



Free Robins

2021-22 Matchday Programme #21



Hassocks v Loxwood

Saturday 26th February 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

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HONOURS

FIRST TEAM

Southern Combination Division One

Runners up 1995

Southern Combination Division Two

Winners 1993

Southern Combination Division Two Cup

Runners up 1988, 1991

Sussex Intermediate Cup

Winners 1975

Montgomery Challenge Cup

Winners 1960

Mowatt Challenge Cup

Winners 1928

UNDER 23 TEAM

Southern Combination Under 23 West Division

Runners up 2018, 2019

UNDER 18 TEAM

Southern Combination Under 18 Championship

Winners 2002, 2018

Runners up 2014

Southern Combination Under 18 Central

Winners 1999, 2002, 2006, 2014, 2018

Runners up 2008, 2013, 2015, 2019

Southern Combination Under 18 Cup

Winners 2001, 2008, 2009, 2018

Runners up 2002, 2014, 2015

Sussex County FA Under 18 Cup

Winners 2002

VETERANS TEAM

Fred Pretty Veterans Cup

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

Runners up

2017

Staying safe at the Beacon today...

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



Track and Trace

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



Clubhouse

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

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

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

Payments

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



Hand Sanitiser

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

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Welcome to the Beacon

Good afternoon and welcome to the Beacon for our first home game in four weeks - and a very important one at that against Loxwood

We would like to start by welcoming the players, management, officials and supporters of Loxwood and hope they enjoy their stay with us in Mid Sussex.

This is our first game for two weeks with the recent stormy weather causing our RUR Cup Quarter Final with Seaford Town and last Saturday's scheduled league game at Horsham YMCA to be postponed.

The Seaford game will now take place this coming Tuesday night. No Robins fans needs reminding that we rarely reach semi finals, so all your support will be particularly welcome as Brad and the players attempt to write their only little bit of Hassocks history.

Before we get to that, today is an equally vital 90 minutes in the battle towards the bottom of the Premier Division.

Loxwood arrive as one of three teams currently below us in the table. Both the Magpies and ourselves have shown improvements in recent months and they will be a tough nut to crack today.

A better performance will be

needed than that which we saw in our last game when losing 1-0 at AFC Varndeanians. Defeat at Withdean could be excused however after six excellent points on the road.

In grim conditions at AFC Uckfield Town, we dug in to come away with a vital 1-0 victory through Charlie Broad's first goal for the club.

Entertainment was in shot supply thanks to a pitch which was balder than Wickers' head and a horrible wind blowing from one end of the Oaks to the other.

It needed the sort of nitty, gritty performance that Hassocks teams of old used to be famous for and that is exactly what we got, sheer determination allowing us to return along the A272 with three points.

That was in stark contrast to the 3 -1 win at Crawley Down Gatwick the preceding Tuesday night.

Charlie Pitcher gave the Anvils the lead, at which point you could have been forgiven for thinking a long evening was on store for an injury-hit side.

The players rallied though and played some excellent football, culminating in goals from James Westlake, Josh Short and Arthur

Rawlingson to win 3-1 away against opponents who could yet finish in the top six.

Congratulations go to the Under 23s too, who have finished as runners up in the North Division and moved into the quarter finals of the League Cup over the past four weeks.

Harvey Parker was the hero in a second round penalty shootout win following a thrilling 4-4 draw here against Arundel on Thursday night.

The Ladies have put big wins on the board in their last two matches, hammering Woodingdean Wanderers 7-0 and Worthing Town 4-0 whilst the veterans saw off league leaders Ardingly 2-1 on Sunday afternoon.

All those results have made for an excellent February. We are still awaiting confirmation of what football (if any) the Under 23s and Under 18s will play in March, so please keep your eye on our website for details.

Otherwise, there are lots of Ladies games still to play and the Veterans also have a handful of matches - so plenty of football to come over the next few months.

**Enjoy the game,
Owen & Scott**



Today's visitors...



Loxwood

Founded 1920

Nickname Magpies

Ground Plaistow Road

Website loxwoodfc.co.uk

Twitter @loxwoodfc

Manager Ian Payne & Lee Kennedy

Top Scorer Leon Turner, 5

HONOURS

SCFL Supplementary Shield

Runners up 2021

SCFL Division Two

Winners 2008

Sussex RUR Charity Cup

Runners up 2015

SCFL Division 1 Cup

Winners 2014

West Sussex Division 2 North

Winners 1999, 2002

West Sussex Centenary Cup

Winners 2005

Malcolm Simmonds Cup

Winners 2005

Tony Kupp Cup

Winners 1977, 1978

A potentially season-defining fortnight kicks off for us at the Beacon today with two relegation rivals and a Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup quarter final crammed into 14 days...

Starting the run are an improving Loxwood side, who we have spent most of the 2021-22 season so far swapping 17th and 18th place in the Premier Division table with.

The Magpies had a strong end to 2020-21, reaching the final of the Supplementary Shield under the management of a certain Spencer Slaughter.

Unfortunately, that form did not carry over into the current campaign. Slaughter left Plaistow Road in September to return to the Beacon as a player, although his involvement has sadly been curtailed through injury and his preparations to run the Brighton Marathon in April.

A number of players followed Slaughter from Loxwood to Hassocks, including the Westlake brothers, Josh Hawkes, Sam Smith and Charlie Broad. The familiarity between the sides should add an extra spice today.

Currently at the helm of the Magpies and joint managers Ian Payne and Lee Kennedy. Loxwood have made some impressive acquisitions of their own in recent months, signing proven Premier

Division performers from the likes of Steyning Town, Broadbridge Heath and Alfold.

They have subsequently started to put results on the board with their past six matches reading two wins, one draw and three defeats from their last six matches.

That feeds into an overall record of six wins, four draws and 19 defeats from 29 matches, leaving Loxwood three points behind us in the current standings.

If we are to increase that advantage today, then it will take a result that goes against the majority of what we have seen in over the course of 13 meetings since the first in 2014.

Hassocks have only ever beaten the Magpies twice, a 4-0 win at Plaistow Road in September 2018 and a 6-2 success at the Beacon a year the last time we hosted Loxwood in September 2019.

The last four games have been hugely entertaining with 23 goals flying in. If that trend continues, then it should be one that any neutrals with us today enjoy.

10 Key Moments

1920... the first incarnation of Loxwood FC are founded, playing in the West Sussex Football League
1997... reform as the current incarnation of Loxwood, joining division five of the West Sussex League
2005... win promotion into the West Sussex Premier Division as well as a cup double
2006... after just one season in the West Sussex Premier, promoted to Southern Combination League
2008... a new covered stand is built at Plaistow Road and opened by Jimmy Hill
2008... win Southern Combination League Division Two and promotion into Division One
2010... floodlights are erected at Plaistow Road, allowing the club to join the Premier Division
2014... promotion to the Premier Division is won as well as a first senior trophy, the Division One Cup
2015... reach the final of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup, losing to Eastbourne Town
2015... best ever league finish secured of sixth in the Premier Division

Last 13 Seasons

2018-19, Southern Combination Premier 17th
2017-18, Southern Combination Premier 11th
2016-17, Southern Combination Premier 7th
2015-16, Southern Combination Premier 8th
2014-15, Southern Combination Premier 6th
2013-14, Southern Combination One 3rd
2012-13, Southern Combination One 9th
2011-12, Southern Combination One 5th
2010-11, Southern Combination One 6th
2009-10, Southern Combination One 5th
2008-09, Southern Combination One 10th
2007-08, Southern Combination Two 1st
2006-07, Southern Combination Two 7th

Hassocks v Loxwood :: Head-to-Head

SCFL Premier Division... Played 13 - Won 2 - Drawn 3 - Lost 8 - Scored 19 - Conceded 26

Total... Played 13 Won 2 Drawn 3 Lost 8 Scored 19 Conceded 26

Previous 10 Meetings

2021-22 SCFL Premier: Loxwood 1-0 Hassocks
2019-20 SCFL Premier: Loxwood 3-0 Hassocks
2019-20 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 6-2 Loxwood
2018-19 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 3-3 Loxwood
2018-19 SCFL Premier: Loxwood 0-4 Hassocks

2017-18 SCFL Premier: Loxwood 2-1 Hassocks
2017-18 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 0-3 Loxwood
2016-17 SCFL Premier: Loxwood 2-0 Hassocks
2016-17 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 1-2 Loxwood
2015-16 SCFL Premier: Hassocks 0-1 Loxwood

Played for both

We have already touched upon the copious former Loxwood players currently at Hassocks, but there are many more links between the clubs than just those on show today.

One-time Loxwood captain **Eddie French** was one of the first major success stories to come through our youth System back in the late 1990's.

He led Dave John's successful Under 18 side as well as captaining the Sussex Representative side, something that no other youth player from the Robins has ever achieved.

With his natural talent, French became a regular in the first team at the Beacon at a young age and racked up 99 appearances, scoring 10 goals.

Needless to say, it wasn't long before bigger sides came calling and French moved to Isthmian League side Horsham.

He went onto become a Hornets legend and was part of the side that famously took League One Swansea City to an FA Cup First Round replay in the 2007-08 season.

French isn't the only successful Hassocks Under 18s captain to play for and skipper the Magpies either – **Adam Williams** captained the young Robins to their League Cup title success in 2009 and played 24 times for the first team before moving to Haywards Heath Town and then later, Loxwood.

Williams now lives in New York having made a career for himself in the music industry.

Dan Stokes captained the Robins' Under 18s of 2013-14 to the Central Division title, progressing to make 172 appearances for the first team before he became one of Slaughter's first signings at Plaistow Road in 2020.

Harvey Enticknap was a part of Loxwood's all-conquering Under 18s side from 2016 who won practically every piece of silverware going in Sussex youth football.

He moved to the Beacon in the summer of 2018, becoming a first team regular over the next three seasons before joining Crawley Down Gatwick this summer.

Also at Crawley Down currently is striker **Charlie Pitcher**. He has enjoyed three spells with us, most notably when bringing his prolific form with Loxwood to the Beacon last season to finish top scorer with 16 goals from 20 appearances.

Michael Death moved to Loxwood in 2018 after hitting 38 goals in 112 appearances for Hassocks. He managed five goals from 24 games for Loxwood before joining Lancing. He is now at Shoreham.

Magpies punish wasteful Robins by sending them into the bottom three

Goals win games and at Loxwood, Hassocks had more than enough opportunities to leave Plaistow Road with a big three points in the battle to avoid relegation from the Premier Division.

The Robins though were unable to make one stick on the scoreboard. Loxwood in contrast saw Alfie Edmeads notch with their only real shot on target with five minutes remaining, securing a 1-0 win which allowed the Magpies to plunge Hassocks into the bottom three by leapfrogging them in the table.

It was some way for Loxwood to bounce back from a 10-1 defeat at the hands of Newhaven in midweek.

Hassocks though should have known better than most to beware a backlash from a side smarting from embarrassment as the Robins have frequently been there themselves.

Last season, Hassocks followed up a club-record 8-0 home defeat to Horley Town by winning away at Horsham YMCA for the first time in 17 years three days later.

Go back a little further and it was YM who were again on the receiving end of a Robins recovery, Hassocks defeating them 3-2 at the Beacon having become the first side Loxwood had beaten in 22 attempts in the 2019-20 campaign.

Hassocks were not just beaten at Plaistow Road on that occasion, they were hammered 3-0. This was at least a better performance on their return to the Magpies' Nest but the result was no less disappointing.

It took some time for a cagey affair to come to live. Both sides seemed to be prioritising not losing over attempting to win and it took 15 minutes for there to be any sort of effort on goal.

Unsurprisingly, it was one of Hassocks' brightest lights who forged the opportunity. Josh Short

embarked on a great driving run through midfield but unfortunately, the quality of the finish could not match the approach play and he fired tamely at Fraser Trigwell.

An added layer of intrigue was provided by the presence of Spencer Slaughter and James Westlake in the Hassocks line up.

Slaughter had led Loxwood to the final of the Supplementary Shield last season as manager with Westlake assisting him and the former Magpies boss was in determined mood to make an impression having left the Nest last month.

One brilliant moment saw Slaughter beat two Loxwood men out wide after being released by Bradley Bant before squaring to Short.

It took a fine block on the line from a covering defender to prevent Short's effort giving Hassocks the lead.

10 minutes later and Slaughter made a lung-bursting run into the box, only to be pipped to the ball by the alert Trigwell.

Short and Slaughter then combined on the stroke of half time to work an opportunity for Bant advancing up the left. Bant through could only blaze over when very well placed.

Hassocks had certainly enjoyed the better of the first half, only to be let down by their finishing and final ball.

That continued into the second half when Bant defied his hobbit-like stature to win a header.

He seemed more surprised than anybody else with the result being that the effort was the wrong side of the post.

Hassocks lost Connor Bradley and Joe Bull to injuries in a 10 minute spell midway through the half.

Lucas Tyrrell and Jude Wallis were introduced and managed to keep the momentum with the Robins.

Chances were now though at a premium as the game became even

more scrappy, summed up nicely when Short was uncharacteristically un-composed when shanking a cross after a promising break.

Short nearly made up for that when forcing Trigwell into tipping one over.

From the resulting corner, Bradley Tighe should have at least put a free header on target.

Hassocks nearly gifted Loxwood a goal with 15 minutes remaining, a poor pass from Arthur Rawlingson as the Robins attempted to play their way out of trouble left a glorious chance for the hosts which they somehow spurned.

That was a warning sign Hassocks did not heed and with four minutes to go, they were caught out playing short again.

This time, home substitute Edmeads made no mistake when beating Alex Harris.

Harris then left proceedings injured, meaning Jack Gardner had to take over in goal as the Robins had already made their three permitted subs.

Even playing with only 10 men, a teenage right back between the posts and just four minutes plus time added on left, the Robins should have found an equaliser.

Bant somehow won another header at the far post but again it was off target and did not trouble Trigwell.

Then with seconds remaining, Alfie Loversidge found himself in a similar position but he too missed. It was one of those days when Hassocks could have been out there for three hours and still not scored.

Hassocks: Harris; Gardner, Rawlingson, Tighe, Bant; Westlake, Slaughter, Short, Bradley; Loversidge, Bull.

Subs: Tyrrell, Wallis, Hudson (used), Marshall, Wickwar (unused).

Gamble from Dalgleish brings Hassocks back from the dead

“Mad isn’t the word” was Spencer Slaughter’s take on a crazy afternoon of football at the Beacon as Hassocks hosted lowly Loxwood.

The Robins knew they would be facing a very different test to when they went to Plaistow Road in September and picked up a 4-0 victory, their first ever win in senior football against the Magpies.

Loxwood looked deep in relegation trouble that day, but the appointment of former Haywards Heath Town assistant manager Alex Walsh has led to a marked improvement in results, giving the Magpies hope that they can avoid the drop into Division One.

Those hopes were certainly looking up at half time here after 45 minutes of scintillating football from the visitors.

By that point, they’d sauntered into a 3-0 lead through goals from Mark Goldson, Sam Karl and former Hassocks favourite Eddie French.

The Robins looked dead and buried until Mark Dalgleish breathed new life into his side with a bold treble substitution at the break.

The changes had astonishing results, Hassocks scoring three times in the first 12 minutes of the second half to completely flip the game on its head.

They probably should have gone onto win it as well, squandering a couple of opportunities late on to pick up what would have been three very welcome points.

Dalgleish’s starting line up showed three changes from the side that had lost 4-1 at Saltdean United a week previously.

Josh Green returned after missing the defeat at Hill Park in place of Under 18s goalkeeper Toby Fisher, Harvey Enticknap replaced Slaughter and Jake Lindsey came in for Jordan Badger, Lindsey taking up a position

on the flank with Harvey Blake dropping to left back.

“We couldn’t defend for toffee in the first half,” said Slaughter afterwards, but he could quite easily have added that the midfield was all over the place and the front two ineffective as part of the inquest into what went wrong in that opening 45 minutes.

Only two players in red emerged with any credit.

Liam Benson, who recently became the 50th player to play a century of games for Hassocks in senior football, was fairly strong up front and did a few good things on the rare occasions he saw the ball.

Enticknap meanwhile was busy having one of his best games of the season against his former club as those around him faltered, doing his best to break up play and get the Robins on the front foot.

The Loxwood goals came at regular intervals, Goldson getting the party started with 10 minutes on the clock, Karl doubling the lead on 24 and then French making it three eight minutes before the break against the club he made his name at as Sussex Under 18s captain nearly two decades ago.

Hassocks came off at half time shell shocked.

Dalgleish’s answer was to stick everything he had on red and gamble on using all of his subs in one hit.

Off came Dan Jacques, Bradley Tighe and Lindsey and on came Slaughter, Dan Stokes and new signing George Brown.

The three new faces were electric from the first whistle, while Dalgleish’s decision to switch from 4-4-2 to 4-3-3 caught Loxwood by surprise as they were completely overwhelmed.

Just four minutes of the second half had elapsed when Slaughter, Brown and Phil Johnson linked up to fashion a chance for Enticknap who made no mistake, smashing the ball

past Liam Matthews and into the top corner for a deserved first senior goal for the Robins.

Three minutes later and Slaughter started a break down the right that was finished off by ex-Woking man Brown, netting just seven minutes into his debut to highlight what a massive addition he can be for the Robins.

It was a brilliant passing move that gave Hassocks their equaliser four minutes after Brown’s strike.

This time the Robins broke down the left; Slaughter sweeping the ball to Joe Bull, Bull moving it onto Brown, Brown releasing Johnson and Johnson crossing to Slaughter who had continued his run to slide in on the stretch at the far post.

Loxwood pulled themselves together after that and did well to weather the rest of the Hassocks storm, taking the sting out of the game.

Not that the three-goals-in-12-minutes blitz was the end of the action.

With Stokes controlling the tempo with a textbook midfield display, Hassocks came close to snatching a winner on three occasions.

The normally reliable Johnson kicked his standing leg rather than the ball when just six yards out from Matthews’ goal, Benson had a strong penalty appeal turned down when referee Connall Bartlett missed what appeared to be a blatant push in the box and again Johnson was wasteful when played in by Slaughter right at the death.

Hassocks: Green; Tighe, Broomfield, Jacques, Blake; Bull, Enticknap, Mills, Lindsey; Johnson, Benson.

Subs: Slaughter (Jacques 45), Brown (Tighe 45), Stokes (Lindsey 45).

Starman: Harvey Enticknap.



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Short shoots his way to Hassocks January Player of the Month award

Throughout the 2021-22 season, Josh Short has always been the bridesmaid but never the bride in Hassocks' Player of the Month polls.

Well, not anymore. The forward has finally won a richly-deserved award, being voted January Player of the Month ahead of Dan Turner and Jack Troak.

The Robins won two, drew one and lost two from their five fixtures in the opening month of 2022, picking up vital points in the battle to avoid relegation from the Premier Division as well as progressing to the quarter finals of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup.

Short was central to all that, notching three times to close in on Alfie Loversidge at the top of the Hassocks scoring charts.

His month began in fine fashion with a goal inside of nine minutes in the 2-1 win away at Lingfield on Monday 3rd January.

James Westlake slipped Short in one-on-one and he produced a clinical finish with the inside of his boot past Lingers goalkeeper Johnny

Thurbin.

Short was also involved in the second Hassocks goal, leading the home defence on a merry dance before delivering a low cross into the box.

Loversidge was set to pull the trigger when he was unceremoniously scythed down by a Lingfield defender just as he was about to pull trigger. Troak duly converted the penalty.

Having dominated that game, the Robins had to show different qualities when making the trip to Little Common for the Green Lane Boys' first home match at their Recreation Ground home for four years.

It finished 2-2, Hassocks twice coming from behind to ruin the party. Short got the second equaliser, hitting a low drive from 25 yards which found the bottom corner.

Short's third and final goal of the month came 60 seconds into the second of half of the 4-1 home defeat to Bexhill United, making it 1-1 at the time.

Runner up in January Player of the Month Turner departed shortly after with injury. Three quickfire

goals from the Pirates to sink Hassocks' hopes of a point once Turner had been carried off sum up how important his performances at centre back have been to the Robins' recent revival.

The Robins conceded only six times in five games with Turner on the pitch, despite facing some quality strikers including Lewis Hole of Little Common and a certain Charlie Pitcher, who failed to score for Crawley Down Gatwick in the RUR Cup.

Hassocks' star man in that game against the Anvils was Captain Troak, who got both the goals in extra time as the Robins flew through via a shock 2-1 win.

He was also on target from the penalty spot with what proved to be the winner against Lingfield whilst he too was sorely missed after leaving the Bexhill game at half time.

Troak's performances in January have served as a reminder of the quality he brings after an injury-hit first five months of the season in which he was restricted to only a handful of appearances.



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Hassocks enter penultimate month of March with plenty to play for

A place in the semi finals of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup is up for grabs as Hassocks kick off the penultimate month of the 2021-22 Southern Combination League season.

The Robins host Seaford Town on Tuesday 1st March, standing just two wins away from Culver Road.

Hassocks have reached the final four of a knockout competition on only four occasions since joining the Southern Combination League 40 years ago.

If Brad Sweetman's side are to write their own piece of Hassocks history, then they will have to overcome a Badgers side who are in promotion contention in Division One.

Not only is their league position a sign of how good Paul Wise's side are, but they have also accounted for Premier Division Broadbridge Heath and Isthmian League Lancing in their run to the quarter finals.

Kick off is at 7:45pm in a tie which was meant to have taken place two weeks ago before rain intervened.

Four days later and the Robins face another hastily rearranged

fixture as the trip to Horsham YMCA which was lost to Storm Eunice takes place at Gorings Mead on Saturday 5th March.

Hassocks have a terrible record away at YM, winning only twice in the league there since the turn of the century.

One of those victories did at least come on the Robins' last visit, a Jack Troak penalty and two goals from Charlie Pitcher securing a 3-1 win in October 2020.

A huge game at the Beacon follows that on Saturday 12th March when bottom club East Preston provide the opposition in the final first team home game of March.

The Robins will be looking to avenge their worst defeat for many years when an injury-hit squad suffered a 4-1 reversal at the Lashmar in November.

That remains EP's only Premier Division win of the season so far. Hassocks meanwhile have come on leaps and bounds since then and will hope to prove that in a big six pointer.

Two tough away games end the month against sides currently in the top five. On Saturday 19th March, Hassocks go to Nyetimber Lane to

face Pagham followed by a trip to Fort Road and a clash with title chasing Newhaven on Saturday 26th March.

The Under 23s have completed their North Division campaign, finishing as runners up for the first time since 2019.

There is still the small matter of the League Cup, however. They face North Division champions Broadbridge Heath in a mouth watering quarter final at High Wood Hill Sports Ground on Thursday 3rd March, kick off at 7:45pm.

No fixtures currently exist for the Under 18s, who have also finished their league season. The Veterans still have three games to play but these are yet to be scheduled at the time of writing.

The Ladies in contrast have plenty of football to play. They travel to Worthing Town on Sunday 6th March, Eastbourne Town on Sunday 20th and Seaford Town on Sunday 27th.

They also have a League Cup tie at the Beacon on Sunday 13th, taking on Roffey. Kick off is 2pm and entrance is free.





Robins swoop to sign Alfie Edmeads from Saltdean United

Hassocks have completed the signing of one of the most talented young players on the Southern Combination League circuit as Alfie Edmeads becomes a Robin

The Robins have swooped to make a new signing ahead of a crucial final 10 weeks of the Southern Combination League Premier Division season, bringing in Alfie Edmeads from title challengers Saltdean United.

Although only 20-years-old, Edmeads arrives with his fair share of experience having spent the past three seasons as part of the Tigers first team setup.

He also had a brief spell with Loxwood earlier in the current campaign.

Hassocks head coach Brad Sweetman said: "I have been a long time admirer of Alfie, so I am really happy that we have been able to bring him to the club."

Edmeads had been with Saltdean from Under 7s, rising through the ranks over the past 13 years from kids' football to making 22 appearances for the senior side.

He was captain of their Under 18s in 2019-20 and made his first team debut the same season, going onto feature seven times before the Covid-19 pandemic brought the campaign to a halt at the start of March.

Edmeads made three appearances in 2020-21 as the Tigers topped the Premier Division table before another lockdown curtailed the season.

2021-22 has seen him become a regular in Bryan O'Toole's first team squad at Hill Park.

He has made two starts and 10 substitutes appearances despite competition for places being fierce at a club packed with talents who have proven themselves at Isthmian League level.

Edmeads scored his first senior goal for Saltdean with a 56th minute strike in December's 9-0 rout of East Preston at Hill Park.

That meant that he became the first player in Tigers history to find the back of the net at every level

from Under 7s up to first team.

Hassocks fans may remember Edmeads from his four games with Loxwood earlier in the campaign.

He came off the bench when the Robins went to Plaistow Road in October to score the only goal of the game with four minutes remaining, punishing some sloppy play around the back line from the visitors.

In some ways, Edmeads has already had an impact on the Robins' season even before putting pen-to-paper to become a Hassocks player.

Within a few weeks of that disappointing defeat against the Magpies inflicted by Edmeads, Hassocks were sparked into the revival which has seen them start climbing the Premier Division table.

From the subsequent 15 games in all competition, the Robins have won six, drawn five and lost only four.

Now Edmeads will be looking to help continue that rapid improvement whilst wearing the red of Hassocks.

Wind and injuries combine to leave luckless Robins pillaged by Pirates

**Southern Combination League Premier Division
Saturday 29th January 2022, The Beacon
Hassocks 1-4 Bexhill United**

Sometimes when your luck is out, it is really out. Both conditions and injuries went against Hassocks on an afternoon when they needed everything to go their way to stand a chance against an impressive Bexhill United outfit eyeing a late charge into the Southern Combination title picture.

First, there was the wind. A ghastly gale was blowing towards the Railway End of the Beacon at 2.55pm, resulting in Hassocks turning around to defend it in the first half when Jack Troak won the toss.

The Robins did the hard work, going into the interval only 1-0 behind. By the time the second half kicked off however, the wind had dropped markedly. Any advantage Hassocks had hoped to have with it behind them was gone.

Even more problematic were the injuries that the Robins picked up. Troak went at half time. The outstanding Dan Turner was then carried off after suffering excruciating shooting pains up his leg early in the second half with the score locked at 1-1 with Hassocks on top.

Fast forward 20 minutes and Bexhill had a 4-1 lead which they held until the end.

To complete a miserable day for the Robins, AFC Varndeanians won their second match of the season by beating Horsham YMCA 3-0. That cut the gap between Hassocks and the bottom two to seven points.

It took just 12 minutes for Bexhill to take the lead. Alex Harris made a decent stop from a 25 yard effort from Jack Shonk but when Hassocks could not clear their lines against the wind, the ball fell to Shonk again.

He made no mistake second time around, bending an exquisite effort into the far corner.

Evan Archibald should have doubled the advantage four minutes

later when a Bexhill free kick from just inside the Hassocks half was blown all the way to the penalty spot. Luckily for the hosts, Archibald put a header straight into the arms of Harris.

"We know about the wind, deal with it," shouted Robins head coach Brad Sweetman. His side duly listened, Bradley Tighe and Turner dropping off five yards and becoming more dominant in the air as a result.

Harris too attempted to take the sting out of the game, slowing things down to the point where referee Mark Gidman gave the Hassocks goalkeeper a talking to. Never before can Mr Gidman have pulled up a player for time wasting after 18 minutes with their side 1-0 behind.

Hassocks grew into the game as the first half progressed. James Westlake had a deflected shot held by Pirates goalkeeper Dan Rose and an enterprising Troak run earned a free kick on the by-line from which Lewis Westlake's delivery caused problems before Rose gathered.

Harris made a big save on the 30 minute mark when the wind caused more issues. Charlie Tuck misjudged the flight of the ball, an outrageous piece of skill from Ollie Hull further bamboozled the young Hassocks full back but Harris got a strong arm down quickly to block the Bexhill winger's driven effort.

Both Troak and the wind left proceedings at the interval. Hassocks made light of losing their captain initially at least as within 60 seconds of the restart, they equalised.

There was an instant impact for Troak's replacement Charlie Broad, the striker holding the ball up well before laying off to James Westlake.

Westlake swept a pass out to the left flank, Short ghosted past Connor Robertson and bent an unstoppable effort into the bottom corner.

Turner then departed, Arthur Rawlinsong coming on at right back with Tuck taking Turner's place



alongside Tighe in the middle.

The Robins were incensed a couple of minutes later when Short again got the better of Robertson. The Bexhill man appeared to catch Short in the face with an arm and although Hassocks got the free kick, there was no card forthcoming.

Their mood darkened when Bexhill retook the lead on the hour. A Summerbell through ball did not look particularly dangerous, yet it found a way to send Shonk in one-on-one. Hassocks appealed for an offside that never was as Shonk finished.

Two minutes and it was *deja vu*. Summerbell again released Shonk and despite the commotion of Hassocks this time screaming for both an offside and a handball from Summerbell in the build up, Shonk was calmness personified to clinically complete his hat-trick.

The Robins were utterly at sea now. Bexhill added their fourth when Hassocks failed to deal with a delivery into the box, leaving xxxx free to fire into the corner.

Hassocks did at least rally after that to finish the stronger. Tighe went close with a header from a Lewis Westlake free kick, Broad had an effort blocked and Jack Baden was denied a first senior goal by a fine tip over at full stretch from Rose after a mazy run and cross from Short.

The final chance went to Bexhill, Shonk hitting a swerving, dipping effort from 30 yards against the bar. Four was harsh on Hassocks; five would have been cruel.

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

Subs: Broad (Troak 45), Rawlinsong (Turner 51), Beebee (Loversidge 85), Marshall, Parker (unused).

Hassocks make light of injuries to have a happy evening at the Haven

**Southern Combination League Premier Division
Tuesday 1st February 2022, The Beacon
Crawley Down Gatwick 1-3 Hassocks**



Crawley Down Gatwick must be sick of the sight of Hassocks. For the second time in 21 days, Brad Sweetman's side defied the nine Premier Division placings and 20 points separating the two clubs to run out victorious over the Anvils.

Three weeks earlier and two extra time goals from Jack Troak were enough to send the Robins into the quarter finals of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup via a 2-1 win over Down at the Beacon.

This 3-1 success at the Haven was even more impressive. Hassocks were away from home, the margin of victory was bigger, the game was won in 80 minutes and the Robins had several walking wounded after a bruising 4-1 weekend defeat at home to Bexhill United.

Three players who had started against the Pirates were ruled out completely. Alex Harris, Charlie Tuck and captain Troak were replaced by Harvey Parker, Arthur Rawlinsong and Bradley Bant.

"Just when you start to get a settled team out, you pick up a load more injuries," said Hassocks technical director Dave John before kick off, although Down too had absentee issues of their own.

Chief amongst those was the fact that former Robins favourite and Anvils top scorer Phil Johnson was watching from the stands, a ligament injury having ruled him out since November.

It was two more of Down's ex-Hassocks contingent who combined to give the hosts the lead with the only meaningful attack either side managed in the opening 30 minutes.

A quarter of an hour had elapsed when Harvey Enticknap got to the byline and delivered a low cross into the box towards Charlie Pitcher.

Bradley Tighe appeared to make a decent tackle on Pitcher, only for

the ball to ricochet back to last season's Hassocks top scorer to clinically finish into the bottom corner with a snapshot on the turn.

Hassocks registered their first opportunity with 31 minutes played. Rawlinsong clipped up the line for the tireless Alfie Loversidge to chase.

His clever switch of play out to the left found Joe Bull who despite having a tight angle to work with, drew a good stop from Alex Bellingham in the Down goal.

Bellingham was called into action again three minutes later, Rawlinsong advancing from right back to collect a Josh Short pass and deliver a cross.

What came next was something of a collector's item, the diminutive Bradley Bant appearing to leap 50 times his own body length like a cricket to power a firm header which required a decent save to keep it out.

The slow start to proceedings became a distant memory in the final 10 minutes of the half as the game began to ebb and flow.

Home centre back Lewis Scally was lucky to stay on the pitch after a reckless, high, two-footed lunge through Bull was somehow only deemed a yellow card by referee Joshua Langley-Fineing.

It was a decision that left even home fans a little surprised and it caused a bit of a furore on the pitch, the normally placid Westlake brothers momentarily turning into the Kray Twins in the resulting melee.

Hassocks regained their composure quickly to equalise four minutes before the interval. Turner used his hand to produce a textbook volleyball spike back to James Westlake, something which incredibly went unnoticed by Down bar one half-hearted appeal for handball.

Westlake made the most of the opportunity, striking low and hard past Bellingham to level the game.

The second half was nine minutes old when Marc Pelling joined Scally in

the book for cynically pulling Short's shirt after the Hassocks forward skipped around him.

That left both of Down's centre backs trying to negotiate the final half hour without committing another foul whilst faced with the pace and skill of Short and Loversidge leading the line for Hassocks.

The Robins would go onto make the most of the situation, but they first needed Bant to produce a superb block on the line from another Pitcher snapshot to ensure they did not fall 2-1 behind with 68 played.

Bant almost went from goal saver to goal scorer on 75. A failed Pelling clearance hit Bant in the chest and although he showed mighty quick reactions to get a volley away as the ball fell, it was just wide.

Hassocks were on top now and they took the lead with 78 minutes played. Loversidge's deft flick put Short in against Scally and the Down defender did not dare risk getting a tackle wrong for fear of a red card. That allowed Short to skip away before drilling past Bellingham and into the bottom corner.

Two minutes later and Loversidge and Short again linked up in identical fashion. This time, Down managed to scramble clear but their relief was short lived as the Robins wrapped things up from the resulting corner.

Lewis Westlake delivered to the penalty spot where Rawlinsong had been left with enough time and space to bring the ball down on his chest and thump home a crisp volley with aplomb for his first senior goal in Hassocks colours.

Hassocks: Parker; Rawlinsong, Turner, Tighe, Baden; Bant, J Westlake, L Westlake, Bull; Short, Loversidge.

Subs: S Smith (Bant 89), Broad (Loversidge 92), J Smith, Wallis, Beebee (unused).

Broad heads Hassocks out bottom four for first time this season

Southern Combination League Premier Division
Saturday 5th February 2021, The Oaks
AFC Uckfield Town 0-1 Hassocks



For the first time this season, Hassocks are out of the bottom four of the Southern Combination Premier Division.

A 1-0 win over AFC Uckfield Town enabled the Robins to leapfrog their hosts in the table, something that would have been pretty unthinkable in the middle of November.

Back then, Hassocks had only two league wins and nine points on the board. Over the past three months, they have won five, drawn four and suffered only three defeats in all competitions to completely turn their season around.

Every aspect of the Robins' game has improved. When beating Crawley Down Gatwick 3-1 at the Haven on Tuesday night, they played some excellent football to deservedly win away against hosts who have designs on a top six place.

Victory at the Oaks required quite different characteristics. Hassocks built their three points on hard work and doing the nitty gritty stuff better than Uckfield.

It was an ugly win in a game devoid of much entertainment. "Good luck getting a match report out of that," as one spectator quirked afterwards.

In fairness to the players on show, there was little either side could do to improve the fare for supporters.

Passing football was impossible on a bald surface. Bypassing the ground by taking an aerial route was made challenging by a strong wind.

Nothing summed up the difficulties better than the only goal of the game which arrived 11 minutes before half time.

Dan Turner hauled a trademark long throw miles down the pitch like a trebuchet and despite going into the wind, the ball reached Charlie Broad to loop a header over Uckfield goalkeeper Jason Tibble.

It was Broad's first goal for Hassocks in his first start since arriving from Loxwood.

As a powerful, old-fashioned target man type of player he provides Brad Sweetman with some variety in attack - which on a day like this was very much welcome.

Turner's ability to throw a ball up to 50 metres is not exactly a secret; and yet it is a weapon Hassocks seem to rarely take advantage of.

Will they be more inclined to do so from now on? Perhaps not. The Robins try to keep it on the ground and to many, the concept of aping Rory Delap and Stoke City is anathema no matter its effectiveness.

Turner was only taking the throw because of Hassocks' desire to get the ball as far down the pitch as possible whilst playing into the wind in the first half and not trusting the pitch to play passing football on.

Uckfield took the same off-the-ground approach for most of the match and that enabled Turner in particular to have a fine game at centre back to go with his assist for the goal.

He won virtually everything in the air that that Uckfield launched up to tall striker Jamie Wilkes.

The rangy former Hassocks man faced a thankless task trying to compete against Turner, especially in the first half when Uckfield had the wind in their favour and every ball over the top was headed back down the pitch with repetitive monotony.

Further action beyond headed clearances and a headed goal was in scant supply in the opening 45 minutes.

The only other chance of note saw Josh Short put a swirling effort just wide of Tibble's post with eight on the clock.

Arthur Rawlingson meanwhile was lucky to escape a yellow card when conceding a free kick in a dangerous area.

No prizes for guessing it was that

man Turner who cleared the resulting set piece into the box.

Hassocks were able to do more in an attacking sense in the second half with the gale now behind them.

Lewis Westlake hit the top of the bar with a right footed free kick on the hour mark curled up and over the wall which Tibble could only watch clatter against the woodwork.

Another set piece from the junior Westlake was next carried by the wind to the far post where it just evaded Turner, who then entered the book of referee Thomas Price for a shoulder barge so fierce that it sent an Uckfield player into the neighbouring forest surrounding the Oaks.

That kicked off a lively final 10 minutes which packed in more action than the previous 80.

Tibble was called into action, making a superb tip over at full stretch when Short fancied a crack from distance on 85 minutes.

On 87, over came a Lewis Westlake corner, this time met by the head of Turner but put just wide of the post.

Rawlingson received a yellow for delaying the restart, something that nobody thanked him for as it meant Mr Price adding further time on to a game most people by now just wanted to be over.

When the full time whistle did eventually blow, it was job done for Hassocks. Having hit the heights of 16th, the Robins will now be fixing their eyes further up the table.

Hassocks: Harris; Rawlingson, Turner, Tighe, Baden; Bant, J Westlake, L Westlake, Troak; Short, Broad.

Subs: S Smith, Wallis (used), Marshall, Wickwar (unused).

Below par Robins fail to fire in toothless showing at Varndeanians

**Southern Combination League Premier Division
Saturday 12th February 2021, The Beacon
AFC Varndeanians 1-0 Hassocks**



During the 12 seasons it hosted Football League action as the home of Brighton & Hove Albion, Withdean Stadium saw its fair share of memorable moments.

In contrast, nobody who is in attendance for AFC Varndeanians v Hassocks is likely to recall the hosts' 1-0 win beyond the end of the week - even those home supporters who were witnessing their side win a third Premier Division match of the season to further strengthen their hopes of a great escape from relegation.

Having failed to secure a victory from any of their opening 25 games in all competitions, Varndeanians have belatedly sparked into life under their third manager of the season Dave Bridges.

Their win over Hassocks made it 11 points from a possible 21 since mid-December, a run which has hauled Varndeanians above East Preston at the foot of the table and closed the gap to third-bottom Loxwood to seven points.

The Robins sit 10 clear of Varndeanians, a reminder for Brad Sweetman and his players that they are still very much in the relegation battle despite their own recent upturn in form.

Victories at Crawley Down Gatwick and AFC Uckfield Town meant that Hassocks arrived at Withdean with the prospect of putting three consecutive wins on the board for the first time this season.

Disappointingly, the Robins failed to register any chance of note over the course of 90 minutes in which the ball spent more time in the air than on the ground.

It would not be a surprise to hear that chiropractors in the Westdene and Hassocks areas were fully booked for the next fortnight given the workout that spectators' necks got in watching the ball fly from one end to the other, as if a game of

tennis was taking place rather than football.

The closest Hassocks came to troubling Varndeanians goalkeeper Leo Anderson was with seven minutes on the clock. New signing Alfie Edmeads escaped down the left to deliver a dangerous looking cross which home captain Oliver Stevenson did well to clear.

Debutant Edmeads was one of the few bright spots for the Robins. A young player good enough to have broken into a talented Saltdean United squad challenging for the Southern Combination League title before his switch to the Beacon, Hassocks will be hoping he can have a positive impact in their fight at the opposite end of table.

Varndeanians mustered their first opportunity on nine minutes. Tom Boyle looked perfectly placed to strike the ball past Alex Harris, but the home forward somehow managed to rattle the wrong side of the post rather than finding the back of the net.

Boyle's next sight of goal was a gift from Hassocks on the half hour mark. Jack Baden's attempted back pass was far too weak to make it to Harris, leaving the Robins goalkeeper in a footrace with the Varndeanians number nine.

Everyone expected Boyle to get there first but Harris showed a surprisingly quick turn of pace, making a good tackle to snuff out the danger.

Varndeanians grew in confidence as the half wore on, offering a real test for Dan Turner and Sam Smith who were playing together as a central defensive partnership for the first time with Turner's regular partner Bradley Tighe absent.

Along with Edmeads, both Turner and Smith were rare Hassocks players who could be reasonably pleased with their afternoons.

Smith in particular looked good given he last started a game six

weeks ago and had not played in defence for Hassocks since his autumn move from Loxwood.

The arrival of half time brought a sense that if this was not to finish 0-0, then one goal would be enough to decide it.

Hassocks huffed and puffed in an attempt to find it in the first 15 minutes of the second half without ever making any inroads, only to be caught on the break on the hour mark by a clever Varndeanians counter.

Kyle Woolven played a lovely slide rule pass to put in Finley Bigg, who made no mistake with a clinical finish into the far corner.

Sweetman turned to his bench to try and instigate a response. Charlie Broad had scored the winner at Uckfield seven days earlier and he entered proceedings with Jack Troak.

The hope was that Broad and Troak would turn Hassocks into a more attacking threat. Anderson however remained untroubled as Varndeanians saw out the game, with Hassocks knowing they will need to do better when they face Seaford Town on Tuesday night with a place in the semi finals of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup up for grabs.

Hassocks: Harris; Rawlingson, Turner, S Smith, Baden; Edmeads, J Westlake, L Westlake, Bant; Short, Loversidge.

Subs: Troak, Broad (used), Tuck, Marshall, Wickwar (unused).

First Team Matches 2021-22

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

First Team Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season				Hassocks Career	
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals	Games	Goals
Alfie Loversidge	32	0	32	8	50	10
Josh Short	32	0	32	8	44	8
Bradley Tighe	28	0	28	0	131	0
Arthur Rawlingson	22	6	28	1	28	1
Joe Bull	17	7	24	2	85	6
Jack Baden	17	5	22	0	25	0
James Westlake	20	1	21	1	217	31
Alex Harris	18	0	18	0	78	0
Dan Turner	18	0	18	0	53	3
Luke Marshall	14	3	17	0	33	0
Jack Gardner	16	0	16	1	39	1
Andy Whittingham	16	0	16	0	114	2
Jude Wallis	5	10	15	0	15	0
Lewis Westlake	14	0	14	4	91	8
Bradley Bant	12	2	14	0	163	12
Charlie Tuck	12	2	14	0	20	0
Connor Bradley	11	2	13	1	22	1
Jack Troak	9	4	13	3	66	16
Lewis Beebee	7	5	12	1	15	1
George Mitchell-Phillips	7	2	9	3	9	3
Jordan Badger	5	3	8	2	118	9
Charlie Pugh	7	0	7	0	31	0
Phil Gault	5	2	7	5	345	190
Lucas Tyrrell	3	3	6	0	6	0
Christian Kiddell	5	0	5	0	5	0
Sam Smith	3	2	5	1	5	1
Charlie Broad	1	4	5	1	5	1
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
Harvey Parker	3	0	3	0	3	0
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
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
Alfie Edmeads	1	0	1	0	1	0
Tom Jupp	0	1	1	0	3	0
Arni Kublickas	0	1	1	0	67	1
Louis Pittock	0	1	1	0	9	0
Archie Russell	0	1	1	0	1	0
Phil Wickwar	0	1	1	0	43	0



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Defeat to Rangers ends season but Robins should still finish second

Southern Combination League Under 23 North Division

Thursday 27th January 2022, The Beacon

St Francis Rangers U23s 2-1 Hassocks U23s

The curtain came down on Hassocks Under 23s' Southern Combination League North Division season with a defeat not really in keeping with what has been a memorable campaign for the Robins.

St Francis Rangers triumphed 2-1 in the final Mid Sussex Derby of 2021-22 despite surrendering home advantage, the game being switched to the Beacon because of work taking place on the floodlights at Colwell Road.

Rangers had won only once in 11 league games prior to this one, but the result does not look like it will have much bearing in Hassocks' final league position barring an unlikely run of form from Roffey.

The Boars are the only club who can now overtake Hassocks and claim runners up spot behind runaway champions Broabridge Heath, but to do so they need to win all four of their remaining matches to draw level on points at the same time as making up 10 goals on the Robins.

Hassocks should therefore have second spot sewn up, their third runners up finish in the past five seasons.

There is further football to be played in the League Cup, where the Robins will host Arundel in the third round of the competition in a fortnight's time and the prospect remains that the league will introduce some form of Supplementary Shield competition in March and April due to

the surprisingly early completion of the season after what has been a mild winter weather-wise.

Hassocks made four changes from the side who had come from 2-0 down to beat Horsham YMCA in their last outing a week earlier.

Harvey Parker returned in goal in place of Ryan West, Arthur Rawlingson missed out against his former club with Kobe Derseley taking over in the back line and Josh Short came in for Marshall Smith.

The fourth change saw Jack Gardner make his first start since November following injury. The return of the teenager who has made the first team's right back slot his own in recent seasons is sure to be a big boost, both for the Under 23s in the Cup adventures and the senior side as the Premier Division relegation battle begins to reach its business end.

Normally, these derby games have an air of familiarity about them with Rangers featuring a number of players who previously played for Hassocks.

On this occasion however, there were only two - Josh Paton and Jack Tobias having had spent a season each at the Beacon when Rangers boss Del Tobias was in charge of Hassocks Under 23s during the 2015-16 campaign.

It was Rangers who took the lead with 25 minutes on the clock through William Gilbert, a goal which looked like it would be enough to get the visitors into the break ahead until Luke Marshall struck with seconds of the first half remaining.



That was Marshall's second goal of the season to go with the important header he notched in a 3-1 win over Steyning Town back in November.

Hassocks' Rawlingson may have been absent but that name still made it onto the scoresheet, Hugo Rawlingson scoring what proved to be the winner on the hour mark for Rangers.

The Robins had a strong bench, including top scorer Jay Hudson but even his introduction alongside Sean McSwiney and Jack Baden - who has been in outstanding form for the first team over the past two months - could help Hassocks find an equaliser.

Although a disappointing result, there was one positive to be had as Archie Hill was rewarded for a strong season in the Under 18s with his Under 23s debut as a second half substitute.

Hassocks: Parker, Gardner, Marshall, Derseley, Ransome, J Smith, Wallis, Douglass, Short, Broad, Russell.

Subs: Hudson, Baden, Hill, McSwiney (used).



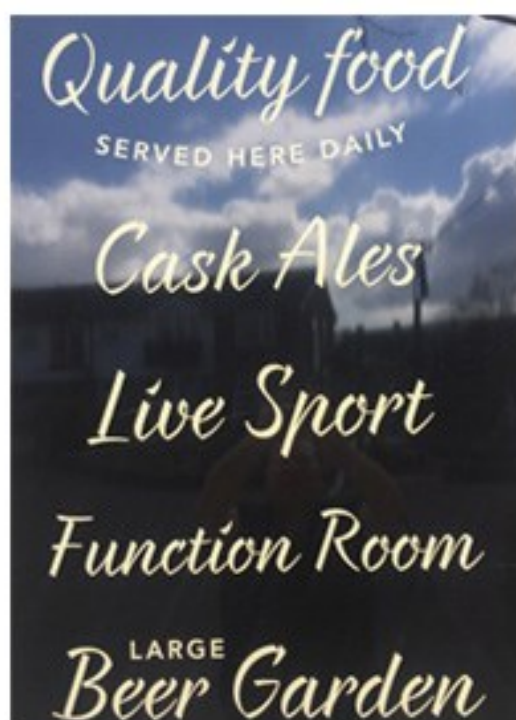
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Under 23 Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
August				
19/08 - 19:45	Crowborough Athletic (H)	SCFL23	4-1	Hudson (4)
26/08 - 19:45	Horsham YMCA (A)	SCFL23	1-1	Russell
September				
01/09 - 19:45	Oakwood (A)	SCFL23	2-0	Hudson, OG
09/09 - 19:45	Steyning Town (A)	SCFL23	2-0	Bradley (2)
16/09 - 19:45	Roffey (H)	SCFL23	1-0	McSwiney
October				
07/10 - 19:45	Saltdean United (H)	CU23C1	3-2	Short (2), Slaughter
14/10 - 19:45	Alfold (H)	SCFL23	3-0	Slaughter (2), Tyrrell
21/10 - 19:45	Broadbridge Heath (A)	SCFL23	0-2	
28/10 - 19:45	Crowborough Athletic (A)	SCFL23	2-4	Rawlingson, M.Smith
November				
04/11 - 19:30	Eastbourne Town (A)	CU23C2	1-2	Russell
11/11 - 19:45	Oakwood (H)	SCFL23	4-1	Russell, Badger (2), M.Smith
18/11 - 19:45	Steyning Town (H)	U23LC1	3-1	Beebee, Tuck, Marshall
25/11 - 19:45	Roffey (A)	SCFL23	0-2	
December				
02/12 - 19:30	Alfold (A)	SCFL23	4-0	Troak (2), Thwaites, Wallis
16/12 - 19:45	St Francis Rangers (H)	SCFL23	3-1	Short, Hawkes, Russell
January				
13/01 - 19:45	Broadbridge Heath (H)	SCFL23	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	1-2	Marshall
February				
10/02 - 19:45	Arundel (H)	U23LC2	4-4	Beebee, Wallis (2), M.Smith <i>(Won 4-2 on penalties)</i>

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

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

Under 23 Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Harvey Ransome	16	2	18	0
Ben Hicks	16	0	16	0
Jude Wallis	15	1	16	3
Sean McSwiney	11	5	16	1
Archie Russell	10	6	16	4
Jack Baden	12	1	13	0
George Mercer	8	5	13	0
Wes Tighe	7	6	13	0
Jay Hudson	8	4	12	5
Arthur Rawlingson	8	4	12	2
Harvey Parker	10	1	11	0
Louis Thwaites	5	6	11	1
Luke Marshall	9	1	10	1
Lewis Beebee	5	3	8	4
Brad Sweetman	1	7	8	0
Marshall Smith	4	3	7	3
Jacob Killkelly	1	6	7	0
Josh Hawkes	5	0	5	1
Jordan Badger	4	1	5	2
Kobe Dersley	4	1	5	0
Jack Smith	4	1	5	0
Charlie Tuck	4	1	5	1
Josh Short	4	0	4	3
Ryan West	4	0	4	0
Connor Bradley	3	1	4	2
Charlie Broad	3	1	4	2
Joe Bull	3	0	3	0
Jack Gardner	3	0	3	0
Jamie Douglass	2	1	3	0
Zac Kladdis	2	1	3	0
Phil Gault	2	0	2	0
Charlie Pugh	2	0	2	0
Spencer Slaughter	2	0	2	3
Archie Hill	0	2	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
Tom Jupp	1	0	1	0
Lexx Lucas	1	0	1	0
Josh Novis	1	0	1	0
Sam Smith	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

Young Robins season ends with them beaten by the Barrowmen

Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division

Sunday 30th January 2022, The Beacon

Hassocks U18s 1-4 Steyning Town U18s

It did not seem likely that Hassocks Under 18s would end their 2021-22 Southern Combination Under 18 Central Division season with victory given the opponents they faced.

Steyning Town are the only side who might stop Montpellier Villa lifting the title and the Barrowman's 4-1 victory at the Beacon took them to within a point of the long-term, unbeaten league leaders.

Villa do have two games in hand as the campaign heads to an early conclusion thanks to the mild winter weather and teams dropping out of the division, leaving it with only eight participants.

Go back to October and the Robins themselves had hopes of being involved in the title race. They topped the table with five wins and a draw from their opening six games.

Everything that could have gone wrong since then has gone wrong. Hassocks have not won since defeating local rivals Burgess Hill Town 4-0 at the start of November, a run of results which means they finish second bottom.

The Robins will be hoping that a young side - many of whom are in

their first season of Under 18s football - will learn from the experience of it and improve going into next season.

Amongst those to have impressed are Jayden Dunkley, Jamie Douglass and Archie Hill who have all played Under 23 football this season.

Archie Russell, Louis Thwaites and Sam Geard meanwhile have been involved in the first team with Thwaites scoring his first senior goal in November's 5-0 Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup win over Montpellier Villa.

There may still be more football to play for the Young Robins despite their regular season finishing. There has been some talk about reviving the Supplementary Shield competition that was introduced following lockdown in April last year to give teams something to play for with three months of the season still to go.

That would provide Hassocks with further opportunities to blend players for 2022-23 and perhaps make something of the current campaign if they can rediscover their early season form.

The Robins made one change from their side who had exited the League Cup on penalties at the second round stage after a 0-0 draw



away at Rustington. Max Beston came in for Alfie Beck who dropped down to the bench.

Hassocks' goal came from Beau Howard, scoring his fourth of the campaign.

Toby Reeder notched in the first half for Steyning before the Barrowman ran riot in the second half. Destiny Ojo was on target 60 seconds after the restart with two goals from substitute Bryan Tshingoma following in the 50th and 80th minutes.

Hassocks: Thomas, Njai, Hill, Douglass, Beston, Geard, Carter, Howard, Parker-Williams, Smith, Russell.

Subs: Holland, Llewellyn, Beck, Wilson, Woodhouse.

HassocksLife

hassockslife.co.uk

Under 18 Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
August				
29/08 - 11:00	Shoreham (A)	SCFL18	1-0	Gear
September				
05/09 - 11:00	Haywards Heath Town (H)	SCFL18	5-0	Parker-Williams (2), Gear, Beck (2)
12/09 - 11:00	Steyning Town (A)	SCFL18	2-1	Parker-Williams, Beck
19/09 - 11:00	Burgess Hill Town (H)	SCFL18	5-5	Parker-Williams, Russell, Beck, Chowdhury, Gear
26/09 - 11:00	AFC Vardeanians (A)	SCFL18	3-2	Gear, Russell, Howard
October				
03/10 - 11:00	St Francis Rangers (H)	SCFL18	1-1	Parker-Williams
10/10 - 11:00	Eastbourne Borough (A)	CU18C1	0-5	
17/10 - 11:00	Montpellier Villa (H)	SCFL18	2-4	Howard (2)
November				
07/11 - 11:00	Burgess Hill Town (A)	SCFL18	4-0	Russell (2), Gear, Beston
14/11 - 11:00	Worthing United (A)	SCFL18	1-2	Gear
21/11 - 11:00	Shoreham (H)	SCFL18	3-4	Gear, Russell, Carter
28/11 - 11:00	St Francis Rangers (A)	SCFL18	0-2	
December				
05/12 - 11:45	Montpelier Villa (A)	SCFL18	1-2	Parker-Williams
19/12 - 11:00	AFC Vardeanians (H)	SCFL18	1-2	Parker-Williams
January				
16/01 - 11:00	Worthing United (H)	SCFL18	5-6	Gear, 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	1-4	Howard

Under 18 Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Archie Russell	17	0	17	5
Beau Howard	16	0	16	4
Alfie Beck	7	9	16	5
Jamie Douglass	15	0	15	0
Sam Gear	15	0	15	8
Oliver Parker-Williams	12	3	15	8
Archie Hill	13	1	14	0
Harry Bundy	12	1	13	0
Max Beston	12	0	12	1
Jayden Dunkley	10	0	10	0
Harry Carter	8	2	10	1
Daniel Llewellyn	8	2	10	0
Jack Thomas	5	5	10	0
Muhammad Wilson	2	6	8	1
Joe Woodhouse	2	6	8	0
Ismaila Housaniou Njai	7	0	7	0
Daniel Lade	5	1	6	0
Josh Trinick	3	3	6	0
Joe Holland	0	6	6	0
Robert Newman	0	6	6	0
Charlie Smith	3	2	5	0
Louis Thwaites	2	3	5	0
Jack Morris	4	0	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

Veterans Matches 2021-22

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

Veterans Appearances 2021-22

Player	2021-22 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Nick Newman	8	0	8	0
Steve Spies	8	0	8	9
Jonathan Bundy	6	2	8	3
Anthony Humphries	7	0	7	0
Che Williams	6	0	6	0
Paul Armstrong	6	0	6	3
Joel Harding	5	0	5	3
Anthony Hibbert	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
Michael Broadstock	4	1	5	1
Adam Waller	4	0	4	0
Pat Harding	3	0	3	6
Elliott Butler	3	0	3	1
Brendan Leahy	3	0	3	1
Richard Thompson	2	1	3	0
Phil Gault	1	1	2	3
Chris Maynard	1	1	2	0
Paul Gurr	0	2	2	0
Oliver Gosden	1	0	1	0
Simon Shinvarain	1	0	1	0
Steve Curtis	0	1	1	0
Matthew Hughes	0	1	1	0

Ladies Matches 2021-22

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
September				
12/09 - 14:00	Eastbourne United (H)	FAWCQ	0-4	
26/09 - 14:00	Montpelier Villa (H)	SCWLP	1-1	J.Craig
October				
10/10 - 14:00	Pagham (H)	SCWLP	4-5	K.Chappell (2), Johanson, Mair
24/10 - 14:00	Saltdean United (H)	SCWLP	0-1	
November				
14/11 - 14:00	Woodingdean Wand. (H)	SCWLP	7-0	Mair (3), Pordage, J.Craig, S.Chappell, Johanson
December				
12/12 - 14:00	Montpelier Villa (A)	SCWLP	0-3	
January				
23/01 - 14:00	Saltdean United (A)	SCWLP	4-2	J.Craig, Kendall
February				
06/02 - 14:00	Woodingdean Wand (A)	SCWLP	7-0	K.Chappell (4), Johanson, Bright, Pordage
13/02 - 14:00	Worthing Town (H)	SCWLP	4-0	K.Chappell, J.Craig, Mair, Read
20/02 - 14:00	Horsham Sparrows (A)	SWLC2	6-0	Mair (2), Pordage, J.Craig (2), Johanson
27/02 - 14:00	Roffey (H)	SCWLP		
March				
06/03 - 14:00	Worthing Town (A)	SCWLP		
13/03 - 14:00	Roffey (H)	SWLC3		
20/03 - 14:00	Eastbourne Town (A)	SCWLP		
27/03 - 14:00	Seaford Town (A)	SCWLP		
April				
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	10	0	10	4
Sam Newman	10	0	10	0
Mia Pordage	10	0	10	3
Jess Craig	9	0	9	5
Claire Stevens	9	0	9	0
Emma Flin	8	1	9	0
Kirstin Mair	8	1	9	7
Katie Read	5	4	9	1
Sarah Chappell	8	0	8	0
Jemma Kendall	8	0	8	1
Tallie Bright	7	0	7	1
Holly Webb	2	5	7	0
Katherine Chappell	6	0	6	8
Joanne Brown	4	2	6	0
Zeba Ghorishi	2	3	5	0
Ellie Moquet	1	4	5	0
Kayleigh Norris	1	3	4	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



The appointment of Steve Spies as Hassocks III manager had proven quite the revelation. On this day in **2011**, they headed to Leylands Park to face a Lindfield side who started the afternoon two points above the Robins in the table...

Robins maul Swans to move into fourth

The red army of Steve Spies' Hassocks III continued their climb up the Mid Sussex Premier Division table, marching into Leylands Park and leaving with a 4-0 victory from an eagerly anticipated clash with Lindfield.

Part of Hassocks' recent success has been a settled team and minimal changes were the case here from the previous week.

Spiesy was keen to inject some youth into his side to threaten a Swans' side who are always tall and physical but he had no players available to do that and so had to settle instead for returning Phil Wickwar, Mark Darbyshire and Ian Church to the starting XI.

Hassocks got off to the best possible start when Lindfield broke from their normal style of play and tried to put some passes together.

This went wrong straight from kick off with Ben Holden intercepting a wayward pass and slotting home after just 18 seconds.

Despite falling behind, Lindfield to their credit start to take control and laid siege to the Robins goal for long periods of the first half.

The Swans had a significant height advantage from set pieces which caused numerous problems.

Hassocks needed some last ditch, brave defending from their three centre backs of Wickwar, Steve Hudson and Sam Franks to hold onto their slender lead. Spiesy also did an

important job coming back to help out.

After weathering the storm, Hassocks hit Lindfield with a sucker punch on the half hour mark by moving 2-0 ahead.

The ever-willing Logan Newington latched onto a Darbyshire through ball, composed himself and coolly slotted past the Lindfield goalkeeper.

If you do not take your chances at any level of football then it can come back to haunt you and that is something the Swans were definitely experiencing as the two sides headed off at half time with Hassocks two goals to the good.

Spiesy asked his troops to stop giving away so many needless free kicks and corners as this looked like Lindfield's best route to goal.

He did not mention that by conceding less set pieces, it also reduced the chances of him heading past Reece Wickwar and adding to his own-goal tally, but everyone knew that was the real meaning of the message.

Hassocks heeded Spiesy's words and began the second half well. The midfield trio of Holden, Church and Russell Harris began imposing themselves on the game supported well by Darbyshire and Ashley Hayes down the flanks.

In a piece of managerial genius, Spiesy withdrew himself midway through the second half to bring on new signing from Steyning Town Greg Hearne.

Hearne made an instant impact

with Lindfield unable to cope with his strong running, enabling the debutant to score a quickfire double which effectively ended the contest.

Torrential rain began falling to worsen the mood of an already deflated Lindfield who had run out of ideas to break down a stubborn Robins defence.

Hassocks thrived as the game became more stretched and Darbyshire, Harris and Holden all went close to extending the lead.

With concerns that Darbyshire and Hayes might rust up in the rain, Under 18 players Will Bake and Luke Pearce were given runouts for the final 15 minutes as Hassocks comfortably saw out the game to move into fourth in the table.

Hassocks: R Wickwar; Darbyshire, Hudson, P Wickwar, Franks, Hayes; Church, Harris, Holden; Spies, Newington.

Subs: Hearne (Spies), W Baker (Darbyshire), Pearce (Hayes).

Starman: Phil Wickwar was faultless throughout. Special mention to Ben Holden who was strong in the tackle and used the ball well and young Reece Wickwar whose handling in difficult conditions was very accomplished.

Around the League...



We rewind the clock to Saturday 5th February to review the Southern Combination League action which took place whilst we were busy picking up an excellent 1-0 win at AFC Uckfield Town...

Littlehampton Town took advantage of Newhaven being without a fixture to strengthen their position at the top with a 3-1 win over Peacehaven & Telscombe at the Flora Sportsfield.

Dion Jarvis gave the Golds a first half lead but Peacehaven flew out of the blocks at the start of the second half, equalising within 60 seconds of the game recommencing through Drew Matthews.

George Gasking put Town back into the lead on 56 and the three points were wrapped up by substitute Zack Harris with a minute of normal time remaining.

Saltdean United moved into second with a routine 3-0 victory at home against **AFC Varndeanians**.

Harry Shooman scored twice for the Tigers with a Reece Hallard strike sandwiched in the middle as Bryan O'Toole's side continue to impress following a sticky patch over Christmas and the new year.

The biggest crowd of the Southern Combination League season of 561 turned out for the Eastbourne derby at the Saffrons between **Eastbourne Town** and **Eastbourne United** which went the way of the visitors.

Max Thompson scored the only goal of the game on the hour mark to give United a famous victory over their arch rivals.

Charlie Pitcher scored a hat-trick as **Crawley Down Gatwick** bounced back from their midweek defeat at the hands of the Robins by beating **Pagham** 5-2 at the Haven.

The Lions scored the first and last goals of the game via Grant Radmore

and Finlay Smith. In between those came Down's five, three from Pitcher, one from Shaun Findlay and one from another ex-Robin in Harvey Blake.

Alfold were unable to shake their slump when they made the short trip to **Horsham YMCA**, going down 3-0 at Gorings Mead.

Mark Pritchard-Cave got the party started for YM, followed by two goals for Tom Tolfrey.

The Premier Division's final game saw **Lingfield** put a dent in the top two hopes of **Bexhill United** with a 1-0 win at Godstone Road.

Aaron Jenkins got the only goal of the game as the Lingers moved to within four points of the magic 40 mark.

Division One leaders **Roffey** continue to motor along as they look to bring top flight football to Bartholomew Way for the first ever time, their latest three points coming from a 2-1 victory over **Selsey**.

A pair of Joshs got the goals, Josh Maher and Josh Neathey scoring to ensure that Owen Worsdell's strike for the Blues was nothing more than a consolation.

There was a big clash in the battle for promotion between **Seaford Town** and **Montpelier Villa** at the Crouch which went the way of the visitors 4-0.

All the goals arrived in half an hour between the 30th minute and the 60th, Harry Tremlett, Harry Giles and two goals from Robert Tambling securing a big three points for the Stags,

A Luke Miller hat-trick sent **Epsom & Ewell** on their way to a 5-1 victory at home to **Billingshurst**.

Jamie Byatt and Athan Smith-Joseph were the other scorers for Epsom, the Hurst goal coming via Callum Nash although it is fair to say the visitors were never at the races.

Goals from James Mariner and Charlie Oakley gave **Godalming Town** a 2-0 win over **Storrington** whilst **Wick** won 2-1 at **Montpelier Villa** although that only told half the story of a crazy game at Culver Road.

James McKemey, Lateef Oladokun and Harley Damario all saw red for Villa, for whom Jan Borowiak netted. Wick's two goals were scored by Conor Bull and Oliver Chick.

Hailsham Town were 3-1 winners over **Forest Row** thanks to a Jacob Feasey hat-trick and nothing could separate **Shoreham** and **Dorking Wanderers Reserves** who drew 1-1 at Middle Road.

There were four different scorers for **Worthing United** in their 4-1 victory against **Arundel**.

The Mullets actually led at half time through Jamie Ford, only for Hugo Blacklaw-Taylor, Tom Butler, Dan Hills and Nathan Williams to win it for the Mavericks.

Division Two leaders **Rustington** overcame **Bosham** 2-1 thanks to goals from Josh Irish and Kieron Howard, extending their lead at the top over **Jarvis Brook** who were defeated 2-1 at **Southwater**.

Littlehampton United hammered **Worthing Town** 4-1, **Charlwood** beat **Upper Beeding** 2-0 and **Rottingdean Village** won a Brighton derby 4-1 over **Brighton Electricity**.

Finally, **St Francis Rangers** lost 3-2 at **Ferring**.



The 2021-22 season...

Southern Combination Premier Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Littlehampton Town	28	21	3	4	103	40	66
Saltdean United	29	19	5	5	76	28	62
Newhaven	29	18	8	3	75	28	62
Bexhill United	29	16	9	4	65	31	57
Pagham	29	17	4	8	55	42	55
Eastbourne Town	29	16	6	7	61	34	54
Broadbridge Heath	29	15	5	9	59	30	50
Eastbourne United	29	15	5	9	55	36	50
Peacehaven & Tels	30	12	6	12	55	38	42
Crawley Down Gatwick	27	13	3	11	60	45	42
Little Common	28	10	9	9	48	46	36
Lingfield	28	11	3	14	43	52	36
Horsham YMCA	29	9	6	14	36	59	33
Alfold	30	9	5	16	37	56	32
AFC Uckfield Town	29	5	12	12	25	40	27
Steyning Town	29	7	6	16	32	82	27
Hassocks	29	6	7	16	35	64	25
Loxwood	29	6	4	19	30	78	22
AFC Varndeanians	28	3	6	19	38	77	15
East Preston	29	1	6	22	22	104	9

Premier Division Attendances

	Ave	High	Low
Eastbourne Town	248	561	186
Peacehaven & Telscombe	208	426	133
Bexhill United	191	440	64
Littlehampton Town	182	352	112
Broadbridge Heath	125	211	63
Hassocks	122	210	50
Newhaven	121	152	84
Saltdean United	118	223	49
Eastbourne United	115	155	68
Steyning Town	113	212	64
Pagham	108	187	68
Little Common	88	184	32
Loxwood	75	178	38
East Preston	74	132	41
Alfold	72	121	35
Horsham YMCA	72	101	41
AFC Uckfield Town	70	116	39
Crawley Down Gatwick	64	95	32
AFC Varndeanians	56	130	16
Lingfield	52	81	38

Premier Division Form Guide

	Last 6
Newhaven	WWDWWW
Bexhill United	WWWLWD
Littlehampton Town	WWDLWW
Eastbourne United	LDWWWW
Eastbourne Town	LWWWLW
Saltdean United	DLLWWW
AFC Varndeanians	WLDWLW
Crawley Down Gatwick	WLWLWL
Broadbridge Heath	WWWLLL
Little Common	DDDWLW
Lingfield	LDLWWL
Loxwood	LWWLLD
Pagham	DWDDLD
Hassocks	DLLWWL
AFC Uckfield Town	LDDDLW
Peacehaven & Tels	LDLWLD
Steyning Town	DWDLLL
Horsham YMCA	LDLLWL
Alfold	LWLLLL
East Preston	DLLLLL

Premier Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Joe Benn	Littlehampton	56
George Gaskin	Littlehampton	32
Jack Shonk	Bexhill United	30
Alfie Rogers	Newhaven	27
Evan Archibald	Bexhill United	24
Jack Langford	Pagham	24
Charlie Pitcher	Crawley Down	24
Phil Johnson	Crawley Down	21
Lee Robinson	Newhaven	20
Jamie Taylor	B'bridge Heath	18
Max Thompson	Eastbourne Utd	18
Trevor McCreadie	Saltdean United	17
Joe Clarke	Pagham	16
Lewis Hole	Little Common	16
Arron Hopkinson	Eastbourne Town	16
Oli Leslie	Crawley Down	16
Kieron Pamment	Saltdean United	16
Louis Veneti	Eastbourne Town	15
Lucas Franzen-Jones	Newhaven	14
Tom Biggs	Littlehampton	12

Southern Combination Under 23 North Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Broadbridge Heath	15	11	4	0	54	13	37
Hassocks	16	10	2	4	32	18	32
Crowborough Athletic	15	8	3	4	40	29	27
Alfold	15	8	1	6	35	24	25
Roffey	13	6	2	5	15	13	20
Horsham YMCA	14	6	2	6	32	31	20
Oakwood	16	4	1	11	28	42	13
Steyning Town	15	4	1	10	21	47	13
St Francis Rangers	15	2	0	13	15	55	6

Under 23 North Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Tyler Symonds	B'bridge Heath	21
Alfie Barnes	Horsham YMCA	9
Kyle Anson	Crowborough	6
Kinsley Mercure	Oakwood	6
Lucas Murrain	Crowborough	6
Jay Hudson	Hassocks	5
Zack Lamont	B'bridge Heath	5
Charlie Martin	Alfold	5
Oliver Styles	Crowborough	5

Southern Combination Under 18 Central Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Montpelier Villa	11	9	2	0	32	10	29
Steyning Town	13	9	1	3	51	25	28
Worthing United	13	6	1	6	35	42	19
St Francis Rangers	14	7	1	6	29	36	18
Shoreham	13	5	3	5	36	35	18
Burgess Hill Town	13	4	2	7	29	31	14
Hassocks	14	4	2	8	39	35	14
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
Jack Smart	Montpelier Villa	10
Charlie Maywood	Montpelier Villa	10
Sam-Ellie N'Cho	Shoreham	9
Toby Reeder	Steyning Town	9
Tom Bond	Shoreham	8
George Hemming	Worthing United	8

Sussex County Women's League Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Montpelier Villa	15	13	1	1	76	12	40
Pagham	10	9	0	1	35	16	27
Saltdean United	15	9	0	6	40	23	27
Roffey	11	7	0	4	39	23	21
Seaford Town	8	4	0	4	15	6	12
Hassocks	8	3	1	4	25	14	10
Worthing Town	11	2	1	8	15	43	7
Eastbourne Town	10	1	1	8	3	55	4
Woodingdean Wand	12	0	0	12	8	55	0

Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Katherine Davyson	Montpelier Villa	15
Emma Biffi	Pagham	14
Nicole White	Montpelier Villa	13
Georgie Egner	Montpelier Villa	12
Dulcie Elder	Worthing Town	12
Saskia Taylor-Doyle	Montpelier Villa	11
Tara Barratt	Montpelier Villa	10
Lou Tindall	Montpelier Villa	10
Remi Crawley	Pagham	9

Mid Sussex Veterans League Fred Pretty Plate

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ardingly	9	7	0	2	33	17	21
Hassocks	6	6	0	0	29	7	18
Charlwood	7	5	0	2	21	14	15
South Park	5	4	0	1	10	7	12
Ansty Sports & Social	4	3	0	1	20	7	9
Furnace Green Rovers	5	3	0	2	9	11	9
South Godstone	8	2	0	6	21	32	6
Brockham	7	2	0	5	9	20	6
East Court	7	1	0	6	13	28	3
Burgess Hill Albion	8	0	0	8	5	27	0

Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Liam Tucknott	Ardingly	10
Steve Spies	Hassocks	9
Ritchie Caldwell	South Godstone	7
Christopher Cook	Ardingly	7
Mark Collison	Ansty	6
Pat Harding	Hassocks	6
Jonathan Bundy	Hassocks	5
Mark Heavens	Charlwood	5
Dave Juniper	Hassocks	4
Terry Wallis	Ardingly	5



Coming up...

A rare chance to make it to a senior semi final awaits on Tuesday night against Division One outfit Seaford Town in the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup, followed by two more huge games in the battle for Premier Division survival...



Seaford Town

When?

Tuesday 1st March

Where?

The Beacon

Time?

7:45pm

Competition?

RUR Charity Cup
Quarter Final

Seaford Town this season?

The Badgers are enjoying their best campaign for over 25 years, looking set to eclipse their highest finish in that time of fifth in the second tier of set in 2010-11. With Division One set to feature end-of-season playoffs for the first time and reorganisation taking place higher up the pyramid, there is every chance that Seaford could end their 30 year absence from the Premier Division. That would be deserved; Paul Wise has built a squad capable of going toe-to-toe with most sides in Sussex on their day, as their results in reaching the quarter final stage of the RUR Cup prove. The Badgers have eliminated Isthmian League outfit Lancing and Broadbridge Heath on their way to setting up their visit to the Beacon.

Our record against Seaford Town?

Meetings have been few and far between, Town's fall from the top table in the early 1990s occurring around the same time as we were rising through the divisions. Eight previous matches have yielded four

wins apiece. Seaford edge the league meetings, winning three times compared to our one in the four Division One clashes that took place across the 1986-87 and 1992-93 campaigns. We in contrast lead the way in knockout competitions. The Robins have won both previous RUR Cup meetings as well as the only Sussex Senior Cup clash between the sides, leaving Seaford with a solitary Peter Bentley Cup success from 2009.

Last time we met?

Eight goals, a missed penalty and former Hassocks Reserve manager turned Seaford boss Scott Osborne being sent to the stands made for a captivating evening in the third round of the RUR Cup in 2018-19. We ended up running out 6-2 winners through Liam Benson, Phil Johnson, Jordan Badger, Harry Mills and a first senior brace from Jake Lindsey. The Badgers consolations came from Ali Rainsford and Connor Martin with Seaford also missing the aforementioned spot kick on the stroke of half time.



Horsham YMCA

When?

Saturday 5th March

Where?

Gorings Mead

Time?

3:00pm

Competition?

Southern Combination League
Premier Division

Horsham YMCA this season?

Horsham YMCA legend Dean Carden is at the helm for his first full season as manager and so far, it is going reasonably well. YM spent the whole of 2020-21 campaign in the relegation zone before the season was curtailed but they have rarely troubled the bottom three this season, currently occupying 13th position having won nine, drawn six and lost 14 of their 29 games so far. That leaves them eight points ahead of ourselves, so a rare win at Gorings Mead would put YM within touching distance ahead of the final eight matches of the season.

Our record against Horsham YMCA?

Overtaking YM over the remaining games of the campaign looks fanciful if it is based on winning on Saturday as we have rarely enjoyed games with them, especially those which take place at Gorings Mead where we have won just three times in the league since 2000. That feeds into a pretty dreadful overall record of 13

victories in 52 meetings. There have been 13 draws with YM winning 27.

Last time we met?

YMCA ran out 2-1 winners at the Beacon in October but in truth it should have been a far more comfortable win for the visitors as only the brilliance of Charlie Pugh in the Hassocks goal prevented a cricket score. Mark Pritchard-Cave put YM ahead in the fifth minute, a goal cancelled out by a Phil Gault penalty. Tom Tolfrey found the winner YM deserved with 10 minutes remaining.

How to get to Gorings Mead?

The ground is situated on the outskirts of the town centre. Take the A272 to Cowfold before joining the A281 towards Horsham. Once in the town, Gorings Mead is located on the left before the railway bridge as directed by the "YMCA" sign. There is extremely limited parking at the ground and when that is full there is no parking in the street leading to the ground. Visitors are advised to park in one of the many car parks that are a five-minute walk away.



East Preston

When?

Saturday 12th March

Where?

The Beacon

Time?

3:00pm

Competition?

Southern Combination League
Premier Division

Admission?

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

East Preston this season?

East Preston spent the entirety of the curtailed 2021-22 season in the bottom three of the Premier Division and they have not enjoyed much of an improvement this time around, again failing to escape the clutches of the relegation zone so far. They sit last with one win, six draws and 22 defeats from 29 matches and needing a miracle to escape the drop zone with only nine games left to play. No prizes for guessing who that single victory came against, either...

Our record against East Preston?

There have been 46 meetings between the two sides making EP one of our most frequent opponents. We have won 16, there have been 10 draws and EP have tasted success on the remaining 20 occasions. EP are normally good for a goal or two in the fixture as well, having scored 82 times against the Robins, the majority of those coming during their domination of the league between 2013 and 2014.

Last time we met?

One of the worst afternoons in recent Hassocks history as a squad full of players carrying injuries were comprehensively hammered at the Lashmar in what remains EP's only win of the campaign so far. The hosts were 3-0 ahead inside of 30 minutes through Matt Storm, Harry Russell and Matt Woodward. Josh Short pulled one back before half time but a Will Breedon goal on the hour mark wrapped up a 4-1 success for the hosts. The turnaround since that day has been quite remarkable...

Played for both?

Joel Harding was able to retire a happy man in his early 30s after winning the Southern Combination League title with East Preston in the 2013-14 season. Anthony Hibbert went onto have a brief spell with EP the following year after leaving the Beacon and Rob Boddy is another name to have represented both clubs.



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.

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

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

Money raised in 2021-22

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

TOTAL £546

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

Robins Awards

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

Here are our winners so far this season...

Hassocks Man of the Match 2021-22

Saltdean United away **Alfie Loversidge**
Spelthorne Sports home **Alfie Loversidge**
Eastbourne Town home **Josh Short**
AFC Uckfield Town home **Charlie Pugh**
Broadbridge Heath home **Lewis Beebee**
Peacehaven & Telscombe away **Connor Bradley**
Steyning Town home **Alfie Loversidge**
Lingfield home **Joe Bull**
Newhaven home **Swindon Fan on his Stag Do**
Roffey home **Max Blencowe**
Little Common home **Andy Whittingham**
Littlehampton Town away **Jack Gardner**
Beckenham Town home **Joe Bull**
Bexhill United away **Alexis Harris**
AFC Varndeanians home **Alfie Loversidge**
Eastbourne United home **Charlie Pugh**
Horsham YMCA home **Charlie Pugh**
Crawley Down Gatwick home **James Westlake**
Loxwood away **Spencer Slaughter**
East Preston away **Charlie Pugh**
Montpelier Villa home **Phil Gault**
Alfold home **Alex Harris**
Pagham home **James Westlake**
Broadbridge Heath away **Phil Wickwar**
Peacehaven & Telscombe home **Lewis Westlake**
Eastbourne Town away **James Westlake**
Saltdean United home **Alfie Loversidge**
Lingfield away **James Westlake**
Crawley Down Gatwick home **Jack Troak**
Little Common away **Lewis Westlake**
Eastbourne United away **Josh Short**
Bexhill United home **Josh Short**
Crawley Down Gatwick away **James Westlake**
AFC Uckfield Town away **Charlie Broad**
AFC Varndeanians away **Sam Smith**
Loxwood home
Seaford Town home
Horsham YMCA away
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 **Josh Short**
2nd **Dan Turner**
3rd **Jack Troak**

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. Dan Jacques	201	31	232	9	19. Liam Benson	31	134
20. Mark Burnham	209	22	231	44	20. Luke Flomo	31	146
21. James Westlake	203	14	217	31	21. James Westlake	31	217
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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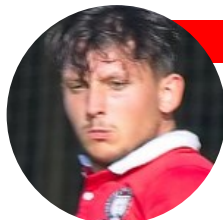
Dan Turner

Dave John



Luke Marshall

Bishop's Move



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round



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Wes Tighe

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Ben Hicks

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



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R W Steel Services



Lewis Westlake

Phil Gault



Bradley Bant

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Hassocks

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Jack Baden	
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Dan Turner	
Luke Marshall	
Bradley Bant	
Lewis Westlake	
James Westlake	
Sam Smith	
Josh Hawkes	
Alfie Edmeads	
Charlie Broad	
Jude Wallis	
Alfie Loversidge	
Josh Short	
Joe Bull	
Jack Troak	

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



Loxwood

	Fraser Trigwell
	Callum Thompson
	Thomas Theobold
	Zak Courtney
	Gareth Silvester
	George Magnus
	Tom Cousins
	Ollie Read
	Dan Skett
	Sam Packham
	Martin Bayo
	Thomas Howard-Bold
	Adrian Todd
	Scott Faber
	Callum Dowdell
	Fred Bowen
	George Cousins
	Devon Fender
	James Morey
	Michael Howard-Bold

Referee
James Kerten

Assistants
Neil Wallace &
Olsa Svaikevic

Managers Ian Payne & Lee Kennedy
Goalkeeper Coach Paul Dowdell

Next at the Beacon



Seaford Town
 Tuesday 1st March. 7:45pm
 RUR Cup Quarter Final

Today's other Premier Division games

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