



the Robins

2021-22 Matchday Programme #19



Hassocks v Crawley Down Gatwick

Tuesday 11th January 2022. 7:45pm kick off
Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup Third Round
Programme £1



HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

Founded 1902

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HONOURS

FIRST TEAM

Southern Combination Division One

Runners up 1995

Southern Combination Division Two

Winners 1993

Southern Combination Division Two Cup

Runners up 1988, 1991

Sussex Intermediate Cup

Winners 1975

Montgomery Challenge Cup

Winners 1960

Mowatt Challenge Cup

Winners 1928

UNDER 23 TEAM

Southern Combination Under 23 West Division

Runners up 2018, 2019

UNDER 18 TEAM

Southern Combination Under 18 Championship

Winners 2002, 2018

Runners up 2014

Southern Combination Under 18 Central

Winners 1999, 2002, 2006, 2014, 2018

Runners up 2008, 2013, 2015, 2019

Southern Combination Under 18 Cup

Winners 2001, 2008, 2009, 2018

Runners up 2002, 2014, 2015

Sussex County FA Under 18 Cup

Winners 2002

VETERANS TEAM

Fred Pretty Veterans Cup

Winners 1995, 1996, 2002, 2009, 2010, 2013, 2016

Runners up

2017

Staying safe at the Beacon today...

Lockdown maybe over and most restrictions might have been lifted in England, but we are still working hard to ensure that the Beacon remains a safe environment for all our visitors. Please read the updated guidance for staying safe with us today.



Track and Trace

Track and trace is still available for those who wish to use it. Please scan the Beacon's barcode which can be found at the turnstiles and in the Clubhouse if you wish to check in with us today.



Clubhouse

The Clubhouse will be open with the Robins Bar serving alcohol and the T Bar catering for all your hot food and drink needs.

Masks are not mandatory inside but if you would prefer to wear one within the building then please do.

We have maintained 2 metre distance markings on the floor should you wish to continue social distancing. The one-way system in-and-out is no longer in operation.

Payments

One of the few positives to come out of the pandemic is that it forced us into the 21st century to accept card payments, Contactless is available at both the turnstiles and in the Clubhouse



Hand Sanitiser

Hand sanitiser is available at various points around the ground. We have a plentiful supply so please use as much as you feel is necessary

....and most important of all -
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Welcome to the Beacon

Good evening and welcome to the Beacon for our first home game of 2022 with a place in the last eight of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup up for grabs...

We would like to start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and hope that you all enjoyed yourself suitably over the festive period.

Today we welcome our friends from Crawley Down Gatwick who are visiting the Beacon for the second time this season having already been our guests in the Sussex Senior Cup.

Down triumphed 2-0 on that occasion back in October but we have improved immeasurably since then, as shown by recent results.

Our last home game here on December 18th feels like it took place a lot more recently than nearly four weeks ago, partly because it left everyone on such a high.

Not many would have given us much of a prayer of doing anything other than losing to Premier Division leaders Saltdean United.

And yet 90 gruelling minutes later and we walked away with a 1-1 draw. The performance and result that day against the Tigers has set a new standard for what we can expect in 2022 - and if showings like that can be delivered on a consistent basis, then there is no reason why we cannot pull clear of the mire.

We followed up the Saltdean draw by winning our first away game of the season against Lingfield last Monday.

The game was switched to Whyteleafe, a significant increase in distance to travel and we would like to put on record our thanks to every one of you who made the journey.

Church Road was not the most hospitable of venues - you could tell no senior club has used it this season following the demise of Whyteleafe FC - but we did not let that put us off, picking up an excellent 2-1 success.

Two games have been lost to wet weather over the past few weeks. Our December 27th visit to this evening's visitors has been rearranged for Saturday 5th February with a 3pm kick off at the Haven.

Our trip to AFC Uckfield Town on Saturday was also postponed. No new date has been set for that yet, so please keep your eyes on our website and social media channels for news when we have it.

With only five Premier Division matches left to play at the Beacon, we do not have another home fixture until the visit of Bexhill United on Saturday 29th January.

There is plenty of football still to be played here however, and it would be lovely to see more people turning out to support the club's younger, older and ladies teams.

The Under 23s have a huge top-of-the-table clash with Broadbridge Heath to look forward to on Thursday night, kicking off at 7:45pm. Admission is £3 for adults and £1 concessions.

On Sunday, the Under 18s host Worthing United at 11am with free entry. The Veterans travel to East Grinstead to face East Court at 2pm.

The Under 23s then host Horsham YMCA on Thursday 20th January. On Sunday 23rd, the Veterans are here against Brockham at 2pm and the Ladies travel to Saltdean.

Finally, the Under 23s are away at St Francis Rangers on Thursday 27th with a slightly earlier kick off time at Colwell Road of 7:30pm - before we see you back here on the Saturday when the Pirates sail into the village.

Enjoy today's game & thank you for your support.

Owen & Scott



Today's visitors...



Crawley Down Gatwick

Founded 1993

Nickname Anvils

Ground The Haven

Website

crawleydowngatwickfc.co.uk

Twitter @OfficialCDGFC

Manager James Day

Top Scorer Phil Johnson, 21

HONOURS

Southern Combination League

Winners 2011

SCFL Division One

Runners up 2016

SCFL Division Two

Runners up 1996

Peter Bentley League Cup

Runners up 2010

Sussex RUR Charity Cup

Winners 2011

Runners up 2017

Sussex Senior Cup

Runners up 2012

Mid Sussex League

Winners 1995

Crawley Down Gatwick are becoming familiar foes for us this season. Tonight's RUR Cup clash will be the second of four meetings between the clubs, which is good news for neutral fans wanting to see goals...

Hassocks v Crawley Down has a well-earned reputation for being one of the most exciting fixtures on the Southern Combination League circuit.

Since the first ever meeting between the sides in this competition back in 2005, there have been 21 matches containing 84 goals at an average of over four per match.

Amongst the more ridiculous score lines of the past six years are 5-3 and 6-4 wins for Hassocks. Two matches in the Premier Division Supplementary Shield matches last April yielded 10 goals.

In terms of the overall head-to-head, Hassocks lead it with 10 victories to eight for Down.

That comes as something of a surprise as since the Anvils first joined us in the top flight of the Southern Combination in 2009, they finished above us in all but one season.

Down have good pedigree in the RUR Cup over the past 10 years too, twice reaching the final. They lifted the competition in 2011 to complete a double along with their Southern Combination title win and then

reached the final in 2017 where they were beaten by Newhaven.

If they can overcome us today, they will fancy their chances of at least making the semi finals. The winner has a home tie against Division One outfit Seaford Town to contend with.

On their day, Down are capable of going toe-to-toe with any club in the Southern Combination League. That has much to do with their firepower. Two Anvils players are already into double figures for the campaign and neither needs too much introduction to Hassocks fans.

Oli Leslie scored both the goals when Down won 2-0 here in the Sussex Senior Cup back in October.

Phil Johnson meanwhile came through the youth ranks at the Beacon, establishing himself as one of the best strikers in the county during two spells with us at the Beacon.

He is one of three former Robins who could feature for Down tonight alongside Harvey Blake and Will Broomfield - all of whom will be worthy recipients of a warm welcome back if they play.

10 Key Moments

1993... Crawley Down United and two other local sides merge to form Crawley Down Village

1995... win promotion to the Southern Combination League after lifting the Mid Sussex League title

1996... runners up in Division Two at the first attempt taking the Anvils into senior football for the first time

1999... they drop 'Village' from their name & finish 3rd in Division 1 but can't go up due to ground grading

2007... permission is finally granted to develop The Haven with floodlights, hard standing and seats

2009... reach the fourth round of the FA Vase and finish 3rd to win promotion to the Premier Division

2011... it's a double as the RUR Cup and Southern Combination title are lifted and promotion secured

2014... after a three season stay in the Isthmian League, Down are relegated

2016... back-to-back relegations see them slip back into Division One for one season before promotion

2017... reached the RUR Cup final where they lost to Newhaven

Last 20 Seasons

2018-19, Southern Combination Premier 9th

2017-18, Southern Combination Premier 12th

2016-17, Southern Combination Premier 11th

2015-16, Southern Combination One 2nd

2014-15, Southern Combination Premier 19th

2013-14, Isthmian South 23rd

2012-13, Isthmian South 13th

2011-12, Isthmian South 16th

2010-11, Southern Combination Premier 1st

2009-10, Southern Combination Premier 8th

2008-09, Southern Combination One 3rd

2007-08, Southern Combination One 6th

2006-07, Southern Combination One 16th

2005-06, Southern Combination One 5th

2004-05, Southern Combination One 10th

2003-04, Southern Combination One 11th

2002-03, Southern Combination One 15th

2001-02, Southern Combination One 11th

2000-01, Southern Combination One 16th

1999-00, Southern Combination One 4th

Hassocks v Crawley Down Gatwick :: Head-to-Head

SCFL Premier Division... Played 13 - Won 5 - Drawn 2 - Lost 6 - Scored 27 - Conceded 28

Sussex Senior Cup... Played 1 - Won 0 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 0 - Conceded 2

RUR Charity Cup... Played 4 - Won 3 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 7 - Conceded 4

Peter Bentley League Cup... Played 1 - Won 1 - Drawn 0 - Lost 0 - Scored 3 - Conceded 2

SCFL Supplementary Shield... Played 2 - Won 1 - Drawn 1 - Lost 0 - Scored 6 - Conceded 4

Total... Played 21 Won 10 Drawn 3 Lost 8 Scored 43 Conceded 40

Previous 10 Meetings

2021-22 Sussex Senior Cup: Hassocks 0-2 Crawley Down

2020-21 SCFL Supp Shield: Crawley Down 2-4 Hassocks

2020-21 SCFL Supp Shield: Crawley Down 2-2 Hassocks

2019-20 SCFL Premier: Crawley Down 3-2 Hassocks

2018-19 SCFL Premier: Crawley Down 2-5 Hassocks

2018-19 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 1-2 Crawley Down

2018-19 RUR Charity Cup: Hassocks 2-1 Crawley Down

2017-18 SCFL Premier: Crawley Down 1-3 Hassocks

2017-18 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 1-3 Crawley Down

2016-17 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 3-2 Crawley Down



Crawley Down Gatwick fly through Senior Cup at expense of Robin

Given their struggling Premier Division form, it seems safe to suggest that Hassocks were never likely to go far in any knockout competition this season.

It might have been nice for the Beacon faithful however if the Robins had managed to win a game in at least one of the four cups they have already entered.

Instead, they have exited the FA Cup, FA Vase, Peter Bentley League Cup and now the Sussex Senior Cup at the first opportunity.

The Robins have only the league and the RUR Charity Cup left to play in and we have not even reached Halloween season yet.

Crawley Down Gatwick became the latest opponent to progress at the expense of the Robins.

The free-scoring Anvils were not as free-scoring as they have been in the Premier Division, but they still had enough about them to win through 2-0 to the second round of a competition they reached the Amex final of a decade ago when an Isthmian League outfit.

You have to go back to the 1993 to find the last time a Southern Combination League side – Wick – lifted the Senior Cup. Saltdean United in 1997 are the most recent finalists.

The chances of Hassocks or Down breaking the league's near-30 year duck in the competition are extremely slim and that was reflected by both managers taking the opportunity to rest players, the Senior Cup clearly not at the forefront for their minds.

For Hassocks, that meant Bradley Bant and Connor Bradley dropping down to the bench and teenagers Jack Gardner and Luke Marshall missing out completely.

In came Jordan Badger, Spencer Slaughter for his first start since returning to Hassocks from Loxwood, and Lucas Tyrrell for a full debut.

Alex Harris also took over from

the unavailable Charlie Pugh in goal.

Down meanwhile could have rocked up with four faces familiar to Hassocks fans in their starting line up having lured several big-name players to the Haven from the Beacon over the past two summers.

The Robins were no doubt grateful to see just two in the Down XI – Will Broomfield and last season's Hassocks top scorer of 16 goals in 20 games, Charlie Pitcher.

Harvey Blake and the Premier Division's second-leading goal getter Phil Johnson were both rested.

"The free-scoring Anvils were not as free-scoring as they have been in the Premier Division, but they still had enough about them to win through 2-0 to the second round of a competition they reached the Amex final of a decade ago when an Isthmian League outfit."

Johnson's absence perhaps went part of the way towards explaining why a Down side who are going at an a run rate of over three goals per top flight game so far only managed two against a leaky Hassocks defence.

Most would have been expecting a goal fest here given that this particular fixture has garnered a reputation as one of the most entertaining on the Sussex non-league circuit in recent seasons.

82 goals have been plundered in 20 previous meetings in senior football between Down and the Robins at an average of four a game, including 25 in the past five meetings.

Amongst the more ridiculous score lines of the past six years are 5-3 and 6-4 wins for Hassocks, whilst two Supplementary Shield matches last April yielded 10 goals.

Although there was plenty of honest endeavour from both, this was a slightly dull affair in comparison.

Down took the lead seven minutes before half time. A huge ball over the top put Pitcher clear and once he was hauled down by Charlie Tuck, referee Peter Dingle had little option but to point to the spot.

With no Johnson, Oli Leslie stepped up to put the visitors 1-0 ahead going into the break.

A first half injury denied Down the services of Michael Belli but his replacement Luca Intelligenza ended up being the best player on the pitch in the second half, helping his side gain control of the midfield.

Hassocks though kept plugging away and were not out of the game until the final five minutes when Down added their second.

Leslie again was the man on target, this time heading home a cross after the Anvils caught Hassocks on the counter when the Robins were pushing forward in the hope of taking the tie to extra time.

There were reasons to be encouraged for Brad Sweetman and his players, not least because they contained Pitcher reasonably well and prevented a Down front line who are very dangerous even without Johnson from running wild.

Hassocks now have to take those positives into a weekend meeting with Loxwood, one of only four sides below them in the Premier Division table.

Time for the Robins to concentrate on the league – and getting out of the mire.

Hassocks: Harris; Tuck, Tighe, Badger, Whittingham; J Westlake, Slaughter, Short, Tyrrell; Loversidge, Bull.

Subs: Bant, Bradley, Beebee (used), Rawlingson, Parker (unused).

Amos ends goal famine with a banquet to dump Down out of cup

He's back. After struggling to get off the mark this season, gifted young Hassocks striker Matt Amos ended his goal famine with a banquet as his hat-trick saw off Crawley Down in the second round of the RUR Charity Cup.

The 18-year-old scored 25 goals last season on his way to helping Dave John's Robins to their highest ever Sussex County League finish, making light of the departure of Hassocks' previous talismanic forward Pat Harding to Eastbourne Borough the previous summer.

Amos was particularly keen to break his duck for the current campaign before he heads to Cambridge University later this month - and it is normally the case with players that good that once they notch one, the goals start flowing again.

Unfortunately for Down, three of them ending up flowing in the opening 46 minutes as Hassocks eased past their Division Two hosts with a 4-0 success.

Amos struck in the opening 60 seconds of each half and with another effort in between, he was able to celebrate a treble before taking a well earned rest.

No doubt Down will be unhappy with some of the goals conceded but even with a couple of defensive mistakes, this was never anything less than a cakewalk for the Robins bar a couple of hairy moments early in the second half.

Despite looking so comfortable, John still had a few choice words to say at half time after watching his team take a 2-0 lead inside of 12 minutes and then fail to take advantage of their obvious superiority.

Virtually straight from kick off,

Down sent a long ball forward which was easily gathered by Joel Harding.

The Hassocks number one returned the favour, launching a huge kick back down the pitch which the home defence failed to deal with effectively.

That let Amos in one-on-one with home goalkeeper Eddie Olding, Amos opting to go for power rather than replacement when despatching his opening goal of the season via the underside of the bar.

Amos did not have long to wait for number two. His next goal arrived shortly after when he ghosted unnoticed towards the front post to convert an excellent Phil Gault cross, putting Hassocks in complete control with a two goal lead before the quarter of an hour mark.

Rather than killing things off in double-quick time, the Robins then took their foot off the pedal and the remainder of the first half became slack.

Part of the problem seemed to be that Hassocks had too much time on the ball. That led to an extra touch here and an unnecessary pass there as the sloppiness that frustrated John began to set in.

Down fashioned some openings of their own with right back Adam New and forward James Upton in particular impressing, giving home fans hope that they could find a way back into it in the second half.

But those hopes were extinguished less than a minute after the restart. New's poor back pass sold Olding short and although the Down goalkeeper did well to recover the situation, his attempted clearance went awry as it cannoned into Amos to leave a simple tap in.

Going 3-0 behind seemed to stir Down into life and were it not for Harding, then the Anvils might well have launched something of a comeback in what was their best period of the match.

Gareth Neathey pulled two

outstanding saves from Harding before a fourth goal on 62 minutes for Hassocks finally ended the home resistance.

Good work down the right from Gault and the evergreen Mickey Turner led Kieran Fielding to handle in the box.

Anthony Hibbert stepped up to strike the penalty past Olding, scoring his fourth of the season in the process.

John turned to his bench after that. Brendan Leahy has been nursing an ankle injury in recent weeks and he was immediately replaced by Stuart Faith who remains unavailable at weekends currently due to cricket commitments.

Amos and Robbins then made way for youngsters Logan Newington and Michael Bates, both of whom had starred alongside Amos in the Under 18s side who won the North Division two years ago and finished runners up last season.

Newington had a great chance to open his senior account when played in by Gault but he pulled a decent shot just wide of the far post.

Bates meanwhile brought energy to the midfield, displayed a few clever touches and used the ball well having clearly listened to John's half time instructions to make things more simple.

The game finished on an unsavoury note with late bookings for Ashley Marsh and the feisty Neathey following an isolated incident that was not really in keeping with what had taken place over the preceding 85 minutes.

Hassocks: J Harding; Turner, Lear, Marsh, Leahy, Thompson; Robbins, Slaughter, Hibbert; Gault, Amos.

Subs: Faith (Leahy 62), Newington (Amos 74), Bates (Robbins 75).

Robins in the RUR



Hassocks first entered the Sussex RUR Charity Cup in 1981. We take a look back at the Robins' attempts over the past 38 years to make it the first ever piece of senior silverware to enter the Beacon's trophy cabinet...

Everybody knows the fact – Hassocks have never reached a senior cup final, let alone lifted a trophy in their 114 year history.

The Sussex RUR Charity Cup is the one that has provided the Robins with the best opportunity to do so – not that that is saying much, admittedly – as we have reached the semi-finals of the competition on three occasions.

The most recent of those visits to the last four was probably the most disappointing when in 2011-12, we were beaten 3-1 by lowly Selsey at Culver Road.

A 5-2 victory in the league at the High Street Ground had been recorded a month previously and the Robins went into the tie the favourites despite being without the services of the talismanic Phil Gault.

But there could be little complaint about the score on the day as Mickey Jewell's side simply didn't turn up and the chance of a first ever cup final went begging.

It had been a straight forward cup run up until that point with victories against Mile Oak, East

Grinstead Town and Southwick paving the way to heartache in the last four.

If that illustrated just what a favourable draw can do for a cup run, then Hassocks' previous semi-final defeat before that was an indication of how it can work the other way, when we met all-conquering Burgess Hill Town in the 1999-00 season.

"The RUR Cup is the competition that has provided the Robins with the best opportunity to win their first ever senior trophy – not that that is saying much, admittedly – as we've reached the semi-finals of the competition on three occasions."

Mile Oak, Arundel and Lancing had all been vanquished on route to the meeting with the Robins' arch rivals of the time and although formbooks and class can go out the

window when it comes to a local derby, Hassocks proved to be no match for the Hillians who ran out 4-1 winners.

The third semi of this competition the Robins have made came six seasons before that defeat at the hands of Hill in 1993-94 and it was the closest Hassocks have ever come to clearing the hurdle to actually making a final as they went down only in extra time 2-0 to the Lions of Pagham

That was not an easy run to reach the last four either with victories over Wick, Southwick, Lancing and Whitehawk all being gained along the way.

In the mid 00's, Hassocks were remarkably consistent in bowing out of the competition at the quarter final stage with four last eight exits in a row – 2005-06 to Shoreham, 2006-07 to Whitehawk, 2007-08 to Rye United and 2008-09 to Three Bridges.

There have been five other quarter final exits, to Burgess Hill the year before that semi heartache at the hands of the Hillians, to Selsey in 1994-95, Pagham in 1992-93 and

Southwick in 1981-82 – the first season we entered the competition.

Haywards Heath Town were responsible for our most recent last eight elimination when they won 3-0 at the Beacon in the 2018-19 season, on route to defeat in the final against Peacehaven & Telscombe.

It was a similar story in the quarter finals in 2016-17 when the Robins were eliminated away at this evening's visitors Crawley Down Gatwick, who ended up finishing as runners up to Newhaven.

Round three only came into existence for the 2000-01 competition when the preliminary round was removed, and it has been the Robins' exiting point on three occasions, most recently in 2013-14 via a 3-2 defeat away at Horsham YMCA.

Hassocks crashed out at the stage in back-to-back campaigns in 2000-01 and 2001-02 to Selsey and Southwick respectively.

And as for the aforementioned preliminary round? Hassocks only ever had one dalliance with it.

That came in the 1993-94 season, a 3-2 win over Wick.

As for the second round, that was the stage we exited at when the RUR Cup was last held in 2019-20, losing 3-0 at home to Pagham.

In 2017-18, we somehow blew a 2-0 lead with 15 minutes remaining to lose 4-2 in extra time away at AFC Uckfield Town.

Hassocks were also eliminated from the competition at that stage in both the 2014-15 and 2015-16

seasons via heavy home defeats, 5-1 against Eastbourne Town and 5-0 against Littlehampton Town respectively.

Given the Robins well documented ability to make hard work and more often than not lose to teams from a lower division, Hassocks have been knocked out of the RUR Cup a surprisingly low number of times by sides from lower down the pyramid.

The most recent of those did come in the second round, a penalty shootout defeat to Division One outfit Little Common in 2012-13 after an astonishing 5-5 draw.

Round two also accounted for Hassocks' exits in 2010-11 to Sidley United and 2009-10 when Dave John's side were eliminated by Selsey.

Selsey again eliminated the Robins at that stage in 2004-05, which followed hot on the heels of second round defeats to Pagham the previous year and Burgess Hill before that.

Other exits came against Shoreham in 1997-98, Midhurst & Easebourne in 1995-96 which represented another rare shock, Sidley in 1986-87 and Whitehawk in 1982-83.

Hassocks have been on a remarkable run of receiving byes in the competition to the point where they didn't actually compete in the first round for 17 years between beating Worthing United 6-3 in the 2016-17 season and defeating Mile Oak in the 1999-00 season.

The Robins have only bowed out of the competition three times at the first round stage – to Langney Sports in 1996-97, Ringmer in 1984-85 and Peacehaven & Telscombe in 1983-84.

That exit to the Tye remains one of only two games in the competition that Hassocks have been involved in that required a replay, a 1-1 draw at Adastra Park being followed by a 1-0 defeat away from home.

The other came two seasons previously when another 1-1 draw at Adastra necessitated a second game, this time Hassocks triumphing 5-3 in a thriller away at Hastings Town.

Five games have gone to extra time and Hassocks have won three of them, the only blemishes being that 1994 semi-final defeat to Pagham and the exit four seasons ago against AFC Uckfield Town.

The extra time wins have seen the Robins defeat Ringmer 4-3 in 1982-83, Worthing United 4-2 in 1995-96 and Ringmer again in 2005-06, that time 2-1.

Aside from the Little Common penalty defeat, Hassocks have only had one other shoot out in the competition which was in 2007-08 when Arundel were beaten 4-1 from 12 yards after a 2-2 draw in normal time.

Hassocks' biggest victory in the competition also represents one of their biggest ever victories in senior football, a 9-0 hammering dished out to the now defunct Shinewater Association in 2000-01. The Robins heaviest RUR defeat is that 5-0 loss to Littlehampton Town from 2014.



A Christmas miracle as Hassocks take a point from leaders Saltdean

Southern Combination League Premier Division
Saturday 18th December 2021, The Beacon
Hassocks 1-1 Saltdean United



Ever the optimists, one Hassocks fan turned to another in the Clubhouse before kick off as the Robins hosted Southern Combination League Premier Division leaders and said: "This could be worse than the cricket."

Christmas though is the season for miracles. England desperately need one in Australia. Hassocks got one in Mid Sussex, drawing 1-1 with an outstanding Tigers side who had walloped them 6-0 earlier in the campaign.

You could understand the pessimism amongst the home support. Saltdean arrived having put nine unanswered goals past East Preston seven days earlier.

They then went and eliminated Conference South side Eastbourne Borough from the Sussex Senior Cup in midweek.

Tigers manager Bryan O'Toole has built a squad that reads like a who's who of recent Southern Combination title winners and right now, they are playing at the peak of their powers as those previous two results evidence.

Hassocks meanwhile are ravaged by injury and illness to key players. Josh Short and Dan Turner were the latest notable omissions, joining long-term absentees like Andy Whittingham, Bradley Bant, Lucas Tyrrell, Jack Gardner and Spencer Slaughter on the missing list.

Brad Sweetman opted to replace Turner and Short with experience, turning to Jordan Badger and Jack Troak. Both have endured stop-start campaigns and were making only their fifth and third starts of the season respectively.

Saltdean made a fast start on their way to scoring six goals last time these sides met, opening the scoring inside of 120 seconds on that balmy August evening at Hill Park.

It took them a little longer to get

going on this occasion. 15 minutes had elapsed when Trevor McCreadie - so often a thorn in Hassocks' side during his Haywards Heath Town days - latched onto a ball over the top.

Alex Harris was quick off his line and did well to shut the danger down, resulting in McCreadie lifting his effort over the bar.

Hassocks registered their first chance shortly after. Sam Smith was making his home debut and he had a good sight 25 yards out but his effort lacked the required power to trouble former Hassocks favourite James Broadbent in the Tigers goal.

Saltdean took the lead on 20 minutes via an elegant strike from Tom Caplin. Hassocks were unable to clear their lines and Caplin needed no second invitation when the ball fell to him 22 yards out, driving a clinical effort into the bottom corner.

Hassocks were dealt a blow seven minutes later when Smith limped out of the action, adding to the Robins' injury woes.

Joe Bull seemed the obvious replacement but Sweetman instead opted to bring Josh Hawkes on up front.

Hawkes has been in good scoring form recently for the Under 23s, but he cannot have been asked to lead the line many times in his senior career - as the look on his face of a man whose Christmases had all come at once eluded to.

It turned out to be an inspired decision and on the stroke of half time, Hawkes was denied what appeared a stonewall penalty.

Arthur Rawlingson went charging forward from right back to deliver the perfect cross which Hawkes looked set to get his chin on until he was clumsily tripped by a Saltdean defender. Remarkably, referee Ian Moore waved play on.

Undeterred, Hassocks continued to take the game to their visitors at the start of the second half. A quick

counter inside the opening five minutes ended with Troak whistling a half volley over.

The Robins got the goal they deserved a few minutes later. Troak had a shot blocked but the ball fell kindly to Alfie Loversidge who slammed home from eight yards out for his eighth goal of the season.

Jack Baden was the next Hassocks player depart injured, Charlie Tuck coming on at left back in a straight swap.

It did not take Tuck long to make an impression. A Badger slip let in McCreadie and the Robins looked bang in trouble until Tuck appeared from nowhere, producing one of the best tackles that the Beacon has seen in many years to snuff out the danger.

Saltdean continued to pour forward in the final 15 minutes and it was all hands on deck for Hassocks.

The Tigers had the ball in the net with five of normal time left to play but a tight offside call correctly went the Robins' way.

Harris repelled a Saltdean header with a fine save before Hassocks made their final change, the tireless Lewis Westlake making way for Luke Marshall as another defender was chucked on to try and help preserve the point.

Hassocks got there after what must have felt like an endless amount of time added on. The reaction of the players at the end told its own story about what a big result this was. Move over Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the wee donkey - there is a new Christmas miracle in town.

Hassocks: Harris; Rawlingson, Badger, Tighe, Baden; Wallis, J Westlake, L Westlake, Troak; Loversidge, S Smith.

Subs: Hawkes (Smith 28), Tuck (Baden 57), Marshall (L Westlake 89), Bull, Parker (unused).

Short and Troak give Hassocks first win on the road to start 2022

**Southern Combination League Premier Division
Monday 3rd January 2022, Church Road
Lingfield 1-2 Hassocks**



Whyteleafe was not where Hassocks had been expecting to kick off 2022 but the long drive inside the M25 proved worth it in the end as they picked up a first away win of the season.

First half goals from Josh Short and Jack Troak secured a 2-1 win over Lingfield, who had taken the decision 48 hours earlier to switch the game from their waterlogged Godstone Road home to the 3G surface of Church Road.

And although Lingfield have hosted matches here in the past, it was Hassocks who made themselves at home by taking a 2-0 lead inside of half an hour.

The confidence Brad Sweetman's young side have taken from holding Premier Division leaders Saltdean United in their last game a little over two weeks ago was there for all to see right from the first whistle.

Hassocks set out to play with a high tempo and disrupt Lingfield. This approach bore fruit for the Robins' opening goal which arrived with nine minutes played.

James and Lewis Westlake harried in midfield to win possession from Braiden Hall.

Senior Westlake brother James slipped in Short who produced a clinical finish with the inside of his foot that gave Lingfield goalkeeper Johnny Thurbin no chance.

The hosts were struggling to contain the energy of industrious James and he soon fashioned another decent opening for Hassocks just past the quarter of an hour mark.

Troak was the recipient this time, scampering away down the flank. Frustratingly, his cross was wasteful as it sailed straight into the arms of Thurbin as Short and Alfie Loversidge looked to arrive in the area.

Jack Baden has been a revelation at left back during the Robins' recent

good run of form and he was enjoying a lot of joy overlapping down the flank.

He was next to be released, this time by Lewis Westlake but the resulting cross from Baden flew out of play.

By this point, it was fairly obvious that if Hassocks could get their final ball right then they would stand a very good chance of extending their lead. That duly happened on 27 minutes.

James Westlake again fed a pass into a wide area for Short, who led three Lingfield defenders on a merry dance.

When Short had finally finished toying with the opposition, he played a low cross perfectly placed to Loversidge who was scythed down just as he was about to pull the trigger.

A penalty was the only outcome and Troak despatched the spot kick with aplomb for his first goal of the season.

You could see how much it meant to the popular forward to be starting the new year back on the scoresheet following a 2021 that was badly disrupted by injury.

The second half was never likely to be as comfortable for Hassocks as the first, although they could have made it three straight from kick off.

A long kick out of defence was flicked on by Troak to send Short away. He cut inside and forced a fine save on the stretch from Thurbin.

Lingfield began to exert ever increasing amounts of pressure on the Robins goal after that without ever really testing Harvey Parker, Hassocks' Under 23s number one who was standing in for the absent Alex Harris.

That was until a clumsy challenge from Bradley Tighe gifted Lingfield a penalty with 58 minutes played.

Aaron Jenkins was the home player clattered and he duly punished Hassocks by beating Parker clinically

from the spot.

Lingfield should have been level almost immediately as in the 120 seconds following Jenkins' penalty, they passed up two gilt edged opportunities to equalise.

Haydn Dickinson somehow volleyed over from six yards out with the goal at his mercy.

The same player then produced an ever so slightly more acceptable miss when clearing the cross bar from 20 yards with only Parker standing in his way.

Sweetman attempted to break Lingfield's second half dominance with a change on 75 minutes.

Bradley Bant had been tireless in midfield on his return from injury and he made way for forward Joe Bull in amongst some positional adjustments.

The changes had the desired impact as Lingfield became less of a threat - so much so that Hassocks almost added a third to kill the game off as it entered the final 10 minutes.

Short was outstanding once again in creating an opportunity, teeing up Troak at the far post who could only drag wide.

Not that the miss mattered as Hassocks held on to get 2022 off to the perfect start and end a 14 month wait for a Premier Division victory on the road.

With 10 of the Robins' 15 remaining league matches to be played away from the Beacon, it was a particularly timely moment to banish their travelling blues.

Hassocks: Parker; Rawlingson, Turner, Tighe, Baden; Loversidge, J Westlake, L Westlake, Bant; Short; Troak.

Subs: Bull, Wallis (used).

First Team Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
August				
03/08 - 19:45	Saltdean United (A)	SCFLP	0-6	
10/08 - 19:45	Spelthorne Sports (H)	FACEP	1-2	Loversidge
14/08 - 15:00	Eastbourne Town (H)	SCFLP	1-2	Short
17/08 - 19:45	AFC Uckfield Town (H)	SCFLP	2-2	Loversidge, Badger
21/08 - 15:00	Broadbridge Heath (H)	SCFLP	1-5	Beebee
24/08 - 19:45	Peacehaven & Tels. (A)	SCFLP	2-3	Bradley, Whittingham
28/08 - 15:00	Steyning Town (H)	SCFLP	2-0	Mitchell-Phillips (2)
30/08 - 11:00	Lingfield (H)	SCFLP	1-1	Loversidge
September				
04/09 - 15:00	Newhaven (H)	SCFLP	0-5	
07/09 - 19:45	Roffey (H)	PBLC2	1-5	Mitchell-Phillips
11/09 - 15:00	Little Common (H)	SCFLP	0-3	
18/09 - 15:00	Littlehampton Town (A)	SCFLP	2-4	Gardner, Badger
25/09 - 15:00	Beckenham Town (H)	FAVQ2	1-2	Bull
October				
02/10 - 15:00	Bexhill United (A)	SCFLP	1-1	Loversidge
09/10 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (H)	SCFLP	4-1	Bull, Loversidge (3)
12/10 - 19:45	Eastbourne United (H)	SCFLP	0-3	
16/10 - 15:00	Horsham YMCA (H)	SCFLP	1-2	Gault
19/10 - 19:45	Crawley Down Gatwick (A)	SCFLP	0-2	
23/10 - 15:00	Loxwood (A)	SCFLP	0-1	
November				
06/11 - 15:00	East Preston (A)	SCFLP	1-4	Short
09/11 - 19:45	Montpelier Villa (H)	RURC2	5-0	Short, Gault (2), L.Westlake, Thwaites
13/11 - 15:00	Alfold (H)	SCFLP	2-1	L.Westlake, Gault
16/11 - 19:45	Pagham (H)	SCFLP	1-2	Short
20/11 - 15:00	Broadbridge Heath (A)	SCFLP	0-0	
27/11 - 15:00	Peacehaven & Tels. (H)	SCFLP	2-2	Short, L.Westlake
December				
11/12 - 15:00	Eastbourne Town (A)	SCFLP	2-5	L.Westlake, S.Smith
18/12 - 15:00	Saltdean United (H)	SCFLP	1-1	Loversidge
January				
03/01 - 11:00	Lingfield (A)	SCFLP	2-1	Short, Troak
08/01 - 15:00	AFC Uckfield Town (A)	SCFLP		
11/01 - 19:45	Crawley Down Gatwick (H)	RURC3		
13/01 - 15:00	Little Common (A)	SCFLP		
22/01 - 15:00	Eastbourne United (A)	SCFLP		
29/01 - 15:00	Bexhill United (H)	SCFLP		
February				
05/02 - 15:00	Crawley Down Gatwick (A)	SCFLP		
12/02 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (A)	SCFLP		
19/02 - 15:00	Horsham YMCA (A)	SCFLP		
26/02 - 15:00	Loxwood (H)	SCFLP		
March				
12/03 - 15:00	East Preston (H)	SCFLP		
19/03 - 15:00	Pagham (A)	SCFLP		
26/03 - 15:00	Newhaven (A)	SCFLP		
April				
09/04 - 15:00	Littlehampton Town (H)	SCFLP		
16/04 - 15:00	Steyning Town (A)	SCFLP		
18/04 - 11:00	Crawley Down Gatwick (H)	SCFLP		
23/04 - 15:00	Alfold (A)	SCFLP		

First Team Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season				Hassocks Career	
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals	Games	Goals
Alfie Loversidge	26	0	26	8	44	10
Josh Short	26	0	26	5	38	5
Bradley Tighe	22	0	22	0	125	0
Arthur Rawlingson	18	4	22	0	22	0
Joe Bull	15	5	20	2	81	6
Luke Marshall	14	3	17	0	33	0
Jack Gardner	16	0	16	1	39	1
Andy Whittingham	16	0	16	0	114	2
Jack Baden	10	5	15	0	18	0
James Westlake	13	1	14	0	210	30
Alex Harris	13	0	13	0	73	0
Connor Bradley	11	2	13	1	22	1
Jude Wallis	4	9	13	0	13	0
Dan Turner	11	0	11	0	46	3
Bradley Bant	9	2	11	0	160	12
Charlie Tuck	9	1	10	0	16	0
Lewis Beebee	7	3	10	1	13	1
George Mitchell-Phillips	7	2	9	3	9	3
Jordan Badger	5	3	8	2	118	9
Charlie Pugh	7	0	7	0	31	0
Lewis Westlake	7	0	7	4	84	8
Jack Troak	4	3	7	1	60	14
Lucas Tyrrell	3	3	6	0	6	0
Christian Kiddell	5	0	5	0	5	0
Phil Gault	3	2	5	4	343	189
Josh Hawkes	1	4	5	0	77	11
Max Blencowe	3	1	4	0	4	0
Wes Tighe	3	1	4	0	4	0
Louis Thwaites	1	3	4	1	4	1
Ben Hicks	2	1	3	0	4	0
Spencer Slaughter	2	1	3	0	293	47
Kobe Dersley	1	2	3	0	4	0
Sam Geard	1	2	3	0	3	0
Jay Hudson	1	2	3	0	3	0
Kieran Dimelow	2	0	2	0	5	0
Lexx Lucas	2	0	2	0	2	0
Harvey Parker	2	0	2	0	2	0
Sam Smith	2	0	2	1	2	1
Tristan Hayes	1	1	2	0	2	0
Jacob Campbell	1	0	1	0	1	0
Louis Duckering	1	0	1	0	1	0
Tom Jupp	0	1	1	0	3	0
Arni Kublickas	0	1	1	0	67	1
Louis Pittock	0	1	1	0	9	0
Archie Russell	0	1	1	0	1	0
Marshall Smith	0	1	1	0	1	0
Phil Wickwar	0	1	1	0	43	0

Four goals in opening 30 minutes helps Hassocks blow Alfold away

**Southern Combination League Under 23 North Division
Thursday 2nd December 2021, Alfold Recreation Ground
Alfold U23s 0-4 Hassocks U23s**

A sensational first half of football saw Hassocks Under 23s score four times on their way to a 4-0 victory at Alfold in what was easily the Robins' best 45 minutes of the season so far.

Before kick off at the Recreation Ground, Alfold sat just one place and point below Hassocks in the Southern Combination League North Division table.

The Robins were expecting a tough test of their top two credentials as they attempt to hang onto the coattails of runaway leaders Broadbridge Heath, currently nine points clear at the top and looking pretty much unbeatable having only dropped two points out of a possible 30 all season.

Instead, it was all over before the interval. Hassocks were able to take their foot off the pedal with three points secured although it did not prevent the Robins from picking up four second half yellow cards in the space of 20 minutes.

Sean McSwiney, Ben Hicks, Arthur Rawlingson and Jack Baden were the offending players but the booking spree was the only downer on what was otherwise a remarkable evening of football.

Hassocks made three changes from the side who had been beaten 2-0 at Roffey a week earlier as the Robins looked for an instant response to that disappointing third North Division defeat of the season.

Dropping out were Charlie Tuck, Archie Russell and McSwiney, who picked up his yellow card after being introduced from the bench.

Rawlingson, top scorer Jay Hudson and Jack Troak were the players who stepped in.

Troak's selection was the interesting of the lot as he looks to work his way back to fitness after a 2021 which has been badly hampered by injuries.

The forward is yet to start a senior game so far - in fact, this was his first start in any format of football this season - thanks to a succession of problems restricting him to only a couple of cameos from the bench.

Once Hassocks get him fit and firing again, then it will be like a new signing - one who can help improve the Robins in an area they have really struggled, namely scoring goals.

It did not take Troak long to remind everyone of what he can offer in that regard against Alfold.

Only four minutes had elapsed when Troak struck to give Hassocks the lead. Four minutes later and he doubled the advantage, completing a quick-fire brace which he celebrated with his trademark energy and enthusiasm.

Next to get on the score sheet was Under 18s wide man Louis Thwaites, notching his first goal for the Under 23s.

Thwaites opened his first team account in last month's 5-0 Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup victory over Montpellier Villa in what is proving to be quite a breakthrough



campaign for the teenager.

The scoring was rounded off by Jude Wallis on 32 minutes, at which point it looked like a cricket score might be on the cards.

Hassocks though began making multiple substitutions, taking full advantage of rolling subs to carefully manage their players' game time in light of the injury and unavailability problems that have gripped the club in recent weeks.

Next up for the Robins is their final scheduled match of 2021 on Thursday 9th December. Steyning Town are the visitors to the Beacon, opponents whom Hassocks eliminated from the League Cup via a 3-1 victory three weeks ago.

A similar result against the Barrowmen will further strengthen the Robins' grip on second spot.

Hassocks: Parker, Mercer, Baden, Marshall, Rawlingson, Wallis, Ransome, Hudson, Hicks, Thwaites, Troak.

Subs: McSwiney, W Tighe, Kilkelly, Sweetman (used).



GR Teamwear
Suppliers of teamwear, clothing and equipment

Rampant Robins sign off for 2021 with derby day win over Rangers

Southern Combination League Under 23 North Division

Thursday 16th December 2021, The Beacon

Hassocks U23s 3-1 St Francis Rangers U23s

Hassocks Under 23s will not want 2021 to end. For the second game running, the Robins put their opponents to the sword by scoring all their goals in another blistering first half of football.

A fortnight ago, it was Alfold who were blown away as Hassocks rampaged into a 4-0 lead inside of a little over half an hour at the Recreation Ground.

It was not quite as convincing this time around against St Francis Rangers as the Robins went into the break 3-1 ahead, but the opposition being Hassocks' local rivals made this arguably a sweeter victory than that previous success at Alfold.

The Robins had not expected to welcome Rangers to the Beacon this side of Christmas, the first Mid Sussex Derby of the campaign at Under 23 level being a late addition to the fixture last.

Hassocks though would have welcomed it. Last week's scheduled visit of Steyning Town was called off only a few hours before kick off with the Barrowmen unable to raise a side.

That cancellation denied the Robins the chance to try and close the gap to runaway North Division leaders Broadbridge Heath, leaving Hassocks bitterly disappointed.

Unfortunately for Rangers, they ended up being on the end of the Robins' wrath. Three goals in 39

minutes for Hassocks moved them to within four points of the table topping Bears, although Broadbridge Heath do have a game in hand.

What made this result even more impressive is that it was achieved with six changes from the starting XI against Alfold.

Ryan West took over from Harvey Parker in goal. Kobe Dersley was given a rare start, Sean McSwiney was promoted from the bench and Archie Russell came back into the attack.

Two first team players were also involved, Josh Short coming in along with Josh Hawkes who was deployed in a more attacking role than he is normally used to - an early Christmas present for the elder statesman of the side.

Jack Troak was rewarded for scoring twice at Alfold by missing out altogether (although that may have something to do with a long-awaited first team return following injury for Saturday's clash with Premier Division leaders Saltdean United).

Jack Baden nailing down the left back slot in the senior setup means he too was not risked for the Under 23s.

Louis Thwaites and Jay Hudson dropped to the bench with Luke Marshall missing out completely.

Hawkes was soon thriving in his advanced position, getting his first goal in Hassocks colours since returning to the Beacon from Loxwood in October with only eight minutes on the clock.

Rangers levelled things up on the



half hour mark via Adam Lindo and the visitors must have thought they had done enough to get into the break on terms with Hassocks as it remained 1-1 up until the 41st minute.

That was when Under 18s striker Russell decided to score his fourth goal of the season for the Under 23s to put the Robins 2-1 ahead.

There was further drama to come before the break, Short scoring in the second minute of time added on to make it 3-1 to Hassocks.

The second half never lived up to the entertainment of the first, not that anyone with home connections minded as Hassocks signed off for the year with another excellent three points.

Hassocks: West, Mercer, Dersley, Rawlingson, McSwiney, Wallis, Ransome, Short, Hicks, Russell, Hawkes.

Subs: Hudson, Thwaites, Tuck, McSwiney (used).



St Peter & St James Hospice

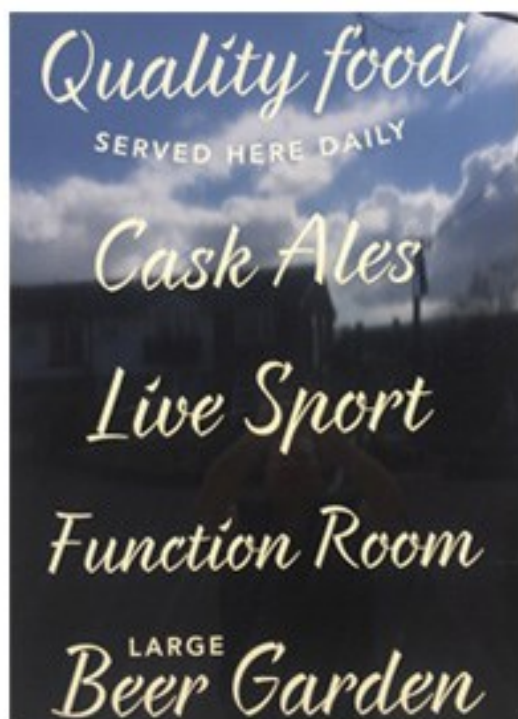
Hospice care in the heart of Sussex

Under 23 Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
August				
19/08 - 19:45	Crowborough Athletic (H)	SCFL23	4-1	Hudson (4)
26/08 - 19:45	Horsham YMCA (A)	SCFL23	1-1	Russell
September				
01/09 - 19:45	Oakwood (A)	SCFL23	2-0	Hudson, OG
09/09 - 19:45	Steyning Town (A)	SCFL23	2-0	Bradley (2)
16/09 - 19:45	Roffey (H)	SCFL23	1-0	McSwiney
October				
07/10 - 19:45	Saltdean United (H)	CU23C1	3-2	Short (2), Slaughter
14/10 - 19:45	Alfold (H)	SCFL23	3-0	Slaughter (2), Tyrrell
21/10 - 19:45	Broadbridge Heath (A)	SCFL23	0-2	
28/10 - 19:45	Crowborough Athletic (A)	SCFL23	2-4	Rawlingson, M.Smith
November				
04/11 - 19:30	Eastbourne Town (A)	CU23C2	1-2	Russell
11/11 - 19:45	Oakwood (H)	SCFL23	4-1	Russell, Badger (2), M.Smith
18/11 - 19:45	Steyning Town (H)	U23LC1	3-1	Beebee, Tuck, Marshall
25/11 - 19:45	Roffey (A)	SCFL23	0-2	
December				
02/12 - 19:30	Alfold (A)	SCFL23	4-0	Troak (2), Thwaites, Wallis
16/12 - 19:45	St Francis Rangers (H)	SCFL23	3-1	Short, Hawkes, Russell
January				
13/01 - 19:45	Broadbridge Heath (H)	SCFL23		
20/01 - 19:45	Horsham YMCA (H)	SCFL23		
27/01 - 19:30	St Francis Rangers (A)	SCFL23		

THE HASSOCKS

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OPENING TIMES

MONDAY	11.00 - 23.00
TUESDAY	11.00 - 23.00
WEDNESDAY	11.00 - 23.00
THURSDAY	11.00 - 23.00
FRIDAY	11.00 - 00.30
SATURDAY	11.00 - 00.30
SUNDAY	12.00 - 23.00

Come and visit us after today's game - next to Hassocks Station

Under 23 Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Ben Hicks	15	0	15	0
Harvey Ransome	12	2	14	0
Sean McSwiney	10	3	13	1
Jack Baden	12	0	12	0
Jude Wallis	11	1	12	1
Archie Russell	8	4	12	4
George Mercer	7	5	12	0
Wes Tighe	7	5	12	0
Louis Thwaites	5	6	11	1
Jay Hudson	8	2	10	5
Arthur Rawlingson	7	3	10	1
Harvey Parker	7	1	8	0
Luke Marshall	6	1	7	1
Jacob Killkelly	1	6	7	0
Brad Sweetman	1	6	7	0
Lewis Beebee	4	2	6	1
Josh Hawkes	5	0	5	1
Jordan Badger	4	1	5	2
Charlie Tuck	4	1	5	1
Kobe Dersley	3	1	4	0
Marshall Smith	1	3	4	2
Josh Short	3	0	3	3
Ryan West	3	0	3	0
Connor Bradley	2	1	3	2
Zac Kladdis	2	1	3	0
Charlie Pugh	2	0	2	0
Spencer Slaughter	2	0	2	3
Jacob Campbell	1	0	1	0
Kieran Dimelow	1	0	1	0
Louis Duckering	1	0	1	0
Jayden Dunkley	1	0	1	0
Jack Gardner	1	0	1	0
Phil Gault	1	0	1	0
Tom Jupp	1	0	1	0
Lexx Lucas	1	0	1	0
Josh Novis	1	0	1	0
Jack Troak	1	0	1	2
Lucas Tyrrell	1	0	1	1
Lewis Westlake	1	0	1	0
Max Blencowe	0	1	1	0
Alex Crawford	0	1	1	0
Jack Smith	0	1	1	0
Dan Turner	0	1	1	0
James Westlake	0	1	1	0

Robins tumble from top spot after defeat in seven goal thriller

Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division

Sunday 21st November 2021, The Beacon

Hassocks U18s 3-4 Shoreham & Adur U18s

Seven goals rained in at the Beacon but it was not a good morning for Hassocks Under 18s as they surrendered leadership of the Southern Combination League Central Division following a 4-3 defeat to Shoreham & Adur.

The result saw the Young Robins tumble from top spot to third, overtaken by unbeaten Montpelier Villa and last season's Supplementary Shield champions Steyning Town.

Both Worthing United and Shoreham & Adur are also snapping at Hassocks' heels with just five points separating the top five in what is shaping up to be an enthralling battle for the title.

Hassocks and Shoreham had met on the opening day of the season, a close affair decided 1-0 in the Robins' favour at Middle Road thanks to a Sam Geard penalty.

This return match was the polar opposite, featuring goals galore and plenty of entertainment.

It was a little feisty at times too and although no Hassocks player managed to find their way into referee Darren Eaton's notebook - a

rarity given that he would caution Stuart Faith whenever he officiated Hassocks back in the day - Shoreham were issued four cautions over the 90 minutes.

Edward Thompson, Fraser Healy, substitute Liam Smart and Tom Ross all had their names taken by Mr Eaton.

Another Tom from the Shoreham ranks ended up being the match winner, Tom Bond hitting a hat-trick which ultimately decided the game in the visitor's favour.

Hassocks made two changes from the side beaten 2-1 by Worthing United a week earlier.

Daniel Lade and Harry Carter both dropped to the bench with Jack Thomas and second top scorer Oliver Parker-Williams returning.

Parker-Williams was unable to add to his haul of five so far but top scorer Geard did notch, taking his tally onto seven for the campaign with his second goal of the season against Shoreham.

Also on target for the Robins were Carter who scored when introduced from the bench and Archie Russell, who is enjoying an excellent November with five goals so far spread across the Under 23s and Under 18s.



Charlie Smith made his Hassocks debut as a second half substitute in the other positive to come from the morning but the chances of a point were taken away from the Robins thanks to the excellent of Bond. Shoreham's other goal came via Joe Dixon.

Next up for Hassocks is the short trip to St Francis Rangers for a Mid Sussex Derby in a week's time.

Hassocks: Dunkley, Llewellyn, Bundy, Douglass, Beston, Thomas, Geard, Howard, Parker-Williams, Hill, Russell.

Subs: Carter, Lade, Newman, Smith (used).



Rangers secure bragging rights as Robins title hopes take a dent

Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division

Sunday 28th November 2021, Colwell Road

St Francis Rangers U18s 2-0 Hassocks U18s

Mid Sussex Derby day did not go the way of Hassocks Under 18s as they were beaten 2-0 by local rivals St Francis Rangers at Colwell Road.

The defeat meant the Robins continued to lose touch with new Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division leaders Montpelier Villa, who overtook Hassocks after last Sunday's round of matches.

A 4-3 defeat in a seven goal thriller against Shoreham & Adur seven days previously knocked Hassocks off top spot, replaced by unbeaten Villa.

Hassocks will face the table toppers at Culver Road next week, looking to avenge last month's 4-2 loss at the Beacon - the Robins' first league defeat of the campaign.

It has been something of a struggle since then with only one victory in the subsequent four matches, including this defeat against St Francis.

The Robins knew they would be in for a tough morning at the Hospital. The sides had played out a 1-1 draw at the Beacon in October, watched by former Brighton striker Glenn Murray.

Hassocks technical director Dave

John tried to coax Murray out of retirement with a tempting offer to sign for Hassocks and lead the line for Brad Sweetman's first team, but unfortunately Murray turned down the opportunity.

An already difficult task against a good Rangers outfit was made more difficult by Hassocks missing two of their first choice players for the short journey north.

"The Robins were pushing forward for an equaliser when Rangers were able to counter to add a killer second through Luke Oneil, ensuring that the three points and bragging rights remained at Colwell Road."

Top scorer Sam Geard and goalkeeper Jayden Dunkley were both absent and Harry Bundy dropped down to the bench.

The three players who came into the starting XI were Jack Thomas, Harry Carter and Ismaila Housainou Njai.

There was little to separate the teams in the opening 30 minutes until Samuel-Elie David N'Cho put Rangers 1-0 ahead.



Hassocks

remained in the game right up until the 80th minute.

The Robins were pushing forward for an equaliser when Rangers were able to counter to add a killer second through Luke Oneil, ensuring that the three points and bragging rights remained at Colwell Road.

Hassocks: Lade, Llewellyn, Carter, Douglass, Beston, Thomas, Njai, Howard, Parker-Williams, Hill, Russell.

Subs: Beck, Wilson, Bundy, Newman (used).

HassocksLife

hassockslife.co.uk

Hassoeks unable to halt table topping Villa's unbeaten season

Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division
Sunday 5th December 2021, Culver Road

Montpelier Villa U18s 2-1 Hassoeks U18s

Hassoeks Under 18s were unable to become the first side to defeat Southern Combination League Central Division leaders Montpelier Villa this season.

The Robins gave it a good go, but they were ultimately on the end of a 2-1 defeat at Culver Road that leaves them nine points behind Villa with only three league matches left to play.

A small division coupled with a dry autumn means that the season is looking likely to be done and dusted by the end of January for most clubs.

As a result, teams playing each other three times is one of the options under consideration to extend the campaign, giving Hassoeks hope that they could yet trouble Villa at the top of the table by the end of the campaign.

Should that not be the case however and the league opt for another plan like reintroducing the Supplementary Shield that was played once lockdown was lifted last Spring, then Hassoeks are set for a mid table finish.

This has been one of the most competitive Central Divisions for

some time with every team capable of taking points from each other - as evidenced by Hassoeks starting the campaign unbeaten in six before suffering five defeats from their six.

This latest loss was Hassoeks' fourth in a row. It did at least offer an improvement on the previous Sunday's 2-0 Mid Sussex Derby defeat away at St Francis Rangers as the Robins were within one goal of a side who are yet to lose so far in 2021-22.

Hassoeks were again without their leading scorer Sam Geard for the second game running. Three changes were made from the Rangers match.

Jayden Dunkley returned in goal and Harry Bundy and Alfie Beck were promoted from the bench. Dropping out were Jack Thomas, Harry Carter and Daniel Lade.

The Hassoeks goal came from Oliver Parker-Williams, notching for the first time since the start of October to close to within one of Sam Geard in the Robins scoring charts.

Hassoeks managed to keep Villa top scorer Jack Smart quiet but they could not stop his fellow attacker Charlie Maywood who grabbed both the goals for the hosts.

The Robins will be hoping to return to winning ways next Sunday at home to Worthing United, the side



who have completed the least fixtures of anyone in the Central Division so far with eight games played.

It was a 2-1 defeat at the Robert Albom Memorial Ground at the start of November which started Hassoeks' current losing run, so what better opponents for the Robins to reignite their season against than the Mavericks.

Hassoeks: Dunkley, Llewellyn, Bundy, Douglass, Beston, Beck, Njai, Howard, Parker-Williams, Hill, Russell.

Subs: Carter, Wilson, Holland, Thomas (used).

PARKER
BUILDING SUPPLIES

Robins sign off for Christmas with a fifth successive defeat

Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division
Sunday 19th December 2021, The Beacon

Hassocks U18s 1-2 AFC Vardeanians U18s

The curtain came down on 2021 for Hassocks Under 18s with another unfortunate and close defeat as AFC Vardeanians left the Beacon with all three points thanks to a 2-1 victory.

Hassocks have now lost five matches in a row. The Robins are stuck in a rut and will no doubt be grateful for a couple of weeks off over Christmas to regroup in an attempt to get their season back on track in 2022.

Selection issues have hampered Hassocks over recent weeks. The postponement of last week's home game against Worthing United did at least give managers Neil Parker and Glen Gead the opportunity to get some of their players back as injuries and absentees have been as keenly felt in the Under 18s as they have at senior level over recent weeks.

But then holidays and Covid-19 denied the Robins other regulars, leading to five changes from the 2-1 defeat to Central Division leaders Villa defeat a fortnight ago and a somewhat makeshift line up.

The biggest positive was the

return of top scorer Sam Gead, who had missed both the Villa game the Mid Sussex Derby loss at St Francis Rangers.

On the negative side, Hassocks were without Harry Bundy, Jamie Douglass, Ismaila Housainou Njai and Daniel Llewellyn whilst Archie Hill dropped down to the bench.

Coming into the side along with Gead were Harry Carter, Joe Holland, Jack Thomas and Charlie Smith who was making his full debut for the Robins.

"Holidays and Covid-19 denied the Robins other regulars, leading to five changes from the 2-1 defeat to Central Division leaders Villa defeat a fortnight ago and a somewhat makeshift line up."

The last time these teams met back in September had been a tight affair. Hassocks eventually triumphed 3-2 at Withdean Stadium thanks to goals from Gead, Archie Russell and Beau Howard, giving the Robins a fourth win from their opening five games of the season.

Hassocks therefore knew that V's



would be tough opponents, especially given the Robins' recent run of form. And at the end of the day, the visitors just about had the edge.

Their goals came via Femi Ofei-Kwata and Eli Edwards. The Robins struck through Oliver Parker-Williams, scoring his seventh of the season to draw level with Gead at the top of the Hassocks scoring charts.

Hassocks: Dunkley, Holland, Bundy, Thomas, Beston, Beck, Carter, Howard, Parker-Williams, Smith, Russell.

Subs: Croydon-Elkins, Beck, Woodhouse, Wilson.





Under 18 Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
August				
29/08 - 11:00	Shoreham (A)	SCFL18	1-0	Gear
September				
05/09 - 11:00	Haywards Heath Town (H)	SCFL18	5-0	Parker-Williams (2), Gear, Beck (2)
12/09 - 11:00	Steyning Town (A)	SCFL18	2-1	Parker-Williams, Beck
19/09 - 11:00	Burgess Hill Town (H)	SCFL18	5-5	Parker-Williams, Russell, Beck, Chowdhury, Gear
26/09 - 11:00	AFC Varndeanians (A)	SCFL18	3-2	Gear, Russell, Howard
October				
03/10 - 11:00	St Francis Rangers (H)	SCFL18	1-1	Parker-Williams
10/10 - 11:00	Eastbourne Borough (A)	CU18C1	0-5	
17/10 - 11:00	Montpellier Villa (H)	SCFL18	2-4	Howard (2)
November				
07/11 - 11:00	Burgess Hill Town (A)	SCFL18	4-0	Russell (2), Gear, Beston
14/11 - 11:00	Worthing United (A)	SCFL18	1-2	Gear
21/11 - 11:00	Shoreham (H)	SCFL18	3-4	Gear, Russell, Carter
28/11 - 11:00	St Francis Rangers (A)	SCFL18	0-2	
December				
05/12 - 11:45	Montpelier Villa (A)	SCFL18	1-2	Parker-Williams
19/12 - 11:00	AFC Varndeanians (H)	SCFL18	1-2	Parker-Williams
January				
16/01 - 11:00	Worthing United (H)	SCFL18		

Under 18 Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Archie Russell	14	0	14	5
Beau Howard	13	0	13	3
Harry Bundy	12	1	13	0
Alfie Beck	6	7	13	4
Jamie Douglass	12	0	12	0
Sam Gear	12	0	12	7
Oliver Parker-Williams	9	3	12	7
Archie Hill	10	1	11	0
Max Beston	10	0	10	1
Jayden Dunkley	9	0	9	0
Daniel Llewellyn	8	1	9	0
Harry Carter	5	2	7	1
Jack Thomas	3	4	7	0
Daniel Lade	5	1	6	0
Josh Trinick	3	3	6	0
Joe Woodhouse	2	4	6	0
Muhammad Wilson	1	5	6	0
Robert Newman	0	6	6	0
Ismaila Housaniou Njai	5	0	5	0
Louis Thwaites	2	3	5	0
Jack Morris	4	0	4	0
Joe Holland	0	4	4	0
Abir Chowdhury	3	0	3	1
Jake Palmer	3	0	3	0
Keegan Croydon-Elkins	0	2	2	0
Charlie Smith	0	2	2	0
Owen Parker	0	1	1	0

Veterans football back at the Beacon with a County Cup bang

Sussex Veterans Challenge Cup Second Round

Monday 29th November 2021, The Beacon

Hassocks Vets 5-2 Furnace Green Rovers Vets

The Beacon hosted Veterans football for the first time since the 2017-18 season as Hassocks Veterans hosted Furnace Green Rovers in the second round of the Sussex Veterans Challenge Cup.

A healthy Monday night crowd turned out to watch some of the stars and legends of yesteryear (plus Steve Spies) pulling on the red shirt once again.

It turned out to be a good evening for the Robins too as they ran out 5-2 victors to progress to a meeting with a Mile Oak outfit considered one of the best vets teams in Sussex who frequently make the final of the County Cup.

A real test lies in wait then for Hassocks if they are to win this competition for the first time in the club's history.

Furnace Green play in the same Mid Sussex Veterans division as Hassocks and like the Robins, they came into the tie having won two league matches out of two.

The Monday night kick off time meant a lot of changes from the

starting XI who had defeated Woodingdean United in the previous round of the competition three weeks earlier.

Most damaging to Hassocks appeared to be the absence of Pat Harding, who seems to have finally decided as a well-paid Isthmian League player with Burgess Hill Town that he does not need to spend his Monday nights prattling around with Hassocks Veterans.

Also missing were brother Joel Harding, still suffering from shock at scoring his first ever Hassocks goal in the Woodingdean victory after 340 games as the first team's goalkeeper up until 2010.

Lee De La Rue Browne, Anthony Hibbert, Brendan Leahy and Adam Waller were the other players missing, taking the total number of changes forced upon Nick Newman to six.

Coming into the side were former Brighton and Republic of Ireland Under 21 international Paul Armstrong, Mitch Broadstock, Dave Juniper, Robert Sayers, Simon Shivnarain and Mr 7/10 Richard Thompson.

Hassocks also named Phil Gault



on the bench which means that yes, we are at the stage whereby a man who scored a last minute winner for the first team against Alfold 17 days earlier is picking splinters whilst sat in the dugout for the veterans team.

Lord Gault being Lord Gault of course climbed off the bench to score two of Hassocks' five goals.

Also netting for the Robins were Broadstock, Juniper and Jonathan Bundy, meaning that four of the goals were provided by players who did not feature against Woodingdean.

Newman - who led by example in picking up the game's only yellow card - knows that he is working with a very good squad.

He will need to eke every bit out of it for that next match with Mile Oak, currently scheduled for Sunday 19th December.



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County Cup holders Oak edge seven-goal thriller to eliminate Robins

Sussex Veterans Challenge Cup Third Round
Sunday 19th December 2021, Mile Oak Recreation Ground
Mile Oak Vets 4-3 Hassocks Vets

Hassocks Veterans' hopes of lifting a first ever Sussex Veterans Challenge Cup came to an end at the third round stage where they suffered a 4-3 defeat away at holders Mile Oak.

The Oak side of Tony Burnett have taken on almost mythical status in Sussex veterans football, consistently winning trophies galore.

They had lost only once in over a year, winning both the Mid Sussex Veterans League and this competition in 2020-21.

Hassocks knew that they would need to be at their best to stand a chance of progressing at Chalky Lane but they came up short in a seven-goal thriller that provided plenty of entertainment for those passing by.

A Sunday afternoon in Mile Oak proved to be more appealing than a Monday night at the Beacon and Hassocks were able to welcome back some of their big name players who had missed the 5-2 win over Furnace Green Rovers in the previous round.

Pat Harding decided that the best way to gear himself up for a busy period of festive football in the Isthmian League with Burgess Hill Town was by taking on Mile Oak and so he returned to the starting XI.

Brother Joel was also back and looking to continue his hot streak in

front of goal having notched on his last outing against Woodingdean United.

Elliott Butler took time out from setting PBs running around the mean streets of Haywards Heath to make his second appearance of the season and Adam Waller completed the four changes.

Paul Armstrong missed out on a reunion with his former Brighton teammate Will Packham who turned out for Oak.

Joining Armstrong as absentees were Simon Shivnarain and Richard Thompson whilst Jonathan Bundy dropped down to the bench.

Remarkably, Joel Harding did manage to score again to take his record to two goals from three Veterans outings have previously played 340 first team games without ever notching.

Hindsight is a wonderful thing, but it is really starting to look like Dave John missed a real trick by not playing Joel up front during his long and distinguished senior career with the Robins.

Less surprising was the presence of Harding on the score sheet, proving that he can do it on a cold Sunday in December at Mile Oak as well as in front of hundreds of adoring fans at the More Than Tyres Stadium.

Hassocks' other goal came from Dave Juniper. Three unfortunately



proved to not be enough, thanks in part to a scintillating hat-trick from Mark Allwright.

Allwright had Oak 3-1 before Hassocks launched a comeback, levelling the tie at 3-3, at which point it could have gone either way.

The deciding moment arrived late on, John Kilgarriff scoring from the penalty spot as Mile Oak just squeaked through.

And so the Robins are left to concentrate on their Mid Sussex Veterans League campaign, where they have a 100 percent record so far - partly on account of the fact that they have only played twice.

That does at least mean that there is plenty of Veterans football to come in 2022 with entertainment seemingly guaranteed at every turn.

Mid Sussex Times

Veterans Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
September				
19/09 - 14:00	South Godstone (A)	MSFLV	7-1	P.Harding (2), Spies (2), Juniper (2), Butler
October				
10/10 - 14:00	Charlwood (A)	MSFLV	7-2	Spies (3), Maynard, Bundy, Armstrong, Hibbert
November				
07/11 - 14:00	Woodingdean United (A)	CVC1	6-0	P.Harding (3), Leahy, Bundy, J.Harding,
29/11 - 19:30	Furnace Green Rovers (H)	CVC2	5-2	Broadstock, Bundy, Juniper, Gault (2)
December				
19/12 - 14:00	Mile Oak (A)	CVC3	3-4	P.Harding, J.Harding, Juniper
January				
16/01 - 14:00	East Court (A)	MSFLV		
23/01 - 14:00	Brockham (H)	MSFLV		
30/01 - 14:00	Burgess Hill Albion (H)	MSFLV		
February				
13/02 - 14:00	Ardingly (A)	MSFLV		

Veterans Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Nick Newman	5	0	5	0
Steve Spies	5	0	5	5
Jonathan Bundy	4	1	5	2
Anthony Humphries	4	0	4	0
Che Williams	4	0	4	0
Paul Armstrong	3	0	3	1
Mitch Broadstock	3	0	3	1
Joel Harding	3	0	3	2
Pat Harding	3	0	3	6
David Juniper	3	0	3	4
Robert Sayers	3	0	3	0
Adam Waller	3	0	3	0
Lee De La Rue Browne	2	1	3	0
Elliott Butler	2	0	2	1
Anthony Hibbert	2	0	2	1
Brendan Leahy	2	0	2	1
Richard Thompson	1	1	2	0
Paul Gurr	0	2	2	0
Oliver Gosden	1	0	1	0
Chris Maynard	1	0	1	0
Simon Shinvarain	1	0	1	0
Matthew Hughes	0	1	1	0
Phil Gault	0	1	1	2

Ladies Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
September				
12/09 - 14:00	Eastbourne United (H)	FAWCQ	0-4	
26/09 - 14:00	Montpelier Villa (H)	SCWLP	1-1	J.Craig
October				
10/10 - 14:00	Pagham (H)	SCWLP	4-5	K.Chappell (2), Johanson, Mair
24/10 - 14:00	Saltdean United (H)	SCWLP	0-1	
November				
14/11 - 14:00	Woodingdean Wand. (H)	SCWLP	7-0	Mair (3), Pordage, J.Craig, S.Chappell, Johanson
December				
12/12 - 14:00	Montpelier Villa (A)	SCWLP	0-3	
January				
09/01 - 14:00	Pagham (A)	SCWLP		
23/01 - 14:00	Saltdean United (A)	SCWLP		
30/01 - 14:00	Seaford Town (H)	SCWLP		
February				
06/02 - 14:00	Woodingdean Wand (A)	SCWLP		
13/02 - 14:00	Worthing Town (A)	SCWLP		
20/02 - 14:00	Eastbourne Town (H)	SCWLP		
27/02 - 14:00	Roffey (A)	SCWLP		
March				
06/03 - 14:00	Worthing Town (H)	SCWLP		
13/03 - 14:00	Roffey (H)	SCWLP		
20/03 - 14:00	Eastbourne Town (A)	SCWLP		
27/03 - 14:00	Seaford Town (A)	SCWLP		

Ladies Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Sarah Chappell	6	0	6	0
Emma Flin	6	0	6	0
Jodie Johanson	6	0	6	2
Kirstin Mair	6	0	6	4
Sam Newman	6	0	6	0
Mia Pordage	6	0	6	1
Jess Craig	5	0	5	1
Claire Stevens	5	0	5	0
Katie Read	2	3	5	0
Joanne Brown	4	0	4	0
Katherine Chappell	4	0	4	3
Jemma Kendall	4	0	4	0
Ellie Moquet	1	3	4	0
Tallie Bright	3	0	3	0
Holly Webb	0	3	3	0
Zeba Ghorishi	0	2	2	0
Kayleigh Norris	0	2	2	0
Gemma Coote	1	0	1	0
Liz King	0	1	1	0
Rachael Scammell	0	1	1	0
Alesha Simmons	0	1	1	0

ON THIS DAY



A healthy crowd turned out for Friday Night Football at Culver Road on this day in **2013** as Lancing and Hassocks met with both sides gunning for a top four finish. Unfortunately, it didn't *quite* live up to expectations...

Familiar foes play out a Friday night bore draw

Those who turned out expecting an entertaining Friday night football encounter between two of the County League's high flyers were ultimately left disappointed as Lancing and Hassocks shared a 0-0 draw at Culver Road.

Both these sides have their eyes on top four finishes this season but they seemed to cancel each other out with neither managing to fire on all cylinders despite the number of quality players involved.

Chances were at a premium, especially in a first half when there was barely a goalmouth incident of note.

Lancing edged possession in that opening 45 minutes and looked the slightly more dangerous before Hassocks became the better side after the break.

The Robins appeared the more likely winners as the game progressed but in the end, a goalless draw was no doubt the right result.

Amongst the intriguing subplots for a healthy crowd to tuck into was former Hassocks favourite Joel Harding lining up in goal for Lancing.

It was the first time since leaving the Beacon in 2010 bound for Burgess Hill Town that Harding had faced the club for whom he played 340 times after coming through the youth ranks .

Lancing this season resemble something of a Hillians old boys club this season. They finished the game with no less than eight former

Burgess Hill players on the pitch, although in fairness a few of those had started off as youngsters with the Lancers.

Harding, Kit Tregear, Danny Gainsford, Will Berry, Dan Turner and Darren Boswell all started, with Max Miller and George Fenton joining the action - or lack of it - in the second half.

The presence in the stands of ex-Hill manager Gary Croydon and former commercial manager Garry Newton simply enhanced the Leylands Park connection.

It was Tregear who went closest of anyone on the pitch to opening the scoring in the first half with an overhead kick from a corner.

Declan Lunn should also have done better when he twice got goal side of the Hassocks defence but he was unable to suitably trouble Simon Lehkyj.

As for the Robins, the best they could muster was a Jamie Weston free kick which was deflected over Harding's cross bar.

After the break however it was Hassocks who looked more purposeful.

Anthony Hibbert stole possession from Adam Hunt and advanced on goal, only to be denied by his brother-in-law Harding making a strong stop low down to his left.

Nathan Miles was also foiled by Harding saving with his legs from an angle which always favoured the goalkeeper.

Phil Gault then opted to selflessly

try and set up Hibbert when he probably would have been better off trying to go for goal himself.

With chances at such a premium, it was surreal to see Ashley Marsh get a sight of goal.

Marsh rather famously has scored only twice from over 300 appearances for the Robins and needless to say, he did not add to that tally here.

The introduction from the bench of Miller resulted in Lancing having their two clearest opportunities of the second half having been a non-entity in an attacking sense up to that point.

Lehkyj headed miles out of his area towards the left touchline to try and intercept a ball over the top but Miller got there first, rounding the now out of position Hassocks goalkeeper. The angle though was too tight to convert.

Miller's next chance came when he outstripped Stuart Faith but Lehkyj stood up to deny the one-on-one opportunity.

There was also one excellent block from Rob South to thwart Turner after Miller delivered an excellent cross from the right.

Whilst the crowd may have gone home disappointed, both Hassocks and Lancing had reasons to be pleased with the result.

For the Robins, it represented a solid point after drawing and losing their opening two games of the year. Lancing meanwhile extended their unbeaten run to seven games.

Around the League...



The new year kicked off on Monday 3rd January with the Southern Combination League fixture list badly impacted by the weather. Here is what happened in the matches that did manage to beat the rain...

The story of the day in the Premier Division came at the Sports Park where Peacehaven & Telscombe hammered leaders Saltdean United 3-0 in a tasty local derby.

A bumper crowd of 426 watched Max Hollobone, Tyler Scrafton and an own goal give the Tye bragging rights as the Tigers' stuttering form continued.

Three goals in the opening 25 minutes set **Newhaven** on their way to a 4-1 win away at **AFC Varndeanians**.

Lee Robinson opened the scoring before an Alfie Rogers double extended the Dockers' advantage.

The hosts pulled one back via Tom Boyle but any hopes of an unlikely comeback were extinguished when Henry Watson added Newhaven's fourth with 20 minutes of the second half left to play.

Louis Veneti gave **Eastbourne Town** a 1-0 lead at the Polegrove inside of four minutes against **Bexhill United**.

The Pirates though ended up victorious, Evan Archibald scoring against his former club along with Jack Shonk and Max Walsh in a 3-1 win to continue their excellent first campaign at Premier Division level for 30 years.

10 man **Steyning Town** were not unduly impacted by Charlie Roman's red card as they picked up an excellent 1-0 win at **Pagham**.

Substitute Neil Munday notched the only goal of the game with 66 minutes played to give the Barrowmen three very welcome points.

Loxwood led Broadbridge Heath

1-0 at half time at Plaistow Road but they were unable to hold on as **Broadbridge Heath** came from behind to win 2-1.

In the top flight's final game, **Eastbourne United** were denied victory against their former tenants **Little Common**, who claimed a share of the spoils from a 1-1 draw thanks to James Miriam-Batchelor's 92nd minute equaliser.

Division One has new leaders as **Midhurst & Easebourne** took advantage of Roffey's game being postponed to leapfrog the Boars after beating **Dorking Wanderers Reserves** 2-1.

Marcus Edwards put Midhurst 1-0 ahead going into half time. Wanderers equalised within 60 seconds of the second half thanks to Nabeel Ghannam before Kieran Carter hit a winner for the Stags with 10 minutes remaining.

The promotion hopes of **Epsom & Ewell** were strengthened as they overcame **Forest Row** 2-0 at Leatherhead. Kofi Quartey got both the goals.

Callum Connor and Callum Edwards scored for **Seaford Town** as they defeated **Montpelier Villa** 2-1, for whom Chris Grant grabbed the consolation.

There was late drama at **Mile Oak** who led 2-0 against **Shoreham** through Louis Foster and Jack Jeffrey up until the 85th minute at the Recreation Ground.

Substitute Scott Clamplin pulled one back in the 89 minutes, setting the stage for Harry Heath to equalise with 91 on the clock as it finished 2-2.

Last but by no means least,

Worthing United and **Hailsham Town** played out a 1-1 draw at the Robert Albon Memorial Ground.

Dan Hills had given United a first half lead cancelled out by Stringers substitute Connor Townsend.

Five games survived in Division Two. Leaders **Rustington** hammered **Worthing Town** 5-0 through a Kieron Howard hat-trick and a Josh Irish double.

Copthorne's promotion hopes suffered a dent as they were beaten 6-2 away at **Charlwood**.

The hosts had five different players on target; Conner Collcutt, Ethan Cowdrey, Lewis Forsdick, Guilherme Vila Da Costa and Donnachadh Street who claimed two. Oscar Weddell got both the goals for Copthorne.

Paul Gardner and Sam Edmunds were the scorers as **Jarvis Brook** beat **St Francis Rangers** 2-0 at Colwell Road and **Bosham** saw off **Littlehampton United** 4-2 in front of a huge crowd of 130.

The Robins goals came from Graeme Dowden, Louis Bell and two via Kieran Hartley. United had Pete Bailey and Matthew Wilson on target.

Finally, **Upper Beeding** overcame **Ferring** 4-1 at the Shooting Field.

Kristian Harding helped himself to a hat-trick with Callum Towse also on target for the hosts.

Harry Gardner had given Ferring the lead with only one minute on the clock but a miserable afternoon was rounded off via red cards for Jack Witten and Johnathon Taylor.



The 2021-22 season...

Southern Combination Premier Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Saltdean United	25	16	5	4	63	21	53
Littlehampton Town	21	16	2	3	76	30	50
Newhaven	24	14	7	3	63	22	49
Pagham	23	16	0	7	46	31	48
Broadbridge Heath	25	14	5	6	53	22	47
Bexhill United	24	13	8	3	53	27	47
Eastbourne Town	24	12	6	6	53	29	42
Eastbourne United	24	11	5	8	49	33	38
Peacehaven & Tels.	23	10	4	9	40	27	34
Crawley Down	21	10	3	8	46	31	33
Little Common	24	8	8	8	41	37	32
Lingfield	22	9	2	11	37	46	29
Horsham YMCA	24	8	5	11	31	52	29
Steyning Town	25	7	5	13	28	72	26
Alfold	22	7	4	11	28	40	25
AFC Uckfield Town	22	4	9	9	19	30	21
Hassocks	23	4	6	13	28	55	18
Loxwood	24	4	3	17	22	71	15
East Preston	24	1	6	17	19	79	9
AFC Varndeanians	24	1	5	18	33	73	8

Premier Division Attendances

	Ave	High	Low
Eastbourne Town	218	275	186
Peacehaven & Telscombe	186	278	133
Bexhill United	140	237	64
Littlehampton Town	148	220	112
Newhaven	124	152	84
Hassocks	119	210	50
Broadbridge Heath	115	172	63
Eastbourne United	110	154	68
Saltdean United	108	223	48
Pagham	106	187	76
Steyning Town	105	198	64
Little Common	82	114	41
East Preston	75	108	62
AFC Uckfield Town	73	116	39
Horsham YMCA	71	101	41
Crawley Down Gatwick	68	87	32
Alfold	65	109	35
Loxwood	62	88	38
Lingfield	54	81	41
AFC Varndeanians	51	122	37

Premier Division Form Guide

Last 6

Pagham	WLWWWW
Bexhill United	WDDWWW
Littlehampton Town	WWLWLW
Broadbridge Heath	WWLLWW
Saltdean United	LDWDWW
Eastbourne United	DLWDWW
Peacehaven & Telscombe	WLWDWD
Newhaven	WDWDLW
Eastbourne Town	LLWWWD
Crawley Down	WLWWLD
Lingfield	LWLWWL
Steyning Town	WDWDLW
Horsham YMCA	LLWWDL
Hassocks	WDLDDL
AFC Uckfield Town	DDLLDW
AFC Varndeanians	LWDLLL
Loxwood	LLLWLL
Alfold	DDLLLD
Little Common	DDLLLL
East Preston	DDLLLL

Premier Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Goals
Joe Benn	Littlehampton	48
Jack Langford	Pagham	23
Evan Archibald	Bexhill United	22
Alfie Rogers	Newhaven	22
George Gaskin	Littlehampton	22
Jack Shonk	Bexhill United	22
Phil Johnson	Crawley Down	21
Trevor McCreadie	Saltdean Utd	17
Lee Robinson	Newhaven	17
Jamie Taylor	B'bridge Heath	16
Max Thompson	Eastbourne Utd	15
Charlie Pitcher	Crawley Down	15
Kieron Pamment	Saltdean Utd	14
Joe Clarke	Pagham	13
Lewis Hole	Little Common	13
Oli Leslie	Crawley Down	13
Louis Veneti	Eastbourne Town	13
Tom Biggs	Littlehampton	11
Shane Brazil	East Preston	11
Lucas Franzen-Jones	Newhaven	11

Southern Combination Under 23 North Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Broadbridge Heath	11	9	2	0	43	10	29
Hassocks	13	9	1	3	26	12	28
Alfold	12	6	1	5	24	19	19
Roffey	11	6	1	4	13	9	19
Crowborough Athletic	11	5	3	3	26	21	18
Oakwood	12	3	1	8	19	31	10
Steyning Town	11	3	1	7	14	30	10
Horsham YMCA	9	2	2	5	14	21	8
St Francis Rangers	10	1	0	9	9	35	3

Under 23 North Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Tyler Symonds	B'bridge Heath	18
Alfie Barnes	Horsham YMCA	9
Kyle Anson	Crowborough	6
Lucas Murrain	Crowborough	6
Jay Hudson	Hassocks	5
Charlie Martin	Alfold	5
Kinsley Mercure	Oakwood	5
Bayley Colbran	Crowborough	4
Timi Kalejaiye	Oakwood	4

Southern Combination Under 18 Central Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Montpelier Villa	9	7	2	0	24	10	23
Steyning Town	11	7	1	3	42	23	22
Shoreham & Adur	11	5	3	3	30	27	18
Hassocks	12	4	2	6	24	25	14
Burgess Hill Town	13	4	2	7	26	30	14
Worthing United	9	4	1	4	24	26	13
St Francis Rangers	11	5	1	5	22	27	12
AFC Varndeanians	12	2	0	10	16	40	6

Under 18 Central Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Charlie Maywood	Montpelier Villa	10
Nathan Williams	Worthing United	10
Samuel-Elie N'Cho	St Francis	9
Jack Smart	Montpelier Villa	9
James Lyon-Monk	St Francis	7
Femi Ofei-Kwatia	AFC V'deanians	7
Tom Bond	Shoreham	6
Alex Brett	Steyning Town	6

Sussex County Women's League Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Montpelier Villa	9	8	1	0	53	7	25
Roffey	9	7	0	2	27	13	21
Pagham	7	6	0	1	29	13	18
Saltdean United	10	6	0	4	24	12	18
Seaford Town	5	3	0	2	9	1	9
Hassocks	5	1	1	3	12	10	4
Worthing Town	8	1	1	6	10	35	4
Eastbourne Town	7	0	1	6	2	47	1
Woodingdean Wand	8	0	0	8	8	36	0

Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Emma Biffi	Pagham	12
Katherine Davyson	Montpelier Villa	12
Dulcie Elder	Worthing Town	12
Nicole White	Montpelier Villa	12
Georgie Egner	Montpelier Villa	10
Remi Crawley	Pagham	9
Saskia Taylor-Doyle	Montpelier Villa	8
Lou Tindall	Montpelier Villa	8
Amy Stanton	Pagham	6

Mid Sussex Veterans League Fred Pretty Plate

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ardingly	5	4	0	1	21	15	12
Charlwood	5	3	0	2	21	14	9
South Park	4	3	0	1	5	6	9
Hassocks	2	2	0	0	14	3	6
Ansty Sports & Social	3	2	0	1	8	5	6
Furnace Green Rovers	3	2	0	1	9	7	6
South Godstone	7	2	0	5	21	25	6
Brockham	5	2	0	3	8	16	6
East Court	4	1	0	3	10	14	3
Burgess Hill Albion	4	0	0	4	3	15	0

Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Liam Tucknott	Ardingly	9
Ritchie Caldwell	South Godstone	7
Chris Cook	Ardingly	6
Pat Harding	Hassocks	6
Mark Heavens	Charlwood	5
Steve Spies	Hassocks	5
David Juniper	Hassocks	4
David Neathey	Furnace Green	4
Mark Southam	Charlwood	4
Owen Barry	South Godstone	3



Coming up...

It will be an historic occasion this Saturday as Hassocks become the first opponents Little Common face in a Premier Division match at their Recreation Ground home, ending a five year spell playing games at the Oval...



Little Common

When?

Saturday 15th January

Where?

Little Common Recreation Ground

Time?

3:00pm

Competition?

Southern Combination League
Premier Division

Little Common this season?

It has been a season of two halves for Little Common. Up until the end of October, they were absolutely flying and looking on course for a top five position which few would have predicted in pre-season. Since then however, Common have failed to win any of their past 10 Premier Division matches. They will want to set that record straight against Hassocks, seeing as it will be their first home game at Little Common Recreation Ground since 2017, now upgraded to the standards required to hold top flight football.

Our record against Little Common?

The two sides have met on 16 previous occasions. Only three of those so far have come in the Premier Division, the majority of matches taking place in Division in the late 1980s and early 1990s. In terms of the head-to-head, we have won matches and Common six, leaving five draws - so there is nothing to separate us historically.

Last time we met?

Common visited the Beacon back in September when they were absolutely flying towards the top of the table. With us going through one of our roughest patches, there are no prizes for anyone who was worked out that it ended in a heavy Hassocks defeat. Jack McLean scored twice in five first half minutes with Lewis Hole adding a third three minutes into the second half as the visitors ran out 3-0 winners.

How to get to Little Common Recreation Ground?

Take the A27 to the east of the county, passing Eastbourne and then joining the A259. When approaching Bexhill, you will enter Little Common and arrive at a large roundabout with the Wheatsheaf pub on your left. Take the second exit onto Peartree Lane. After passing Ocklynge Close on the left, take the next right onto Green Lane and the Recreation Ground is on your immediate right.



Eastbourne United

When?

Saturday 22nd January

Where?

The Oval

Time?

3:00pm

Competition?

Southern Combination League
Premier Division

Easbourne United this season?

United endured a slow start to the season. When they visited the Beacon in October, they were only one point better off than us towards the bottom of the Premier Division having won only twice all season. The appointment of former AFC Uckfield Town boss Anthony Storey has proven to be a masterstroke by United and their victory that evening at the Beacon was the start of an impressive run of form which has lifted them into 8th spot in the table. Eight wins have followed under Storey, feeding into an impressive overall record of 11 wins, five draws and eight defeats from 24 matches. Eyes at the Oval these days are firmly fixed up the table.

Our record against Eastbourne United?

The Robins dominate the head-to-head with 18 wins to United's 13 and 12 draws in our 43 meetings. That record is helped hugely by the fact that we seem to love visiting the Oval for some reason. We won six times in

a row there between 2010 and 2019, although that run has been dampened somewhat by defeats on our last two visits to the Sunshine Coast.

Last time we met?

It was a case of after the lord mayor's show as we followed up a 4-1 win over AFC Varndeanians with a 3-0 defeat to Eastbourne United 72 hours later. Festos Kamara scored twice for the visitors and Max Thompson completed a miserable evening for the Robins when rounding off the rout in the final minute.

How to get to The Oval?

Take the A27 to Eastbourne, joining the A22 when you reach the Sunshine Coast. Follow that until you reach the second roundabout, turning left onto Lottbridge Drive. Turn right onto the A259 when you hit the roundabout by Homebase, then turn right into Channel View Road with The Oval a little further down on the right.



Bexhill United

When?

Saturday 29th January

Where?

The Beacon

Time?

3:00pm

Competition?

Southern Combination League
Premier Division

Admission Prices?

£6 adults, £3 concessions,
Under 16s free

Bexhill United this season?

Bexhill were rewarded for their consistent performances in challenging for promotion from Division One over the past few curtailed seasons with elevation to the top flight for 2021-22. The Pirates have grabbed the opportunity with both ends, making a real splash in their first Premier Division season for 30 years. A top two finish is not out of the question as they sit three points off second spot having lost only three league matches all season. 13 of their 24 matches have been won eight draws.

Our record against Bexhill United?

This will be the 10th meeting between ourselves and Bexhill. Of the previous nine, the first four came in Division One when Bexhill were known as Bexhill Town. The four matches after that took place in cup competitions with the newly formed Bexhill United, a result of a 2002

merger between Town and Bexhill AAC. Finally, our first Premier Division meeting took place back in October. The Pirates lead the head-to-head with four wins to Hassocks' three, leaving three draws.

Last time we met?

An excellent performance against the high flying Pirates gave us our first away point of the season on a miserable afternoon weather-wise at the Polegrove. The wind and rain meant entertainment was in short supply, enabling the Robins to show their fighting and battle qualities in grinding out a 1-1 draw. Alfie Loversidge gave us a shock lead with seven minutes on the clock. That was cancelled out 13 minutes later by Evan Archibald and although Bexhill kept knocking on the Hassocks door, they could find no way past Alex Harris whose handling was magnificent in such testing conditions.



Want to help the Robins raise vital funds throughout the 2021-22 season? Then sign up for to

SPONSOR A GOAL

For each time the first team score in the 2021-22 season, you pay the club £1. This goes towards expenses such as kit washing, matchday equipment and improvements to the facilities at the Beacon.

**Dave John
Alan John
Owen John
Bob Preston
Ken Finn
Keith Low
Ray Mills**

**Jim Marsh
Mark Dalglish
Frank Marshall
Paul Elphick
Matt Hicks
Ian Plummer
Steve Mills**

Money raised in 2021-22

**August £140
September £56
October £98
November £102
December £42
January £28
February
March
April**

TOTAL £476

Thank you to all our goal sponsors in the 2021-22 season. If you'd like to join them, then please speak to either Dave John, Owen behind the bar or send us an email to hassocksfc@outlook.com

Robins Awards

Head on over to the Hassocks Twitter feed after every game to cast your vote for the Robins' man-of-the-match - where you can also select your Player of the Month

Here are our winners so far this season...

Hassocks Man of the Match 2021-22

Saltdean United away **Alfie Loversidge**
Spelthorne Sports home **Alfie Loversidge**
Eastbourne Town home **Josh Short**
AFC Uckfield Town home **Charlie Pugh**
Broadbridge Heath home **Lewis Beebee**
Peacehaven & Telscombe away **Connor Bradley**
Steyning Town home **Alfie Loversidge**
Lingfield home **Joe Bull**
Newhaven home **Swindon Fan on his Stag Do**
Roffey home **Max Blencowe**
Little Common home **Andy Whittingham**
Littlehampton Town away **Jack Gardner**
Beckenham Town home **Joe Bull**
Bexhill United away **Alexis Harris**
AFC Varndeanians home **Alfie Loversidge**
Eastbourne United home **Charlie Pugh**
Horsham YMCA home **Charlie Pugh**
Crawley Down Gatwick home **James Westlake**
Loxwood away **Spencer Slaughter**
East Preston away **Charlie Pugh**
Montpelier Villa home **Phil Gault**
Alfold home **Alex Harris**
Pagham home **James Westlake**
Broadbridge Heath away **Phil Wickwar**
Peacehaven & Telscombe home **Lewis Westlake**
Eastbourne Town away **James Westlake**
Saltdean United home **Alfie Loversidge**
Lingfield away **James Westlake**
AFC Uckfield Town away
Crawley Down Gatwick home
Little Common away
Eastbourne United away
Bexhill United home
Crawley Down Gatwick away
AFC Varndeanians away
Horsham YMCA away
Loxwood home
East Preston home
Pagham away
Newhaven away
Littlehampton Town home
Steyning Town away
Crawley Down Gatwick home
Alfold away

Hassocks Player of the Month 2021-22

August 2021
1st **Connor Bradley**
2nd **Alfie Loversidge**
3rd **Josh Short**

September 2021
1st **Alfie Loversidge**
2nd **Bradley Tighe**
3rd **Josh Short**

October 2021
1st **Alfie Loversidge**
2nd **Josh Short**
3rd **Charlie Pugh / Arthur Rawlingson**

November 2021
1st **Lewis Westlake**
2nd **Arthur Rawlingson**
3rd **James Westlake**

December 2021
1st
2nd
3rd

January 2021
1st
2nd
3rd

February 2021
1st
2nd
3rd

March 2021
1st
2nd
3rd

April 2021
1st
2nd
3rd

HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

Most Games

Most Goals

	Starts	Sub	Total	Goals
1. Mickey Turner	573	21	594	63
2. Ashley Marsh	519	6	525	4
3. Chris Hewitt	493	15	508	22
4. Ashley Low	445	30	475	14
5. Anthony Hibbert	407	55	462	124
6. Andy Fisk	445	11	456	14
7. James Laing	298	53	351	143
8. Warren Dodds	311	37	348	3
9. Phil Gault	328	15	343	188
10. Joel Harding	340	0	340	0
11. Paul John	329	0	329	0
12. Richard Thompson	305	19	324	11
13. Robbie Kitchen	284	39	323	123
14. Spencer Slaughter	250	43	293	47
15. Stuart Faith	276	13	289	22
16. Dave Smith	203	57	260	53
17. Joe Fernley	205	40	245	45
18. Neil Smith	232	10	242	68
19. Mark Burnham	209	22	231	44
20. Dan Jacques	201	31	232	9
21. Nathan Miles	156	55	211	74
22. James Westlake	196	14	210	30
23. Pat Harding	184	17	201	137
24. Marc Rendall	150	33	183	37
25. Stuart Agate	172	7	179	4

	Goals	Games
1. Phil Gault	189	343
2. James Laing	143	351
3. Pat Harding	137	201
4. Anthony Hibbert	124	462
5. Robbie Kitchen	123	323
6. Phil Johnson	76	163
7. Nathan Miles	74	211
8. Neil Smith	68	242
9. Steve Hards	65	155
10. Mickey Turner	63	594
11. Dave Smith	53	260
12. Spencer Slaughter	47	293
13. Joe Fernley	45	245
14. Mark Burnham	44	231
15. Matt Amos	38	81
16. Michael Death	38	112
17. Marc Rendall	37	183
18. Andy Burt	35	133
19. Liam Benson	31	134
20. Luke Flomo	31	146
21. James Westlake	30	210
22. Dan Smith	27	63
23. Jamie Hillwood	25	124
24. Stuart Faith	22	289
25. Chris Hewitt	22	508

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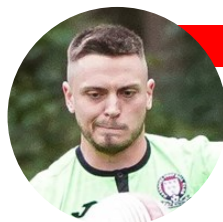
- North Stand Chat

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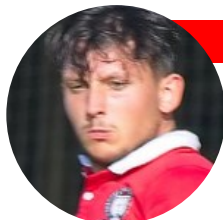
Dan Turner

Dave John



Luke Marshall

Bishop's Move



Arthur Rawlingson

round



Harvey Ransome

Brooklands Wedding Cars
Sussex



Wes Tighe

Tighe Scaffolding -
tighescaffolding@hotmail.com



Ben Hicks

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Player sponsorship costs just £40 for the season and you or your company's name will appear in every match day programme as well as on our social media profiles. Please speak to Owen John behind the bar or email hassocksfc@outlook.com for more information or to sponsor your favourite player. More players from the Under 23 and Under 18s squad are available on request.



James Westlake

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Phil Gault



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**In Memory of Daniel Churchill
Keith Bull**



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in 2020-21**



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Hassocks

Charlie Pugh	
Alex Harris	
Jack Gardner	
Bradley Tighe	
Arthur Rawlingson	
Charlie Tuck	
Dan Turner	
Luke Marshall	
Bradley Bant	
Lewis Westlake	
James Westlake	
Sam Smith	
Josh Hawkes	
Josh Short	
Jack Baden	
Jude Wallis	
Alfie Loversidge	
Phil Gault	
Joe Bull	
Jack Troak	

Head Coach Brad Sweetman
Assistant Jordan Wilson
Physio Chloe Parker
Physio Phil Wickwar

Next at the Beacon



Bexhill United
 Saturday 29th January. 3:00pm
 SCFL Premier Division



Crawley Down Gatwick

Alexander Bellingham
Harvey Blake
Josh Brown
Shaun Findlay
Phil Johnson
Oliver Moore
Oli Leslie
Lewis Scally
Mike Spence
Michael Wood
Billy Wraight
Andre Elkana
Luca Intelligenza
Will Broomfield
Tom Lyons
Charlie Gee
Michael Belli
Marc Pelling
Nick Sullivan

Referee
 Simon Faires

Assistants
 Neil Sutherland &
 James Slaney

Manager James Day
Assistant Dean Blackmore
Coach Karl Scott
Coach William Peauroux
Physio Lewis Costick

Today's other RUR Cup games

Chichester City v Steyning Town
 Pagham v Eastbourne Town
 Saltdean United v Eastbourne United