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THE ROBINS

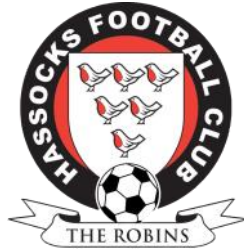


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PRINCIPAL SUSSEX RUR CHARITY CUP
FIRST ROUND
SATURDAY 19TH AUGUST 2023 - 3PM

MATCHDAY
PROGRAMME NO. 4



HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

Founded 1902

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ASSISTANT HEAD COACHES

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GOALKEEPER COACH

Tim Edwards

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Jay Patel

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Ash Cooper & Phil Wickwar

UNDER 23s HEAD COACH

Neil Parker

UNDER 18s HEAD COACH

Sean Fernley

VETERANS TEAM MANAGER

Steve Spies

LADIES MANAGER

Sean Perkins

SECRETARY

Tallie Bright 07541 900786

HONOURS

FIRST TEAM

Southern Combination Division One

Runners up 1995

Southern Combination Division Two

Winners 1993

Southern Combination Division Two Cup

Runners up 1988, 1991

Sussex Intermediate Cup

Winners 1975

Montgomery Challenge Cup

Winners 1960

Mowatt Challenge Cup

Winners 1928

UNDER 23 TEAM

Southern Combination Under 23 North Division

Winners 2023

Runners up 2022

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

Fred Pretty Veterans Plate

Winners 2022

Runners up 2017

LADIES TEAM

Sussex County Women's Premier Division

Winners 2023



Welcome to the Beacon



Good afternoon and welcome to the Beacon for this Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup match against AFC Varndeanians

Although the tie has been hastily arranged at the behest of the Sussex County FA, starting this early in the season should at least help us avoid the palaver of last year when the competition nearly had to be cancelled.

Whilst the second round was played in October, the third round was not organised until the end of March.

That left a mad rush to completion. Several clubs withdrew as the quarters, semis and final were all crammed into a couple of weeks in May after the Southern Combination League campaign had finished.

We went all the way to the last eight, being eliminated by eventual winners Peacehaven & Telscombe on pleasant May evening at the Window Workshop Sports Park.

It was the second season in succession we enjoyed a memorable journey in the RUR Cup.

2021-22 involved an adventure only ended in the semi finals by all-conquering FA Vase runners up Littlehampton Town in front of a bumper crowd here at the Beacon.

If we can bring our recent league form into this afternoon's tie, then there is every chance today could be

the start of another decent run in the competition.

Of course, we also thought that last season when AFC Varndeanians visited in the second round of the Peter Bentley League Cup.

90 minutes later and we had squandered countless opportunities on the way to a 2-0 defeat.

Whilst we hope that the players, management, committee and supporters of Varndeanians enjoy their stay with us this afternoon, we also hope not quite as much as that evening.

Those who braved the long trip to Pagham on Tuesday night were rewarded with an excellent 2-1 win over the Lions.

Nyetimber Lane has never been the happiest of hunting grounds. To come home with three points is impressive enough; to do so by giving a performance which even the home fans said warranted victory.

The result kept us second in the table - yes, second in the table - and maintained stretched our unbeaten league start to four matches.

At risk of jinxing it, these are proving to be rather good times to be a Hassocks supporter.

Away from first team matters, the

Under 23s kicked off their defence of the North Division title on Thursday night away at Redhill.

Goals from debutant Josh Nandhra, Dan Turner and a lovely Georger Mercer free kick secured a 3-1 win.

You can catch Neil Parker's side in their first home match this Thursday against Broadbridge Heath, who themselves started the season with a very impressive 6-0 win over Horley.

The Ladies start their league season tomorrow away at Bromley. There is a full preview of their upcoming London & South East Regional League Division One South campaign elsewhere in today's matchday programme.

Home fixtures are coming thick and fast now. A week today and we are again here at the Beacon, taking on Midhurst & Easebourne back in the bread and butter of Premier Division football.

We then face Shoreham on Tuesday 29th August at 7:45pm - a change in the published fixture list from August Bank Holiday Monday.

**Thank you for your support and enjoy the game,
Owen & Scott**



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in 2023-24**



Following all the dramas of their first Southern Combination League Premier Division campaign for over 60 years in 2021-22, AFC Varndeanians were no doubt relieved to enjoy a much normal time of it in a season of consolidation last time out

Go back to December 2021 and Varndeanians had failed to win any of their opening 25 games in all competitions.

That left them somewhat adrift at the bottom of the Premier Division table, staring an immediate return to Division One in the face.

After such a long wait to return to the top flight, it looked like their adventure was over before it had ever really begun.

What followed in the second half of the campaign then was remarkable. The return of Ryan Gayler sparked a huge improvement. Before the season was out, Varndeanians had overhauled both East Preston and Loxwood to clamber out of the bottom two.

It was one of the greatest escapes from relegation the Southern Combination has seen.

Gayler stood down last October. His replacement Justin Jones continued the good work, consolidating Vs place in the Premier Division.

Varndeanians spent most of 2022-23 tucked safely into mid table. By the start of March, they had nothing to play for; miles clear of relegation but also with too many points to make up to challenge for a top 10 finish.

The lack of peril in either direction understandably had a knock on effect when it came to form and a bad run to end the campaign saw Vs drop to a final finishing position of 17th.

They arrive at the Beacon this afternoon with one win, one draw and three defeats from five matches so far. That sole victory came last Saturday at home to Bexhill United.

Both the goals came from former Hassocks players, Jude Wallis opening the scoring with 16 minutes played and Charlie Tuck providing the winner with on 89.

Sam Rogers also made the move from the Beacon to Withdean Stadium in the summer, whilst we signed Kyle Woolven and Matt Gunn from Vs.

The links between the clubs should provide some added motivation this afternoon beyond the chance to progress to the second round of the RUR Cup.

Vs Factfile

Founded 1929

Ground Withdean Stadium

Website

pitchero.com/clubs/afcvardeanians

Twitter @afcvardean

Instagram @afcvardeanians1929

Manager Justin Jones

Top scorer Jude Wallis, 1

Club Honours

Southern Combination League Division One

Winners 1960

Southern Combination League Division Two

Winners 2016

Southern Combination League Division One Cup

Winners 1957

Mid Sussex League

Winners 2004, 2007, 2009

Runners up 2008, 2014

Montgomery Cup

Winners 2005

Runners up 2004

Alan Washer Trophy

Winners 2005

Brighton & District League

Winners 1974, 2000, 2001, 2003

Hove & Worthing Cup

10 Key Vs Moments

1929... Secondary Old Boys FC become Old Vardeanians, forming the current club

1960... win the Southern Combination League Division One title, securing a two-year stay in the Premier

1972... leave the Southern Combination to join the Brighton League because of ground grading

1974... crowned Brighton League champions whilst playing at Patcham Place

2000... win their second Brighton League title, starting a run of three championships in four seasons

2003... moved to the Mid Sussex League, winning the title and reaching the final of the Montgomery Cup

2009... win the last of their three Mid Sussex Premier Division titles

2015... promoted to Southern Combination League Division Two and move from Brighton Uni to Withdean

2016... win the Division Two title at the first attempt, securing a return to senior football

2021... promoted by the FA to the Premier Division, playing top flight football for the first time since 1962

Last 19 Seasons

2022-23: Southern Combination Premier 17th

2021-22: Southern Combination Premier 18th

2018-19: Southern Combination One 3rd

2017-18: Southern Combination One 14th

2016-17: Southern Combination One 18th

2015-16: Southern Combination Two 1st

2014-15: Mid Sussex Premier 7th

2013-14: Mid Sussex Premier 2nd

2012-13: Mid Sussex Premier 7th

2011-12: Mid Sussex Premier 5th

2010-11: Mid Sussex Premier 9th

2009-10: Mid Sussex Premier 7th

2008-09: Mid Sussex Premier 1st

2007-08: Mid Sussex Premier 2nd

2006-07: Mid Sussex Premier 1st

2005-06: Mid Sussex Premier 3rd

2004-05: Mid Sussex Premier 3rd

2003-04: Mid Sussex Premier 1st

2002-03: Brighton & District Premier 1st

Robins v AFC Vardeanians

SCFL Premier > Played 4 - Won 3 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 9 - Conceded 2

Peter Bentley Cup > Played 1 - Won 0 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 0 - Conceded 2

Total > Played 5 - **Won 3** - **Drawn 0** - **Lost 2** - Scored 9 - Conceded 4

Previous Meetings

2022-23

SCFL Premier: AFC Vardeanians 0-3 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 2-0 AFC Vardeanians

Peter Bentley Cup: Hassocks 0-2 AFC Vardeanians

2021-22

SCFL Premier: AFC Vardeanians 1-0 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 4-1 AFC Vardeanians



Hassocks victorious at Varndeanians for four wins and five clean sheets in a row

There is no stopping Phil Johnson at the moment. Two goals at Withdean Stadium made it 10 from his past 10 appearances, 23 for the season and 99 in a Hassocks shirt as the Robins ran out 3-0 winners over AFC Varndeanians.

At the other end, James Westlake's side recorded a fifth clean sheet in a row.

James Shaw and his defence have condemned the keeper of the statistics to an evening pouring through the annals to see if that is a club record; the likely answer being yes.

Shaw remained relatively untroubled against a Varndeanians side with not an awful lot to play for over the remaining eight games of the season.

The Vs are already destined to finish in lower mid table, currently 16 points clear of the two relegation spots and the same number behind Little Common in 11th.

Nobody connected with Varndeanians will mind that, especially after the dramas of last season when they failed to win any of their opening 25 matches and yet managed to avoid the drop following a stunning turnaround post-Christmas.

Hassocks were one of the sides who fell victims to the Vs during that greatest of great escapes, losing 1-0 at Withdean in February.

The Robins showed very early on there was going to be no repeat this time around, taking the lead with the first attack of the game on two minutes.

Josh Bradley took a snapshot which home goalkeeper Jordan Hawkins could only parry.

The ball fell kindly to Leon Turner to strike home at the start of a man-of-the-match performance down the left.

Bradley on the other flank meanwhile was making first start since completing a four-match ban.

He replaced Alfie Loversidge in the only change Westlake made from last week's 2-0 win over Loxwood.

The former Steyning Town man certainly made the most of the opportunity, being at the heart of a lot of the good stuff Hassocks did to threaten a Varndeanians defence including ex-Robins favourite Luke Akehurst.

Hassocks almost added a second before the clock had even reached five minutes.

Liam Benson flashed a ball across goal which defender Sam Smith could not quite get on the end of.

"When Johnson cannot stop scoring at one end and Hassocks possess a defence which has now not been breached for more than 450 minutes at the other, no other side in the league will fancy playing Hassocks at the moment"

The Robins were wasting no time in laying bare their attacking intent. Not content with creating chances for Hassocks, Bradley momentarily decided he wanted to help out Varndeanians too on 21 minutes.

An attempted back pass to Shaw was way too short, forcing the Hassocks number one into his only meaningful save of the afternoon to deny Mark Goldson.

Five minutes later and Hassocks doubled their advantage. Turner slid in Johnson and with the red-hot form the Robins' leading scorer is in, there was only going to be one outcome as he went one-on-one with Hawkins.

Johnson rifled home with aplomb and you sensed Hassocks were already on easy street with half hour

yet to be completed.

The Robins performance subsequently became professional more than spectacular.

Nobody could blame Hassocks for easing up and saving themselves for the challenges ahead.

Their next six Premier Division matches are against teams above them in the table and they have a Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup third round tie with fifth placed Steyning Town slotted in for Tuesday 21st March.

With a potentially season-defining next few weeks to come, it is little wonder than Westlake is keeping his cards close to his chest about where he and his players are aiming to finish the campaign.

Just before half time and Bradley came close to scoring one of the goals of the season, hitting a strike on the volley without breaking stride which flew just wide.

The second half was all Hassocks in terms of possession although chances from open play were few and far between. So much so that the Robins third and Johnson's second came from a 69th minute penalty.

Job done for Hassocks, who know sterner tests lie ahead. But when Johnson cannot stop scoring and with a defence which has now not been breached for more than 450 minutes, no other team in the league will fancy playing Hassocks either.

Hassocks: Shaw; Blake, S Smith, Bygraves, Troak; J Bradley, Williamson, J Westlake, L Turner; Johnson, Benson.

Subs: Loversidge (Turner 72), Harding (Johnson 74), Wilkes (Williamson 80), Bull (Bradley 82).



Robins in the RUR

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

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

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

The most recent came in 2022,

when we were beaten 2-0 by a Littlehampton Town side who were on their way to a treble of Southern Combination League title, Peter Bentley League Cup and RUR Cup.

To reach the final four, we had beaten Montpellier Villa 5-0 in our first ever meeting in senior football.

An impressive 2-1 extra time win over Crawley Down Gatwick followed thanks to two goals from Jack Troak before we beat Seaford Town at the

Crouch in the quarter finals – Troak scoring both again as he became the star of the Robins' memorable run which caught the imagination of the entire village.

Our most disappointing semi final exit came a decade earlier in the 2011-12 campaign, a 3-1 defeat against lowly Selsey at Culver Road.

A 5-2 victory in the league at the High Street Ground had been recorded a month previously and the

Robins went into the tie the favourites despite being without the services of the talismanic Phil Gault.

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

It had been a straight forward cup run up until that point with victories against Mile Oak, East Grinstead Town and Southwick paving the way to heartache in the last four.

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

Mile Oak, Arundel and Lancing had all been vanquished on route to the meeting with the Robins' arch rivals of the time and although formbooks and class can go out the window when it comes to a local derby, Hassocks proved to be no match for the Hillians who ran out 4-1 winners.

The first time we reached an RUR Cup semi came in the 1993-94 campaign and it was the closest Hassocks have ever come to clearing the hurdle to actually making a final as we went down only in extra time 2-0 to the Lions of Pagham

That was not an easy run to reach the last four either with

victories over Wick, Southwick, Lancing and Whitehawk all being gained along the way.

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

There have been six other quarter final exits - to Burgess Hill the year before that semi heartache at the hands of the Hillians, Selsey in 1994-95, Pagham in 1992-93 and Southwick in 1981-82 – the first

"The first time we reached an RUR Cup semi came in the 1993-94 campaign and it was the closest Hassocks have ever come to clearing the hurdle to actually making a final as we went down only in extra time 2-0 to the Lions of Pagham"

season we entered the competition.

Crawley Down Gatwick knocked us out in the last eight in 2016-17 on their way to defeat in the final against Newhaven.

Haywards Heath Town were responsible for our 2018-19 quarter final elimination when they won 3-0

at the Beacon.

The Bluebells went onto win the competition, defeating Peacehaven & Telscombe in the final.

Peacehaven themselves were responsible for our exit in the last eight last season and they ended up lifting the trophy too by beating Southern Combination League champions Broadbridge in the final back in May.

Round three has been dropped this season in favour of the competition running through first round, second round and quarter final.

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

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

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

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

As for the second round, that was the stage we exited in 2019-20, losing 3-0 at home to Pagham before the competition took a two-season break due to Covid.

In 2017-18, we somehow blew a 2-0 lead with 15 minutes remaining



Another final shot goes begging... Stuart Faith can't believe it as the Robins lose to Selsey when favourites in 2012

to lose 4-2 in extra time away at AFC Uckfield Town.

Hassocks were also eliminated from the competition at that stage in both the 2014-15 and 2015-16 seasons via heavy home defeats, 5-1 against Eastbourne Town and 5-0 against Littlehampton Town.

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

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

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

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

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

1982-83.

Before the changes to the format for the current campaign, the majority of clubs received byes through round one and straight into round two.

Subsequently, Hassocks did not play a game in the first round for 17 years between defeating Mile Oak in the 1999-00 season and beating Worthing United 6-3 in 2016-17.

That win over the Mavericks seven years ago was our most recent appearance at this stage before this afternoon.

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

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

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

Six games have gone to extra time and Hassocks have won four of them, the only blemishes being that 1994 semi-final defeat to Pagham

and the exit four seasons ago against AFC Uckfield Town.

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

Aside from the Little Common penalty defeat, Hassocks have only had two other shootouts in the competition.

2007-08 saw Arundel beaten 4-1 from 12 yards after a 2-2 draw in normal time.

Penalties were also required back in March when we knocked Steyning Town out in the third round.

A 0-0 draw was followed by 17 perfect penalties apiece until the Barrowman's Charlie Robinson was denied by James Shaw to give Hassocks a 9-8 victory. Shaw had earlier converted our fifth spot kick, although the highlight of the shootout was undoubtedly a Panenka from Super Pat Harding.

Hassocks' biggest victory in the competition also represents one of their biggest ever victories in senior football, a 9-0 hammering dished out to the now defunct Shinewater Association in 2000-01.

The Robins heaviest RUR defeat is that 5-0 loss to Littlehampton Town from 2014.

"Our most recent semi final saw a bumper crowd pack out the Beacon to watch Hassocks run treble winners Littlehampton Town close"



Every Hassocks result in the RUR Cup

1981-82

1st round: Hassocks 2-1 Ringmer
2nd round: Hassocks 1-1 Hastings Town
2nd round replay: Hastings Town 3-5 Hassocks
Quarter final: Southwick 3-0 Hassocks

1982-83

1st round: Rye United 3-4 Hassocks (AET)
2nd round: Whitehawk 5-1 Hassocks

1983-84

1st round: Hassocks 1-1 Peacehaven & Telscombe
1st round replay: Peacehaven & Telscombe 1-0 Hassocks

1984-85

1st round: Hassocks 1-2 Ringmer

1986-87

1st round: Peacehaven & Telscombe 0-1 Hassocks
2nd round: Hassocks 1-3 Sidley United

1992-93

1st round: Worthing United 1-2 Hassocks
2nd round: Arundel 0-1 Hassocks
Quarter final: Pagham 2-1 Hassocks

1993-94

Preliminary: Hassocks 3-2 Wick
1st round: Hassocks 3-1 Southwick
2nd round: Hassocks 2-0 Lancing
Quarter final: Hassocks 3-1 Whitehawk
Semi final: Hassocks 0-2 Pagham (AET)

1994-95

1st round: Hassocks 3-1 Steyning Town
2nd round: Hassocks 3-1 Southwick
Quarter final: Hassocks 1-2 Selsey

1995-96

1st round: Hassocks 4-2 Wothing United (AET)
2nd round: Midhurst & Easebourne 2-1 Hassocks

1996-97

1st round: Langney Sports 3-0 Hassocks

1997-98

1st round: Chichester City 0-1 Hassocks
2nd round: Shoreham 1-0 Hassocks

1998-99

1st round: Hassocks 1-0 Sidlesham
2nd round: Selsey 0-2 Hassocks
Quarter final: Burgess Hill Town 3-0 Hassocks

1999-00

1st round: Mile Oak 0-4 Hassocks
2nd round: Arundel 2-4 Hassocks
Quarter final: Hassocks 1-0 Lancing
Semi final: Burgess Hill Town 4-1 Hassocks

2000-01

2nd round: Hassocks 9-0 Shinewater Association
3rd round: Selsey 1-0 Hassocks

2001-02

2nd round: Hassocks 5-2 Mile Oak
3rd round: Southwick 3-2 Hassocks

2002-03

2nd round: Burgess Hill Town 3-0 Hassocks

2003-04

2nd round: Pagham 4-2 Hassocks

2004-05

2nd round: Selsey 2-1 Hassocks

2005-06

2nd round: Hassocks 1-0 Crawley Down
3rd round: Hassocks 2-1 Ringmer AET
Quarter final: Shoreham 2-1 Hassocks

2006-07

2nd round: Wick 1-2 Hassocks
3rd round: Hassocks 5-0 Seaford Town
Quarter final: Whitehawk 3-0 Hassocks

2007-08

2nd round: Crawley Down 0-4 Hassocks
3rd round: Arundel 2-2 Hassocks (Won 4-1 pens)
Quarter final: Rye United 2-1 Hassocks

2008-09

2nd round: Hassocks 2-0 Midhurst & Easebourne
3rd round: Mile Oak 0-1 Hassocks
Quarter final: Hassocks 1-4 Three Bridges

2009-10

2nd round: Hassocks 2-4 Selsey

2010-11

2nd round: Hassocks 0-1 Sidley

2011-12

2nd round: Hassocks 5-1 Mile Oak
3rd round: Hassocks 2-0 East Grinstead Town
Quarter final: Hassocks 3-1 Southwick
Semi final: Hassocks 1-3 Selsey

2012-13

2nd round: Hassocks 5-5 Little Common (Lost 4-3 pens)

2013-14

2nd round: Hassocks 3-2 Lingfield
3rd round: Horsham YMCA 3-2 Hassocks

2014-15

2nd round: Hassocks 1-5 Eastbourne Town

2015-16

2nd round: Hassocks 0-5 Littlehampton Town

2016-17

1st round: Hassocks 6-3 Worthing United
2nd round: Hassocks 3-0 Billingshurst
3rd round: Hassocks 2-1 Midhurst & Easebourne
Quarter final: Crawley Down Gatwick 3-0 Hassocks

2017-18

2nd round: AFC Uckfield Town 4-2 Hassocks (AET)

2018-19

2nd round: Hassocks 2-1 Crawley Down Gatwick
3rd round: Hassocks 6-2 Seaford Town
Quarter final: Hassocks 0-3 Haywards Heath Town

2019-20

2nd round: Hassocks 0-3 Pagham

2021-22

2nd round: Hassocks 5-0 Montpelier Villa
3rd round: Hassocks 2-1 Crawley Down Gatwick (AET)
Quarter final: Seaford Town 0-2 Hassocks
Semi final: Hassocks 0-2 Littlehampton Town

2022-23

2nd round: Forest Row 0-5 Hassocks
3rd round: Hassocks 0-0 Steyning Town (Won 9-8 pens)
Quarter final: Peacehaven & Telscombe 2-1 Hassocks



John Broomfield

REMOVALS

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hassockslife.co.uk



Robins ready for London & South East challenge

Hassocks Ladies kick off their 2023-24 campaign tomorrow in a new division having sauntered to the Sussex County League title last season

Having been crowned Sussex County Women's League Premier Division champions last season, Hassocks Ladies find themselves taking on the London & South East Regional League Division One for 2023-24.

The Robins promotion moves them up to the sixth tier in the English women's pyramid. More travelling, tougher opponents but a welcome challenge having won the title by six clear points from runners up Bognor Regis Town.

Hassocks picked up 11 victories, two draws and just a solitary defeat from their 14 matches in 2022-23. That record suggests they had it easy; but this was a far from straightforward campaign.

The weather wiped out large chunks of the season, leaving Hassocks going up to six weeks without playing.

Rain and freezing temperatures were not the only problems. Two teams dropped out with records expunged or points awarded and

other games were declared null and void.

Despite the somewhat haphazard nature of the fixture list and never quite knowing what would happen next, the Robins kept putting win after win on their board.

They confirmed their place as the best side in the Sussex League by beating nearest rivals Bognor 5-2 to secure the championship in the penultimate game of the campaign.

Hassocks had to show fight and determination to recover from 2-1 down. Emily Spooner hit a hat-trick along with goals from Mia Pordage and Jemma Lindfield.

Spooner proved quite the signing after joining from Burgess Hill Town in February, scoring four times in three appearances, contributing two assists and being Player of the Match in the win over Bognor.

Goals were in plentiful supply. Katherine Chappell finished as the league's top scorer with 22 from just 11 matches.

Jess Craig was runner up in the golden boot stakes with 12 and Kirstin Mair contributed a highly

important seven.

Hassocks are expecting a much more organised campaign this time around in their new league.

They will face 11 opponents, six of whom are from Sussex: Bexhill United, Bognor Regis, Eastbourne United, Hastings United, Montpellier Villa, Newhaven and Steyning Town. Steyning will provide the shortest journey of the season.

The five other clubs are Bromley, Dartford Reserves, Herne Bay and Welling United.

Fixtures through to the end of October have been published. The Robins will kick off their season away at Bromley tomorrow in a 3pm kick off on the 3G pitch at Hayes Lane used by the Ravens' men in the National League.

Hassocks host their first game at the Beacon on Sunday 10th September against Welling, kick off at 2pm.

All home matches take place at 2pm on Sunday afternoons and admission is free, so please do come along and support the Robins if you can this season.



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Hassocks Football Club**

Robins flying start continues with four goals hit against the Lingers

**Southern Combination League Premier Division
Saturday 12th August 2023, The Beacon
Hassocks 4-1 Lingfield**

This is turning into a rather good start to the Southern Combination League Premier Division campaign for Hassocks.

A 4-1 victory over Lingfield made it two wins and a draw from three matches, eight goals scored and only two conceded.

It also righted the wrongs of the midweek Emirates FA Cup Extra Preliminary Qualifying Round replay defeat at Erith Town.

A woeful 17 minute spell before half time in which Hassocks conceded three times set the Robins on their way to a 4-0 defeat.

The result at the Stanmore Stadium was made doubly disappointing as the significant carrot of a first competitive Mid Sussex Derby against Burgess Hill Town for over 20 years was dangling in front of Hassocks.

Whilst Erith now go onto face the Hillians at the More Than Tyres Stadium next Saturday, Hassocks will host AFC Varndeanians in the slightly less glamorous Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup.

But if the Robins can deliver a similar result and performance as they did against Lingfield, then it will be well worth getting along to watch them take on the Vs.

It was pretty much one-way traffic towards the Lingers goal throughout the first half.

Tom Frankland nodded down a Raging Joe Bull cross from the left for Liam Benson to attempt an acrobatic chest and volley blocked behind by Tyrone Magala-Bryan.

That started an intense period for Magala-Bryan in which he came a one-man blocking machine. He next threw himself in the way of a Super Pat Harding volley.

The loose ball came back to Harding, whose snap shot required an excellent reaction save from the legs of Lingfield goalkeeper Jack Glassborow.

As the ball then looped threateningly into the air, Magala-Bryan was again well positioned to head clear under pressure from Frankland and Jamie Wilkes.

Hassocks were getting a lot of joy out wide. Another left wing Bull cross was headed against the bar from six yards by Benson before Blake got a sight of goal cutting in from the opposite side. His powerful low drive was well repelled by Glassborow.

The Robins worked the resulting corner short via Bull and Benson. When the ball made its way into the box, Harding showed brilliant close control to get it under and hit a shot on the turn blocked by George Branton.

Harding had a second bite of the cherry but an equally impressive block from the outstretched leg of Luke New kept that one out. Benson then arrived on the scene, only to blast the Robins' third attempt from the same play high and wide.

With half time now approaching, it looked as though Lingfield were going to make it into the break level.

Kyle Woolven though had other ideas, choosing the third minute of added time to score his first goal in Hassocks colours.

A Bull corner was cleared only as far as the edge of the box, where Woolven was lurking to unleash an effort which went in via a deflection off the unfortunate Magala-Bryan.

Hassocks were given an early second half warning as to why they needed to be more clinical, Richard Wetton coming close to an equaliser with a 30 yard drive inches over.

The Robins response to that was perfect as they went up the other end and doubled their advantage on 50 minutes.

Woolven found Frankland on halfway, where some quick feet and a sweeping switch released Harding down the left.

Harding hung up the perfect cross



to the back post, Frankland continued

his run and fired home on the volley.

Lingfield enjoyed their best spell immediately after as they set about cutting the deficit.

Matt Gunn had to block a Carl Brown volley behind and then the same Lingfield player hit an effort which dipped just over the bar.

The Lingers almost scrambled home a corner before Hassocks added the killer third with 15 minutes left to play.

Bull picked up possession just inside the Lingfield half, embarked on a mazy run forward and slipped in Benson to apply the finish.

Conor Wilford pulled one back for the visitors from the penalty spot following a Harvey Blake handball with five minutes remaining.

Hassocks though ensured they won by three when Under 23s midfielder Sam Geard grabbed his first senior goal for the Robins in stoppage time.

Alex Bygraves nodded a corner back across goal towards Geard who picked his spot with a precision header placed between Glassborow and New guarding the post.

Geard was not the only young player to enjoy his afternoon. Midfielder Jack Mundy was outstanding on his first start since joining on loan from Three Bridges and there was a late debut from the bench for Whitehawk teenager Kian Nandhra.

Hassocks: Trigwell; Blake, Gunn, Bygraves, Bull; Frankland, Mundy, Wilkes, Harding; Woolven, Benson.

Subs: Loversidge (Frankland 74), Geard (Woolven 74), Brewer (Benson 79), Nandhra (Harding 87), B Tighe (Blake 88).



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**HART COUNTRY
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Three points from Pagham pays perfect tribute to Dave

**Southern Combination League Premier Division
Tuesday 15th August 2023, Nyetimber Lane
Pagham 1-2 Hassocks**

At Clayton Wood Burial Ground a stone's throw from the Beacon on Tuesday morning, a service was held for Hassocks Football Club stalwart Dave Knight who passed away recently.

Come the evening and the Robins delivered a fitting tribute to a man associated for more than 40 years with the club by winning 2-1 away at Pagham.

Dave fulfilled many roles for Hassocks, although he was best known for his lengthy spells as secretary and programme editor.

He was a huge figure in the move from Aadastra Park to the Beacon. At one point, he lent the club money to get through a cashflow crisis without which it may not have survived.

Dave was never afraid to speak his mind and that made him a fascinating character for post-game analysis; the more action packed a game, the more incidents to pick through, the better.

He would have enjoyed this trip to Nyetimber Lane. Pagham spent most of the second half playing numerically disadvantaged, firstly through a number of sin bins and then by two late red cards which saw them finish with only nine men on the pitch.

Hassocks kept their cool by-and-large, the end result being three points which leaves them sitting a single goal off the top of the Premier Division.

Both Crowborough Athletic and the Robins have 10 points at the head of the table. The Crows lead the way on account of their +8 goal difference compared to the +7 of Hassocks.

Too early to be paying any serious attentions to the standings? Almost certainly. But it is rare to see the Robins flying in such a lofty position and so hard not to marvel at the novelty of it all.

Hassocks made a good start,

knocking the ball around well across their backline and in midfield.

Inroads further forward were more difficult to come by until Pagham were dealt a blow with 10 minutes played when centre back Daryl Wollers took a nasty blow to the face.

Wollers required lengthy treatment on the side of the pitch, missing a good five minutes of the action as a result.

Midfielder John Phillips dropped in to cover from Wollers. Little did Pagham know that this would not be the last time they would find themselves a man down.

Having done the hard work by navigating that spell playing shorthanded without conceding, the Lions fell behind within a few minutes of Wollers returning to the fray.

Raging Joe Bull delivered a corner and Super Pat Harding was left free to head home unchallenged.

As a Hassocks stalwart himself who came through the youth setup at the Beacon 20 years ago when Mr Knight was secretary, Harding was a most apt opening scorer.

Hassocks moved 2-0 ahead just past the half hour mark. A long ball over the top sent Liam Benson racing clear one-on-one with Connor Kelly.

The Pagham goalkeeper made an outstanding save, only for the ball to divert towards the onrushing Kyle Woolven.

There was to be no mistake from Woolven, who clinically despatched the rebound for his second goal in as many matches.

Having already booked two Pagham players by this point, referee Tazlim Ali was about to become even more busy.

Dan Simmonds became the first Lion to be sin binned for ranting at Mr Ali after being penalised for a tug of a shirt on the stroke of half time.

Pagham were dealt a further blow when Wollers succumbed to his



earlier injury and was withdrawn at the break.

Hassocks did their best to take advantage of both the disruption in the Pagham defence and Simmonds sitting out 10 minutes, almost adding a third through Benson.

Simmonds' return to the action gave the Lions 11 men once again but this was very short lived as within a couple of minutes, Lucas Micevisius was sent to the sin bin.

The Robins fashioned several half chances during this latest period of 11 versus 10, though none were serious enough to worry Kelly.

It was totally against the run of play when Pagham pulled one back on 67 minutes.

Alex Bygraves and Matt Gunn collided when attempting to clear, leaving Simmonds to go through and beat Fraser Trigwell one-on-one.

Cutting the deficit perked the Lions up. They enjoyed a lot more possession and it needed Bygraves and Gunn to atone for their earlier moment by making some vital interventions to prevent Trigwell being called into serious action.

Home hopes of an equaliser were all-but extinguished when Jamie Ford picked up harsh second yellow card for an innocent foul on 84 minutes.

In contrast, there could be no defending substitute Ronald Kardos two minutes later when he was shown a deserved straight red for a horror challenge as the Lions well and truly lost their heads.

Hassocks: Trigwell; Blake, Gunn, Bygraves, Bull; Frankland, Mundy, Wilkes, Harding; Woolven, Benson.

Subs: Loversidge (Harding 64), Williamson (Mundy 70), B Tighe (Woolven 90), J Westlake, Geard (unused).

First Team Matches 2023-24

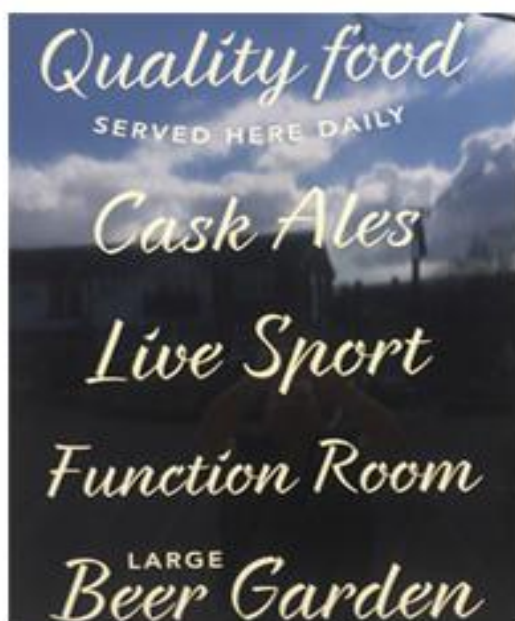
Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Att	Scorers
July					
29/07 - 15:00	Eastbourne Town (H)	SCFLP	1-1	232	OG
August					
01/08 - 19:30	Loxwood (A)	SCFLP	3-0	82	Frankland, Benson, Harding
05/08 - 15:00	Erith Town (H)	FACEP	1-1	135	Bull
08/08 - 19:45	Erith Town (A)	FACEPR	0-4		
12/08 - 15:00	Lingfield (H)	SCFLP	4-1	101	Woolven, Frankland, Benson, Geard
15/08 - 19:30	Pagham (A)	SCFLP	2-1	76	Harding, Woolven
19/08 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (H)	RURC1			
26/08 - 15:00	Midhurst & Easebourne (H)	SCFLP			
28/08 - 11:00	Shoreham (H)	SCFLP			
September					
02/09 - 15:00	Steyning Town (A)	SCFLP			
09/09 - 15:00	Eastbourne United (A)	SCFLP			
16/09 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (H)	SCFLP			
30/09 - 15:00	Little Common (A)	SCFLP			
October					
03/10 - 19:45	Horsham YMCA (H)	SCFLP			
07/10 - 15:00	Crawley Down Gatwick (A)	SCFLP			
14/10 - 15:00	AFC Uckfield Town (H)	SCFLP			
28/10 - 15:00	Newhaven (A)				
November					
04/11 - 15:00	Peacehaven & Tels. (H)	SCFLP			
11/11 - 15:00	Crowborough Athletic (A)	SCFLP			
18/11 - 15:00	Eastbourne Town (A)	SCFLP			
25/11 - 15:00	Saltdean United (H)	SCFLP			
December					
02/12 - 15:00	Bexhill United (A)	SCFLP			
09/12 - 15:00	Loxwood (H)	SCFLP			
16/12 - 15:00	Lingfield (A)	SCFLP			
26/12 - 11:00	Haywards Heath Town (H)	SCFLP			
30/12 - 15:00	Shoreham (A)	SCFLP			
January					
06/01 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (A)	SCFLP			
20/01 - 15:00	Little Common (H)	SCFLP			
27/01 - 15:00	AFC Uckfield Town (A)	SCFLP			
February					
03/02 - 15:00	Pagham (H)	SCFLP			
10/02 - 15:00	Peacehaven & Tels. (A)	SCFLP			
17/02 - 15:00	Crowborough Athletic (H)	SCFLP			
24/02 - 15:00	Steyning Town (H)	SCFLP			
March					
02/03 - 15:00	Midhurst & Easebourne (A)	SCFLP			
09/03 - 15:00	Eastbourne United (H)	SCFLP			
23/03 - 15:00	Crawley Down Gatwick (H)	SCFLP			
30/03 - 15:00	Horsham YMCA (A)	SCFLP			
April					
01/04 - 11:00	Haywards Heath Town (A)	SCFLP			
06/04 - 15:00	Bexhill United (H)	SCFLP			
13/04 - 15:00	Saltdean United (A)	SCFLP			
20/04 - 15:00	Newhaven (H)	SCFLP			

First Team Appearances 2023-24

Player	2023-24 Season				Hassocks Career	
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals	Games	Goals
Liam Benson	6	0	6	2	182	52
Joe Bull	6	0	6	1	143	10
Alex Bygraves	6	0	6	0	50	4
Fraser Trigwell	6	0	6	0	7	0
Jamie Wilkes	6	0	6	0	46	4
Pat Harding	5	1	6	2	244	143
Bradley Tighe	4	2	6	0	176	0
Kyle Woolven	3	3	6	2	6	2
Tom Frankland	5	0	5	2	17	2
Matt Gunn	5	0	5	0	5	0
James Westlake	4	0	4	0	261	31
Harvey Blake	3	1	4	0	116	4
Jack Troak	3	0	3	0	125	31
Josh Mundy	2	1	3	0	3	0
Alex Fair	1	1	2	0	2	0
Ben Bacon	0	2	2	0	48	17
Alex Brewer	0	2	2	0	5	1
Sam Geard	0	2	2	1	6	1
Elliott Hanslow	0	2	2	0	2	0
Alfie Loversidge	0	2	2	0	81	11
Sam Smith	1	0	1	0	42	3
Kian Nandhra	0	1	1	0	1	0
Mike Williamson	0	1	1	0	40	0

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Under 23s Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
August				
17/08 - 19:45	Redhill (A)	SCFL23	3-1	J.Nhandra, Turner, Mercer
24/08 - 19:45	Horley Town (H)	SCFL23		
31/08 - 19:45	Broadbridge Heath (A)	SCFL23		

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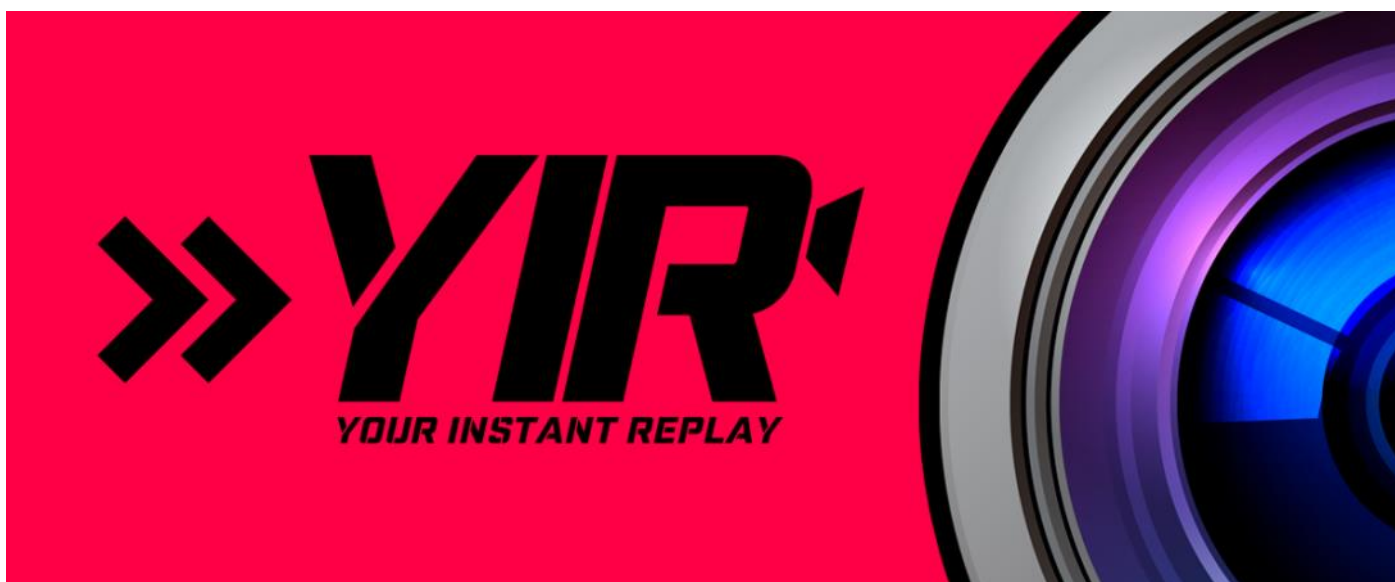
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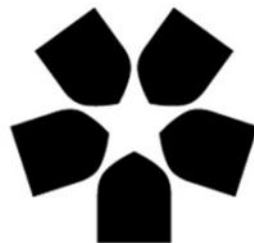
Ladies Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
August				
20/08 - 15:00	Bromley (A)	LSE1S		
September				
17/09 - 14:00	Bexhill United (A)	LSE1S		
24/09 - 14:00	Eastbourne United (H)	LSE1S		
October				
08/10 - 14:00	Herne Bay (H)	LSE1S		
29/10 - 14:00	Newhaven (A)	LSE1S		
November				
05/11 - 14:00	Ashford United (H)	LSEC2		





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On This Day...



Hassocks throw it away to crash out of RUR Cup

August 19th 2017: Leading 2-0 at AFC Uckfield Town with only 15 minutes remaining, Hassocks contrived to find a way to exit the RUR Cup by losing 4-2 at the Oaks

For the second successive season, Hassocks were eliminated at the earliest possible stage of a knockout competition by AFC Uckfield Town.

Last year, the Oakmen were 2-1 winners in the second round of the Peter Bentley League Cup in extra time.

This time it was the Sussex RUR Charity Cup and again it required a full 120 minutes for the hosts to advance to the round three with a 4-2 victory.

As late in the day as 15 minutes remaining, you would have got long odds on there being extra time - let alone Uckfield progressing to the last 16.

Hassocks led 2-0 and were looking relatively comfortable. Safe passage for the Robins seemed assured.

Uckfield were not exactly in great form or spirits coming into the game. They had lost three out of four so far this season and conceded eight times along the way.

But Hassocks did their best to boost morale around the Oaks by producing a quite remarkable collapse, conceding in the 76th, 88th, 108th and 118th minutes.

The continued defensive issues and the manner in which the Robins conspired to throw this game away has got to be a major cause for concern for Mark Dalgleish and Phil Wickwar.

Hassocks though tend to focus on the positives. Strike duo Liam Benson and Michael Death provided most of those.

Both were on target to take their tallies to three apiece for the campaign.

Their goals are at least making light of the loss of four key attacking players.

Charlie Pitcher and Jamie Hillwood both moved to Haywards Heath Town in the summer, Jack Rowe-Hurst has signed for Ringmer and Phil Gault continues to be unavailable.

Benson had begun on the bench but an early injury to Nathan Miles saw him introduced with the game barely 15 minutes old.

It did not take him long to make an impact, heading home midway through the half.

Seven minutes later and Death doubled the advantage. Again it came from a header, Harry Mills drifting out wide on the right and delivering an excellent cross which Death expertly diverted into the back of the net.

We still though need to talk about what is going on at the other end. Dalgleish and Wickwar sought to tighten up their alarmingly leaky defence by switching from a back three to a back four.

Club captain Ashley Marsh was recalled and they also gave a debut to young goalkeeper Nathan Stroomberg, dual-signed in midweek from Lewes.

Stroomberg is highly thought of at the Dripping Pan. Lewes are therefore keen for him to experience as much senior football as possible and he spent part of last season at Worthing United.

He took over from Alex Harris, who has endured a testing start to his third spell as a Hassocks player.

Despite all those changes, as soon as Shaun Loft pulled one back for Uckfield it was a familiar story.

A wave of panic contagiously spread like wildfire through the Hassocks ranks as they collectively fell apart.

So far this season, once one goal has flown in the Robins look ridiculously vulnerable to conceding more and that reached a nadir on

this occasion.

There was a feeling that had Hassocks been able to call upon the experience and leadership of the likes of injured duo James Westlake and Spencer Slaughter - as well as Gault and Josh Hawkes - then perhaps they might have possessed the nous to close the game out.

They could not call upon it though and did not see the game out. Richie Welch ensured the extra 30 minutes were necessary with an equaliser two minutes from the end of normal time.

Bailo Camara added the third shortly after the sides had turned around in extra time. Uckfield's safe progression was secured by Dean Stewart-Hunter with 10 minutes of the additional.

It was a frustrating afternoon for Hassocks with plenty of their ire being directed at referee Ciaran Kane.

Mr Kane did make a number of baffling decisions throughout, although the Robins really had no-one to blame but themselves for their exit.

Hassocks: Stroomberg; Akehurst, Barnes, Badger, Marsh; Stokes, Mills, L Westlake, Wilkins; Miles, Death.

Subs: Benson, Bant (used), Price, Dalgleish, Harris (unused).

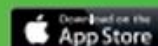
Starman: Michael Death

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Around the League...



After the excitement of the Emirates FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round, last weekend saw the return of Southern Combination League Premier and Division One action with lots of competitive football played across the county

Crowborough Athletic continue to lead the way at the top of the very early Premier Division table even after being held to a 1-1 draw at home by Loxwood, who picked up their first point of the campaign in the process.

Jordan Stallibrass put the Magpies ahead on 12 minutes with Harry Forster levelling for Crowborough with the game about to tick into the final quarter hour.

It proved to be an expensive afternoon for Loxwood with eight of their starting XI collecting yellow cards and Alfie Jones seeing red.

Two of the promotion favourites met at the Haven where **Crawley Down Gatwick** were edged out 3-2 by **Haywards Heath Town**.

Cameron Dobell, Hayden Skerry and Charlie Pitcher appeared to have the Bluebells on easy street at 3-0 ahead before the hour mark.

A comeback from the Anvils set up a nervy finish, however. Josh Brown and Oli Leslie cut the deficit to one with 20 minutes to play but Heath just about held on for their first win since relegation from the Isthmian League.

Goals in either half from Ross Edwards and Harry Shooman helped **Steyning Town** maintain their 100 percent record with a 2-1 victory over **Eastbourne Town** at the Birchwood Ground.

Peacehaven & Telscombe ran out 2-1 winners over **Pagham**. Josh Bradley scored his first goal for the Tye since leaving us to sign for Peacehaven in the summer with Lewis Croal joining him on the scoresheet.

It continues to be somewhat of a slow start to the season for **Newhaven** who had to settle for a point from their long trip to **Midhurst & Easebourne**.

Substitute Callum Connor put the

Dockers 1-0 ahead on 74 minutes but the lead was short lived, Siphesihle Mdiolose levelling less than 180 seconds later to ensure the spoils were shared.

Lewis Hole and Freddie Warren struck for **Little Common** in their 2-1 home success against **Saltdean United**. Josh Marshall claimed the Tigers consolation.

AFC Uckfield Town overcame the 10 men of **Horsham YMCA**, who found themselves playing a man short for more than an hour after a red card for Josh Neathey.

The Oakmen goals came from Charlie Playford, Jacob Feasey and Tony Potter-Drake.

Shoreham put their first point on the board since winning promotion back to the Premier Division with a fine 1-1 draw at **Eastbourne United**.

Josh Gould gave the Musselmen a 1-0 lead in first half injury time. Callum Barlow provided the equaliser for United 10 minutes after the interval.

Last but by no means least, two ex-Robins got the goals as **AFC Varndeanians** defeated **Bexhill United** 2-1 at Withdean Stadium.

Jude Wallis put Vs 1-0 ahead on 16 minutes. James Stone equalised for the Pirates just past the half hour mark with Charlie Tuck going onto find the winner with only 60 seconds of the 90 remaining.

Two of the Surrey-based clubs lead the way in Division One.

Godalming Town top the table thanks to a goal difference helped hugely by a 7-2 victory over **Copthorne**.

Godalming led 3-2 as late as the 83rd minute, after which they added four to their total. Cameron Edwin grabbed two, Ross Cheek one and Kieran Ferguson rounded off his hat-trick having earlier scored twice in

three minutes either side of half time.

Tom White was the other Godalming scorer. Dan Sullivan and Tony Funnell were on target for Copthorne, who had been 1-0 ahead at one point.

Sitting second are **Chessington & Hook United**. They were 1-0 winners at home to Oakwood through a Samuel Boakye strike early in the second half.

Ramon Santos claimed a brace as **Montpelier Villa** continued their good start by beating **East Preston** 3-1 at the Lashmar.

Former Hassocks defender Jack Baden also notched for Villa. Andrew O'Driscoll got the consolation for EP.

Two goals from George Cousins were enough to give **Roffey** their first win of the season, beating **Forest Row** 2-1 at Tinsley Lane.

Cousins struck in the 10th and 52nd minutes and although Liam Holden pulled one back for Frow, it was too little, too late.

Dorking Wanderers B had four different scorers find the back of the net in their 4-0 win away at **Alfold**.

Oliver Rawlins and Liam Trevatt both struck in the opening hour, followed by substitutes Jacob Todman and Paddi Harland-Goddard during the final 10 minutes.

A big three points were put on the board by **Selsey** as they beat **Seaford Town** 1-0 through a Vincent North goal.

Dan Hills, Bradley Hunt and Liam Appleton fired **Worthing United** to a 3-1 win at **Wick** whilst **Arundel** hammered **Mile Oak** 4-0 at Mill Road.

Matt Storm scored twice for the Mullets alongside goals from Stephen Herbert and Alfie Moss.

In Division One's final game, **Billingshurst** came rom 2-0 down to take a point from a 2-2 draw away at **Banstead Athletic**.



Tables Form Top Scorers Attendances

Southern Combination Premier Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crowborough Athletic	4	3	1	0	11	3	10
Hassocks	4	3	1	0	10	3	10
Steyning Town	3	3	0	0	9	1	9
Little Common	3	3	0	0	5	2	9
Haywards Heath Town	4	2	2	0	13	4	8
Eastbourne United	4	2	2	0	8	4	8
Peacehaven & Tels	3	2	1	0	5	2	7
AFC Uckfield Town	4	2	0	2	7	6	6
Newhaven	3	1	2	0	6	4	5
Horsham YMCA	4	1	2	1	4	6	5
Midhurst & Easebourne	4	1	2	1	5	11	5
Eastbourne Town	4	1	1	2	4	6	4
AFC Varndeanians	5	1	1	3	6	10	4
Pagham	4	1	0	3	4	5	3
Lingfield	4	0	3	1	6	9	3
Crawley Down Gatwick	4	1	0	3	5	8	3
Saltdean United	4	1	0	3	4	7	3
Shoreham	4	0	1	3	3	7	1
Loxwood	4	0	1	3	1	10	1
Bexhill United	3	0	0	3	2	10	0

Premier Division Attendances

	Ave	High	Low
Haywards Heath Town	315	315	315
Hassocks	232	232	232
Steyning Town	208	208	208
Peacehaven & Telscombe	200	200	200
Eastbourne United	185	185	185
Crowborough Athletic	185	185	185
Pagham	157	157	157
Eastbourne Town	168	168	168
Shoreham	157	157	157
Saltdean United	142	142	142
Bexhill United	156	156	156
Horsham YMCA	131	131	131
Little Common	114	114	114
AFC Uckfield Town	101	101	101
Loxwood	82	82	82
Lingfield	72	72	72
Midhurst & Easebourne	70	70	70
AFC Varndeanians	0	0	0
Crawley Down Gatwick	0	0	0
Newhaven	0	0	0

Premier Division Form Guide

	Last 6
Crowborough Athletic	WWWD
Hassocks	DWWW
Steyning Town	WWW
Little Common	WWW
Haywards Heath Town	DDWW
Eastbourne United	DWDW
Peacehaven & Tels	WWD
AFC Uckfield Town	WLWL
Newhaven	DDW
Horsham YMCA	DDLW
Midhurst & Easebourne	DWDL
Eastbourne Town	DLLW
AFC Varndeanians	LDLWL
Pagham	LWLL
Lingfield	DDLD
Crawley Down Gatwick	WLLL
Saltdean United	LWLL
Shoreham	LLDL
Loxwood	LLDL
Bexhill United	LLL

Premier Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Goals
Siphesihle Mdiolose	Midhurst	3
Billy Oliver	Peacehaven	4
Charlie Pitcher	Haywards Heath	4
Hayden Skerry	Haywards Heath	4
Conor Wilford	Lingfield	4
Callum Barlow	Eastbourne Utd	3
Callum Connor	Newhaven	3
Lewis Croal	Peacehaven	3
Callum Edwards	Newhaven	3
Harry Forster	Crowborough	3
Harvey Killick	Crowborough	2
Lucas Murrain	Crowborough	3
Charlie Playford	AFC Uckfield	3
James Stone	Bexhill United	3
Liam Benson	Hassocks	2
Ben Chowney	Crawley Down	2
Cameron Dobell	Haywards Heath	2
Elliott Duncan	Crowborough	2
Sam Ellis	Little Common	2

Under 23s

Under 18s

Ladies

Veterans



Southern Combination Under 23 North Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Broadbridge Heath	1	1	0	0	6	0	3
Lingfield	1	1	0	0	4	2	3
Hassocks	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Horsham YMCA	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Roffey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Francis Rangers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Steyning Town	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Oakwood	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
Redhill	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Horley Town	1	0	0	1	0	6	0

Under 23 North Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
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Southern Combination Under 18 Central Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AFC Varndeanians	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burgess Hill Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hassocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haywards Heath Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lancing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mile Oak	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Montpelier Villa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saltdean United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shoreham	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Francis Rangers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Under 18 Central Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
--------	------	-----

London & South East Women's Division One South

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bexhill United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bognor Regis Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bromley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dartford Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastbourne United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hassocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Herne Bay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Montpelier Villa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newhaven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Steyning Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Welling United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

LSEW Division One South Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
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Upcoming **Fixtures** >>>



Hassocks v Midhurst & Easebourne

Southern Combination League Premier Division
Saturday 26th August 2023, 3:00pm

The Beacon, Brighton Road, Hassocks, BN6 9LY

Admission prices £8 adults, £4 concessions, Under 16s free

Midhurst & Easebourne visit the Beacon next Saturday afternoon with the Robins looking for a much improved result after suffering two miserable defeats at the hands of the Stags last season

Midhurst last season

Midhurst won the Division One playoffs at the end of the 2021-22 with 2022-23 being their first season in the Premier Division for 30 years. Survival was the aim of the game and a strong start to life at step five put them in an excellent position to achieve that. Their campaign teetered off a little after Christmas but nine wins, eight draws and 21 defeats was enough for a 13th place finish some 13 points above Alfold in the final relegation spot. Like ourselves, Midhurst have taken five points out of a possible 12 to start the new campaign. They drew 2-2 with Lingfield on the opening day, followed up by a 2-0 win over Shoreham in midweek. The Stags

then drew 1-1 at home to Newhaven before shipping eight first half goals in an 8-0 defeat at Haywards Heath Town in midweek.

Head-to-head

Meetings have been few and far between. There have been 10 previous games, five of which we have won and five of which Midhurst have been triumphant in. Goals tend to be guaranteed; we have a 6-0 win at the Beacon and a 6-1 win at the Rotherfield to our name. The game last August at the Beacon was a crazy seven-goal thriller in which all the scoring took place in the first half. Midhurst won that one 4-3 and followed up with a 5-0 win at the Rotherfield in December, inflicting on

the Robins a heaviest defeat of the campaign.

Last time we met

A terrible afternoon on which everything that could go wrong, did go wrong. What made the result even more bizarre is that just one week earlier, we had put five goals past Saltdean United in 30 minutes at the Beacon. Midhurst were 3-0 ahead going into half time through two Harry Tremlett goals and one from Dan Wood. Alex Harris went off with a toe injury at the interval, leaving defender Will Broomfield to play in goal during a second half in which Tremlett added two more to finish his day with four of Midhurst's five goals.

<<< Upcoming Fixtures



Hassocks v Shoreham

Southern Combination League Premier Division
Tuesday 29th August 2023, 11:00am
The Beacon, Brighton Road, Hassocks, BN6 9LY
Admission prices £8 adults, £4 concessions, Under 16s free

Our first home midweek game under the lights so far this season sees former Hassocks striker Michael Death bring his reigning Division One champions Shoreham to the Beacon

Shoreham last season

Shoreham ended a four season absence from the Premier Division by winning promotion as Division One champions last time out under the management of former Hassocks striker Michael Death. In the process, the Musselmen went over a calendar year unbeaten in the league from January 2022 to January 2023, providing the foundations to lift the title by six points from Dorking Wanderers B with a record of 21 wins, eight draws and just three defeats from 32 matches. Shoreham are yet to win from any of their three games so far this season, losing to Midhurst & Easebourne and Little Common in the league and Crowborough Athletic in the FA Cup.

Head-to-head

Despite the fact we have not played each other for four seasons, there have been 51 meetings between the clubs. We have won 22, Shoreham 18 with 11 draws; such an even record showing there is rarely anything between the clubs. The only competition in senior football we are yet to play each other in is the FA Vase.

Last time we met

Shoreham were all-but relegated when they visited Hassocks for the final game played at the Beacon of the 2018-19 season whilst we were safely positioned in mid table. Not that any of that mattered as the Musselmen stormed to a 5-0 victory.

Mohammed Diallo scored four of the goals with the other coming from Martin Mutungi.

Familiar faces

The game will represent Death's first return to the Beacon as a manager. He played 112 games between 2015 and 2018 for the Robins, scoring 38 goals to sit 17th on the all time scorer's list in senior football. Our recent signing of Alex Fair will give the winger an early opportunity to take on the side he helped to win Division One last season, whilst young goalkeeper Joe Southam has signed for Shoreham this season having spent part of last season dual-signed with us from Burgess Hill Town.



Steypning Town v Hassocks

Southern Combination League Premier Division
Saturday 2nd September 2023, 3:00pm
Birchwood Ground, Shooting Field, Steypning, BN44 3RQ
Admission prices £7 adults, £3 concessions, Under 16s free

Our toughest test of the season so far awaits in a fortnight when we make the short journey to the Birchwood Ground... but more important than the football is the chance to buy a ticket in the famous Steypning Town meat raffle

Steypning Town last season

Having finished 17th in 2021-22, Steypning were the most improved side in the Premier Division last season. New manager Kevin Green recruited smartly, taking advantage of Pagham being moved to the Wessex League to sign several former Lions who did not want to commit to the extra travelling west that involved. A fifth placed finish was richly deserved and the Barrowmen look capable of doing even better this time around. Green has added several players who won promotion from Isthmian Division One South East last season with Whitehawk and Steypning currently sit third with three wins from three matches.

Head-to-head

There have only been 16 meetings between the sides, thanks largely to Steypning much of the 1990s in the Wessex League. Six of those matches have taken place in the Premier Division, four in Division One, four in the Sussex Senior Cup and two in the RUR Cup. The head-to-head reads seven Hassocks wins, four Steypning victories and five draws.

Last time we met

It was a grim Easter Monday at the Birchwood Ground with weather more akin the to the depths of winter than an April morning. The action on the pitch matched as there was scant entertainment on offer. Dom Johnson -Fisher grabbed the only goal of the

game on 77 minutes with a shot from distance which skidded off the wet 3G pitch to defy James Shaw and end up in the back of the net.

How to get to the Birchwood Ground

Make your way to the A283 Steypning bypass and continue on it once you reach the roundabout with Bramber Castle. Take the second left off the bypass onto Canons Way followed by an immediate right onto Henderson Walk. Following this road around to the right, turn right onto S Ash then left onto Farnfold Road. Follow this onto Middle Mead, turn left at the end onto the Shooting Field and you will find the ground a little way up on the right. Easy, right?

Robins Awards 2023-24



Starman Awards

Eastbourne Town home **Jack TROAK**
Loxwood away **Joe BULL**
Erith Town home **Joe BULL**
Lingfield home **Josh MUNDY**
Pagham away **Kyle WOOLVEN**
AFC Varndeanians home
Midhurst & Easebourne home
Shoreham home
Steyning Town away
Eastbourne United away
AFC Varndeanians home
Little Common away
Horsham YMCA home
Crawley Down Gatwick away
AFC Uckfield Town home
Newhaven away
Peacehaven & Telscombe home
Crowborough Athletic away
Eastbourne Town away
Saltdean United home
Bexhill United away
Loxwood home
Lingfield away
Haywards Heath Town home
Shoreham away
AFC Varndeanians away
Little Common home
AFC Uckfield Town away
Pagham home
Peacehaven & Telscombe away
Crowborough Athletic home
Steyning Town home
Midhurst & Easebourne away
Eastbourne United home
Crawley Down Gatwick home
Horsham YMCA away
Haywards Heath Town away
Bexhill United home
Saltdean United away
Newhaven home



Player of the Month

August 2023

1st
2nd
3rd

September 2023

1st
2nd
3rd

October 2023

1st
2nd
3rd

November 2023

1st
2nd
3rd

December 2023

1st
2nd
3rd

January 2024

1st
2nd
3rd

February 2024

1st
2nd
3rd

March 2024

1st
2nd
3rd

April 2024

1st
2nd
3rd

HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

Most



Most

Games

Goals

	Starts	Sub	Total	Goals
1. Mickey Turner	573	21	594	63
2. Ashley Marsh	519	6	525	4
3. Chris Hewitt	493	15	508	22
4. Ashley Low	445	30	475	14
5. Anthony Hibbert	407	55	462	124
6. Andy Fisk	445	11	456	14
7. Phil Gault	331	21	352	190
8. James Laing	298	53	351	143
9. Warren Dodds	311	37	348	3
10. Joel Harding	340	0	340	0
11. Paul John	329	0	329	0
12. Richard Thompson	305	19	324	11
13. Robbie Kitchen	284	39	323	123
14. Spencer Slaughter	250	43	293	47
15. Stuart Faith	276	13	289	22
16. James Westlake	241	20	261	31
17. Dave Smith	203	57	260	53
18. Joe Fernley	205	40	245	45
19. Pat Harding	211	33	244	143
20. Neil Smith	232	10	242	68
21. Dan Jacques	201	31	232	9
22. Mark Burnham	209	22	231	44
23. Nathan Miles	156	55	211	74
24. Phil Johnson	163	36	199	100
25. Marc Rendall	150	33	183	37

	Goals	Games
1. Phil Gault	190	352
2. Pat Harding	143	244
3. James Laing	143	351
4. Anthony Hibbert	124	462
5. Robbie Kitchen	123	323
6. Phil Johnson	100	199
7. Nathan Miles	74	211
8. Neil Smith	68	242
9. Steve Hards	65	155
10. Mickey Turner	63	594
11. Dave Smith	53	260
12. Liam Benson	52	182
13. Spencer Slaughter	47	293
14. Joe Fernley	45	245
15. Mark Burnham	44	231
16. Matt Amos	38	81
17. Michael Death	38	112
18. Marc Rendall	37	183
19. Andy Burt	35	133
20. Jack Troak	31	125
21. Luke Flomo	31	146
22. James Westlake	31	261
23. Dan Smith	27	63
24. Jamie Hillwood	25	124
25. Stuart Faith	22	289





Player Sponsorship 2023-24

Basic: £40 per player

Sponsor name in matchday programme alongside player

Sponsor announcement on social media

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Sponsor name in matchday programme alongside player

Sponsor announcement on social media

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Framed team photo of 2023-24 first team squad

To secure your favourite player or for more information, please speak to Owen behind the bar or email hassocksfc@outlook.com

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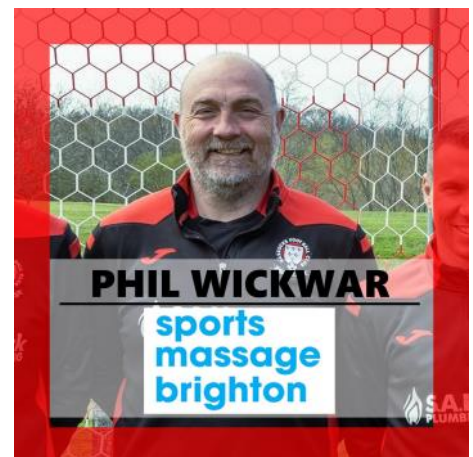
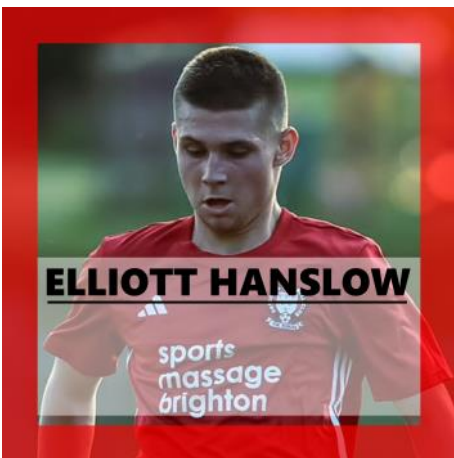
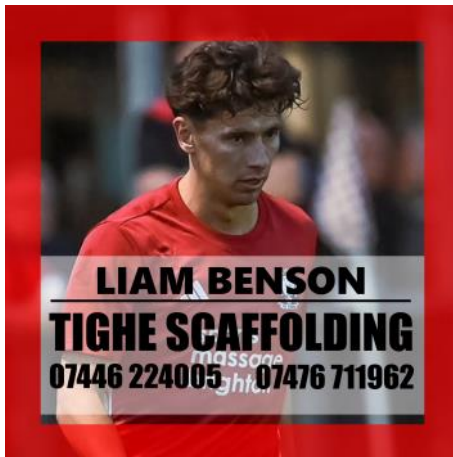
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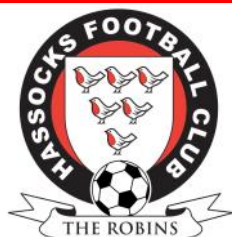
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Today's Teams



HASSOCKS

Fraser TRIGWELL	
Harvey BLAKE	
Joe BULL	
Alex BYGRAVES	
Bradley TIGHE	
Matt GUNN	
Sam SMITH	
Mike WILLIAMSON	
James WESTLAKE	
Josh MUNDY	
Jamie WILKES	
Tom FRANKLAND	
Elliott HANSLOW	
Alfie LOVERSIDGE	
Alex FAIR	
Kyle WOOLVEN	
Pat HARDING	
Ben BACON	
Liam BENSON	
Alex BREWER	

Head Coach James Westlake

Assistants Tom Hughes & Jordan Wilson

Goalkeeper Coach Tim Edwards

Physio Jay Patel

Physio Ash Cooper

Physio Phil Wickwar

Next at the Beacon



Midhurst & Easebourne

Southern Combination Premier Division

Saturday 26th August 2023. 3:00pm



AFC VARNDEANIANS

Jordan HAWKINS
Adam BUKLEB
Owen BENFELL
Adam DAWSON
Marley BIGG
Alfie MARCHANT
Omar BUKLEB
Taylor EDWARDS
Lawrence EDWARDS
George MAYBURY
Ryan DAWSON
Sam ROGERS
Alfie PROTO GATES
Oscar PINNOCK
Harry PRATT
Dominic HEMBLADE
Matt WATERMAN
Max VARDY
Jude WALLIS
Oli BARTON-HAGUE

Referee

Ellis South

Assistants

Paul John &
Ethan Prodger

Manager Justin Jones

Assistant Paul Etteridge

Assistant Lawrence Edwards

Physio Dave Bridges

Match Secretary Martin Waner

Today's Peter Bentley Cup games

Saltdean United v AFC Uckfield Town

Shoreham v Paghham



Keep abreast of The Robins

For the latest news and updates from The Beacon



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