

PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE



SATURDAY EVENING E-NEWSPAPER

Saturday 8 March 2025



SHINING A LIGHT



On a sunny and bright afternoon, our member clubs used this International Women's Day to highlight and showcase the fine work of the Her Game Too initiative as well as shining a light on the women who play their part at clubs throughout our four divisions.

In the Pitching In Southern League Premier South it could be a key day at the top as whilst Merthyr Town were battling out a 2-1 victory over Swindon Supermarine, AFC Totton were going down to only their third defeat of the campaign with a 3-1 loss at Wimborne Town. It means that the Welsh club are now nine points clear, although they have played two games more than AFC Totton. There were defeats for Gloucester City and Dorchester Town, whilst Walton & Hersham drew.

In the Pitching In Southern League Premier Central, it was a good day for Bedford Town and they didn't even play! Kettering Town lost at home to a stoppage time goal at hands of St. Ives Town, whilst AFC Telford United were held to a draw and Stratford Town lost.

Halesowen Town battled out a 1-0 win over Banbury United.

In the Pitching In Southern League Division One South, the top of the table clash went the way of second-placed Evesham United as they came from behind to beat leaders, Yate Town, 2-1. The gap is now six points.

Just below them, Mousehole had to battle it out to overcome the challenge of Larkhall Athletic, whilst Exmouth Town had to settle for a share of the spoils at lowly Cinderford Town who levelled late on in a 2-2 draw. Making up the top five, Bishops Cleeve had a commanding win as both Malvern Town and Bemerton Heath Harlequins remain hot on their heels.

Over in the Pitching In Southern League Division One Central, our Game of the Day ended in a good 2-0 away win for leaders Real Bedford at Hadley, who now drop out of the top five. Second-placed Berkhamsted won by the same scoreline at home to fourth-placed Flackwell Heath.

Barton Rovers were without a game, so went paint-balling as Thame United moved into the play-off places following a convincing 3-0 away win at Aylesbury United.

REPORTS FROM ALL GAMES | STATS | FEATURES



Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

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

Please visit
PitchingInvolunteers.co.uk
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LEAGUES**
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PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER SOUTH

Basingstoke Town 1 Chertsey Town 3

A penalty converted by James Clarke set the hosts on their way in the opening exchanges but it was cancelled out when Oliver McCoy levelled matters just before the half-hour mark.

On the stroke of half-time, Cole Brown struck to give the visitors the lead and then McCoy weighed in with a crisp finish during the second half to further increase the advantage and give his side a much-needed away win.

Bracknell Town 3 Marlow 1

It was the away team who forged ahead here with Naheer Nawaf getting the goal just past the quarter-hour mark.

An equaliser came from Dan Roberts as the clock ticked down at the end of the opening period.

The second half saw Seb Bowerman give the home team the lead for the first time and Jordan Esprit added to it with time running out to clinch victory.

Dorchester Town 0 Gosport Borough 2

The away team went ahead just before the 30-minute mark when Cameron Murray was in the right place at the right time.

There was more joy in the sun for the visitors when Alfie Stanley doubled their advantage in the opening exchanges of the second half and that's how it remained here.

Hanwell Town 3 Walton & Hersham 3

With ten minutes to go until the interval, Joe Waight put the home side in front but Bobby Taylor soon levelled matters and then Ralph Vigrass turned the scoreline on its head right on the stroke of half-time.

The hosts didn't take long after the restart to level things up again through Ryan Cole and then Dan Carr put them back in front.

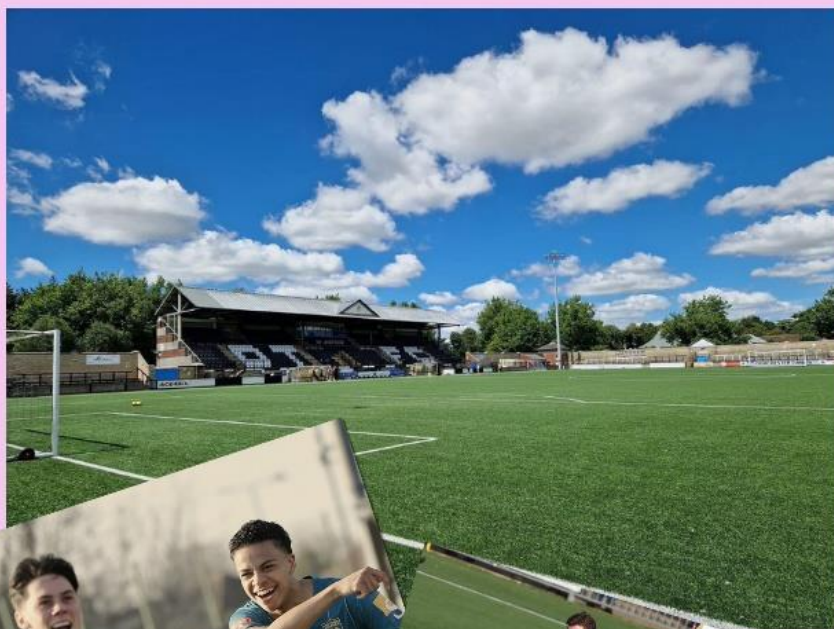
This one was levelled up again as Johl Powell made it 3-3 and it was to end with honours even in an entertaining encounter.

Havant & Waterlooville 4 Sholing 1

Just before the interval, Oliver Pendlebury put the home side in front and then Ryan Seager doubled the lead five minutes into the second half.

A goal from Callum Kealy gave the hosts a three-goal cushion with 20 minutes to go and then Leon Maloney extended the advantage.

On 77 minutes Michael Folivi added another goal to his tally as a consolation for the visitors as they were well beaten.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER SOUTH

Hungerford Town 1 Gloucester City 0

The opening goal eventually arrived as the hour-mark approached when Brad Hooper was able to edge the hosts in front. It proved to be the only goal of a tight affair as the hosts saw out a big three points in their quest to break into the top five.

Merthyr Town 2 Swindon Supermarine 1

The home side took the lead with seven minutes on the clock courtesy of Ricardo Rees and then soon afterwards, Keiran Evans doubled the advantage. A goal from Olly Mehew with 68 minutes on the clock put the away team back in it but the hosts were able to manage the game to get the victory.

Poole Town 3 Winchester City 2

The opening goal went to the hosts when Christos Batzelis found the net just before the half-hour mark.

Early in the second half, Ik Hill restored parity before going on to put his side in front shortly afterwards.

More woe followed for the hosts when Ezio Touray was sent off for a second yellow card on the hour, but they managed to find a leveller through Kristian Campbell.

It was Tyrique Clarke who then put the home team back in front in what was proving to be a see-saw affair and that was to be the end of the scoring.

Taunton Town 2 Plymouth Parkway 3

The deadlock was broken in the closing stages of the first half when Tylor Love-Holmes fired the visitors ahead and the same player doubled the lead moments later.

There was still time for Callum Hall to add to the visitors,' advantage in first half stoppage time to put them well in command.

A goal from Owen Brain gave the hosts some hope as Tom Purrington pulled another back with six minutes remaining but the visitors managed to see it out to hold on to all three points.

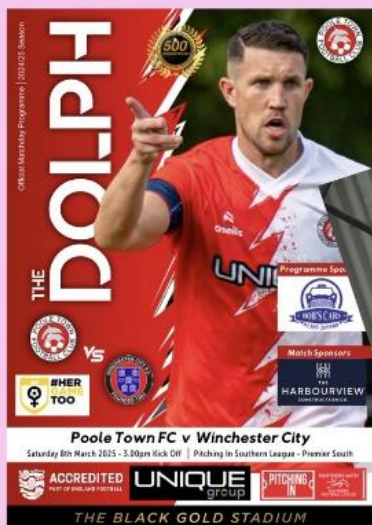
Tiverton Town 0 Frome Town 0

There was very little to choose between these two sides in a generally evenly-matched affair. Things picked up in the latter stages but neither team was able to make the breakthrough with defences in stubborn mood.

Wimborne Town 3 AFC Totton 1

A penalty from Matt Burrows gave the hosts the lead just before the hour-mark and then Cameron Munn was able to double the advantage.

In front of a crowd of almost 1,000 Toby Holmes added a third goal right at the death and even though the visitors pulled one back in stoppage time through Charlie Kennedy, the high-flyers were second-best here.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER CENTRAL

AFC Sudbury 1 Leiston 2

A penalty from Oliver Peters gave the hosts the lead with 18 minutes gone but it was cancelled out in first half stoppage time through leading scorer, Jamar Loza. There was late drama when Kyran Clements hit a stoppage time winner for the away team to give them a big three points and break home hearts.

Alvechurch 1 Redditch United 0

It took until the 77th minute for the first goal to arrive here as Josh Dugmore gave the advantage to the hosts. This proved to be the only goal of a tight local derby.

Barwell 0 Stamford 1

First blood to the visitors here after Jack Duffy beat the 'keeper on 28 minutes. The hosts then had 'keeper, Will Highland, dismissed with just over quarter-of-an-hour to go and with a man less, they were unable to get back into this game.

Bishop's Stortford 3 Hitchin Town 2

The visitors wasted little time in getting their noses in front through Dan Stokoe, but Nahum Melvin-Lambert brought the sides level ten minutes later.

A goal from Lewis Franklin just past the half-hour saw the away team regain the lead.

Parity was restored on the hour courtesy of Jake Thompson before Nahum Melvin-Lambert popped up with a stoppage time winner for the hosts.

Bromsgrove Sporting 1 AFC Telford United 1

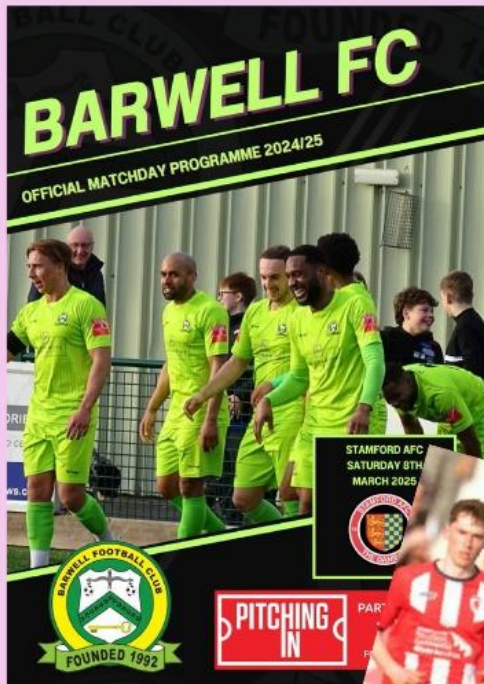
With things in the balance here, first blood went to the hosts when Jack Newall was in the right place at the right time to put the hosts in front on 73 minutes.

There was late drama when Luke Rowe equalised at the death against his former club and the spoils were shared.

Halesowen Town 1 Banbury United 0

Ten minutes into the second period and Kieren Donnelly struck to give the home side the lead.

The visitors tried to get back in it but they found the home defensive in stubborn mood as they kept their third clean sheet in a row.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER CENTRAL

Kettering Town 2 St Ives Town 3

The visitors grabbed the lead thanks to a Will Glennon penalty just before half-an-hour was played here.

The second half saw the hosts start with purpose and it was rewarded with an equaliser in the 55th minute from Kai Fifield.

The hosts went ahead from the penalty spot through Isiah Noel-Williams with 66 minutes on the clock.

With time running out, George Munday hit a leveller for the visitors and proceeded to win it in stoppage time.

Royston Town 1 Lowestoft Town 1

Harvey Sayer was spot-on to convert from the penalty spot in the 17th minute to open the scoring for the away team.

It looked like being the only goal of this one until Archibald Locke picked open the visitors' defence in stoppage time and earned his side a key point.

Spalding United 0 Harborough Town 2

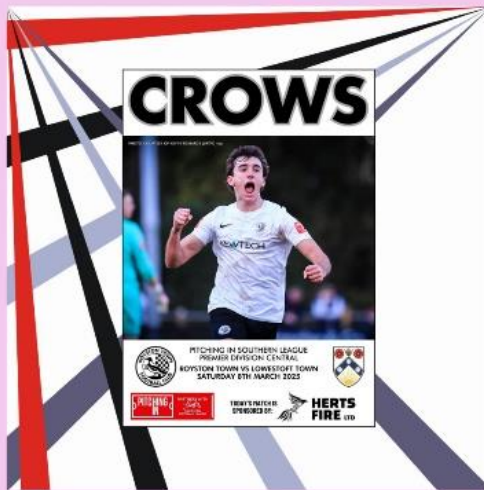
As expected this was a closely-fought encounter and it took until the 55th minute for Ben Stephens to give the advantage to the away team.

Ben Starkie weighed in with a second goal for the visitors with around 15 minutes to go and that was enough to seal victory.

Stratford Town 0 Stourbridge 2

Just past the quarter-final mark, the evergreen Tyrone Barnett gave the visitors the lead and he went on to get the second goal just before the hour-mark.

It proved to be a good day for the visitors as the three points went home with them.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE SOUTH

Bemerton Heath Harlequins 2 Cribbs 0

This one was goalless until the hour-mark when Kieran Douglas put the home side ahead and then skipper, Charlie Burden, led by example as he made it 2-0 with ten minutes to go.

That's how it remained here as the home side were back in the winning groove.

Bideford AFC 1 Thatcham Town 1

The returning Mattie Buchan made his mark by putting the home side ahead on 76 minutes, but the advantage didn't last long as Christian Johnson levelled matters soon afterwards.

There was no further scoring as the spoils were shared in what was the first meeting between these two clubs this season.

Bishops Cleeve 3 Bashley 0

It was first blood to the home side when Matt Bower broke the deadlock in the eighth minute and he went on to notch his second in stoppage time at the end of the opening period.

A third goal, this time from Aaron Evans-Harriott, put the hosts firmly in the driving seat midway through the second half and that's how it remained.

Bristol Manor Farm 0 Shaftesbury 2

This one was finely balanced until Remus Nixon edged the away team in front as the clock ticked down.

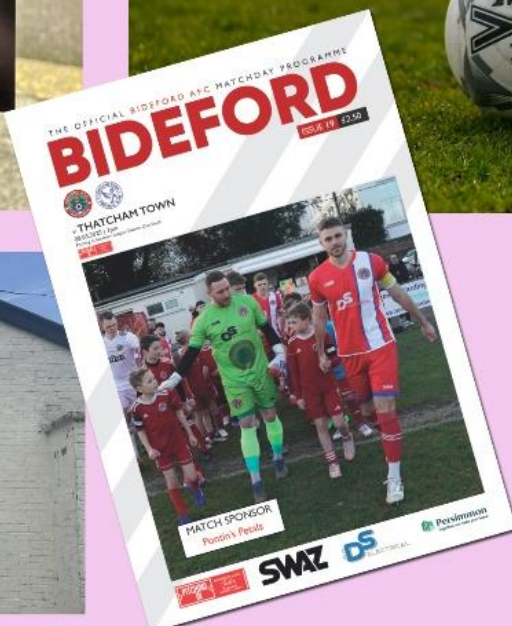
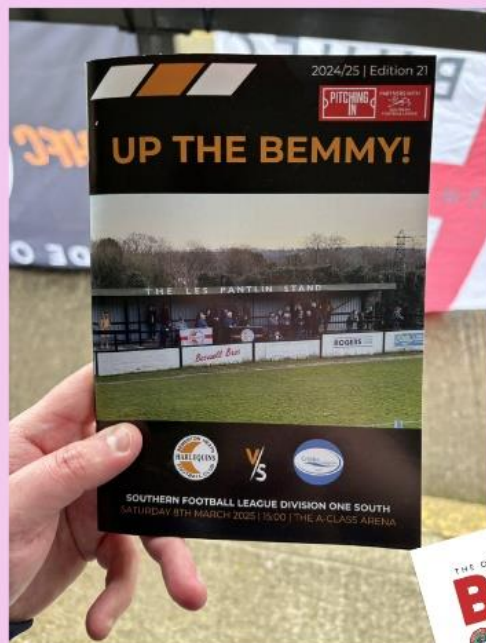
There was still time at the death for Jack Hoey to give the visitors a big three points.

Cinderford Town 2 Exmouth Town 2

Midway through the opening period, leading scorer, Alex Bonthron, gave the hosts the lead but parity was restored when Tom Bath added to his impressive tally in the 38th minute.

As the clock ticked down in the second half, Bath popped up to put the away side ahead with 15 minutes to go.

Late on, the experienced Ismail Yakubu brought the score back to 2-2 and in the end both teams had to settle for a point apiece.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE SOUTH

Evesham United 2 Yate Town 1

This top of the table clash saw the visitors draw first blood on the quarter-hour mark through Lucas Tomlinson.

The leveller was delivered as the interval approached by Reegan Messenger and then Andre Wright went on to turn the scoreline on its head in the 53rd minute.

The hosts were able to see it out to get a big victory over their rivals.

Helston Athletic 0 Didcot Town 3

The visitors started well and with just two minutes on the clock, Dylan Conlan put them ahead.

Starting the second period in a similar vein to the first, the visitors then went two goals to the good through Zach Scott.

Things went from bad to worse for the hosts when Matty Bye was sent off and Sam Barder rounded off the scoring with a third for the away side.

Malvern Town 2 Falmouth Town AFC 1

It was unlucky 13th minute for the home side here as Rubin Wilson put the away team in front.

However, the lead lasted barely a minute as Levi Francis levelled matters.

This was a hard-fought content between two sides who have been in good form and it was the hosts who nicked it late on through Charlie Johnson.



Melksham Town 0 Tavistock AFC 3

The second half was just a couple of minutes old when Liam Prynn gave the away team the lead and buoyed by the opener, the returning Jack Crago soon made it 2-0.

It was turning into an impressive away day for the visitors when Luke Mortimore added to their lead with just under 15 minutes to go and that's how it remained.

Mousehole 1 Larkhall Athletic 0

There were just five minutes remaining of the first half when Tim Nixon gave the hosts the lead.

The main talking point of the second half with a red card for Alex Lambert as the visitors went down to ten men late on and with it went their realistic chances of getting anything out of this one.

Westbury United 1 Willand Rovers 0

After a goalless first half, Charlie Wooding opened the scoring for the hosts within ten minutes of the restart.

This was how the scoreline remained as the home side was able to battle out another big three points.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE CENTRAL

Aylesbury United 0 Thame United 3

It was lucky seventh minute for the visitors as Ty Deacon put them ahead and then Finlay Murray doubled the lead on the 20-minute mark.

An impressive first half showing was complete a couple of minutes into stoppage time when Brayden Daniel made it 3-0. There was no further addition to the scoring in the second half as the visitors got the job done to bag the three points.

Beaconsfield Town 3 Welwyn Garden City 1

The deadlock was broken just before the hour-mark when Eremide Lawal found the net to give the home side the lead. However, shortly afterwards the hosts went down to ten men when Troy Silvera saw red.

It mattered not as Josh Marcon gave them a two-goal advantage with just over 20 minutes to go.

A Dennis Halliday goal gave the away team hope for the final seven minutes, but Akiel Raffie made the game safe for the hosts late on.

Berkhamsted 2 Flackwell Heath 0

It was first blood to the hosts when Bernard Christie got his name on the scoresheet in the opening exchanges. The second goal arrived for the home team through Rayan Clarke with just over ten minutes remaining and it was enough to clinch the victory here.

Hadley 0 Real Bedford 2

Our Game of the Day came to life when Joey Evans added to his tally by putting the visitors a goal up on 17 minutes.

With time running out, Drew Richardson was able to add a second goal for the away team and it proved enough to give them a hard-earned, but deserved three points.



PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE CENTRAL

Hertford Town 2 Biggleswade FC 0

There was a bright start to match the weather from the hosts who went ahead within the opening exchanges through Adeniyi Gbolahan.

A second goal arrived from the boot of Finley Lynch to give the hosts a cushion with just over ten minutes left on the clock and they were able to see out the win.

Leighton Town 1 AFC Dunstable 0

It looked as though this one was destined to finish goalless until Charlie Pattison found a goal for the home side with around five minutes to go.

This proved to be the only goal of this tight encounter.

Leverstock Green 1 Kidlington 2

The home side took the lead as half-time approached thanks to a goal from Luke Beckwith.

The scores were brought back level as Fraser Allen found the net on the hour-mark and then Charlie Bacon scored with a sizzler to give the visitors the lead late on and it proved to be the winner as the visitors brought home the three points.

Northwood 1 Enfield 2

It was the visitors who broke the deadlock when Jack Taylor found the net on 11 minutes but it was cancelled out by Alex Cathline at the start of the second half.

As it looked like ending level, there was to be a sting in the tail with a winning goal for the visitors from Joni Vukaj with virtually the last kick.

Stotfold 3 North Leigh 0

The opening goal arrived with nine minutes gone when Remell Stirling was on hand to turn the ball home.

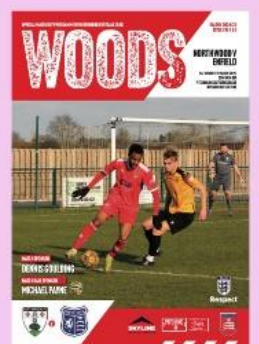
It became 2-0 when Ashley Kersey found the net with 20 minutes gone but then Robbie Buchanan's dismissal put a sour note to proceedings for the hosts.

The home team added a third late on through Patrick Matejko as the ten-men won it without too many problems.

Ware 0 Kings Langley 0

There was nothing to separate these two teams as this one ended in a goalless draw.

Both sides had opportunities to win it, but it wasn't to be here and a draw was probably a fair result on the balance of play.



NEWS ROUND-UP

BROMSGROVE SPORTING | STEPPING UP

After bagging a brace in last weekend's commanding 3-0 victory for Bromsgrove Sporting over AFC Sudbury, Jamie Meddows now proudly sits on 15 goals for the season.

Not bad for a player enjoying his first taste of life in the Pitching In Southern League Premier Central after making the leap from Step 5 over the summer. "It's been a big step up going from where I was last season to Step 3 and what is a notoriously competitive League, but I am enjoying the challenge," said Meddows, who claimed the club's Player of the Month accolade for February. "I am pleased with the form that I've been in; in order to be able to compete week in, week out at this level, I haven't been able to rest on my laurels, it's been a case of working as hard as I can in each game and each training session to maintain the standards needed. "To sit here now with 15 goals and 12 assists to my name, I am happy. I want to be able to add to those figures between now and the end of the season, of course, but I am pleased with the progress that I have been able to make, I have learned a lot along the way.

"Overall it's been a season of ups and downs for the team. We're still too close to the relegation zone for comfort, so we have to keep adding to our points tally to pull us further clear; but victories in the last two games have certainly helped and taken us to the 40-point mark.

"We've showed plenty of character in both of our last two games. At Barwell in our previous outing, we kept going to score two late goals to win 3-2 after they had taken the lead with eight minutes to go. Then against AFC Sudbury we were able to first of all win the battle and then get the goals to show for it and back it up.

"It was nice to be able to contribute to both victories and now I'm looking forward to the next game and being able to build upon this.

"This team is battling hard to finish as high up the table as possible; we know what we're capable of and we know that we have to show it on a more consistent basis.

"As for myself, this has been a really important season in my development as a player and the hope is that I can keep adding to my stats to help the team finish strongly."

The Rouslers had a mouth-watering home clash with AFC Telford United earlier today.



HANWELL TOWN | MOORE IS MERRIER

Longevity is something that is becoming all too rare in the modern game amongst managers as the demand for quick success outweighs the patience needed to be able to build something over time.

At Pitching In Southern League Premier South outfit, Hanwell Town, popular manager, Chris Moore, has been in place since 2018 and has recently celebrated his 300th game at the helm

"The club's hierarchy have been brilliant and have left me to do what's needed to make the club successful," he told us. "That takes a lot of trust on both ends, I guess, but we have a great working relationship.

"When I came to the club we had finished in the bottom half of Step 4 with an eye on relegation, so to be playing at Step 3 is credit to everyone that's help build this club up along the way. It's an ongoing process where the main commodity has been time.

"To reach the 300 games milestone recently made me extremely proud. This is a great club with great people involved and to be in charge for so long and be successful with that is a huge honour.

"Being an ex-pro I'm big on professionalism and standards. Anyone that plays for me finds that out pretty much as soon as they come through the door; that's important to me. I can be calm and relaxed but I am also known to have the hair dryer in me as well!"

There have been highs and lows over the past seven years, but Moore has no doubt of the main highlight.

"The play-off final victory to reach this level was something I'll never forget," he said without hesitation. "To be one goal up and then see Chertsey Town equalise with five seconds to go, it would have been easy for our heads to drop going into extra-time.

"Even more so when not only did we go 2-1 down but also had a man sent off. To then turn it around and win 3-2 from that position was extremely emotion and just showed what this club is all about with its spirit and never-say-die attitude.

"This season's record-breaking Isuzu FA Trophy run to the third round also provided some special moments too.

"There have been low points, of course. Losing 9-1 at home to our neighbours, Hayes & Yeading United, in 2019/2020 was certainly one of them, but I look back on that particular afternoon and smile now because of how far we have come since that fateful day.

"This season has been a bit up-and-down, a bit of a roller-coaster, just like Saturday's game against Poole Town where we raced into a two-goal lead after half-an-hour; conceded early in the second half but then minutes later restored our two-goal advantage only to end up drawing 3-3 with virtually the last kick.

"It summed our season up in many ways, but we're sat in mid-table and still involved in three cup competitions, which is huge for a club of our size. We're punching above our weight being at this level so being able to sustain that would be huge for us.

"I would say the Premier South is definitely stronger this year than any previous years. As a manager you look at the fixtures and target a points tally over a group of games and I've never found it so difficult due to the quality in the league.

"That said, I am really looking forward to the run-in. The boys have been set a challenge and we'll be looking to achieve it and finish as high as we possibly can.

"The club's aim has always been to be competitive at this level, but I like to think moving forward we can work on looking up the table rather than over our shoulders, but whatever it is, it's been one helluva journey so far and one we've all enjoyed!"

Moore's side played host to Walton & Hersham earlier today.



INFLUENCER

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

SAM TEALE (FROME TOWN) > CLASS OF '92

I've always supported Manchester United so growing up it was the golden years with the Class of '92. So, I wouldn't say one player influenced me but probably more that team as a whole.

ENFIELD | THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

George Thompson is the Christmas gift that keeps giving for Enfield FC.

The talented front-runner joined the club over the festive period on a dual registration with Buckhurst Hill and since then has weighed in with a number of goals and Man of the Match performances.

He has made light work of the step up to the Pitching In Southern League Division One Central and last Saturday he bagged a brace as well as another Man of the Match accolade to help his side chalk up their biggest victory of the season with a 7-0 triumph over Kidlington.

"I couldn't have asked for a better Saturday, to be honest," he told us. "The sun was shining, the lads were confident going into the game and by half-time we were already five goals to the good.

"That's testament to how strong the belief was. We knew where we would find joy in the game by winning possession quickly and turning their back-line, and we carried out our game plan to near perfection.

"We were superb from back-to-front; I was able to get a couple of goals during that opening period and I was pleased with my overall contribution.

"It all stemmed from the intensity that we had as a group and it was nice to see so many happy, smiling faces on and off the pitch, that's what it's all about.

"I am loving life at Enfield; the club has been amazing and it's been such a welcoming environment from everyone, which has been reflected in my performances since I arrived.

"This League is so exciting. Every weekend there are unexpected results and there are so many different styles amongst the teams. I like the different challenges that come up each week where I have to adapt my own game to what we are up against, it is really helping to develop me as a player.

"Stepping up from the level below, I wasn't quite sure what to expect at first, but to be honest, the physicality of this League is something that I have particularly enjoyed.

"Looking ahead to the run-in to the end of the season is exciting, especially given the run of fixtures we have just come through. Each game has been tough, but hopefully after Saturday's result, it can ignite us and push us on for a strong end to the season.

"I want to just keep playing with confidence and a smile on my face. I'll be looking to add more goals and play my part in a positive finish for the team. We want to finish as strongly as possible to give us something solid to build on for next season."

A trip to Northwood was on the cards earlier today.



HELSTON ATHLETIC | STAYT OF PLAY

As we entered the month of March last weekend, the green shoots of recovery were starting to show for Helston Athletic.

After a harsh winter which saw them go from autumn high-flyers to involved in a battle against the drop, the big transition amongst the playing staff which has taken place is now starting to settle down.

Last weekend they came within nine minutes of beating promotion hopefuls, Evesham United. They had to settle for a share of the spoils in the end, but nevertheless it was progress.

One player who is starting to emerge as a firm favourite amongst the new crop is Sammy Stayt. A hard-working and committed young midfielder, he has grasped the opportunity of stepping up to the Pitching In Southern League Division One South and is loving every minute of it.

"I've enjoyed my first few months at the club," he told us. "It's been an excellent experience; working under the Gaffer and his staff as really helped me to improve and embrace the challenge of Southern League football.

"I can't wait for what's ahead, to be honest. We all know that it's been a transitional period with plenty of comings and goings amongst the squad, but things are starting to settle down a bit more now and we're beginning to get into our stride.

"We're making positive steps forward, the performance against Evesham United is proof of that, and the feeling is that we are creating something that we can build upon in the future.

"These are exciting times; the hope is that we've come through the tough period and now we can start seeing an upturn in results to move us away from the lower end of the table.

"This is an important phase of the season and with two home games coming up in quick succession, we are fully focussed on adding to our points' tally and starting to build some momentum.

"I'd like to think that I can play my part in that. I bring energy and work-rate to the team and I like to contribute to our attacking play.

"The main goal, of course, is to maintain our status at this level and then build on these foundations that have been put in place.

"There's no reason why we can't do that if everyone works together and pulls in the same direction."

Stayt arrived at the club having spent several years at Western League Premier Division outfit, Buckland Athletic, where he broke into the first-team at just 16 and made great progress.

"I had a great time at Buckland and owe the club a lot," he added. "But a few months ago I felt that the time was right for a change and a fresh start.

"Coming to Helston was a great opportunity for me to develop further as a player and also test myself at the higher level.

"It's certainly been a challenge so far, but I am always looking to push myself out of my comfort zone and I can already see the impact that coming here has had on my development and growth in the game."

Helston Athletic hosted Didcot Town today before they welcome Cinderford Town on Tuesday evening.

PST SPORT CLUB OF THE MONTH AWARDS | FEBRUARY 2025

The PST Sport Club of the Month Awards for February 2025 have been announced.

In the Pitching In Southern League Premier Central, the accolade is taken by Bedford Town.

They started the month with a hard-earned 1-0 away win at Alvechurch thanks to Bruno Andrade's strike with just over quarter-of-an-hour to go.

Having slipped to a single-goal defeat in their next game at Royston Town, they responded with a convincing 3-0 triumph over Bromsgrove Sporting in their next outing as Leon Lobjoit helped himself to a brace, alongside a goal from Ryan Blake.

Back on the road, they won 2-1 at AFC Sudbury as Blake was joined on the scoresheet by Lewis Green.

The month ended with a good 3-1 victory over fellow promotion hopefuls, Kettering Town. In front of a packed house, Bruno Andrade hit two goals within the opening eight minutes to put them well in command, whilst Leon Lobjoit added a third to seal a big three points.

Over in the Pitching In Southern League Premier South, Hungerford Town have taken the prize for the second month in succession as they pipped Walton & Hersham on goal difference.

The month got underway with George Smith's goal giving them a 1-0 triumph over Havant & Waterlooville and it was followed up by a 3-0 success at the expense of Chertsey Town where an early own goal set them on their way before Jordan Ibe and Joe Beardwell put further gloss on the scoreline with two late goals.

Another 3-0 victory came in their next outing, this time at Tiverton Town, where Rhys Tyler set them on their way before Joseph Marquez Espada bagged a brace.

There was another hard-earned three points in their next game as goals from Louis McGrory and Luke Softley gave them a 2-1 triumph over Basingstoke Town, who pulled a goal back in stoppage time at the end.

A double strike from McGrory proved to be the difference against Hanwell Town before the month came to a close with a 1-1 home draw with Poole Town as McGrory got his name on the scoresheet once more, but on this occasion it was not enough to secure victory.

Taking the Pitching In Southern League Division One Central crown is Real Bedford.

The League leaders started the month with a memorable 5-5 draw with Flackwell Heath in a game that swung one way and then the other. In the end it took a stoppage time penalty from Joey Evans, who completed his hat-trick, to salvage a point.

They were able to get back into winning ways at Kidlington courtesy of a 3-0 away win that saw Ben Stevens open the scoring before Evans helped himself to two more goals.

Back on home soil and they overcame the challenge of Enfield with a 3-1 triumph that saw Drew Richardson get his name on the scoresheet and then Josh Setchell add two more goals either side of half-time.

Another commanding away success followed, this time at Biggleswade FC, where they were 4-0 victors with Joey Evans setting them on their way ahead of second half strikes from Ben Stevens, Josh Setchell and Tom Hitchcock.

The month came to a close with a hard-earned 3-2 triumph over Aylesbury United. It was a game which saw them fall behind only for Isaac Galliford to restore parity. They went behind again soon afterwards until Josh Setchell and Joey Evans did what they do best to turn the scoreline on its head and secure three points.

Finally, the Pitching In Southern League Division One South winner is Bishops Cleeve.

A Ross Langworthy double made it a winning start to the month as they beat Westbury United 2-0. It was followed up by an emphatic 9-0 victory over Helston Athletic in their next game as Langworthy helped himself to a hat-trick, alongside further strikes from Aaron Evans-Harriott, Joseph Jeremiah, Ethan Dunbar, James Harding, Jay Malshanskyy and Ben McLean.

The scoreline was a bit closer in their next outing, although they had to wait until stoppage time at the end to win 1-0 at Didcot Town to end the month with three important points in their quest to finish in the top five.

We congratulate the four winners:

Premier Central – Bedford Town (2.400ppg) | Premier South – Hungerford Town (2.667ppg - won on superior goal difference) | Division One Central – Real Bedford (2.600ppg) | Division One South – Bishops Cleeve (3.000ppg)

Please note that each club needs to have played at least three games in a qualifying competition (League, Emirates FA Cup or Isuzu FA Trophy) during the course of the month to be eligible for the award. Goal difference is considered for League matches only.

ABOUT THE PST SPORT CLUB OF THE MONTH AWARDS

In each division, the club with the best average points per game is declared the winner. Clubs must have played a minimum of three games during the month in either a league, League Cup, FA Cup or FA Trophy match to be considered. Should more than one club have the same best average points per game, then the winner shall be declared as the club with the best goal difference (in League matches) and if that is equal the club scoring the most goals.

PST Sport are the sponsors of the Southern Football League's club of the month awards for the four divisions. Each winner receives an engraved glass memento along with a voucher for use with the company. PST Sport design and build state-of-the-art artificial grass pitches, from full-size pitches to training areas, that stand up to the challenges of all sporting codes.

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FIXTURES | THE WEEK AHEAD

Pitching In Southern League Premier South

TUESDAY 11 MAR 25

Chertsey Town v AFC Totton
Frome Town v Hanwell Town

SATURDAY 15 MAR 25

AFC Totton v Bracknell Town
Chertsey Town v Dorchester Town
Frome Town v Havant & Waterlooville
Gloucester City v Hanwell Town
Gosport Borough v Merthyr Town
Marlow v Taunton Town
Plymouth Parkway v Hungerford Town
Sholing v Basingstoke Town
Swindon Supermarine v Wimborne Town
Walton & Hersham v Poole Town
Winchester City v Tiverton Town

Pitching In Southern League Premier Central

TUESDAY 11 MAR 25

Alvechurch v Bromsgrove Sporting
Stourbridge v Banbury United

SATURDAY 15 MAR 25

AFC Telford United v AFC Sudbury
Banbury United v Royston Town
Biggleswade Town v Spalding United
Harborough Town v Stratford Town
Hitchin Town v Halesowen Town
Leiston v Barwell
Lowestoft Town v Kettering Town
Redditch United v Bedford Town
St Ives Town v Bromsgrove Sporting
Stamford v Alvechurch
Stourbridge v Bishop's Stortford

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

TUESDAY 11 MAR 25

Evesham United v Bideford AFC
Helston Athletic v Cinderford Town

WEDNESDAY 12 MAR 25

Tavistock AFC v Melksham Town

SATURDAY 15 MAR 25

Bashley v Helston Athletic
Cribbs v Malvern Town
Didcot Town v Mousehole
Exmouth Town v Bristol Manor Farm
Falmouth Town AFC v Evesham United
Larkhall Athletic v Bideford AFC
Shaftesbury v Westbury United
Tavistock AFC v Cinderford Town
Thatcham Town v Bemerton Heath Harlequins
Willand Rovers v Bishops Cleeve
Yate Town v Melksham Town

Pitching In Southern League Division One Central

TUESDAY 11 MAR 25

AFC Dunstable v Hadley
Leighton Town v Kidlington
North Leigh v Real Bedford
Northwood v Hertford Town

SATURDAY 15 MAR 25

AFC Dunstable v Hertford Town
Biggleswade FC v Berkhamsted
Enfield v Leverstock Green
Flackwell Heath v Hadley
Kidlington v Ware
Kings Langley v Leighton Town
Real Bedford v Northwood
Thame United v Beaconsfield Town
Welwyn Garden City v Stotfold

Fixtures are subject to change. Compiled in association with Atos

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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