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# THE ROBINS



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PREMIER SPORTS SOUTHERN COMBINATION FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
**PREMIER DIVISION**  
SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY 2024 - 2:00PM

**MATCHDAY**  
PROGRAMME NO. 14



# HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

**Founded 1902**

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### GOALKEEPER COACH

**Tim Edwards**

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### ASSISTANT PHYSIO

**Phil Wickwar**

### UNDER 23s HEAD COACH

**Sean Fernley**

### 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 today's Southern Combination Premier Division clash against Loxwood

**Let's start by wishing everyone here today a Happy New Year. Some might say January 13th is too late for such pleasantries, but we will ignore that seeing as it is our first game at the Beacon in 2024.**

And what a year we could have ahead. Here we are, well past the halfway point in the Premier Division season, with Hassocks Football Club still in the thick of the promotion race.

To be competing against clubs with huge budgets is some achievement for Westy and the players - or to put it another way which was doing the rounds after Boxing Day: "Hassocks don't belong up there."

Result aside, Mid Sussex Derby Day against Haywards Heath Town was a great morning for the club.

We welcomed the biggest crowd the Beacon has seen since Burgess Hill Town provided the holiday opposition with over 500 packed into the ground.

That represented one of the top 10 attendances at step five across the whole country.

There were challenges with parking with the south field out of

action, but the feedback we received was otherwise overwhelmingly positive.

A special thank you must go to everyone who volunteered on the day - and hopefully some of those who were first time visitors on Boxing Day were suitably impressed to return today or in the future.

Defeat against Heath did not stay in the system for long as four days later, we ran out 3-1 victors away at Shoreham.

A large travelling contingent were treated to goals from Alex Fair, Josh Nandhra and Tom Frankland to end a run of three games without a victory.

It is fair to say the Middle Road Clubhouse and the pubs of Southwick and Shoreham were grateful for our visit!

We followed that up with a comfortable 2-0 win at AFC Varndeanians last Saturday with Mike Williamson and Pat Harding on target.

Away from first team action, the Under 23s saw their game scheduled for Thursday night at Horsham YMCA postponed due to a frozen pitch.

Last Sunday, the Under 18s secured safe passage in the Southern Combination League Under 18 Cup thanks to a 5-0 home win over

Roffey.

Kian Nandhra opened the scoring with two goals apiece following from Will Hartley and substitute Freddie Seale, making his Robins debut.

Unfortunately, the Ladies were not able to follow suit in the afternoon as they bowed out of the League Trophy in a 3-0 defeat away at Montpellier Villa.

They next play tomorrow afternoon against high-flying Newhaven here at the Beacon. Kick off is at 2pm and admission is free.

The Veterans are also due in at 2pm tomorrow away at Rotherfield, followed by a huge top-of-the-table clash for the Under 23s on Thursday night at home to league leaders Broadbridge Heath. Kick off is 7:45pm.

Our next first team home game is a week today against Little Common. We hope that the players, management, committee and supporters of Loxwood enjoy their stay with us this afternoon.

**Thank you for your support and enjoy the game,**

**Owen & Scott**



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**Much has changed at Loxwood since we ran out 3-0 victors at the Nest in the opening week of the campaign. A new manager has sparked an upturn in form, making the Magpies dangerous opponents to be facing this afternoon**

Former Kingstonian and Corinthians Casuals coach Peter Barkley was appointed as Loxwood boss in the summer, bringing with him the cameras from the popular Bunch of Amateurs YouTube channel.

Barkley worked hard to put together a good squad but results did not really match and after just one win from their opening nine Premier Division matches, he was relieved of his duties.

Taking over was Andy Lampard, part of Barkley's coaching team and the man who led Roffey to the Division One title in 2021-22 before taking a year out of the game.

Lampard soon proved what a shrewd appointment he was, leading Loxwood to an eye catching 4-3

victory over promotion favourites Haywards Heath Town.

The Magpies have since climbed 12 points clear of the bottom two with over impressive wins following against Bexhill United and Eastbourne Town, leaving Loxwood closer to the top 10 than the relegation zone.

Should they go onto secure an upper half finish come the end of the campaign, it would be their first since 2016-17 and their fourth ever after first winning promotion to the top division of the Southern Combination League in 2014.

Games between ourselves and Loxwood in those first few seasons often lacked entertainment.

Not so much these days, with 30 goals in the past five matches and an

increasing level of feistiness due to the links between the clubs.

James Westlake served as assistant manager to Spencer Slaughter when the former Robins midfielder was in charge at the Nest.

Subsequently, a number of Magpies swapped Loxwood for Hassocks when Westlake and Slaughter returned to the Beacon in the autumn of 2021.

In no particular order, the current contingent of ex-Magpies within our ranks includes Fraser Trigwell, Sam Smith, Westlake, Lewis Westlake and Tom Frankland.

Loxwood for their part could call upon former Robins Harvey Enticknap and Dan Webster, whilst Alex Harris is the Magpies' goalkeeper coach.

## Magpies Factfile

**Founded** 1920

**Ground** The Nest

**Website** loxwoodfc.co.uk

**Twitter** @loxwoodfc

**Instagram** @loxwoodfc1

**Manager** Andy Lampard

**Top scorer** Archie Goddard, 9

## Club Honours

**Southern Combination League Division Two**

Winners 2008

**Sussex RUR Charity Cup**

Runners up 2015

**Southern Combination League Premier Supplementary Shield**

Runners up 2021

**Southern Combination League Division One Cup**

Winners 2014

**West Sussex League Division Two North**

Winners 1999, 2012

**West Sussex League Centenary Cup**

Winners 2005

**Malcolm Simmonds Cup**

Winners 2005

## 10 Key Magpies Moments

**1920...** the first incarnation of Loxwood FC are founded, playing in the West Sussex Football League

**1997...** reform as the current incarnation of Loxwood, joining division five of the West Sussex League

**2005...** win promotion into the West Sussex Premier Division as well as a cup double

**2006...** after just one season in the West Sussex Premier, promoted to Southern Combination League

**2008...** a new covered stand is built at Plaistow Road and opened by Jimmy Hill

**2008...** win Southern Combination League Division Two and promotion into Division One

**2010...** floodlights are erected at Plaistow Road, allowing the club to join the Premier Division

**2014...** promotion to the Premier Division is won as well as a first senior trophy, the Division One Cup

**2015...** reach the final of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup, losing to Eastbourne Town

**2015...** best ever league finish secured of sixth in the Premier Division

## Last 15 Seasons

2022-23: Southern Combination Premier 15th

2021-22: Southern Combination Premier 19th

2018-19: Southern Combination Premier 17th

2017-18: Southern Combination Premier 11th

2016-17: Southern Combination Premier 7th

2015-16: Southern Combination Premier 8th

2014-15: Southern Combination Premier 6th

2013-14: Southern Combination One 3rd

2012-13: Southern Combination One 9th

2011-12: Southern Combination One 5th

2010-11: Southern Combination One 6th

2009-10: Southern Combination One 5th

2008-09: Southern Combination One 10th

2007-08: Southern Combination Two 1st

2006-07: Southern Combination Two 7th

## Robins v Loxwood

**SCFL Premier >**

Played 17 - Won 5 - Drawn 4 - Lost 8 - Scored 26 - Conceded 26

**Total > Played 17 - Won 5 - Drawn 4 - Lost 8 - Scored 26 - Conceded 26**

## Previous Meetings

**2023-24**

SCFL Premier: Loxwood 0-3 Hassocks

**2022-23**

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 2-0 Loxwood

SCFL Premier: Loxwood 0-2 Hassocks

**2021-22**

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 0-0 Loxwood

SCFL Premier: Loxwood 1-0 Hassocks

**2019-20**

SCFL Premier: Loxwood 3-0 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 6-2 Loxwood

**2018-19**

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 3-3 Loxwood

SCFL Premier: Loxwood 0-4 Hassocks

**2017-18**

SCFL Premier: Loxwood 2-1 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 0-3 Loxwood

**2016-17**

SCFL Premier: Loxwood 2-0 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 1-2 Loxwood

**2015-16**

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 0-1 Loxwood

SCFL Premier: Loxwood 5-3 Hassocks

**2014-15**

SCFL Premier: Loxwood 1-1 Hassocks

SCFL Premier: Hassocks 1-1 Loxwood



# Robins fly away from Magpies' Nest with convincing victory

**Three goals scored, none conceded and a thoroughly professional performance away at Loxwood secured Hassocks their first victory of the season in front of an increasingly infuriated Nest of Magpies.**

The Robins drew some of that ire from the home support whose verbal barbs appeared to be part of an early warm up for the eagerly anticipated Loxwood Joust festival this weekend, but most of it was reserved for referee Pablo Aguilar.

Mr Aguilar booked four Magpies players before sin binning Loxwood captain Alfie Jones for protesting too vehemently over the award of an 83rd minute penalty to Hassocks converted by Pat Harding.

It was admittedly a soft foul on substitute Ben Bacon which led to the spot kick which gave the Robins their third and final goal.

Loxwood though had been extremely fortunate not to concede a 21st minute penalty when Jamie Wilkes glided past three players and into the box, where he had his legs swiped away for arguably the most blatant foul of the evening.

At least that is how it looked from the sidelines. In fairness to Mr Aguilar, his view was impeded by a number of bodies between himself and the rangy Wilkes.

That did not stop Hassocks being incensed, however. So much so that the incident was still playing on visiting minds going into half time.

Robins assistant coach Tom Hughes spoke to Mr Aguilar as the sides headed towards the changing rooms at the interval, sparking a pantomime exchange of words with an unimpressed Loxwood management team.

The Magpies are being filmed this season by the Bunch of Amateurs non-league football documentary team and their cameras were in close pursuit.

One can only hope they were not expecting to film something akin to Pep Guardiola All or Nothing on Amazon as this was more Pat and Peggy EastEnders in the Queen Vic.

As for the flurry of yellow cards flashed Loxwood's way, two appeared harsh but the other two were deserved.

And it was certainly not Mr Aguilar's fault Loxwood failed to once test their former number one Fraser Trigwell in the Hassocks goal all evening.

Trigwell was one of four ex-Magpies in the Robins starting XI alongside player head coach James Westlake, Sam Smith and Tom Frankland.

The last of those opened the scoring on 19 minutes for his first goal in Hassocks colours.

Jack Troak was poleaxed by Tyler Dhanipersad 25 yards out, picking up the first Loxwood booking of the evening for his troubles.

Frankland fired the subsequent free kick superbly around the wall to beat the despairing dive of Magpies number one Conor Manderson.

Two minutes later came the controversial decision not to award Wilkes a penalty, the first of several occasions in which the tall striker was brought to ground following direct gazelle-like runs.

Loxwood saw more of the ball after that before Hassocks reasserted control, fashioning three good chances to extend the lead before half time.

A delightful Westlake through ball slipped in Troak who could only shoot over.

Harding flashed a powerful left footed volley just wide and then Benson showed real tenacity to outpace Ben Hack and go one-on-one with Manderson.

Benson's effort was a little too close to the Loxwood goalkeeper, enabling Manderson to make a solid stop with his legs.

The second half was only 60 seconds old when Manderson again denied Benson, this time from a curling effort which required a sprawling save.

Despite being a thoroughly polite and likeable young man, Troak somehow became public enemy number one amongst the Loxwood fans gathered behind the goal over the next 20 minutes.

Predictably, this culminated in Troak setting up the second Hassocks goal.

A flat corner from his wand of a left foot was knocked down at the back post by Alex Bygraves.

Benson showed his poacher's instincts, lashing home a volley at the second attempt from close range.

Troak's next set piece was less successful, a 30 yard piledriver free kick which flew through the forest surrounding the Nest.

"That was closer to the goal at Alfold than ours," quipped one Magpies supporter.

Given that Dunsfold Road is only two miles due north, they did have a point.

The second Hassocks goal had created a sense that the game was done but that did not prevent the Robins ruthlessly going after a third.

Harding duly provided it, sending Manderson the wrong way from the spot to move within two goals of overhauling James Laing and climbing into second spot in the Hassocks all-time scorers list.

**Hassocks:** Trigwell; B Tighe, S Smith, Bygraves, Bull; Frankland, J Westlake, Wilkes, Troak; Harding, Benson.

**Subs:** Bacon (Benson 74), Hanslow (Frankland 79), Woolven (Harding 84), Blake (Tighe 85), Gunn (unused).



## 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.





# In form Gunn fires himself to December Player of the Month

**It was a role reversal from November in the Hassocks December Player of the Month award as Matt Gunn pipped Jamie Wilkes to the accolade.**

Gunn had had to settle for second spot behind the tall striker last time out as three goals in six November matches saw Wilkes take the award.

But Gunn would not be denied in December, four excellent appearances at the heart of the Hassocks defence securing his first Robins Player of the Month since signing from AFC Varndeanians in the summer.

Gunn started December as something of a one-man blocking machine in the 2-2 draw away at Bexhill United.

The Robins trailed 2-0 until the 88th minute at the Polegrove, after which late goals from Wilkes and Josh Mundy completed a pretty spectacular comeback.

That would not have been possible without the earlier interventions of Gunn.

In slippery conditions which made defending treacherous, Gunn

dealt admirably with home captain and one of the Southern Combination Premier Division's most dangerous forwards, Jack Shonk.

Two weeks later and Gunn was one of the few bright spots from a below-par team performance away at Lingfield.

It finished 1-0 to the hosts at the New Defence with Gunn taking the Robins Starman award.

Added responsibility fell on Gunn over the festive season due to the absence of his regular centre back partner and Hassocks captain Alex Bygraves.

Gunn responded by keeping former teammate Liam Benson quiet when Haywards Heath Town visited the Beacon on Boxing Day.

He then helped ensure Fraser Trigwell was relatively untroubled in the final game of the month away at Shoreham.

Hassocks ran out 3-1 winners at the Edgar & Wood Stadium with only a stunning distance strike from Martin Bayo getting the Musselmen on the scoresheet.

Second place for the rangy Wilkes

means he has now finished in the Player of the Month top three four times out of five awards so far this season.

His goal which launched the recovery against Bexhill was part of a man-of-the-match performance against the Pirates.

Wilkes was then lively in the Haywards Heath and Shoreham games as he continues to shine in a more advanced role following the departure of Benson to the Bluebells.

Raging Joe Bull rounds off the top three for December Player of the Month having shone at left back.

Bull was solid defensively whilst continuing to pose a real threat going forward in both open play and from set pieces.

He enjoyed a number of forays forward against Shoreham in particular, linking up well with Alex Fair as Hassocks gave the Musselmen a torrid time down the left flank.

Bull might have also claimed at least one if not two second half goals against in the Haywards Heath game had the Robins made more of some dangerous deliveries into the box.



# John Broomfield

## REMOVALS

# TIGHE SCAFFOLDING

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Hassocks*Life*

hassockslife.co.uk



# Roffey forward Kelvin Lucas and his fight against Cancer

**The whole Southern Combination League was recently shocked by the devastating news that Roffey forward Kelvin Lucas has been diagnosed with stage four bowel cancer.**

Kelvin had been playing as recently as September. He was top scorer for a Boars side who made a flying start to the campaign, topping Division One as they aim for an immediate return to the Premier Division.

The first game Kelvin missed was when Hassocks went to Bartholomew Way in the second round of the Sussex Principal RUR Charity Cup back in September.

He was ruled out with awful back ache which was subsequently found to be something far more serious.

Kelvin starts chemotherapy in January to shrink the tumours. Hopefully, surgery will follow and them more chemo and radiotherapy.

Kelvin has a huge passion for football and is a popular figure within the Sussex football scene - not only for his pace and goal scoring, but his

class on and off the pitch. Away from football, Kelvin is an amazing dad.

Kelvin's diagnosis shows that even the fittest and healthiest of people can be affected by bowel cancer at a young range.

To support Kelvin, raise awareness of bowel cancer and help him and his young family through this tough time when Kelvin will be unable to work, Roffey are organising a grueling 161 mile charity bike ride.

Over the weekend of May 4th and 5th 2004, Roffey chairman Phil Gibbs, first team manager Jack Munday and Kelvin's friends Matt Munday, James Ferrar and Tiago Andrade will cycle between 20 different Sussex non league grounds.

The ride will start at Roffey and work across to Crowborough Athletic. It will then head down to the coast via Eastbourne United and Eastbourne Town, and then along to Worthing with many stops at other clubs along the way.

From there, it is up to Kelvin's former club Alfold before the final straight down the A281, into Horsham and back to Roffey - where

hopefully there will be many friends waiting to raise more money (and a few drinks) for Kelvin.

The journey is the equivalent of cycling between London and Brighton three times over. It will be tough, but nothing compared to the huge battle Kelvin is facing.

A GoFundMe page has been set up to support the bike ride, aiming to raise £10,000. So far, £5,890 has been donated, including a £50 donation from Owen John on behalf of everyone here at the Beacon.

Roffey are asking anyone who can afford a donation no matter how big or small to contribute. Kelvin has already been touched by the reaction from the Sussex Non League community and the way it has rallied to support him and his young family at this very tough time.

If you would like to donate, please visit [www.gofundme.com/f/kelvin-lucas-in-his-fight-against-cancer](http://www.gofundme.com/f/kelvin-lucas-in-his-fight-against-cancer).



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# Heath edge thriller in Mid Sussex Derby which did not disappoint

**Southern Combination League Premier Division  
Tuesday 26th December 2023, The Beacon  
Hassocks 2-3 Haywards Heath Town**



**Hassocks and Haywards Heath Town did not disappoint with the Boxing Day show they put on in the first Southern Combination Premier Division Mid Sussex Derby since 2018.**

And despite the large gap in budget between the clubs - a sensitive subject for some Heath fans, seemingly - only an own goal separated the teams as 90 enthralling minutes ended 3-2 to the Bluebells.

You had to feel sorry that the scorer of said own goal was Hassocks stalwart Bradley Tighe.

When Tighe put through his net to make it 3-1 to the visitors with 20 minutes to play, the Bluebells looked to be on easy street.

Alas, the Robins were not done. Substitute Sean Stephenson pulled one back just two minutes after coming off the bench - and when Josh Spinks ended the game in the sin bin after complaining about a tackle on Tom Gilbert, Hassocks had six minutes plus injury time to try and find an equaliser against 10 men.

Relief amongst the large travelling contingent was obvious come full time, part of a crowd of more than 500 - easily the biggest at the Beacon since Burgess Hill Town were a Southern Combination club and provided the Boxing Day opposition.

During the first half, it was Heath who had the better chances. The first of those went to Hayden Skerry, who saw a low shot turned around the post by Fraser Trigwell.

Skerry was a real livewire down the right flank and it was he who opened the scoring with 24 minutes on the clock.

Heath worked the ball out from the back, finding captain Lewis Finney in a pocket of midfield space just inside the Hassocks half.

Excellently, Finney swept the ball across the field to Skerry, who now had a free run at Joe Bull.

Although there was a lot of ground to make up, Skerry charged towards the edge of the Hassocks box and picked out the opposite corner for a fine individual goal.

That was on 24 minutes. Not long after and Heath almost doubled their advantage via more good wing play from the opposite side of the pitch.

Having ghosted in from the left, Finney took on Harvey Blake after being found by a lovely outside of the boot switch from Skerry.

A quick swivel of the hips and Finney had cleverly cut onto his right foot, only to see his final effort headed over the bar via a brilliant piece of defending from Tighe.

Returning to the Beacon a month after swapping Hassocks for the Bluebells, Liam Benson had his first sight of goal just past half hour.

Enterprising play from another ex-Hassocks man in Sam Geard won possession for Heath with the ball then worked forward to Benson.

After driving from left to right, Benson created just enough space away from Tighe to get a shot off easily dealt with by Trigwell.

Benson and footballers of his ability leaving Hassocks is always a risk all the while the Robins stick to their long-held ethos of not paying players.

Unearthing new replacement talent from their youth setup has, however, been something Hassocks have thrived at - and the Robins are certainly hot on the prospects of youth team striker Josh Nandhra.

Nandhra levelled the tie with his second goal in his second senior start at a crucial time just two minutes before half time.

Collecting possession in midfield through Josh Mundy, Hassocks worked the ball via Alfie Loversidge and Jamie Wilkes to release Nandhra through a gap in the Bluebells defence.

Heading towards goal, the 17-year-old subsequently beat Alfie Jones on-on-one via a clinical finish to send the sides into the break level.

Onto the second half and Hassocks did more as an attacking force than they had through the first.

From a one-two between tall striker Wilkes and Pat Harding, Nandhra got on the end of a cross with a low effort too close to Jones.

Compounding that opportunity being missed was the fact Heath retook the lead a few minutes later.

Unmarked at the far post from a corner, Spinks was able to head home a pinpoint delivery.

Next saw lovely link up between Loversidge and Bull create a chance which Mundy flashed just wide before that unfortunate own goal from Tighe on 71.

The architect was unsurprisingly Skerry. He beautifully brought a down a raking Spinks free kick from 60 yards away, beat Bull and pulled back a low cross into the box which bobbed onto the shin of Tighe and beyond Trigwell.

Stephenson pulled one back five minutes later after being teed up by fellow sub Alex Fair, a low shot slipping through the hands of Jones to set up a tense finale which Heath saw out to move to within four points of Hassocks in the Premier Division standings with a game in hand.

**Hassocks:** Trigwell; Blake, B Tighe, Gunn, Bull; Loversidge, Mundy, Williamson, Harding; Wilkes; J Nandhra.

**Subs:** Fair (Wilkes 64), Stephenson (Loversidge 74), Troak (Nandhra 74), Turner (Harding 74), Frankland (Blake 85).



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# Robins back to winning ways with comfortable Shoreham success

**Southern Combination League Premier Division  
Saturday 30th December 2023, Edgar & Wood Stadium  
Shoreham 1-3 Hassocks**



**After suffering back-to-back Southern Combination League defeats for the first time this season, questions were asked over whether the Hassocks bubble was beginning to burst.**

The Robins answered those by getting back to winning ways with a comfortable 3-1 victory at improving Shoreham.

Last season's Division One champions had made a slow start to life on their return to the Premier Division after a five season absence, failing to win any of their opening 11 matches.

An upturn in form since the start of October has not only taken the Musselmen from rock bottom of the table, but hauled them three points clear of the relegation zone.

Travelling to the Edgar & Wood Stadium therefore represented no easy task for the Robins as they looked to bounce back from Mid Sussex Derby Day defeat against Haywards Heath Town.

Judging by the reaction at full time at Shoreham amongst Hassocks management, players and fans, that close-run Boxing Day reversal to their big-spending local rivals is now providing plenty of fuel to fire the Robins in their surprise bid for a playoff place.

Hassocks started brightly with young Josh Nandhra and tall striker Jamie Wilkes both firing just wide inside the opening quarter hour.

Harvey Blake too came close following a blistering run up the right flank and Josh Mundy put a shot a little too close to Musselmen goalkeeper Leo Anderson.

The pressure on the Shoreham goal eventually told on 18 minutes when the Robins took the lead via former Middle Road favourite Big Alex Fair.

Nandhra was sent galloping away down the right hand channel by a

clipped ball up the line from Blake. Tall striker Wilkes and Fair were both arriving in the box, providing plenty of options.

The rangy Wilkes made a clever decoy run to the near post, dragging two Shoreham defenders with him.

That created space in the middle for Fair drifting in from the left. Nandhra hit the right pass low and hard towards the penalty spot and Fair did the rest, picking out the bottom left corner via the inside of the upright.

Fraser Trigwell made his first save of the afternoon four minutes later from a pretty outrageous Curtis Gayler effort.

Mundy conceded a free kick some 35 yards from goal, which the world and his wife assumed Gayler was going to clip into the box.

Shoreham were certainly set up to suggest that would be the case, their big players all hustling and bustling on the edge of the area.

Gayler though had other ideas. Instead, he drilled a shot with speed and accuracy straight for the near-hand top corner.

Gasps from the crowd at the audacity soon transformed into gasps at Trigwell flying across his goal to somehow claw the ball out.

Further quick reactions were immediately needed from the Robins number one as he also denied Max Howell from the follow up.

The game lacked intensity after that with neither side creating a chance of note until Hassocks doubled their advantage on the hour mark.

A long ball over the top caught the Shoreham defence square and Nandhra took full advantage, racing clear to go one-on-one with Anderson.

Although Anderson managed to pull off a good save from the initial effort, the ball looped up into the air

and straight back to Nandhra.

The 17-year-old was calmness personified in dealing with the rebound, first bringing it down on his chest and then smashing a volley into the far corner for his third goal in as many starts.

Nandhra almost had another two minutes later when rattling the post after good work from Mike Williamson and Wilkes opened up the Shoreham defence.

The final two goals of the game came in the last 10 minutes and were both as spectacular as each other.

Substitute Tom Frankland had only replaced Fair seven minutes earlier when he left Anderson grasping at thin air by curling into the top corner from 25 yards to move Hassocks 3-0 ahead.

Shoreham left wing back Martin Bayo went better three minutes later, beating Trigwell from 30 yards to deny the Robins a clean sheet.

That was the only disappointing aspect of an otherwise professional afternoon on the south coast which rounded off an excellent 12 months of progress.

2023 has been some year for Hassocks. Could 2024 become even better?

**Hassocks:** Trigwell; Blake, B Tighe, Gunn, Bull; Stephenson, Mundy, Williamson, Fair; Wilkes; J Nandhra.

**Subs:** Frankland (Fair 73), Troak (Stephenson 76), Loversidge (Nandhra 81), Harding, Bygraves (unused).



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# Williamson and Harding give Robins victory at Varndeanians

**Southern Combination League Premier Division  
Saturday 6th January 2024, Withdean Stadium  
AFC Varndeanians 0-2 Hassocks**

**One game at a time will be the mantra for Hassocks through 2024 as they look to secure the most unlikely of Southern Combination Premier Division playoff places.**

To that end, they got the new year off to a good start with a professional performance and a 2-0 win away at AFC Varndeanians.

Goals in either half from Mike Williamson and Pat Harding secured three points from a fixture which had the look of a potential banana skin beforehand.

Varndeanians came into it in the midst of a new manager bounce. Club stalwart and former captain Lawrence Edwards assumed the hot seat for a second time at the end of November, having previously had a brief spell in temporary charge during Covid-19.

The Vs have subsequently pulled seven points clear of the relegation places, winning two of Edwards' four games in charge.

They were also giving league leaders Newhaven an almighty fright at the Trafalgar Ground last weekend until ex-Robin Sam Rogers received a contentious red card early in the second half.

The Dockers ended up running out 6-2 winners but knew it could have been a different story had Varndeanians not been reduced to 10.

Having dropped points in two similarly tricky away ties at Bexhill United and Lingfield before Christmas, Hassocks knew they could not afford to be below-par at Withdean Stadium.

The Robins trailed in both those matches and so taking the lead was of paramount importance.

After a slow start, it arrived for Hassocks from an unlikely source with 25 minutes on the clock.

Williamson had gone 60 games

without a goal for Hassocks before breaking his duck when the Robins beat Saltdean United 4-0 at the end of November.

Now, he has two in seven games. Not quite worthy of wheeling out the London Buses maxim, but almost enough to proclaim Williamson prolific.

It was some strike too at the end of some pleasing build up. Joe Bull came forward from left back and fed a pass into Jack Troak, making his first start since fracturing a collarbone against Erith Town in the FA Cup back in August.

Troak laid off and Williamson did the rest, picking out the top corner with an absolute rocket from outside the box.

The versatile Troak shone in a new brief on his return. Josh Nandhra is dual-registered with Whitehawk and two Hassocks goals in as many games over the festive period saw him called into the Hawks' squad for their Isthmian League Premier Division home game against Margate.

Troak was therefore asked to lead the line in the absence of Nandhra. It is a role he has fulfilled before when Brad Sweetman was Robins boss but not under James Westlake so far, who has preferred to put Troak's cavalier style to good effect up and down the left flank.

It is often said that getting a player back from long-term injury is like making a new signing.

That would be doubly true if Troak goes onto play as a striker more regularly, filling the void left by the departure of Liam Benson to Haywards Heath Town.

Hassocks were given a quick reminder not to take Varndeanians lightly when the hosts almost had an instant equaliser.

Another former Robin in Jude Wallis led an attack finished off by Adam Bukleb, which Hassocks were



grateful to see a correctly raised flag rule out for offside.

Other than that, Fraser Trigwell was rarely troubled. It always felt like a second goal for the Robins would be enough to secure victory and it duly arrived just past the hour mark.

Troak sent a deep free kick towards the back post where Alex Bygraves rose highest to nod back across goal.

When Varndeanians goalkeeper Elliot Dailly made a mess of collecting, Harding was on hand to poke home his ninth of the season.

That represented an instant impact for Super Pat, scoring with his first touch.

He had only been introduced 60 seconds earlier along with Sean Stephenson as part of a double change replacing Alex Fair and Josh Mundy.

From that point on, the Robins were on easy street. Three comfortable points were in the bag to take back to the Beacon ahead of back-to-back home games with Loxwood and Little Common.

**Hassocks:** Trigwell; Blake, Bygraves, Gunn, Bull; L Turner, Mundy, Williamson, Fair; Wilkes; Troak.

**Subs:** Harding (Fair 60), Stephenson (Mundy 60), Durand (Troak 66), Frankland (Turner 79), B Tighe (92).

# First Team Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Att	Scorers
<b>July</b>					
29/07 - 15:00	Eastbourne Town (H)	SCFLP	1-1	232	OG
<b>August</b>					
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	3-1	265	Fair, Benson, Woolven
<b>September</b>					
09/09 - 15:00	Eastbourne United (A)	SCFLP	0-3	211	
12/09 - 19:30	AFC Uckfield Town (A)	SSC1	2-1	145	Bygraves, Loversidge
16/09 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (H)	SCFLP	5-0	211	Stephenson, Fair, Loversidge, Benson (2)
19/09 - 19:30	Roffey (A)	RURC2	0-2	60	
23/09 - 15:00	Sheerwater (A)	FAVQ2	5-4		Benson (2), Loversidge, Stephenson, L.Westlake
26/09 - 19:45	Selsey (A)	PBLC2	5-1	121	Benson (4), D.Turner
30/09 - 15:00	Little Common (A)	SCFLP	4-1	96	Stephenson, Benson, OG, Harding
<b>October</b>					
07/10 - 15:00	Crawley Down Gatwick (A)	SCFLP	1-0	86	Bull
10/10 - 19:45	Horsham YMCA (H)	SCFLP	0-0	162	
14/10 - 15:00	AFC Uckfield Town (H)	SCFLP	1-1	262	Fair
17/10 - 19:30	East Grinstead Town (A)	SSC2	1-3		Fair
21/10 - 15:00	Bedfont Sports (A)	FAV1	0-2		
28/10 - 15:00	Newhaven (A)	SCFLP	1-1	264	Harding
31/10 - 19:45	Haywards Heath Town (H)	PBLC3	2-2	202	Benson, Harding <i>(Lost 5-4 on pens)</i>
<b>November</b>					
11/11 - 15:00	Crowborough Athletic (A)	SCFLP	2-5	329	Wilkes, Durand
18/11 - 15:00	Eastbourne Town (A)	SCFLP	3-0	192	Benson, Mundy, Wilkes
21/11 - 19:45	Peacehaven & Tels (H)	SCFLP	2-0	193	B.Tighe, Wilkes
25/11 - 14:00	Saltdean United (H)	SCFLP	4-0	155	Woolven, Williamson, Harding (2)
28/11 - 19:45	Steyning Town (A)	SCFLP	3-2	101	J.Nandhra, Harding, Bygraves
<b>December</b>					
02/12 - 15:00	Bexhill United (A)	SCFLP	2-2	145	Wilkes, Mundy
16/12 - 15:00	Lingfield (A)	SCFLP	0-1	45	
26/12 - 11:00	Haywards Heath Town (H)	SCFLP	2-3	556	J.Nandhra, Stephenson
30/12 - 15:00	Shoreham (A)	SCFLP	3-1	179	Fair, J.Nandhra, Frankland
<b>January</b>					
06/01 - 15:00	AFC Varndeanians (A)	SCFLP	2-0	146	Williamson, Harding
13/01 - 14:00	Loxwood (H)	SCFLP			
20/01 - 14:00	Little Common (H)	SCFLP			
27/01 - 15:00	AFC Uckfield Town (A)	SCFLP			
<b>February</b>					
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			
<b>March</b>					
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			
<b>April</b>					
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
Fraser Trigwell	33	0	33	0	34	0
Joe Bull	32	1	33	2	170	11
Jamie Wilkes	29	3	32	4	72	8
Pat Harding	22	9	31	9	269	150
Matt Gunn	28	0	28	0	28	0
Josh Mundy	21	7	28	2	28	2
Mike Williamson	26	1	27	2	66	2
Bradley Tighe	21	6	27	1	197	1
Alex Bygraves	25	1	26	2	70	6
Alfie Loversidge	13	12	25	3	104	14
Tom Frankland	14	11	25	3	37	3
Liam Benson	23	1	24	17	200	67
Sean Stephenson	18	4	22	3	22	3
Kyle Woolven	8	13	21	5	21	5
Harvey Blake	18	1	19	0	131	4
Alex Fair	11	5	16	5	16	5
Sam Smith	2	6	8	0	49	3
Julian Durand	2	5	7	1	7	1
Leon Turner	2	5	7	0	40	5
Jack Troak	4	2	6	0	128	31
Sam Geard	1	5	6	1	10	1
Josh Nandhra	3	2	5	3	5	3
Lewis Westlake	2	3	5	1	118	11
James Westlake	4	0	4	0	261	31
Nathan Miles	2	2	4	0	215	74
Charlie Fogden	1	2	3	0	3	0
Micael Fatela	0	3	3	0	3	0
Dan Turner	1	1	2	1	64	4
Ben Bacon	0	2	2	0	48	17
Alex Brewer	0	2	2	0	5	1
Elliott Hanslow	0	2	2	0	2	0
Noah McHale	0	1	1	0	1	0
Kian Nandhra	0	1	1	0	1	0

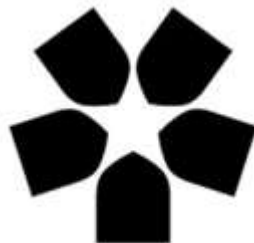


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# Hassocks hit eight to move into last eight past harrowed Hailsham

Southern Combination League Under 23 Cup 2nd Round  
Thursday 14th December 2023, The Beacon  
Hassocks U23s 8-1 Hailsham Town U23s



**It was a great eight for Hassocks Under 23s in their final game of 2023 as they hammered Hailsham Town 8-1 at the Beacon in the Southern Combination Under 23 League Cup.**

Victory moved the Robins into the quarter finals of the competition, a stage they have only reached on two previous occasions.

Both of those adventures in the 2018-19 and 2021-22 were ended in the semi finals.

If Hassocks are to make it to the final four this season, then they will need to overcome either fellow North Division club Horley Town or Crowborough Athletic of the East Division next.

It is also from the East Division that Hailsham hail. The Stringers arrived in Mid Sussex on a cold but clear evening occupying 7th spot in the table.

Hassocks though were not about to take their opponents lightly. In their most recent outing a fortnight ago, the Robins bowed out of the Sussex Under 23 Challenge Cup in a 4-0 home defeat to Bexhill United.

The Pirates sit just one place and three points better off in the East

Division standings than Hailsham, which suggested this was going to be another tough assignment.

Hassocks therefore deserve a lot of credit for the way they ruthlessly went about their business, banishing the demons of that heavy loss to Bexhill.

Hassocks made three changes, all coming in attack. Nathan Miles and Julian Durand returned to the starting XI, whilst there was a first Under 23s appearance for Big Alex Fair.

Fair has missed the last few weeks of first team action with the Robins making the most of the opportunity to get some minutes into his legs.

The promise of Cruyff Turns galore added around three people to the attendance.

Dropping out were Charlie Fogden, Oliver Parker-Williams and Jack Duckett.

Miles enjoyed a fruitful evening as he helped himself to four goals. The popular striker now has seven in four appearances for the Under 23s, although they have all come from two games - the other being a hat-trick at Oakwood in September.

There was also a rare yellow card for Miles. Turns out that not even scoring four times will convince

Johnsy to let you off paying the £12 fine for a booking, as Miles found out afterwards.

Sporting the captain's armband, Dan Turner bagged a brace of his own from centre back and Alex Wintle was also on target.

The Hassocks scoring was rounded off by Under 18s striker Kian Nandhra, who notched from the bench.

Jack Thomas and his defence were denied a clean sheet in the 68th minute when Jose Cornwall struck a consolation goal for the Stringers.

**Hassocks:** Thomas, Hicks, D Turner, Dove, Fernley, McHale, Wintle, Fatela, Fair, Miles, Durand.

**Subs:** K Nandhra, W Tighe, Cheverton, Goswamy, China (used).

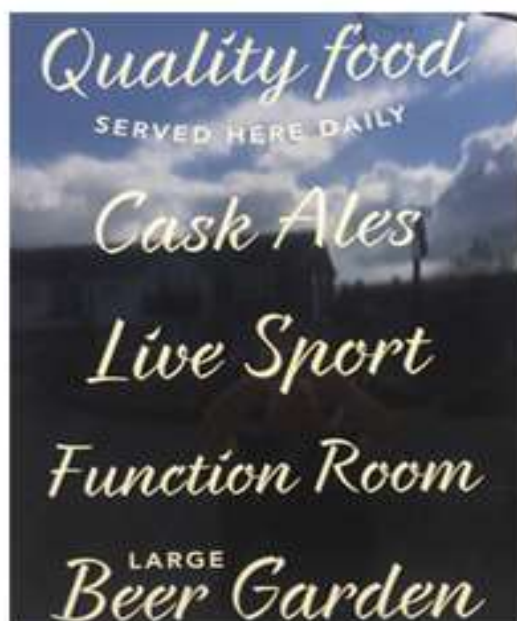


# Under 23s Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
<b>August</b>				
17/08 - 19:45	Redhill (A)	SCFL23	3-1	J.Nhandra, D.Turner, Mercer
24/08 - 19:45	Horley Town (H)	SCFL23	4-2	Geard (2), Loversidge, Durand
31/08 - 19:45	Broadbridge Heath (A)	SCFL23	1-4	Chedzey
<b>September</b>				
07/09 - 19:45	Lingfield (A)	SCFL23	1-6	Chedzey
14/09 - 19:45	Roffey (H)	SCFL23	3-0	Fernley, Chedzey, Mercer
21/09 - 19:45	Horsham YMCA (H)	SCFL23	5-2	J.Nandhra (2), K.Nandhra, Wintle, OG
27/09 - 19:45	Oakwood (A)	SCFL23	7-5	Miles (3), Duckett, S.Smith, Dove, Chedzey
<b>October</b>				
05/10 - 19:30	St Francis Rangers (A)	SCFL23	4-1	L.Turner, Bacon, Duckett, Durand
12/10 - 19:45	Lingfield (H)	SCFL23	5-1	L.Turner, Duckett, Fatela, Durand, Dove
26/10 - 19:45	Oakwood (A)	U23LC1	3-1	Durand (2), Fatela
<b>November</b>				
23/11 - 19:45	Steyning Town (A)	SCFL23	4-1	Fatela, Parker-Williams, Duckett, K.Nandhra
30/11 - 19:45	Bexhill United (H)	CU23C2	0-4	
<b>December</b>				
14/12 - 19:45	Hailsham Town (H)	U23LC2	8-1	Miles (4), Wintle, D.Turner (2), K.Nandhra
<b>January</b>				
18/01 - 19:45	Broadbridge Heath (H)	SCFL23		

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FRIDAY	11.00 - 00.30
SATURDAY	11.00 - 00.30
SUNDAY	12.00 - 23.00

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# Under 23s Appearances 2023-24

Player	2023-24 Season			Goals
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	
Noah McHale	11	2	13	0
Billy Dove	7	6	13	2
Jack Thomas	12	0	12	0
Sam Fernley	10	2	12	1
Ben Hicks	11	0	11	0
Dan Turner	11	0	11	3
Alex Wintle	7	3	10	2
Wes Tighe	4	6	10	0
George Mercer	8	1	9	2
Julian Durand	4	5	9	5
Kian Nandhra	4	3	7	3
Cavan Chedzey	1	6	7	4
Jack Duckett	6	0	6	4
Jack Smith	2	4	6	1
Sam Geard	5	0	5	2
Micael Fatela	4	1	5	3
Oliver Parker-Williams	3	2	5	1
Nathan Miles	4	0	4	7
Josh Nandhra	4	0	4	3
Charlie Fogden	3	1	4	0
Lewis Westlake	3	1	4	0
George Gladding	1	3	4	0
Evan China	0	4	4	0
Alfie Loversidge	3	0	3	1
Kobe Dersley	2	0	2	0
Josh Mundy	2	0	2	0
Sam Smith	2	0	2	1
Leon Turner	2	0	2	2
Ben Cheverton	0	2	2	0
Ben Bacon	1	0	1	1
Harvey Blake	1	0	1	0
Jayden Dunkley	1	0	1	0
Alex Fair	1	0	1	0
Will Lord	1	0	1	0
Bradley Tighe	1	0	1	0
Jack Troak	1	0	1	0
Kyle Woolven	1	0	1	0
Josh Akturk	0	1	1	0
Sam Dean	0	1	1	0
Tom Frankland	0	1	1	0
Oliver Goswamy	0	1	1	0
Jay Hudson	0	1	1	0
Ed Tobias	0	1	1	0



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# Mid Sussex Derby success leaves Hassocks top of tree at Christmas

Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division  
Sunday 17th December 2023, The Beacon  
Hassocks U18s 3-0 St Francis Rangers U18s



**Two consecutive Sundays washed out by the weather meant that Hassocks Under 18s rounded off their 2023 with back-to-back Mid Sussex Derbies against St Francis Rangers.**

The Robins made the most of the opportunity, following up their 4-1 win at Colwell Road on the last weekend of November by taking local bragging rights again with a 3-0 win as Rangers visited the Beacon.

There was little sign of rustiness caused by the postponement of those matches with Saltdean United and Roffey as Hassocks gave a professional performance to earn what was in the end a comfortable three points.

In the process, the Robins guaranteed themselves top spot in the Southern Combination League Under 18 Central Division going into Christmas with a four-point gap over other local rivals Burgess Hill Town.

The Hillians do have three games in hand however, and have won 10 matches out of 10 in all competitions.

Hassocks have pushed them closer than anyone when going down to an agonising 4-3 defeat at the Beacon in September.

The return game in the new year is likely to prove pivotal in the title race and well worth getting into the diary once the fixtures are announced.

Unchanged teams tend to be a rarity at Under 18s level but that is exactly what the Robins went with against Rangers.

Despite the lack of changes, Hassocks had three different players on the scoresheet from those who netted last time out against Rangers.

At the Hospital, Cavan Chedzey hit a hat-trick and Josh Nandhra provided the other goal.

It proved to be a good couple of days for Nandhra, who marked his full first team debut a little over 48 hours earlier with a goal in the excellent 3-2 win at Steyning Town.

There was still a Nandhra on target this time, but it was brother Kian scoring his fifth of the campaign.

Sam Fernley popped up with a goal and Evan China provided the third.

At the other end, Theo Bradley enjoyed a routine morning as the Hassocks goalkeeper and his back four kept their third clean sheet of the season.

Rangers ended the match with

only 10 players after Teddy Ballard picked up two yellow cards.

It was somewhat hard going for the visitors, who had no substitutes to call upon either.

With the final whistle came the end of a memorable 12 months for Hassocks in which this very young Robins team have grown and developed at an impressive rate.

Hassocks will be hoping to continue that into 2024 in both the bread and butter of Central Division football and as they look to go better than last season's run to the semi finals of the League Cup.

And it is in the League Cup where the Robins will resume their season after Christmas, the rearranged second round tie with Roffey taking place at the Beacon on Sunday 7th January with an 11am kick off.

**Hassocks:** Bradley, Fogden, China, Tobias, Fernley, K Nandhra, Goswamy, Dean, Gladding, J Nandhra, Chedzey.

**Subs:** Hartley, Munt, Murray (used).

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# Under 18s Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
<b>September</b>				
03/09 - 11:00	Shoreham (H)	SCFL18	6-1	Brewer (4), Fernley, Hartley
10/09 - 11:00	Haywards Heath Town (A)	SCFL18	4-5	J.Nandhra (3), K.Nandhra, Fogden
17/09 - 11:00	Burgess Hill Town (H)	SCFL18	3-4	Brewer (2), Chedzey
24/09 - 11:00	Mile Oak (A)	SCFL18	5-0	J.Nandhra (2), Brewer (2) Goswamy
<b>October</b>				
01/10 - 11:00	Crawley Down Gatwick (A)	C18C2	2-9	K.Nandhra, J.Nandhra
08/10 - 11:00	Saltdean United (A)	SCFL18	4-1	Chedzey, Fernley, Brewer, Hartley
15/10 - 11:00	AFC Varndeanians (H)	SCFL18	4-1	Chedzey (2), Hartley, China
<b>November</b>				
05/11 - 11:00	Montpelier Villa (A)	SCFL18	3-3	K.Nandhra, Fernley, Chedzey
19/11 - 11:00	Mile Oak (H)	SCFL18	9-0	Chedzey (7), K.Nandhra, Varley
26/11 - 11:00	St Francis Rangers (A)	SCFL18	4-1	Chedzey (3), J.Nandhra
<b>December</b>				
17/12 - 11:00	St Francis Rangers (H)	SCFL18	3-0	K.Nandhra, Fernley, China
<b>January</b>				
07/01 - 11:00	Roffey (H)	U18LC2	5-0	Hartley (2), K.Nandhra, Searle (2)
21/01 - 11:00	Lancing (H)	SCFL18		
28/01 - 11:00	AFC Varndeanians (A)	SCFL18		

# Under 18s Appearances 2023-24

Player	2023-24 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Sam Dean	12	0	12	0
Sam Fernley	12	0	12	4
Charlie Fogden	12	0	12	1
Theo Bradley	11	0	11	0
Kian Nandhra	11	0	11	6
Cavan Chedzey	10	1	11	15
Will Hartley	3	8	11	5
George Gladding	10	0	10	0
Oliver Goswamy	10	0	10	1
Josh Nandhra	10	0	10	7
Toby Munt	5	5	10	0
Evan China	6	1	7	2
Ed Tobias	7	0	7	0
Marko Gabric	0	7	7	0
Alex Brewer	5	1	6	9
Ben Foster	4	2	6	0
Ben Murray	1	4	5	0
Will Varley	1	2	3	1
George Lythgoe	1	1	2	0
Harry Goatcher	1	0	1	0
Leo Charman	0	1	1	0
Freddy Searle	0	1	1	2
Jack Wood	0	1	1	0

# Woe in Worthing as Oak give Hassocks County Cup hammering

Sussex Veteran's Challenge Cup Quarter Final  
Monday 4th December 2023, Palantine Park  
Mile Oak Veterans 7-0 Hassocks Veterans



**There is a reason Mile Oak seem to reach the Sussex Veteran's Challenge Cup Final every season - and Hassocks found out why the hard way in this quarter final meeting between the teams.**

Having scored 19 goals in two matches to reach the final eight of the competition, the Robins were bowled over in a 7-0 defeat to Oak at Palatine Park, home of Worthing Town.

Oak moved the game to 3G not wanting to risk a second postponement at Mile Oak Recreation Ground, which would have handed home advantage to Hassocks as per County Cup rules.

The Robins did not mind; the additional girth around the waist which comes with being a veteran would have made cramming into the already small Recreation Ground changing rooms even more cosy than normal.

By full time down in Worthing, the venue change was about the only positive Hassocks had to cling to as they were well beaten.

That and Ashley Marsh somehow navigating a seven-goal defeat without picking up any sort of

booking. Has the former club captain mellowed approaching his 40s?

Availability has been a challenge for the Robins all season and despite this being the most prestigious competition in Veterans football, manager Steve Spies again found himself cobbling together a 12.

There were six changes from the starting XI who had hammered Roffey Hills Farm when the Veterans last took to the field for a game in the second round of the competition seven weeks and one day ago.

In no particular order, Kenny Petrie, Andy Wilson, Terry Gacias, Chris Maynard and Phil Gault were all missing. Che Williams meanwhile dropped to the bench.

With six goals in three games, losing Lord Gault was a severe blow. By association, being without Maynard was almost as big; had Maynard been available to chauffeur, maybe the Lord would have graced Worthing with his presence.

Kieran Fielding made his Veterans debut with Nick Neman, Dave Juniper, Mr 7/10 Richard Thompson, Andy Darby and Spies himself returning.

Having said to Spiesy that any Veterans match reports would not be

so harsh on him this season, we will not point out that the Robins won 13-1 last time whilst their illustrious leader was absent running the Great South Run and that his return coincided with a 7-0 defeat.

Given the final score, it may come as a surprise for you to read that the first half was not a total disaster.

The Robins trailed only 2-0 to an own goal and a Jason Gathern strike. It was after the break when Oak ran riot.

Danny Curd got the party started when making it 3-0 on 52 minutes. Marcus Strevens added a fourth on 62, followed by two more in the space of six minutes from Curd to complete his hat-trick.

Mark Allwright rounded things off with the seventh with nine minutes remaining, leaving Hassocks with the Mid Sussex Veterans East Division to concentrate on for the rest of the campaign.

**Hassocks:** Sayers, McEnery, Marsh, Newman, Thompson, Fielding, Darby, Juniper, Butler, Cook, Spies.

**Subs:** Bundy, Williams (used).

» **YIR**  
YOUR INSTANT REPLAY



# Veterans Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
<b>September</b>				
10/09 - 14:00	Lewes (H)	MSFLVE	1-5	Cook
24/09 - 14:00	Patcham United (H)	CVC1	6-2	Cook (3), Butler, Gault, Sullivan
<b>October</b>				
15/10 - 14:00	Roffey Hills Farm (H)	CVC2	13-0	Gault (5), Cook (4), Maynard, Sayers, Bundy, Cooper
<b>December</b>				
04/12 - 20:30	Mile Oak (A)	CVCQF	0-7	
<b>January</b>				
14/01 - 14:00	Rotherfield (A)	MSFLVE		

# Veterans Appearances 2023-24

Player	2023-24 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Chris Cook	4	0	4	7
Elliott Butler	3	0	3	1
Andy Darby	3	0	3	0
Phil Gault	3	0	3	6
Dave Juniper	3	0	3	0
Nick Newman	3	0	3	0
Rob Sayers	3	0	3	1
Andy Wilson	3	0	3	0
Jonathan Bundy	1	2	3	1
Ashley Marsh	2	0	2	0
Michael McEnery	2	0	2	0
Steve Spies	2	0	2	0
Che Williams	1	1	2	0
Paul Armstrong	1	0	1	0
James Butcher	1	0	1	0
Mark Darbyshire	1	0	1	0
Kieran Fielding	1	0	1	0
Terry Gacias	1	0	1	0
Anthony Humphries	1	0	1	0
Chris Maynard	1	0	1	1
Kenny Petrie	1	0	1	0
Richard Thompson	1	0	1	0
Adam Waller	1	0	1	0
Scott Woolley	1	0	1	0
Ricky Betsworth	0	1	1	0
Sam Cooper	0	1	1	1
Paul Gurr	0	1	1	0
Dan Sullivan	0	1	1	1
Richard Thomas	0	1	1	0

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# Ladies Matches 2023-24

Date & Time	Opponents	Comp	F-A	Scorers
<b>September</b>				
10/09 - 14:00	Welling United (H)	LSE1S	1-4	K.Chappell
17/09 - 14:00	Montpelier Villa (A)	SWSC	1-4	Spooner
24/09 - 14:00	Eastbourne United (H)	LSE1S	1-3	Moon
<b>October</b>				
01/10 - 14:30	Hastings United (A)	LSE1S	2-3	Mair, K.Chappell
08/10 - 14:00	Herne Bay (H)	LSE1S	0-2	
22/10 - 14:00	Dartford Reserves (H)	LSE1S	1-2	Craig
29/10 - 14:00	Newhaven (A)	LSE1S	0-4	
<b>November</b>				
05/11 - 14:00	Ashford United (H)	LSEC2	1-7	Spooner
08/11 - 19:45	Steyning Town (A)	LSE1S	1-2	K.Chappell
12/11 - 14:00	Montpelier Villa (H)	LSE1S	4-3	Stevens, Mair, K.Chappell, Craig
19/11 - 14:00	Eastbourne United (A)	LSE1S	1-3	K.Chappell
26/11 - 14:00	Bexhill United (H)	LSE1S	2-3	Spooner, Pordage
<b>December</b>				
17/12 - 15:00	Bromley (A)	LSE1S	0-7	
<b>January</b>				
07/01 - 14:00	Montpelier Villa (A)	LSET2	0-3	
14/01 - 14:00	Newhaven (H)	LSE1S		
21/01 - 14:00	Bexhill United (A)	LSE1S		
28/01 - 14:00	Hastings United (H)	LSE1S		
<b>February</b>				
11/08 - 14:00	Bognor Regis Town (H)	LSE1S		
18/02 - 14:00	Welling United (A)	LSE1S		
25/02 - 14:00	Montpellier Villa (H)	LSE1S		
<b>March</b>				
10/03 - 14:00	Bromley (H)	LSE1S		
17/03 - 14:00	Bognor Regis Town (A)	LSE1S		
24/03 - 14:00	Steyning Town (H)	LSE1S		

# Ladies Appearances 2023-24

Player	2023-24 Season			
	Starts	Used Sub	Games	Goals
Katie Read	13	0	13	0
Claire Stevens	13	0	13	1
Katherine Chappell	12	0	12	5
Tallie Bright	11	1	12	0
Lola Moon	7	5	12	1
Kirstin Mair	11	0	11	2
Emily Spooner	10	0	10	3
Jess Craig	9	0	9	2
Jodie Johanson	8	1	9	0
Jo Brown	8	0	8	0
Ellie Moquet	6	2	8	0
Sarah Chappell	7	0	7	0
Emma Flin	6	1	7	0
Mia Pordage	6	1	7	1
Mandy Morgan	5	2	7	0
Jess Gray	4	1	5	0
Holly Webb	3	1	4	0
Steph Wingeatt	1	2	3	0

# On This Day...



## Awesome Amos help Hassocks to another five star showing

**January 13th 2007:** A Matt Amos hat-trick helped Hassocks run out 5-0 victors away against Wick, making it two big wins from trips to the west of the county in seven day

### Another trip to the west of the county resulted in another dazzling five goal display from rampant Hassocks.

Last Saturday, Littlehampton Town were hammered 5-1 at the Sportsfield.

Fast forward seven days and 1.9 miles north to Crabtree Park and the Robins could be found thrashing hosts Wick 5-0.

Matt Amos was the star of the show this week. The 17-year-old hit a superb first senior hat-trick to continue hurtling towards the 20 goal mark in what continues to be a magnificent debut season.

Behind Amos, the whole side worked tremendously hard. They dominated from the start and restricted a decent Wick outfit to just a couple of clear cut chances all afternoon.

Dave John opted to rest Phil Gault and Pete Lear. Amos took over from Gault up front and Stuart Faith came in for Lear as part of the Hassocks back three.

Amos and strike partner Mark Sheriff wasted no time in terrorising the Wick defence, who found themselves overwhelmed by the frequency with which Anthony Hibbert and Matt Robbins joined the attack from midfield.

In a sign of what was to come, Hibbert and Robbins had low shots well saved by home goalkeeper Wes Hallett inside the first 10 minutes.

The next 10 minutes saw Amos fire wide on three occasions. Veteran Tony Miles was being given a torrid time by the teenager. In the same period Sheriff glanced a header just wide.

With Chris Brown doing a disciplined job in offering good protection to the defence, Hassocks were soon able to push wing backs

Mickey Turner and Sam Fisk further up the pitch.

It was only a matter of time before the Robins took the lead, although they first had to survive an almighty scare when Tom Manton shot wide when well placed.

The goal eventually arrived in the 40th minute. Sheriff was adjudged to have been pushed on the edge of the box.

Hibbert placed the resulting free kick neatly around the wall and into the bottom corner.

The decision looked harsh on Wick but the goal was no more than Hassocks deserved.

Amos then found his way into the referee's book after reacting angrily to a poor challenge from James West.

If Wick hoped dishing out some rough treatment would cause the youngster to fade, then they were gravely mistaken.

Instead, a fired up Amos doubled the Hassocks lead on the stroke of half time.

Hibbert and Brown combined well and when the ball reached Amos on the edge of the box, he exquisitely curled the ball into the far top corner with his weaker right foot. Hallett was left helpless.

The second half followed much the same patten. The Robins dictated proceedings, causing Wick manager Ark Stabler to become increasingly agitated with his team's performance from the touchline.

It was not that Wick were bad - after all, they are the only team to have beaten Whitehawk in the league this season - just that Hassocks were on song with everyone on their game.

Fisk made it 3-0 on 52 minutes, applying the finishing touch at the far post after more great work from Turner down the right.

Because he has been around the

first team setup since the age of 16, it is easy to forget that Fisk is still only 19-years-old himself.

His presence on the scoresheet along with Amos' treble meant four of the five Hassocks goals came from teenagers. Little wonder the Robins' youth system is the envy of much of Sussex.

Fisk could have had a second when heading another Turner cross off target, Ben Torode blasted over on a rare Wick foray before Amos added the fourth on 67 minutes.

A clearance from Joel Harding eluded Miles, allowing Amos to pick up the ball on the left flank.

From there, he cut inside and chipped Hallett with a brilliant effort which went in off the far post.

The 80th minute brought Amos his hat-trick goal to round off the scoring.

Gault had replaced Sheriff nine minutes earlier and he linked up well with Fisk to send Amos scampering clear for a slotted finish past the advancing Hallett.

Turner thought he had made it six with a fierce drive from 25 yards superbly saved one-handed at full stretch by Hallett.

Right at the death, Harding was called into action to preserve his clean sheet when saving bravely at the feet of Phil Turner.

**Hassocks:** Harding; Turner, Faith, Hewitt, Marsh, Fisk; Robbins, Brown, Hibbert; Sheriff, Amos.

**Subs:** Gault (Sheriff 71), Slaughter (Robbins 80), Lear (Hibbert 80).

**Starman:** Great all round team performance but it goes to Matt Amos. A superbly taken hat-trick and frightened the life out of the Wick defence all afternoon.

# Around the League...



The final weekend of 2023 saw a full fixture list taking place across the Southern Combination League with goals galore and plenty of red cards as promotion battles across all three divisions begin to heat up moving into the new year...

**Newhaven ran out 6-2 winners at home to AFC Varndeanians, although it might have been a different story had former Hassocks midfielder Sam Rogers not seen red early in the second half for Vs.**

The Dockers led only 3-2 at the time and were being caused plenty of problems by Varndeanians at the Trafalgar Ground.

Alfie Marchant struck first to give the visitors a surprise 20th minute advantage.

Callum Edwards equalised eight minutes later and when Ryan Warwick and Lee Robinson scored before half time, Newhaven looked in for a routine success at 3-1 ahead going into the break.

Marchant though pulled one back. Rogers was dismissed in controversial circumstances shortly after and the Dockers made the most of playing against 10, Alfie Rogers, Tom Levey and Ian Robinson ensuring the three points remained by the River Ouse.

Improving **Lingfield** found their good form halted only by an 86th minute winner from Tom Lawrence as **Crowborough Athletic** maintained their title charge with a 2-1 win at the New Defence.

Harvey Killick gave the Crows a second minute lead, cancelled out by Tyrone Magala-Bryan.

Luke Richardson then saw red for the Lingers before Lawrence struck late in the day to secure victory for the visitors.

Nothing could separate **Haywards Heath Town** and **Steyning Town** at Hanbury Park where the two promotion hopefuls played out a 1-1 draw.

Tom Chalaye put the Barrowmen ahead on 64 minutes with Lewis Finney equalising for Heath as the game entered the final 10 to ensure the spoils were shared.

Bottom of the table **Saltdean United** gave a fine account of themselves before going down 1-0 to high-flying **Peacehaven & Telscombe** in a local derby.

Robin Deen provided the only goal of the game for the Tye at Hill Park, where there was a red card for Saltdean's Ty Barden.

No early baths at the Polegrove but six yellows were flashed as an ill-tempered game between **Bexhill United** and **Eastbourne United** ended 1-1.

Joe Summerbell gave Bexhill a 21st minute lead with Callum Barlow levelling for United just past the hour mark.

Jack Murphy scored the only goal for **Eastbourne Town** in their 1-0 home win over **Little Common**, the lowest scoring Premier Division game of the day.

The highest was at the Oaks, where **Crawley Down Gatwick** hammered **AFC Uckfield Town** 8-1.

Michael Belli and Jack Ryder both hit braces and there were goals for Sam Clements, Liam Holden, Callum Kilkenny and Rhys White. Jeremy Tudor-Pole provided the Oakmen's consolation.

Six goals were scored at the Nest between this afternoon's visitors **Loxwood** and **Midhurst & Easebourne** but there was no winner as it finished 3-3.

Lewis Rustell hit a first half double for Midhurst. Combined with a Marcus Bedford strike in 57 minutes, that left the Stags 3-1 ahead with as little as 15 minutes left to play.

Loxwood though launched an excellent comeback. Following on from Aaron Loftus' 38th minute effort, Tristan Pereira and Lloyd Jeremy both scored from the bench to round off a ridiculously entertaining afternoon.

Last but by no means least, goals

from Jamie Carroll, Tom Jefkins and Howard Neighbour saw **Pagham** to a 3-1 home win over **Horsham YMCA**. Josh Neathey was the YM scorer.

**Dorking Wanderers B** maintained top spot in Division One thanks to a 4-2 win at home to **Bansted Athletic**.

It was the same scoreline at Culver Road, **Montpelier Villa** going down at home against **Seaford Town** for whom Callum Connor hit a hat-trick. Villa ended with 10 following the late dismissal of Aaron Ancell.

There were even more goals at Bartholomew Way, where second place **Roffey** saw off **Mile Oak** 5-3.

**Godalming Town** were 4-1 winners away at **Copthorne** and two goals from Josh Irish helped **Wick** to beat **Oakwood** 2-1. Jake Gabb was on target for the Oaks.

First half goals from Bradley Hunt and Dan Hills meanwhile pushed **Worthing United** firmly into the playoff picture as they overcame **Chessington & Hook United** 2-0 at the Robert Albion **Memorial** Ground.

In Division Two, leaders **Bosham** needed an 82nd minute winner from substitute David Castanheira to see off **Ferring** 3-2 at the Recreation Ground.

**Southwater** eased past **St Francis Rangers** 5-1 at Colwell Road and **Hailsham Town** recorded an excellent 3-1 win at reigning champions **Jarvis Brook**.

The bottom two **Brighton Electricity** and **Rottingdean Village** shared a 2-2 draw at Withdean Stadium, **Rustington** were 4-1 winners at **Upper Beeding** and it was the same score at **Capel**, where the hosts were beaten by **Storrington**.



# Tables Form Top Scorers Attendances

## Southern Combination Premier Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crowborough Athletic	21	17	2	2	52	20	53
Newhaven	22	15	6	1	65	29	51
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>47</b>
Peacehaven & Tels	23	13	5	5	41	21	44
Steyning Town	22	12	6	4	58	29	42
Haywards Heath Town	22	12	5	5	60	32	41
Eastbourne United	22	10	9	3	37	27	39
Eastbourne Town	23	12	3	8	29	23	39
Midhurst & Easebourne	22	11	5	6	49	41	38
Lingfield	22	8	6	8	37	37	30
Crawley Down Gatwick	20	9	1	10	47	35	28
Pagham	21	7	5	9	37	36	26
Little Common	21	7	4	10	32	50	25
Horsham YMCA	22	6	6	10	25	40	24
<b>Loxwood</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>22</b>
AFC Varndeanians	23	5	2	16	22	58	17
Bexhill United	23	4	6	13	40	55	15
Shoreham	22	2	4	16	22	64	14
AFC Uckfield Town	22	2	4	16	22	64	10
Saltdean United	23	2	3	18	24	51	9

## Premier Division Attendances

	Ave	Total	League	Cup
Peacehaven & Tels	266	3991	3560	431
Haywards Heath Town	264	4480	3474	1006
Crowborough Athletic	222	3326	2673	653
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>2575</b>	<b>2238</b>	<b>337</b>
Shoreham	213	3185	2156	1029
Newhaven	208	3531	2369	1162
Steyning Town	193	4625	1659	2966
Eastbourne Town	165	2801	2495	306
Bexhill United	156	2024	1525	499
Eastbourne United	155	2774	1974	800
Little Common	146	1889	1432	457
AFC Varndeanians	122	1097	1097	0
Saltdean United	117	1748	1459	289
Pagham	107	1274	1047	227
Horsham YMCA	85	1431	959	472
Midhurst & Easebourne	79	1026	814	212
AFC Uckfield Town	78	1085	814	271
Crawley Down Gatwick	73	1235	726	509
<b>Loxwood</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>939</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>110</b>
Lingfield	65	845	614	231

## Premier Division Form Guide

	Last 6
Newhaven	WWWWD
Crowborough Athletic	WLWWWW
Haywards Heath Town	DWWWDD
Lingfield	WWWLDD
Peacehaven & Telscombe	WDDLWD
Crawley Down Gatwick	WDLWW
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>WDLWW</b>
Eastbourne United	WDDDDW
Midhurst & Easebourne	WLLWWD
Steyning Town	WLDWDD
Pagham	WLDDLW
Eastbourne Town	LWLDWL
Horsham YMCA	DWLWLL
AFC Varndeanians	LLWWLL
Little Common	LLWDDL
Shoreham	WDLDDD
<b>Loxwood</b>	<b>LLLDWL</b>
Bexhill United	LLWDDD
Saltdean United	LLLLLL
AFC Uckfield Town	LLLLLL

## Premier Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Goals
Alfie Rogers	Newhaven	26
Callum Barlow	Eastbourne Utd	25
Oli Leslie	Crawley Down	22
Liam Benson	Haywards Heath	22
Jack Shonk	Bexhill United	20
Dan Simmonds	Pagham	20
Hayden Skerry	Haywards Heath	20
Lewis Rustell	Midhurst	17
Charlie Meehan	Steyning Town	14
Harvey Killick	Crowborough	13
Joe Radley-Martin	Steyning Town	12
James Stone	Eastbourne Town	12
Lee Robinson	Newhaven	11
Harry Shooman	Steyning Town	11
Jay Simpson	Lingfield	11
Hayden Beaconsfield	Eastbourne Utd	10
Cameron Dobell	Haywards Heath	10
Callum Edwards	Newhaven	10
Mark Goldson	Steyning Town	10
<b>Pat Harding</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>9</b>



# Under 23s

## Under 18s

## Ladies

## Veterans



### Southern Combination Under 23 North Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Broadbridge Heath	9	8	1	0	40	11	25
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
Lingfield	11	7	1	3	36	24	22
Horley Town	11	7	0	4	21	18	21
Horsham YMCA	10	6	1	3	35	18	19
Steyning Town	12	4	1	7	23	30	13
St Francis Rangers	11	3	0	8	15	40	9
Roffey	7	2	0	5	17	23	6
Redhill	9	1	0	8	15	25	3
Oakwood	8	1	0	7	14	41	3

### Under 23 North Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Goals
Jamie Maunder	Roffey	10
Ross Ballam	Steyning Town	9
Szymon Kowalczyk	B'bridge Heath	9
Ashley Aderemi	Lingfield	7
Wiktor Maznica	B'bridge Heath	7
<b>Nathan Miles</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>7</b>
Jamie Skipper	Horley Town	7
Toby Brogan	Horsham YMCA	5
<b>Julian Durand</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>5</b>
Archie Street-Williams	Horsham YMCA	4

### Southern Combination Under 18 Central Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>25</b>
Burgess Hill Town	7	7	0	0	35	7	21
Montpelier Villa	10	5	2	3	23	18	17
Saltdean United	10	5	2	3	27	21	17
Lancing	9	5	1	3	26	19	16
Haywards Heath Town	9	4	2	3	25	20	14
Shoreham	5	2	0	3	8	14	6
Mile Oak	9	2	0	7	9	41	6
St Francis Rangers	11	2	0	9	15	32	6
AFC Varndeanians	10	1	0	9	16	43	3

### Under 18 Central Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Goals
<b>Cavan Chedzey</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>15</b>
George Hendriks	Montpelier Villa	12
Austin Potter	Burgess Hill	10
<b>Alex Brewer</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>9</b>
Daniel Burbulis	Burgess Hill	9
Oliver Emery	Saltdean United	8
Dylan Hurst	Burgess Hill	8
Malik Mundoma	Saltdean United	8
Theo Maryon	Burgess Hill	7
<b>Josh Nandhra</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>7</b>

### London & South East Women's Division One South

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newhaven	14	13	0	1	50	12	39
Dartford Reserves	14	8	4	2	30	18	28
Bromley	9	7	0	2	38	9	21
Herne Bay	10	6	3	1	30	14	21
Montpelier Villa	13	6	0	7	32	30	18
Welling United	11	5	1	5	18	32	16
Hastings United	13	4	1	8	16	41	13
Bognor Regis Town	9	3	3	3	17	15	12
Eastbourne United	10	4	0	6	15	23	12
Steyning Town	11	3	0	8	15	28	9
Bexhill United	10	1	2	7	13	29	5
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>2</b>

### LSER Division One South Top Scorers

Player	Club	Goals
Charlotte Lee	Bromley	23
Lucy Collinson	Newhaven	19
Bethany Hull	Bromley	13
Tara Barratt	Montpelier Villa	10
Katherine Davyson	Montpelier Villa	10
Katie Franks	Newhaven	10
Chloe Evans	Newhaven	9
Bryony Hart	Bromley	9
Elena Brock	Herne Bay	8
Kate Foster	Herne Bay	8
Poppy Harrod	Bexhill United	8
Emma Healy	Dartford	7

### Mid Sussex Veterans East Division Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sidley United	5	4	0	1	16	9	13
Lewes	6	5	0	1	27	14	12
Sidley United	6	4	0	2	18	15	12
Jarvis Brook	5	2	0	3	12	17	6
Rotheheld	5	1	1	3	15	17	4
<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>
Marsefield Village	5	0	0	5	6	23	0

### Veterans East Division Top Scorers

Player	Club	Goals
Jonathan Hebson	Lewes	9
<b>Chris Cook</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>8</b>
Ryan Walton	Seaford Town	7
<b>Phil Gault</b>	<b>Hassocks</b>	<b>6</b>
Elliott Hughes	Rotherfield	5
Kabir Breathen	Sidley United	4
Andrew Matthews	Sidley United	4

# Upcoming Fixtures >>>



## Hassocks v Little Common

Southern Combination League Premier Division  
Saturday 20th January 2024, 2:00pm

The Beacon, Brighton Road, Hassocks, BN6 9LY

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

**The second of our back-to-back home games brings Little Common to the Beacon, opponents who we have tended to struggle against since their promotion into the Premier Division for the 2018-19 campaign**

### Little Common this season

Having finished 11th last season - one place and two points below us in the table - Little Common are eyeing up a top 10 finish in what is manager Russell Eldridge's 12th campaign at the helm. They are currently five points off that target but with a game in hand on those above them. Common also through to the quarter finals of the Peter Bentley League Cup, where they will face Crowborough Athletic having already eliminated local rivals Bexhill United and Crawley Down Gatwick. Results like that prove Common are capable of beating anyone on their day - especially when club legend Lewis Hole has his shooting boots on. Hole recently passed the frankly

astonishing 400 goal mark for Common.

### Head-to-head

The two sides have met on 20 previous occasions. Seven of those matches have come in the Premier Division, where as already mentioned we do not have the best of records. The rest took place in the late 1980s and early 1900s in Division One. In terms of the head-to-head, we have won six matches and Common eight, leaving six draws. Historically at least, that leaves little separating the sides.

### Last time we met

It was an excellent three points on the road for the Robins at the end of September, giving us our first win

over Common since 1994. Sean Stephenson struck in the 37th minute but a Jamie Bunn equaliser four minutes later ensured the sides went into half time level. Into the second half and we ran riot as goals from Liam Benson, Super Pat Harding and an own goal in the space of 20 minutes secured a stunning 4-1 success.

### Played for both

Common are one of the few clubs on the Southern Combination League circuit with whom we are yet to have a single link - although that should not really come as a surprise given the distance between Little Common and Hassocks.

## <<< Upcoming Fixtures



### AFC Uckfield Town v Hassocks

Southern Combination League Premier Division  
Saturday 27th January 2024, 3pm kick off  
The Oaks, Eastbourne Road, Uckfield, TN22 5QL  
Admission prices £7 adults, £3 concessions, Under 16s free

**Having already visited AFC Uckfield Town this season in the Sussex Transport Senior Cup, our second visit to the Oaks takes place in a fortnight where fingers will be crossed for a repeat of that 2-1 success from September**

#### AFC Uckfield this season

It has been a season of struggle for AFC Uckfield Town. Steve Ives returned for a third spell at the helm in the summer, replacing Jonny Elwood. Since then though, little has gone right. Ives lasted only a couple of months, as did replacement John Kirby. With the side slipping into the relegation zone, Uckfield appointed our former goalkeeper Haig Kingston as their third boss of the season just before Christmas. Kingston has managerial experience from his time at Mid Sussex Premier Division club Cuckfield Rangers and had been serving as assistant at Saltdean United before taking up his role at the Oaks. Uckfield are currently 19th in the table, four points adrift of

safety.

#### Head-to-head

There have been 23 matches between Hassocks and AFC Uckfield. We just about edge the head-to-head, having won 12 of those compared to nine for the Oakmen. There have been just two draws and both of those have come in the past three years; a 2-2 thriller at the Beacon in August 2021 and the 1-1 draw here last time out. It might not be a game to put on your coupon, but it is one which normally delivers goals. 85 having been plundered at an average of nearly four per game.

#### Last time we met

We created enough opportunities to

win three games of football but with Alex Fair the only Robin able to put the ball into the back of the net, had to settle for a point back in October. Fair struck with 42 minutes played, cancelling out a first minute opener from Zac Bignell as we were caught napping at the start of the game.

#### 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 Pagham

Southern Combination League Premier Division  
Saturday 3rd February 2024, 2pm kick off  
The Beacon, Brighton Road, Hassocks, BN6 9LY  
Admission prices £8 adults, £4 concessions, Under 16s free

**Into February and we welcome Pagham to the Beacon for the first time since their season hiatus in the Wessex League. The Lions are one of our most frequent opponents and games against them tend to be full of entertainment**

#### Pagham this season

It was a difficult 2022-23 season for Pagham following the FA's decision to move them sideways from the Southern Combination into the Wessex League. They lost some important players who wished to remain playing against Sussex-based opponents rather than travelling west as far as Bournemouth which, combined with the Wessex League being of a higher standard, meant a campaign of struggle. The Lions finished 19th of 20 teams which could have seen them relegated into Wessex One. Instead, the FA moved them back into the Southern Combination. This has subsequently been billed a campaign of transition by the club as they look to rebuild

with the focus back on playing in Sussex. So far, so good in that regard with the Lions sitting 12th and on course for a comfortable mid table finish, from where they will hope to push on next season... presuming the FA don't have other ideas again.

#### Head-to-head

Games with Pagham are not clashes that we have tended to enjoy through the years. This is slightly problematic as there have 58 of them. Pagham lead the head-to-head with 28 wins compared to our 20, leaving nine draws. Hassocks' league form against Pagham in recent years is particularly dire. Since 2014, we have picked up a grand total of 16 points from a possible 45.

#### Last time we met

We have, however, won back-to-back meetings now with the Lions. Josh Short scored the only goal of the game at Nyetimber Lane in March 2022, earning a three huge points in the battle against relegation from arguably the most impressive win of Brad Sweetman's season in charge. We then ran out 2-1 victors away from home in the August clash between the clubs. First half goals from Pat Harding and Kyle Woolven proving enough even though Dan Simmonds set up a nervy final 20 minutes by halving the deficit. It was a fitting tribute to Hassocks stalwart Dave Knight, whose funeral was held earlier in the afternoon.

# 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 **Matt GUNN**  
Eastbourne United away **Matt GUNN**  
AFC Uckfield Town away **Alfie LOVERSIDGE**  
AFC Varndeanians home **Sean STEPHENSON**  
Roffey away **Jamie WILKES**  
Sheerwater away **Mike WILLIAMSON**  
Selsey away **Liam BENSON**  
Little Common away **Pat HARDING**  
Crawley Down Gatwick away **Alex BYGRAVES**  
Horsham YMCA home **Joe BULL**  
AFC Uckfield Town home **Mike WILLIAMSON**  
East Grinstead Town away **Alex FAIR**  
Bedfont Sports away **Bradley TIGHE**  
Newhaven away **Bradley TIGHE**  
Haywards Heath Town home **Josh MUNDY**  
Crowborough Athletic away **Jamie WILKES**  
Eastbourne Town away **Jamie WILKES**  
Peacehaven & Telscombe home **Julian DURAND**  
Saltdean United home **Kyle WOOLVEN**  
Steyning Town home **Josh NANDHRA**  
Bexhill United away **Jamie WILKES**  
Lingfield away **Matt GUNN**  
Haywards Heath Town home **Mike WILLIAMSON**  
Shoreham away **Harvey BLAKE**  
AFC Varndeanians away **Jack TROAK**  
Loxwood home  
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 **Liam BENSON**

2nd **Joe BULL**

3rd **Matt GUNN**

September 2023

1st **Liam BENSON**

2nd **Jamie WILKES**

3rd **Alfie LOVERSIDGE**

October 2023

1st **Josh MUNDY**

2nd **Jamie WILKES**

3rd **Mike WILLIAMSON**

November 2023

1st **Jamie WILKES**

2nd **Matt GUNN**

3rd **Fraser TRIGWELL**

December 2023

1st **Matt GUNN**

2nd **Jamie WILKES**

3rd **Joe BULL**

January 2024

1st

2nd

3rd

February 2024

1st

2nd

3rd

March 2024

1st

2nd

3rd

April 2024

1st

2nd

3rd

# HASSOCKS FOOTBALL CLUB

# Most Games



# Most Goals

	Starts	Sub	Total	Goals
1. Mickey Turner	573	21	594	63
2. Ashley Marsh	519	6	525	4
3. Chris Hewitt	493	15	508	22
4. Ashley Low	445	30	475	14
5. Anthony Hibbert	407	55	462	124
6. Andy Fisk	445	11	456	14
7. 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
<b>16. Pat Harding</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>17. James Westlake</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>31</b>
18. Dave Smith	203	57	260	53
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
<b>23. Nathan Miles</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>74</b>
24. Liam Benson	154	46	200	67
<b>25. Phil Johnson</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>100</b>

	Goals	Games
1. Phil Gault	190	352
<b>2. Pat Harding</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>269</b>
3. James Laing	143	351
4. Anthony Hibbert	124	462
5. Robbie Kitchen	123	323
<b>6. Phil Johnson</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>199</b>
<b>7. Nathan Miles</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>215</b>
8. Neil Smith	68	242
9. Liam Benson	67	200
10. Steve Hards	65	155
11. Mickey Turner	63	594
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
<b>20. Jack Troak</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>128</b>
21. Luke Flomo	31	146
<b>22. James Westlake</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>261</b>
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](mailto:hassocksfc@outlook.com)**

# Player Sponsors 2023-24



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**SAM SMITH**



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Coaching**



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**DAN TURNER**



**SAM FERNLEY**



**MIKE WILLIAMSON**



# Player Sponsors 2023-24



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**PAT HARDING**

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# Player Sponsors 2023-24



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# Today's Teams



## HASSOCKS

Fraser TRIGWELL	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harvey BLAKE	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joe BULL	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alex BYGRAVES	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bradley TIGHE	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matt GUNN	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sam SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mike WILLIAMSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leon TURNER	<input type="checkbox"/>
Josh MUNDY	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jamie WILKES	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tom FRANKLAND	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lewis WESTLAKE	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alfie LOVERSIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alex FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Josh NANDHRA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pat HARDING	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sean STEPHENSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
Julian DURAND	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nathan MILES	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Head Coach** James Westlake

**Assistants** Tom Hughes & Jordan Wilson

**Goalkeeper Coach** Tim Edwards

**Physio** Ash Cooper

**Physio** Phil Wickwar



## LOXWOOD

<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacob TERRY
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shay MATTHEWS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Aaron LOFTUS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Harry LAW
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tyler DHANIPERSAD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kieran BRITLAND
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jamie RICE
<input type="checkbox"/>	Danny POTTER
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marlon PINDER
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kaiden HUMMERSTON
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tim BENNETT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ollie YOUNG
<input type="checkbox"/>	Archie GODDARD
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jay POPHAM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lloyd JERMY
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tristan PEREIRA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ben HACK
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alfie JONES
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jamie SMITH
<input type="checkbox"/>	Louis HORSLEY

### Referee

Tazlim Ali

### Assistants

Harvey Howe  
& James Slaney

**Managers** Andy Lampard & Lee Spickett

**Coach** Jack Stevens

**Goalkeeper Coach** Alex Harris

## Next at the Beacon



### Little Common

Southern Combination Premier Division

Saturday 20th January 2024. 2pm

## Today's other Premier Division games

AFC Uckfield Town v Loxwood

AFC Varndeanians v Lingfield

Bexhill United v Steyning Town

Crowborough Athletic v Eastbourne Town

Eastbourne United v Crawley Down Gatwick

Haywards Heath Town v Peacehaven & Tels

Little Common v Newhaven

Midhurst & Easebourne v Shoreham



# Keep abreast of The Robins

For the latest news and updates from The Beacon



[www.hassocksfc.net](http://www.hassocksfc.net)



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