**Latest Round-ups:**

**#18**

**Season 2023/24**

**Midweek Action**: On a busy Tuesday night, there was action across a number of competitions, with league and cup fixtures providing plenty of goals and plenty of drama. The Les Phillips Cup is now reaching the closing stages, and **Helston** are now the only Cornish side remaining in the competition after a come-from-behind victory at**Saltash**. The Ashes flew out of the blocks, leading after just four minutes through Joe Preece to put Helston’s defence of the trophy under threat. They were soon back on level terms however thanks to a thunderous finish from Jacob Smith, with Rikki Sheppard then scoring on the hour mark to give the visitors a 2-1 win. Another side reaching the quarter-final stage are **Shepton Mallet**following their 6-0 victory away at**Wincanton**. Charlie Bateson was the standout performer for the away side, grabbing a hat-trick of goals, with substitutes Cam Allen and Alessandro Costanza adding to Mallet’s tally during the closing stages. The other two last 16 ties were tight affairs, with penalties required to separate the sides. **Barnstaple**produced a strong fightback away at**Middlezoy**, before coming out on top of a dramatic shootout to prevail (pictured, left). Two goals from Dan Lismore looked to have put the Rovers in position to qualify, before Town struck twice in the final 15 minutes to make it 2-2 at the end of 90 minutes. Then, with the shootout locked at seven apiece, Barnstaple keeper Jack Arthur pulled off a save, which was followed up by a successful penalty from Joe Grigg to send Town through. Their opponents in the next round will be **Bridgwater United**after they won 4-2 on penalties following a 1-1 draw at the end of normal time at home to**Ilfracombe**.

In league matters, **Street**completed the season double over Premier Division rivals **Nailsea & Tickenham**thanks to a 5-0 victory in North Somerset. Phil Ormrod’s excellent season for the Cobblers continued, with his double helping the visitors secure maximum points, alongside further goals from Jake Mawford, Kyle Sampson and Freddie Frazer. In the First Division, **Longwell Green Sports**held off a late challenge from**Keynsham** to maintain their strong home form. Having fallen behind to Joe Davis’ 20th minute opener, Longwell Green stormed back to lead at the interval thanks to goals from Sam Bainbridge and Nathan Hall. A second Hall goal pushed the lead out further, with Sonny Passco then scoring 20 minutes from time to seemingly put the game to bed. Keynsham produced a late burst, scoring twice in added time through Davis and substitute Brandon Oputeri, but it was too little too late, and the home side took home the points.

**Premier Division:** A tight, tense tussle on Friday evening saw **Bridgwater** sneak past **Nailsea & Tickenham** by a goal to nil, momentarily moving back into top spot. In front of a healthy crowd under the lights, Ross Edwards scored the only goal of the game, with his back-post header in the 57th minute proving to be enough for United. Saturday then saw **Helston** storm back to the top of the pile, with their 5-0 win over **St Blazey** handing them their 11th league victory of the campaign. The destination of the points was never really in doubt, with goals from Jacob Smith, Dave Barker and Aaron Bentley putting Helston three-up inside 25 minutes. Bentley then struck again late on, with Curtis Damerell rounding out the scoring with Helston’s last meaningful attack of the afternoon. **Clevedon** are very much keeping pace with the top two, with the Seasiders securing maximum points again following their 2-1 win over **Street**. It was a story of penalties down in Somerset, with Alex Camm breaking the deadlock from the spot ten minutes before half-time. Shortly after, Street were then penalised once more inside their own penalty area, and Camm added the finishing touches once more to double the hosts advantage. The Cobblers did manage to set up a nervy finale when they converted a penalty of their own through top scorer Phil Ormrod, but they couldn’t find a late equaliser and suffered their first defeat since early October. In another tight contest, Dan Wilson scored the solitary goal in **Ilfracombe**’s win over **Oldland**, while two goals inside the opening 20 minutes from Ben Carter and Cieran Bridger led **Buckland** to a 2-0 win away at **Saltash**. At Bickland Park, **Falmouth Town** overturned an early deficit tobeat **Barnstaple** by three goals to one. After these sides had played out a goalless draw last month, the fans didn’t have to wait long for the deadlock to be broken in the reverse fixture with debutant Chris Sheppard firing the away side into an early lead. Brad Leivers then drew Falmouth level, before the side who sit sixth in the table moved ahead for the first time through Jake Grange. A debut goal from Rubin Wilson wrapped up the victory, with these sides set to meet once again next weekend in the third round of the FA Vase. **Brixham** will also take some momentum into their cup tie next Saturday after they claimed a last minute equaliser at home to **Welton**. After kick-off had been delayed for around 20 minutes, Welton reacted better and went ahead inside the opening quarter-hour through Josiah McKayle. It remained one-nil for the remainder of the game, all the way up until the 88th minute, when Sean Adderley tucked home to secure a share of the spoils. In similar circumstances, **Torpoint** also grabbed a late point, with their stoppage time leveller denying **Wellington** at the death. After Ryan Smith’s dipping effort had put the visitors ahead, Wellington hit back through Sully McKenna just prior to half-time. Ryan Brereton’s cool finish then edged the Somerset side in front 13 minutes from time, but they were unable to hang on, with Gary Hird sweeping home with Torpoint’s last forward foray. Bottom side **Millbrook** remain winless after suffering a 6-0 loss at the hands of **Shepton Mallet**. Jacob Sloggett set the ball rolling with a pair of first half goals, before Alessandro Costanza took over in the closing stages, adding goals five and six to round out Mallet’s second 6-0 triumph in the space of four days.

**First Division: Portishead** have now stretched their lead atop the division to eight points after overcoming **Cheddar** by a slender one-goal margin on the final Saturday of November. Following a goalless opening 45 minutes, Town turned to their most reliable goal-getter, with Ethan Feltham extending his lead atop the scoring charts to 28 in the league this term to hand Portishead a 1-0 win. Second-placed **Radstock** slipped to a surprise 2-1 defeat at home to **Cadbury Heath**, only saving face with a late consolation from the spot. A 12th minute effort from Josh Haynes put the Heath ahead, with Callum Whooley’s close range finish on the hour mark then putting the away side out of reach despite Radstock striking back with a late penalty. In the standout individual performance of the day, Joe Beardwell plundered five goals in **Bitton**’s huge win over bottom side **Bishop Sutton.** The home side were dominant throughout the match, extending their opponents winless start, and it was Beardwell who took home many of the plaudits following his five-star outing during the 8-0 triumph. **Wincanton Town** were the other big winners, putting six past **Hengrove** to end a long winless run away from home. From the moment they broke the deadlock in the 20th minute through top scorer Matt Garner, Wincanton were irresistible for the remainder of the opening half, with Connor Williams’ pinpoint free kick extending the lead to two. Gary Chapman’s header then made it 3-0, before Jamie Thompson rounded out the first period with a pair of exquisite finishes. Hengrove stemmed the tide slightly with a penalty right at the beginning of the second half, but Thompson made sure he would lead the post-match headlines after completing his hat-trick with a headed effort ten minutes from time. It was a strong goalscoring day throughout the division, with several other teams notching four in big wins, including **Middlezoy** who scored three times after the interval to hand **Longwell Green** a 4-0 loss *(pictured, left).* **Brislington** were triumphant by the same scoreline at home to **Bristol Telephones**, with two Jordan Ricketts spot kicks making it 2-0 within half an hour. Jack Fillingham then took centre stage, extending the lead to three at the end of the first half, before wrapping things up with his second after the interval. Ben Millett was another man to score in either half, helping **Odd Down** win 4-2 away at **Gillingham Town**, while **Wells City** took advantage of an early red card to defeat **Keynsham**. City were given an early boost, with a home defender sent off for the foul which saw Michael Duffy open the scoring from the spot. Incredibly, the ten men of Keynsham pushed forward themselves, and after equalising almost instantly, they then added another shortly after to take a surprise 2-1 lead. Wells grabbed a crucial leveller just prior to half time through Harry Warwick, with Duffy then turning the game back in the away side’s favour when he made it 3-2 shortly after the break. The extra man paid off eventually for Wells, and Duffy turned provider for their fourth, laying the ball off for Warwick who completed a goalscoring double of his own to put the game to bed. **Hallen** haven’t had the best of it at home this season, but enjoyed a strong all-round performance against **Bradford Town**, keeping a clean sheet on their way to a 1-0 win courtesy of Luke Banfield’s goal early in the second half.

A pair of First Division sides also met in the Les Phillips Cup on Saturday afternoon, with **Cribbs Reserves** progressing to the next round after knocking out **AEK Boco** on penalties.

**Latest Results**

**Tuesday 21st November 2023**

**Premier Division**

Nailsea & Tickenham 0-5 Street 62

**First Division**

Longwell Green Sports 4-3 Keynsham Town 158

**Les Phillips Cup**

Bridgwater United 1-1 (4-2 pens) Ilfracombe Town

Middlezoy Rovers 2-2 (7-8 pens) Barnstaple Town

Saltash United 1-2 Helston Athletic

Wincanton Town 0-6 Shepton Mallet

**Friday 24th November 2023**

**Premier Division**

Nailsea & Tickenham 0-1 Bridgwater United 252

**Saturday 25th November 2023**

**Premier Division**

Brixham 1-1 Welton Rovers 136

Clevedon Town 2-1 Street 127

Falmouth Town 3-1 Barnstaple Town 399

Helston Athletic 5-0 St Blazey 120

Ilfracombe Town 1-0 Oldland Abbotonians 70

Saltash United 0-2 Buckland Athletic 154

Shepton Mallet 6-0 Millbrook 170

Wellington 2-2 Torpoint Athletic 103

**First Division**

Bitton 8-0 Bishop Sutton 60

Brislington 4-0 Bristol Telephones 126

Gillingham Town 2-4 Odd Down 31

Hallen 1-0 Bradford Town 58

Hengrove Athletic 2-6 Wincanton Town 35

Keynsham Town 2-4 Wells City 75

Middlezoy Rovers 4-0 Longwell Green Sports 70

Portishead Town 1-0 Cheddar

Radstock Town 1-2 Cadbury Heath 83

**Les Phillips Cup**

Cribbs Reserves 0-0 (4-3 pens) AEK Boco

**On the podcast this week, we hear from Ilfracombe manager, Clem Bennellick, who reflects on their recent penalty defeat to Bridgwater and a lack of football over recent weeks. Shirehampton boss Liam Greening also catches up with Ian to give an impassioned analysis on his sides current defensive woes, following on from a pair of wild goal-filled matches against Keynsham over the past week.**

[**http://toolstationleague.com/season-2023-24-podcast-episode-17/**](http://toolstationleague.com/season-2023-24-podcast-episode-17/)

**Upcoming Fixtures**

**Tuesday 28th November 2023**

**First Division**

Keynsham Town vs AEK Boco 19:45KO

Wells City vs Brislington 19:30KO

**Wednesday 29th November 2023**

**First Division**

Shirehampton vs Radstock Town 19:30KO

**Saturday 2nd December 2023 (3pm kick-off unless noted)**

**FA Vase Third Round**

**Barnstaple Town**  vs **Falmouth Town**

**Brixham** vs Downton

Hamworthy United vs **Wells City**

Hartpury College vs **Clevedon Town**

Royal Wootton Bassett vs **Bridgwater United**

**Premier Division**

Buckland Athletic vs Wellington

Ilfracombe Town vs Millbrook

St Blazey vs Nailsea & Tickenham

Street vs Welton Rovers

Torpoint Athletic vs Shepton Mallet

**First Division**

AEK Boco vs Odd Down

Bitton vs Hallen

Bradford Town vs Bishop Sutton

Brislington vs Portishead Town

Cadbury Heath vs Shirehampton

Keynsham Town vs Middlezoy Rovers

Longwell Green Sports vs Cheddar

Radstock Town vs Gillingham Town

Warminster Town vs Cribbs Reserves

Wincanton Town vs Bristol Telephones

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

**First Division**

**Ethan Feltham (Portishead) – 28**

**Matt Garner (Wincanton) – 19**

**Milo Murgatroyd (Odd Down) – 16**

**Ben Millett (Odd Down) – 14**

**Louis Snailham (Shirehampton) – 13**

**Scott Bamford (Shirehampton) - 13**

**Craig Wilson (Bristol Telephones) – 12**

**Premier Division**

**Jack Thorne (Bridgwater) – 16**

**Jared Lewington (Buckland) – 13**

**Rikki Sheppard (Helston) – 13**

**Phil Ormrod (Street) – 11**

**Ryan Richards (Torpoint) – 11**

**Curtis Damerell (Helston) – 11**

**Lucas Vowles (Nailsea&Tickenham) – 10**

**League Tables**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | PREMIER DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Helston Athletic** | 15 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 43 | **35** |
| 2 | **Bridgwater United** | 15 | 11 | 1 | 3 | 28 | **34** |
| 3 | **Clevedon Town** | 13 | 10 | 3 | 0 | 23 | **33** |
| 4 | **Brixham AFC** | 16 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 23 | **28** |
| 5 | **Buckland Athletic** | 15 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 26 | **27** |
| 6 | **Falmouth Town** | 13 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 18 | **27** |
| 7 | **Torpoint Athletic** | 16 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 1 | **25** |
| 8 | **Street** | 15 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | **23** |
| 9 | **Shepton Mallet** | 14 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 4 | **22** |
| 10 | **Barnstaple Town** | 11 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 14 | **20** |
| 11 | **Ilfracombe Town** | 14 | 5 | 3 | 6 | -1 | **18** |
| 12 | **Nailsea & Tickenham** | 15 | 6 | 0 | 9 | -8 | **18** |
| 13 | **St Blazey** | 16 | 4 | 5 | 7 | -6 | **17** |
| 14 | **Welton Rovers** | 14 | 3 | 4 | 7 | -5 | **13** |
| 15 | **Oldland Abbotonians** | 15 | 3 | 0 | 12 | -27 | **9** |
| 16 | **Saltash United** | 15 | 2 | 2 | 11 | -18 | **8** |
| 17 | **Wellington** | 15 | 1 | 4 | 10 | -36 | **7** |
| 18 | **Millbrook** | 13 | 0 | 0 | 13 | -82 | **0** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | FIRST DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Portishead Town** | 21 | 17 | 3 | 1 | 48 | **54** |
| 2 | **Radstock Town** | 21 | 15 | 1 | 5 | 28 | **46** |
| 3 | **Cribbs Reserves** | 22 | 14 | 3 | 5 | 26 | **45** |
| 4 | **Brislington** | 20 | 14 | 2 | 4 | 48 | **44** |
| 5 | **Wincanton Town** | 22 | 13 | 4 | 5 | 13 | **43** |
| 6 | **Bitton** | 21 | 12 | 4 | 5 | 20 | **40** |
| 7 | **Bradford Town** | 23 | 10 | 6 | 7 | 14 | **36** |
| 8 | **Bristol Telephones** | 23 | 11 | 3 | 9 | -11 | **36** |
| 9 | **Wells City** | 17 | 10 | 2 | 5 | 13 | **32** |
| 10 | **Middlezoy Rovers** | 22 | 10 | 2 | 10 | 1 | **32** |
| 11 | **Cadbury Heath** | 20 | 10 | 1 | 9 | 10 | **31** |
| 12 | **Odd Down** | 22 | 9 | 2 | 11 | -18 | **29** |
| 13 | **Hallen** | 22 | 7 | 6 | 9 | -1 | **27** |
| 14 | **Longwell Green Sports** | 21 | 8 | 3 | 10 | -10 | **27** |
| 15 | **AEK Boco** | 18 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 7 | **26** |
| 16 | **Shirehampton** | 21 | 7 | 3 | 11 | -7 | **24** |
| 17 | **Warminster Town** | 19 | 6 | 3 | 10 | -7 | **21** |
| 18 | **Gillingham Town** | 20 | 6 | 1 | 13 | -19 | **19** |
| 19 | **Hengrove Athletic** | 22 | 5 | 4 | 13 | -19 | **19** |
| 20 | **Keynsham Town** | 20 | 5 | 1 | 14 | -22 | **16** |
| 21 | **Cheddar** | 21 | 3 | 1 | 17 | -32 | **10** |
| 22 | **Bishop Sutton**  | 22 | 0 | 2 | 20 | -80 | **2** |