

**ALRESFORD TOWN FC OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME** 

# ALRESFORD TOWN V AFC ALDERMASTON





#### WESSEX FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

SATURDAY 3RD AUGUST 2024 3.00PM KICK OFF



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#### MANAGERS MESSAGE

So here we are.... Back at Arlebury Park after a good break following last season's amazing efforts.

Today we come up against AFC Aldermaston in what will no doubt be a great game of football.

The first five to seven games of the season are always a bit strange, teams are unpredictable with players being on holiday or attending weddings, and the obvious one is picking up injuries in pre-season. Some teams have lots of new signings as well so will only just be starting to gel. With this in mind I can't really give a view on Aldermaston, all we can do is think about how we set up and how we go about playing the game. We've worked on shape with and without the ball in pre-season with us wanting to play a more attacking style of football this year so hopefully we can take our practise and put it into play.

As I've mentioned above, our efforts last year were amazing, what put us in that position was how well we started last season, so we will be trying to replicate that as best we can.

Nathan and I would also like to say a huge thank you to our Chairman Craig, Commercial Director Lauren and all our volunteers for their help and support behind the scenes – on & off the pitch - making sure the management and team are as well set up as we can be.

Dos & Morgs

UP THE MAGPIES

#### AFC ALDERMASTON

Our club was founded as AWRE Football Club in 1952 by Charles Green, Ted Hall, Gordon Carter, and Don Sharp, and were nicknamed "The Atom Men" after the newly founded Atomic Weapons Research Establishment. As the AWRE complex was still under construction when the club was established, the players used empty contractors' huts as changing rooms – carrying the tin bath into whichever building was designated for that day's football. The players were also responsible for the pitch, and would mow and mark out the pitch before the match started. The club received support from Sir William Penney during his work at AWRE on the Operation Hurricane project.

In the late 1960s/early 1970s, we changed our name, to AFC Aldermaston. In 1979 we were promoted from the Reading & District League into Division One of the Hellenic League, where we spent the next seven seasons. From 1986 until 1991 we played in local football leagues, including the North Hampshire League, before joining Division Three of the Hampshire League in 1991. We finished fifth in the first season, earning promotion to Division Two. However, we were soon relegated back to Division Three the following season, where we remained until 1999.

When the Hampshire League was re-organised prior to the 1999–2000 season, we were placed in the Premier Division.

When the Hampshire and Wessex Leagues merged in 2004, we became members of Division Two of the Wessex League. At the end of the 2004–05 season we suffered relegation. The division was renamed Division Two in 2006, and was disbanded at the end of the 2006–07 season, and as a result we moved up back up to Division One. 2009–10 season, was our worst season and during a very difficult time we lost 40 consecutive games, which broke the previous record of 39 straight losses held jointly by Stockport United and Poole Town. The 40th defeat came on 8 April 2010, a 2–0 loss to Downton. This was undoubtedly the worst time for the club in living memory, and it took a great effort to keep going at this time. The losing streak thankfully came to an end on 10 April 2010, when we club drew 1–1 against Warminster Town, and then finally winning the next match against Petersfield Town 2–1 win for Aldermaston, to provide a much needed boost for all of us at that difficult time.

Unsurprisingly, we finished bottom of Division One with just the one win in 40 matches, and were relegated to the Hampshire Premier League, where played for four seasons before moving to the Thames Valley Premier League for season 2014-15, when we reached the final of the Berks & Bucks Intermediate Cup, which we narrowly lost 2-1 to Hale Leys Utd, the final of the Reading Senior Cup played at the Madjeski which we lost 1-0 to champions Marlow Utd, and the final of the

Basingstoke Senior Cup where we lost to our local rivals Tadley Calleva 2-1 AET. 2015-16 season we finished seventh in the TVPL Premier Division, and again reaching the final of the Reading Senior Cup only to be beaten in a fourth final 1-0 to Cookham Dean. We made a welcome return to Step 6 football as we were promoted to Division One East of the Hellenic League. 2016-17 saw us finish 7th in the Hellenic League this matched our highest ever finish at Step 6 football. 2017-18 season saw us finish 11th in the Hellenic League. 2018-19 season saw us finish 3rd in the Hellenic League this beat 2016-17 seasons highest ever finish. This was well deserved by everyone connected to the club. Also getting to the Reading Challenge Cup Final at the Madjeski Stadium which saw us lose 5-0 to Hellenic Premier League Winners Wantage Town and collecting the runners up medals. In the 2018-19 season we finished 3rd in the Hellenic Division One East, the 2019-20 and 2020-21 season were started and halted due to the pandemic. The start of the 2021-22 season saw another lateral move from the Hellenic League into the Combined Counties league. Our first season in the Combined Counties saw us finish 14th and the 2022-23 season this was a disappointing season in our league campaign where we finished 19th, one of the highlights was making it to the Division One League Cup Final which was held at Windsor Fc's ground. In the final we were narrowly beaten 3-1 to Penn & Tylers Green. The start of the 2023-24 season has seen another lateral movement from the Combined Counties rejoining the Wessex League, we look forward to visiting some familiar grounds and meeting all the clubs again. The close season has seen a change in management welcoming Marcus Richardson and his backroom team to the club and we are looking forward to the season ahead.



## CLUB I-KNOURS & OFFICIALS RECORDS

**Chairman**Craig Scriven

Secretary Lauren Young

Commercial Director Lauren Young

Committee Lead Karly Cleeve

Managers Nathan Morgan & Connor Doswell

Assistant Manager
Jamie Nash

**Coach** Ryan Lambert

**GK Coaches** Mike Weatherall & Dan Kempson

Match day Assistant Darren Heskins Wessex League Cup Winners: 2012/13 & 2013/14

> North Hants League Champions: 1999/00

Hampshire Senior Cup Winners: 2012/13

North Hants Senior Cup Winners: 1991/92, 2011/12, 2012/13 & 2013/14, 2021/2022

> Aldershot Senior Cup Winners: 2013/14

Southampton Senior Cup Winners: 2018/19

Best FA Cup Performance Second Qualifying Round: 2016/17

> Best FA Vase Performance Fourth Round: 2013/14

Record Attendance 202 vs Basingstoke Town Sep 2023 Servio Men's Senior Cup & 211 vs Salisbury March 2016

#### **NEXT FIXTURES**

Verwood Town - Wessex League Division One Saturday 10th August 3.00pm Potterne Park

Lymington Town - Wessex League Division One Saturday 17th August 3.00pm Arlebury Park

Fawley AFC - Wessex League Division One Tuesday 20th August 7.45pm Arlebury Park

#### ALRESFORD TOWN CLUB HISTORY

Football in Alresford has been found back to the late nineteenth century, but the formation year of the present ALRESFORD TOWN FC side is shown as 1989. Starting in the now defunct North Hants League, Town moved immediately into the Hampshire League before withdrawing in 1996. They returned, again from the North Hants League, in 2000 and then came the 2004 move; they've remained members of the Wessex League since and have been a top tier side since 2007.

The original Alresford Town was established in 1898 and were members of the Winchester & District League. The modern club was established in 1989 and joined the North Hants League. After finishing as runners-up in their first season, they moved up to Division Two of the Hampshire League. The club were Division Two runners-up in 1990/91, securing a second successive promotion to Division One. However, after finishing second-from-bottom of Division One in 1994/95, they were relegated back to Division Two. At the end of the following season the club left to re-join the North Hants League.

Alresford were North Hants League champions in 1999/00 and returned to Division Two of the Hampshire League. After finishing second in Division Two in 2001/02 they were promoted to Division One. In 2004 the Hampshire League merged into the Wessex League, with the club becoming members of the new Division Two. The division was renamed Division One in 2006 and Alresford were runners-up in 2006/07, earning promotion to the Premier Division. After five seasons in the lower-mid table, the club were Premier Division runners-up in 2012/13, a season that saw them win the Hampshire Senior Cup (beating AFC Bournemouth in the final), the League Cup and the North Hants Senior Cup. They were Premier Division runners-up again the following season, also retaining the League Cup and the North Hants Senior Cup, as well as winning the Aldershot Senior Cup.

In 2018/19 Alresford won the Southampton Senior Cup, beating AFC Stoneham 3–0 in the final. The 2019/20 season was abandoned due to the coronavirus pandemic with Alresford top of the Premier Division.

In 2021/22 Alresford won the North Hants Senior Cup beating Basingstoke Town 1-0.

League Cup wins - 2013, 2014

Local County FA Senior and other cup competitions winners in the Wessex era.

Aldershot Senior Invitation Challenge Cup 2013/14 Hampshire Senior Cup 2012/13

North Hants Senior Cup 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2021/22 Southampton Senior Cup 2018/19 These are wins only whilst the club were members of the Wessex League.

**FA CUP** 

Furthest progress - 2016/17 2nd Qualifying - Cadbury Heath

Record victory 2009/10 Extra Preliminary Shaftesbury 8-0

**FA VASE** 

Furthest progress 2013/14 4th Round - Hallen

Record victory 2013/14 3rd Round - Saltash United 7-2

The FA Cup and FA Vase records are the best achieved whilst in Wessex League membership.

Where this has been on more than one occasion, only the last time it was achieved is shown here.

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The Wessex Football League Show is the official podcast of the Velocity Wessex Football League. We are on air live from Awaaz 99.8FM studios & simultaneously on Fiesta 95FM based in Southampton from 14:00 to 16:00 every Sunday and you can also listen live on **www.awaazfm.co.uk** from anywhere in the world.

Our aim is to promote all local football but specifically the 40 teams of the Wessex Football League. So far, we have had managers, chairpersons, players, press officers and secretaries joining us as studio guests, and via zoom and phone guests from many Wessex Football League clubs, as well as guests from local teams both higher up and lower down the pyramid.

This is your show and is a platform for your club to promote its events and raise its profile. If your club produces post-match interviews, please either email us a copy of the audio or give permission for us to play them on air straight from your website or social media sites, as we will aim to play them on the show.

Please come and join us one Sunday, we do have access to the two studios so it is easy to accommodate guests in the studio, for more information please email <code>gregdickson94@gmail.com</code> or <code>cliffpledge@hotmail.com</code>

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#### Other Fixtures

**East Cowes Victoria** 

VS

**Romsey Town** 

Fleetlands



Cove

Frimley Green





**Lymington Town** 

**Hamworthy United** 



vs



**Folland Sports** 

**New Milton Town** 





**Amesbury Town** 

**Totton & Eling** 





**Ash United** 

**Whitchurch United** 



VS



Clanfield



### THE TEAMS

#### ALRESFORD TOWN

#### Jon Webb **Kieran Connell Glen Freeman** Michael Douglas **Aaron Dunne Cameron Ross Harry Davies** Sam Mould **Aaron Blaxall** Ollie Rushent John Cole **Toby Mitchell - Graham Ben White** Tom Baker James Barnes **Zachary Hine** Steven Hall Tom Henderson **Vladyslav Platonov Krysty Sullivan-Rose** Harry Higby Arshia Sheibatzadeh **Leon Course** Sanchez McLean Joe Rvan

#### **AFC ALDERMASTON**

Nathanial Knight (GK)
George Allen (GK)
Fadul Hussein
Liam Springer
Byron Anderson
Thai Morgan (Capt)
Ryan Alexander
Harry Peters
Jacob Wallace
Simeon Weekes
Jayden Wiggins
Vandyic Addai
Nyero Lule
Thierry Carrington
Toluwalase Bankole
Samir Baral
Rio Bartley
Romario Small
Malik Fofanah
Padraig Gorman
Rhys Iremonger
Josh Lambden
Alan Lucas
Nick Parfitt-Bowers

#### Airesford

Shirts - Black & White

Shorts - Black Socks - Black Keeper - Pink **AFC Aldermaston** 

Shirts - Blue/Black Shorts - Black Socks - Black

Keeper - Grey shirt & black shorts

Referee: Callum Allen

Assistant Referee 1: Matthew Sinclair Assistant Referee 2: Garry Collins