

PRE VIEW MAG



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MAKING MEMORIES

YOUR FRIDAY GUIDE TO ALL
OF THE WEEKEND ACTION

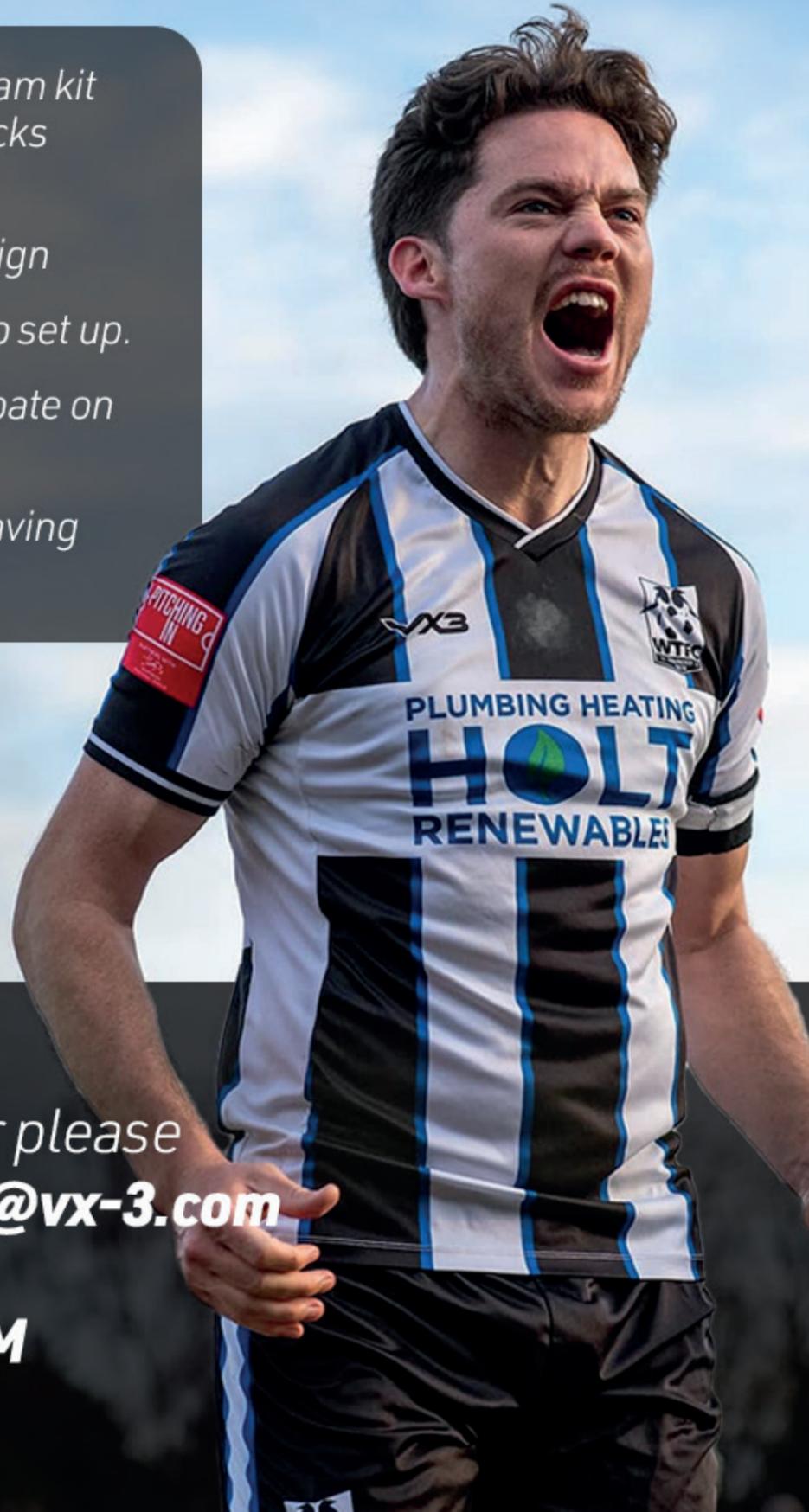
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REDS BECOME CARBON NEUTRAL

Redditch United have announced that it has officially achieved carbon-neutral status, becoming what is believed to be only the second football club in the world to reach this landmark environmental achievement.

Being carbon-neutral means that the Southern League Premier Central club has reduced its carbon emissions wherever possible and balanced the remaining emissions through certified environmental measures, enabling the club to achieve complete carbon neutrality.

Most of the club's emissions came from Purchased Goods and Services, which accounted for 87.80% of the total. Commuting and homeworking by staff made up a further 7.25%. All of these emissions have now been fully balanced through certified carbon-offsetting projects, meaning the club has achieved carbon neutrality.

This milestone puts Redditch United among a small number of sports clubs worldwide leading the way in environmental responsibility. The NCZ Gold Certification followed internationally recognised carbon-measurement standards and involved a detailed assessment of the club's energy use, travel, supply chain, waste, water, and fuel emissions.

"We are incredibly proud to become what we believe is the



world's second carbon-neutral football club," said Chairman, David Faulkner. "This achievement reflects our belief that football clubs – at every level – have a responsibility to lead by example.

"Sustainability is now a core part of our identity, and our partnership with Neutral Carbon Zone ensures that our actions are transparent, credible and independently verified."

The Southern League send our congratulations on their achievement.

The Round Up

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LEAGUE STANDINGS

2025-26



Premier Division South

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Walton & Hersham	30	13	2	1	43	11	9	2	3	29	16	45	70
2	Gloucester City	31	13	2	1	45	18	5	5	5	25	23	29	61
3	Poole Town	31	9	5	2	39	17	9	2	4	27	20	29	61
4	Farnham Town	26	7	4	2	32	14	8	3	2	34	21	31	52
5	Sholing	30	8	5	2	35	22	4	7	4	16	17	12	48
6	Gosport Borough	31	9	3	4	36	30	5	3	7	20	24	2	48
7	Chertsey Town	29	6	4	4	25	17	6	5	4	16	15	9	45
8	Berkhamsted	30	7	4	4	22	20	5	5	5	17	18	1	45
9	Havant & Waterlooville	30	8	3	5	32	25	5	2	7	24	26	5	44
10	Bracknell Town	32	8	4	5	35	28	4	4	7	14	26	-5	44
11	Uxbridge	32	7	2	7	29	28	3	8	5	21	28	-6	40
12	Wimborne Town	28	7	6	1	29	15	2	4	8	12	23	3	37
13	Evesham United	31	7	5	4	24	13	2	5	8	16	27	0	37
14	Hanwell Town	29	6	4	4	20	18	4	2	9	20	27	-5	36
15	Basingstoke Town	32	7	2	7	23	27	3	4	9	20	27	-11	36
16	Yate Town	30	6	4	5	21	14	3	3	9	17	32	-8	34
17	Hungerford Town	32	5	5	6	19	27	3	4	9	23	38	-23	33
18	Dorchester Town	30	5	4	7	22	31	2	6	6	15	23	-17	31
19	Weymouth	32	4	5	7	18	20	4	2	10	17	39	-24	31
20	Taunton Town	29	4	5	5	20	22	4	1	10	24	32	-10	30
21	Plymouth Parkway	29	5	2	6	14	20	3	4	9	22	39	-23	30
22	Tiverton Town	26	2	2	6	9	14	2	1	13	22	51	-34	15

Weekend Action

Basingstoke Town
v Gosport Borough

Berkhamsted
v Tiverton Town

Bracknell Town
v Chertsey Town

Hanwell Town
v Evesham United

Plymouth Parkway
v Hungerford Town

Poole Town
v Gloucester City

Sholing
v Taunton Town

Uxbridge
v Havant & Waterlooville

Walton & Hersham
v Yate Town

Weymouth
v Farnham Town

Wimborne Town
v Dorchester Town

Premier Division Central

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Spalding United	32	10	4	2	43	17	11	3	2	41	20	47	70
2	Harborough Town	28	11	4	0	29	9	9	2	2	25	13	32	66
3	Real Bedford	29	8	2	3	23	14	10	3	4	36	19	26	59
4	Redditch United	31	10	2	4	31	24	6	2	7	17	19	5	52
5	Halesowen Town	30	9	3	3	30	20	5	6	4	32	25	17	51
6	Quorn	31	7	2	7	27	24	8	3	4	33	27	9	50
7	Needham Market	30	10	1	5	32	22	4	6	4	14	18	6	49
8	Leiston	32	5	8	5	28	20	7	4	5	26	24	10	48
9	Banbury United	29	8	4	8	22	17	5	2	7	19	20	4	45
10	Worcester City	30	5	5	6	17	16	7	3	4	29	14	16	44
11	Stratford Town	29	8	3	3	29	18	4	3	8	13	21	3	42
12	Kettering Town	27	5	3	3	22	12	7	2	7	24	28	6	41
13	Bury Town	31	6	4	5	18	15	5	4	7	24	25	2	41
14	Bishop's Stortford	30	7	1	8	24	28	4	5	5	20	20	-4	39
15	St Ives Town	31	5	6	5	20	24	3	2	10	18	28	-14	32
16	Barwell	32	5	3	7	22	27	3	5	9	20	13	-18	32
17	Alvechurch	28	4	1	8	17	21	5	3	7	15	17	-6	31
18	Bromsgrove Sporting	31	6	2	8	21	28	2	5	8	16	29	-20	31
19	Stourbridge	30	4	5	5	22	20	2	6	8	16	33	-15	29
20	Stamford AFC	30	5	5	6	17	25	2	1	11	7	26	-27	27
21	AFC Sudbury	31	3	4	9	18	39	2	3	19	18	39	-42	22
22	Royston Town	32	2	5	9	19	33	1	4	12	12	35	-37	18

Weekend Action

Alvechurch
v Needham Market

Bishop's Stortford
v Halesowen Town

Bromsgrove Sporting
v AFC Sudbury

Harborough Town
v Barwell

Real Bedford
v Leiston

Royston Town
v Worcester City

Spalding United
v Redditch United

St Ives Town
v Quorn

Stamford
v Banbury United

Stourbridge
v Kettering Town

Stratford Town
v Bury Town

Division One South

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Frome Town	31	13	2	1	31	10	12	2	1	40	12	49	79
2	Malvern Town	31	12	1	3	48	28	8	4	3	28	20	28	65
3	Portishead Town	30	11	2	3	47	15	9	1	4	28	18	42	63
4	Winchester City	31	10	5	1	35	16	7	3	5	25	18	26	59
5	Bishops Cleeve	29	13	2	2	38	15	5	3	4	19	23	19	59
6	Shaftesbury	29	12	1	2	35	17	6	2	6	30	26	22	57
7	Hartpury	30	10	3	2	47	15	6	2	7	23	22	33	53
8	Exmouth Town	31	10	2	3	38	22	5	3	8	19	31	4	50
9	Larkhall Athletic	30	9	4	3	37	30	5	0	9	19	27	-1	46
10	Westbury United	30	9	0	5	19	14	4	4	8	13	21	-3	43
11	Sporting Club Inkberrow	28	9	2	3	25	16	3	3	8	16	30	-5	41
12	Didcot Town	32	5	4	6	24	29	5	2	10	20	33	-18	36
13	Mousehole	28	4	5	6	21	23	4	4	5	22	21	-1	33
14	Swindon Supermarine	28	7	0	7	27	23	2	5	7	14	19	-1	32
15	Bideford	30	5	4	7	21	25	3	3	8	17	32	-19	31
16	Bristol Manor Farm	29	6	4	5	21	23	2	2	10	20	39	-21	30
17	Melksham Town	31	4	7	6	22	25	2	3	9	11	28	-20	28
18	Falmouth Town	25	4	4	2	22	13	2	4	9	18	35	-8	26
19	Willand Rovers	29	4	3	6	13	15	2	5	9	18	37	-21	26
20	Brixham	27	4	2	7	18	28	2	2	10	15	40	-35	22
21	Bashley	29	1	3	9	7	21	3	1	12	18	31	-27	16
22	Tavistock AFC	26	2	0	9	9	22	1	2	12	12	42	-43	11

Weekend Action

Swindon Supermarine
v Larkhall Athletic (Friday)

Bristol Manor Farm
v Bishops Cleeve

Brixham AFC
v Hartpury

Didcot Town
v Tavistock AFC

Exmouth Town
v Bashley

Frome Town
v Bideford AFC

Malvern Town
v Falmouth Town

Portishead Town
v Melksham Town

Shaftesbury
v Sporting Club Inkberrow

Westbury United
v Willand Rovers

Winchester City
v Mousehole

Division One Central

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Leighton Town	30	12	2	0	41	11	9	5	2	35	21	44	70
2	Hitchin Town	30	10	3	3	35	15	9	4	1	36	13	43	64
3	Biggleswade Town	31	6	6	4	33	25	11	2	2	42	16	34	59
4	Biggleswade	31	6	6	4	28	25	11	2	2	33	16	20	59
5	Hertford Town	29	11	0	5	45	25	6	3	4	27	18	29	54
6	Thame United	29	8	2	5	32	27	9	1	4	38	20	23	54
7	Ware	31	7	4	5	32	19	8	1	6	27	28	12	50
8	Barton Rovers	30	9	2	4	29	21	5	6	4	27	29	6	50
9	Hadley	29	7	2	5	30	27	7	5	3	28	20	11	49
10	Milton Keynes Irish	31	7	2	7	35	40	7	2	6	24	25	-6	46
11	Beaconsfield Town	30	6	5	5	33	26	6	4	4	26	23	10	45
12	Welwyn Garden City	29	4	5	4	16	16	7	5	4	29	20	9	43
14	London Lions	30	7	2	6	31	38	5	1	9	22	26	-11	39
15	Stotfold	31	8	1	7	28	21	4	1	10	27	39	-5	38
16	Marlow	31	7	1	8	30	34	4	1	10	17	35	-22	35
17	Leverstock Green	29	4	5	4	22	24	2	7	7	22	34	-14	30
18	Aylesbury United	31	4	4	6	22	22	4	1	12	21	38	-17	29
19	Enfield	31	2	2	11	17	39	5	1	10	21	42	-43	24
20	Northwood	29	2	3	9	17	34	2	7	6	19	31	-29	22
21	Rayners Lane	31	1	2	13	11	36	2	3	10	17	47	-55	14
22	AFC Dunstable	27	1	3	9	10	30	1	1	13	12	47	-55	10

Weekend Action

AFC Dunstable
v Hertford Town

Aylesbury United
v Ware

Barton Rovers
v Flackwell Heath

Biggleswade FC
v Leverstock Green

Enfield
v Thame United

Hadley
v Leighton Town

Hitchin Town
v Beaconsfield Town

Marlow
v London Lions

Northwood
v Welwyn Garden City

Rayners Lane
v Biggleswade Town

Stotfold
v Milton Keynes Irish

Featured Match

UXBRIDGE v HAVANT & WATERLOOVILLE

It's been a generally solid start to life in the Premier South for Uxbridge following their promotion at the end of last season.

Proving to be hard to beat in the opening months of the campaign, things have been a little tougher for them in the second half of the season, but they are closing in on their first points target.

"First of all we want to get to the 46-point mark, which I believe will secure our place at Step 3 for another season," stated manager, Danny Edwards. "We're six points off that now, so

the sooner we get there, the sooner we can start building and planning for next season.

"This is a demanding level of football, there is no doubt about that, but we want to continue growing and evolving to prove that we deserve to be here."

Edwards watched his side dismantle Weymouth on Saturday to chalk up a convincing 5-1 victory and in doing so make it seven points from their last four games.

"It was a really good performance from us against strong opponents," Edwards added. "We needed that after such a disappointing display at Farnham Town in our previous game.

"I felt that we gave them too much respect on that occasion and let them play around us.

"As such we made a number of changes for Saturday's game and it had the desired effect. I think that the 5-1 scoreline flattered us a bit, but we'll take it and the three points.

"There were a lot of good performances all over the pitch. George [Moore] will take the headlines for his hat-trick, but there were so many impressive displays out there.

"We've suffered at the hands of injuries, but we've got some good options available again and that's going to stand us in good stead for the run-in ahead.

"That's seven points from the last four games and we're starting to find a bit of form again. One thing that this League has taught us is that you have to be switched on at all times, it's so competitive.



Danny Edwards is closing in on his points target for Step 3 survival in Uxbridge's first season in the Premier South

"We face another home game on Saturday as we take on Havant & Waterlooville. Our home form is going to be key in these final weeks, so we will be looking to pick up from where we left off last weekend."

Saturday's visitors, Havant & Waterlooville, are four points off a place in the top five. They are three unbeaten after battling out

a 3-2 success over bottom club, Tiverton Town, last weekend.

It was a long unbeaten run earlier in the season that thrust them from the lower reaches of the table into play-off contenders.

THE REST OF THE ACTION



Gary Johnson will be hoping that his Taunton Town team can build on Wednesday's win this weekend

Leaders, Walton & Hersham, were amongst the goals last weekend as they ran out 6-2 winners against Basingstoke Town to reach the 70-point mark. They are back in home action on Saturday as they face a Yate Town team who need the points to aid their own bid to move further clear of the bottom four.

There's a mouth-watering encounter between second and third place as Poole Town host Gloucester City with both teams locked together on 61 points. Just below them, Farnham Town left it late to grab a winner at Yate Town in their last game as they hit the road once more to Weymouth, whose recent upturn in fortunes was hit by a 5-1 loss at Uxbridge last time out.

Making up the rest of the top five is Sholing, who were held to a goalless draw at Evesham United. This weekend they host a Taunton Town side who did themselves good in their bid to escape the relegation places with a 2-1 victory over Wimborne

Town on Wednesday. Level on points with Sholing are Gosport Borough who let a two-goal lead slip late on against Dorchester Town to draw 2-2 last weekend. They hit the road for Basingstoke Town on Saturday.

Of the group of clubs sat on the fringes of the play-off zone, Bracknell Town and Chertsey Town meet on Saturday with just a single point separating them.

At the bottom, Tiverton Town head to a Berkhamsted outfit who are still very much in the race for a play-off place, whilst Plymouth Parkway take on Hungerford Town in what is a big game for both clubs in the lower reaches of the table. Having battled out a point in their last outing, Dorchester Town go to local rivals, Wimborne Town, in good heart.

Elsewhere, Hanwell Town welcome Evesham United with one place and one point separating these two teams in what is sure to be an evenly-matched encounter.

Featured Match

STOURBRIDGE v KETTERING TOWN

It's been quite a start to his Stourbridge career for the emerging Will Etheridge.

The Walsall loanee marked his debut by coming off the bench to notch a late equaliser at Stamford AFC before starting his first game for the club last weekend and hitting the all-important second goal in a 2-1 triumph over in-form Real Bedford.

"I'm pleased with the start that I have made," he told us. "To have scored in both of my matches so far and to have helped the team secure vital points is fantastic.

"I'll never forget scoring in front of the home fans last weekend; what a great feeling that was!

"The opportunity to play men's football at a good level is really exciting. I know that I can learn a lot from every game in this League and improve my all-round game.

"The Gaffer, his staff and my team-mates have made it really easy for me to settle in. The welcome that I have received from

everyone has been warm and that has helped me to hit the ground running.

"There was such a good atmosphere for the last game and it helped drive us on to the three points, which was a great feeling. I hope this can continue for the big games that lie ahead.

"My first two games may have been against opponents from either end of the table, but they have both been tough and this shows how competitive this League is. It's also extremely physical where many of the players are either experienced or understand the game well.

"Each game presents an opportunity to add to our points' tally and hopefully we can build on what we did last weekend and start climbing the table."

Having been with the Walsall FC Academy since the age of nine, Etheridge is now a second-year scholar with The Saddlers.

His first taste of competitive men's football came with a loan



Youngster, Will Etheridge, is already benefitting greatly from his loan switch to Stourbridge

Image | Anthony Dunn

spell at Darlaston Town in Step 4 earlier in the season.

"It was a good experience for me," he added. "I learned a lot during that loan spell; the step up from academy football to competitive men's football is a big one, but it stood me in good stead for coming here at a higher level where I hope that my progress will continue.

"For young up-and-coming players like myself, it's vital to go out and learn the realities of proper football where three points is what matters.

"I've already had some great experiences from my loan spells and it has whetted my appetite for more. I feel that my game is improving already both physically and mentally. I love the battle for the points and playing in front of large and vocal crowds.

"These are the kind of experiences that you simply don't get at academy level.

"Between now and the end of the season, my focus is firmly fixed on helping Stourbridge get out of the relegation zone. It's been a case of so far, so good, but there is still plenty of work to be done.

"I want to get as many minutes under my belt as I can and take

on board all of the knowledge that I can get. It would be nice to add to my goals tally too and contribute with assists too and continue making progress with my personal development.

"This is a great environment in which to do this."

The Glassboys have hauled themselves to within a couple of points of escaping the drop zone having added a mix of youth and experience to their playing staff over the past couple of months.

There is an added sub-plot to Saturday's visit of mid-table Kettering Town as former manager, Liam McDonald, makes his first return to the War Memorial Athletic Ground since stepping down in the summer.

He is now in charge of a Poppies' side who have won their last three games in a row. Ten points adrift of the top five, they may have given themselves a bit too much to do to make the play-offs, but they are playing some good stuff at the moment with front-man, Eddie Panter, in a particularly hot form, including a hat-trick in his last outing.

THE REST OF THE ACTION



It's a big game for AFC Sudbury and their travelling faithful on Saturday

Leaders, Spalding United, reached the 70-point mark with their 3-0 away win at Royston Town last weekend. They are back in home action this weekend as they entertain fourth-placed Redditch United who are fresh from a derby day 1-0 win at Alvechurch in their last outing.

Hot on their heels are Harborough Town who left it late to win at Stratford Town last weekend. They took home advantage on Saturday as they host a Barwell outfit who have had a bitter-sweet week. It was sweet when they scored a late winner to beat Stamford AFC 2-1 last weekend, but then Monday evening saw them concede six in a 6-2 home loss at the hands of Halesowen Town.

It has also been bitter-sweet for Real Bedford as they fell to a 2-1 set-back at Stourbridge before scoring two stoppage time goals to win 4-3 at Alvechurch on Tuesday. They host a Leiston outfit who still have their sights on breaking into the top five. Currently in the top five are the aforementioned Redditch United, who go

to Spalding United, and Halesowen Town, who have already scored ten goals this week alone, and make the trip to Bishop's Stortford.

Amongst the teams on the fringes of the play-off places are Quorn, who head to St. Ives Town, whilst Needham Market, who left it late to equalise at Bury Town last weekend, go to Alvechurch with crucial points at stake at both ends of the table.

At the bottom, Royston Town have home advantage for the visit of Worcester City. Just above them, AFC Sudbury face an important trip to Bromsgrove Sporting, whose poor run of form leaves them one place out of the bottom four. There are three big points at stake here, that's for sure. Stamford AFC are looking to bounce back from their late disappointment at the hands of Barwell as they host Banbury United.

Elsewhere, Stratford Town and Bury Town battle it out. Just one point and a couple of places separate them in the middle of the table.

Featured Match

**MALVERN TOWN
v FALMOUTH TOWN**

Local radio host, Tammy Gooding, was given a surprise when she turned up to watch her team, Malvern Town, in Division One South action recently.

Upon arriving at the HDANYWHERE Community Stadium she was informed that she would be leading the team out as mascot.

It was set up by her BBC Hereford & Worcester Breakfast Show production team. Tammy takes up the story.

"It all came about after I had a bit of a giggle on one of my recent shows when I saw that another local club had a 60 year-old mascot for one of their recent matches," she revealed. "So my Producer decided to set me up and I spent my Valentine's Day by gate-crashing a children's Birthday Party and becoming a mascot at my beloved Malvern Town!

"Thankfully the Birthday boy, Richard, and his mates welcomed me into their group and looked after me and I had a great day!

"This was a new experience for me. At 53 I am a little older than your average mascot, but I enjoyed every minute of it, from taking a look behind-the-scenes, to stepping out onto the hallowed pitch and leading the team out with captain, Joe Tumelty.

"The club go above and beyond to make this such a wonderful experience for all involved and it creates fantastic memories, which last a lifetime.

"Actually being a mascot myself allowed me to see at first-hand how well the club does this kind of thing and how special it is for those youngsters involved."

The Hillsiders have been offering mascot opportunities for a number of seasons and they have become increasingly popular.

"It's great to see so many happy, smiling face," said Malvern Town FC Mascot Co-Ordinator, Dave Woodward. "Our Mascot packages give the participants accessibility to their heroes in an inclusive and positive environment.

"We want to give the youngsters an experience that they won't forget because these are the fans of the future. To see an ever-increasing number of youngsters now attending games and proudly wearing their Malvern Town colours is great and makes it all worthwhile."

The person who is widely believed to be Malvern Town's first-ever mascot hasn't done too badly for himself – with manager, Lee Hooper, leading the team out as a young kid many moons ago.



Malvern Town are offering memorable mascot experiences for young and old alike

"I can remember what a thrill it was to lead the team out and it made me really feel part of the team and the club," he said. "As a youngster it means the world and it's something that stays with you forever, so we try and make the occasion as special as we can for those involved – whatever their age!

"They are the potential fans – and players or volunteers – of the future so to strengthen that support amongst them as well as their friends and family is important for us.

"As a club, we are working hard to reach out to the younger generation as well as also celebrating and showcasing our past, because this club has played such an integral role in the heart of our local community for so many years, something that we should be extremely proud of."

There will be more mascots on duty on Saturday as the

Worcestershire club return to home action with the visit of Falmouth Town.

They go into the game in second place in the table but on the back of two successive draws – 2-2 in their last home against Westbury United and 1-1 last weekend at Melksham Town.

For Falmouth Town, they have games in hand over everyone but they currently sit just above the bottom four and missed out on three valuable points as they returned to action on Tuesday evening when they conceded two very late goals to draw 4-4 with Bideford AFC.

The Cornishmen will be eager to secure their first win since the beginning of January.

THE REST OF THE ACTION



Will there be more cause for celebration for the Frome Town faithful this weekend?

Leaders, Frome Town, will be looking to continue their impressive run of form as they play host to Bideford AFC. Their visitors arrive having seen two late goals snatch a 4-4 draw from their Tuesday evening trip to Falmouth Town; it was a welcome point in their quest to move further clear of the bottom four.

Having held second-placed Malvern Town to a draw last weekend, the next challenge for Melksham Town is a trip to third-placed Portishead Town, who battled out a 2-1 win at Bideford AFC last weekend. Meanwhile Winchester City will be looking to bounce back from their late collapse at Bishops Cleeve last time out as they return to home action for the visit of mid-table Mousehole AFC.

The aforementioned triumph for Bishops Cleeve saw them move back into the top five and they face an away trip to Bristol Manor Farm, who go into the game only four points away from the

relegation places. For Shaftesbury, their 2-0 loss at Willand Rovers on Wednesday keeps them just outside of the play-off places as they host a Sporting Club Inkberrow outfit who are fresh from a frantic 6-4 victory over Didcot Town in their last game.

At the bottom of the table, Tavistock AFC are on the look-out for a new manager after the long-serving Stuart Henderson departed this week. They head to Didcot Town on Saturday looking to keep their fading survival hopes alive.

Sitting one place off the bottom, Bashley, are also desperate for points as they head to Exmouth Town, whose 2-1 away win at Willand Rovers last weekend keeps them in contention for the play-off places. Meanwhile, Brixham AFC are at home to in-form Hartpury with both sides battling hard for the points for different reasons at either end of the table. After their midweek triumph, Willand Rovers go to Westbury United in good heart.

Featured Match

**BIGGLESWADE FC
 v LEVERSTOCK GREEN**

A five-game unbeaten run has given Leverstock Green a massive boost in their bid to avoid being embroiled in a relegation battle in Division One Central this season.

Last Saturday's 3-2 victory over promotion-chasing Hitchin Town sent out a clear message that they mean business.

Playing an influential role in this impressive run of form is highly-rated goalkeeper, Ashton Broome Alexander, who has been in good form since his arrival at the turn of the year.

"The most important thing at the weekend was that we got the three points on offer," he told us. "To beat one of the favourites for promotion made it extra special; it was a very good performance and morale is certainly high right now.

"We're showing so much desire and passion and we've grown closer as a team during this run of good form.

"It's been built on solid foundations at the back and now we've

started becoming more ruthless in front of goal.

"Everyone is doing their job and we fully deserved the victory over Hitchin. I was happy with my own performance, although I am always disappointed when I don't keep a clean sheet, especially when both of their goals were from penalties.

"I knew coming here it was going to be a challenge, but the form that the team has shown defies its position in the lower reaches of the table.

"The lads have been excellent and dug-deep to get on a run of results and pull ourselves away from the bottom four. There's still work to be done, but we've proved that we have the quality here to take on anyone at this level.

"The management have put their belief in us as players and it's been nice to be able to repay that faith. We're playing with a lot of confidence and, importantly, with smiles on our faces.



It's all smiles for Ashton Broome Alexander and his Leverstock Green team-mates right now

"It's been a mixed season for me personally, but I am enjoying life here and I am determined to play my part in helping the team to achieve its goals and targets.

"I'm very excited for the run-in; I'd like to keep this form going and end the season strongly. The hard work never stops; we believe in each other and we want to get the club as high up the table as possible.

"This year's Division One Central is more physical than previous Leagues that I have played in. There is good quality across all teams as well and it's extremely competitive. Teams have more identity and tactical awareness; it's going to be interesting to see how the race for promotion and the play-offs shapes up.

"As far as we are concerned, the club finished 18th last season in their first-ever season at this level, so we want to better that and

create a bit of history for the club.

"Personally I want to keep more clean sheets and stop conceding late goals. Collectively we just have to keep working hard and doing the right things to get to where we want to be.

"As a group we'll continue playing with smiles on our faces and hopefully it will see us extend our unbeaten run."

It's another big test on Saturday as they head to fourth-placed Biggleswade FC.

Their hosts are fresh from a 4-1 away win at London Lions last weekend, which made it four wins from their last five games as they sit on 59 points from their 31 League games so far.

THE REST OF THE ACTION



Hertford Town will be looking to continue in their rich vein of scoring form this weekend

Last weekend was a good one for leaders, Leighton Town, as not only did they beat Stotfold 3-1, but they also saw promotion rivals, Hitchin Town slip to defeat at Leverstock Green. On Saturday, Leighton go to Hadley, who still have the top five in their sights, whilst Hitchin return to home action for the visit of mid-table, Beaconsfield Town.

Biggleswade Town will be looking to strengthen their place in the top five as they go to lowly Rayners Lane, with Biggleswade FC taking on an in-form Leverstock Green. The current top five is completed by Hertford Town who were impressive 6-2 victors over Barton Rovers last time out and they face a trip to bottom club, AFC Dunstable. Just below them, Thame United's unbeaten run came to an end of Tuesday as they lost 1-0 at home to Welwyn Garden City. They aim to bounce back in the right way at the weekend as they go to Enfield, who are just inside the bottom four.

Also amongst the bottom four, Northwood have a new manager at the helm following the appointment of Tommy Cooney as they welcome Welwyn Garden City. Sitting just outside the relegation places, Aylesbury United will be hoping to make home advantage count when they face Ware. A heavy 5-1 defeat at the hands of Biggleswade Town came last weekend for Aylesbury, whilst their opponents have had two good wins this week as they followed by 4-0 triumph over Northwood with a 2-0 away success at Welwyn Garden City on Tuesday.

Elsewhere, Barton Rovers entertain Flackwell Heath, whilst Marlow take on London Lions with just four points separating the two teams going into the game, and finally, Stotfold are at home to Milton Keynes Irish.

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