**Latest Round-ups:**

**#11**

**Season 2022/23**

**Midweek Action: Bitton** finally broke their duck on Tuesday evening, winning their first Premier Division match of the season by beating **Welton Rovers** 2-1 at West Clewes. Having only claimed one point from their opening 11 fixtures, debutant Conner McKay made the difference for the away side, scoring two excellent goals just after the hour mark. The former Warminster-man made an instant impact for his new side, and those goals proved crucial, with Joe Garland halving the deficit late on for Welton. The other game in that division saw **Saltash** defeat fellow Cornish side **Torpoint** by three goals to nil at the Waterways Stadium. Goals in either half from Callum Merrin helped the high-flyers gain victory, with an exquisite dipping effort from Levi Landricombe having made it 2-0 early in the second period.

The First Division fixtures on Tuesday very much went the way of the form guide, with the three winners ending in the top three at the end of the night. League leaders **Wells** stretched their winning run to 12 matches in all competitions after seeing off a tough challenge from **Hallen**. Having taken the lead inside the opening quarter through leading scorer Adam Wright, City were pegged back on the stroke of half-time, when Cory Thomas-Barker fired home an unstoppable free kick for the Bristolians. It was far from a straightforward night for Wells, who ended the night with an outfield player in goal, but they managed to confirm victory during the second half thanks to a chipped finish from Charlie Moon. **Brislington** are another side on an excellent run at the moment, and that showed no signs of slowing after they beat **Portishead Town** 4-0. Dean Griffiths was the star of the show for the hosts, grabbing a hat-trick of goals to move to double figures for the season, with Harry Tobin’s late screamer then completing the scoring in the closing minutes. It was a much tighter contest in Somerset where Joe Berry’s first half effort proved to be enough for **Nailsea & Tickenham** to see off **Odd Down** by a goal to nil.



On this week’s episode of the Podcast, Clevedon Town boss, Alex White, explains why he believes the Seasiders have been punching above their weight in recent seasons. There is also a conversation with Andrew Holmes, manager of Gillingham Town, who reflects on their difficult start to the campaign, before touching on the ambition that he hopes will drive the Gills up the table as the side develops under his stewardship.

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**Premier Division:** The final unbeaten record has now been brought to an end after **Bridgwater** suffered a 3-1 defeat at the hands of **Millbrook**. The league leaders were under the pump from the word go, and found themselves in a two-goal deficit inside the opening 20 minutes following a pair of goals from Josh Johnson and Josh Toulson. United got themselves back into the contest just prior to half time through leading scorer Jake Brown, but Millbrook completed their memorable win in the closing stages, with Sean Thomson making it 3-1 four minutes into stoppage time**. Ilfracombe Town** produced a remarkable performance at home to **Welton**, hitting the Green Army for eight to secure just their third league win of the campaign. Town struck four times in either half on a perfect afternoon for the home side with Jack Langford and Harry Stevens putting them two-up in the opening stages. Charlie Prentice then scored the goal of the game, piledriving the ball into the top corner for 3-0, before Stevens struck again to close out the first half scoring. Any hope that Welton had of an unlikely second half comeback were ended instantly following Sam Wright’s quickfire double, with Jed Harper-Penman’s penalty and a Liam Short strike completing the rout. Ilfracombe may have scored eight unanswered, but the highest scoring contest of the afternoon took place at **Keynsham**, where they hosts saw a 3-1 half time lead eventually end up in a 5-4 defeat against **Barnstaple**. The K’s have had a rough start to the season, but things looked to be turning in their favour thanks to a first half double from debutant Brendon Oputeri, sandwiching a lovely team goal finished off by Henry Njonjo. Barnstaple managed to stay in the game however, and after striking early in the second half, they got themselves level in the 66th minute courtesy of Stu Bowker. Dylan Lewis restored Keynsham’s slim advantage in a good show of fortitude, but they then let their lead slip again with Bowker scoring Barnstaple’s fourth in the closing stages. That wasn’t the end of the drama however, and with both sides pushing for victory, it was the visitors who made their pressure count with Callum Laird helping them pull off the incredible triumph. Late drama also decided the fixture between **Helston** and **Saltash**, with the Cornish derby going in favour of the away side following an injury time winner. It was Helston who broke the deadlock early in the second half through Rubin Wilson, with Saltash drawing level 15 minutes later thanks to Alex Cairo. Then, with the destination of the points still up for grabs, the Ashes quietened the home crowd following Dave Barker’s 90th minute winner, meaning they now sit just two points off top spot. **Falmouth Town** also won on their travels, with Luke Barner, Jack Webber and Olly Walker each finding the back of the net in their 3-0 victory at **Bitton**, while goals from Alex Murphy and Henry Lawrence-Napier either side of the interval saw **Sherborne** defeat **Wellington** 2-0 to move into the top half. **Street** ended a three-match losing run by beating **Torpoint Athletic** 3-1 at the Tannery Ground. The away side’s only goal of the afternoon came towards the end of the first half, cancelling out Harry Foster’s 13th minute opener, but it was the Cobblers who had the last word with Kyle Strange scoring the match-winner three minutes after the interval. **Mousehole** were also victors by a single goal, with Mark Goldsworthy’s 17th minute effort helping them edge past **Buckland** at Trungle Parc, while Harry Goldspink’s strike early in the second half helped **Cadbury Heath** secure an impressive 1-1 draw away at **Shepton Mallet**. The points were also shared at the Lancer Scott Stadium, where **Ashton & Backwell** came from two-down to draw 2-2 with **Clevedon.** The Seasiders enjoyed the best of the early stages, with an own goal making it 2-0 after 24 minutes, following on from an early headed effort from Archie Ferris. The home side gained a lifeline in stoppage time at the end of the first half thanks to Shea Mannings, with Joe Cattermole’s 65th minute free-kick helping them secure a share of the spoils.

**First Division:** The First Division action got underway on Friday evening at Lakeview, with goals inside the opening 20 minutes from Craig Wilson and Ethan Ballantine leading **Bishop Sutton** to a 2-1 victory over **Almondsbury**. Saturday was another strong day for the top three, with league leaders **Wells** maintaining their stunning run of form at home to **Oldland**. The Abbots may have cooled off in recent weeks, but they are still a tough side to beat, and for Wells, it was goals from a couple of usual suspects in Charlie Crook and Adam Wright which helped lead them to a 2-0 victory at the Athletic Ground. **Nailsea & Tickenham** were big, big winners over **AEK Boco**, hitting their visitors for nine to gain revenge from the defeat they suffered against the same opponents in late August. Joe Berry was among the scorers once again, striking twice for the hosts, with Jared Ford also bagging a brace in the one-sided victory. Jacob O’Donnell was another man to add his name to the scoresheet, but the standout performer was Luke Osgood, who struck four times to help put the nail in Boco’s coffin at Fryth Way. Things were much tougher for third-place **Brislington**, who edged past **Hengrove** by a goal to nil, thanks in part to George Dorrington’s penalty save. With the visiting side still reeling after failing from the spot at the end of the first half, Brislington capitalised in the 67th minute, with Harry Tobin converting Josh Egan’s corner to secure all three points. At the opposite end of the table, **Gillingham** made it back-to-back wins after defeating **Portishead** 2-1 away from home *(pictured right, the scene at Bristol Road).* The boost the Gills will have received from their outstanding result last time out looked to carry through to their fixture in North Somerset, with Jordon Clapp and Charlie Male scoring in the opening minutes to enable them to pull off another impressive victory over a top-half opponent. Things are very much on the up for **Shirehampton** also, with a Dan Spicer penalty just prior to half time leading them past **FC Bristol** to give them their third win on the bounce at Penpole Lane. In the day’s early kickoff, **Tytherington** struck twice in the final ten minutes to secure a 2-2 draw at home to **Bishops Lydeard.** After goals in the opening stages of the second half from Josh Lukins and Ryan Brereton had put Lydeard in command, the Rocks managed to salvage a point late on with Mitch Stalley and Connor Davey both beating the visiting keeper. The game also ended two apiece at the Southfields Rec, where the winless **Radstock** battled till the death to deny **Odd Down** in a gripping contest. A defensive mishap allowed the Bath side to go ahead in the 18th minute through Josh Cark, with the hosts responding well to draw level via a Luke Ingram effort. A pair of Odd Down substitutes looked to have made the dream impact, with Charlie Wiles-Richards crossing for Tyrone Mulholland to put them back ahead five minutes from time, but Radstock showed great resiliency once again and were rewarded in stoppage time, with former-**Warminster** man Ian Jeffery firing home from the spot. Speaking of Jeffery’s old side, they managed to claim a 1-1 draw at home to **Longwell Green Sports** following Corey Gardner’s thunderous finish just after the hour mark. Goals from Morgan Bacon and Dean Chrisostomou were enough for **Cheddar** to see off **Bristol Telephones**, while **Hallen** came out on top in an entertaining clash at home to **Wincanton** by four goals to two. Hallen twice fell behind during the opening 20 minutes to goals from Tom Richardson and Jamie Irwin, but managed to hit back instantly on both occasion through debutant Greg Yarde and Martin Stowell. They finally gained their first lead of the afternoon in the 76th minute through Ethan McMahon, and then added a fourth a couple of moments later through Cory Thomas-Barker to extend the Wasps’ winless run.

**Recent Results**

**Tuesday 11th October**

**Premier Division**

Saltash United 3-0 Torpoint Athletic

Welton Rovers 1-2 Bitton

**First Division**

Brislington 4-0 Portishead Town

Hallen 1-2 Wells City

Nailsea & Tickenham 1-0 Odd Down

**Friday 14th October**

**First Division**

Bishop Sutton 2-1 Almondsbury

**Saturday 15th October**

**Premier Division**

Ashton & Backwell United 2-2 Clevedon Town

Bitton 0-3 Falmouth Town

Helston Athletic 1-2 Saltash United

Ilfracombe Town 8-0 Welton Rovers

Keynsham Town 4-5 Barnstaple Town

Millbrook 3-1 Bridgwater United

Mousehole 1-0 Buckland Athletic

Shepton Mallet 1-1 Cadbury Heath

Street 2-1 Torpoint Athletic

Wellington 0-2 Sherborne Town

**First Division**

Brislington 1-0 Hengrove Athletic

Bristol Telephones 0-2 Cheddar

Hallen 4-2 Wincanton Town

Nailsea & Tickenham 9-1 AEK Boco

Portishead Town 1-2 Gillingham Town

Radstock Town 2-2 Odd Down

Shirehampton 1-0 FC Bristol

Tytherington Rocks 2-2 Bishops Lydeard

Warminster Town 1-1 Longwell Green Sports

Wells City 2-0 Oldland Abbotonians

**Leading Goalscorers** (***Stats courtesy of FA Fulltime Website***)

**Premier Division**

**Jacob Brown (Bridgwater) – 14**

**Harry Foster (Street) – 11**

**Jack Taylor (Bridgwater) – 8**

**Josh Webber (Buckland) - 8**

**All Competitions**

**Sacha Tong (FC Bristol) – 18**

**Adam Wright (Wells) – 17**

**Luke Bryan (Odd Down) – 14**

**Jacob Brown (Bridgwater) – 14**

**Jack Thorne (Nailsea/Tickenham) – 12**

**Rubin Wilson (Helston) – 12**

**Curtis Damerell (Torpoint) – 12**

**Connor Williams (Wincanton) - 11**

**Dean Griffiths (Brislington) - 11**

**First Division**

**Sacha Tong (FC Bristol) – 18**

**Adam Wright (Wells) – 15**

**Luke Bryan (Odd Down) – 14**

**Jack Thorne (Nailsea/Tickenham) – 12**

**Owen McCallum (Oldland) – 10**

**Upcoming Fixtures**

**Tuesday 18th October**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Bitton vs Longwell Green Sports 19:30KO

Brislington vs AEK Boco 19:30KO

Cheddar vs Radstock Town 19:45KO

Nailsea & Tickenham vs Clevedon Town 19:30KO

Odd Down vs Hengrove Athletic 19:45KO

Wincanton Town vs Hallen 19:30KO

**Wednesday 19th October**

**Les Phillips Cup**

Cadbury Heath vs Oldland Abbotonians 19:30KO

Shirehampton vs Ashton & Backwell United 19:30KO

Street vs FC Bristol 19:30KO

Wellington vs Bishops Lydeard 19:45KO

**Saturday 22nd October (3pm kick-off unless noted)**

**Premier Division**

Barnstaple Town vs Sherborne Town

Bitton vs Ilfracombe Town

Cadbury Heath vs Buckland Athletic

Clevedon Town vs Millbrook

Shepton Mallet vs Bridgwater United

Welton Rovers vs Saltash United

**First Division**

AEK Boco vs Portishead Town

Almondsbury vs Shirehampton

Bishop Sutton vs Longwell Green Sports

Nailsea & Tickenham vs FC Bristol

Radstock Town vs Gillingham Town

Tytherington Rocks vs Cheddar

Wincanton Town vs Hallen

**FA Vase**

**Bishops Lydeard** vs Roman Glass St George

Brimscombe & Thrupp vs **Torpoint Athletic**

Brixham vs **Odd Down**

Elburton Villa vs **Ashton & Backwell United**

**Falmouth Town** vs **Helston Athletic**

**Keynsham Town** vs Corsham Town

Lydney Town vs **Mousehole**

**Oldland Abbotonians** vs Shaftsbury Town

**Street**  vs Andover New Street

**Wellington** vs **Barnstaple Town**

**League Tables**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | PREMIER DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Bridgwater United** | 16 | 13 | 2 | 1 | 40 | **41** |
| 2 | **Saltash United** | 16 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 23 | **39** |
| 3 | **Shepton Mallet** | 11 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 14 | **25** |
| 4 | **Buckland Athletic** | 14 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 9 | **24** |
| 5 | **Barnstaple Town** | 11 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 15 | **23** |
| 6 | **Mousehole** | 12 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 13 | **23** |
| 7 | **Millbrook** | 13 | 6 | 1 | 6 | -2 | **19** |
| 8 | **Sherborne Town** | 14 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 3 | **17** |
| 9 | **Ashton & Backwell United** | 12 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 0 | **17** |
| 10 | **Clevedon Town** | 12 | 5 | 2 | 5 | -5 | **17** |
| 11 | **Street** | 13 | 5 | 2 | 6 | -10 | **17** |
| 12 | **Falmouth Town** | 13 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 3 | **16** |
| 13 | **Helston Athletic** | 11 | 4 | 4 | 3 | -3 | **16** |
| 14 | **Welton Rovers** | 16 | 4 | 3 | 9 | -18 | **15** |
| 15 | **Ilfracombe Town** | 11 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 5 | **14** |
| 16 | **Wellington** | 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 | -8 | **11** |
| 17 | **Cadbury Heath** | 13 | 2 | 4 | 7 | -11 | **10** |
| 18 | **Torpoint Athletic** | 12 | 2 | 3 | 7 | -13 | **9** |
| 19 | **Keynsham Town** | 15 | 2 | 2 | 11 | -28 | **8** |
| 20 | **Bitton** | 13 | 1 | 1 | 11 | -27 | **4** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | FIRST DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Wells City** | 18 | 15 | 1 | 2 | 35 | **46** |
| 2 | **Nailsea & Tickenham** | 17 | 12 | 2 | 3 | 33 | **38** |
| 3 | **Brislington** | 16 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 25 | **38** |
| 4 | **Oldland Abbotonians** | 16 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 15 | **35** |
| 5 | **FC Bristol** | 16 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 13 | **30** |
| 6 | **Shirehampton** | 15 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 7 | **25** |
| 7 | **AEK Boco** | 15 | 7 | 2 | 6 | -5 | **23** |
| 8 | **Hallen** | 15 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 5 | **22** |
| 9 | **Bishop Sutton** | 15 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 3 | **21** |
| 10 | **Portishead Town** | 13 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 | **20** |
| 11 | **Hengrove Athletic** | 17 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 0 | **19** |
| 12 | **Warminster Town** | 15 | 5 | 4 | 6 | -4 | **19** |
| 13 | **Longwell Green Sports** | 15 | 5 | 4 | 6 | -6 | **19** |
| 14 | **Odd Down** | 16 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 5 | **18** |
| 15 | **Wincanton Town** | 12 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 7 | **17** |
| 16 | **Cheddar** | 17 | 4 | 4 | 9 | -13 | **16** |
| 17 | **Tytherington Rocks** | 16 | 3 | 5 | 8 | -14 | **14** |
| 18 | **Bristol Telephones** | 17 | 3 | 4 | 10 | -18 | **13** |
| 19 | **Almondsbury** | 16 | 3 | 4 | 9 | -33 | **13** |
| 20 | **Bishops Lydeard** | 13 | 3 | 3 | 7 | -14 | **12** |
| 21 | **Gillingham Town** | 14 | 2 | 3 | 9 | -19 | **9** |
| 22 | **Radstock Town** | 16 | 0 | 6 | 10 | -23 | **6** |