



Latest Round-ups:

Premier Division: The festive drama began on Friday evening at Jenkins, where **Millbrook** scored twice in the final 20 minutes to finally bring an end to their long run of defeats. Taking on Cornish rivals **Saltash**, the home side were staring down the barrel of a 15th consecutive loss following Tyler Love-Holmes 12th minute effort. The bottom side managed to force home an equaliser through Jay Boyle, and then with just over ten minutes left on the clock, Luke Moran slotted home to give Millbrook their first points of the campaign. Friday's other encounter was a high-scoring affair, with **Clevedon's** Sam Beresford scoring a hat-trick in their 4-2 win away at **Street**. Beresford scored at the end of the first, and then the start of the second to put Town two goals ahead, with Freddie King then stretching the lead further. A Jake Mawford penalty gave the Cobblers a brief respite, but Beresford responded shortly after to complete his treble and send the Seaside's top of the table at Christmas.

Both Saturday afternoon games ended with the away sides going home happy, including **Buckland Athletic** who secured a dramatic 3-2 win away at fellow top-four outfit **Bridgwater**. In a Christmas cracker at Fairfax Park, the sides traded blows throughout, with Jared Lewington's 20th minute opener cancelled out by United's top scorer Adam Wright who headed home shortly after for 1-1. A second Bridgwater goal from Jay Murray turned the game in their favour, with Buckland firing back instantly through Lewington to bring the curtain down on an entertaining first half. It remained two apiece for the majority of the second period, but then with two minutes left on the clock, Lewington completed a terrific hat-trick, sliding home from inside the six yard box to grab a crucial victory. It was ever so slightly more one-sided in the second game, with **Barnstaple** running out 6-0 winners away at **Oldland**. First half efforts from Billy Tucker and Harvey Dorothy edged Town in front, with the hosts then reduced to ten men shortly after Dorothy had tucked home his second of the game. The Barum added some late gloss to the scoreline, with Stu Bowker scoring twice, sandwiching a Tommy Rogers header during a dominant final ten minutes.

An entertaining day of Boxing Day action ended with **Clevedon** extending their lead atop the league table to four points following a 3-1 win at home to **Nailsea & Tickenham**. Following 40 goalless minutes, the game came to life towards the end of the opening half, with Luke Osgood heading the Swags level just moments after Sam Beresford had broken the deadlock for the home side. A second Beresford effort made it 2-1 to Clevedon early in the second half, with Nailsea's task made more difficult shortly after when Lloyd Mills was given his second yellow card of the afternoon. The Seaside's finally wrapped things up in stoppage time, with substitute Owen Punselie smashing home from close range. Second-placed **Helston** fell to just their third league defeat of the campaign, with Oscar Massey's solitary goal after only nine minutes leading **Falmouth** to a 1-0 victory at Bickland Park.

In another Cornish derby, **Saltash** rebounded from their shocking defeat earlier in the week by securing a thumping 5-2 win at home to **St Blazey**. The Ashes played like a team with a point to prove in the early goings, and led 2-0 after 20 minutes thanks to goals from Kieran O'Melia and Jake Curtis. The away side slowly built up some momentum, and after scoring at the end of the first half through Jed Smale, they then got back on level terms through Freddie Walter to set up a fascinating final half hour. Curtis followed up his earlier strike with another goal to make it 3-2 midway through the second half, before the goal of the game tipped the balance in Saltash's favour. It was Tyler Love-Holmes who pulled off the audacious finish, which saw him produce an overhead kick from outside the area to put the home side two goals ahead.



Josh Johnson then adding a fifth for United as the game headed into stoppage time, with the result helping them jump a couple of spots away from the basement of the division. Another entertaining festive derby fixture saw **Shepton Mallet** beat **Street** at the death, overturning a half-time deficit to win by two goals to one (*pictured, left*). The Cobblers made a dream start following their 11-mile journey, going ahead after only five minutes

through Rob Dickens. Mallet only got back on level terms in the opening stages of the second half through Will Banks, and then managed to steal all three points in the 88th minute when a superb finish from Aaron Seviour sparked joyous scenes for the bumper crowd.

There was also a huge turnout at Mill Road where **Barnstaple** and **Ilfracombe** battled out a drama-ridden 2-2 draw. The hosts will have ended the 90 minutes frustrated that they couldn't claim maximum points, going ahead on two occasions, including inside the opening 15 seconds of the game when Tommy Rogers provided the game with a stunning start. Ilfracombe's Dan Wilson was on hand to tuck home a spot kick to make it one apiece, before Tor Swann executed a sublime finish late in the first half to restore Barnstaple's one-goal advantage. The away side battled back manfully once more, with Wilson drawing them level 20 minutes from time, and despite both sides losing men to red cards, that was to be the end of the goalscoring action. It also ended two apiece in the clash at **Brixham**, where the home side claimed a stoppage time equaliser to deny **Buckland** a memorable victory. Picking up where he left off, Jared Lewington followed up his Saturday treble with an eighth minute effort on Tuesday, poking the ball home to give Buckland an early lead. A Scott Robinson goal then got Brixham back on level terms, before Lewington returned to the fold, producing an excellent volleyed finish to put the visitors back in front just as the game reached the hour mark. Lewington and Buckland looked like they would be celebrating back-to-back away wins over Christmas, but they suffered late heartbreak, with Ewan Howarth scoring Brixham's second equaliser of the afternoon to take them to the 30-point mark for the season. **Bridgwater**'s Jay Murray continues to spearhead their title push, with the forward scoring either side of the interval to help United overturn an early deficit on their way to a 2-1 win away at **Wellington**.

In one of the day's early kick-offs, Ryan Richards scored a second half hat-trick to help **Torpoint** pull away from **Millbrook** during their 4-0 win at The Mill (*pictured, right*). Following on from their breakthrough win over Saltash, Millbrook proved a tough nut to crack for Torpoint, with the in-form Ryan Smith only breaking the deadlock ten minutes into the second half. That goal did seem to break the seal, and Richards then took over the contest, scoring twice in quick succession to make it 3-0 after 65 minutes. A further goal from Richards in the final few minutes completed his hat-trick, offering the largest Mill crowd since 2011 plenty of festive cheer.



First Division: **Wells City** enjoyed plenty of pre-Christmas cheer, scoring four unanswered goals to secure an impressive win away at the previously in-form **Gillingham Town**. The outcome of the Friday night contest in Dorset was never really in doubt, with Wells duo Harry Warwick and Fin Wilkinson both scoring braces during the one-sided victory. 24 hours later, **Bitton** joined Wells in picking up a 4-0 win away from home, scoring three times during a dominant first half away at **Cadbury Heath**. Leading scorer Joe Beardwell notched another for the visitors to maintain his excellent goalscoring form, with the latest victory making it four on the bounce for Chris Alway's side. Saturday also saw a win for **Wincanton**, with the returning Tom Richardson making an instant impact in their 2-1 defeat of **Shirehampton**. After re-joining the club in recent days, Richardson opened the scoring at The Creek, slotting home in the 20th minute. The home side got back on level terms a couple of moments later thanks to a Louis Snailham header, but it was Winky who finished the game on top thanks to Tom Jarvis' winning goal just before the half time break. The points were shared in the other pre-Christmas encounter, with Nathan Gore on target for the **Bristol Telephones**, and Jack Jones for **Hengrove** during their 1-1 draw at the AVB Stadium.

The big Boxing Day clash has tightened things up at the top of the table, with three sides now separated by five points following **Portishead's** 4-3 defeat at home to **Cribbs Reserves**. Town suffered just their second league defeat of the campaign despite another hat-trick from Ethan Feltham, with the away side including a three-goal hero of their own in Steve Murray who helped lead their fightback. The reason Cribbs had to produce a comeback was due to their tough start which saw them trail 2-0 inside 20 minutes following scrambled and headed finishes by Feltham. A Liam Clayton effort got the away side on the board, with Murray then rolling the ball home to make it 2-2 just prior to half time. Murray then completed the turnaround right at the beginning of the second half, before notching again with 15 left on the clock to put his side in relative command. Feltham's third came with around ten minutes remaining, but that was as good as the league leaders could muster, falling to their first league defeat since early August. Second-placed **Radstock** now sit just four points off the top after they dispatched **Odd Down** earlier in the day. The Miners certainly made hay during the final knockings of this match, but they led for much of the afternoon with Kyle Thomas' penalty putting them ahead early. Jack Pearson then doubled their advantage ten minutes after half-time, with Harley Prior adding a third at the end of Radstock's next forward foray. Jacob Reader's late double, sandwiching a Seth Wain effort added gloss to the scoreline, with Radstock now having racked up 18 league wins this term.

Cheddar managed to go one better than Radstock, putting seven past bottom-side **Bishop Sutton**, with Lewis Chappell grabbing a hat-trick during the big win. The Cheesemen struck three times in the first half, before adding four after the interval, with Morgan Bacon adding a goalscoring brace following a pair of headed efforts from Toby Hucker and Ryan Eardley. **Keynsham** joined Cheddar in picking up a much-needed three points in their battle against relegation, with goals at the beginning of either half helping them stun **Brislington**. Fourth-placed Bris have been racking up big wins over recent weeks, but soon found themselves on the back foot at Keynsham following Jemar Thomas's fifth minute opener. The in-form Joe Davis then made it 2-0 to the K's ten minutes after the interval, and the usually



free-scoring visitors were unable to respond which saw them suffer just a fifth league loss of the campaign. **Wells City's** Harry Warwick scored twice for the second time this week to help the Somerset side secure a 3-2 win at home to **Middlezoy** (pictured, left). An early own goal had put Wells ahead, before Warwick struck to make it 2-0 inside the opening quarter hour. A Dan Lismore goal helped Rovers get back into the contest, only for Warwick to strike again in the convening moments to hand City a 3-1 half-time lead. Middlezoy's second goal of the game saw Josh Prowse find the back of the net, but it didn't leave them enough time to find an equaliser, with Wells winning their

final game at the Athletic Ground before a long run of upcoming away fixtures. Talking of away sides, and **AEK Boco** came from behind to hand **Longwell Green Sports** a 3-1 defeat. Sonny Pascoe's 35th minute goal looked to have given the hosts a half-time lead, only for Toby Rennie to level affairs in added time at the end of the first period. That goal provided Boco with a big boost, and they pushed on after the break, with Seb Scott making it 2-1, before Scott then turned provider, crossing for Ollie Williams who added a late third. **Warminster Town** returned to action with a bang, beating local rivals **Bradford** 2-1 to record one of their standout results of the season. Having not played in over three weeks, Warminster came out hot and led by two goals to nil within 30 minutes of the opening kick-off. A Jack Whitcombe goal threatened to derail Warminster at the end of the first half, but they held firm during the final 45 minutes to keep the Bobcats at bay. **Hallen** skipper Jordan Greenwood struck with a glancing header 20 minutes from time to help his side secure a 1-1 draw at home to **Shirehampton**. Having fallen behind to a Kyle Buffery strike, Hallen fought back to draw level, with Greenwood's equaliser denying their visitors a much-needed victory.

This week's podcast includes a conversation between Ian and new Bridgwater boss, Andy Llewellyn, who reflects on his opening five games and explains why expectations at the Somerset club remain high both on and off the pitch. Ray Johnston of Radstock then joins the show to give his opinion on Boxing Day fixtures, while also admitting fears that his side will face a backlash from opponents during the second half of the campaign.

<http://toolstationleague.com/season-2023-24-podcast-episode-21/>



Latest Results

Friday 22nd December 2023

Premier Division

Millbrook	2-1	Saltash United	86
Street	2-4	Clevedon Town	145

First Division

Gillingham Town	0-4	Wells City	65
-----------------	-----	------------	----

Saturday 23rd December 2023

Premier Division

Bridgwater United	2-3	Buckland Athletic	
Oldland Abbotonians	0-6	Barnstaple Town	130

First Division

Cadbury Heath	0-4	Bitton	62
Hengrove Athletic	1-1	Bristol Telephones	72
Shirehampton	1-2	Wincanton Town	41

Tuesday 26th December 2023

Premier Division

Barnstaple Town	2-2	Ilfracombe Town	719
Brixham	2-2	Buckland Athletic	363
Clevedon Town	3-1	Nailsea & Tickenham	364
Falmouth Town	1-0	Helston Athletic	1845
Saltash United	5-2	St Blazey	200
Shepton Mallet	2-1	Street	409
Torpoint Athletic	4-0	Millbrook	439
Wellington	1-2	Bridgwater United	249
Welton Rovers	P-P	Oldland Abbotonians	

First Division

Cheddar	7-0	Bishop Sutton	93
Gillingham Town	P-P	Wincanton Town	
Hallen	1-1	Shirehampton	210
Keynsham Town	2-0	Brislington	204
Longwell Green Sports	1-3	AEK Boco	658
Portishead Town	3-4	Cribbs Reserves	259
Radstock Town	6-0	Odd Down	187
Warminster Town	2-1	Bradford Town	342
Wells City	3-2	Middlezoy Rovers	104

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

Premier Division

Jared Lewington (Buckland) – 20
Jack Thorne (Bridgwater) – 18
Rikki Sheppard (Helston) – 15
Ryan Richards (Torpoint) – 14
Sam Beresford (Clevedon) – 13
Curtis Damerell (Helston) – 12
Phil Ormrod (Street) – 12

First Division

Ethan Feltham (Portishead) – 35
Matt Garner (Wincanton) – 19
Louis Snailham (Shirehampton) – 17
Liam Clayton (Cribbs Reserves) – 16
Milo Murgatroyd (Odd Down) – 16
Joe Beardwell (Bitton) – 15

Upcoming Fixtures

Friday 29th December 2023

Premier Division

Nailsea & Tickenham vs Welton Rovers 19:30KO

Saturday 30th December 2023 (3pm kick-off unless noted)

Premier Division

Bridgwater United vs Clevedon Town

Buckland Athletic vs Barnstaple Town

Helston Athletic vs Torpoint Athletic

Millbrook vs Falmouth Town

Oldland Abbotonians vs Shepton Mallet

St Blazey vs Brixham

Street vs Wellington

First Division

Bishop Sutton vs Hengrove Athletic

Bitton vs AEK Boco

Bradford Town vs Radstock Town

Brislington vs Hallen

Bristol Telephones vs Keynsham Town 14:00KO

Longwell Green Sports vs Cadbury Heath 13:30KO

Middlezoy Rovers vs Gillingham Town

Odd Down vs Warminster Town

Shirehampton vs Portishead Town

Wincanton Town vs Wells City



Leading Scorers in All Competitions

Ethan Feltham (Portishead) – 38

Jack Thorne (Bridgwater) – 24

Jared Lewington (Buckland) – 24

Matt Garner (Wincanton) – 21

Louis Snailham (Shirehampton) – 20

League Tables

	PREMIER DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
1	Clevedon Town	18	14	3	1	28	45
2	Helston Athletic	18	13	2	3	51	41
3	Bridgwater United	18	13	1	4	30	40
4	Buckland Athletic	19	10	5	4	29	35
5	Falmouth Town	15	10	3	2	20	33
6	Torpoint Athletic	19	9	4	6	5	31
7	Brixham AFC	19	8	6	5	22	30
8	Barnstaple Town	15	7	7	1	21	28
9	Shepton Mallet	17	8	4	5	5	28
10	Street	19	7	5	7	0	26
11	Ilfracombe Town	17	5	5	7	-2	20
12	St Blazey	19	5	5	9	-10	20
13	Nailsea & Tickenham	18	6	1	11	-11	19
14	Welton Rovers	15	3	4	8	-13	13
15	Saltash United	18	3	2	13	-17	11
16	Wellington	19	2	5	12	-36	11
17	Oldland Abbotonians	17	3	0	14	-35	9
18	Millbrook	16	1	0	15	-87	3

	FIRST DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
1	Portishead Town	24	19	3	2	52	60
2	Radstock Town	25	18	2	5	36	56
3	Cribbs Reserves	27	17	4	6	29	55
4	Brislington	23	16	2	5	53	50
5	Bitton	24	15	4	5	27	49
6	Wincanton Town	24	14	4	6	11	46
7	Bradford Town	26	12	6	8	22	42
8	Bristol Telephones	25	12	4	9	-9	40
9	AEK Boco	22	11	5	6	20	38
10	Wells City	20	12	2	6	15	38
11	Middlezoy Rovers	25	11	2	12	-1	35
12	Longwell Green Sports	25	10	3	12	-10	33
13	Cadbury Heath	23	10	1	12	4	31
14	Hallen	25	8	7	10	0	31
15	Odd Down	26	9	2	15	-30	29
16	Shirehampton	26	8	4	14	-10	28
17	Warminster Town	21	7	3	11	-8	24
18	Gillingham Town	22	7	1	14	-20	22
19	Hengrove Athletic	24	5	5	14	-22	20
20	Keynsham Town	24	6	1	17	-32	19
21	Cheddar	24	4	1	19	-29	13
22	Bishop Sutton	25	0	2	23	-98	2