



# Free Robins

2021-22 Matchday Programme #20



## Hassocks v Bexhill United

Saturday 29th January 2022. 3:00pm kick off  
Southern Combination League Premier Division  
Programme £1



## HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

Founded 1902

The Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks, BN6 9LY

### CLUB OFFICIALS

#### CHAIRMAN / TREASURER

Dave John 07787 563351

#### VICE CHAIR / MEMBERSHIP / BAR MANAGER

Owen John 07747 612526

#### SECRETARY

Nick Palmer nickpalmer90@hotmail.com

#### PROGRAMME EDITORS

Owen John 07747 612526

Scott McCarthy 07887 746222

#### WEBSITE MANAGER

Scott McCarthy 07887 746222

#### GROUNDSMAN

Alan John 01444 416155

#### TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Dave John 07788 713954

#### HEAD COACH FIRST TEAM & UNDER 23

Brad Sweetman 07933729597

#### ASSISTANT HEAD COACH

Jordan Wilson 07538 812878

#### ASSISTANT HEAD COACH UNDER 23

Matt Hicks

#### PHYSIOS

Chloe Parker

Phil Wickwar 07762 779796

#### UNDER 18 TEAM MANAGERS

Neil Parker 07802 452106

Glenn Geard

#### VETERANS TEAM MANAGER

Nick Newman

#### LADIES MANAGER

Martin Lee 07713 452615

#### SECRETARY

Tallie Bright 07541 900786

### 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

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Good afternoon and welcome to the Beacon for our first Southern Combination Premier Division home game of 2022 as we welcome Bexhill United

**This is the first time that the Pirates have sailed into these parts for a league match since the 1994-95 season and we hope that their players, management, officials and supporters enjoy their stay with us today.**

It has been a bit of a whirlwind couple of weeks since we last played at the Beacon, an enthralling evening of football against Crawley Down Gatwick in the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup.

Despite the Anvils arriving higher than us in the table, we progressed to the last eight of the competition with an excellent 2-1 victory delivered by two Jack Troak goals in extra time.

Progression to the quarter finals is arguably the clearest sign yet of how far we have come over the course of the season, especially in accounting for a Crawley Down outfit who would have fancied adding another chapter to the rich history they already have in the RUR Cup.

Seasoned Hassocks observers will know that semi finals come along for the Robins about as regularly as Johnsy letting someone keep a raffle prize.

We average a big semi once every

decade, the last coming exactly 10 years ago in the same competition when we were eliminated by Selsey.

The chance to secure a rare place in the final four of a knockout cup takes place on Tuesday 15th February against Division One title contenders Seaford Town.

It looks on paper an incredibly tough game, but so did the Crawley Down fixture. If you can make it along to cheer on the players, then that could help make a real difference on the night and would be very much appreciated by everyone at the club.

Two other first team fixtures have taken place since that dramatic evening. We had the honour of being the first team to visit Little Common Recreation Ground for a league fixture since Common were allowed to return, picking up a fine 2-2 draw.

Last Saturday saw us lose our first match of 2022, going down 1-0 at Eastbourne United after 90 minutes which anyone is unlikely to remember for too long.

Away from senior business, the Under 23s are unbeaten after their first two matches of the calendar year after recovering from two goals down on both occasions.

Lewis Beebee scored twice from the bench in a 2-2 draw against North Division leaders Broadbridge Heath.

That result was then followed up by us taking over top spot from the Bears after seeing off Horsham YMCA 3-2.

New signing Charlie Broad got two of the goals. He is another young player with Loxwood links who looks likely to push for a spot in the first team. Welcome to the Beacon, Charlie.

The Under 18s lost an 11 goal thriller 6-5 against Worthing United a fortnight ago before a League Cup penalty shoot out exit to Rustington following a 0-0 draw last Sunday.

The veterans have won their past two matches 9-2 against East Court and 4-1 against Brockham whilst the Ladies went down 4-2 at Saltdean United last Sunday.

All February's fixtures are available in today's programme but as always, keep your eye on our website and social media accounts for updates.

**Enjoy the game,**

**Owen & Scott**



## Today's visitors...



### Bexhill United

**Founded** 2002

**Nickname** Pirates

**Ground** The Polegrove

**Website** bexhillunited.com

**Twitter** @Bexhill\_United

**Manager** Ryan Light

**Top Scorer** Evan Archibald, 22

### HONOURS

#### Southern Combination League

Winners 1957, 1966, 1967

Runners up 1969

#### SCFL Division One

Winners 1990

#### SCFL Division Two

Runners up 1986, 2005, 2008, 2010

#### Sussex RUR Charity Cup

Winners 1958, 1974

#### Peter Bentley League Cup

Winners 1956

#### SCFL Division Two Cup

Winners 2000, 2008

#### Sussex Intermediate Cup

Winners 2008

**After a 30 year absence from the Southern Combination League Premier Division, Bexhill United have not wasted any time on making an impression in their first top flight campaign since the 1990-91 season...**

The Pirates were awarded promotion in the summer by the FA based on their results in Division One over the previous two curtailed seasons, a deserved reward as Ryan Light and his players had been hanging onto the coattails of Littlehampton Town in both 2019-20 and 2020-21 before Covid-19 struck.

Just how strong the top of the lower division has been over the past couple of years has been evidenced by Littlehampton being on course to win the Southern Combination League title at the first attempt and Bexhill having spent virtually all of the campaign in the top six.

The Pirates arrive in Mid Sussex having won 14 and drawn eight of their 25 games, meaning that only three of their matches have ended in defeat - the joint-lowest in the division alongside Littlehampton and Newhaven.

That record leaves Bexhill currently sitting sixth in the table but with games in hand on every side above them, bar the leaders.

Win additional matches and they would go level with current second placed side Newhaven, so

the Pirates are well in the race for the runners up spot at the very least. Taking the silver medal would result in Bexhill's best campaign since 1969.

Central to their outstanding season has been the presence of two prominent goal scorers in Light's squad. Evan Archibald needs no introduction having regularly tormented Hassocks during his time at Eastbourne Town.

He has 22 goals to his name, exactly the same number as his strike partner Jack Shonk. With two strikers of that sort of quality, it is little wonder Bexhill are flying.

More of a surprise is that Hassocks have already taken a point from the Pirates this season. October's trip to the Polegrove was the first league meeting between the clubs since the 1994-95 season.

It ended 1-1, a bit of a shock result given the contrasting starts to the season the sides had made with United flying and us struggling.

Repeating the feat today looks a tough ask - but if we can keep Bexhill's deadly front duo quiet, who knows...

## 10 Key Moments

**1923...** Bexhill join the Southern Combination League under the name of Allen West

**1956...** now known as Bexhill Town Athletic, they lift the Peter Bentley Cup for their first senior silverware

**1957...** one year later their first league title arrives and that is followed next season by the RUR Cup

**1967...** win back-to-back Southern Combination League titles in the clubs best ever spell

**1969...** clubs splits with Bexhill Amateur Athletic Club going one way and the rest being named Bexhill Town

**1985...** drop into intermediate football for the first time with relegation into Division Two

**1990...** Division One winners, resulting in a one season stay in the top flight

**2002...** after 33 years, remerge with Bexhill Athletic, becoming Bexhill United

**2008...** runners up in Division Two as well as winning the Division Two Cup and Sussex Intermediate Cup

**2021...** return to the Premier Division, ending an absence of 30 years

## Last 20 Seasons

2018-19, Southern Combination One 4<sup>th</sup>

2017-18, Southern Combination One 7<sup>th</sup>

2016-17, Southern Combination One 10<sup>th</sup>

2015-16, Southern Combination One 14<sup>th</sup>

2014-15, Southern Combination One 6<sup>th</sup>

2013-14, Southern Combination One 8<sup>th</sup>

2012-13, Southern Combination One 11<sup>th</sup>

2011-12, Southern Combination One 7<sup>th</sup>

2010-11, Southern Combination One 4<sup>th</sup>

2009-10, Southern Combination Two 2<sup>nd</sup>

2008-09, Southern Combination One 17<sup>th</sup>

2007-08, Southern Combination Two 2<sup>nd</sup>

2006-07, Southern Combination Two 11<sup>th</sup>

2005-06, Southern Combination One 18<sup>th</sup>

2004-05, Southern Combination Two 2<sup>nd</sup>

2003-04, Southern Combination Two 12<sup>th</sup>

2002-03, Southern Combination Two 10<sup>th</sup>

2001-02, Southern Combination Two 13<sup>th</sup>

2000-01, Southern Combination Two 11<sup>th</sup>

1999-00, Southern Combination Two 7<sup>th</sup>

## Hassocks v Bexhill United :: Head-to-Head

**SCFL Premier Division...** Played 1 - Won 0 - Drawn 1 - Lost 0 - Scored 1 - Conceded 1

**SCFL Division One...** Played 4 - Won 1 - Drawn 1 - Lost 2 - Scored 7 - Conceded 6

**Sussex Senior Cup...** Played 2 - Won 1 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 6 - Conceded 2

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

**Total... Played 9 Won 3 Drawn 2 Lost 4 Scored 17 Conceded 12**

## Previous 9 Meetings

2021-22 SCFL Premier: Bexhill United 1-1 Hassocks

2018-19 Peter Bentley Cup: Hassocks 3-2 Bexhill United

2016-17 Peter Bentley Cup: Hassocks 0-1 Bexhill United

2014-15 Sussex Senior Cup: Bexhill United 2-1 Hassocks

2008-09 Sussex Senior Cup: Bexhill United 0-5 Hassocks

1994-95 SCFL One: Hassocks 4-0 Bexhill Town

1994-95 SCFL One: Bexhill Town 2-2 Hassocks

1986-87 SCFL One: Bexhill Town 3-1 Hassocks

1986-87 SCFL One: Hassocks 0-1 Bexhill Town



# Hassocks sail away from Pirates with a point for their efforts

**In the end, the journey was worth it. Those Hassocks fans who used their precious petrol to make the longest away trip of the season to Bexhill United in the middle of the fuel crisis were rewarded by witnessing the Robins take an excellent point with a 1-1 draw at the Polegrove.**

The Pirates have made quite a splash in their first Premier Division season for 30 years, sitting seventh in the early table with six wins from 10 matches.

Included in that impressive haul was a 3-1 victory over title favourites Saltdean United last time out, a result that pointed to a difficult afternoon for Hassocks on the East Sussex coast.

The Robins though have been showing improvement over the past few weeks, pushing both Premier Division leaders Littlehampton Town close in the league and then doing likewise to Combined Counties Premier table toppers Beckenham Town in the FA Vase.

And Hassocks were well worth their point here in horrific conditions which resulted in numerous games across the county either being postponed or abandoned before the final whistle.

There was never any danger of that at the Polegrove. Although not the best surface, the pitch was extremely dry before kick off and it coped admirably with all mother nature could throw at it over the course of a grim afternoon.

The last time Hassocks had visited these parts for a league game had been in their 1994-95 Division One promotion season, drawing 2-2.

Phil Wickwar had been an unused substitute on that day and remarkably, he was back on the Robins bench for this one 26 years later.

That was not the only note of interest amongst Brad Sweetman's substitutes; Spencer Slaughter was also named having re-joined Hassocks for a fourth spell following his departure from the manager's seat at Loxwood.

Slaughter came on for the final 12 minutes and although it will take him some weeks to get up to full match fitness, the fan favourite will bring some much needed leadership and experience to what is the youngest squad in the Premier Division.

Hassocks made two changes from the close-fought 2-1 defeat against Beckenham last time out.

Andy Whittingham was replaced by Bradley Tighe and Alex Harris took over in goal from Harvey Parker.

Harris looked to have a particularly difficult task on his hands, dealing with relentless torrential rain and a wind swirling at speeds approaching 45 miles per hour.

None of that seemed to bother him, however. He was confident claiming when he needed to be despite the unpredictability of what the ball would do in the gale and his handling was exceptional all afternoon.

Having seen Hassocks concede two or more goals in 10 of their 12 previous matches, it was quite an achievement for only one to go in on a day when the weather could easily have claimed a couple of assists – enough to earn Harris the Robins's man-of-the-match accolade, in fact.

Just behind Harris in that particular vote was Alfie Loversidge. He opened the scoring in only the seventh minute with his fourth goal of the campaign following a swashbuckling move down the left.

Bradley Bant released Joe Bull working the channel and his cut back to the penalty spot was slammed into the top corner by Loversidge to shock the home crowd by giving Hassocks the lead.

Unfortunately, that lead lasted only 13 minutes. Hassocks should have doubled their advantage from a corner but the effort was placed straight at Bexhill goalkeeper Alexander Zamani.

From there, the Pirates pillaged down the right and a low cross from Jack Shonk was tapped in by the prolific Evan Archibald.

Hassocks had a chance to retake the lead on the stroke of half time, Zamani parrying an on-target effort away.

The loose ball fell to Arthur Rawlingson but with the goal gaping, he could not quite toe poke home.

Bexhill were much the dominant side in the second half and the Robins needed all hands on deck to prevent their point from disappearing to Davy Jones' locker.

There was one shivering moment in the final five minutes when the Pirates thought they had sunk Hassocks by putting the ball in the back of the net from a follow up after a good stop by Harris.

The away bench were convinced it was offside and after what felt like an eternity, referee Chris Stobard and his assistant came to the same conclusion and the goal was scuttled.

That seemed to knock the wind out of Bexhill's sails and Hassocks held on, ending a run of five consecutive defeats ahead of three huge home games against AFC Varndeanians, Eastbourne United and Horsham YMCA.

**Hassocks:** Harris; Marshall, Rawlingson, Tighe, Tuck; Gardner, Short, Bradley, Bant; Loversidge, Bull.

**Subs:** Wallis, Slaughter (used), Baden, Wickwar (unused).



# Five star Robins leave Pirates all at sea to set up plum Bognor tie

**Bognor Regis Town will be visiting the Beacon in the third round of the Sussex Senior Cup after Hassocks set up a plum tie with Conference South opposition thanks to a 5-0 win away at Bexhill United.**

On paper, this looked a potential banana skin of a fixture, especially given that Hassocks had already exited the John O'Hara Cup to Division One opponents Rustington this season.

In the end though, the Robins made it look simple at the Polegrove as they gave a professional performance that was easily the best so far since John Suter and Mickey Jewell took the reins in the summer.

There were five different scorers, a first clean sheet for 17-year-old Jack Simpson and for the first time this season, Hassocks never looked in danger at any point.

The first 40 minutes were pretty even with both sides giving the ball away with alarming regularity.

Simon Bristow was handed the opportunity to partner James Laing in attack and it was his angled shot that flew just wide after five minutes that provided the first opportunity of the tie.

At the other end, Jack Aston lashed a shot inches wide before Ashley Marsh found himself in unfamiliar territory in front of the opposing goal after Laing played him in.

How Marsh ended up there remains a complete mystery and the realisation that he was through one-on-one certainly seemed to panic him.

As a result, Marsh attempted to square the ball when a shot on target would surely have beaten United goalkeeper Akyut Kusha, although the Hassocks defender could be forgiven his lack of striking instinct after a record of one goal in 170 appearances.

Bristow, who had been one of the main culprits when it came to handing possession to hosts, was the man who opened the scoring with 38 minutes on the clock.

There was a huge helping hand from Kusha as Bristow's effort from 25 yards looked to be an extremely tame one, yet somehow it eluded the grasp of Kusha and just about trickled over the line to give Hassocks the lead.

The Robins made one enforced change at the break as Matt Russell replaced the injured Laing and it was the former Burgess Hill Town striker's arrival into proceedings that saw Hassocks grab the tie by the scruff of the neck.

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**"The Robins made it look simple at the Polegrove as they gave a professional performance that was easily the best so far since John Suter and Mickey Jewell took the reins in the summer."**

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Within 14 minutes of his introduction, Russell doubled the Robins advantage although the goal owed much to the industry of Dan Jacques at right wing back.

This was another promising performance from Jacques and he found himself in an advanced position after a lung busting run forward.

It looked like he'd blown the opportunity though when producing an almighty scuff yet somehow the ball went through the home defence and straight into the path of the onrushing Russell who slotted home at the second attempt.

Hassocks were in control now. Matt Percival was just over with a dipping volley and Bristow failed to clear Kusha with an attempted lob when one on one with the keeper.

Suter turned to Matt Amos and Anthony Hibbert to replace Bristow and Percival in a double substitution on 67 minutes and the introduction of two of the Robins' most dangerous attacking threats helped them wrap the tie up comfortably.

Russell should have made it three within a couple of minutes of the changes and then Bexhill sub Ricky Mote missed their clearest chance when firing over Simpson's bar from 12 yards.

Jamie Hillwood added the Robins third with 10 minutes remaining with a stunning individual effort for his first goal for the first team since stepping up from last season's League Cup winning youth team.

Hillwood started with the ball inside his own half before riding three or four Bexhill challenges and tucking under the body of Kusha.

In an action packed last 10 minutes, Russell somehow hit the post from a yard out before Spencer Slaughter netted the fourth by rounding off a fine move that involved Hibbert, Russell and Amos with a neat finish.

The scoring was completed in injury time by Hibbert who placed the ball out of the reach of Kusha having collected an excellent lay off from Amos.

**Hassocks:** J Simpson; Jacques, Pitcher, Marsh, Faith, Hillwood; Percival, Slaughter, White; Bristow, Laing.

**Subs:** M Russell (Laing 45), Amos (Bristow 67), Hibbert (Percival 67), Thompson (unused).



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## Westlake one-two goes Lewis' way for December Player of the Month

**December may have been a bit of a washout with only two games played, but that was all Lewis Westlake needed to win back-to-back Hassocks Player of the Month awards.**

The midfielder hammered in three goals from four appearances in November, enough to see him claim the gong ahead of Arthur Rawlingson in second and brother James Westlake in third.

This time, it was a Westlake one-two with only 3.9 percent of the vote keeping Lewis ahead of James, leaving Rawlingson to settle for third spot this time around.

Lewis continued his excellent goal scoring form in December's first game when Hassocks were beaten 5-2 away at Eastbourne Town.

The Robins were two goals behind midway through the first half when referee Nick Blogg deemed that Alfie Loversidge had been fouled outside the Town penalty area when most spectators felt it was a clear penalty.

If the hosts thought that Mr Blogg's decision making had given them a lucky reprieve then they

mistaken, Westlake sending the resulting free kick past Chris Winterton and into the back of the net.

That made it four goals in five appearances for Westlake since re-joining Hassocks from Steyning Town. In contrast, he had scored four in 77 appearances over the course of his two previous spells with the Robins.

Westlake could not add to his total when Premier Division leaders Saltdean Untied visited the Beacon but he was at the heart of an industrious Hassocks performance which saw the Robins claim a point from a star-studded Tigers outfit.

Brother James' second place in the December Player of the Month poll stemmed from his man-of-the-match performance against Eastbourne Town.

Senior Westlake was a real driving force and played a part in the Robins' second goal at the Saffrons, a fine cross from out on the right being headed home by Sam Smith scoring a debut goal following his move from Loxwood.

With Hassocks' draw against

Saltdean stemming largely from their unbelievable work rate, the presence of an international marathon runner in midfield obviously went a long way towards helping secure that most unlikely of draws.

Holding off the challenge of Jack Baden for third was Rawlingson in a battle between two players have been absolute revelations since taking over the full back positions from the injured duo of Jack Gardner and Andy Whittingham.

Rawlingson has combined solid defensive abilities down the right with a penchant for getting forward when the time is right, enabling him to make a difference at both ends.

That was most evident in the Saltdean match when his powerful charge forward and cross into the box looked set to be chinned in by Josh Hawkes until the veteran midfielder was blatantly tripped by a defender.

Had Hassocks got the penalty they deserved for that, they might have even beaten the table topping Tigers - and a good December could have become a great one.



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# RUR Cup quarters the highlight of Hassocks' February fixtures

**Five February fixtures lie in wait for Hassocks with the obvious highlight being the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup quarter final with Seaford Town.**

The Badgers will visit the Beacon on Tuesday 15th February with a 7:45pm kick off to decide who will progress to the final four of the competition.

Town are enjoying an excellent season in Division One, where they are currently locked in a fascinating four-way title battle with Roffey, Epsom & Ewell and Midhurst & Easebourne.

Their cup form has been equally impressive. To reach this stage of the competition, Seaford have already eliminated one Premier Division outfit in Broadbridge Heath and accounted for Isthmian League side Lancing.

Hassocks will need to be at their best if they are to stand a chance of reaching a first semi final for 10 years.

Before the magic of the RUR Cup comes to the Beacon, the Robins face two rearranged away games which were lost to wet weather earlier in the season.

On Tuesday 1st February, Hassocks go to Crawley Down

Gatwick for their third meeting of the campaign against the Anvils.

The previous two have come in cup competitions. Hassocks booked their RUR quarter final spot by beating the Anvils 2-1 in extra time at the Beacon in mid-January.

Before that, Down ended the Robins' interest in the Sussex Senior Cup with a 2-0 success back in October. Kick off at the Haven is at 7:30pm.

Four days later and it will be third time lucky against AFC Uckfield Town. Hassocks have seen two scheduled trips to the Oaks postponed so far, following the spoils being shared in a 2-2 August draw at the Beacon.

A short trip over Clayton Hill to Withdean Stadium follows on Saturday 12th February for a huge game against AFC Varndeanians.

Seaford visit three days later before the Robins go to Gorings Mead to face Horsham YMCA on Saturday 19th February, followed by a home Premier Division fixture with Loxwood on Saturday 26th.

Remarkably, the Under 23s have already completed their North Division fixtures. There may yet be a Supplementary competition added,

but at the time of writing the only remaining interest is in the League Cup.

West Division side Arundel provide the opposition in the second round on Thursday 10th February, 7:45pm kick off at the Beacon.

The Under 18s finish their Central Division fixtures against Steyning Town tomorrow morning at 11am. Likewise, we await confirmation of whether a new competition will be devised to provide another couple of months of football.

In contrast, the Ladies have played only six league games so far and so they have a busy time ahead.

February will see them go to Woodingdean Wanderers on Sunday 6th, host Worthing Town on Sunday 13th, visit Horsham Sparrows in the League Cup on Sunday 20th and then travel to Roffey on Sunday 27th.

As always, Veterans fixtures should be taken with a pinch of salt as they are subject to change at short notice.

Burgess Hill Albion visit the Beacon tomorrow at 2pm, followed by a top of the table clash a fortnight later with Ardingly at Oriel High School.

# Captain Jack scores twice in extra time to send Hassocks through

Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup Third Round

Tuesday 11th January 2022, The Beacon

## Hassocks 2-1 Crawley Down Gatwick



**It turns out that the Hassocks revival is not just restricted to league football. The Robins are into the quarter finals of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup after flying past Crawley Down Gatwick 2-1 at the Beacon.**

Nothing could separate the sides over 90 even minutes which ebbed and flowed, played out in first rain and then gradually descending mist on a moody evening in Mid Sussex.

Extra time was necessary after things finished 0-0, a scoreline which normally accompanies tedious games of football.

This though was anything but boring and nobody was complaining about an extra half hour, especially the fan on the sideline heard to say: "Excellent, a bonus 30 minutes away from my missus."

As recently as six weeks ago, not many would have given Hassocks much hope of keeping man from wife by taking Down to extra time.

The Robins' struggles in the opening three months of the season are fast becoming a distant memory however; they have now won four, drawn three and lost only two of their last nine matches.

That lengthy autumn injury list has begun shrinking as key players return - and they do not come much more key than Jack Troak.

The Hassocks captain scored both goals against Down in a typically energetic performance down the left flank in which he did not give his former teammate Harvey Blake a moments peace.

Having Troak fit is as good as a new signing for Brad Sweetman. Troak brings goals - something the Robins have missed since Charlie Pitcher's summer departure - and boundless enthusiasm that rubs off on everyone around him.

Pitcher is of course another ex-Robin now of Crawley Down's parish.

He led the line for the Anvils and came closest of anyone to opening the scoring in the first 15 minutes.

Hassocks passed up two opportunities to clear their lines in a matter of seconds. Oli Leslie crossed and Pitcher with his back to goal produced a chest and bicycle kick which dropped just over the bar and onto the roof of the net.

The Robins created their first chance three minutes later with a lightning quick counter. A crunching Dan Turner tackle on Josh Brown in the home box led to Troak scampering up the left.

Troak switched to Lewis Westlake who touched inside to Jude Wallis. From 30 yards, Wallis hit a strike which beat Down goalkeeper Alex Bellingham but not the cross bar.

After clattering the top of the goal once, the ball looped up 15 yards into the air. Remarkably, it then dropped straight back onto the bar before bouncing out for a goal kick.

Turner thought he had scored with the last play of the first half, a looping header from a Lewis Westlake free kick fumbled in by Bellingham. Alfie Loversidge though had strayed offside when challenging the goalkeeper and so the goal was chalked off amongst minimal appeals.

Hassocks were more vehement in their belief that they should have had a penalty eight minutes into the second half.

Turner again was involved, his header from another pinpoint Lewis Westlake delivery appearing to be blocked by the hand of Mike Spence. Neither referee Simon Faires nor his assistant James Slaney agreed.

Josh Short came to the fore next, fashioning good opportunities with three driving runs which provided routine saves for Bellingham.

Turner was also denied by the Down goalkeeper after staying up from a corner, picking up the pieces of a fine slide tackle from substitute Marshall Smith, sidestepping a man

and cracking a low shot towards goal.

Down appeared to be getting tired towards the end of the 90, perhaps as a result of their past three matches being postponed.

It did not come as too much of a surprise therefore when Hassocks took the lead six minutes into the additional 30. Lewis Westlake was scythed down in the box as he jinked towards goal and Troak confidently despatched the resulting penalty.

That seemed to shake Down into life. Within five minutes of Troak's opener, another ex-Robin Harvey Enticknap headed on a free kick for fellow substitute Ben Chowney to bundle home an equaliser.

Hassocks were lucky not to concede a penalty right on the stroke of half time in extra time. Leslie was caught in the box but his theatrical scream led Mr Faires to believe the Down forward was making a mountain out of a mole hill and so play was waved on.

There were a couple of further hairy moments for the Robins to navigate. They were especially grateful for Alex Harris making a superb flying stop to his right to keep out a bending Nick Sullivan shot before Troak won it for Hassocks on the counter with five minutes left.

James Westlake turned over possession in midfield, releasing Troak with a defence splitting pass. Captain Jack was calmness personified as he raced clear and beat Bellingham with a low, hard effort drilled into the corner.

**Hassocks:** Harris; Rawlinsong, Turner, Tighe, Baden; Wallis, J Westlake, L Westlake, Troak; Short; Loversidge.

**Subs:** Tuck (Rawlinsong 30), M Smith (Wallis 61) Bull (Loversidge 89), Broad, Parker (unused).

# Hassocks twice recover to deny Common a winning homecoming

Southern Combination League Premier Division  
Saturday 15th January 2021, The Recreation Ground  
**Little Common 2-2 Hassocks**



**For the first time in over four years, Little Common played a league game at their Recreation Ground. Hassocks were not the most obliging of party guests, twice coming from behind to secure a 2-2 draw and deny the Green Lane Boys a win on their long-awaited homecoming.**

The last time Common had taken to their own patch for Southern Combination action was April 2017, spending nearly half-a-decade ground sharing 12 miles away at Eastbourne United's Oval due to the Recreation Ground not having the required grading to host Premier Division football.

An intrigued crowd of 184 turned out to check out the improved facilities - including two new stands - delivered thanks to the hard work of everyone behind the scenes at Common.

Those in attendance were suitably impressed by both the upgrades and the football, an entertaining 90 minutes that ebbed and flowed.

Common were determined to give their fans something to celebrate on their return but Hassocks have developed a mean streak in recent months.

This was undoubtedly a game the Robins would have lost in the autumn; not now though, a run of four wins, four draws and two defeats from their last 10 matches instilling new belief and confidence in Brad Sweetman's team that they can compete with most teams in the league.

Despite having gone through a grueling 120 minutes on a heavy pitch when eliminating Crawley Down Gatwick from the RUR Cup in extra time on Tuesday night, Sweetman limited his changes with only two from the side who saw off the Anvils.

Of those, Charlie Tuck had played all but the opening half hour against

Down after replacing Arthur Rawlingson, who had only suitably recovered from his midweek knock to sit on the bench here.

The other change saw the evergreen Phil Gault available for his first start since November at the expense of young Jude Wallis.

Hassocks had expected a strong start from Common and they were duly swamped from the off by the hosts, eventually leading to a 13th minute opener.

Sam Ellis swung over a corner and the Robins' marking was poor, leaving Common top scorer Lewis Hole to head unmarked past Alex Harris.

Hassocks had to weather more of the storm before they could make an impression on the game, Johnny Walker with a long distance effort nearly as strong as his namesake's whiskey being followed by a similar drive from Liam Ward which had Harris a little concerned.

The Robins' first venture into the Common half came when Josh Short worked himself into a decent position, only to drill a low one across the area that was well held by home goalkeeper Matt Cruttwell.

Captain Jack Troak was next to threaten. Alfie Loversidge and James Westlake built an opportunity for Troak to scamper down the left but his shot was just wide of the post.

Hassocks' first equaliser of the afternoon arrived on 26 minutes. James Westlake did well to get possession to Gault just inside the Common area.

Gault had his back to goal but he turned on a sixpence, curling an effort out of the reach of Cruttwell to nestle in the bottom corner via the upright.

Things tapered off a little after that, hardly a surprise given the breakneck speed that the opening 30 minutes had been played at.

Normal service was however resumed at the start of the second

half when both sides had opportunities to take the lead inside the first seven minutes.

Hassocks were first to go close, Short heading a Loversidge delivery wide. Common were not so wasteful, new signing Freddie Warren capitalising on a mistake in the Robins defence to square across goal for Hole to sidefoot home his second and restore the hosts' lead.

Common should have added a third almost straight from the restart. They regained possession and headed up field through Sam Ellis. Amazingly, nobody in claret and blue could get on the end of Ellis' fizzed cross which only needed a touch to send it past Harris.

Hassocks punished that by equalising again with 13 minutes left to play. Short picked up possession in midfield and drove at the Common defence.

As they backed off, the space opened up for him to hit a low drive from 25 yards which found the bottom corner.

Common finished the stronger - hardly a surprise given the tiredness Hassocks must have been feeling following their Tuesday night exertions - but the visitors stayed strong in the face of a number of hopeful balls tossed into the box, Dan Turner heading clear anything that came his way.

There was one late scare when Common might have been awarded a penalty. Half-hearted appeals from home connections told their own story about that, with the draw being the correct outcome in the end.

**Hassocks:** Harris; Tuck, Turner, Tighe, Baden; Loversidge, J Westlake, L Westlake, Troak; Short; Gault.

**Subs:** Beebee (Gault 67), Bull, Rawlingson, Wallis, Parker (unused).



# PARKER

BUILDING SUPPLIES

Mid Sussex Times



# Blast from Ball sends Hassocks to their first defeat of 2022

Southern Combination League Premier Division  
Saturday 22nd January 2021, The Oval  
**Eastbourne United 0-0 Hassocks**



**Eastbourne United has not been the happiest of hunting grounds for Hassocks in recent times and their 2022 visit went to form as they suffered a 1-0 reversal at the Oval.**

There was a time when trips to this part of the world used to mean a guaranteed three points for the Robins.

Between 2010 and 2019, they won on six consecutive visits to United, a run of form made all the more extraordinary by the fact that Hassocks finished below United in all but two of those seasons.

The Robins though have now lost on their three most recent games against United at the Oval, this latest defeat ending their impressive unbeaten start to the new year.

Home captain Charlie Ball scored the only goal of the game midway through the first half with what was one of the few moments of quality in a pretty turgid affair.

Good football was in short supply as both sides seemed determined to go long, making it an attritional 90 minutes in stark contrast to the entertainment Hassocks have been involved with serving up since the start of December.

Injuries and unavailability have meant that Brad Sweetman has rarely been able to name an unchanged starting XI so far this season.

He was treated to that luxury at the Oval, selecting the same line up who had spoiled Little Common's homecoming party a week earlier when holding the Green Lane Boys to a draw in their first league game at the Recreation Ground for four years.

Changes now seem likely for next week's visit of Bexhill United. Bradley Tighe had an excellent personal performance brought to a premature ending when he departed with an ankle injury to be replaced by Arthur

Rawlingson whilst there were also decent cameos from the bench from Joe Bull and debutant Charlie Broad.

Young Broad in particular looks an intriguing signing. Yet another acquisition with Loxwood links, his senior bow for the Robins came less than 48 hours after he had scored twice for the Under 23s in a 3-2 win over Horsham YMCA which took the Robins development squad top of the North Division.

The closest either side came to opening the scoring before Ball struck was when Tigana Quebe fancied a crack from distance but his effort from outside the area did not bother Alex Harris in the slightest.

More troubling to Harris was Ball's excellent strike from 25 yards which whistled into the back of the net to give United the lead with 27 minutes on the clock.

There was little the Robins number one could do as Ball conjured something out of nothing.

The 122 in attendance - including a decent number of travelling Hassocks supporters - were no doubt hoping that Ball's moment of magic might spark the game into life.

Unfortunately, that was not the case and neither side were able to string more than four or five passes together.

Hassocks did lots of huffing and puffing and nobody could fault their work rate. Phil Hawkins in the United goal was rarely troubled despite James and Lewis Westlake and Josh Short's attempts to make something happen.

The hosts meanwhile really should have gone into the interval with a two goal advantage, squandering a gilt-edged opportunity in first half stoppage time.

Harris got in a bit of a mess when attempting to gather Jack Murphy's corner, the loose ball falling to Harvey Mapstone who seemed to be caught by surprise at the chance unfolding to him as he somehow fired

over.

United registered the first chance of the second half 10 minutes after the restart, Harris doing better to hold a shot after Brett Patton broke clear.

The lively Max Thompson went through one-on-one, only to put his effort off target. That seemed to frustrate the United player and two minutes later he picked up a booking for a quite unnecessary foul.

Ball nearly had his second of the afternoon when meeting a Quebe cross with a powerful header that Harris repelled and the Hassocks goalkeeper again denied the same player with five minutes remaining.

Even when an astonishing eight minutes of injury time was played owing to several stoppages including for Tighe's departure, Hassocks were unable to force an opportunity as they finished the game with only 10 men on the pitch.

Their frustration had manifested itself just before the end of the 90 when the usually calm Lewis Westlake found his way into the sin bin.

You could excuse the Robins an off day though following a run of four wins, four draws and two defeats in their last 10 outings, pulling themselves 10 points clear of the bottom two in the process.

**Hassocks:** Harris; Tuck, Turner, Tighe, Baden; Loversidge, J Westlake, L Westlake, Troak; Short; Gault.

**Subs:** Rawlingson (Tighe), Broad (Gault), Bull (Loversidge), Wallis (unused).

# First Team Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
<b>August</b>				
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
<b>September</b>				
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
<b>October</b>				
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	
<b>November</b>				
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
<b>December</b>				
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
<b>January</b>				
03/01 - 11:00	Lingfield (A)	SCFLP	2-1	Short, Troak
11/01 - 19:45	Crawley Down Gatwick (H)	RURC3	2-1 AET	Troak (2)
13/01 - 15:00	Little Common (A)	SCFLP	2-2	Gault, Short
22/01 - 15:00	Eastbourne United (A)	SCFLP	0-1	
29/01 - 15:00	Bexhill United (H)	SCFLP		
<b>February</b>				
01/02 - 19:30	Crawley Down Gatwick (A)	SCFLP		
05/02 - 15:00	AFC Uckfield Town (A)	SCFLP		
12/02 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (A)	SCFLP		
15/02 - 19:45	Seaford Town (H)	RURCQF		
19/02 - 15:00	Horsham YMCA (A)	SCFLP		
26/02 - 15:00	Loxwood (H)	SCFLP		
<b>March</b>				
12/03 - 15:00	East Preston (H)	SCFLP		
19/03 - 15:00	Pagham (A)	SCFLP		
26/03 - 15:00	Newhaven (A)	SCFLP		
<b>April</b>				
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	29	0	29	8	47	10
Josh Short	29	0	29	6	41	6
Bradley Tighe	25	0	25	0	128	0
Arthur Rawlingson	19	5	24	0	24	0
Joe Bull	15	7	22	2	83	6
Jack Baden	13	5	18	0	21	0
James Westlake	16	1	17	0	213	30
Luke Marshall	14	3	17	0	33	0
Jack Gardner	16	0	16	1	39	1
Andy Whittingham	16	0	16	0	114	2
Alex Harris	15	0	15	0	75	0
Dan Turner	14	0	14	0	49	3
Jude Wallis	5	9	14	0	14	0
Connor Bradley	11	2	13	1	22	1
Charlie Tuck	11	2	13	0	19	0
Bradley Bant	9	2	11	0	160	12
Lewis Beebee	7	4	11	1	14	1
Lewis Westlake	10	0	10	4	87	8
Jack Troak	7	3	10	3	63	16
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
Phil Gault	5	2	7	5	345	190
Lucas Tyrrell	3	3	6	0	6	0
Christian Kiddell	5	0	5	0	5	0
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
Marshall Smith	0	2	2	0	2	0
Jacob Campbell	1	0	1	0	1	0
Louis Duckering	1	0	1	0	1	0
Charlie Broad	0	1	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
Phil Wickwar	0	1	1	0	43	0

# Beebee brace from the bench earns Hassocks point from top two clash

Southern Combination League Under 23 North Division

Thursday 13th January 2022, The Beacon

## Hassocks U23s 2-2 Broadbridge Heath U23s

### The top two in the Southern Combination League Under 23 North Division met at the Beacon in a mouth watering first fixture of 2022.

It lived up to its hype too as nothing could separate leaders Broadbridge Heath and second placed Hassocks, the sides drawing 2-2 on a chilly Mid Sussex evening.

The Robins knew that they could not afford to lose if they wanted to keep their slim title hopes alive.

At half time, those dreams of a first ever Under 23 league title looked over. Heath led 2-0 and were seemingly cruising towards three points which would take them four clear at the top with Hassocks having only two matches left to play.

The Robins though battled back and a brace from the bench from Lewis Beebee proved enough to ensure that the spoils were shared.

Heath had dropped only four points all season, winning nine and drawing two of their 11 matches. Included in that impressive record was a 2-0 victory the last time these sides met at High Wood Hill Sports Ground back in October, a result which ended the Robins' own unbeaten start to the campaign.

Hassocks knew they would be in for a tough encounter, especially with resources stretched due to the first team having gone a full 120 minutes when eliminating Crawley Down Gatwick from the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup on Tuesday night.

There were seven changes from the side who had last taken to the field when securing local bragging rights by beating St Francis Rangers 3-1 on December 16th.

Harvey Parker returned in goal for Ryan West. Connor Bradley, Luke Marshall and Joe Bull all stepped up their returns from injury.

Marshall Smith started having played in extra time against Down 48 hours earlier. There was a first Under 23s start for Jack Smith and the evergreen Phil Gault made a rare appearance.

With Lord Gault set to be in the senior squad for Saturday's trip to Little Common, he could complete an impressive treble of playing Under 23s, first team and veterans in the space of 72 hours should he also be selected for the vets game away at East away on Sunday afternoon.

Missing out were Kobe Dersley, Sean McSwiney, Arthur Rawlison, Josh Short and Josh Hawkes whilst Archie Russell dropped down to the bench.

Also named amongst the substitutes was Charlie Broad, a new capture who like almost every other player signed over the past four months has links to Loxwood.

An exciting forward, he made a big contribution to the result, although it was somewhat understandably overshadowed by the mercurial Beebee's heroics.

Heath needed only eight minutes to show why they are the long-term leaders of the league, Craig Goodsir putting the Bears 1-0 ahead early on.



The visitors' second goal could not have come at a worse time for Hassocks, Zack Lamont scoring with virtually the last kick of the first half as a second minute of stoppage time was completed.

Hassocks to their credit rallied. Beebee pulled one back on 68 minutes with his first of the evening and on 75, he levelled the tie with his second.

The momentum had swung dramatically and the Robins were now in the ascendancy. Unfortunately, they were unable to find a winner but a draw was ultimately the correct result.

One special mention to young George Mercer, involved in one of the more bizarre injuries seen at the Beacon in recent times.

He injured his shoulder late on when attempting to jump the pitch side rail to retrieve a ball, resulting in a Thursday night trip to A&E wearing full Hassocks kick. Everyone at the Beacon of course wishes George a speedy recovery.

**Hassocks:** Parker, Mercer, Marshall, J Smith, Ransome, Wallis, Bradley, Gault, Hicks, M Smith, Bull.

**Subs:** Beebee, Douglass, Broad, Russell (used).



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# Two goal deficits not a problem as Hassocks comeback once again

Southern Combination League Under 23 North Division

Thursday 20th January 2022, The Beacon

## Hassocks U23s 3-2 Horsham YMCA U23s

**Hassocks Under 23s are getting rather good at this coming from two goals behind thing.**

A week after turning around a 2-0 half time deficit to draw 2-2 with Southern Combination League North Division leaders Broadbridge Heath, the Robins went one better by beating Horsham YMCA after again recovering from the same situation.

Not only that, but the result took Hassocks top of the table for the first time since October thanks to Heath being held 1-1 at home by Roffey.

It would still take something of a miracle for the Robins to win their first Under 23 title, mind.

Despite it not even being the end of January yet, Hassocks play their final league game of the season next Thursday night away at St Francis Rangers.

The Robins currently lead Heath by one point but the Bears have three matches left to play, giving them an extra two fixtures in hand in which to overhaul Hassocks.

Visitors YM had been one of the most dominant Under 23 sides in recent years. They won the North Division the last time a season was played to a finish in 2018-19, pipping Hassocks to the title.

That incidentally was the most recent campaign in which the Robins themselves were involved in the race.

YM also led the way in both the 2019-20 and 2020-21 campaigns at the point they were curtailed, suggesting that they would have added further silverware to the

Gorings Mead cabinet.

They have a younger side this season however made up of mainly teenagers and that has left them lower down the standings but with a bright long-term future.

Eight of YM's squad that travelled to the Beacon came from their Under 18s side and five of those were 16-year-olds.

That is not to say that they lack quality. Hassocks knew only too well what they would be up against, YM being the only side the Robins failed to beat in an opening seven fixtures to the season which yielded six wins and a 1-1 draw away in Horsham.

Hassocks gave full debuts to two players in amongst five changes from the previous week's top-of-the-table stalemate with the Bears.

Charlie Broad made his first start since arriving from Loxwood and Jamie Douglass from the Under 18s was rewarded for an excellent season in the youth team and a promising cameo from the bench against Broadbridge Heath.

Archie Russell was promoted from the bench to lead the line, Arthur Rawlingson returned from an injury picked up in the first team's Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup win over Crawley Down Gatwick nine days ago, and the final change saw Ryan West take over in goal from Harvey Parker.

Ben Hicks missed his first Under 23s game of the season with the other absentees from the Heath draw being Connor Bradley, Phil Gault and George Mercer who somehow injured himself hopping over the perimeter



barrier to collect a ball last week.

What made this latest comeback particularly impressive was that it was done with a threadbare squad, including only three substitutes. Even head coach Brad Sweetman was able to justify giving himself some minutes from the bench.

Hassocks seemed to be caught cold at the start of an absolutely freezing evening at the Beacon as YM sauntered into their two goal lead.

Both came from one of those 16-year-olds, Stan Berry notching in the fourth and 15th minute to leave the Robins with a mountain to climb.

Thankfully, they have become rather adept at doing that in the new year. Rawlingson pulled one back from the penalty spot within a couple of minutes of Berry doubling YM's advantage.

It was then over to Broad to become the hero. He opened his Hassocks account with the equaliser on 25 minutes before going onto hit the winner which keeps the Robins' slim title hopes alive - just.

**Hassocks:** West, Rawlingson, Marshall, J Smith, Ransome, Wallis, Douglass, Broad, Russell, M Smith, Bull.

**Subs:** Hudson, McSwiney, Sweetman (used).



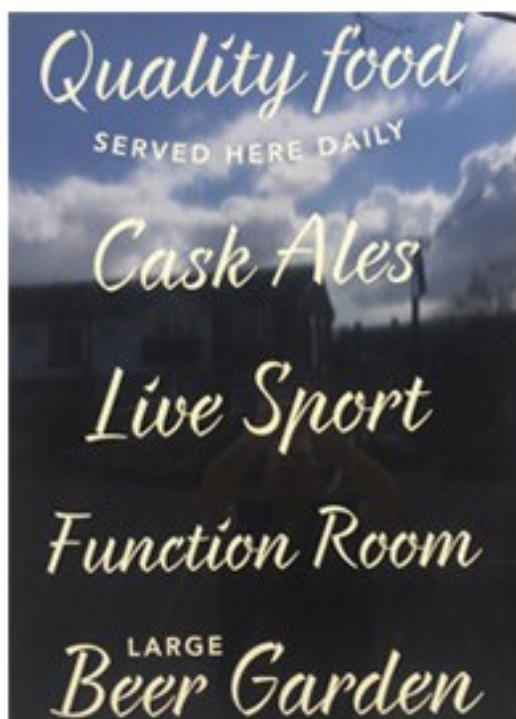
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# Under 23 Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
<b>August</b>				
19/08 - 19:45	Crowborough Athletic (H)	SCFL23	4-1	Hudson (4)
26/08 - 19:45	Horsham YMCA (A)	SCFL23	1-1	Russell
<b>September</b>				
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
<b>October</b>				
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
<b>November</b>				
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	
<b>December</b>				
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
<b>January</b>				
13/01 - 19:45	Broadbridge Heath (H)	SCFL23	2-2	Beebee (2)
20/01 - 19:45	Horsham YMCA (H)	SCFL23	3-2	Broad (2), Rawlingson
27/01 - 19:30	St Francis Rangers (H)	SCFL23		
<b>February</b>				
10/02 - 19:45	Arundel (H)	U23LC2		

## THE HASSOCKS

— Traditional Pub —



### 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

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# Under 23 Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Ben Hicks	16	0	16	0
Harvey Ransome	14	2	16	0
Jude Wallis	13	1	14	1
Sean McSwiney	10	4	14	1
Archie Russell	9	5	14	4
George Mercer	8	5	13	0
Jack Baden	12	0	12	0
Wes Tighe	7	5	12	0
Jay Hudson	8	3	11	5
Arthur Rawlingson	8	3	11	2
Louis Thwaites	5	6	11	1
Luke Marshall	8	1	9	1
Harvey Parker	8	1	9	0
Brad Sweetman	1	7	8	0
Lewis Beebee	4	3	7	3
Jacob Killkelly	1	6	7	0
Marshall Smith	3	3	6	2
Josh Hawkes	5	0	5	1
Jordan Badger	4	1	5	2
Charlie Tuck	4	1	5	1
Ryan West	4	0	4	0
Connor Bradley	3	1	4	2
Kobe Dersley	3	1	4	0
Josh Short	3	0	3	3
Zac Kladdis	2	1	3	0
Jack Smith	2	1	3	0
Joe Bull	2	0	2	0
Phil Gault	2	0	2	0
Charlie Pugh	2	0	2	0
Spencer Slaughter	2	0	2	3
Charlie Broad	1	1	2	2
Jamie Douglass	1	1	2	0
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
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
Dan Turner	0	1	1	0
James Westlake	0	1	1	0

# Entertainment but no points for Robins in 11 goal thriller

Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division  
Sunday 16th January 2022, The Beacon

## Hassocks U18s 5-6 Worthing United U18s

**Anyone expecting Hassocks Under 18s and Worthing United to ease back into the swing of things in the first football played following the Christmas break was in for a rude awakening at the Beacon.**

11 goals were scored in a ridiculous game of football which the Mavericks just about shaded 6-5.

Such was the relentless entertainment on offer that it went unnoticed afterwards that this was the Robins' ninth successive defeat in all competitions and sent them second from bottom of the Southern Combination League North Division.

Despite it still being only January, Hassocks complete their league fixtures in two weeks time against Steyning Town.

There is a League Cup second round tie at Rustington next Sunday, but should the Robins suffer defeat from their long journey west then their campaign will be over before we even reached Valentine's Day.

The Under 23s are of course in a similar boat and there remains the probability that some sort of Supplementary Shield competition similar to the ones brought in when

lockdown was lifted last April may provide further football over the next few months.

Those who turn out to watch the Young Robins will hope that if there are more matches to be played, they will be as enthralling as this one.

Hassocks made two changes from the side who had been beaten by bottom club AFC Varndenains in their last fixture of 2021.

Jamie Douglass returned fresh from making his Under 23s debut as a substitute in the 2-2 draw with North Division leaders Broadbridge Heath on Thursday night.

Also coming into the side was Muhammad Wilson. The two dropping out were Joe Holland and Jack Thomas.

Hassocks had five different players find the back of the net. Sam Geard and Oliver Parker-Williams both moved onto eight for the season.

At the other end of the scale, Wilson scored his first for the Robins, Beau Howard notched and Alfie Beck claimed one from the bench.

Hassocks also managed to score for United, putting an own goal through their net.

George Hemming scored in the fifth and 51st minutes for the Mavericks. The most bruising period



for Hassocks came in six minutes midway through the second half.

Nathan Williams found the back of the net on 70, Matthew Holden on 75 and then Williams again on 76 as United took the game away from the Robins to boost their own hopes of claiming the runners up spot.

Hassocks could still finish as high as fourth. They would need to beat Steyning in a fortnight's time and then hope a lot of other results go their way, something which is not entirely out of the question in a division which has been congested all year bar Montpellier Villa who have run away with things since the end of October.

**Hassocks:** Dunkley, Wilson, Hill, Douglass, Beston, Geard, Carter, Howard, Parker-Williams, Smith, Russell.

**Subs:** Beck, Thomas, Woodhouse, Croydon-Elkins.





# Under 18 Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
<b>August</b>				
29/08 - 11:00	Shoreham (A)	SCFL18	1-0	Geard
<b>September</b>				
05/09 - 11:00	Haywards Heath Town (H)	SCFL18	5-0	Parker-Williams (2), Geard, 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, Geard
26/09 - 11:00	AFC Vardeanians (A)	SCFL18	3-2	Geard, Russell, Howard
<b>October</b>				
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)
<b>November</b>				
07/11 - 11:00	Burgess Hill Town (A)	SCFL18	4-0	Russell (2), Geard, Beston
14/11 - 11:00	Worthing United (A)	SCFL18	1-2	Geard
21/11 - 11:00	Shoreham (H)	SCFL18	3-4	Geard, Russell, Carter
28/11 - 11:00	St Francis Rangers (A)	SCFL18	0-2	
<b>December</b>				
05/12 - 11:45	Montpelier Villa (A)	SCFL18	1-2	Parker-Williams
19/12 - 11:00	AFC Vardeanians (H)	SCFL18	1-2	Parker-Williams
<b>January</b>				
16/01 - 11:00	Worthing United (H)	SCFL18	5-6	Geard, Howard, Parker-Williams, Wilson, Beck
23/01 - 11:00	Rustington (A)	U18LC2	0-0	(Lost 3-0 on penalties)
30/01 - 11:00	Steyning Town (H)	SCFL18		

# Under 18 Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Archie Russell	16	0	16	5
Beau Howard	15	0	15	4
Alfie Beck	7	8	15	5
Jamie Douglass	14	0	14	0
Sam Geard	14	0	14	8
Oliver Parker-Williams	11	3	14	8
Harry Bundy	12	1	13	0
Archie Hill	12	1	13	0
Max Beston	11	0	11	1
Jayden Dunkley	10	0	10	0
Daniel Llewellyn	8	1	9	0
Harry Carter	7	2	9	1
Jack Thomas	4	5	9	0
Joe Woodhouse	2	5	7	0
Muhammad Wilson	2	5	7	1
Ismaila Housaniou Njai	6	0	6	0
Daniel Lade	5	1	6	0
Josh Trinick	3	3	6	0
Robert Newman	0	6	6	0
Louis Thwaites	2	3	5	0
Joe Holland	0	5	5	0
Jack Morris	4	0	4	0
Charlie Smith	2	2	4	0
Abir Chowdhury	3	0	3	1
Jake Palmer	3	0	3	0
Keegan Croydon-Elkins	0	3	3	0
Owen Parker	0	2	2	0

# Nine is fine as Hassocks return to winning ways at East Court

Mid Sussex League Fred Pretty Veterans Plate

Sunday 16th January 2022

## East Court Vets 2-9 Hassocks Vets

**Having played only two Mid Sussex Fred Pretty Veterans Plate matches before Christmas, it is going to be a busy second half of the season for Hassocks as they go on the hunt for their first vets silverware since 2016.**

One potential route to success was closed in the Robins' final match of 2021 when they were eliminated from the Sussex Veterans Challenge Cup by reining champions Mile Oak in an entertaining 3-2 defeat at Chalky Road.

There proved to be no lingering hangover from that loss when Hassocks returned to the bread and butter of the Plate, the Robins kicking off the new year in style by winning 9-2 against East Court to maintain their 100 percent league record.

Racking up nine goals was no mean feat, especially in light of the fact that Pat Harding is now banned from playing vets football having turned out too many times in the Isthmian League for Burgess Hill Town.

The Robins other famous goal-getter Phil Gault was relegated to the

first team for the weekend, scoring in a 2-2 draw at Little Common.

Given his impressive track record of picking up mysterious injuries before long trips, it was something of a surprise that Gaulty did not develop a knock which ruled him out from the hour and a half drive to Bexhill on Saturday, only to make a miraculous recovery for the short hop to East Grinstead on Sunday.

In the absence of those two, Steve Spies led the line. This proved to be a wise decision as not only did Spiesy score twice, but he was also at the opposite end of the pitch from where he often causes chaos and confusion when deployed as a defender.

Pat missing out was not the only change from that County Cup defeat at Mile Oak. Elliott Butler has gone back to trying to set a Guinness World Record for quickest 10km time around Cuckfield and Haywards Heath and Mitch Broadstock was unavailable.

Coming into the side were Paul Armstrong, Lee De La Rue Browne and Anthony Hibbert.

The presence of Hibby was certainly a nice surprise; nobody expected him to turn out much once the temperature dropped below 15

degrees, so to see him on a cold January morning was a real bonus.

Hibbert went home smiling too having notched a brace. His double was not enough to prevent Joel Harding being named as Chris Francis' Middy Starman however, Joel again weighing in with another goal to move onto three for the season. With Pat unable to turn out anymore, the race is on for Joel to outscore his brother for the first time in his life.

Joining Spiesy and Hibbert in the double club was Paul Armstrong, silencing the doubters by answering that age-old question that he can do it away at East Court as well as for Brighton at the Priestfield Stadium in the 1998-99 season.

That is seven of the goals accounted for. It will come as a shock to nobody to hear that Dave Juniper also made it onto the scoresheet, taking his tally onto five from five. Jonathan Bundy completed the scoring from the bench. For East Court, Chris Shields scored twice.

**Hassocks:** Sayers, Waller, Newman, Humphries, Williams, Armstrong, Hibbert, De La Rue Browne, J Harding, Spies, Juniper.

**Subs:** Bundy (used).



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# Brockham beaten at the Beacon as Hassocks make it four from four

Mid Sussex League Fred Pretty Veterans Plate  
Sunday 23rd January 2022, The Beacon  
**Hassocks Vets 4-1 Brockham Vets**

**You play two league matches in the first four months of the season, and then two come along in the space of a January week.**

There is probably a joke to be made there about London Buses and the turning circle of somebody in the Hassocks Veterans squad, but let's not go there - especially as Spiesy has already questioned how often he gets mocked in these reports.

One week on from an excellent 9-2 win away at East Court, the Robins were again in action, this time against Brockham at the Beacon on a very pleasant Sunday afternoon (explaining why Anthony Hibbert was around again).

It was a much more workmanlike performance from Hassocks than the one they had delivered in East Grinstead, but it got the job done to earn a 4-1 victory which stretches the Robins' Mid Sussex Fred Pretty Veterans Plate record to three wins from three matches.

They now sit second in the table behind leaders Ardingly but with two games in hand.

In a potentially pivotal game, the Robins will take on Ardingly on the all-weather pitch at Oriel High School

on Sunday 13th February 2022. Get it in the diary.

Veterans football is famous for the turnover in players with starting lines up often wildly fluctuating from one week to the next.

Hassocks though are benefiting from a remarkable consistency in selection.

Having had to make only three changes for last Sunday's win at East

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**“There was a brace for Steve Spies, taking him onto nine for the campaign and above Pat Harding at the top of the Robins' scoring charts. If Jay Lovett is reading, Spiesy is awaiting your call.”**

---

Court, Nick Newman made just two for the visit of Brockham.

Joel Harding decided he would rather go and watch Chelsea v Spurs at Stamford Bridge than extend his hot scoring streak and Adam Waller was probably running up to Jack & Jill windmills or something.

Jonathan Bundy was rewarded for scoring from the bench against East Court with promotion to the starting



XI.

Phil Gault was rewarded for drawing a blank in the first team's 1-0 defeat at Eastbourne United 24 hours earlier with 90 minutes of vets football.

Gault did at least manage to score against Brockham. Robert Sayers registered his first of the season and there was a brace for Steve Spies, taking him onto nine for the campaign and above Pat Harding at the top of the Robins' scoring charts. If Jay Lovett is reading, Spiesy is awaiting your call.

**Hassocks:** Sayers, Armstrong, Newman, Humphries, Williams, Bundy, Hibbert, De La Rue Browne, Gault, Spies, Juniper.

**Subs:** Maynard, Broadstock (used).



# Veterans Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
<b>September</b>				
19/09 - 14:00	South Godstone (A)	MSFLV	7-1	P.Harding (2), Spies (2), Juniper (2), Butler
<b>October</b>				
10/10 - 14:00	Charlwood (A)	MSFLV	7-2	Spies (3), Maynard, Bundy, Armstrong, Hibbert
<b>November</b>				
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)
<b>December</b>				
19/12 - 14:00	Mile Oak (A)	CVC3	3-4	P.Harding, J.Harding, Juniper
<b>January</b>				
16/01 - 14:00	East Court (A)	MSFLV	9-2	Spies (2), Armstrong (2), Hibbert (2), J.Harding, Juniper, Bundy
23/01 - 14:00	Brockham (H)	MSFLV	4-1	Gault, Spies (2), Sayers
30/01 - 14:00	Burgess Hill Albion (H)	MSFLV		
<b>February</b>				
13/02 - 14:00	Ardingly (A)	MSFLV		

# Veterans Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Nick Newman	7	0	7	0
Steve Spies	7	0	7	9
Jonathan Bundy	5	2	7	3
Anthony Humphries	6	0	6	0
Che Williams	6	0	6	0
Paul Armstrong	5	0	5	3
David Juniper	5	0	5	5
Robert Sayers	5	0	5	1
Lee De La Rue Browne	4	1	5	0
Mitch Broadstock	3	1	4	1
Joel Harding	4	0	4	3
Anthony Hibbert	4	0	4	3
Adam Waller	4	0	4	0
Pat Harding	3	0	3	6
Elliott Butler	2	0	2	1
Brendan Leahy	2	0	2	1
Phil Gault	1	1	2	3
Chris Maynard	1	1	2	0
Richard Thompson	1	1	2	0
Paul Gurr	0	2	2	0
Oliver Gosden	1	0	1	0
Simon Shinvarain	1	0	1	0
Matthew Hughes	0	1	1	0

# Ladies Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
<b>September</b>				
12/09 - 14:00	Eastbourne United (H)	FAWCQ	0-4	
26/09 - 14:00	Montpelier Villa (H)	SCWLP	1-1	J.Craig
<b>October</b>				
10/10 - 14:00	Pagham (H)	SCWLP	4-5	K.Chappell (2), Johanson, Mair
24/10 - 14:00	Saltdean United (H)	SCWLP	0-1	
<b>November</b>				
14/11 - 14:00	Woodingdean Wand. (H)	SCWLP	7-0	Mair (3), Pordage, J.Craig, S.Chappell, Johanson
<b>December</b>				
12/12 - 14:00	Montpelier Villa (A)	SCWLP	0-3	
<b>January</b>				
23/01 - 14:00	Saltdean United (A)	SCWLP	4-2	J.Craig, Kendall
<b>February</b>				
06/02 - 14:00	Woodingdean Wand (A)	SCWLP		
13/02 - 14:00	Worthing Town (H)	SCWLP		
20/02 - 14:00	Horsham Sparrows (A)	SWLC2		
27/02 - 14:00	Roffey (A)	SCWLP		
<b>March</b>				
06/03 - 14:00	Worthing Town (A)	SCWLP		
13/03 - 14:00	Roffey (H)	SCWLP		
20/03 - 14:00	Eastbourne Town (A)	SCWLP		
27/03 - 14:00	Seaford Town (A)	SCWLP		
<b>April</b>				
03/04 - 14:00	Pagham (A)	SCWLP		
10/04 - 14:00	Eastbourne Town (H)	SCWLP		
24/04 - 14:00	Seaford Town (H)	SCWLP		

# Ladies Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Jodie Johanson	7	0	7	2
Sam Newman	7	0	7	0
Mia Pordage	7	0	7	1
Sarah Chappell	6	0	6	0
Jess Craig	6	0	6	2
Emma Flin	6	0	6	0
Kirstin Mair	6	0	6	4
Claire Stevens	6	0	6	0
Katie Read	3	3	6	0
Jemma Kendall	5	0	5	1
Tallie Bright	4	0	4	0
Joanne Brown	4	0	4	0
Katherine Chappell	4	0	4	3
Ellie Moquet	1	3	4	0
Holly Webb	1	3	4	0
Zeba Ghorishi	1	2	3	0
Kayleigh Norris	1	2	3	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



Before Christmas 2007, Hassocks had been in both County League title and RUR Cup contention. Rye United soon put paid to all that, beating the Robins twice in the space of one month, the second of which occurred on this day in **2008**...

## Familiar foe Rye leave Robins season in meltdown

**In the space of one short month, a season that held plenty of promise for Hassocks has collapsed - and the disintegration started and finished with Rye United.**

The East Sussex club ended the Robins' very real hopes of winning the Sussex RUR Charity Cup four days after Christmas, beating Dave John's side 2-1 at the Salts in the quarter finals of a wide open competition.

Then on Tuesday night, they came to the Beacon and pocketed three valuable points in their battle to avoid relegation, winning 2-0 to leave Hassocks' title challenge hanging by a thread.

Those two victories have well and truly buried the memory of Hassocks eliminating Rye from the FA Cup back in August.

This was only Rye's fifth league victory of the campaign but was thoroughly deserved and with their massive number of games in hand, they should preserve their Division One status come the end of the season.

As for Hassocks, there were mitigating circumstances, mostly surrounding a squad being stretched to its absolute limit.

But even so, this was not good enough and the normally phlegmatic John admitted afterwards that he was not happy.

He felt his side were bullied out of it by a physical and robust Rye side. It is not the first time Hassocks have

not got on with opponents adopting such an approach; another coastal club in Selsey ruffled the Robins' earlier in the campaign, although Hassocks' quality shone through enough to defeat the Blues in each of their three meetings.

John was also left confused about how referee Boris Erguvan flashed only three yellow cards and all of those to home players - Chris Brown, Spencer Slaughter and Phil Gault.

Hassocks could have been better protected by the officials, particularly at a time when John needs to keep as many of his players fit as possible given the extended list of absentees.

It was confirmed before kick off that consistent defender Ashley Marsh broke a collarbone in the weekend defeat against East Preston and will be missing for at least two months.

Free-scoring Anthony Hibbert is still several weeks away from fitness, Matt Robbins is sidelined with an ankle problem, Matt Amos has returned to Cambridge University following the holidays and Sam Fisk is now trying his luck in Australia.

Jamie Ingham is struggling with a knee injury but such was his desperation not to add to John's woes that the 16-year-old amazingly declared himself fit. Sensibly though, he was not risked and remained on the bench.

Such a heavily depleted squad meant a full debut for Michael Bates in midfield. John said he was more than happy with Bates' performance

and he can expect to be further involved over the coming weeks.

The patch up job John was forced into was best summed up by the sight of regular striker Gault in midfield and regular midfielder Slaughter filling in for Marsh at sweeper.

It was little wonder that Hassocks gave away the ball far too cheaply, the service for their front two of James Laing and the willing Laurence Robinson being non-existent all evening.

In the 40 minutes it took the Robins to register their first shot - an astute chip from Gault well saved by Gavin Bourne - Rye had managed four or five acceptable chances on Joel Harding's goal.

Hassocks did at least start the second half a little brighter but it came to nothing and two goals in little more than two minutes just past the hour mark left them well beaten.

Scott McDonald scored from Shaun Loft's headed pass on 64 minutes. That was followed by the talented Duncan McArthur waltzing past at least five Hassocks players followed by Harding before rolling into an empty net for a breath taking solo goal.

**Hassocks:** J Harding; Turner, Lear, Slaughter, Faith, Thompson; Gault, Brown, Bates; Laing, Robinson.

**Subs:** Thomas (Laing 73), Dawson (Bates 80), Ingham (unused).

# Around the League...



There were further twists and turns in the Premier Division title race last weekend as Saltdean United lost further ground - whilst the battle to win promotion from Division One became even more interesting...

**Premier Division leaders Littlehampton Town got the job done - just - when beating Broadbridge Heath 2-1 at the High Wood Hill Sports Ground.**

With the Southern Combination League's top scorer Joe Benn on the shelf with a dislocated shoulder, Town relied on two goals from George Gaskin either side of Kyle Sim striking for the hosts to squeeze past the Bears.

There was no such tight scoreline at the Haven where **Newhaven** hammered **Crawley Down Gatwick** 4-1 to continue their pursuit of the Marigolds at the top of the table.

Lucas Franzen-Jones gave the Dockers an early lead, only for Charlie Pitcher to level midway through the first half.

Newhaven ran riot after that, Franzen-Jones notching again along with Lee Robinson and Alfie Rogers in a convincing victory for the visitors.

The title hopes of pre-season favourites **Saltdean United** are hanging by a thread after they were beaten 2-1 at Hill Park by **Eastbourne Town**.

Aaron Capon and Arron Hopkinson were on target for Town. The Tigers' consolation was scored by Alfie Peacock after James Broadbent had seen red, nicely rounding off a miserable afternoon for Bryan O'Toole and his squad.

Joe Clarke scored the only goal of the game with 17 minutes on the clock for **Pagham** as they defeated **Horsham YMCA** 1-0 at Nyetimber Lane.

It was the same score at the Polegrove where today's visitors **Bexhill United** ran out 1-0 victors

against **Peacehaven & Telscombe**.

Tom Vickers struck for the Pirates, whose only concern was a red card picked up by Nathan Lopez.

Sam Lemon had a sweet afternoon as his hat-trick helped **Alfold** to a 3-1 victory over **Steyning Town**. Patrick Dos Santos Silva scored the consolation for the Barrowmen.

**Loxwood** gave their hopes of avoiding a bottom three finish a massive boost by winning 3-0 at **East Preston**, who sunk to the foot of the table with defeat.

Devon Fender, Callum Dowdell and George Cousins scored for the Magpies whilst a red card for Gentjan Poda left EP finishing with 10 men.

Last but by no means less, **AFC Vardeanians** climbed off the bottom for the first time this season by drawing 1-1 with **AFC Uckfield Town**.

Morgan Vale had the Oakmen 1-0 ahead at Withdean but an own goal ensured the spoils ended up shared.

The pick of the games in Division One came at Bartholomew Way where leaders **Roffey** hosted second place **Seaford Town**.

There was to be no knocking of the Boars off their perch at the top of the table, Josh Neathey and Daniel Pearse scoring in a 2-0 win which opened up a three point gap to second.

**Epsom & Ewell** now occupy that spot following a 3-2 win over Wick. Jamie Byatt scored twice to have Epsom racing into a 2-0 lead, only for David Crouch and Ronald Kardos to level the game.

The winner arrived from the bench, Adam Grant striking for

Epsom with eight minutes remaining to ensure the three points remained in Surrey.

A seven goal thriller at the Beaconsfield ended up going the way of **Shoreham** who went home with all three points thanks to a 4-3 win.

Harry Heath was the pick of the players on show, helping himself to a hat-trick for the visitors.

**Montpelier Villa** bounced back from a poor run of form with a 4-0 win over **Godalming Town** with Division One's fixtures rounded off by **Arundel** overcoming **Storrington** 1-0 thanks to a goal from substitute Josh Mines.

There were two matches played in the Division One Cup. **Midhurst & Easebourne** won 2-1 at **Oakwood**. Robert Tambling and Harry Giles scored the Stags with the Oakwood goal coming from Harry Petty.

**Selsey** meanwhile strolled to a 4-1 win at home to **Forest Row**. Jack North scored twice following Owen Worsdell opening the scoring and James Henton rounding things off.

Football was in short supply involving Division Two clubs. Only one league game took place, **Jarvis Brook** beating Ferring 2-0 at Limekiln with Connor Edmunds scoring both.

In the Division Two Cup, **Charlwood** were 1-0 winners away at **Copthorne**. **Bosham** won 4-2 at **Worthing Town** whilst the tie between **Upper Beeding** and **Southwater** ended 1-1.

A dramatic penalty shoot out followed, visitors Southwater eventually triumphing 11-10 in the spot kick lottery.



# The 2021-22 season...

## Southern Combination Premier Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Littlehampton Town	25	19	3	3	94	35	60
Newhaven	27	16	8	3	72	27	56
Saltdean United	26	16	5	5	64	23	53
Pagham	26	17	2	7	51	35	53
Broadbridge Heath	27	15	5	7	57	26	50
<b>Bexhill United</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>50</b>
Eastbourne Town	26	14	6	6	57	31	48
Eastbourne United	25	12	5	8	59	33	41
Crawley Down Gatwick	23	11	3	9	53	38	39
Peacehaven & Tels	26	10	5	11	44	33	35
Little Common	25	8	9	8	43	39	33
Lingfield	23	9	3	11	37	46	30
Horsham YMCA	26	8	6	12	32	54	30
Alfold	26	8	5	13	34	48	29
Steyning Town	27	7	6	14	39	76	27
AFC Uckfield Town	26	4	11	11	24	39	23
Loxwood	26	6	3	17	28	71	21
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>19</b>
AFC Varndeanians	25	1	6	18	34	74	9
East Preston	27	1	6	20	22	97	9

## Premier Division Attendances

	Ave	High	Low
Eastbourne Town	224	296	186
Peacehaven & Telscombe	205	426	133
<b>Bexhill United</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>64</b>
Littlehampton Town	164	352	112
Broadbridge Heath	128	211	63
Newhaven	122	152	84
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>50</b>
Eastbourne United	116	155	68
Saltdean United	114	223	49
Steyning Town	113	212	64
Pagham	108	187	68
Little Common	87	184	32
Loxwood	77	178	38
East Preston	76	132	41
AFC Uckfield Town	71	116	39
Horsham YMCA	71	101	41
Alfold	69	109	35
Crawley Down Gatwick	65	95	32
AFC Varndeanians	55	130	16
Lingfield	64	81	38

## Premier Division Form Guide

	Last 6
Littlehampton Town	WWWWD
Newhaven	WDWWD
<b>Bexhill United</b>	<b>WWDDWW</b>
Crawley Down Gatwick	WWLWWL
Eastbourne Town	WWLLWW
Pagham	WLWDWD
Eastbourne United	WDWLDW
Lingfield	WWLWLD
Loxwood	WLLLWW
Broadbridge Heath	LLWWWL
Steyning Town	DWDWDL
Saltdean United	WDWDL
Peacehaven & Telscombe	WLWLDL
Horsham YMCA	WWLLDL
Alfold	DDDLWL
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>DLDWDL</b>
AFC Varndeanians	LLDWLD
AFC Uckfield Town	DDLDD
Little Common	LLDDD
East Preston	LDDLL

## Premier Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Goals
Joe Benn	Littlehampton	55
George Gaskin	Littlehampton	28
Alfie Rogers	Newhaven	26
Jack Langford	Pagham	23
<b>Evan Archibald</b>	<b>Bexhill United</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Jack Shonk</b>	<b>Bexhill United</b>	<b>22</b>
Phil Johnson	Crawley Down	21
Charlie Pitcher	Crawley Down	21
Lee Robinson	Newhaven	19
Jamie Taylor	B'bridge Heath	18
Trevor McCreddie	Saltdean United	17
Joe Clarke	Pagham	16
Oli Leslie	Crawley Down	16
Kieron Pamment	Saltdean United	16
Max Thompson	Eastbourne Utd	16
Lewis Hole	Little Common	15
Arron Hopkinson	Eastbourne Town	15
Lucas Franzen-Jones	Newhaven	14
Louis Veneti	Eastbourne Town	14
Tom Biggs	Littlehampton	12



**Southern Combination Under 23 North Division Table**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Broadbridge Heath	14	10	4	0	50	13	34
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>32</b>
Crowborough Athletic	13	7	3	3	36	24	24
Roffey	12	6	2	4	14	10	20
Alfold	13	6	1	6	26	22	19
Steyning Town	13	4	1	8	18	37	13
Horsham YMCA	11	3	2	6	19	26	11
Oakwood	14	3	1	10	21	38	10
St Francis Rangers	11	1	0	10	11	40	3

**Under 23 North Division Top Scorers**

Player	Club	Gls
Tyler Symonds	B'bridge Heath	19
Alfie Barnes	Horsham YMCA	9
Kyle Anson	Crowborough	6
Kinsley Mercure	Oakwood	6
Lucas Murrain	Crowborough	6
<b>Jay Hudson</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>5</b>
Zack Lamont	B'bridge Heath	5
Charlie Martin	Alfold	5
Bayley Colbran	Crowborough	4

**Southern Combination Under 18 Central Division Table**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Montpelier Villa	10	8	2	0	26	10	26
Steyning Town	11	7	1	3	42	23	22
Shoreham	12	5	3	4	33	31	18
Worthing United	10	5	1	4	30	31	16
St Francis Rangers	12	6	1	5	26	30	15
Burgess Hill Town	13	4	2	7	29	31	14
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>14</b>
AFC Varndeanians	13	2	0	11	16	42	6

**Under 18 Central Division Top Scorers**

Player	Club	Gls
Nathan Williams	Worthing United	12
Taylor Harding	Shoreham	10
Charlie Maywood	Montpelier Villa	10
Sam-Elie N'Cho	Shoreham	9
Jack Smart	Montpelier Villa	9
<b>Sam Geard</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>7</b>
James Lyon-Monk	Shoreham	7
Femi Ofei-Kwatia	AFC V'deanians	7

**Sussex County Women's League Premier Division**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Montpelier Villa	11	9	1	1	58	10	28
Saltdean United	12	8	0	4	30	14	24
Pagham	8	7	0	1	32	15	21
Roffey	10	7	0	3	27	16	21
Seaford Town	6	4	0	2	15	1	12
Worthing Town	9	2	1	6	15	35	7
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>
Eastbourne Town	9	0	1	8	2	55	1
Woodingdean Wand	9	0	0	9	8	41	0

**Top Scorers**

Player	Club	Gls
Katherine Davyson	Montpelier Villa	13
Emma Biffi	Pagham	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	9
Lou Tindall	Montpelier Villa	9
Tara Barratt	Montpelier Villa	7

**Mid Sussex Veterans League Fred Pretty Plate**

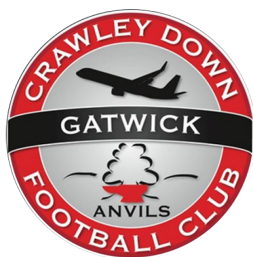
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ardingly	6	5	0	1	21	15	15
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>
Ansty Sports & Social	4	3	0	1	20	7	9
Charlwood	5	3	0	2	21	14	9
South Park	4	3	0	1	5	6	6
Furnace Green Rovers	3	2	0	1	9	7	6
South Godstone	7	2	0	5	21	25	6
Brockham	6	2	0	4	9	20	6
East Court	5	1	0	4	12	23	3
Burgess Hill Albion	6	0	0	6	5	27	0

**Top Scorers**

Player	Club	Gls
<b>Steve Spies</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>9</b>
Liam Tucknott	Ardingly	9
Ritchie Caldwell	South Godstone	7
Mark Collison	Ansty	6
Christopher Cook	Ardingly	6
<b>Pat Harding</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>6</b>
Mark Heavens	Charlwood	5
Dave Juniper	Hassocks	5
Andrew Beattie	Charlwood	4
<b>Jonathan Bundy</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>4</b>



The second half of the season will be largely spent on the road with three consecutive away games to come in the next 11 days - the only saving grace being that they are three of the shortest journeys we make this season...



## Crawley Down Gatwick

### When?

Tuesday 1st February

### Where?

The Haven

### Time?

7:30pm

### Competition?

Southern Combination League  
Premier Division

### Crawley Down this season?

It has been a bit of a strange campaign for Crawley Down. They amassed some serious firepower in the summer, pairing two of our former strikers together in Phil Johnson and Charlie Pitcher. Some were touting Down as dark horses for the title as a result of the goals they had in them, and they have shown what they can do on their day with an impressive run to the third round of the FA Vase. The best way to describe their league form however is inconsistent, 11 wins, three draws and nine defeats leaving them in eighth spot in the table, 14 points off the top five but with up to four games in hand on some of their rivals.

### Our record against Crawley Down?

Hassocks v Crawley Down has become one of the most entertaining fixtures on the Southern Combination League circuit. 83 goals have been plundered in 22 previous meetings in senior football at an average of four a game, including 30 in the past seven

meetings. Amongst the more ridiculous score lines of the past six years are 5-3 and 6-4 wins for Hassocks. The head-to-head reads 11 victories for the Robins, eight for Down with four draws.

### Last time we met?

We seem to be playing Crawley Down once a month at the moment. The second of four meetings to take place this season happened at the Beacon on January 11th when two extra time goals from Jack Troak gave us a 2-1 Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup third round win. Ben Chowney bundled home for the Anvils in an enthralling cup tie.

### How to get to the Haven?

One of the more local games that we will face this season, head through Haywards Heath to Ardingly and onto Turners Hill on the B2028. After Turners Hill, you'll enter Crawley Down and come to a fork in the road where you need to take a right onto Vicarage Road, following this through the village until the Haven appears on your right.



## AFC Uckfield Town

### When?

Saturday 5th February

### Where?

The Oaks

### Time?

3:00pm

### Competition?

Southern Combination League  
Premier Division

### AFC Uckfield Town this season?

Ever since receiving a Premier Division relegation reprieve at the end of the 2016-17 season, AFC Uckfield Town have been a club on the up. Year-by-year they have improved their finishing position and in 2020-21 they looked on course to record their highest ever spot, sitting fifth before the season was curtailed. They have not managed to hit those heights this season following Steve Ives's appointment as sole boss, a young team rather like our own sitting in 16th spot with four wins, 11 draws and 11 defeats from their 26 games so far.

### Our record against AFC Uckfield Town?

We have met AFC Uckfield on 18 occasions, losing nine, winning eight and drawing once, so this is probably one not to have on your coupon. Goals are normally in plentiful supply too with 73 having been plundered at an average of over four per game.

### Last time we met?

We picked up our first point of the season - and a first ever draw against the Oakmen - back in August here at the Beacon. Jordan Badger marked his first game in over two years with an 87th minute equaliser after being thrown on as an emergency striker. Our other goal from Alfie Loversidge whilst Uckfield scored via Luke Blewden and Sam Carrington.

### How to get to the Oaks?

Take the A272 followed by the A26 towards Uckfield before joining the B2102 into the town itself. Turn right at the t-junction, past the railway station and follow the road down the high street. When the fork is reached, take the left hand option down Eastbourne Road with the ground being on the left by the Rajditt Restaurant.



## AFC Vardeanians

### When?

Saturday 12th February

### Where?

Withdean Stadium

### Time?

3:00pm

### Competition?

Southern Combination League  
Premier Division

### AFC Vardeanians this season

This is AFC Vardeanians' first season in the top flight of the Southern Combination League since 1962 and it has been quite a whirlwind, even for a club who have climbed three divisions in seven seasons. Alex Walsh was appointed as manager in the summer but he was unable to oversee a win before being replaced by Ryan Gayler, the man who had begun the club's rise from intermediate football. There has been a gradual improvement since Gayler's September return and V's recently climbed off the bottom for the first time, sparking belief that the greatest of great escapes might yet be possible.

### Our record against AFC Vardeanians?

The October meeting at the Beacon is the only time the sides have met in senior football. Our old third team used to cross swords with Vs regularly when they were known as Old Vardeanians during their Mid

Sussex Football League days in the 2000s, most famously when we pulled off a shock by winning the Montgomery Cup on penalties in 2004 with a young side including an 18-year-old Ashley Marsh, a 16-year-old Sam Fisk and a 49-year-old Robbie Kitchen.

### Last time we met?

Alfie Loversidge took the headlines with his first senior hat-trick as we beat V's 4-1. Joe Bull scored the other goal in what remains the Robins' biggest win of the season.

### How to get to Withdean Stadium?

Without a shadow of a doubt this is our easiest away trip of the season. Straight over Clayton Hill, down the A23 and into Brighton. The ground is well posted from London Road as you head into Brighton, but just in case you miss the signs, turn right opposite Withdean Park and head up Tongdean Lane. Parking is then available immediately in front of you.



**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  
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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 £84  
February  
March  
April**

**TOTAL £532**

**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](mailto: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**  
Crawley Down Gatwick home **Jack Troak**  
Little Common away **Lewis Westlake**  
Eastbourne United away **Josh Short**  
Bexhill United home  
Crawley Down Gatwick away  
AFC Uckfield Town away  
AFC Varndeanians away  
Seaford Town home  
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 **Lewis Westlake**  
2nd **James Westlake**  
3rd **Arthur Rawlingson**

January 2021  
1st  
2nd  
3rd

February 2021  
1st  
2nd  
3rd

March 2021  
1st  
2nd  
3rd

April 2021  
1st  
2nd  
3rd

# HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

# Most Most Games Goals

	Starts	Sub	Total	Goals		Goals	Games
1. Mickey Turner	573	21	594	63	1. Phil Gault	190	345
2. Ashley Marsh	519	6	525	4	2. James Laing	143	351
3. Chris Hewitt	493	15	508	22	3. Pat Harding	137	201
4. Ashley Low	445	30	475	14	4. Anthony Hibbert	124	462
5. Anthony Hibbert	407	55	462	124	5. Robbie Kitchen	123	323
6. Andy Fisk	445	11	456	14	6. Phil Johnson	76	163
7. James Laing	298	53	351	143	7. Nathan Miles	74	211
8. Warren Dodds	311	37	348	3	8. Neil Smith	68	242
9. Phil Gault	330	15	345	190	9. Steve Hards	65	155
10. Joel Harding	340	0	340	0	10. Mickey Turner	63	594
11. Paul John	329	0	329	0	11. Dave Smith	53	260
12. Richard Thompson	305	19	324	11	12. Spencer Slaughter	47	293
13. Robbie Kitchen	284	39	323	123	13. Joe Fernley	45	245
14. Spencer Slaughter	250	43	293	47	14. Mark Burnham	44	231
15. Stuart Faith	276	13	289	22	15. Matt Amos	38	81
16. Dave Smith	203	57	260	53	16. Michael Death	38	112
17. Joe Fernley	205	40	245	45	17. Marc Rendall	37	183
18. Neil Smith	232	10	242	68	18. Andy Burt	35	133
19. Mark Burnham	209	22	231	44	19. Liam Benson	31	134
20. Dan Jacques	201	31	232	9	20. Luke Flomo	31	146
21. James Westlake	199	14	213	30	21. James Westlake	30	213
22. Nathan Miles	156	55	211	74	22. Dan Smith	27	63
23. Pat Harding	184	17	201	137	23. Jamie Hillwood	25	124
24. Marc Rendall	150	33	183	37	24. Stuart Faith	22	289
25. Stuart Agate	172	7	179	4	25. Chris Hewitt	22	508

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**Bradley Tighe**

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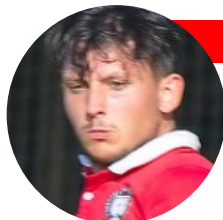
**Dan Turner**

**Dave John**



**Luke Marshall**

**Bishop's Move**



**Arthur Rawlingson**

**round**



**Harvey Ransome**

**Brooklands Wedding Cars**  
Sussex



**Wes Tighe**

**Tighe Scaffolding -**  
[tighescaffolding@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.



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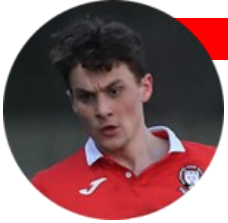
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of the Robins  
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**For all the latest news, views  
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## Hassocks

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



Seaford Town  
 Tuesday 15th February, 7:45pm  
 RUR Cup Quarter Final



## Bexhill United

	Dan Rose
	Kyle Holden
	Corey Wheeler
	Joel Kalambayi
	Craig MacFarlane
	Connor Robertson
	Evan Archibald
	Aaron Cook
	Dale Penn
	Ritchie Welch
	Jack Shonk
	Bradley Pritchard
	Joe Summerbell
	Regan Smith
	Lewis McGuigan
	Tom Vickers
	Max Walsh
	Oliver Hull
	Nathan Lopez
	Charlie Figg

**Referee**  
 Mark Gidman

**Assistants**  
 Paul John &  
 Chris Handley

**Manager** Ryan Light  
**Assistant** John Masters  
**Coach** Dan Collins  
**Physio** Mia Smith

### Today's other Premier Division games

AFC Uckfield Town v Pagham  
 Eastbourne Town v Lingfield  
 Horsham YMCA v AFC Varndeanians  
 Little Common v Broadbridge Heath  
 Littlehampton Town v Saltdean United  
 Loxwood v Eastbourne United  
 Newhaven v Alfold  
 Peacehaven & Telscombe v East Preston  
 Steyning Town v Crawley Down