

£1

THE ROBINS



V S



PREMIER SPORTS SOUTHERN COMBINATION FOOTBALL LEAGUE
PREMIER DIVISION
TUESDAY 29TH AUGUST 2023 - 7:45PM

MATCHDAY
PROGRAMME NO. 6



HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

Founded 1902

The Beacon Ground, Brighton Road, Hassocks, BN6 9LY
01273 846040
hassocksfc@outlook.com

CLUB OFFICIALS

CHAIRMAN

Dave John 07787 563351

VICE CHAIR / TREASURER / BAR MANAGER

Owen John 07747 612526

SECRETARY

Nick Palmer nickpalmer90@hotmail.com

PROGRAMME EDITORS

Owen John 07747 612526

Scott McCarthy 07887 746222

WEBSITE MANAGER

Scott McCarthy 07887 746222

GROUNDSMAN

Alan John 01444 416155

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Dave John 07788 713954

FIRST TEAM HEAD COACH

James Westlake

ASSISTANT HEAD COACHES

Tom Hughes & Jordan Wilson

GOALKEEPER COACH

Tim Edwards

PHYSIO

Jay Patel

ASSISTANT PHYSIOS

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 evening and welcome to the Beacon for tonight's Southern Combination Premier Division match with Shoreham

We would like to welcome the players, management, committee and supporters of Shoreham on what is their first visit to the Beacon for a competitive game since 2018.

They arrive with a familiar face in the dugout, former Robins striker Michael Death having led the Musselmen to promotion as Division One champions last season.

Deathy was a popular figure during his time with us and provided plenty of entertainment, be it through his good goal scoring record or some of the nonsense he would spout on the pitch.

And although it will be great to see him back, we will be hoping he leaves a disappointed man for very obvious reasons.

Namely, that will mean the Robins are still top of the Southern Combination League in a season which continues to motor along in a quite superb style.

Saturday saw us maintain our unbeaten start via a 3-1 victory over Midhurst & Easebourne.

The first 16 minutes turned into the Liam Benson Show as an eight minute hat-trick from Mr Benson proved too much for the Stags to

overcome.

Whilst Liam quite rightly took the headlines, the entire team deserve plaudits for such a professional performance - especially in seeing out the entire second half with only 10 men following Bradley Tighe's red card.

After tonight, we embark on a September in which five of our six matches are on the road.

Clearly, much tougher tests are to come and if we are still towards the head of the table this time next month - as well as remaining in the Sussex Senior Cup, the RUR Cup, the Peter Bentley Cup and the FA Vase - then it might be time to start getting a little excited.

Full details of the what lies in store during September are contained elsewhere in this evening's programme.

We would however like to draw special attention to confirmation of our FA Vase opponents, who will be Sheerwater of the Combined Counties League away from home on Saturday 23rd September.

Get that date in your diary, along with the only home game of the month a week earlier when AFC Varndeanians visit on Saturday 16th.

Before then, all of the Ladies, Under 18s and Veterans will get their competitive campaigns underway.

That means there will be plenty of action at the Beacon despite the lack of first team home games. As always, your support for any of the club's sides is very much welcome.

Another way in which you can support the Robins is via player sponsorship.

We still have a number of individuals available and two packages costing either £40 or £60.

Not only will you or your business receive publicity through our matchday programme and social media channels, but it also a great way to help us raise some money and pay the bills.

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

Thank you for your support and enjoy the game,

Owen & Scott



**sports
massage
brighton**

Relaxation or deep tissue massage
07843 762 132

**Proud sponsor of the
Robins home and away
in 2023-24**



After a four season absence, Shoreham are back in the Southern Combination League Premier Division having won promotion as deserved Division One champions in 2022 -23 under the management of former Hassocks striker Michael Death

The Musselmen were by far and away the best side in Division One last season.

They went over a calendar year unbeaten in the league between January 2022 and January 2023, providing the foundations to lift the title by six points from Dorking Wanderers B.

Shoreham's league record spoke for itself; 21 wins, eight draws and just three defeats from 32 matches banishing the disappointment of playoff final defeat to Midhurst & Easebourne a season earlier.

The step up to the top flight has proven difficult so far and the Musselmen are still yet to win a game in the new campaign.

Four league matches have

returned three defeats and a draw. That solitary point is, however, an impressive one, coming away from home against an Eastbourne United side many expect to be involved in the promotion picture.

The Musselmen should also arrive here in good spirits having pushed Croydon all the way in the FA Vase at the weekend, before succumbing to a 3-2 defeat against their Southern Counties East League hosts.

Hassocks fans will have welcomed Shoreham's return to the Premier Division as games between the Robins and the Musselmen have tended to provide plenty of entertainment down the years.

The clubs have met on 51 occasions, a number swelled by their

frequent pairing together in cup competitions during the 2000s.

Goals tend to be in strong supply alongside shock results, including in the past two competitive clashes at the Beacon.

Shoreham won 5-0 here in Mid Sussex just one week before their relegation to Division One was confirmed in 2019.

Go back a further two years and Hassocks secured one of the best results ever seen at the Beacon.

On that occasion, a Robins side fighting the drop hammered a Shoreham outfit who would go onto claim the Southern Combination League title 4-1 in an almighty upset.

We should probably expect the unexpected tonight.

Musselmen Factfile

Founded 1892
Ground Middle Road
Website shorehamfc.co.uk
Twitter @ShorehamFC
Instagram @shorehamfc
Manager Michael Death
Top scorer Josh Gould, 2

Club Honours

Southern Combination League Premier Division
Winners 1952, 1953, 1978, 2017
Runners up 1935
Southern Combination League Division One
Winners 1962, 1977, 1985, 1994, 2023
Runners up 1973, 2002
Peter Bentley League Cup
Winners 1958, 1959, 1996, 2006, 2008
Southern Combination League Floodlit Cup
Winners 1994
Runners up 1990
Southern Combination League Division One Cup
Winners 1975, 1983, 1984
Runners up 1968, 1977
Sussex Senior Cup
Winners 1902, 1906
Runners up 1905, 1925
Sussex RUR Charity Cup
Winners 1903, 1906
Runners up 1905, 1954, 1958, 1965, 1997

10 Key Musselmen Moments

1892... Shoreham FC are formed, becoming founding members of the West Sussex League four years later
1902... crowned champions of Sussex by winning the first of their two Sussex Senior Cups
1906... win a treble of the Sussex Senior Cup, West Sussex League title and RUR Charity Cup
1920... become founder members of the Southern Combination League
1952... win the first of their four Southern Combination titles 32 years after joining the league
1962... lift the Division One title one year after their first relegation from the Premier Division
1994... secure three trophies, winning the Division One title, Division One Cup and the Floodlit Cup
2008... win the Peter Bentley League Cup for the fifth and most recent occasion
2017... promoted to the Isthmian League for the first time as Southern Combination League champions
2023... return to the Premier Division after a four season absence by winning the Division One title

Last 20 Seasons

2022-23: Southern Combination One 1st
2021-22: Southern Combination One 5th
2018-19: Southern Combination Premier 18th
2017-18: Isthmian Division One South 24th
2016-17: Southern Combination Premier 1st
2015-16: Southern Combination Premier 17th
2014-15: Southern Combination Premier 16th
2013-14: Southern Combination Premier 14th
2012-13: Southern Combination Premier 17th
2011-12: Southern Combination Premier 18th
2010-11: Southern Combination Premier 18th
2009-10: Southern Combination Premier 9th
2008-09: Southern Combination Premier 6th
2007-08: Southern Combination Premier 12th
2006-07: Southern Combination Premier 13th
2005-06: Southern Combination Premier 13th
2004-05: Southern Combination One 3rd
2003-04: Southern Combination Premier 19th
2002-03: Southern Combination Premier 16th
2001-02: Southern Combination One 2nd

Played for Both

Shoreham arrive at the Beacon this evening with two former Robins in their playing ranks to go with manager Michael Death, who played 112 games for Hassocks between 2015 and 2018.

Death scored 38 goals in that time to sit 17th on the all time scorer's list in senior football.

Seventh on said list is **Nathan Miles**, who recently signed for Shoreham to end a five year absence from playing senior football.

Miles came through the youth

system at the Beacon as part of the Under 18s side who won the Southern Combination League Cup in 2008.

He went onto plunder 74 goals in 211 appearance for the Robins before injuries took their toll and he took a sabbatical from football which has lasted half a decade.

Without those fitness problems, Miles' total would have been even greater. His partnership with Phil Gault was arguably the best front pairing in Hassocks history.

Young goalkeeper **Joe Southam**

signed for Shoreham in the summer having spent part of last season dual-signed with us from Burgess Hill Town.

Southam did well in five appearances between the departure of Alex Harris and the capture of James Shaw.

We meanwhile possess one ex-player from the Musselmen. Alex Fair was part of the Shoreham side who won Division One last season.

He arrived at Hassocks earlier this month and his already impressed through his love of a Cruyff Turn.

Robins v Midhurst & Easebourne

SCFL Premier >	Played 40 - Won 20 - Drawn 10 - Lost 10 - Scored 72 - Conceded 51
SCFL Division One >	Played 4 - Won 0 - Drawn 1 - Lost 3 - Scored 1 - Conceded 6
Peter Bentley Cup >	Played 1 - Won 0 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 1 - Conceded 3
Division One Cup >	Played 1 - Won 0 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 1 - Conceded 4
Sussex Senior Cup >	Played 3 - Won 2 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 4 - Conceded 2
RUR Charity Cup >	Played 1 - Won 0 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 1 - Conceded 2
FA Cup >	Played 1 - Won 0 - Drawn 0 - Lost 1 - Scored 0 - Conceded 1

Total > Played 51 - Won 22 - Drawn 11 - Lost 18 - Scored 80 - Conceded 69

Previous Meetings

2018-19

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 0-5 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 0-1 Hassocks

2016-17

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 4-1 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 2-1 Hassocks

2015-16

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 2-1 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 1-1 Hassocks

2014-15

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 2-0 Shoreham

Peter Bentley Cup: Shoreham 3-1 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 0-3 Hassocks

2013-14

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 3-3 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 5-1 Shoreham

2012-13

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 2-2 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 2-1 Shoreham

2011-12

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 1-0 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 0-5 Hassocks

2010-11

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 1-4 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 2-0 Shoreham

2009-10

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 0-1 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 1-0 Shoreham

2008-09

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 0-1 Shoreham

Sussex Senior Cup: Hassocks 0-1 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 2-0 Hassocks

FA Cup: Shoreham 1-0 Hassocks

2007-08

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 0-0 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 1-1 Hassocks

Sussex Senior Cup: Hassocks 2-0 Shoreham

2006-07

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 1-2 Hassocks

Sussex Senior Cup: Hassocks 2-1 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 2-1 Shoreham

2005-06

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 0-1 Shoreham

RUR Charity Cup: Hassocks 1-2 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 3-3 Hassocks

2003-04

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 7-1 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 4-4 Hassocks

2002-03

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 2-2 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 2-1 Shoreham

1999-00

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 0-1 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 3-1 Shoreham

1998-99

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 0-1 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 3-0 Hassocks

1997-98

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 3-2 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 1-1 Hassocks

1996-97

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 3-0 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 0-0 Shoreham

1995-96

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 1-3 Shoreham

SCFL Premier: Shoreham 1-0 Hassocks

1993-94

SCFL One: Hassocks 0-4 Shoreham

SCFL One: Shoreham 1-0 Hassocks

1992-93

SCFL One: Shoreham 0-0 Hassocks

SCFL One Cup: Shoreham 4-1 Hassocks

SCFL One: Hassocks 1-2 Shoreham



Robins end their home season getting smashed by Shoreham

Last time Shoreham visited the Beacon, Hassocks gave one of the best performances of their 25 years as a Southern Combination League Premier Division club by hammering 4-1 the side who would go onto be crowned champions.

Fast forward two-and-a-bit years and the result could not have been more different.

The Robins were smashed 5-0 in the Mid Sussex sunshine by opponents who started the day bottom of the table, without a win since the start of January and staring a second consecutive relegation in the face.

This three points has given Shoreham a fighting chance of staying up, lifting them into 18th spot in the table.

The gap to fourth-bottom Little Common is now five points with two games left to play.

Shoreham may not even need to catch Common should only two teams be relegated due to ground grading, as was the case last season when Hassocks survived despite finishing 18th.

The Robins have enjoyed a much more fruitful campaign this time around and their own Premier Division safety was confirmed some weeks ago.

That meant they had nothing to play for, but even so this was a disappointing way for Hassocks to sign off in front of their own fans for

the season.

The Robins' remaining two games both on the road to fellow mid table sides Lancing and AFC Uckfield Town.

In their last outing a fortnight ago away at Horsham YMCA, Hassocks had pushed Peter Buckland's promotion chasers all the way despite going to Gorings Mead with a threadbare squad.

Mark Dalglish welcomed many of his big guns back including his attacking triumvirate of Phil Johnson, James Littlejohn and Liam Benson – although Benson had to settle for a spot on the bench – but they couldn't lay a glove on a Shoreham side who had the best player on the pitch in Mohamed Diallo.

"Hassocks were smashed 5-0 in the Mid Sussex sunshine by opponents who started the day bottom of the table, without a win since the start of January and staring a second consecutive relegation in the face."

Diallo, a former Stoke City youngster, is one of several new faces to have joined Shoreham since they appointed Lewes Under 18s manager Dale Hurley as their new boss at the end of March.

Hurley, who had a brief spell in charge of Hassocks Reserves in 2014, has put his contacts at the Dripping

Pan to good use to bring in the likes of Diallo.

If the right sided player performs like this in the Musselmen's final two fixtures against Saltdean United and Newhaven, they may yet avoid the drop despite the tough look of those games.

Diallo netted an 11 minute hat-trick towards the end of the first half which effectively ended the tie as a contest.

The first of those came on 32 minutes, the second on 36 and the third on 43 as Hassocks were left looking shell shocked.

Before that, it looked like the game would offer typical lacklustre end of season fare.

Both sides struggled to make inroads on a scorching hot day with the soaring temperatures doing little to aid the quality of football on show.

3-0 at the break became 5-0 by the time referee Thomas Price blew the whistle for full time.

Substitute Martin Mutungi made it 4-0 with five minutes remaining and Diallo added his fourth and the visitors fifth of the afternoon in the third minute of injury time.

Hassocks: Green; Blake, Jacques, Mills, Badger; Stokes, L Westlake, Enticknap; Littlejohn, Johnson, Whittingham.

Subs: Benson, Bull, Tighe (used).



Robins run riot to shock leaders

Shoreham throwing title race wide open

One of the most beautiful things about the beautiful game is its unpredictability. And if you had predicted on Tuesday afternoon that come 10pm Hassocks would have defeated league leaders Shoreham 4-1, you would have been laughed out of the Beacon.

Yet that is exactly what happened as the Robins ran riot. This was easily the best performance seen by a Hassocks side for four seasons, harking back to a time when the Robins were regular challengers themselves for the top four under Mickey Jewell.

For Shoreham, it was just their third league defeat of the season. It goes without saying it was their heaviest.

And it has thrown the title race wide open, much to the delight of the Robins' local rivals Haywards Heath Town.

It is rare that a Hassocks win is greeted with cheers at Hanbury Park. The Blues faithful will have made an exception for this, however; with some of them even in the crowd at the Beacon willing the hosts to victory.

"Brilliant from start to finish" is how Phil Wickwar described the finest result of his and Mark Dalglish's two-and-a-bit year tenure.

"As soon as we went 2-1 up you could see only us winning it. We got lucky for the second goal, it was a bit of a gift to be honest with such a heavy deflection."

"But from there, we deserve a huge amount of credit for kicking down the door once it had opened for us."

"We kept the faith with these players after a bit of a difficult run and they repaid that this evening."

One such player is Liam Benson. He has spearheaded the Under 21s challenge for honours so far this

season with 15 goals in 16 appearances.

Dalglish and Wickwar opted to stick with their young forward despite the return of top scorer Phil Gault, who had to settle for a spot on the bench.

Benson rewarded that decision handsomely as he carried his Under 21 form into the first team by netting an excellent brace.

Those two strikes represented the fourth and fifth goals of a senior career that looks as though it is about to take off in a big way if the nightmare he gave this talented Musselmen side is anything to by.

Perhaps the most impressive thing about this win was that Hassocks had to come from behind to do it.

Rob O'Toole gave Shoreham the lead with a bullet of a strike just before the midway point in the first half.

Going behind against a team as good as this Musselmen side has in the past proven to be the point at which the floodgates open.

Hassocks fans - and those watching from Haywards Heath - were probably fearing the worst.

Those fears were allayed when Benson levelled the tie with his first of the night 10 minutes later.

A brilliant through ball from Jack Rowe-Hurst sent Benson clear. After timing his run to perfection to beat the offside trap, Benson beat Josh Heyburn in the Shoreham goal with aplomb.

Things got even better five minutes later. Rowe-Hurst went for goal from distance, hit shot caught a blue and black shirt on the way through and Heyburn was totally deceived as Hassocks took the lead.

With two goals now in three starts, the signing of Rowe-Hurst from Three Bridges is looking like an inspired piece of business.

The Robins took that 2-1 lead into the break and had to weather a lot of

Shoreham pressure early in the second half as the visitors desperately tried to find a way back into the encounter.

Despite plenty of huffing and puffing they were not able to blow down the Hassocks door.

Some excellent defending from the Robins back four of Luke Akehurst, Jordan Badger, Tom Barnes and Ashley Marsh meant James Broadbent in goal had a much quieter evening than he would have been anticipating.

The Musselmen were made to pay for that inability to find a way through when Hassocks added their third very much against the run of play.

Set pieces have proven to be an Achilles heel for Hassocks for sometime now but the boot was well and truly on the other foot.

Michael Death took advantage of some extremely slack Shoreham marking to produce a delightful flicked header at the near post from a Lewis Westlake corner.

With 25 minutes still to play, there was still enough time for the Musselmen to find at least two goals to salvage something from the game.

But just two minutes after Death struck, Benson added his second and the Robins' fourth.

Shoreham were audibly and visibly deflated and Hassocks comfortably saw out the time remaining to secure one of the biggest shocks of the Southern Combination League season so far.

Hassocks: Broadbent; Akehurst, Barnes, Badger, Marsh; Mills; J Westlake, L Westlake; Rowe-Hurst; Death, Benson.

Subs: Gault, Wilkins (used), Tighe, Galbraith-Gibbons, B John (unused).



John Broomfield

REMOVALS

TIGHE SCAFFOLDING

Jason Tighe

07446224005

07476711962

tighescaffolding@hotmail.com

Hassocks*Life*

hassockslife.co.uk



Hassocks will visit Roffey in the RUR Cup, scene of a 94th minute winner from Phil Johnson last season

Busy September will see Robins rack up the miles

The Robins will be racking up the miles through September with five of their six matches taking place away from the Beacon.

That number would have been six out of seven if Steyning Town were not still in the Emirates FA Cup.

The Barrowmen take on Hadley in the first qualifying round on Saturday 2nd September, meaning Hassocks' trip to the Birchwood Ground (and opportunity to partake in the legendary meat raffle) has been postponed.

September instead begins on Saturday 9th with a visit to Eastbourne United.

Phil Johnson scored his 100th goal in Hassocks colours the last time the Robins went to the Oval back in March in an impressive 1-1 draw which continued an excellent run of form to start 2023.

Hassocks then go to AFC Uckfield Town on Tuesday 12th in the Sussex Transport Senior Cup, kick off at 7:30pm.

It will be the first meeting between the sides in the competition

since the 2005-06 season, when the Robins beat Wealden as they were then known 4-1 in the third round.

The only first team game at the Beacon comes at 3pm on Saturday 16th September against AFC Varndeanians.

Three further cup matches follow. Tuesday 19th sends Hassocks to Roffey in the second round of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup.

The Robins enter the FA Vase on Saturday 23rd away against Combined Counties Premier Division South outfit Sheerwater in what will be the first ever meeting between the clubs.

Tuesday 26th will see Hassocks head to Selsey in the Peter Bentley League Cup with September ending back in the bread and butter of Premier Division football at Little Common on Saturday 30th.

The Ladies start their London & South East Regional Division One South campaign on Sunday 10th September at home to Welling United.

They then hit the road to Bexhill United on Sunday 17th before

returning to the Beacon to take on Eastbourne United on Sunday 24th. All home games kick off at 2pm and admission is free.

The Under 23s are at Lingfield on Thursday 7th before back-to-back home games against Roffey and Horsham YMCA on September 14th and September 21st respectively.

All those matches are North Division fixtures, as is their final game the month away at Oakwood on Wednesday 27th.

The Under 18s first league game sees Shoreham visit the Beacon this Sunday 3rd September at 11am.

Two Mid Sussex Derbies follow, with Hassocks travelling to Haywards Heath Town on Sunday 10th and hosting Burgess Hill Town on Sunday 17th.

A trip to Mile Oak on Sunday 24th rounds off their opening month of the campaign.

The Veterans are set to play twice under new manager Steve Spies. They will host Lewes on Sunday 10th before meeting Patcham United in the Sussex Veterans Cup on Sunday 24th.



**MID SUSSEX
RADIO
103.8FM**

**Also available online at
midsussexradio.co.uk
or via the free
RadioPlayer App**

**Proud to support
Hassocks Football Club**



Westlake content with fast starting Hassocks

With Hassocks continuing their positive start to the new Southern Combination League Premier Division season, James Westlake spoke to Steve Bone from the Mid Sussex Times to share his thoughts on the campaign so far

Hassocks have made a positive start to the new Southern Combination League season – despite being one of the sides in the premier division who do not pay players.

James Westlake's Robins have been punching above their weight in the early weeks of 2023-24 and sit proudly in top spot with four games of the season completed.

Westlake is content with the Robins' fast start, which continued with a 3-1 win over Midhurst & Easebourne on Saturday in which Liam Benson scored a hat-trick. with

"It ended up being a fairly good pre-season," Westlake said. "We were disappointed to lose a number of key players from last season's squad but bringing in the likes of Kyle Woolven, Matt Gunn and Ben Bacon has strengthened us."

"On top of that, the signings of

Josh Mundy and Elliott Hanslow on loan from Three Bridges and the recent addition of Alex Fair from Shoreham at the start of the season has given us more depth."

"We played some tough games through pre-season and gave a really good account of ourselves, especially against a really strong Whitehawk side."

Hassocks started their Southern Combination League campaign with a 1-1 draw at home against Eastbourne Town.

Since then, they have won 3-0 at Loxwood, 2-1 at Pagham and beaten Lingfield 4-1 before the weekend victory over Midhurst.

Benson leads the scoring charts with five from seven appearances in all competitions. But goals have in general been spread around the team.

Tom Frankland, Pat Harding and Woolven all have two apiece with Sam Geard and Joe Bull on one.

At the other end, Fraser Trigwell has seamlessly taken over from James Shaw in goal.

The Robins have also coped admirably so far with losing Jack Troak in a fractured collarbone.

"We are pleased with our start to the season but there is a long way to go," said Westlake.

"Looking back at last season, we had some difficult results to start our campaign before we really got going, so this season, we really wanted to make sure we hit the ground running."

"We have our own targets internally. Being one of the only clubs in the league not to have a playing budget means we have to work hard, with player recruitment blended with giving young players opportunities."

"The management team and players will give it everything we have got."



Everycare Mid Sussex provide high quality, personalised home care services to people with health and social needs in all environments.

The Everycare Mid Sussex office serves Hassocks, Haywards Heath, Burgess Hill, Cuckfield, Lindfield, Hurtspierpoint and the surrounding areas.



If you would like to find out more about our home care services or if you would like to discuss working as a home care worker – full or part time – then please do contact us on

01444 244770

www.everycare.co.uk/midsussex
midsussex@everycare.co.uk

191-193 London Road, Burgess Hill, RH15 9RN

Benson bags eight minute hat-trick to send Hassocks top of the table

Southern Combination League Premier Division
Saturday 26th August 2023, The Beacon
Hassocks 3-1 Midhurst & Easebourne



Few records exist about the fastest hat-trick in Hassocks history. But it is fair to assume that the eight minute treble plundered by Liam Benson as the Robins beat Midhurst & Easebourne 3-1 at the Beacon is up there with the quickest.

Benson struck in the eighth, 13th and 16th minutes to end this game as a contest before it had even begun and take Hassocks to the top of the Southern Combination Premier Division table.

For the Robins, it was sweet revenge for the 5-0 hammering they had suffered last time they faced Midhurst back in December at the Rotherfield.

The Stags meanwhile will no doubt be glad to see the back of Mid Sussex having been beaten 8-0 by Haywards Heath Town at Hanbury Park 11 days earlier.

Pat Harding was the architect of the opening goal. He collected a Tom Frankland pass on halfway and chipped a beautiful left footed ball on the angle between two Midhurst players in a defence playing a suspiciously high line.

That enabled Benson to scamper clear with around 35 yards of open space between him and Stags goalkeeper Ricardo Mendonca, whom he beat with a right footed effort drilled clinically into the bottom corner from the edge of the box.

Benson added his second five minutes later. Between those two goals, there was still time for Alex Fair to go close to doubling the lead.

A game of head tennis broke out in the middle of the park involving Benson and tall striker Jamie Wilkes.

The rangy Wilkes eventually nodded cleverly over the top of the Midhurst defence, who had not learnt the lessons of the first goal and were still a long way up the pitch.

Fair latched onto the ball and made his merry way into the box,

where one of his famous Cruyff turns created the space needed to test Mendonca with a curling effort well held by the Stags number one.

No prizes for guessing how goal number two came about. Again the Midhurst defence pushed up and again they were outdone by a perfectly timed run and the pace of Benson.

Fraser Trigwell rolled to Matt Gunn, who advanced 20 yards with the ball at his feet before clipping a pass over the top.

Benson did have to work harder for this one, James Lidiard managing to almost catch up with the Hassocks hat-trick hero.

Lidiard though was unable to put in a convincing tackle as he tracked Benson from behind for fear of giving away a penalty.

Benson duly shrugged the attentions of Lidiard off and although at one point it looked like he had overrun the ball, he managed to slide in and fire beyond the advancing Mendonca.

Three minutes later and Benson completed his hat-trick. Harding won a header in the Hassocks half and Fair volleyed the loose ball forward.

Lidiard at least appeared to have learnt some lessons from the earlier two goals as he was now sitting deeper, between Benson and the Midhurst goal.

Not that it made much difference. Benson outpaced the Stags centre back and fired beyond Mendonca into the same bottom corner he had picked out for his first to round off his maiden senior three-goal haul.

In fairness to Midhurst, they did not let their heads drop at such a disastrous start and began to come into the game as the first half progressed.

A long throw from the right caused problems for the Hassocks defence, requiring Trigwell to make a smart reaction save from a Lewis

Rustell volley from point blank range.

Gunn's attempted clearance then only made it as far Lewis Hamilton in pole position on the edge of the box. Hamilton motored onto the ball and hit an effort which dipped just the wrong side of the post with Trigwell rooted to the spot.

Hassocks might have had a fourth when both Mendonca and Lidiard got in a bit of a mess attempting to play out from the back.

Frankland dispossessed the latter. With Benson and Wilkes both arriving in support, Frankland tried to chip Mendonca one-on-one but did not get the required leverage as the Midhurst goalkeeper made the save.

Benson stretched to turn a Harding cross just wide at the start of a final five minutes of the half which brought plenty of drama; namely, Bradley Tighe picking up two quickfire yellow cards to leave Hassocks down to 10.

Fair made way for Alfie Loversidge at the break in a tactical response to Tighe's red. The second half subsequently became a case of seeing the game out from a Hassocks point of view.

Gunn had to make a solid block from Stags substitute Charlie Osbourne. Trigwell meanwhile saved a Hamilton drive and smothered bravely at the feet of Marcus Bedford before Matt Rowland scrambled home a consolation for Midhurst in injury time.

Hassocks: Trigwell; B Tighe, Gunn, Bygraves, Bull; Frankland, Wilkes, Williamson, Harding; Fair, Benson.

Subs: Loversidge, Geard (used), Woolven, Mundy, Fogden (unused).

First Team Matches 2023-24

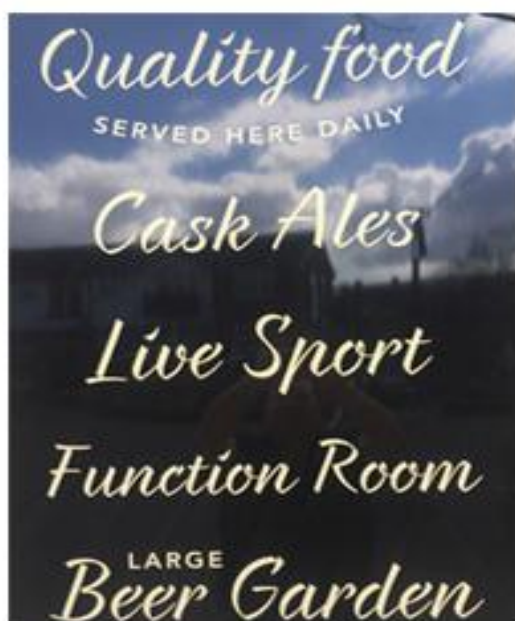
Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Att	Scorers
July					
29/07 - 15:00	Eastbourne Town (H)	SCFLP	1-1	232	OG
August					
01/08 - 19:30	Loxwood (A)	SCFLP	3-0	82	Frankland, Benson, Harding
05/08 - 15:00	Erith Town (H)	FACEP	1-1	135	Bull
08/08 - 19:45	Erith Town (A)	FACEPR	0-4	111	
12/08 - 15:00	Lingfield (H)	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	0-0	105	<i>(Won 5-4 on pens)</i>
26/08 - 15:00	Midhurst & Easebourne (H)	SCFLP	3-1	101	Benson (3)
29/08 - 19:45	Shoreham (H)	SCFLP			
September					
09/09 - 15:00	Eastbourne United (A)	SCFLP			
12/09 - 19:30	AFC Uckfield Town (A)	SSC1			
16/09 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (H)	SCFLP			
19/09 - 19:30	Roffey (A)	RURC2			
23/09 - 15:00	Sheerwater (A)	FAVQ2			
26/09 - 19:45	Selsey (A)	PBLC2			
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	8	0	8	5	184	55
Joe Bull	8	0	8	1	145	10
Fraser Trigwell	8	0	8	0	9	0
Jamie Wilkes	7	1	8	0	48	4
Pat Harding	6	2	8	2	246	143
Bradley Tighe	6	2	8	0	178	0
Alex Bygraves	7	0	7	0	51	4
Matt Gunn	7	0	7	0	7	0
Tom Frankland	6	1	7	2	19	2
Kyle Woolven	3	4	7	2	7	2
James Westlake	4	0	4	0	261	31
Harvey Blake	3	1	4	0	116	4
Alex Fair	3	1	4	0	4	0
Josh Mundy	3	1	4	0	4	0
Sam Geard	1	3	4	1	8	1
Alfie Loversidge	1	3	4	0	83	11
Jack Troak	3	0	3	0	125	31
Mike Williamson	2	1	3	0	42	0
Sam Smith	2	0	2	0	43	3
Ben Bacon	0	2	2	0	48	17
Alex Brewer	0	2	2	0	5	1
Elliott Hanslow	0	2	2	0	2	0
Kian Nandhra	0	1	1	0	1	0

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

Youthful Robins ease past Horley to make it two wins from two

**Southern Combination League Under 23 North Division
Thursday 24th August 2023, Kiln Brow
Hassocks U23s 4-2 Horley Town U23s**



How good a result this 4-2 victory for Hassocks over Horley Town was will only become clear once the Southern Combination League Under 23s North Division season is a little further along.

Horley had spent most of the previous campaign as the Robins' nearest pursuers in the race for the title.

The 3-1 comeback win that Neil Parker's side secured at the New Defence in February was one of the most important result in terms of seeing Hassocks be crowned champions for the first time.

Whether this Clarets side are quite as good as their predecessors remains to be seen.

They had taken a 6-0 hammering at the hands of Broadbridge Heath on the opening day of the season, with the Bears backing that up by hammering Oakwood 10-1 at the same time Horley were visiting the Beacon.

Hassocks host Heath this coming Thursday in what now looks like a mouth watering clash between the reigning champions of the Robins and their predecessors as title winners.

What made this win over Horley particularly pleasing was that Hassocks did it without several regulars ruled out for a variety of reasons.

These included early season injuries and the Reading Festival (music in the Berkshire town rather than a weekend spent reading books) which also seems to have an impact on the Robins.

That therefore meant three changes to the Hassocks starting XI who kicked off the campaign with a 3-1 win at Redhill the previous week.

Julian Durand was promoted from the bench. Kobe Dersley came in for a rare start before he returns to university and former Haywards Heath Town Under 18s player Will Lord made his first appearance in Robins colours.

Missing out were Dan Turner, Noah McHale and Josh Nandhra. Turner's absence meant this was an even younger Hassocks side than had faced Redhill, when he had been the oldest player at a sprightly 23 years and three months.

Completing the youthful look, new Under 18s signing Evan China made his Under 23s debut from the bench whilst Sam Dean also got an opportunity as a substitute.

Two of the more experienced players provided three of the goals for the Robins.

Sam Geard and Alfie Loversidge both started for the first team as James Westlake rotated his squad for the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup first round tie against AFC Varndeanians at the Beacon on Saturday.

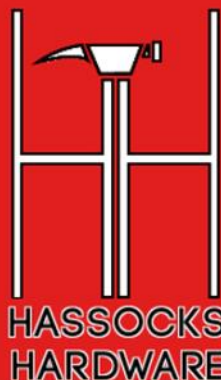
Loversidge scored once here and Geard twice. Forward Geard has been in excellent form since rejoining Hassocks from Montpellier Villa last winter, including when netting his first senior goal in the 4-1 win over Lingfield a week before the clash with Varndeanians.

Durand was the other player on target, marking his full Robins debut by opening his account.

The Horley consolations came via Rio Kanuga and Tommy McKenna.

Hassocks: Thomas, Fogden, Dersley, Dove, Hicks, Loversidge, Fernley, McHale, Mercer, Geard, Durand.

Subs: Hudson, McHale, J Smith, China, Dean (used).



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	4-2	Geard (2), Loversidge, Durand
31/08 - 19:45	Broadbridge Heath (A)	SCFL23		
September				
07/09 - 19:45	Lingfield (A)	SCFL23		
14/09 - 19:45	Roffey (H)	SCFL23		
21/09 - 19:45	Horsham YMCA (H)	SCFL23		
27/09 - 19:45	Oakwood (A)	SCFL23		

Under 23s Appearances 2023-24

Player	2023-24 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Billy Dove	2	0	2	0
Sam Fernley	2	0	2	0
Charlie Fogden	2	0	2	0
Sam Geard	2	0	2	2
Ben Hicks	2	0	2	0
Alfie Loversidge	2	0	2	1
George Mercer	2	0	2	1
Jack Thomas	2	0	2	0
Julian Durand	1	1	2	1
Noah McHale	1	1	2	0
Kobe Dersley	1	0	1	0
Will Lord	1	0	1	0
Josh Nandhra	1	0	1	1
Dan Turner	1	0	1	1
Evan China	0	1	1	0
Sam Dean	0	1	1	0
George Gladding	0	1	1	0
Jay Hudson	0	1	1	0
Kian Nandhra	0	1	1	0
Jack Smith	0	1	1	0



DRY LINING · SCREEDING · PLASTERING



Available from the Robins Bar

Please drink responsibly and try to avoid falling into the stream on your way home. We are still saving up to have it piped and tarmacked over.

Under 18s Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
September				
03/09 - 11:00	Shoreham (H)	SCFL18		
10/09 - 11:00	Haywards Heath Town (A)	SCFL18		
17/09 - 11:00	Burgess Hill Town (H)	SCFL18		

»» **YIR**
YOUR INSTANT REPLAY



St Peter & St James Hospice
Hospice care in the heart of Sussex

Veterans Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
September				
10/09 - 14:00	Lewes (H)	MSFLVE		
24/09 - 14:00	Patcham United (H)	CVC1		
October				
01/10 - 14:00	Seaford Town (H)	MSFLVE		
15/10 - 14:00	Maresfield Village (A)	MSFLVE		
November				
12/11 - 14:00	Sidley United (A)	MSFLVE		
26/11 - 14:00	Burgess Hill Wanderers (A)	MSFLVE		
December				
10/12 - 14:00	Rotherfield (A)	MSFLVE		
January				
07/01 - 14:00	Jarvis Brook (H)	MSFLVE		

PARKER
BUILDING SUPPLIES



**HART COUNTRY
STORES**

Ladies Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
September				
10/09 - 14:00	Welling United (H)	LSE1S		
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		



GR TEAMWEAR

Independent teamwear specialists

www.grteamwear.co.uk

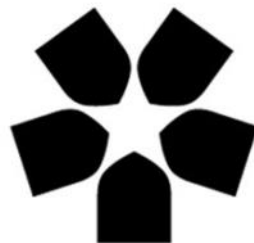


BURNHAM

B U I L D E R S LTD



STATION GARAGE HASSOCKS



LENMARK
GROUNDWORKS

On This Day...



Harding the Hassocks hero in draw with 10 man Crows

August 29th 2009: Hassocks were indebted to goalkeeper Joel Harding whose penalty save ensured they did not become the first side to lose to Crowborough in the 2009-10 campaign

Joel Harding was the Hassocks hero as his stunning penalty save with 12 minutes remaining ensured that the Robins avoided the ignominy of becoming the first side to lose in the league so far this season against Crowborough Athletic.

The Crows have had a real tough time of it following their relegation from the Ryman League at the end of the previous campaign.

They are yet to win back in Division One and given Hassocks have picked up seven points already on the road, Dave John and his side would have headed east targeting another three for their collection.

Hassocks had ample opportunity to claim them. The Robins missed a succession of chances, particularly in the first half.

In the second, they played for 35 minutes against 10 men following the dismissal of Crowborough substitute Chris Ransome.

But despite all that, it was Harding who Hassocks were indebted too for ensuring the game finished 0-0.

Dave Adams stepped up from 12 yards in the 78th minute after the Robins conceded a cheap spot kick but Harding was equal to it, throwing himself full stretch to keep the effort out.

Hassocks boss Dave John was no doubt relieved. More troubling than his side's failure to beat the division's bottom side despite having a numerical advantage would have been the sight of two more of his players leaving the Crowborough Community Stadium with injuries, further decimating his already sparse options.

Spencer Slaughter failed to return after half time and Daley Clark limped off five minutes into the second half.

Michael Bates made his first

appearance of the campaign in place of Slaughter while James Laing took over from Clark in attack.

John had also handed first starts to Dan Jacques on his return from injury and Pete Lear who, like Bates, missed the majority of last season.

Clark's withdrawal was particularly frustrating as up until that point, he was probably having his best game in a Hassocks shirt so far.

Both he and strike partner Neil Kane were lively in a first half in which Hassocks dominated, the only thing letting down the Robins' front

"Crowborough are yet to win back in Division One following their relegation from the Ryman League. Given Hassocks have picked up seven points already on the road, Dave John and his side would have headed east targeting another three for their collection."

two being a lack of composure in front of goal.

Clark had the first opportunity when he was played in by Kane, only to delay his effort a little too long to allow Chris Smith to get back and clear.

Slaughter's excellent volley on 26 minutes drew an equally good save from Rob Gordon in the Crowborough goal.

Arni Kublickas, showing his versatility by switching from right wing back to take over from the unavailable Richard Thompson on the left, then came rampaging forward to crash a shot into the side netting.

Crowborough had their first

chance on 41 minutes when full back Luke Leppard hit the top of the bar with a wild cross that caught Harding out and right on the stroke of half time, Kane found himself clear from Anthony Hibbet's through ball but his attempted lob went wide of the post.

The lively Tom Saunders tested Harding early in the second half before the home side were reduced to 10 men on 55 minutes.

Ransome had cut a combative figure since his introduction from the bench which ultimately culminated in a completely unnecessary stamp on Stuart Faith, leaving the referee no option but to issue a second yellow.

Ransome's red seemed to spur Crowborough on and Hassocks were never quite able to establish the foothold on the game that they had enjoyed in the first half.

The Crows hit Harding's crossbar again and after Harding pushed away Adams' penalty, the hosts missed two further good chances before the full time whistle.

Hassocks: Harding; Jacques, Lear, Marsh, Faith, Kublickas; Gacias, Slaughter, Hibbert; Clark, Kane.

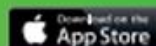
Subs: Bates (Slaughter 45), Laing (Clark 50), Woods (unused).

REPORT IT.

KICK IT OUT OF FOOTBALL.



DOWNLOAD OUR FREE REPORTING APP



Around the League...



The majority of Southern Combination League Premier and Division One clubs were in FA Vase first qualifying round action at the weekend, with seven progressing to the next stage whilst 15 exited the competition

We start our round up though in the Premier Division, where two other games took place along with our 3-1 win over Midhurst & Easebourne.

Friday night saw **Newhaven** and **Little Common** draw 1-1 at the Trafalgar Ground in a game nobody who was there is likely to forget in a hurry.

A 55th minute goal from James Crone looked like it had given Common all three points right up until the 98th minute.

Newhaven goalkeeper Jake Buss went up for a corner, from which he won a tackle on a Common player 25 yards from goal and fired an effort into the top corner to snatch a point for the Dockers.

Buss becomes the second goalkeeper to score in the Southern Combination League already this season, James Broadbent having seen a wind-assisted kick fly in for Eastbourne United earlier in August.

The other Premier Division game saw **Peacehaven & Telscombe** comfortably defeat **Crawley Down Gatwick** 3-1 at the Haven.

George Cook, Billy Oliver and Aaron Capon had the Tye 3-0 up before the hour mark. Oli Leslie pulled back a late consolation for Down.

To the FA Vase, where **Loxwood** racked up the biggest win of the day by hammering Division One side **East Preston** 8-1 at Plaistow Road.

Archie Goddard helped himself to a hat-trick in 35 minutes either side of half time.

Jordan Stallibrass scored twice, Tristan Pereira once and there were goals from substitutes Aaron Loftys and Shane Johnson to complete the rout.

It had actually been 1-1 at one point when Joe Kinsman levelled for

EP, whose miserable afternoon was rounded off with a red card two minutes from time for Leo Stringer.

Lingfield picked up an impressive win on the road at Tooting Bec.

Haydn Dickinson, Jay Simpson, Conor Wilford and Charlie Davies were all on target in a 4-0 success for the Lingers.

Two goals in the final 10 minutes saw **Eastbourne United** eventually overcome **Arundel** at Mill Road.

Hayden Hunter and Harrison Mott were on target for Arundel and Hayden Beaconsfield and Callum Barlow for the visitors to leave the scores locked at 2-2.

Both Beaconsfield and Barlow again found the back of the net however to send United through.

Steyning Town are still yet to taste defeat in any competitions as they eased past **Oakwood** 4-1 at the Birchwood Ground.

Charlie Meehan scored twice alongside goals for Ron Clarke and Jack Barnes. Sam Cane grabbed the consolation for the Oaks.

Charlie Pitcher and Hayden Skerry had **Haywards Heath Town** 2-0 ahead inside of nine minutes on their way to a routine 4-0 win at **Wick**.

Byron Napper and Emmanuel Abudioré completed the scoring for the Bluebells.

Two Division One clubs progressed. **Selsey** enjoyed a hugely impressive 2-1 win over Tooting & Mitcham United at the Seal Bay Stadium.

James Henton and Corey Burns were the scorers on a memorable afternoon for the Blues.

Banstead Athletic also moved into the second qualifying round courtesy of a 2-1 win at home against Colliers Wood United.

Emeka Okakpu and Renny Anto scored either side of half time for the

A's.

Exiting the FA Vase were **Pagham**, undone by penalties away at Sutton Athletic following a 1-1 draw. Danny Simmonds was on target for the Lions.

Crowborough Athletic suffered a 3-1 reversal sawt at Cobham. Crows leading scorer Lucas Murrain scored the consolation.

This evening's visitors **Shoreham** suffered a close-run 3-2 defeat away at Croydon. Alfie Mitchell and Alex Patching got the goals for the Musselmen.

Combined Counties side Epsom & Ewell proved too strong for **AFC Varndeanians** at Leatherhead, sending Vs to a 3-1 defeat in which Adam Bukleb scored.

Horsham YMCA and **AFC Uckfield Town** meanwhile exited the competition via 4-0 home defeats against Faversham Town and Staplehurst Monarchs respectively.

Billingshurst were unable to cause an upset as they suffered a 3-1 home defeat against Hollands & Blair. Elroy Wealthyland was the Hurst scorer at Jubilee Fields.

There were two goals for **Chessington & Hook United** at Corinthian but they proved insufficient as the hosts rained in five of their own.

Mile Oak were undone 3-0 at home by Bearsted, **Seaford Town** suffered a 2-1 defeat at the Crouch to Holmesdale and **Godalming Town** were hammered 5-1 away at Punjab United.

There were three games in Division One. **Forest Row** picked up a big three points by winning 2-0 away at **Alfold**.

Roffey hammered **Copthorne** 5-0 at Bartholomew Way and **Dorking Wanderers B** were 3-1 victors at **Montpelier Villa**.



Tables Form Top Scorers Attendances

Southern Combination Premier Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hassocks	5	4	1	0	13	4	13
Crowborough Athletic	5	4	1	0	12	3	13
Peacehaven & Tels	5	4	1	0	10	4	13
Steyning Town	4	4	0	0	13	2	12
Eastbourne United	5	3	2	0	11	5	11
Little Common	5	3	1	1	7	5	10
Newhaven	5	2	3	0	12	5	9
Haywards Heath Town	5	2	2	1	14	8	8
Horsham YMCA	5	2	2	1	7	6	8
Midhurst & Easebourne	6	2	2	2	8	15	8
Eastbourne Town	5	2	1	2	6	7	7
AFC Uckfield Town	5	2	0	3	9	10	6
Crawley Down Gatwick	6	2	0	4	10	13	6
AFC Varndeanians	6	1	1	4	6	15	4
Lingfield	5	0	3	2	6	10	3
Saltdean United	5	1	0	4	5	9	3
Pagham	5	1	0	4	4	8	3
Shoreham	4	0	1	3	3	7	1
Loxwood	5	0	1	4	2	12	1
Bexhill United	4	0	0	4	3	13	0

Premier Division Attendances

	Ave	Total	League	Cup
Haywards Heath Town	277	832	548	284
Crowborough Athletic	188	565	374	191
Steyning Town	181	545	359	185
Shoreham	181	544	359	185
Newhaven	175	525	164	361
Peacehaven & Tels	173	520	344	176
Eastbourne Town	161	485	337	176
Hassocks	156	468	333	135
Eastbourne United	142	426	328	98
Bexhill United	130	261	156	105
Saltdean United	122	489	278	211
Pagham	115	216	216	
Little Common	108	216	216	
Horsham YMCA	101	202	202	
Crawley Down Gatwick	95	286	70	216
AFC Uckfield Town	93	281	281	
Lingfield	80	240	133	107
Loxwood	77	155	155	
Midhurst	65	130	130	
AFC Varndeanians	52	52	52	

Premier Division Form Guide

	Last 6
Hassocks	DWWWW
Crowborough Athletic	WWWWDW
Peacehaven & Telscombe	WWDWW
Steyning Town	WWWWW
Eastbourne United	DWDWW
Little Common	WWWDL
Newhaven	DDWDW
Haywards Heath Town	DDWWL
Horsham YMCA	DDLWW
Midhurst & Easebourne	DWDLWW
Eastbourne Town	DLLWW
AFC Uckfield Town	WLWLL
Crawley Down Gatwick	WLLLLW
AFC Varndeanians	LDLWLL
Lingfield	DDLWL
Saltdean United	LWLLL
Pagham	LWLLL
Shoreham	LLDL
Loxwood	LLDLL
Bexhill United	LLLL

Premier Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Goals
Oli Leslie	Crawley Down	8
Callum Barlow	Eastbourne Utd	6
Liam Benson	Hassocks	5
Charlie Meehan	Steyning Town	5
Billy Oliver	Peacehaven	5
Charlie Pitcher	Haywards Heath	5
Hayden Skerry	Haywards Heath	5
Harry Shooman	Steyning Town	5
Conor Wilford	Lingfield	5
Hayden Beaconsfield	Eastbourne Utd	4
Callum Connor	Newhaven	4
Mark Goldson	Steyning Town	4
Siph Mdalose	Midhurst	4
Lucas Murrain	Crowborough	4
Ian Robinson	Newhaven	4
James Stone	Bexhill United	4
Ben Chowney	Crawley Down	3
Lewis Croal	Peacehaven	3
Callum Edwards	Newhaven	3
Harry Forster	Crowborough	3

Under 23s

Under 18s

Ladies

Veterans



Southern Combination Under 23 North Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Broadbridge Heath	2	2	0	0	16	1	6
Lingfield	2	2	0	0	9	2	6
Hassocks	2	2	0	0	7	3	6
Horsham YMCA	2	2	0	0	6	4	6
Roffey	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
St Francis Rangers	2	1	0	1	3	7	3
Redhill	2	0	0	2	4	7	0
Steyning Town	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Horley Town	2	0	0	2	2	10	0
Oakwood	2	0	0	2	3	14	0

Under 23 North Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Harvey Burgess	Horsham YMCA	4
Wiktor Maznica	B'bridge Heath	4
Ashley Aderemi	Lingfield	3
Rodrigo Goncalves	B'bridge Heath	3
Szymon Kowalczyk	B'bridge Heath	3
Jamie Maunder	Roffey	3
Zac Thomas	B'bridge Heath	3
Jack Lazarus	Lingfield	2
Alfie Barnes	St Francis	2
Mo Djabali	Oakwood	2

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
Newhaven	2	2	0	0	8	1	6
Montpelier Villa	2	1	0	1	6	3	3
Bromley	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Eastbourne United	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
Dartford Reserves	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Hastings United	2	1	0	1	4	6	3
Herne Bay	1	0	1	0	3	3	1
Welling United	2	0	1	1	3	7	1
Bognor Regis Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hassocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Steyning Town	2	0	0	2	3	6	0
Bexhill United	1	0	0	1	0	4	0

LSER Division One South Top Scorers

Player	Club	Gls
Charlotte Lee	Bromley	3
Charlotte Carter	Newhaven	2
Lucy Collinson	Newhaven	2
Katherine Davyson	Montpelier Villa	2
Emma Healy	Dartford	2
Lou Tindall	Montpelier Villa	2
Aimee Ascott	Dartford	1
Millie Barker	Eastbourne Utd	1
Tara Barratt	Montpelier Villa	1
Ruby Warden	Montpelier Villa	1
Faye Williams	Hastings United	1

Mid Sussex Veterans East Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hassocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jarvis Brook	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lewes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maresfield Village	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rotherfield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seaford Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sidley United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Veterans East Division Top Scorers

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

Upcoming **Fixtures** >>>



Eastbourne United v Hassocks

Southern Combination League Premier Division
Saturday 9th September 2023, 3:00pm
The Oval, Channel View Road, Eastbourne, BN22 7LN
Admission prices £8 adults, £5 concessions

With Steyning Town still in the FA Cup, we are without a game this Saturday. That means our next outing comes takes us to the Sunshine Coast to face Eastbourne United on Saturday 9th September

Eastbourne United last season

Eastbourne United enjoyed their best season since their 2008-09 Southern Combination League title win, finishing in fourth spot last time out. They conceded only 32 goals, the joint-fewest in the division alongside runners up Crawley Down Gatwick. Their six defeats meanwhile was a total bettered only by champions Broadbridge Heath on five. Had United managed to turn some of their 12 draws into victories, then they would have been very much in the championship picture. That provides an obvious area for Anthony Storey to improve upon this time around in his third campaign since taking over at the Oval.

Head-to-head

The Robins just about lead the head-to-head with 18 wins to United's 14, leaving 14 draws from the 46 meetings between the clubs. Our record is helped hugely by the fact that we seemed to love visiting the Oval in the 2010s, winning on all six visits we made even though we only finished above United in the Premier Division standings once in that time. Such happy times away at United are fast fading to memory with our last four trips ending in three defeats and a draw.

Last time we met

Phil Johnson scored his 100th goal for the Robins in our March visit to the Oval but it was not quite enough for

victory. Johnson struck with 11 minutes played and we led right up until four minutes before time when Gary Ingram equalised. Not only did that deny us three points, but it also ended a club-record run of five consecutive clean sheets recorded by James Shaw and his defence.

How to get to The Oval

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

<<< Upcoming Fixtures



AFC Uckfield Town v Hassocks

Sussex Transport Senior Cup First Round
Tuesday 12th September 2023, 7:30pm
The Oaks, Eastbourne Road, Uckfield, TN22 5QL
Admission prices £7 adults, £3 concessions, Under 16s free

Attention switches to the Sussex Transport Senior Cup in which we make the short hop along the A272 to face fellow Premier Division outfit AFC Uckfield Town in the first round of the competition at the Oaks

AFC Uckfield Town last season

It was a season of transition for the Oaks as new manager Jonny Elwood brought in a number of young players with a determination to play good football. As is usually the case with youthful teams, results were somewhat inconsistent and that resulted in a 16th place finish. Despite the lowly position, Uckfield had no concerns over relegation and finished 11 points clear of the bottom two. The summer has though brought a change in boss with the man Elwood replaced, Steve Ives, returning to the Oaks for a third spell. Ives has led Uckfield to three wins from nine in all competitions in the current campaign. They have defeated AFC Vardeanians and

Horsham YMCA in the league and eliminated Saltdean United from the Peter Bentley League Cup.

Head-to-head

We have met AFC Uckfield on 21 previous occasions. Last season's double moved us ahead in the head-to-head with 11 wins compared to the Oaks' nine, leaving only one draw between the sides. That was a 2-2 thriller at the Beacon in August 2021. It might not be a game to put on your coupon, but it is one which normally delivers goals. 80 having been plundered at an average of nearly four per game.

Last time we met

It was a routine Robins win in the

face game of 2023 at the Beacon back in January. Goals from Liam Benson, JJ Minty and Joe Bull secured a 3-0 victory, just reward for James Westlake naming all three of his senior strikers - Benson, Johnson and Pat Harding - in the same starting XI for the first time.

How to get to the Oaks

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



Hassocks v AFC Vardeanians

Southern Combination League Premier Division
Saturday 16th September 2023, 3:00pm
The Beacon, Brighton Road, Hassocks, BN6 9LY
Admission prices £8 adults, £4 concessions, Under 16s free

Our only home game in September brings AFC Vardeanians to the Beacon. It will be the Vs second visit of the campaign, having already made the short hop over Clayton Hill in the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup 10 days ago

AFC Vardeanians last season

2022-23 was a much less dramatic season for Vardeanians than 2021-22 had been. Vs first Premier Division campaign for 60 years began in terrible fashion as they failed to win any of their opening 25 matches in all competitions. That was followed by a remarkable turnaround from December onwards once Ryan Gayler returned to Withdean Stadium for a second spell as manager. Before the season was out, Vardeanians had overhauled both East Preston and Loxwood to clamber out of the bottom two in one of the greatest escapes from relegation seen. Gayler stood down last October but his replacement Justin Jones continued the good work as Vs spent most of

last season safely tucked into mid table, a long way from the relegation battle before finishing in 17th spot.

Head-to-head

We only met for the first time in senior football in 2021, since when there have been six meetings. Four have come in the Premier Division, one in the Peter Bentley League Cup and that RUR Cup clash a fortnight ago. We have won three of those matches including completing a league double last season. Vardeanians have two wins to their name with one draw from last time we met.

Last time we met

Nothing could separate the sides over

90 minutes in the RUR Cup as it finished goalless at the Beacon. Fraser Trigwell proved to be the Hassocks hero in the shootout, keeping out two Vardeanians penalties as we progressed 5-4 on spot kicks.

Familiar faces

There has been a fair bit of transfer activity between the two clubs this summer. Kyle Woolven and Matt Gunn both swapped Withdean for the Beacon, whilst going the other way were two members of last season's title winning Under 23s, Sam Rogers and Jude Wallis. Vardeanians can also call upon Charlie Tuck and Jamie Hillwood.

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 **Fraser TRIGWELL**
Midhurst & Easebourne home **Liam BENSON**
Shoreham home
Steyning Town away
Eastbourne United away
AFC Uckfield Town away
AFC Varndeanians home
Roffey away
Selsey away
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. Pat Harding	212	34	246	143
19. Joe Fernley	205	40	245	45
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. Liam Benson	139	45	184	55

	Goals	Games
1. Phil Gault	190	352
2. Pat Harding	143	246
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. Liam Benson	55	184
12. Dave Smith	53	260
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

Premium: £60 per player

Sponsor name in matchday programme alongside player

Sponsor announcement on social media

Gift & photo with your player if they win Player of the Month

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

Player Sponsors 2023-24



FRASER TRIGWELL



JACK THOMAS



HARVEY BLAKE



JOE BULL



BRADLEY TIGHE

TIGHE SCAFFOLDING
07446 224005 07476 711962



WES TIGHE



SAM SMITH



ALEX BYGRAVES



ABC Sports Coaching



MATT GUNN



DAN TURNER



SAM SMITH



MIKE WILLIAMSON

ANN JOHN

Player Sponsors 2023-24



JAMIE WILKES

sports
massage
brighton



LEWIS WESTLAKE

SMART
PARTITIONS



SAM FERNLEY



JOSH MUNDY

sports
massage
brighton



SAM GEARD

SMART
PARTITIONS



ALFIE LOVERSIDGE



KYLE WOOLVEN
TIGHE SCAFFOLDING
07446 224005 07476 711962



TOM FRANKLAND

sports
massage
brighton



JACK TROAK

Ken Finn



JJ DURAND

sports
massage
brighton



PHIL JOHNSON

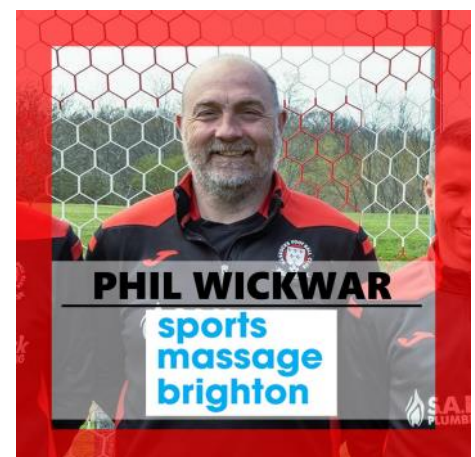
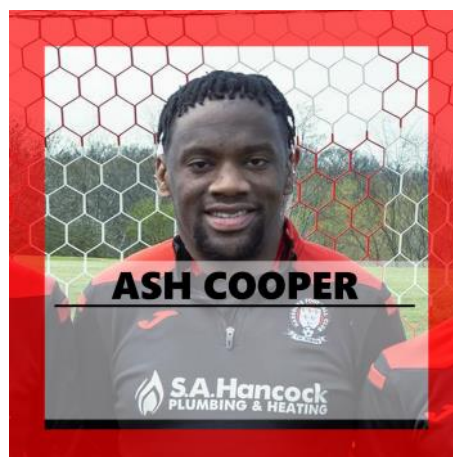
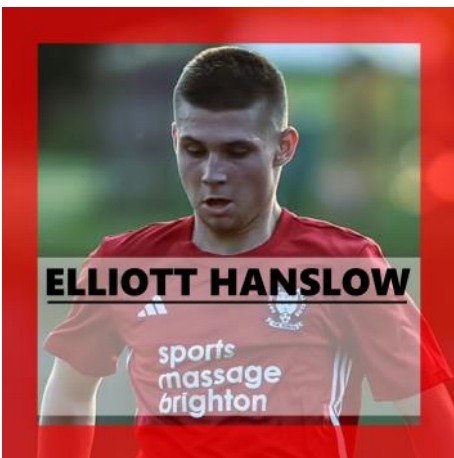
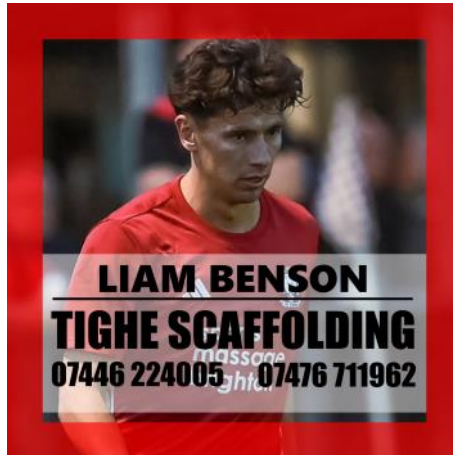
1-4 bedroom homes available
West Sussex



PAT HARDING

Faith Hill Services
Call Stuart on 07983 693089

Player Sponsors 2023-24



PREMIER SPORTS

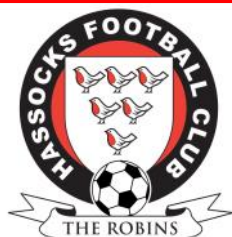
Supplying Sussex football for over 25 years

- Wide range of brands available
- Custom kit option for that unique look
- Specialist online portal to manage orders
- Personalised webshop
- Free SCFL badge on all club kits
- League equipment offers
- SCFL bench kit offer

*All enquiries call our sales team on 0203 026 0640
www.premier-sports.kitfor.co.uk/scfl*



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	
Sam GEARD	
Alfie LOVERSIDGE	
Alex FAIR	
Kyle WOOLVEN	
Pat HARDING	
Charlie FOGDEN	
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



AFC Varndeanians

Southern Combination Premier Division
 Saturday 16th September 2023. 3:00pm



SHOREHAM

	Joe SOUTHAM
	Sam MARSDEN
	Louis DENYER
	Levi MARTIN
	Kevin McMAHON
	Luca SLANEY
	Tony TIMMS
	Tomas BOND
	Henry DAY
	George HOLLAH
	Alfie MITCHELL
	Ross MYERS
	Josh GOULD
	Jamie SMITH
	Harry ROBINS
	Klement TANEW
	Nathan MILES
	Ronnie BAKER
	Finley MILLAR
	Aiden ECKWORTH

Referee
 Harvey Ransome

Assistants
 Peter Izard &
 Harvey Howe

Manager Michael Death
Assistant Kieran Collins
Coach Dan Merrington
Physio Matt Rogers

Saturday's Premier Division games

Crowborough Athletic v Crawley Down
 Haywards Heath Town v Shoreham
 Lingfield v AFC Uckfield Town
 Loxwood v Pagham
 Midhurst & Easebourne v Horsham YMCA
 Peacehaven v AFC Varndeanians
 Saltdean United v Little Common



Keep abreast of The Robins

For the latest news and updates from The Beacon



www.hassocksfc.net



Hassocks FC

@hassocksfc



@hassocksfc

@hassocksfc

