

PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE



SATURDAY EVENING E-NEWSPAPER

Saturday 22 February 2025

FAN-TASTIC!



There was sunshine throughout our four divisions this afternoon, although the wet weather did put pay to a handful of games.

In the Pitching In Southern League Premier South, leaders, Merthyr Town, hit another five goals, this time past Bracknell Town, in a 5-1 win. It means they now have 85 from 32 League games.

Just behind them, AFC Totton were held to a 1-1 draw at Swindon Supermarine, whilst Gloucester City won at Poole Town courtesy of a stoppage time goal. Walton & Hersham beat Tiverton Town 3-0 to leapfrog Dorchester Town who were held to a 1-1 draw by neighbours, Wimborne Town.

Over in the Pitching In Southern League Premier Central, Bedford Town remain top following a 3-1 Friday night triumph over Kettering Town in front of a crowd of almost 2,000. Talking of crowds, there were over 3,000 at Halesowen Town to see them recover from going a goal down early on to beat local rivals, Stourbridge 3-1.

AFC Telford United overcome the challenge of in-form Leiston as Stratford Town left it late to salvage a point at Bishop's Stortford.

With leaders, Yate Town, not in action until Monday evening, Exmouth Town missed the chance to close the gap in the Pitching In Southern League Division One South as they lost 2-1 at in-form Malvern Town, who remain just outside the top five.

It meant that Evesham United went back second as they returned to winning ways in emphatic fashion by beating Larkhall Athletic 5-0. Mousehole enjoyed a good 2-0 triumph at Bristol Manor Farm, whilst fifth-placed Bishops Cleeve trounced a young Helston Athletic by nine goals to nil.

There was a much-needed 4-1 victory for Melksham Town against Bemerton Heath Harlequins as both teams sit just outside the top five.

In the Pitching In Southern League Division One Central, leaders, Real Bedford, had a good 4-0 triumph at an in-form Biggleswade FC, a result which took them to the 70-point mark. Just behind them, Berkhamsted were pushed all the way by Enfield but they ended up 2-1 victors.

Third-placed Barton Rovers had to settle for a share of the spoils in a home goalless draw with Beaconsfield Town.

REPORTS FROM ALL GAMES | STATS | FEATURES



Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Southern League football clubs need your help with them.

The Trident Leagues and Pitching In's online Volunteer Hub is the place where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

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LEAGUES**
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PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER SOUTH

Basingstoke Town 0 Havant & Waterlooville 3

The visitors grabbed an early lead when Ryan Seager added to his impressive tally. Early in the second half and goalkeeper, Simon Grant, was dismissed for the home side as Harvey Bradbury converted from the penalty that followed to make the hosts' task that much more difficult. Billy Upton then became the second home player to see red, leaving them with nine men over half-an-hour as Keane Anderson soon added a third for the away team to secure a commanding victory.

Dorchester Town 1 Wimborne Town 1

The deadlock was broken in this local derby when Olaf Konzsla stayed cool to convert from the penalty spot midway through the first half but the lead didn't last long as Matt Burrows equalised moments later.

That's how it remained here as both teams claimed a share of the spoils.



Frome Town 3 Marlow 3

It was advantage to the away team when Naheer Nawaf was able to find the net within the opening exchanges.

The same player then made it 2-0 on 24 minutes but the home side were able to grab a lifeline on the half-hour mark through Rex Mannings.

The hosts went on to level things on the hour thanks to Albie Hopkins and moments later it was Hopkins who turned the scoreline on its head to give the home team the lead.

This end-to-end encounter saw Mitchell Parker make it 3-3 with around 20 minutes remaining and that's how it finished.

Hungerford Town 2 Hanwell Town 0

A bright start from the hosts was rewarded on eight minutes when Louis McGrory put them in front and then the same player converted from the penalty spot early in the second half.

The home side had Jordan Rose sent off for a second booking as the clock ticked down towards the end but they were able to claim a deserved win.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER SOUTH

Merthyr Town 5 Bracknell Town 1

On the quarter-hour mark Tom Handley broke the deadlock for the hosts and they soon went on to add a second through Keiran Evans.

Ten minutes from the break and Kane Simpson added to the lead to put the home team well in the driving seat.

The visitors were given hope at the start of the second half when Dan Roberts pulled a goal back only for Cawley Cox to add a fourth for the home team.

Just past the hour and Ricardo Rees made it 5-1 and that's how it was to finish as the home side racked up another convincing triumph.

Plymouth Parkway 2 Gosport Borough 0

The deadlock was finally broken here on 72 minutes when Callum Hall found the net for the home team and just like buses, when one arrives, another soon follows as Tylor Love-Holmes soon made it 2-0. That was the end of the scoring as the hosts claimed three big points.

Poole Town 0 Gloucester City 1

This one went right down to the wire when the all-important winning goal came in the 93rd minute and it was Daniel Ball who got it for the visitors to give them an extremely hard-earned three points and leave the hosts in the relegation places.

Swindon Supermarine 1 AFC Totton 1

The opening goal went to the hosts on 12 minutes as loan Richards found the net, however, by the quarter-hour mark Charlie Austin had levelled matters.

There was to be no addition to the scoring as both sides took away a share of the spoils here.

Walton & Hersham 3 Tiverton Town 0

The home side went ahead through Anis Nuur early on and it wasn't long before Johl Powell got his name on the scoresheet once more.

Just past the hour and Elliott Bolton hit another for the home side to complete a commanding victory.

Winchester City 0 Sholing 2

With ten minutes to go until the interval, Michael Folivi was able to add to his scoring tally but breaking the deadlock for the away team.

A goal from the ever-reliable Dan Mason doubled the visitors' lead as the second half went on and it proved to be the end of the scoring as the visitors claimed a 2-0 victory.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER CENTRAL

AFC Sudbury 1 Barwell 1

A penalty just past the half-hour mark allowed the hosts to get ahead as Oliver Peters found the net.

It was a penalty at the other end that levelled things up as Brady Hickey converted on 84 minutes and it ended with honours even.

AFC Telford United 3 Leiston 1

It didn't take Matty Stenson long to give the hosts the lead and then Max Brogan weighed in with a second goal towards the end of the opening period.

Before the break, Adam Mills handed the visitors a lifeline as he pulled a goal back but they conceded another eight minutes into the second half as Stenson grabbed his second of the afternoon.

That was how it remained as the hosts took the points from their in-form opponents.

Bedford Town 3 Kettering Town 1 (played Friday)

This top of the table was played in front of a crowd of almost 2,000 and it was the home side who burst out of the blocks as Bruno Andrade's brace put them two goals to the good within the opening eight minutes.

It left the visitors shell-shocked and Leon Lobjoit got in on the scoring act early in the second period to make it 3-0 and leave the hosts well in command.

A goal just before the hour-mark from Devon Kelly-Evans proved to be mere consolation for the visitors.

Bishop's Stortford 1 Stratford Town 1

The home side opened the scoring on 25 minutes through Olumide Oluwatimilehin and it was a lead that they were to hold right up until the death when Charlie Williams was able to find the net to give his side a share of the spoils.

Halesowen Town 3 Stourbridge 1

This local derby burst into life within the opening minute when Ethan Freemantle gave the visitors the lead.

Charlie Wragg eventually brought things level with just over 20 minutes left on the clock before Kieren Donnelly turned the scoreline on its head with five minutes to go.

Right at the death Donnelly added his second to confirm the bragging rights for the hosts as not only did they get the points but also the Brookes-Clark Charity Shield.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER CENTRAL

Harborough Town 2 Biggleswade Town 0

On the half-hour mark, Luis Rose was able to put the home team in front and then Alex Morris doubled the advantage just past the hour-mark.

It proved to be a pretty routine victory for the home side here.

Hitchin Town 1 St Ives Town 1

Midway through the first half and Lewis Franklin set the hosts on their way with a goal but it was cancelled out on the stroke of half-time by George Munday.

With no further scoring, it was honours even.

Royston Town 1 Stamford 1

Defender, Ashton Ofler came up from the back to put the away team in front ten minutes into the second period.

There was a stoppage time red card for Jack Duffy for the visitors as Harvey Beckett went on to grab a dramatic equaliser for the hosts.

Spalding United 2 Redditch United 1

The deadlock was broken with six minutes gone when Ryan Boothe set the away team on their way but parity was restored when Jason Law found the net on 11 minutes.

Just before the break, James Clifton was able to put the hosts ahead for the first time and they held on to it throughout the second half to secure all three points.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE SOUTH

Bideford AFC 1 Bashley 2

The visitors got their noses in front in the sixth minute courtesy of Connor Dunesby-Bent but it was cancelled out in the opening exchanges of the second half as Javan Wright beat the 'keeper.

Soon afterwards, Mitchell Speechley-Price put the visitors back in front and this time it proved to be the winner as the visitors claimed all three points.

Bishops Cleeve 9 Helston Athletic 0

With ten minutes gone, it was advantage to the hosts after Aaron Evans-Harriott was able to beat the 'keeper and shortly afterwards, Ross Langworthy doubled the lead. Just before the half-hour mark and Langworthy added his second to make it 3-0 and then Joseph Jeremiah made it four on the stroke of half-time.

The second half started in the same vein as the first when Ethan Dunbar added to the hosts' lead before Langworthy completed his hat-trick soon afterwards.

With 20 minutes to go, James Harding got in on the scoring act to make it 7-0 and Jay Malshankyskyj soon added an eighth.

As the clock ticked down at the end, Ben McLean made it nine for the hosts to complete the scoring.

Bristol Manor Farm 0 Mousehole 2

The visitors took the lead in the 20th minute as Oscar Massey was in the right place at the right time to find the net.

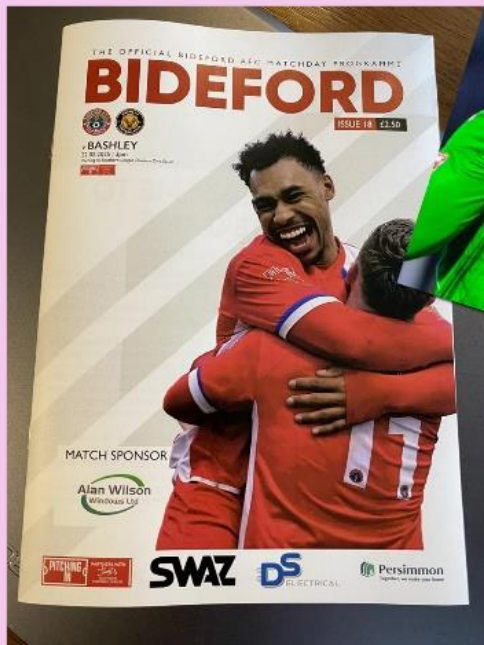
Massey doubled the lead with his second goal ten minutes into the second period and that's how it stayed as the three points made their way back to Cornwall.

Cribbs 3 Thatcham Town 0

A third minute penalty from Bailey Croome set the home side on their way and the lead was extended by Ryan Cainey with only ten minutes played.

The home side were asking all the questions as Jesse Aldridge made it 3-0 before 20 minutes had even been played.

There was to be no further scoring as the home team got their business done early to secure a precious three points.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE SOUTH

Evesham United 5 Larkhall Athletic 0

Reegan Messenger delivered the opening goal here as the hosts went ahead just before the 20-minute mark.

The lead was doubled right at the end of the first half courtesy of Josh Barlow before Messenger posted his second of the game to make it 3-0 with around 20 minutes to go.

Late on, Levi Steele added his name to the scoresheet for the hosts, alongside Lewis Middleton as the hosts put in a five-star showing.

Malvern Town 2 Exmouth Town 1

After an opening period in which the hosts were the better side for long periods, they finally got the lead that they deserved two minutes into the second half when Harry Clark found the net.

The in-form hosts added a second midway through the second period through Jack Watts.

A goal back from Ben Steer set up a tense few minutes as the away team looked to get something from this one.

In the end, the hosts held on to add to their impressive recent form.

Melksham Town 4 Bemerton Heath Harlequins 1

An early goal from Mark Cooper gave the advantage to the home team and then Dawid Regula doubled the lead as the hosts started well.

The hosts' impressive first half showing was completed when Harry Baker hit a third goal just before the interval to put them well in the driving seat. A goal from Charlie Burden on the hour-mark reduced the arrears only for Henry Sady to convert from the spot soon afterwards to restore a three-goal advantage for the hosts.

Our Game of the Day saw the home team run out convincing winners against in-form opponents.

Shaftesbury 2 Didcot Town 1

An early effort from Alefe Santos put the host in front and it was a lead that they held until seconds into the second half when Ewan Lynch levelled matters.

What proved to be the winning goal came in stoppage time at the end when recent arrival Santos grabbed his second of the afternoon.

Willand Rovers 1 Tavistock AFC 2

There were five minutes to go until half-time when Jamie Richards fired the home team ahead only for Luke Mortimore to hit back and equalise for the visitors before the break.

On 80 minutes, Harley Sneap put the away team ahead and that proved to be the goal which settled this Devon derby.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE CENTRAL

Barton Rovers 0 Beaconsfield Town 0

The home side survived some late pressure here to battle out a point from a goalless draw and their second clean sheet in a row.

Berkhamsted 2 Enfield 1

The opening goal finally arrived with four minutes to go until the break as Dan Newton applied the finish.

The lead was cancelled out when Kieran Southgate scored on the hour but the hosts got back in front from a Charlie Johnson penalty on 77 minutes.

That was to prove to be the end of the scoring as the home side secured a hard-earned three points as they maintain their challenge to the leaders.

Biggleswade FC 0 Real Bedford 4

The visitors got their noses in front on nine minutes through Joey Evans and then doubled the lead early in the second half through Ben Stevens.

A third goal from Josh Setchell with 20 minutes to go looked to have made the points safe for the League leaders.

Tom Hitchcock rounded things off with a late effort as his side secured a commanding triumph over opponents who had been in good form prior to this.

Hertford Town 2 Welwyn Garden City 2

With four minutes on the clock, Brad Wadkins opened the scoring for the away team and then the same player made it 2-0 as the interval loomed. Marcus Painter was able to draw a response from the hosts as he pulled a goal back on the hour-mark and then Ergys Pepaj equalised just inside the final ten minutes.

It was to finish with honours even here.

Kidlington 3 Stotfold 2

The home side took the lead on the 20-minute mark as Fraser Allen got his name on the scoresheet but by the midway point of the opening period, Patrick Matejko had made it 1-1.

Just four minutes into the second period and Robbie Buchanan put the away team ahead but that was soon cancelled out by Michael Hopkins. The hosts then took the lead through Nathaniel Opoku midway through the second half and they were able to see it out to emerge victors from an entertaining encounter.

Ware 2 Flackwell Heath 1

There was just over a minute on the clock when Joe Dearman put the home side in front and that lead was doubled on seven minutes through Johnny Allotey.

The opening exchanges of the second period saw the visitors grab a lifeline when Lewis Patrick pulled a goal back but try as they might, the damage was done with their slow start to proceedings.



NEWS ROUND-UP

WIMBORNE TOWN | HOLMES IS WHERE THE HEART IS

When the opportunity to return to former club, Wimborne Town, came up in December, Toby Holmes grabbed it with both hands.

The experienced goal-getter is back on a mission to ensure that the Dorset club can maintain the Pitching In Southern League Premier South status that they worked so hard to achieve following promotion at the end of last term.

Holmes saw his second spell at Poole Town, for whom he made a total of 129 appearances, come to a rather unexpected end and on Tuesday evening he came up against his former club, helping Wimborne secure a big three points courtesy of a 1-0 win in front of a crowd of over 2,000.

"To see so many people at Tuesday's game was brilliant," he told us. "You don't get the opportunity to play in front of a crowd like that too often at this level.

"Fair play to both sets of fans who turned out in great numbers for a Tuesday evening game and created a fantastic atmosphere under the lights.

"On these occasions you just have to enjoy it and make sure you're not on the losing side! I got some stick from the Poole fans; as a former player you expect that, it's all part-and-parcel of the game. I gave a bit back at the end, though!

"The victory meant that we took four points from two really tough home games this week having followed up our draw with leaders, Merthyr Town. These results have given us a real lift as a group.

"Since my return in December we've been in almost every game we've played, there have only been a couple of games where we've come up short and you can tell that the momentum is building as we head into the 'business end' of the season.

"It's so important because you only have to look at the table to see how tight it is. If we can string a few results together than it relieves the pressure slightly. We're by no means out of the woods yet, but what these last two results do is give us a platform to build on.

"The performance against Merthyr Town was a real team effort with everyone giving 110%. The fact that we came off the pitch disappointed not to have won is testament to the way we played.

"We took the confidence from that into the Poole game but being a local derby and with so much on it, it was a rather cagey match. The pitch made it difficult to get the ball down and play and our opponents were hard to break down, but we stuck to our task to get our reward late on.

"It was a scrappy goal, but they all count and we deserved the win in the end. Now we have to ensure that we take this fighting spirit into the battles that lie ahead between now and the end of the season.

"This time of the season is always the most exciting part. Almost anything can still happen at both ends of the table and with things being so tight, it just adds pressure to every game.

"Experience tells me that we just have to concentrate on what we do and ensure we do our bit and then see what else happens around us.

"Anyone can beat anyone on the day, much the same as last season. As it stands we are the highest placed of the promoted teams from last season; the aim was always to consolidate at this level with a view to taking the next step the following season.

"We're on course to do that but there is still a lot of football to be played and there will be many twists and turns along the way for all teams."

BEMERTON HEATH HARLEQUINS | PLATT'S MAGIC

The script could not have been written any better for Luke Platt's first home game since his appointment as permanent manager of Bemerton Heath Harlequins.

A resounding 7-0 home success over Bristol Manor Farm not only extended the Wiltshire outfit's unbeaten League run to six games, but also thrust them headlong into the Pitching In Southern League Division One South play-off places.

"This was a fantastic way to make a statement," Platt told us. "We've got a great group here; each and every one of them played their part in this tremendous victory.

"I've been at the club for five weeks now and I'm excited by what the future holds in store for us.

"We're all on the same page in terms of where we want to be come the end of the season and the players are embracing every opportunity that comes their way, which is so refreshing to see.

"This League is tough for many different reasons. Every team we have played since I have been here have brought their own challenges in some regard. There's a variety of styles and threats which, as a coach, makes it a great test.

"There are also some long trips too which bring their own challenges. We played three away fixtures in seven days and this led to 650 miles of travel, something that can take its toll on the players over such a short period of time.

"But the lads are giving me everything they've got and to see us in such free-flow at the weekend, really was a sight to behold.

"We won't get too carried away, of course. Yes, it's nice to win 7-0, particularly against one of the fancied teams, but we have to keep doing the right things and adding to the momentum we have.

"Short-term we'll take each game as it comes and focus on that solely. As I say, every game is different so we have to prepare for what's to come and how we set up against that will always be important.

"If we get that right, our long-term goal of reaching the play-offs can be achieved, but we have to focus on being consistent in our approach.

"Things can change quickly in football, so having a group of players who are all pulling in the same direction to achieve the same goal will be key."

As well as taking on key managerial and coaching roles at the likes of Poole Town, Brockenhurst and Shaftesbury, Platt has also gained experience in the highest levels of the game with AFC Bournemouth, Southampton, Yeovil Town and Rangers, where he was involved in tactical analysis, player development and talent identification.

As such, he is a firm believer in being able to nurture young talent within a dynamic and well-structured team environment.

"I'm really big on playing a certain way in football," he added. "I know we hear it a lot but I'm constantly telling the group how important it is to me to have people talk about our brand of football in a positive manner and the importance of performance over results.

"Some people won't agree with that, but it's a big part of my make-up as a coach and as a manager, which probably comes from working with the likes of Stephen Purches at AFC Bournemouth, who has massively influenced my career from an early stage in the game.

"I've been very lucky to be around people like him and Eddie Howe in small moments and I'd also say Pep Lijnders and Jurgen Klopp's style during the 2019/20 season played a big part in how I want to be able to influence the game.

"I want my teams to play with intensity and intelligence, whilst maintaining high standards in everything we do, on and off the pitch.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for me at a club whose ambitions match my own. The desire to progress and improve was simply enough for me to know that this is the right place to be.

"I have worked with a few lads here previously at other clubs and the positivity from them in the conversations I had only backed up and strengthened what I was thinking. The way they spoke about the club was a big factor and it's great to see the rest of the lads already buying in to what we want to do here.

"It's a journey that I am really looking forward to."

Platt took his side to Melksham Town earlier today.

INFLUENCER

We find out which players most influenced our Pitching In Southern League stars...

LUKE OSWICK (BIGGLESWADE FC) > STEVEN GERRARD

Steven Gerrard was my inspiration growing up because of his exceptional leadership, determination, and passion for the game. He consistently demonstrated a strong work ethic and his technical ability was insane, which motivated me to strive for success in my own pursuits.

REAL BEDFORD | CLICKING INTO PLACE

Drew Richardson is enjoying what he describes as his best season in non-League football as part of Real Bedford's challenge for the Pitching In Southern League Division One Central title.

"I feel really comfortable in the position I'm playing and the role that I have been asked to fulfil this season," he told us. "The way the team plays suits my style perfectly and the philosophy of the Gaffer matches my own.

"Everything has clicked into place and it's probably the best season I've had in non-League. "We're doing really well. Going into the season with the team that the Gaffer had assembled, we knew that we would be in and around the top and here we are in the middle of February don't exactly that!

"It's big credit to the Gaffer and his coaching style. We're very much looking forward to what the business end of the season holds in store, this is why you play football.

"No-one wants to go into this stage of the season with nothing to play for, so we're excited by what these weeks ahead hold in store for us.

"I've played and won at this level previously during my time at Bedford Town, so I know what it's all about and what it takes to be successful.

"This past experience certainly helped me and the team going into the new season following promotion. The quality of this level is improving all of the time and we've embraced the challenge that has been put in front of us.

"The aim is promotion, whether that's automatically or through the play-offs, and with the quality that we have here it will hopefully give us the edge in what is an extremely competitive League."

There was a rare appearance on the scoresheet for Richardson last weekend as he notched the first goal in a 3-1 victory over Enfield, their 21st win in 27 League outings.

"It's always nice to see one hit the back of the net, especially when it doesn't happen very often," the former Luton Town youngster said with a smile. "As a team I feel we played well on Saturday considering the pitch and weather conditions, but we knew this going into the game and stuck to our normal way of playing as much as possible.

"It was a deserved three points but fair play to Enfield because they didn't stop running all game and made life tough for us.

"I'm really enjoying my football right now and I just want to stay fit and healthy for the remainder of the season to help the team achieve the goal that we set out for back in the summer.

"Maybe I'll be able to add one or two more goals along the way too!!"

A trip to neighbours, Biggleswade FC, was on the agenda earlier today.

HALESOWEN TOWN | MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Jak Hickman is fully invested in his local community.

Having spent eight years within the youth ranks at West Bromwich Albion, the 26 year-old has gone on to enjoy a senior career that has included appearances for Bolton Wanderers and led to him establishing himself as a key member of his hometown team, Halesowen Town, as they push for promotion from the Pitching In Southern League Premier Central.

Off the pitch, he is owner of the Dudley and Halesowen branch of Kixx Football Academy, which caters for youngsters who are taking their first steps into the game from the age of two up to ten.

For Hickman it's more than just a business, it's a mission.

"I have a passion for helping children reach their potential and a real interest in making a positive contribution to my local community," he told us. "I want to make an impact; I want to instil confidence in every child that walks onto the pitch here.

"We're in it for the long haul, some children progress quickly whilst others may take a little longer. If I can pass on some of the knowledge and experience that I have gained to help local kids make their way in the game, then I will be happy."

Some of the youngsters that come under the wing of Hickman and his team of coaches are fans of the Yeltz and take great pride in cheering him from the sidelines on a Saturday afternoon.

There are also some who follow the fortunes of local rivals, Stourbridge, and this weekend both clubs go head-to-head in the latest 'Number 9 derby', so-called because of the bus route that links the two Black Country towns.

"It's a game that everyone is looking forward to," said Hickman, who had a spell at the Glassboys during the 2021/22 season. "I've played in a few of these now so I understand the hype around the game and how much it means to people locally.

"I've got kids in my academy that follow both clubs, so that rivalry is always there, particularly this season as both clubs are battling it out at the top end of the table.

"The League this season is crazy. There's only 12 points that separate the whole top half and the lead has changed hands so many times!

"For the neutral it's exciting, it can be frustrating when you're involved in the thick of it and we've just got to make sure we can show the consistency which will see us finish right up there. All we can do is take care of our own business.

"I'm enjoying being involved. I've kept myself fit for the majority of the season and feel that I have put in a consistent level of performance. We've been able to put ourselves into a strong position and now we're just excited for the run-in.

"As a local lad I want to play my part in bringing the good times to the club. My role on and off the pitch has to step up a level over the weeks ahead to ensure that we can get to where we want to be.

"We understand that now it's time to get down to business and we can't afford to take our foot off the gas at any point. We're going to be fighting hard to achieve something come the end of the season and give our fantastic fans something to really shout about.

"The numbers that we get are superb and they made a big difference to us."

Making a difference is something that Hickman is keen to do and he's also a big supporter of the work that Halesowen Town do for men's mental health, alongside Andy's Man Club.

The Grove is home to the first Andy's Man Club to be held in the West Midlands, with sessions taking place between 7pm and 9pm each Monday evening in the Yeltz Bar. Andy's Man Club is a free peer-to-peer group that provides a place for men to come together in a safe and open environment to talk about the issues or problems that they have faced or are currently facing.

"The club is doing brilliant things this season to support and bring awareness to men's mental health," Hickman added. "It's something that we are really supportive of and want to showcase as much as possible."



FIXTURES | THE WEEK AHEAD

Pitching In Southern League Premier South

TUESDAY 25 FEB 25

Hungerford Town v Poole Town

SATURDAY 01 MAR 25

AFC Totton v Merthyr Town

Bracknell Town v Plymouth Parkway

Gloucester City v Walton & Hersham

Gosport Borough v Chertsey Town

Hanwell Town v Poole Town

Havant & Waterlooville v Winchester City

Sholing v Hungerford Town

Taunton Town v Dorchester Town

Tiverton Town v Basingstoke Town

Wimborne Town v Frome Town

Pitching In Southern League Premier Central

MONDAY 24 FEB 25

Barwell v Bromsgrove Sporting

TUESDAY 25 FEB 25

Biggleswade Town v Stamford

Kettering Town v Halesowen Town

Stratford Town v AFC Sudbury

SATURDAY 01 MAR 25

Banbury United v Harborough Town

Barwell v Bishop's Stortford

Bedford Town v Alvechurch

Biggleswade Town v Halesowen Town

Bromsgrove Sporting v AFC Sudbury

Leiston v Kettering Town

Redditch United v Royston Town

St Ives Town v AFC Telford United

Stamford v Lowestoft Town

Stourbridge v Spalding United

Stratford Town v Hitchin Town

We are extremely proud of the Southern League Goals of the Week Show that David Square and his team work so hard to produce on our behalf each week of the season and we urge clubs to please send your goals footage for use in the show each week.

The email address to send your footage to, by 7pm each Tuesday evening, is:

thesouthernfootballleague@gmail.com

The show can be viewed via our Official You Tube Channel from 7pm every Wednesday evening.

Pitching In Southern League Division One South

MONDAY 24 FEB 25

Westbury United v Yate Town

TUESDAY 25 FEB 25

Didcot Town v Bishops Cleeve

Falmouth Town AFC v Larkhall Athletic

Helston Athletic v Melksham Town

Thatcham Town v Bideford AFC

SATURDAY 01 MAR 25

Bashley v Bristol Manor Farm

Bemerton Heath Harlequins v Bideford AFC

Didcot Town v Willand Rovers

Exmouth Town v Westbury United

Falmouth Town AFC v Cribbs

Helston Athletic v Evesham United

Larkhall Athletic v Cinderford Town

Mousehole v Bishops Cleeve

Tavistock AFC v Malvern Town

Thatcham Town v Melksham Town

Yate Town v Shaftesbury

Pitching In Southern League Division One Central

TUESDAY 25 FEB 25

Berkhamsted v Hadley

Kings Langley v Biggleswade FC

Leverstock Green v Northwood

Real Bedford v Aylesbury United

SATURDAY 01 MAR 25

Beaconsfield Town v Aylesbury United

Enfield v Kidlington

Flackwell Heath v Biggleswade FC

Kings Langley v Barton Rovers

Leighton Town v Hertford Town

Leverstock Green v Berkhamsted

North Leigh v Ware

Stotfold v Northwood

Thame United v Hadley

Welwyn Garden City v AFC Dunstable

Fixtures are subject to change. Compiled in association with At

There is plenty of great action coming up throughout the Pitching In Southern League. Please show your support wherever possible and if you are interested in getting more involved and finding out about volunteer opportunities, check out the Pitching In Volunteer Hub via: southern-football-league.co.uk/Pitching-In-Volunteer-Hub We hope that you enjoyed this edition as we look to showcase all that is good within the Pitching In Southern League. Feedback is always welcome, please email: news@southern-football-league.co.uk Enjoy the rest of your weekend...

Andy Poole (Editor)



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