**Round-ups:**

**#8**

**Season 2020/21**

**Midweek Action:** The week’s action got underway on Monday night with a top-half clash in the First Division, with **Warminster** running out 3-1 winners away at **Wells City.** Martin Johnson was a big factor for the away side, and after tapping home the opener, the forward then turned provider, providing a pinpoint cross onto the head of Joel Sissons to make it 2-0. Wells gave themselves a lifeline just before the break thanks to a free-kick from Harry Foster, but Warminster restored their two-goal advantage midway through the second half when Sissons played in Francois Allen who tucked the ball home. The following evening, **Corsham** extended their winning start by easing to a 4-0 victory over **Oldland Abbotonians.** A beautifully placed free kick from Chris Allen put Corsham in front during the first half, before James Vincent doubled their lead not long after the interval. A pair of red cards added to Oldland’s troubles, and they were unable to keep their confident hosts at bay, with Will Stead making it 3-0, before Vincent struck for the second time to complete the scoring. **Hengrove**’s third win on the bounce saw their ascendancy up the table continue, with a couple of late goals helping them secure a 3-0 victory over **Bishop Sutton**. Having scored a match-winning brace in their previous win, Jack Jones led the way for Hengrove once again, breaking the deadlock after 31 minutes. Jones then added his second ten minutes from time to put some distance between the sides, with Adrian Thompson scrambling home a late third for the Grove.

**The ball flies into the back of the net during Corsham Town ’s 4-0 win over Oldland Abbotonians. Image courtesy of John Cuthbertson.**

**Hallen** finally claimed their first Premier Division victory at the 11th time of asking, romping to a 5-3 win at home to **Odd Down**. Things didn’t start well for the hosts who fell behind after just seven minutes, with early substitute Caelen Simpson powering the Bath side ahead. Hallen responded well to falling behind, with Jordon Whittaker levelling three minutes later, before a Sacha Tong tap-in completed the turnaround just before the break. Having hit the woodwork twice earlier in the contest, Cory Simpson finally found the back of the net after 62 minutes to make it 3-1, and before long the game was out of sight with Jordan Ricketts, and then Simpson once more extending their advantage. Lewis White and Jake Reader scored a pair of consolation goals in the closing stages for Odd Down, but the visitors have now lost all four of their October fixtures, conceding 20 goals in the process. At the opposite end of the form spectrum are **Cribbs**, and after Ed Harrison scored the only goal of the game during their 1-0 victory over **Buckland**, they have secured the maximum 12 points from their matches this month.

**Chipping Sodbury** remain without a victory this season after they lost 4-2 at home to **Bradford Town**. Having gone ahead through Darren Jefferies, Sodbury saw their hopes of three points dissipate after goals at the end of the opening period from Jake Brown and James Billing turned the game on its head. A third Bradford goal at the beginning of the second half from Liam Watson prolonged the hosts struggles, with things getting worse soon after when they were reduced to ten men. Second-half substitute Ross Lye scored yet another penalty for the Bobcats, but to be fair to the bottom side their effort never waned and they claimed a late consolation thanks to Rhys Wells.

A dramatic Wednesday night encounter saw **Shepton Mallet**come out on top of a seven-goal thriller away at **Exmouth** thanks to a stoppage-time winner. Own goals were a popular contributor in Devon, with the game level at 1-1 early in the second half thanks to either side unfortunately deflecting the ball into their own nets. Tyson Pollard and Joe Morgan then struck as Shepton took control of the contest, before Ben Steer scored seven minutes from time to give Exmouth hope of a late comeback. They completed the fightback in the 90th minute, when the third own goal of the contest drew them level, but then in the fourth minute of added time, Shepton’s Jack Fillingham slammed the ball home to seal the 4-3 win. There was also a late winner in the other Premier Division clash that evening, with Jack Crago’s goal at the death helping **Tavistock** edge to a 1-0 win away at **Wellington**. In what proved to be a tight affair, Crago scored the only goal two minutes from time to secure maximum points for the Lambs who have now won three away games in a row. In the First Division, **Sherborne** produced their best performance of the season so far, powering to a 5-1 win over **Cheddar**. The Zebras made a strong start and led within five minutes when Josh Williams slotted home from the penalty spot. Alex Murphy doubled their lead midway through the first half, before Williams struck from the spot once more to stretch their advantage to three just before the interval. The visitors pulled a goal back 15 minutes from time through Steve Holland, but Sherborne finished on the front foot, with Ashley Clarke and Sam Farthing adding further goals.

**Premier Division:**  It was goals galore on Saturday afternoon in the Western League, with only three of the 32 teams in action failing to find the back of the net. One of the most entertaining fixtures saw **Shepton Mallet** fight back from a two-goal deficit to draw 3-3 with **Brislington** in their bottom-half clash. After Jack Fillingham had fired the hosts in front from the spot, Brislington hit back instantly when Conor McCormack flicked Jayden Nielsen’s free kick into the back of the net. Nielsen was also the provider for Brislington’s second, teeing up Harry Tobin in first half stoppage time, before a tidy finish at the beginning of the second half from Kye Simpson stretched their lead further. Shepton kick-started their fightback soon after falling two behind, with Matty Morris curling the ball beyond the visiting keeper. Then, with time almost up, Morris managed to better his first effort, unleashing a deadly strike which nestled in the top corner to grab a share of the spoils. **Buckland Athletic** ended a three-match losing run, coming out on top of a topsy-turvy battle away at **Street**. After the home side had missed a first-half penalty, Buckland surged in the opening stages of the second period when Callum Rose’s looping header had just enough power to beat the keeper. An unbelievable lobbed finish by Ben Carter from the halfway line doubled the visitors lead before Street fought back, scoring twice in quick succession through Brad Shephard and Leighton Thomas. After four goals in the space of just 14 minutes it was no surprise when a fifth flew in soon after Thomas’ leveller, and it went in favour of Buckland, with Callum Chambers scoring the winner 20 minutes from time.

There was also late drama at **Wellington**, where an injury time winner from Steve Murray handed **Cribbs** all three points. Ross McErlain’s 44th minute header had seen Cribbs go ahead, before Wellington levelled just after the hour mark thanks to a long-range effort from Jesse Howe. The third and final goal of the contest came in stoppage time, with a deflected effort from Murray helping Cribbs move up all the way up to fourth on the table. League leaders **Plymouth Parkway** had little trouble seeing off **Cadbury Heath**, with Ryan Richards scoring twice in the first half during their 4-1 win. Simon McElroy cancelled out one of Richards’ efforts, before Parkway pushed on in the second half, adding to their lead through former-Argyle youngsters Ryan Lane and River Allen. The result was even more one sided at Fairfax Park where **Bridgwater** claimed a much-needed 5-0 win over **Chipping Sodbury**. Debutant Sam Crumb made an instant impact for the home side, opening the scoring after 32 minutes, before he smashed home another one minute before the break following a long throw from Tom Ellis. Another recent addition to the squad, Tom Fry, made it 3-0 on the hour mark with his first goal for the club, before the visitors saw Will Davidson given a red card. Bridgy took advantage of the extra man, with Sam Towler and substitute Adnan Hiroli adding further goals in the closing stages. **Clevedon Town**are sitting pretty in second spot after easing to a 3-1 win over**Bridport**at the Hand Stadium. First half goals from Morgan Davies and Syd Camper were followed up by an Elliott Nicholson strike 20 minutes from time for the Seasiders, with the only blemish on the day an injury time consolation for the visitors. **Hallen** couldn’t follow up their midweek triumph, just falling short away at **Exmouth**, with the Devon side eventually hanging on to win by three goals to two. Town made a strong start, and went ahead in the 18th minute when an Ace High cross was met by Callum Shipton who fired home. Hallen hit back thanks to a wicked set piece from Jordan Ricketts, only for Exmouth to restore their advantage towards the end of the first half through Max Gillard. The home side gave themselves some breathing space midway through the second half thanks to a long range free-kick of their own from Jordan Harris, and it proved crucial after Rob Latham pulled a goal back for Hallen in stoppage time.

**Goalmouth action from Wellington’s home clash with Cribbs in the Premier Division courtesy of @AroundWelly**

**First Division: Corsham** have now won seven from seven in the league this season after twice coming from behind to beat **Almondsbury** 3-2. A half-volley from 20 yards out by Stuart Alexander put the away side ahead early, before Ashton Shanley drew Corsham level after half an hour. The winning run was back under threat soon after Shanley’s equaliser when Greg Parr struck from the penalty spot to give the Almonds a 2-1 lead at the interval. Gary Higdon laid the ball off for Jamal Chevolleau to draw Town level midway through the second half, and then with 12 minutes left on the clock, Dan King swivelled in the box before firing home to maintain Corsham’s perfect start.

Unbeaten **Welton** remain two points clear of Corsham at the top of the league after they eased to a 3-0 win over **Warminster** at West Clewes. An excellent free kick from Kyle Box put Rovers ahead ten minutes before the interval, with Chris Pile then doubling their advantage 15 minutes from time after launching an unstoppable drive into the bottom corner from 18 yards out. A defensive mix-up allowed Courtney Charles to add a late third for Welton who have yet to draw a blank in any of their 11 matches so far this season. After starting the season with three defeats, **Wincanton** have really started to click, and after beating **Longwell Green**6-1 on Saturday they have now tasted victory in six of their last eight fixtures. A dominant home win saw Town lead by two inside the opening 20 minutes thanks to Tom Richardson’s header, and then a strong run and finish by Cameron Allen. The struggling visitors pulled a goal back in the 26th minute, but that seemed to reawaken Wincanton who led 5-1 at interval thanks to an own goal, which was sandwiched by a pair of headed finishes from Harry Turner. Town only scored once in the second half, with substitute Louis Irwin making an instant impact from the bench to make it 6-1 in the 68th minute. **Cheddar** produced a remarkable performance, surviving a red card to goalkeeper on their way to a 2-1 win at home to **Calne Town**. Having opened the scoring from the spot after 29 minutes, Callum Ham was forced to take the gloves for the home side following a red card to keeper Dan Jackson. Calne managed to take advantage of the superior numbers, levelling just before half-time through Jamie Norman, but the ten men then took a shock lead just before the hour mark when Robbi Maggs converted Steve Holland’s cross. Ham was called upon plenty of times during the second half but he managed to keep the Lilywhites attack at bay, helping the Cheesemen hold out for an improbable win. Despite the best efforts of keeper Harry Thomas-Barker, **Hengrove**were unable to defeat**Ashton & Backwell**, eventually having to make do with a 1-1 draw. The in-form Jack Jones struck again to put Hengrove ahead in the 25th minute, with Thomas-Barker then showing his worth at the end of the first half after saving a penalty in added time. The third-placed hosts continued to push for a leveller during the second half, and after forcing a second spot kick, Callum Townsend converted the rebound after seeing his original effort thwarted by Thomas-Barker for the second time. Second half goals from James Rustell and Rico Sobers led **Radstock** to a 2-0 triumph at home to **Portishead**, while **Bishop Sutton** came from two goals down to hand **Devizes** their seventh defeat of the campaign. Having conceded twice in the opening stages, Sutton surged back to win 3-2, with Dan Spill’s goal adding to a double from man-of-the-match Sol Shearer. **Wells City** were another side forced to come from behind, with a crucial goal in first half stoppage time helping to jump-start their 4-1 win over **Oldland Abbotonians**. Matt Huxley’s penalty looked to have handed Oldland a half-time lead, but Wells managed to sneak home an equaliser to draw level. The hosts then powered home after the break, with Tom Hill’s brace, alongside goals from Charlie Moon and substitute Harry Foster helping end a three-match winless run. **Sherborne**’s Luke White scored a pair of excellent goals to lead the Zebras to a 3-1 win away at **Bishops Lydeard**. White’s long range opener was added to by Anthony Herrin, before Luke Bryant struck from the spot five minutes into the second half to give Lydeard hope of a comeback. White ended any chances of that happening however, with a surging 50-yard gallop up the field finished off with a driven finish which gave the home keeper no chance.

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On last week’s podcast, Ian caught up with Tavistock’s Stuart Henderson to discuss the opening skirmishes in the Premier Division this season. There is also a chat with Ryan Child of Radstock Town, and how is he aiming to bring success back to the club.

The latest broadcast is available at the following link: <http://toolstationleague.com/podcast-episode-7/>

**Latest Results**

**Monday 19th October 2020**

**First Division**

Wells City 1-3 Warminster Town

**Tuesday 20th October 2020**

**Premier Division**

Chipping Sodbury Town 2-4 Bradford Town 58

Cribbs 1-0 Buckland Athletic 62

Hallen 5-3 Odd Down 104

**First Division**

Corsham Town 4-0 Oldland Abbotonians 142

Hengrove Athletic 3-0 Bishop Sutton 92

**Wednesday 21st October 2020**

**Premier Division**

Exmouth Town 3-4 Shepton Mallet 163

Wellington 0-1 Tavistock 85

**First Division**

Sherborne Town 5-1 Cheddar 107

**Saturday 24th October 2020**

**Premier Division**

Bridgwater Town 5-0 Chipping Sodbury Town

Clevedon Town 3-1 Bridport 112

Exmouth Town 3-2 Hallen 150

Plymouth Parkway 4-1 Cadbury Heath 293

Shepton Mallet 3-3 Brislington

Street 2-3 Buckland Athletic 102

Wellington 1-2 Cribbs

**First Division**

Ashton & Backwell United 1-1 Hengrove Athletic 165

Bishop Sutton 3-2 Devizes Town 60

Bishops Lydeard 1-3 Sherborne Town

Cheddar 2-1 Calne Town

Corsham Town 3-2 Almondsbury 132

Radstock Town 2-0 Portishead Town

Wells City 4-1 Oldland Abbotonians

Welton Rovers 3-0 Warminster Town 141

Wincanton Town 6-1 Longwell Green Sports 78

For details on the **Western League’s** **COVID-19 Suspension Survey**, please head to the following link on the website: <http://toolstationleague.com/covid19-league-suspension-survey/>

**Upcoming Fixtures**

**Tuesday 27th October 2020**

**Premier Division**

Brislington vs Clevedon Town 19:30KO

Keynsham Town vs Street 19:45KO

Odd Down vs Cadbury Heath 19:30KO

**First Division**

Bristol Telephones vs Longwell Green Sports 19:30KO

**Wednesday 28th October 2020**

**Premier Division**

Bradford Town vs Shepton Mallet 19:30KO

Tavistock vs Exmouth Town 19:30KO

**Saturday 31st October 2020 (3pm kick-off unless noted)**

**FA Vase – First Round**

Bishops Cleeve vs **Shepton Mallet**

**Bridgwater Town** vs **Welton Rovers**

Brimscombe & Thrupp vs **Longwell Green Sports**

Brockenhurst vs **Street**

**Cheddar** vs **Ashton & Backwell United**

**Clevedon Town** vs Whitchurch United

Cribbs vs Newport (IOW)

Fareham Town vs **Roman Glass St George**

**Keynsham Town** vs Bashley

Lymington Town vs **Tavistock**

Millbrook vs **Sherborne Town**

**Wells City** vs **Westbury United**

**Premier Division**

Bradford Town vs Brislington

Cadbury Heath vs Chipping Sodbury Town

Exmouth Town vs Wellington

Hallen vs Bridport

Odd Down vs Plymouth Parkway

**First Division**

Almondsbury vs Bishops Lydeard

Bristol Telephones vs Bishop Sutton

Oldland Abbotonians vs Portishead Town

Radstock Town vs Calne Town

Warminster Town vs Devizes Town

Wincanton Town vs Corsham Town

**Premier Division Standings**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Team | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Plymouth Parkway** | 12 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 32 | **32** |
| 2 | **Clevedon Town** | 11 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 6 | **21** |
| 3 | **Buckland Athletic** | 15 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 1 | **21** |
| 4 | **Cribbs** | 11 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 6 | **20** |
| 5 | **Tavistock** | 9 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 13 | **19** |
| 6 | **Street** | 11 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 10 | **19** |
| 7 | **Bitton** | 8 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 16 | **18** |
| 8 | **Exmouth Town** | 8 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 12 | **18** |
| 9 | **Bradford Town** | 12 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2 | **18** |
| 10 | **Roman Glass St George** | 11 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 2 | **18** |
| 11 | **Westbury United** | 9 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 6 | **17** |
| 12 | **Bridgwater Town** | 11 | 5 | 1 | 5 | -2 | **16** |
| 13 | **Shepton Mallet** | 10 | 3 | 4 | 3 | -2 | **13** |
| 14 | **Odd Down** | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | -15 | **10** |
| 15 | **Keynsham Town** | 10 | 2 | 3 | 5 | -2 | **9** |
| 16 | **Cadbury Heath** | 9 | 3 | 0 | 6 | -8 | **9** |
| 17 | **Wellington** | 12 | 2 | 3 | 7 | -14 | **9** |
| 18 | **Brislington** | 8 | 2 | 2 | 4 | -6 | **8** |
| 19 | **Hallen** | 12 | 1 | 3 | 8 | -15 | **6** |
| 20 | **Bridport** | 8 | 1 | 0 | 7 | -18 | **3** |
| 21 | **Chipping Sodbury Town** | 9 | 0 | 2 | 7 | -24 | **2** |

**First Division Standings**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Team | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Welton Rovers** | 9 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 16 | **23** |
| 2 | **Corsham Town** | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 20 | **21** |
| 3 | **Ashton & Backwell United** | 9 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 9 | **20** |
| 4 | **Wincanton Town** | 11 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 6 | **19** |
| 5 | **Calne Town** | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 10 | **18** |
| 6 | **Warminster Town** | 8 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 7 | **16** |
| 7 | **Wells City** | 9 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 5 | **16** |
| 8 | **Radstock Town** | 9 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 1 | **15** |
| 9 | **Almondsbury** | 10 | 5 | 0 | 5 | -6 | **15** |
| 10 | **Lebeq United** | 8 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 8 | **14** |
| 11 | **Portishead Town** | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 | **14** |
| 12 | **Hengrove Athletic** | 8 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | **12** |
| 13 | **Sherborne Town** | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | -2 | **12** |
| 14 | **Cheddar** | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | -3 | **12** |
| 15 | **Bishop Sutton** | 8 | 4 | 0 | 4 | -6 | **12** |
| 16 | **Bristol Telephones** | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 2 | **9** |
| 17 | **Oldland Abbotonians** | 9 | 1 | 0 | 8 | -15 | **3** |
| 18 | **Bishops Lydeard** | 10 | 1 | 0 | 9 | -16 | **3** |
| 19 | **Longwell Green Sports** | 9 | 0 | 1 | 8 | -20 | **1** |
| 20 | **Devizes Town** | 8 | 0 | 1 | 7 | -20 | **1** |

