**Latest Round-ups:**

**#38**

**Season 2023/24**

**Midweek Action:** With the weather finally allowing a full night of action, all 14 league matches took place on Tuesday with yet more drama toward the top of both leagues. In the Premier Division, **Clevedon’s** recent away struggles continued at **Barnstaple** where they fell to a 2-1 defeat. The visitors were caught cold in the opening stages of the game, and after conceding to Brodie Montague in the 7th minute, they then fell 2-0 down within the opening quarter of the game following a Matty Andrew goal. The Seasiders got themselves back into the contest early in the second half when Glen Hayer headed home a Syd Camper corner, but they were unable to find an equaliser, allowing Barnstaple to overturn the 3-0 defeat they suffered at the hands of Clevedon only 31 days ago. **Falmouth** took advantage of that result to move up into second spot, scoring a late winner in their dramatic 1-0 win at **Wellington.** The away side came close on several occasions, but had to wait until the 86th minute before they finally broke Welly’s resistance, with a terrific long range effort from Tom Annear settling the tie. The night’s other away winners were **Saltash**, who produced one of their best performances on the season to beat **Torpoint** 4-1 in their Cornish derby. An early goal from Jake Curtis set the Ashes on their way, before Tylor Love-Holmes struck in first half stoppage time to put them two goals to the good. Joe Preece then took over after the interval, with his brace sandwiching a consolatory penalty from Ryan Richards as Saltash secured local bragging rights. Another side to win by four goals to one were **Ilfracombe**, with four different scorers helping them see off bottom side **Millbrook**. In what was a first league win since January, Harry Stevens, Tyler Evans-Loude as well as subs Liam Short and Sam Stephens all found the back of the net at Marlborough Park. It was a much tighter contest at **Shepton Mallet**, where the home side struck at the death to grab a 2-1 comeback win over **Oldland Abbotonians**. The visitors went ahead on the stroke of half-time, with Tom Blake firing home an excellent free-kick as they looked to end their five-match losing run. Things were looking good for the Abbots until ten minutes from time when Mallet scored a set-piece goal of their own courtesy of Cam Allen. Then, with less than 90 seconds remaining, Matty Morris fired home an excellent left-footed strike from outside the area to complete the quickfire turnaround. The other two fixtures finished goalless, with **Welton** vs **Nailsea & Tickenham**, and **Buckland’s** home tie with **Brixham** ending in stalemates.

**On the latest podcast, Ian is joined by special guest presenter “Mr Footy Watch” who talks about the Cystic Fibrosis Comfort Fund, and his love for #nonleaguefootball. Nailsea & Tickenham’s joint manager, Nic Steadman, joins the show to discuss the progress his side have made this season as well as his development as a coach. There is also a conversation with Bitton boss, Will Justin, who reflects on their recent run of good form, and the motivation to end the season on a high.**

[**http://toolstationleague.com/season-2023-24-podcast-episode-36/**](http://toolstationleague.com/season-2023-24-podcast-episode-36/)

A logo for a football league

Description automatically generated

In an entertaining clash between two of the bottom three on Thursday evening, **Oldland** came back from a three-goal half time deficit to draw 3-3 with **Welton Rovers**. The game of two halves saw Welton surge into a three-goal lead at the interval courtesy of Max Dyer, Joe Cattermole and Miguel Alves. The Abbots kick-started their fightback around the hour mark with Jack Mills netting, before a late effort from Harrison Kyte got the hosts back within one. Then in stoppage time, Oldland earned a penalty, which was converted by Aaron Mansfield to make it three apiece. In what proved to be a high-scoring night, **Barnstaple** secured a derby victory away at **Ilfracombe**, with Tor Swann notching a hat-trick in their 5-2 victory. The home side actually led 2-1 early in the second half thanks to goals from Harry Stevens and Rory Paine, before Swann scored his second of the night to level the scores shortly after falling behind. Scott Laird’s penalty then put Barnstaple back ahead, and after Tommy Rogers had tapped home for 4-2, another spot kick was awarded to the visitors, with Swann taking over and converting to score his third.

**Portishead** powered back into top spot of the First Division following Tuesday’s action, winning 3-0 away at **Hengrove**. Ethan Feltham added to his incredible goalscoring season with the opener during the first half, before Toby Lawrence and George Fowler efforts completed the victory after half-time. **Bitton** pulled off a huge win at home to **Wincanton**, scoring three unanswered goals to hand their visitors a third consecutive loss. The Wasps were fully involved in the title race at the end of March, but those hopes have now taken a devastating dent following those three defeats in the space of eight days. Stefan Lee, Joe Ellis and George Lloyd all struck for Bitton, who themselves have improved their own promotion chances thanks to a long unbeaten run. The game of the night at **Wells** saw the home side surge back from a 3-1 deficit before eventually prevailing by five goals to three at home to **Gillingham Town**. City weren’t at the races during the opening stages, and found themselves staring down the barrel of a damaging home defeat following goals from Gillingham trio Josh Haskett, Kris Hastings and Harrison Foster. Wells had one man to thank for their comeback, and having already scored earlier in the contest, Harry Warwick then struck again to get the hosts back into the contest. A Tom Ovigne equaliser continued to ease Wells’ nerves, and they then pushed on during the final 20 minutes, with two more Warwick goals completing a remarkable night, both individually, and also for his playoff chasing teammates. **Brislington** lost ground on the top six after falling to a 2-1 loss at **Bristol Telephones**, while goals from Joe Davis and Brad Selwood in either half helped **Keynsham** capture a 2-0 win away at **Middlezoy**. Elsewhere, Jack Witcombe’s first half brace helped **Bradford** secure a 2-1 win over **Warminster**, and **Cheddar** suffered a heavy 6-0 loss at home to **Shirehampton**, with five different goalscorers propelling the visitors to their biggest league win of the season.

**Portishead** were back in action on Thursday, coming from behind to beat **Brislington** 2-1 to extend their lead atop the division. After falling behind just before half-time, Portishead got back on level terms when Callum Eastwood turned home a well-worked set piece. It was then Ethan Feltham’s turn to make his mark, and with the game in the balance, Town’s star man stepped up to score the match-winner, taking his tally of goals for the season to the half-century mark. **Bitton** also secured their second win in three days, with substitute Stefan Lee heading home on the hour mark to help set up their 2-0 victory over **Cadbury Heath**. Bottom-side **Bishop Sutton** were defeated by a **Cheddar** side for whom Morgan Bacon, Joe Carter, Mike Busby, Ollie Hucker and Archie Heal all got their names on the scoresheet in a one-sided 5-0 victory at Lakeview.

A group of men playing football

Description automatically generated**Premier Division:** **Falmouth** have finally reached the summit despite dropping points at **Oldland**, with a 1-1 draw proving to be enough for the Cornishmen. Due to their many cup exploits this term, Town have been in catch-up mode when it comes to fixtures, but they have now reached top spot on the back of a long unbeaten run. That continued on Saturday, despite the dropped points, with a seventh minute effort from Luke Barner cancelled out early in the second half by Zac Tucker, with the Abbots battling back to earn a well-earned share of the spoils. The reason for Falmouth’s ascension came following a surprising defeat for previous leaders **Helston** who lost 1-0 at 15th placed **Wellington** *(pictured, right).* A tight contest was decided on the cusp of half-time, with a Sully McKenna corner headed home by teammate Kieran Bailey to give Welly their fourth victory from six. **Clevedon** remain fully in the title conversation following an impressive 3-0 win at home to **Ilfracombe**. Despite their recent struggles, the Seasiders are only two points off the top, with a Sam Beresford brace leading them to a fifth consecutive home win. After clipping home late in the first half, Beresford added his second in stoppage time, sandwiching an acrobatic effort from Owen Punselie which had put the hosts two-up on the hour mark. Another comprehensive home winner were **Barnstaple**, for whom Tor Swann scored another hat-trick in their 4-0 defeat of **Nailsea & Tickenham**. Following on from his midweek treble, Swann was among the goals once more in their win over the Swags, with Tommy Rogers also on target at Mill Road. **Shepton Mallet** have now gained 15 points from their past six games, with a 2-0 win away at **Torpoint** helping to consolidate their spot in the top seven. An incredible start for the visitors saw them earn a penalty within 17 seconds of the opening kick-off, with Jacob Sloggett converting for the earliest of leads. Mallet then had to wait until the closing minutes to finally wrap up victory, with a jinking run and a smart finish from Nathan Legge put them two goals to the good. The other side to win away from home were **Buckland Athletic** who battled back from an early deficit to beat **Welton Rovers** 3-2 at West Clewes. In an entertaining clash, it was the Green Army who surged ahead after 15 minutes, with a long ranger from Brandon Oputeri breaking the deadlock. Buckland weren’t trailing for long however, and after scoring the equaliser, Ryan Bush then struck again on the cusp of half time to fire the visitors into a half-time lead. It soon became a one man show, and Bush was on hand to side-foot the ball home on the hour mark to double the Bucks advantage. Welton did set up a tense finale when they cut in to the lead thanks to a second goal from Oputeri, but the away side held on to end their three-match winless run. A thrilling finish at **Bridgwater** saw visitors **Saltash** score in the fifth minute of stoppage time to grab a point, maintaining their strong end to the campaign. The Ashes went behind two minutes before half-time courtesy of a Josiah McKayle tap-in, but were given a boost early in the second period when Jake Llewellyn was given his second yellow. Jake Curtis then saw his penalty saved by home keeper Luke Purnell as Saltash continued to hammer away, and they were finally rewarded right at the death with a Ben Goulty effort helping them snatch a point. A combination of injuries and a red card led **Millbrook** with six-men, causing their home clash with **Brixham** to be abandoned late on, with the visitors 7-0 at the time of the game ending.

**First Division:** With Portishead not in action on Saturday afternoon, **Radstock** moved into a share of top spot thanks to a slim a 1-0 win away at **AEK Boco**. The only goal of the game came late in the first half, but it proved to be enough for the Miners, with recent signing Sacha Tong making a dream impact for his new side. A strong fightback from **Cribbs Reserves** gave them their fourth win on the bounce, with brothers Liam and Kieran Clayton edging them to victory at **Cadbury Heath**. Having gone ahead thanks to a volleyed finish from Zac Cheetham midway through the first half, the Heath saw their lead disintegrate shortly after the interval following a quickfire double from the Clayton’s. Fourth-placed **Wincanton** held off a spirited fightback from the **Bristol Telephones**, prevailing by four goals to three, in a result which ends their three-match losing run. Things started well for the Wasps who went ahead in the 11th minute through Connor Williams, before the Phones hit back midway through the first half. Town then produced an incredible burst just prior to half-time, with Tom Jarvis, Sam Hodges and Jakob Seviour all netting in an eight-minute period to put the hosts 4-1 up at the interval. Wincanton did eventually hold on to complete the win, but it wasn’t made easy for them, with two goals during a strong second half from the visitors making them sweat to secure maximum points. Things were much simpler for **Wells City,** with Harry Warwick’s first half hat-trick helping fire them to an 8-0 win over basement dwellers **Bishop Sutton**. A horrific start for the hosts saw them trail by three within ten minutes of the game starting, and Wells didn’t let up throughout the afternoon, with youngster Alex Robertson chipping in with a second-half double. On a high-scoring afternoon, **Hallen** finished strongly to secure a 7-2 win away at **Gillingham**. Two goals from Elliot Gardener had helped Hallen move into a 3-1 lead, before some late heroics added some real gloss to the scoreline. Harry Barter was the main beneficiary, and having opened the scoring early on, he then struck twice in the final 15 minutes to complete a hat-trick, with subs Patryk Kosciolek and Luke Banfield also scoring late on. 7-2 is usually a pretty rate outcome, but **Keynsham** mirrored Hallen’s winning margin, putting **Middlezoy** to the sword. With the game in the balance at half-time, Joe Davis took over the contest, scoring twice around the hour mark to make it 5-2, before he then struck again to become another player to bag a hat-trick on Saturday afternoon. **Warminster** were the only other side to win on their home patch, with a second-half fightback leading them past **Longwell Green Sports** by three goals to two. Another bottom-half side to prevail were **Odd Down**, with Ashley Marsh’s third minute strike helping them topple **Shirehampton** in the battle for 15th. Higher up the division, **Brislington** remain firmly in the playoff shake-up, scratching their way to a 2-1 win over an inconsistent **Cheddar** side at Oaklands Park. Elsewhere, Bradford Town stretched their winning run to four matches following a 3-1 defeat of Hengrove. Goals in either half from Jack Witcombe bookended the Bobcats victory, with Jordan Pinder also getting his name on the scoresheet as Bradford registered their second 3-1 win over Hengrove this season.

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

**Premier Division**

**Jared Lewington (Buckland) – 29**

**Oscar Massey (Falmouth) – 23**

**Ryan Richards (Torpoint) – 23**

**Jack Thorne (Bridgwater) – 21**

**Rubin Wilson (Falmouth) – 20**

**Rikki Sheppard (Helston) – 18**

**Phil Ormrod (Street) - 17**

**All Competitions**

**Ethan Feltham (Portishead) – 50**

**Jared Lewington (Buckland) – 34**

**Matt Garner (Wincanton) – 33**

**Harry Warwick (Wells) - 32**

**Jack Thorne (Bridgwater) – 27**

**Louis Snailham (Shirehampton) – 26**

**Ryan Richards (Torpoint) – 25**

**Liam Winter (Middlezoy) – 25**

**First Division**

**Ethan Feltham (Portishead) – 47**

**Matt Garner (Wincanton) – 31**

**Harry Warwick (Wells) - 27**

**Liam Winter (Middlezoy) - 25**

**Louis Snailham (Shirehampton) – 22**

**Liam Clayton (Cribbs Reserves) – 20**

**Joe Beardwell (Bitton) - 20**

**Latest Results**

**Tuesday 9th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Barnstaple Town 2-1 Clevedon Town 141

Buckland Athletic 0-0 Brixham 372

Ilfracombe Town 4-1 Millbrook 52

Shepton Mallet 2-1 Oldland Abbotonians 143

Torpoint Athletic 1-4 Saltash United 127

Wellington 0-1 Falmouth Town

Welton Rovers 0-0 Nailsea & Tickenham 110

**First Division**

Bitton 3-0 Wincanton Town 65

Bradford Town 2-1 Warminster Town 89

Bristol Telephones 2-1 Brislington 64

Cheddar 0-6 Shirehampton 21

Hengrove Athletic 0-3 Portishead Town 94

Middlezoy Rovers 0-2 Keynsham Town 80

Wells City 5-3 Gillingham Town 60

**Thursday 11th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Ilfracombe Town 2-5 Barnstaple Town 210

Oldland Abbotonians 3-3 Welton Rovers 100

**First Division**

Bishop Sutton 0-5 Cheddar 42

Bitton 2-0 Cadbury Heath 56

Portishead Town 2-1 Brislington 156

**Saturday 13th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Barnstaple Town 4-0 Nailsea & Tickenham

Bridgwater United 1-1 Saltash United 326

Clevedon Town 3-0 Ilfracombe Town 130

Millbrook A-A Brixham

Oldland Abbotonians 1-1 Falmouth Town 150

Torpoint Athletic 0-2 Shepton Mallet 142

Wellington 1-0 Helston Athletic

Welton Rovers 2-3 Buckland Athletic 65

**First Division**

AEK Boco 0-1 Radstock Town 77

Bishop Sutton 0-8 Wells City 38

Cadbury Heath 1-2 Cribbs Reserves 42

Cheddar 1-2 Brislington 37

Gillingham Town 2-7 Hallen 36

Hengrove Athletic 1-3 Bradford Town 65

Keynsham Town 7-2 Middlezoy Rovers 86

Shirehampton 0-1 Odd Down 32

Warminster Town 3-2 Longwell Green Sports 141

Wincanton Town 4-3 Bristol Telephones 62

**Upcoming Fixtures**

**Monday 15th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Millbrook vs Torpoint Athletic 19:30KO

**Tuesday 16th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Barnstaple Town vs Helston Athletic 19:45KO

Bridgwater United vs Wellington 19:45KO

Falmouth Town vs Ilfracombe Town 19:45KO

Oldland Abbotonians vs Shepton Mallet 19:45KO

**First Division**

Bitton vs Cheddar 19:30KO

Brislington vs Shirehampton 19:30KO

Bristol Telephones vs Keynsham Town 19:45KO

Radstock Town vs Bradford Town 19:45KO

Wells City vs Portishead Town 19:30KO

Wincanton Town vs Gillingham Town 19:30KO

**Wednesday 17th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

St Blazey vs Torpoint Athletic 19:30KO

**Thursday 18th April 2024**

**Premier Division**

Buckland Athletic vs Shepton Mallet 19:30KO

Helston Athletic vs Falmouth Town 19:45KO

Saltash United vs Ilfracombe Town 19:45KO

**First Division**

AEK Boco vs Gillingham Town 19:30KO

Brislington vs Hallen 19:30KO

Cheddar vs Portishead Town 19:45KO

Middlezoy Rovers vs Wells City 19:30KO

**Saturday 20th April 2024 (3pm Kick-off unless noted otherwise)**

**Premier Division**

Bridgwater United vs St Blazey

Brixham AFC vs Barnstaple Town

Clevedon Town vs Torpoint Athletic

Helston Athletic vs Buckland Athletic

Ilfracombe Town vs Nailsea & Tickenham

Oldland Abbotonians vs Wellington

Saltash United vs Street

Shepton Mallet vs Falmouth Town

Welton Rovers vs Millbrook

**First Division**

AEK Boco vs Brislington

Bishop Sutton vs Cadbury Heath

Bristol Telephones vs Warminster Town

Cribbs Reserves vs Bitton

Gillingham Town vs Portishead Town

Hengrove Athletic vs Shirehampton

Longwell Green Sports vs Hallen

Middlezoy Rovers vs Radstock Town

Odd Down vs Bradford Town

Wells City vs Keynsham Town

Wincanton Town vs Cheddar

**League Tables**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | PREMIER DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Falmouth Town** | 30 | 22 | 4 | 4 | 53 | **70** |
| 2 | **Helston Athletic** | 29 | 22 | 3 | 4 | 71 | **69** |
| 3 | **Clevedon Town** | 32 | 21 | 5 | 6 | 44 | **68** |
| 4 | **Barnstaple Town** | 30 | 19 | 8 | 3 | 46 | **65** |
| 5 | **Bridgwater United** | 30 | 19 | 3 | 8 | 38 | **60** |
| 6 | **Buckland Athletic** | 31 | 16 | 7 | 8 | 34 | **55** |
| 7 | **Shepton Mallet** | 30 | 16 | 6 | 8 | 14 | **54** |
| 8 | **Brixham AFC** | 31 | 13 | 9 | 9 | 31 | **48** |
| 9 | **Torpoint Athletic** | 29 | 12 | 4 | 13 | -4 | **40** |
| 10 | **Nailsea & Tickenham** | 31 | 12 | 3 | 16 | -1 | **39** |
| 11 | **Street** | 31 | 9 | 7 | 15 | -12 | **34** |
| 12 | **St Blazey** | 28 | 9 | 5 | 14 | -15 | **32** |
| 13 | **Ilfracombe Town** | 28 | 7 | 8 | 13 | -13 | **29** |
| 14 | **Saltash United** | 29 | 7 | 5 | 17 | -19 | **26** |
| 15 | **Wellington** | 30 | 6 | 8 | 16 | -38 | **26** |
| 16 | **Oldland Abbotonians** | 29 | 5 | 2 | 22 | -50 | **17** |
| 17 | **Welton Rovers** | 30 | 3 | 7 | 20 | -54 | **13\*** |
| 18 | **Millbrook** | 26 | 2 | 0 | 24 | -125 | **6** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | FIRST DIVISION | Played | Won | Drawn | Lost | GD | Points |
| 1 | **Portishead Town** | 36 | 26 | 6 | 4 | 77 | **84** |
| 2 | **Radstock Town** | 39 | 26 | 6 | 7 | 50 | **84** |
| 3 | **Cribbs Reserves** | 38 | 25 | 5 | 8 | 40 | **80** |
| 4 | **Wincanton Town** | 39 | 25 | 4 | 10 | 26 | **79** |
| 5 | **Bitton** | 37 | 23 | 8 | 6 | 41 | **77** |
| 6 | **Wells City** | 37 | 25 | 2 | 10 | 40 | **77** |
| 7 | **Brislington** | 36 | 23 | 4 | 9 | 71 | **73** |
| 8 | **Bradford Town** | 39 | 18 | 9 | 12 | 22 | **63** |
| 9 | **AEK Boco** | 38 | 18 | 6 | 14 | 16 | **60** |
| 10 | **Longwell Green Sports** | 41 | 18 | 5 | 18 | 0 | **59** |
| 11 | **Middlezoy Rovers** | 39 | 18 | 2 | 19 | -4 | **56** |
| 12 | **Bristol Telephones** | 39 | 17 | 5 | 17 | -17 | **56** |
| 13 | **Hallen** | 37 | 16 | 7 | 14 | 4 | **55** |
| 14 | **Cadbury Heath** | 39 | 15 | 4 | 20 | 5 | **49** |
| 15 | **Odd Down** | 40 | 13 | 6 | 21 | -40 | **45** |
| 16 | **Shirehampton** | 38 | 11 | 7 | 20 | -6 | **40** |
| 17 | **Keynsham Town** | 38 | 11 | 4 | 23 | -26 | **37** |
| 18 | **Warminster Town** | 39 | 10 | 7 | 22 | -32 | **37** |
| 19 | **Hengrove Athletic** | 38 | 10 | 6 | 22 | -30 | **36** |
| 20 | **Gillingham Town** | 37 | 10 | 3 | 24 | -41 | **33** |
| 21 | **Cheddar** | 34 | 6 | 1 | 27 | -41 | **19** |
| 22 | **Bishop Sutton** | 40 | 0 | 3 | 37 | -155 | **3** |