town's Academy & was a part of their side who recently won the Copa Catalunya tournament, scoring in the final and voted club Player of the Tournament.



Ed Taylor – Midfield

Chippenham Town Academy graduate, who made his first team debut for the Bluebirds last season as a sub in the Wiltshire Premier Shield quarter final tie against Bassett. Gained Hellenic League Premier Division experience too, making 11 appearances for Cirencester Town.



TJ Bohane - Forward

Vastly experienced & prolific striker who returns to Bassett this season. Spent most of his career with Highworth T, while also having spells with Southern League sides Swindon Supermarine & Shortwood Utd. Also had 2 highly successful seasons with Bracknell Town & 3 seasons with Bassett.



Ben Cleary - Forward

Young striker who joins Bassett this season from last season's Wiltshire League Premier Division runners-up Letcombe, where he was Letcombe's leading scorer with 28 goals in 38 games. Previously with Swindon Supermarine Dev.



Dylan Griffin - Forward

Youngster who spent part of last season with our Development side scoring nine goals in seven games. Joined Slough Town in the summer but has since returned to Royal Wootton Bassett Town with a view to establishing a regular place in the first team.



Finley Hopkins - Forward

Highly talented young forward who re-joins Bassett after a brief spell at Fairford Town. Hopkins enjoyed a hugely impressive season with Bassett last year, scoring six goals and providing numerous assists in 45 appearances as he went on to earn the club's Young Player of the Year award. Previously with Swindon Town and Shrivenham.



RWBTFC First Team Pen Pics



Kassa Anderson - Forward

Forward who joins Bassett this season after a number of successful seasons playing in the Wiltshire Senior League. Has previous Hellenic League Premier Division experience with Calne Town. Scored eleven goals in 23 appearances last season for Wroughton in the Wilts League.

Kian McNally - Defence

McNally is a tough tackling, technical defender who joins Bassett this season. Plays at either left back or centre half. Joins from Hungerford Town having previously been with Cirencester Town and Malmesbury Victoria.



Gabriel Reivers - Defence

Made his breakthrough in Senior football with Swindon Supermarine before joining Salisbury. Started the current season with Didcot Town where he made one appearance before making the move to Royal Wootton Bassett Town.



Henri Parry-Williams - Midfield

Central midfielder who came through Calne Town's youth system. Made his senior debut in 22-23, featuring 4 times for Calne's first team. A season later he featured 34 times for Calne in the Hellenic. Spent last season with Corsham Town and Slimbridge in the Hellenic Premier.

Management Team



Jonathan Aitkenhead - Manager

Youth section graduate and former senior player, appointed as manager in May 2025, his first managerial role. Spent his entire youth career with Bassett, joining as an U10, before progressing into senior football with the club, making his debut in 07-08 in Hellenic Div One West. Spent most of his career in the Hellenic Premier playing mainly for Shrivenham, Highworth and Bassett.



Dan Atkin - Assistant Manager

A former youth section player, Atkin joins Bassett's Men's First Team as assistant manager. He rejoined the club last season in a coaching capacity in the youth section before taking on the role of assistant to Development team manager Mark Simpkins partway through the campaign.



Gary Eggleton - Coach

joins Bassett this season as goalkeeper coach. After beginning his playing career with New College, Eggleton spent the 2006-07 and 2007-08 seasons with Bassett, featuring primarily for the Reserve team while making a few Men's First Team appearances. He spent a number of years with Highworth Town and also featured for Shrivenham in the Hellenic League.



Robert Hopkins - Coach

Vastly experienced, UEFA-B licensed coach, who returns to Bassett this season as first team coach. As a player, he featured for and captained Bassett in the early 2000s. He also had higher level playing experience with both Nuneaton Borough and Yate Town. Has managed at New College and was assistant manager at Shrivenham in the Hellenic.



Nick Warren - Coach

Joined Bassett's Men's First Team coaching staff last season after managing the club's U18 Floodlit team. Been with the club for more than a decade, beginning as a manager in Bassett's youth section. His U18 side twice finished as runners-up in 21-22 and 22-23 and numerous players have made the step up from the U18s into Bassett's Men's First and Dev teams.



James Parsons - Analyst

Bringing experience from the professional game, joins Bassett this season in an analyst role. From 2013 to 2017 he served as Swindon Town's Head of Academy Performance Analysis, working primarily with their U18 & 21 squads. He then spent five years as Forest Green Rovers' Head of Performance Analysis before joining Bristol City in 2022 where he was Lead First Team Performance Analyst for two seasons.



Kara Gregory - Therapist

Experienced sports therapist who has been with the club for over a decade and a half, helping Bassett's Men's First Team ever since Paul Burke was manager. Possesses a Higher National Diploma in Sports and Exercise Therapy and a BSc in Sports Conditioning and Coaching.



Hannah Tubbs - Therapist

Hannah is an experienced sports massage therapist and personal trainer; Hannah is currently in her 2nd year at university studying towards her BSc Hons in Sports Therapy with a view to then completing a master's in physiotherapy.



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Hellenic Premier Division

Saturday's Results

HLP	03/01/26	Cirencester Town		3 - 1		Cribbs
HLP	03/01/26	Hallen		0 - 1 (HT 0-1)		Droitwich Spa
HLP	03/01/26	Pershore Town		0 - 3 (HT 0-0)		Mangotsfield United
MCC	03/01/26	Slimbridge		4 - 0		Westfields
HLP	03/01/26	Thornbury Town		3 - 3 (HT 1-2)		Tuffley Rovers
HLP	03/01/26	Worcester Raiders		3 - 2		Roman Glass St George

Today's Fixtures

HLP	09/01/26	Cribbs		VS		Hallen
HLP	10/01/26	Highworth Town		VS		Fairford Town
HLP	10/01/26	Corsham Town		VS		Lydney Town
HLP	10/01/26	Longlevens AFC		VS		Cirencester Town
HLP	10/01/26	Mangotsfield United		VS		Droitwich Spa
HLP	10/01/26	Roman Glass St George		VS		Westfields
HLP	10/01/26	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		VS		Slimbridge
HLP	10/01/26	Thornbury Town		VS		Pershore Town
HLP	10/01/26	Tuffley Rovers		VS		Cinderford Town
HLP	10/01/26	Worcester Raiders		VS		Hereford Pegasus



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Hellenic Premier Division

Roundup - Sat Jan 03



The cold weather snap meant that just five games went ahead in the Uhlsport Hellenic League Premier Division on Saturday.

In the games that did get played, **Worcester Raiders** toppled visiting Premier Division leaders **Roman Glass St George** 3-2. Raiders took a lead when Lincoln Hunt tapped in and scored further goals from Prince Henry and Adam Taylor secured the three points for Raiders despite Roman Glass scoring twice themselves.

Droitwich Spa moved back to second place with a 1-0 win at **Hallen**, James Lemon with the only goal of the game to give Droitwich all three points over relegation threatened Hallen.

Cirencester Town returned to winning ways at home against another of the relegation threatened sides, running out 3-1 winners over **Cribbs** thanks to a Harlie Price hat-trick, this after Louie Farrow had given Cribbs an early lead, Price completing his hat-trick deep into injury time at the end of the match.

Mangotsfield United were another side to return to winning ways after going two games without a win, goals from Kyrese Morrison, James White and Spike Weaver seeing them win 3-0 away at **Pershore Town**. Pershore are now very much in the battle to avoid the drop, this latest defeat seeing them now go ten games without a win in the league. Ironically their last league victory was away at Mangotsfield back in October.

The other league game played saw **Thornbury Town** and **Tuffley Rovers** share six goals and the points, Thornbury getting an equaliser in the sixth minute of added time at the end of the game through Thomas Black to earn a share of the points, Callum Chambers and Jack Toogood with the other Thornbury goals, Ellis Clifford amongst the goals for Tuffley.

Today's visitors **Slimbridge** were also in action in the League Challenge Cup, progressing to the next round courtesy of a 4-0 win over **Westfields**, Joe Shutt, Toby Soule, Ollie Barnes and Jacob Rodgers with the Slimbridge goals.



RWBTFC Hellenic League Stats

Historic League Record, Managers, Top Scorers

RWBT F.C. 37 YEARS IN THE HELLENIC LEAGUE											
Season	Div	Pld	Won	Drew	Lost	For	Agst	Pts	Position	Manager	Top Scorer
1988/89	1	28	11	7	10	50	41	40	5 out of 15	Mick Woolford	Damon York
1989/90	1	30	13	8	9	52	35	47	7 out of 16	Mick Woolford	Damon York 25
1990/91	1	30	11	8	11	32	36	41	8 out of 16	Mick Woolford	Damon York
1991/92	1	32	10	8	14	45	59	38	12 out of 17	Mick Woolford	Scott Vincent
1992/93	1	30	8	6	16	40	53	30	12 out of 16	Mick Woolford	Scott Vincent
1993/94	1	34	15	8	11	65	57	53	9 out of 18	Mick Woolford	Scott Vincent
1994/95	1	38	18	5	15	67	68	59	9 out of 20	Mick Woolford	Scott Vincent/Darren Jell
1995/96	1	34	12	9	13	50	64	45	10 out of 18	Kevin Maloney	Scott Vincent
1996/97	1	32	9	8	15	37	50	35	11 out of 17	Kevin Maloney	Ian Curtis/Gary Ashford 8
1997/98	1	32	12	6	14	67	58	42	10 out of 17	Dave Warren	Lee Stoddart/Peter Dearlove 10
1998/99	1	32	17	7	8	64	43	58	5 out of 17	Dave Warren	Lee Stoddart 17
1999/00	1	28	15	7	6	54	32	52	3 out of 15	Barry Giles	Lee Stoddart
2000/01	Prem	38	14	10	14	54	60	52	13 out of 20	Barry Giles	Lee Stoddart 25
2001/02	Prem	42	11	9	22	39	75	42	19 out of 22	Pete Yeardale	Mark Vaughan 14
2002/03	Prem	40	10	10	20	36	70	40	15 out of 21	Pete Yeardale	Geoff Swatton 9
2003/04	Prem	42	11	5	26	38	73	38	16 out of 22	Pete Yeardale	Geoff Swatton 16
2004/05	Prem	42	6	9	27	30	85	27	21 out of 22	Pete Yeardale/Chris Jones	Matty Bennett 10
2005/06	1W	34	17	10	7	58	30	61	5 out of 18	Paul Burke	Matty Bennett 12
2006/07	1W	34	14	5	15	64	62	47	11 out of 18	Paul Burke	Matty Bennett/Steve Yeardale 11
2007/08	1W	34	11	3	20	43	66	36	15 out of 18	Paul Burke	Richie Saunders 12
2008/09	1W	32	17	9	6	61	31	60	4 out of 17	Dave Turner	Shaun Terry 26
2009/10	1W	30	20	7	3	74	34	67	2 out of 16	Dave Turner	Sam Collier 22
2010/11	Prem	42	13	7	22	55	87	46	15 out of 22	Dave Turner	Sam Collier 26
2011/12	1W	32	15	7	10	69	47	52	5 out of 17	Dave Turner	Matt Bown 18
2012/13	1W	30	22	3	5	75	40	69	2 out of 16	Dave Turner	Mark Barnes 32
2013/14	Prem	38	11	12	15	60	60	45	14 out of 20	Jeff Roberts	Levi Cox 14
2014/15	Prem	38	14	9	15	66	80	51	11 out of 20	Paul Braithwaite	Dan Bailey 18
2015/16	Prem	38	12	5	21	50	86	41	15 out of 20	Paul Braithwaite	Steve Robertson 30
2016/17	Prem	34	15	3	16	61	64	45	11 out of 19	P.Braithwaite/R.Hunter	Steve Robertson 27
2017/18	Prem	38	11	6	21	44	85	39	15 out of 20	Richard Hunter/Sam Collier	Sam Collier 11
2018/19	Prem	36	14	7	15	66	71	49	10 out of 19	Sam Collier	TJ Bohane 20
2019/20	Prem	27	8	4	15	50	65	28	16* out of 19	Sam Collier	Callum Parsons 11
2020/21	Prem	8	1	4	3	8	12	7	15* out of 18	Sam Collier	TJ Bohane 11
2021/22	Prem	38	16	6	16	58	66	54	12 out of 20	Sam Collier	Alan Griffin & John Mills 16
2022/23	Prem	38	19	8	11	67	50	65	5 out of 20	Sam Collier	Alfie Presley 14
2023/24	Prem**	38	23	4	11	66	50	73	4 out of 20	Sam Collier	Alfie Presley 16
2024/25	Prem	38	19	7	12	78	58	64	6 out of 20	Sam Collier	Alfie Presley 27
Total		1,261	495	256	510	1,993	2,103	1,738	* At time season 2019-20 was suspended due to Covid-19		
Won:Drew:Lost Ratio 39.3% 20.3% 40.4% ** Excludes play-off game											

Pld	Won	Drew	Lost	For	Agst	Pts	Won:Drew:Lost Ratio	33.9% 19.1% 47.0%
Premier Division	617	209	118	290	848	1,139	742	Won:Drew:Lost Ratio 33.9% 19.1% 47.0%
Division 1 West	226	116	44	66	444	310	392	Won:Drew:Lost Ratio 51.3% 19.5% 29.2%
Division 1	380	151	87	142	623	596	540	Won:Drew:Lost Ratio 39.7% 22.9% 37.4%

Nickname	Bassett
Record Gate	2,103 v Swindon Town (1991)
Best Gate - 2024/25	260 v Fairford Town
Average Hellenic Attendance 2024/25	140 (down from 166 in 24/25)
Record Known Win	16 - 0 v Clyffe Pypard (1933/34)
Record Known Defeat	1 - 16 v Warminster T (3/11/1945)

Manager League Records in Hellenic League Era- Up to End of Season 2024-25				Honours Won					
Pld	Won	Drew	Lost	For	Agst	Pts			
Dave Turner	166	87	33	46	334	239	294	52.4%	Twice Hellenic Division One West Runners-up
Dave Warren	64	29	13	22	131	101	100	45.3%	Wiltshire Senior Cup Winner
Barry Giles	66	29	17	20	108	92	104	43.9%	Wiltshire Senior Cup Winner
Sam Collier	234	101	42	91	400	399	345	43.2%	Hellenic Premier Division Play-off Runners-up
Rich Hunter	58	24	7	27	93	115	76	41.4%	
Paul Burke	102	42	18	42	165	158	144	41.2%	
Mick Woolford	222	86	50	86	351	349	308	38.7%	Twice Hellenic Division 1 Cup Winner & Runner-up once
Paul Braithwaite	79	27	14	38	121	173	95	34.2%	
Kevin Maloney	66	21	17	28	87	114	80	31.8%	
Jeff Roberts	38	11	12	15	60	60	45	28.9%	
Pete Yeardale	154	36	31	87	136	278	139	23.4%	
Chris Jones*	12	2	2	8	7	25	8	16.7%	
1,261 495 256 510 1,993 2,103 1,738									

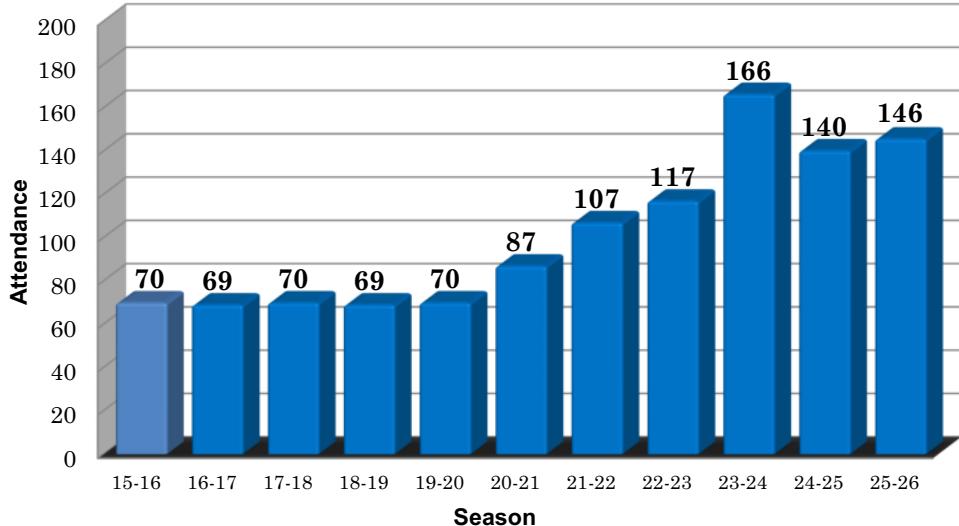
* Temporary manager until end of Season 2004-05



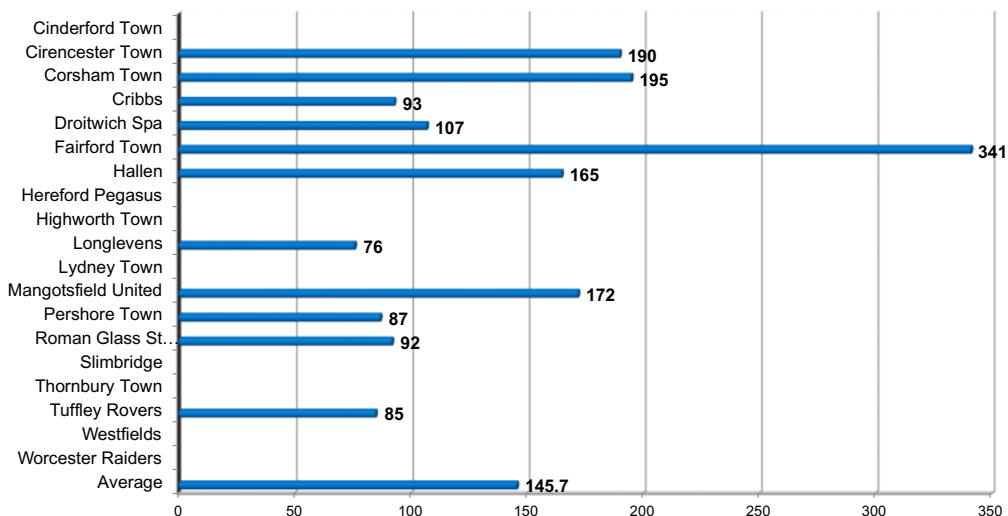
First Team

Attendance Statistics

RWBTFC Average Home League Attendances
Last 10 Years plus current season



RWBTFC League Attendances - Season 2025-26



Season 2025-26 Men's First Team

Fixtures & Results

Date	Opponents	H/A	Result	Crowd	Scorers
Tue 29-Jul	Thornbury Town	A	L 0 - 2	182	
Sat 02-Aug	Lydney Town (FAC EP)	A	D 3 - 3	177	Cleary 2, Teshome
Wed 06-Aug	Lydney Town (FAC EP Replay)	H	W 3 - 0	192	Cleary, Teshome, M. Lewis
Sat 09-Aug	Cirencester Town	H	D 1 - 1	190	Cleary
Wed 13-Aug	Hallen	H	D 0 - 0	165	
Sat 16-Aug	Amersham Town (FAC Pre)	H	W 3 - 1	187	Cleary, Voller, M. Lewis
Wed 20-Aug	Fairford Town	H	L 0 - 4	341	
Sat 23-Aug	Cinderford Town (FAV 1QR)	A	L 3 - 3*	173	Peachey-Score 2, Williams
Mon 25-Aug	Corsham Town	H	W 2 - 1	195	Cleary, Williams
Sat 30-Aug	Torpoint Athletic (FAC 1QR)	H	L 1 - 3	165	M. Lewis
Wed 03-Sep	Mangotsfield United	H	L 0 - 2	172	
Sat 06-Sep	Highworth Town	A	L 0 - 1	167	
Sat 13-Sep	Lydney Town	A	L 0 - 3	67	
Sat 20-Sep	Cribbs	H	W 3 - 1	93	M.Lewis, Teshome, Clark
Wed 24-Sep	Longlevens	A	L 2 - 6	114	Cleary, R.Hopkins
Sat 27-Sep	Tuffley Rovers	H	L 1 - 2	85	R.Hopkins
Sat 04-Oct	Droitwich Spa	A	L 1 - 2	223	Anderson
Sat 11-Oct	Westfields	A	D 1 - 1	172	F. Hopkins
Sat 18-Oct	Worcester Raiders	A	L 2 - 7		Cleary, OG
Sat 25-Oct	Pershore Town	A	D 1 - 1	108	Cleary
Wed 29-Oct	Highworth Town (WPS 1)	H	L 2 - 2*	174	Cleary, O.Lewis (L 4-5 pens)
Sat 01-Nov	Cirencester Town (UHL CC 3)	A	W 2 - 1	110	Cleary, OG
Sat 08-Nov	Longlevens	H	D 1 - 1	76	R.Hopkins
Sat 15-Nov	Hallen	A	L 3 - 6	55	M. Lewis 2, Cook
Tue 18-Nov	Hungerford Town Reserves (FL3)	H	L 3 - 4	85	Cleary, Griffin, McNally
Sat 22-Nov	Cribbs	A	W 2 - 1	53	Cleary, Griffin
Tue 25-Nov	Roman Glass St George	H	L 2 - 4	92	Cleary, Coward
Sat 06-Dec	Pershore Town	H	W 1 - 0	87	Bell
Sat 13-Dec	Worcester Raiders (UHL CC 4)	H	L 0 - 3	88	
Sat 20-Dec	Droitwich Spa	H	D 2 - 2	107	R. Hopkins 2
Sat 27-Dec	Cirencester Town	A	W 2 - 1	225	R. Hopkins, Bell
Sat 10-Jan	Slimbridge	H			
Sat 17-Jan	Tuffley Rovers	A			
Sat 24-Jan	Hereford Pegasus	A			
Sat 31-Jan	Lydney Town	H			
Sat 07-Feb	Slimbridge	A			
Sat 21-Feb	Cinderford Town	H			
Tue 24-Feb	Cinderford Town	A			
Sat 07-Mar	Roman Glass St George	A			
Sat 14-Mar	Westfields	H			
Sat 21-Mar	Worcester Raiders	H			
Sat 28-Mar	Thornbury Town	H			
Sat 04-Apr	Mangotsfield United	A			
Mon 06-Apr	Highworth Town	H			
Sat 11-Apr	Hereford Pegasus	H			
Sat 18-Apr	Fairford Town	A			
TBA	Corsham Town	A			

* Lost on penalties

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Season 2025-26 Men's First Team Line Ups



Appearances & Goals Statistics

Season 2025-26						RWBTFC Career	
	Appearances	Starts	As Sub	Total	Goals	Apps	Goals
1	Ben Cleary	26	4	30	14	30	14
2	Ed Taylor	20	7	27		27	
3	Rudi Hopkins	20	6	26	6	26	6
4	Oliver Smith	23	1	24		30	
5	Marcel Lewis	19	4	23	4	25	4
6	Lewis Hayward	15	8	23		23	
7	Bonsa Teshome	14	9	23	3	23	3
8	Kian McNally	21	1	22	1	22	1
9	Jordan Sykes	18	3	21		21	
10	Lewis Clark	18	1	19	1	19	1
11	Henri Parry-Williams	10	4	14		14	
12	Kassa Anderson	6	8	14	1	14	1
13	Kye Williams	8	4	12	2	12	2
14	Dylan Griffin	4	8	12	2	16	
15	Harry Messenger	11		11		11	
16	Noah Cranswick-Coates	11		11		18	
17	Gabriel Reivers	8	3	11		11	
18	Jack Coward	9	1	10	1	10	1
19	Otis Lewis	8	2	10	1	10	1
20	Jono Peachey-Score	6	4	10	2	10	2
21	Aaron Voller	9		9	1	9	1
22	TJ Bohane	5	4	9		74	38
23	Adam House	8		8		12	
24	Finnlay Hopkins	7	1	8	1	53	7
25	George Cook	2	5	7		7	
26	Ben Spackman	5	1	6		6	
27	Harvey Fox	4	1	5		5	
28	Nathaniel Bell	4	1	5	2	7	2
29	Miguel Alves	2	3	5		5	
30	Omaree Cox			5		5	
31	Finlay Tombs	4		4		4	
32	Lewis Thorne	4		4		4	
33	Alan Griffin		3	3		118	24
34	Ciaran Walsh	2		2		2	
35	Fraser Needham	2		2		2	
36	Henry Sandys-Lumsdaine	2		2		2	
37	Terry Francis	2		2		2	
38	Alexander Kieh	1	1	2		2	
39	Dikshant Raut		2	2		2	
40	Prince Nyongolo		2	2		2	
41	Toby Parker		2	2		2	
42	Callum Godfrey	1		1		1	
43	Joe McGrogan	1		1		1	
44	Thomas Suter	1		1		1	
45	Afonso Ferriera		1	1		2	
46	Charlie King		1	1		1	
47	George Knight		1	1		1	
48	Jazz Wallace		1	1		1	
49	Nelson Ero		1	1		2	
Own Goals						2	





Match Report v

Cirencester Town (A)



Brilliant Bassett see off form side Ciren

Cirencester Town 1
Royal Wootton Bassett Town 2

Saturday 27th December 2025

Royal Wootton Bassett Town earn a deserved Hellenic League Premier Division derby victory away at Cirencester Town, triumphing 2-1 courtesy of goals from Rudi Hopkins and Nat Bell.

Bassett's victory was all the more impressive given that Cirencester entered the contest as the side with the best form in the division over their previous ten games, having claimed 25 points from an available 30 while netting a league leading 31 goals.

After an indifferent start to their campaign, that run had propelled the Centurions firmly into the playoff reckoning. And facing a Bassett side with the second worst defensive record in the division, they had their eyes firmly set on three festive points.

It didn't turn out the way the hosts hoped though. Instead Bassett put in a superb display. The visitors controlled the game for an hour with Ed Taylor pulling the strings in the centre of midfield and Bassett's defence keeping the division's top scorer Harlie Price quiet all afternoon.

Indeed only once Cirencester brought on veteran Nick Peare with 25 minutes to go did they start to get on top. And then a steely, strong-willed defensive effort ensured the only goal they could muster came from a controversial free kick late on.

The hosts did have the first clear cut chance of the match when Callum Godfrey saved from a Theo Jeremy free kick. But Bassett quickly grew into the game with Taylor - with his clever passing and movement - and Rudi Hopkins - with his pace and intent - particularly threatening.

And minutes after he had shot just wide, Hopkins would put Bassett ahead just after the half hour mark with Taylor playing a crucial part in the set up. A Taylor reverse pass found full back Ollie Smith on a great overlapping run and his effort from a very tight angle was squeezed low beneath 'keeper Ronnie Newberry who diverted the ball onto the right post. The rebound fell to Hopkins and he made no mistake from close range.

Hopkins almost added a second from a free kick within minutes of opening the scoring but a fine save from Newberry meant there was to be no quickfire double. Bassett continued to keep Cirencester at bay while looking dangerous on the break. And they created their second goal just after the hour. Hopkins surged forward and, while his progress was impeded, he was able to square to Nat Bell, who danced his way into the box and crashed a powerful drive into the roof of the net with the outside of his right boot for his second goal since returning to Bassett.

That goal led Cirencester to make a double change with Peare - a quality player who has spent most of his career at steps two and three - brought into the fray. And his introduction sparked some life into the hosts. Still though they couldn't find a way to break Bassett down from open play. Cirencester did grab a goal with seven minutes to go. Dylan Griffin was harshly penalised to earn the hosts a free kick - and a place in the sin bin for Griffin as a result of his protestations. And the resulting delivery was guided into the box and steered in at the far post by Afonso Dias.

Although now defending a slender lead and with time remaining for Cirencester to push for an equaliser, Bassett didn't panic. And Jonny Aitkenhead's side successfully saw out the remainder of the game to seal another big three points. That means Bassett have now claimed ten points from their last available fifteen - an impressive turnaround after the barren run they had been on prior to their away victory at Cribbs.





League Cups Season 2024-25

Hellenic League Challenge Cup

HELLENIC LEAGUE MARSH CHALLENGE CUP SEASON 2025-26		
First Round		
Alcester Town	2 - 2	Ludlow Town (2-3 pens)
Burton Rovers Dev	0 - 5	Wantage Town
Brimscombe & Thrupp (5-3 pens)	1 - 1	Shortwood United
Chipping Sodbury Town	2 - 2	University of Bristol (3-4 pens)
Headington Amateurs	2 - 1	Hungerford Town Res
Newent Town	5 - 1	UDA Glos Development
Thame United Res	3 - 0	Clanfield 85
Woodford United	0 - 1	FC Stratford
Second Round		
Bewdley Town	12 - 0	Evesham United Reserves
Carterton	3 - 0	Redditch Borough
Cheltenham Saracens (6-5 pens)	1 - 1	Newent Town
FC Stratford	4 - 1	Easington Sports Dev
Hambledon	L - W	Eversley & California Res
Headington Amateurs	2 - 0	Banbury United Dev
Kidlington Dev	0 - 10	Brimscombe & Thrupp
Ludlow Town	1 - 2	Wellington
Malmsbury Victoria	2 - 0	Thame United Reserves
Penn & Tylers Green United	4 - 3	Marlow Reserves
Stonehouse Town	3 - 1	University of Bristol
Wantage Town	6 - 0	Ardley United Res
Third Round		
Brimscombe & Thrupp	1 - 2	Highworth Town
Carterton	1 - 4	Pershore Town
Cinderford Town	0 - 2	Longlevens AFC
Cirencester Town	1 - 2	Royal W. Bassett Town
Cribbs	1 - 1	Cheltenham Saracens (Won 4-3 pens)
Droitwich Spa	2 - 1	FC Stratford
Fairford Town	8 - 0	Penn & Tylers Green United
Hallen	4 - 3	Thornbury Town
Hereford Pegasus	3 - 0	Bewdley Town
Mangotsfield United	6 - 0	Malmsbury Victoria
Slimbridge	3 - 1	Corsham Town
Stonehouse Town	3 - 0	Wellington
Tuffley Rovers	W - L	Eversley & California Res
Wantage Town	3 - 0	Lydney Town
Westfields	5 - 1	Headington Amateurs
Worcester Raiders	3 - 2	Roman Glass St George
Fourth Round		
Cheltenham Saracens	0 - 4	Fairford Town
Hallen	1 - 3	Highworth Town
Longlevens AFC	1 - 1	Mangotsfield United (Won 5-4 pens)
Pershore Town	0 - 1	Hereford Pegasus
Royal Wootton Bassett Town	0 - 3	Worcester Raiders
Slimbridge	4 - 0	Westfields
Tuffley Rovers	2 - 1	Droitwich Spa
Wantage Town	1 - 2	Stonehouse Town
Quarter Finals		
Droitwich Spa	v	Fairford Town
Hereford Pegasus	v	Highworth Town
Mangotsfield United	v	Worcester Raiders
Stonehouse Town	v	Slimbridge

Challenge Cup - Winners

1998-99	Burnham
1999-00	Swindon Supermarine
2000-01	Carterton Town
2001-02	Gloucester United
2002-03	Yate Town
2003-04	Didcot Town
2004-05	Didcot Town
2005-06	Didcot Town
2006-07	Hungerford Town
2007-08	Hungerford Town
2008-09	Almondsbury Town
2009-10	Ardley United
2010-11	Holyport
2011-12	Highworth Town
2012-13	Oxford City Nomads
2013-14	Ascot United
2014-15	Ardley United
2015-16	Flackwell Heath
2016-17	Bracknell Town
2017-18	Bracknell Town
2018-19	Ascot United
2019-20	<i>Not awarded due to Covid-19</i>
2020-21	Kidlington Reserves
2021-22	Cribbs
2022-23	Pershore Town
2023-24	Corsham Town
2024-25	Hartpury University





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Floodlit Cup - Winners

1994-95	Cinderford Town
1995-96	Bicester Town
1996-97	Abingdon United
1997-98	Swindon Supermarine
1998-99	Tuffley Rovers
1999-00	Swindon Supermarine
2000-01	Swindon Supermarine
2001-02	Fairford Town
2002-03	Tuffley Rovers
2003-04	Slimbridge
2004-05	Almondsbury Town
2005-06	Slimbridge
2006-07	Wantage Town
2007-08	Kidlington
2008-09	Marlow United
2009-10	Shortwood United
2010-11	Holyport
2011-12	Binfield
2012-13	Ardley United
2013-14	Brimscombe & Thrupp
2014-15	North Leigh
2015-16	Ascot United
2016-17	Lydney United
2017-18	Binfield
2018-19	Ardley United
2019-20	<i>Not awarded due to Covid-19</i>
2020-21	<i>Not awarded due to Covid-19</i>
2021-22	<i>Not awarded due to Covid-19</i>
2022-23	Mangotsfield United
2023-24	Worcester City
2024-25	Cirencester Town

HELLENIC LEAGUE FLOODLIT CUP SPONSORED BY WISEMAN LIGHTING SEASON 2025-26

First Round		
Alcester Town	3 - 2	Cheltenham Saracens
Banbury United Dev	5 - 1	Evesham Utd Res
Eversley & California Res	1 - 2	Marlow Reserves
Hambledon	L - W	Hungerford Town Res
Thame Utd Res	5 - 3	Ardley United Res
Wellington	2 - 6	Newent Town
Second Round		
Alcester Town	7 - 1	LIDA Glos Development
Banbury United Dev	0 - 3	Wantage Town
Brimscombe & Thrupp	1 - 4	Chipping Sodbury Town
Carterton	4 - 2	Kidlington Dev
FC Stratford	5 - 4	Redditch Borough
Hungerford Town Res	3 - 2	Marlow Reserves
Ludlow Town	5 - 1	Easington Sports Dev
Malmsbury Victoria	5 - 1	University of Bristol
Newent Town	3 - 2	Bewdley Town
Shortwood United	2 - 0	Bourton Rovers Dev
Stonehouse Town	2 - 1	Clanfield 85
Thame United Reserves	0 - 4	Woodford United
Third Round		
Carterton (5-3 pens)	2 - 2	Lydney Town
Cinderford Town	2 - 2	Alcester Town (1-4 pens)
Cirencester Town	1 - 4	Malmsbury Victoria
Cribbs	2 - 1	Roman Glass St George
Hallen	v	Corsham Town
Hereford Pegasus	3 - 1	Thornbury Town
Longlevens (4-2 pens)	0 - 0	FC Stratford
Ludlow Town	1 - 1	Pershore Town (4-5 pens)
Mangotsfield United	1 - 3	Highworth Town
Newent Town	0 - 3	Droitwich Spa
Royal Wootton Bassett Town	3 - 4	Hungerford Town Res
Shortwood United	2 - 3	Tuffley Rovers
Stonehouse Town	0 - 2	Fairford Town
Wantage Town	W - L	Chipping Sodbury Town
Westfields	3 - 2	Slimbridge
Worcester Raiders	3 - 2	Woodford United
Fourth Round		
Alcester Town	v	Highworth Town
Hungerford Town Res	v	Hallen or Corsham Town
Longlevens AFC	v	Fairford Town
Malmsbury Victoria	v	Carterton
Tuffley Rovers	v	Cribbs
Westfields	v	Hereford Pegasus
Wantage Town	v	Pershore Town
Worcester Raiders	v	Droitwich Spa





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Emirates
FA CUP

RWBTFC & The Emirates FA CUP

EMIRATES FA CUP ROAD TO WEMBLEY FOR ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN 2025-26

Date	Round	Opponents	H/A	Result	Prize Money	Winner	Loser
2-Aug-25	Extra Preliminary Round	v Lydney Town	A	D 3 - 3			
6-Aug-25	Extra Preliminary Round Rep	v Lydney Town	H	W 3 - 0	£1,125		£375
16-Aug-25	Preliminary Round	v Amersham Town	H	W 3 - 1	£1,444		£481
30-Aug-25	First Qualifying Round	v Torpoint Athletic	H	L 1 - 3	£2,250		£750
13-Sep-25	Second Qualifying Round	v Merthyr Town	A		£3,375		£1,125
27-Sep-25	Third Qualifying Round	v Hampton & Richmond B	H		£5,625		£1,875
11-Oct-25	Fourth Qualifying Round	v Eastleigh	H		£9,375		£3,125
1-Nov-25	First Round	v Walsall*	H		£45,000		£15,000
6-Dec-25	Second Round	v Gateshead	A		£75,000		£20,000
10-Jan-26	Third Round	v Norwich City	A		£115,000		£25,000
14-Feb-26	Fourth Round	v			£120,000		
7-Mar-26	Fifth Round	v			£225,000		
4-Apr-26	Sixth Round	v			£450,000		
25-Apr-26	Semi-Final	v			£1,000,000		£500,000
16-May-26	Final	v			£2,000,000		£1,000,000

* Still in competition

Total Prize Money Won

£3,319

Royal Wootton Bassett Town FC - Emirates FA Cup Record

Season	Rnd	Opponents	Result
1938-39	Pr	Wiltshire Mental Hospital	A L 0 - 6
1939-40	Pr	Frome Town (War)	A P - P
1946-47	EPr	Dilton Rovers	H W 5 - 1
	Pr	Swindon GWR Corinthians	A L 1 - 5
1947-48	EPr	Pewsey Vale	H L 0 - 2
1948-49	EPr	Swindon BR Corinthians	A L 3 - 6
1949-50	EPr	Warminster Town	H L 4 - 5
1950-51	EPr	Spencer Moulton	H W 2 - 1
	Pr	Devizes Town	A L 0 - 4
2004-05	Pr	Exmouth	A L 2 - 3
2007-08	EPr	Highworth Town	A D 0 - 0
	EPr	Highworth Town	H W 2 - 1
	Pr	Bracknell Town	H W 2 - 1
QR1	Brockenhurst	A D 1 - 1	
QR1	Brockenhurst	H L 1 - 5	
2008-09	EPr	Flackwell Heath	A D 1 - 1
	EPr	Flackwell Heath	H L 1 - 6
2009-10	EPr	Westbury United	H D 2 - 2
	EPr	Westbury United	A W 3 - 2
	Pr	Brockenhurst	H L 0 - 1
2010-11	EPr	Bradford Town	A D 1 - 1
	EPr	Bradford Town (W4-3 pens)	H D 3 - 3
	Pr	Almondsbury UWE	A W 1 - 0
QR1	Hamble ASSC	A D 1 - 1	
QR1	Hamble ASSC	H L 0 - 2	
2011-12	EPr	Radstock Town	A L 1 - 2
2012-13	EPr	Calne Town	H W 4 - 2
	Pr	Hamworthy United	H W 1 - 0
QR1	Highworth Town	H W 3 - 1	
QR2	Dorchester Town	A L 0 - 4	

Season	Rnd	Opponents	Result
2013-14	EPr	Totton & Eling	H L 0 - 2
2014-15	EPr	Brockenhurst	A W 3 - 0
	Pr	Bradford Town	A L 1 - 2
2015-16	EPr	Bracknell Town	H L 0 - 2
2016-17	EPr	Andover Town	A L 2 - 5
2017-18	EPr	Crawley Green	H L 1 - 2
2018-19	EPr	Leighton Town	A W 1 - 0
	Pr	Lydney Town	H D 0 - 0
	Pr	Lydney Town	A L 3 - 5
2019-20	EPr	Aylesbury Vale Dynamos	H D 1 - 1
	EPr	Aylesbury Vale Dynamos	A L 0 - 1
2020-21	EPr	Chipping Sodbury T (W4-1 pens)	H D 2 - 2
	Pr	Didcot Town	A W 2 - 1
QR1	Cinderford T (Won 6-5 pens)	A D 2 - 2	
QR2	Oxford City	H L 1 - 2	
2021-22	EPr	Thornbury Town	A W 4 - 0
	Pr	Ardley United	H D 2 - 2
	Pr	Ardley United	A L 1 - 3
2022-23	EPr	Windsor	H D 1 - 1
	EPr	Windsor	A W 2 - 0
	Pr	Reading City	H W 3 - 1
QR1	Paulton Rovers	H L 2 - 4	
2023-24	EPr	Mangotsfield United	A L 0 - 2
2024-25	EPr	Mangotsfield United	H W 2 - 1
	Pr	Didcot Town	H L 0 - 2
2025-26	EPr	Lydney Town	A D 3 - 3
	EPr	Lydney Town	H W 3 - 0
	Pr	Amersham Town	H W 3 - 1
QR1	Torpoint Athletic	H L 1 - 3	



RWBTFC



RWBTFC & The Isuzu FA VASE

THE ROAD TO WEMBLEY FOR ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN F.C. FA VASE 2025-26						
Date	Round	Opponents	H/A	Result	Prize Money	
					Winner	Loser
23-Aug-25	First Round Qualifying	Cinderford Town	A	L 3 - 3 (4 - 5 pens)	£550	£160
20-Sep-25	Second Round Qualifying	Wokingham Town	A		£725	£225
18-Oct-25	First Round Proper	Clevedon Town	A		£825	£250
8-Nov-25	Second Round Proper	Helston Athletic	H		£900	£275
6-Dec-25	Third Round Proper	AFC Stoneham*	A		£1,125	£350
17-Jan-26	Fourth Round Proper	Barnstaple Town*	A		£1,875	£600
7-Feb-26	Fifth Round Proper				£2,250	£725
28-Feb-26	Sixth Round Proper				£4,125	£1,350
28-Mar-26	Semi-final (1st leg)					£5,500
4-Apr-26	Semi-final (2nd leg)					£1,725
17-May-26	Final (at Wembley)				£30,000	£15,000

* Still in competition

Total Prize Money Won

£160

RWBTFC F.A. Vase Record

2001-02	QR2	Calne Town	H	W 3 - 2	2016-17	QR2	Thame Utd	H	L 2 - 4
	R1	St Blazey	H	L 0 - 2	2017-18	QR1	Fairford Town	H	W 3 - 1
2002-03	QR2	Shortwood United	A	L 1 - 5		QR2	Codicote	H	W 5 - 0
2003-04	QR2	Bemerton Heath Harl's A	L	1 - 4		R1	Amphill Town	H	W 2 - 1
2004-05	QR1	Wellington	A	L 0 - 4		R2	Horndean	A	L 2 - 3
2005-06	QR1	Christchurch	H	D 1 - 1	2018-19	QR2	Bashley	H	L 0 - 4
	QR1	Christchurch	A	L 0 - 1	2019-20	QR1	New College Swindon	A	W 7 - 0
2006-07	QR1	Shrewton United	A	D 1 - 1		QR2	Tadley Calleva	A	L 0 - 1
	QR1	Shrewton United	H	L 2 - 3	2020-21	QR2	Stonehouse	A	W 1 - 0
2007-08	QR2	Bournemouth	A	L 0 - 12		R1	Camelford	H	W 4 - 0
2008-09	QR1	Buckingham Athletic	A	W 5 - 3		R2	Bridgwater Town	A	L 1 - 2
	QR2	Henley Town	A	W 6 - 0	2021-22	QR1	Knaphill	H	W 1 - 0
	R1	Kidlington	H	W 3 - 2		QR2	Portishead Town	A	W 3 - 1
	R2	Wimbourne Town	A	L 0 - 4		R1	Downton	H	W 4 - 0
2009-10	QR1	Hamble ASSC	H	L 2 - 3		R2	Torpoint Athletic	H	W 2 - 0
2010-11	QR2	Devizes Town	A	W 4 - 0		R3	Hamworthy United	H	L 1 - 3
	R1	Cadbury Heath	A	L 1 - 2	2022-23	R1	Bridport	A	W 5 - 3
2011-12	QR1	Shortwood United	A	L 0 - 4		R2	Wellington (5 - 4 pens)	A	D 2 - 2
2012-13	QR1	GE Hamble	A	L 0 - 6		R3	Corsham T(L 3 - 4 pens)	H	D 0 - 0
2013-14	QR2	Odd Down	A	L 0 - 7	2023-24	R1	Elburton Villa	H	W 2 - 1
2014-15	QR1	Cove	A	W 3 - 2		R2	Longlevens	H	W 2 - 1
	QR2	Abingdon United	H	L 2 - 3		R3	Bridgwater T(5-6 pens)	H	L 2 - 2
2015-16	QR1	Binfield	H	D 1 - 1	2024-25	R1	AFC Stoneham	A	L 0 - 3
	QR1	Binfield	A	W 4 - 3	2025-26	QR1	Cinderford T(L 4-5 pens)	A	D 3 - 3
	QR2	Windsor FC	A	L 1 - 2					





RWBTFC WOMEN'S TEAM



Professional catering services to businesses and colleges in Wiltshire and surrounding areas



Unit 27, Lower Basset Down Workshops, Basset Down, Swindon, SN4 9QP
01793 845259

Sponsors of after match food for both our Development and Women's sides



RWBTFC

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RWBTFC WOMEN'S TEAM

Season 2025-26



Royal Wootton Bassett Town Women's Team

Season 2025-26 - South West Regional Women's League Division 1 North

Date	Opponents	H/A	Comp	Result	Scorers
Sun 07-Sep-25	Frimley Green (FAC 1QR)	A	FAC	W 2 - 0	N.Goodright, Bach
Sun 21-Sep-25	Bristol Brunel (FAC 2QR)	A	FAC	W 1 - 0	Scott
Sun 28-Sep-25	Downend Flyers	H	SWRL	W 1 - 0	Scott
Sun 05-Oct-25	Forest Green Rovers (FAC 3QR)	H	FAC	L 1 - 3	Bulley
Sun 12-Oct-25	Gloucester City Res	H	SWRL	W 2 - 0	Scott, Gulliver
Sun 19-Oct-25	Calne Town (WCC2)	H	WCC	W 11 - 1	Elliott 5, Bach, Egerton, Fraser, Gulliver, Jefferies, Telling
Sun 26-Oct-25	Stockwood Wanderers	H	SWRL	W 9 - 0	Elliott 2, Gulliver 2, Bulley 2, Fraser, Scott, Bach
Sun 02-Nov-25	Bitton	H	SWRL	W 3 - 1	Elliott, Hurd, Bulley
Sun 09-Nov-25	Mangotsfield United	A	SWRL	D 2 - 2	Elliott, Taylor
Sun 16-Nov-25	Highworth Town (WCC QF)	H	WCC	W 11 - 0	Bulley 3, Bach 2, Sykes 2, Cox, Jefferies, Taylor, Young
Sun 23-Nov-25	Paulton Rovers	H	SWRL	W 2 - 0	Bulley 2
Sun 30-Nov-25	Whitchurch	H	SWRL	W 5 - 0	Fraser 2, Hurd, Taylor, Scott
Sun 14-Dec-25	Downend Flyers	A	SWRL	W 2 - 1	Bulley 2
Sun 04-Jan-26	Cirencester Town	A	SWRL	D 1 - 1	Scott
Sun 18-Jan-26	Highworth T U18 (WCC SF)	H	WCC		
Sun 25-Jan-26	AFC Brislington	H	SWRL		
Sun 01-Feb-26	Appledore	H	L Cup		
Sun 08-Feb-26	Bitton	A	SWRL		
Sun 15-Feb-26	Corsham Town	H	SWRL		
Sun 22-Feb-26	Paulton Rovers	A	SWRL		
Sun 01-Mar-26	Corsham Town	A	SWRL		
Sun 08-Mar-26	Stockwood Wanderers	A	SWRL		
Sun 15-Mar-26	Cirencester Town	H	SWRL		
Sun 22-Mar-26	Bath City	A	SWRL		
Sun 29-Mar-26	Whitchurch	A	SWRL		
Sun 05-Apr-26	Mangotsfield United	H	SWRL		
Sun 12-Apr-26	Gloucester City Res	A	SWRL		
Sun 19-Apr-26	Bath City	H	SWRL		
Sun 26-Apr-26	AFC Brislington	A	SWRL		

Goalscorers Season 25-26	League	Cup	Total
Lauren Bulley	7	4	11
Maddy Elliott	4	5	9
Elle Scott	5	1	6
Kathryn Bach	1	4	5
Hannah Gulliver	3	1	4
Honor Fraser	3	1	4
Victoria Taylor	2	1	3
Briony Hurd	2		2
Emma Sykes		2	2
Laura Jefferies		2	2
Alice Telling		1	1
Amber Egerton		1	1
Darcy Cox		1	1
Megan Young		1	1
Natalie Goodright		1	1
	27	26	53



RWBTFC WOMEN'S TEAM

Season 2025-26

South West Regional Women's Football League Division One North Season 2025-26

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Mangotsfield United	10	7	2	1	42	14	23
2 Royal Wootton Bassett Town	9	7	2	0	27	5	23
3 Corsham Town	7	7	0	0	20	8	21
4 Whitchurch	10	7	0	3	25	17	21
5 Cirencester Town	11	6	1	4	32	13	19
6 Bath City	10	5	2	3	24	13	17
7 Bitton	7	5	1	1	27	10	16
8 Gloucester City Reserves	13	3	2	8	19	34	11
9 Downend Flyers	9	3	2	4	15	14	8
10 Stockwood Wanderers	11	1	3	7	12	42	6
11 Paulton Rovers	11	0	2	9	13	40	2
12 AFC Brislington	12	0	1	11	10	56	1

WILTSHIRE FA COUNTY WOMEN'S CUP SEASON 2025-26																																																		
First Round																																																		
<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr><td>Barford Hornets</td><td>1 - 3</td><td>Salisbury</td></tr> <tr><td>Calne Town</td><td>W - L</td><td>Putton Kingsdown Res</td></tr> <tr><td>FC Abbey Meads</td><td>W - L</td><td>Durrington</td></tr> <tr><td>FC Chippenham</td><td>0 - 12</td><td>Melksham Town</td></tr> <tr><td>Highworth Town U18</td><td>9 - 1</td><td>Ashton Keynes Youth</td></tr> <tr><td>Malmesbury Victoria</td><td>W - L</td><td>FC Abbey Meads U17</td></tr> <tr><td>Marlborough Town</td><td>5 - 0</td><td>Blunsdon</td></tr> <tr><td>Purton Kingsdown</td><td>9 - 0</td><td>Ferndale Rodbourne</td></tr> <tr><td>Staverton Rangers</td><td>0 - 6</td><td>Highworth Town</td></tr> <tr><td>Stratton</td><td>2 - 6</td><td>Bishops Cannings</td></tr> <tr><td>Swindon Supermarine</td><td>7 - 1</td><td>Trowbridge Wanderers</td></tr> <tr><td>Bemerton Heath Harlequins</td><td>Bye</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Corsham Town</td><td>Bye</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Royal Wootton Bassett Town</td><td>Bye</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Swindon Town</td><td>Bye</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Westbury Ladies</td><td>Bye</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>			Barford Hornets	1 - 3	Salisbury	Calne Town	W - L	Putton Kingsdown Res	FC Abbey Meads	W - L	Durrington	FC Chippenham	0 - 12	Melksham Town	Highworth Town U18	9 - 1	Ashton Keynes Youth	Malmesbury Victoria	W - L	FC Abbey Meads U17	Marlborough Town	5 - 0	Blunsdon	Purton Kingsdown	9 - 0	Ferndale Rodbourne	Staverton Rangers	0 - 6	Highworth Town	Stratton	2 - 6	Bishops Cannings	Swindon Supermarine	7 - 1	Trowbridge Wanderers	Bemerton Heath Harlequins	Bye		Corsham Town	Bye		Royal Wootton Bassett Town	Bye		Swindon Town	Bye		Westbury Ladies	Bye	
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RWBTFC WOMEN'S TEAM

Match Report v Cirencester Town

Unbeaten record survives derby test

South West Regional Women's League
Division One North

Cirencester Town 1
Royal Wootton Bassett Town 1

Sunday 4 January 2026

Elle Scott's second half equaliser earned Royal Wootton Bassett Town a point away at local rivals Cirencester Town - and ensured James Lally's side remain unbeaten in the South West Regional Women's Football League Division One North.

With both teams eager to play after the Christmas break, the freezing weather saw the teams agree to switch the fixture, originally scheduled to be at the Gerard Buxton Sports Ground, to the Corinium Stadium - where the 3G pitch meant the game would definitely go ahead.

Surrendering home advantage against their rivals - the division's leading scorers, meant that Bassett's unbeaten start to the season would come under greater threat. And so it proved.

But Bassett came from behind to claim a helpful point - though they did ultimately miss out on the opportunity to go top of the table with none of the other sides in the top half able to play due to the weather.

Cirencester led early when an attempted clearance fell to Lani Dickinson whose powerful 25 yard drive proved too powerful for 'keeper Millie Powell, who was unable to keep out the ex-Bassett forward's effort despite getting a hand to the ball.

In an end-to-end half Bassett's best chance fell to Lauren Bulley who teed over from close range when unmarked after Maddy Elliott used her strength to win possession deep in Cirencester territory and square to her teammate.



Powell was forced to top wide from Dickinson shortly after the restart after Cirencester almost made Bassett pay for a sloppy attempt to play out from the back.

Kat Bach narrowly headed over from a Laura Jefferies corner as Bassett pushed for an equaliser.

And that goal eventually arrived when a tackle on Bulley on the edge of the area saw the loose ball fall to Scott and she arrowed a low left foot drive into the corner of the net.

Bassett almost netted a winner too when a Tori Taylor free kick caused chaos in the box and Bach steered just over from twelve yards.





RWBTFC MEN'S Dev Team

Season 2025-26



Corsham Print Wiltshire Senior League
Premier Division Season 2025-26

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1 Shrewton United	21	17	2	2	77	22	53
2 Swindon Supermarine Dev	21	15	1	5	57	29	46
3 Larkhall Athletic Dev	20	13	4	3	49	21	43
4 Shrivenham	21	13	2	6	48	33	41
5 Melksham Town Res	20	10	5	5	46	33	35
6 Letcombe	18	10	5	3	27	15	35
7 Royal W. Bassett Town Dev	22	9	7	6	45	32	34
8 Pewsey Vale	20	8	8	4	37	20	32
9 Faringdon Town	20	6	5	9	22	28	23
10 Park United	20	7	1	12	29	36	22
11 Trowbridge Town	21	6	4	11	27	50	22
12 Purton Kingsdown	20	5	5	10	27	44	20
13 Devizes Town Res	20	5	4	11	31	50	19
14 Bemerton Heath Harlequins Res	22	5	4	13	25	51	19
15 Down Ampney	19	5	1	13	33	55	16
16 Wroughton* (-3)	17	4	3	10	25	47	12
17 Calne Town Res	20	1	3	16	27	66	6
18 Cricklade Town	Withdrew & record expunged						

* Points adjustment for failing to fulfill fixtures



RWBTFC MEN'S Dev Team

Season 2025-26



ROYAL W. BASSETT TOWN FC DEV - SEASON 2025-26 FIXTURES & RESULTS CORSHAM PRINT WILTSHIRE SENIOR LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

Date	Opponents	H/A	Comp	Result	Scorers
Sat 02-Aug-25	Melksham Town Res	H	League	L 2 - 5	Mesas, Capel
Tue 05-Aug-25	Wroughton	A	League	W 3 - 1	Cook, Case, Nyongolo
Sat 09-Aug-25	Faringdon Town	A	League	D 1 - 1	Case
Sat 16-Aug-25	Down Ampney	A	League	W 4 - 1	Ugonna 2, Nyongolo, Case
Sat 23-Aug-25	Calne Town Res	H	League	D 3 - 3	Parker, Case, Lance
Tue 26-Aug-25	Park United	A	League	W 3 - 0	Parker, Case, Staten
Sat 30-Aug-25	Larkhall Athletic Dev	A	League	L 1 - 2	Knight
Sat 06-Sep-25	Cricklade Town *	A	League	W 1 - 0	Nyongolo
Tue 09-Sep-25	Trowbridge Town	H	League	W 3 - 0	Sisay, Nyongolo, Case
Sat 13-Sep-25	Swindon Supermarine Dev	H	League	L 2 - 5	Capel, Nyongolo
Tue 16-Sep-25	Letcombe	H	League	D 0 - 0	
Sat 20-Sep-25	Bemerton Heath Harl Res	H	League	W 3 - 0	M.Spackman, Capel, Lowe
Sat 27-Sep-25	Shrivenham	A	League	L 2 - 3	Capel, King
Sat 04-Oct-25	Shrivenham	A	FT Cup	L 2 - 3	Nyongolo, Walters
Wed 08-Oct-25	Melksham Town Res	A	WSC	W 3 - 1	Nyongolo, Pettifor, King
Sat 11-Oct-25	Pewsey Vale	H	League	D 0 - 0	
Sat 18-Oct-25	Faringdon Town	H	League	W 2 - 0	Nyongolo 2
Sat 25-Oct-25	Shrivenham	H	League	D 1 - 1	Case
Sat 01-Nov-25	Calne Town Res	A	League	W 2 - 1	B.Spackman, King
Sat 08-Nov-25	Devizes Town Res	A	League	W 5 - 0	Walters, King, M.Spackman, Nyongolo, Anderson
Sat 15-Nov-25	Wroughton	H	League	D 3 - 3	Walters 2, Parker
Sat 22-Nov-25	Purton Kingsdown	H	League	W 3 - 0	Walters 2, B.Spackman
Sat 29-Nov-25	Shrivenham	H	League	L 1 - 4	Nyongolo
Sat 06-Dec-25	Letcombe	A	League	L 0 - 1	
Tue 09-Dec-25	Warminster Town	H	WSC	L 1 - 3	Own goal
Sat 13-Dec-25	Bemerton Heath Harl Res	A	League	D 1 - 1	Parker
Sat 10-Jan-26	Melksham Town Res	A	League		
Sat 17-Jan-26	Pewsey Vale	A	League		
Sat 24-Jan-26	Park United	H	League		
Sat 31-Jan-26	Shrivenham	A	League		
Sat 07-Feb-26	Down Ampney	H	League		
Sat 28-Feb-26	Devizes Town Res	H	League		
Sat 07-Mar-26	Purton Kingsdown	A	League		
Sat 14-Mar-26	Larkhall Athletic Dev	H	League		
Sat 21-Mar-26	Trowbridge Town	A	League		
Sat 04-Apr-26	Swindon Supermarine Dev	A	League		

* Cricklade Town subsequently withdrew from the league

Goalscorers	League	WSC	FT Cup	Total
Prince Nyongolo	8	1	1	10
Sam Case	7			7
Flynn Walters	5		1	6
Matt Capel	4			4
Charlie King	3	1		4
Toby Parker	4			4
Ben Spackman	2			2
Max Spackman	2			2
Okafur Ugonna	2			2
George Cook	1			1
George Knight	1			1
George Lance	1			1
George Staten	1			1
Kassa Anderson	1			1
Mani Mesas	1			1
Morgan Lowe	1			1
Omar Sisay	1			1
Zach Pettifor		1		1
Own Goals		1		1
	45	4	2	51





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RWBTFC

IN A WEEK remembered for sudden managerial dismissals, it's somewhat refreshing to hear Alan Dowson talk so enthusiastically after celebrating his 1,000th game in the dugout. First Enzo Maresca at Chelsea, then Ruben Amorim at Manchester United, swiftly followed by Wilfried Nancy after just eight games in charge of Celtic. The shelf-life of a football manager is as perilous as ever.

Dowson, though, has a sell-by-date far longer-reaching. The aimable Geordie has recently returned for a second spell in charge of Hampton & Richmond Borough where he enjoyed some of his most successful times in a management career that began at Walton & Hersham and also took in Kingstonian and Woking.

Hampton's 2-0 win over Farnborough on Boxing Day marked Dowson's 1,000th game in the dug-out – and the 55-year-old told The NLP that he simply can't get enough of the management madhouse.

"It's ****g brilliant – I haven't slept for two weeks," he told us in his unmistakable, and unrivalled, jovial spirit. "I don't see the missus anymore – or the kids. I went in the other night and I think they thought I was burgling the house!"

"It's great. Four o'clock in the morning and I'm blinking up. I am nervous, I've got anxiety again – it's excellent."

"I love pressure. I love everything about the game. Anxiety, pressure, nerves, happiness."

"On Monday I was driving two hours to watch Chelmsford against Dagenham. It's keeping me on the ball all the time."

And Dowson is not the only manager to have caught the bug. Back in November, NLP columnist Tony Incenzo told how Pep Guardiola's 1,000th game in management paled into insignificance compared to Ramsbottom United boss Steve Wilkes for example.

An emphatic 8-0 victory at City of Liverpool in the North West Counties League Premier Division was the Preston-base boss' 1,300th game in the dugout having started in August 1997.

Explaining an astonishing story of dedication amidst work and family pressures, Wilkes said: "I'm really proud to hit the 1,300 mark. I've done 28 and a half years now and it is quite a milestone."

"I started out as a manager in the summer of 1997. I had been playing for Darwen when I received a phone call stating the boss was leaving and asking if I could fill the vacancy. I was only 29 and it didn't interest me at all. I had never wanted to go into management or coaching. Even so, Darwen asked me to consider it."

I was friendly with Sam Allardyce from my professional playing days. I had previously been at Preston while he was at Bolton. So I gave Sam a ring for advice.

"He said: 'Look mate – take the position. Do it for six weeks. If you don't enjoy it, you can quit.'

Seven years at Darwen, voluntarily and without a budget, proceeded a five-and-a-half year stint with Padham before Wilkes joined Runcorn Linnets, where he was sacked for the only time in his career after two-and-a-half years.

Twelve months at Ashton Athletic led to him rejoining Padham in 2012/13 where Wilkes won the North West Counties League title and enjoy a couple of seasons in the Northern Premier League.

Following another five-year stint, he then left the Storks and moved to Northwich Victoria and after leading the club to the FA Vase semi-final, Wilkes, now a grandfather, decided to retire three years ago. That was until Ramsbottom United got back in touch.

"I spoke about it to my wife of 35 years Alison," he explained. "Her exact words were: 'Yes please! I don't want you under my feet on a Saturday!' So my retirement didn't last very long."

And talking of 1,000 games, it's not just the managers achieving extraordinary feats.

Back in October, we sat down with 44-year-old Peter Clarke after making his landmark career appearance when turning out for Prescot Cables in their FA Trophy fixture with Lancaster City.

The former Everton youth defender enjoyed a remarkable career, turning out for the likes of Blackpool (two spells), Southend United, Huddersfield Town, Oldham Athletic and Tranmere over 100 times before enjoying a stellar Non-League career with two seasons at Warrington Town and now Cables after joining in the summer.

And only this week, he will be joined on an illustrious 55-man worldwide list – including that of Cristiano Ronaldo, Lionel Messi and littered with top Non-League names such as Paul Bastock, Barry Hayles and Scott McLeish – by veteran winger Kevin Ellison as he too celebrates his 1,000th senior game.

This afternoon, at the age of 46, the Morecambe legend, who also turned out for the likes of Chester City, Rotherham and Tranmere, will reach the milestone playing for Vauxhall Motors against Runcorn Linnets in NPL West.

To mark the occasion, the Motormen are hosting a special celebration, including surprise guests and live entertainment with a big crowd expected.

Players like Clarke and Ellison are a rarity in football as the elite list suggests, but are worth their weight in gold.

More so, managers like Dowson and Wilkes who, as Maresca, Amorim, and Nancy will attest, are the first to carry the can when things don't quite go to plan.

Let's raise a New Year glass to them all.

Jon Couch
The Non-League Paper

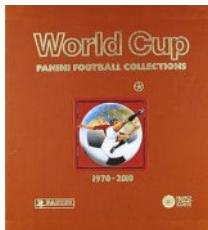


From Editor's Football Collection

Panini World Cup Sticker Books (not the real thing)

I am not sure I ever did get to complete one of the actual Panini World Cup sticker albums in my youth, with 1974 probably being the closest I ever got. When you realise that the estimated cost of completing the Panini sticker album for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, with 670 stickers, was estimated at just short of £900 due to swaps, though theoretically it would have been £120 if you got zero swaps, with the actual cost of completing anywhere in between these numbers if you have lots of mates to swap with. When my two boys got into Panini stickers in the 1990s, for both the Premier League and Euro 1996, there was an old guy in the Lime Kiln who offered a swap shop where you could go any swap your stickers, which was extremely helpful to them in completing their albums and saving Dad a lot of money!

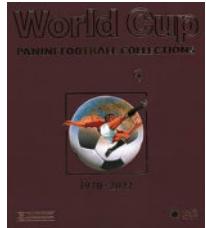
Whilst an original completed album in good condition is a thing of beauty, and a fantastic historical document, bringing back fond memories of your youth, they are very rare. Unfortunately when you collect the stickers you are a young lad and don't recognise the need to try and keep the album in pristine condition. Furthermore, given the cost involved, a lot of albums were never completed. Most completed albums that can be bought on Ebay or at football memorabilia fairs these days are in very poor condition but Panini have come up with a solution which is a much better (and way more cheaper solution) to owning a completed Panini album for not just for one World Cup since 1970, when Panini first, started producing the stickers for World Cups, but every World Cup!



Since at least the 2010 World Cup Panini have been issuing a book that contains copies of all the completed World Cup albums from Mexico 1970 onwards up to date. I first acquired the book in 2010 that was in two softback editions within a hard back slip case.

The first book covered the Panini albums from Mexico 1970 through to Italy 1990 whilst Volume 2 was from USA 1994 through to South Africa 2010 and in total the two books run to 690 pages of wall-to-wall Panini stickers. Just seeing the different hair styles from the short back and sides of the 1970 World Cup through to the mullets that followed brings back so many memories of World Cups past and star players over the years.

Since 2010 Panini have brought out an updated version of the book after each subsequent World Cup and I brought an updated version in 2023 which now included Brazil 2014, Russia 2018 and Qatar 2022, in addition to those that were in the earlier book.



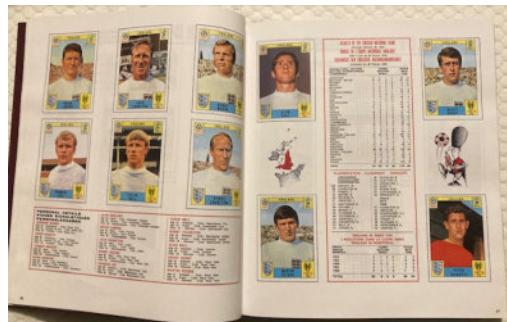
The book was now condensed into one single softback edition that runs to 988 pages. I acquired mine from Amazon when it first came out but it seems it is now unavailable online on Amazon and is rarely seen on Ebay. However, with another World Cup just around the corner I am sure another updated version will be out around this time next year which will be certainly run to over the 1,000 pages mark.

In addition to the World Cup sticker books, Panini have now done the same for the English domestic sticker albums that were published from 1978 through to 1993. These can either be purchased as one single book (RRP £70 but currently available on Amazon for £58.89) or as two separate books one covering 1978 through to 1985 and one from 1986 to 1993. These two books are currently available on Amazon for £30 each but are also available from the excellent Soccer Books Limited (www.soccer-books.co.uk) at a reduced price of £28 each.



From Editor's Football Collection

Panini World Cup Sticker Books (Extracts)



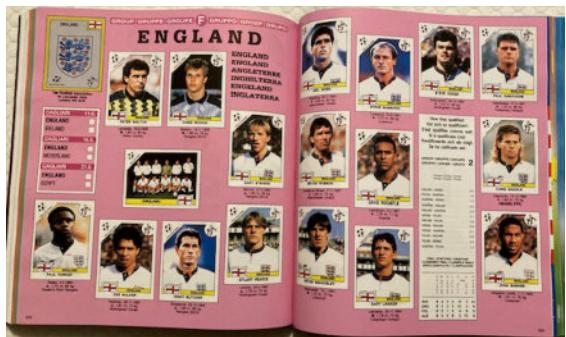
England 1970



England 1998



England 2022



England 1990



Germany 1982



Northern Ireland 1986

A fair few who played for QPR in here



RWBTFC Vets' (Over 35) Team

Season 2025-26

Royal Wootton Bassett Town Vets

Season 2025-26 Corsham Print Wiltshire Senior League - Vets North Wilts Division

Date	Opponents	H/A	Comp	Result	Scorers
Tue 02-Sep-25	ExIntel	A	League	W 4 - 1	Gibson, Head, Large, Simpkins
Wed 10-Sep-25	Swindon Rovers	H	League	W 2 - 0	Wason, Gulliver
Wed 17-Sep-25	Penhill United	A	League	L 1 - 2	Wernham
Wed 24-Sep-25	FS Stratton	H	League	W 1 - 0	Head
Tue 30-Sep-25	Cricklade Town	A	League	L 1 - 3	Head
Wed 08-Oct-25	FS Stratton	H	VCC1	L 0 - 1	
Wed 15-Oct-25	Bishops Cannings	H	VLC 1	W 4 - 0	Head 3, Simpkins
Mon 20-Oct-25	AFC Swindon	A	League	W 2 - 0	Wason, Stanevicius
Wed 12-Nov-25	Nationwide	H	League	L 1 - 4	Newton
Wed 19-Nov-25	Redhouse	A	League	W 4 - 0	Head 2, Connolly, Newton
Wed 26-Nov-25	Stratton	H	League	W 2 - 0	Simpkins, Large
Wed 03-Dec-25	Purton Kingsdown	H	League	L 1 - 5	Lawro
Wed 10-Dec-25	Chiseldon	H	League	W 6 - 0	Head 2, Ohrland, Davidson, Bundy, Aitkenhead
Wed 17-Dec-25	Barford Hornets	H	VLC 2	W 4 - 0	Newton 2, Ohrland, Head
Wed 07-Jan-26	ExIntel	H	League	W 5 - 0	Ohrland 2, Head 2, Lawro
Thur 15-Jan-26	Swindon Rovers	A	League		
Wed 21-Jan-26	Penhill United	H	League		
Mon 26-Jan-26	FS Stratton	A	League		
Wed 04-Feb-26	Cricklade Town	H	League		
Wed 11-Feb-26	Chiseldon	A	League		
Mon 23-Feb-26	Melksham Town	A	VLC QF		
Thur 05-Mar-26	Nationwide	A	League		
Wed 11-Mar-26	Redhouse	H	League		
Mon 16-Mar-26	Stratton	A	League		
Mon 23-Mar-26	Purton Kingsdown	A	League		
Wed 08-Apr-26	AFC Swindon	H	League		

Corsham Print Wiltshire Senior League
Vets North Wiltshire Division Season 2025-26

	Pl	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1 Cricklade Town	11	8	1	2	29	6	25
2 Nationwide	10	8	1	1	27	7	25
3 Royal W. Bassett Town	12	8	0	4	30	15	24
4 Redhouse	11	7	1	3	28	14	22
5 Penhill United	11	6	3	2	29	11	21
6 Purton Kingsdown	10	6	2	2	22	12	20
7 Stratton	13	4	0	9	15	26	12
8 Swindon Rovers	11	2	4	5	11	18	10
9 ExIntel* (-6)	10	4	1	5	14	26	6
10 AFC Swindon	11	1	2	8	11	31	5
11 Chiseldon	13	1	2	10	14	47	5
12 FS Stratton* (-3)	9	2	1	6	7	24	4

* Points deduction for failing to fulfil fixtures



RWBTFC

48

RWBTFC Vets' (Over 50) Team

Season 2025-26

Royal Wootton Bassett Town Vets Over 50s

Season 2025-26 - Oxfordshire League - Vets Premier League Division 1

Date	Opponents	H/A	Comp	Result	Scorers
Sun 31-Aug-25	Hazelmere Sports Athletic	A	League	L 1 - 5	Huggins
Sun 10-Sep-25	North Leigh	A	League	L 1 - 5	Howse
Sun 21-Sep-25	Bicester Town	A	League	L 2 - 7	Huggins, Rendell
Sat 19-Oct-25	Cookham Dean	A	League	L 1 - 5	Huggins
Sun 02-Nov-25	Thame United	H	League	L 1 - 8	Watson
Sun 09-Nov-25	AFC Henley	H	L Cup	W 3 - 0	Huggins 2 Dart
Sun 23-Nov-25	Marlow Dukes	A	League	L 1 - 4	Rendell
Sun 07-Dec-25	Chinnor	H	League	D 2 - 2	Howse, Higgins
Sun 15-Dec-25	Goring United GOB	A	League	L 1 - 6	
Sun 11-Jan-26	Hazelmere Sports Athletic	H	League		
Sun 18-Jan-26	North Leigh	H	League		
Sun 01-Feb-26	Bicester Town	H	League		
Sun 01-Mar-26	Cookham Dean	H	League		
Sun 15-Mar-26	Thame United	A	League		
Sun 22-Mar-26	Chinnor	A	L Cup		
Sun 29-Mar-26	Marlow Dukes	H	League		
Sun 20-Apr-26	Chinnor	A	League		
Sun 26-Apr-26	Goring United GOB	H	League		

Oxfordshire Over 50s League Division 1 Season 2025/2026

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1 Thame United	8	6	1	1	37	12	19
2 Hazelmere Sports Athletic	7	5	0	2	19	15	15
3 Bicester Town	7	4	1	2	24	18	13
4 Marlow Dukes	8	4	0	4	20	21	12
5 Chinnor	5	3	2	0	22	7	11
6 Goring United GOB	8	3	0	5	18	21	9
7 North Leigh	6	2	1	3	9	15	7
8 Cookham Dean	7	2	0	5	10	17	6
9 Royal Wootton Bassett Town	8	0	1	7	10	43	1

Quiz Ladder Answers

1. Swindon Town, 2. Intel Stand, 3. Man Utd, 4. Two (2), 5. Club Ambassador, 6. Swindon Supermarine, 7. Terry Venables, 8. Peter Eastoe, 9. Everton, 10. Five (5)



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Dan Hanson
Joe Hunt
Alex Kovacevic
Charlie Mathew

Dugout Team

Manager: Jonny Aitkenhead
Assistant: Dan Atkin
Coach: Rob Hopkins
Coach: Nick Warren
GK Coach: Gary Eggleton
Therapist: Kara Gregory
Therapist: Hannah Tubbs

Dugout Team

Manager: Tom Deakin
Manager: Mike Palmer
Assistant: Ben Powell
Coach: Sam Prior
Therapist: Tony Woodwood

Referee

Rob Herrett

AR1

Andrew Lacey

AR2

Mark Niemirski