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ALFRETON TOWN

Vanarama National League North

Tuesday 17th November 2020

7.45pm KO



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Danny Waldron











ISSUE 2



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GAFFER'S COLUMN

PAUL HOLLERAN

We kick off this evening against Alfreton Town still seeking our first win in this strangest of seasons. Our visitors are in a better position, albeit having played nearly double the number of league games. I am sure that like myself, Billy Heath will have taken both positives and negatives from his side's opening matches, but he will not want to come out

on the end of a poor result today, so once again we will be in for another stern test of our National League North credentials.

I feel that our performances have been steadily improving – the stop-start nature of our season has not helped but the team cohesion is coming together. This is important as many players are having to slot into different positions at short notice, which shows how adaptable the squad is. Recently we have used training to work on this along with working on cutting out the errors that have cost us goals recently.

While both the players and the staff are missing the backing

of the supporters I must thank you for supporting the club by sticking with us via the live streaming of our games. The Media Team has been and will continue to work hard to make the service they are providing the best it can be, so please bear that in mind if you experience issues with the stream.

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CHAIRMAN

JIM SCOTT



within tight money constraints and a manager who, whilst asking for more at times, also agrees with and implements financial stewardship.

The importance of all these matters pales into significance in comparison to the terrible loss of our Club President and former Chairman Mick Brady who sadly and unexpectedly passed away recently. Quite simply Mick was 'Mr Leamington' and without his drive, determination and foresight it is unlikely

The usual phrase of 'we welcome you all' of course does not fit with the current Covid-19 crisis although we clearly do welcome the players, team management and very small body of staff and officials from Alfreton Town. I was going to say I hope you enjoy your brief stay with us but I have yet to find anyone who is enjoying the spectacle of games behind closed doors. It truly is a soulless experience. We do of course wish you a safe journey back home.

Although the financial help offered has finally been sorted out there are many clubs who are still struggling to make ends meet – thank goodness we have a history of working

that there would even be a Leamington Football Club. Mick was a true gent who always had time for everyone and could never walk down the centre of the town without stopping to speak with many. I was speaking with his son Shaun recently who stated that when he was a lad he used to think 'Come on Dad' when Mick used to stop to speak to yet another passer-by and added what I would give for that to be the case now. Mick's wife Jenny, Yvonne plus Shaun and his family have suffered a terrible loss in Mick's passing but can take a little comfort that Mick's was a life that made an imprint on so many others and he will

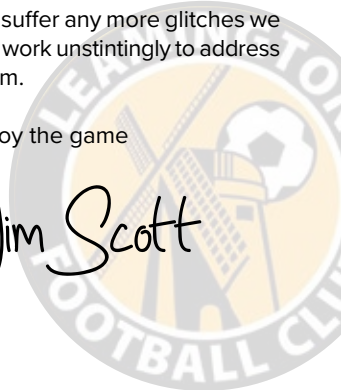
not be forgotten. Many fans joined together with a socially distanced show of respect as his hearse drove past the original site of the Brakes on the way to his funeral.

Unfortunately the club were saddened to also learn recently of the passing of Mitch Pearson. Mitch was a club Vice-President and long term member of the 'Scrubbers Club', a band of dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly at the stadium during the week performing routine maintenance tasks. He will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him at Leamington FC and our heartfelt sympathies go out to his family and friends at this difficult time.

We believe we have sorted most of the streaming gremlins and indeed received praise from someone in the US last time on the quality of coverage. We have an excellent camera crew, commentators and production team pitch side who take great pride in their efforts and even if we suffer any more glitches we will work unstintingly to address them.

Enjoy the game

Jim Scott



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CAPTAIN'S CORNER

JACK EDWARDS

It has been frustrating having missed the last home game to serve a suspension carried over from last season, but all being well I will be available for selection this evening having played in the last couple of away games.

Now we face new challenges – not only the usual football ones, but making sure we are aware of any Covid contagion issues – these can appear at very late points and anyone who is at home at the moment having been 'pinged' by the NHS app will know the worry involved. As a team we will try to give you a lift to your spirits this evening.

Jack



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The legal status of Leamington, Football Club Limited identified by Company Number 01756713, takes the form of a Private Limited Company (Incorporated 28th September 1983) and limited by shares. As of 2 March 2020, there were 432 shareholders holding 100% of the shares. Individual shareholdings representing a significant interest in the company (10% or more): Russell William Davis, Nicholas Jonathan Sproul, Nigel John & Deborah Susan Hodgkins

THE LAST COMPETITIVE GAME



1 1

Written by Paul Edwards

Vanarama National League North

Aggborough Stadium

Saturday 7th November 2020

Brakes picked up their second point of the week from a full blooded scrap with old foes Kidderminster Harriers at Aggborough.

There were two changes to the eleven that started at Farsley Celtic, Jack Edwards and Sam Osborne stepping in for Connor Taylor and Josh Martin, with Junior English returning to the right back slot.

A minute's silence was observed for those who served our country in the two World Wars before Brakes made the perfect start to the afternoon with just four minutes played. Jack Edwards found himself bearing down on goal, doing well to keep his footing under heavy pressure. His shot was blocked but there was Kaiman Anderson to follow up and thump a shot into the net off the underside of the bar, on the ground where he scored a late equaliser on his Leamington debut on the opening day of last season.

Anderson was all over the pitch in the opening minutes, his infectious appetite helping to drive Leamington forward. He was temporarily grounded after a superb block in front of the dugouts that hit him in a rather tender area, but was soon back on his feet, a neat exchange of passes with Joe Clarke saw a pass played through for Lance Smith which was scrambled out for a throw in by Kidderminster.

Smith then did well to rob a hesitant defender on the edge of the box, Anderson pouncing on the ball to send in a first time strike that took a deflection on its way through to Luke Simpson.

Harriers also took advantage of their first serious effort on goal by levelling things up on 14 minutes. Steph Morley was unfortunate not to cut out a good pass

from Ashley Hemmings out to Sam Austin on the right, and his inviting cross to the far post was met by Koby Arthur, who thumped a header past the dive of Jake Weaver.

Smith set up Osborne to curl a first time drive wide of the far post, but Harriers were clearly buoyed by the leveller and enjoyed a spell in the ascendancy as half time approached. An unnecessary free kick given away in a dangerous position just outside the Leamington penalty area was curled towards goal by Ashley Hemmings, but just the wrong side of the post.

Edwards picked up a booking just before half time for cheekily kicking the ball away as the home side attempted to break with a quick free kick on the edge of their penalty area, but an entertaining first 45 minutes ended with honours even.

There was a chance for Leamington straight from the restart as Osborne and Junior English combined well down the right, the livewire midfielder crashing a shot into the side netting from a very tight angle. Simpson was then forced to shovel the ball away from his goal line as Simeon Maye hit the touchline and drove it towards goal. Harriers cleared but not very far, and Leamington broke again with Anderson and Smith, Simpson making a good save to deny the former.

Osborne was causing plenty of problems for the Harriers defence when he got on the ball, and won a free kick which was well struck but at a good height for Simpson to save comfortably.

Weaver was forced into his first real save of the afternoon as he dived full length to keep out a piledriver from Alex Prosser, while Smith found himself in the Referee's notebook much to the disbelief of the



away bench as he made no contact with a defender as he attempted to block a clearance.

There was a 'how have we missed that?' moment as Edwards won a free kick on the right which was taken by Osborne, English launching himself at the ball and missing it by inches at the near post. The ball continued to loop towards goal however until a last ditch clearance off the line by Lewis Montrose.

Lane was then saved by Morley from an embarrassing own goal at the other end as nobody tracked Arthur's run on the left and he was left alone to drive low into the centre, Lane's desperate lunge to clear the ball being hacked off the line by Morley.

Harriers' second half substitute Jim Kellermann came close as he glanced Alex Penny's right wing centre just past the far

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post. This would not be his last impact on the game, as little over ten minutes later he was shown a straight red card for kicking out at Clarke after a challenge midway through the Leamington half.

Brakes attempted to capitalise immediately, substitute Danny Waldron seeing a shot blocked while grounded, Maye's follow up also being blocked.

Despite the numerical disadvantage it was Harriers who bossed the closing stages, making Leamington work very hard to hold onto their point from an entertaining contest.

REACTION FROM THE MANAGER

'I thought it was a really good game. We started brightly, had a couple of chances, converted one. Kiddy then got a hold of the game, in the second part of the first half, and we had to try and drop off a bit and stay compact. Second half we came out and started really well, and on chances you'd probably say their keeper was man of the match - he's pulled off two or three great saves, but then you look at the game as a spectacle and you couldn't really argue that a point was a fair result.

'I would probably say our last three performances, at Chester, Farsley and here; when I look at the whole picture, have been as strong as they've been for a long time for us. We could have won all three, but we've ended up with two points. So I'm looking at the performances, and I'm looking at one or two of the new players, the young lads we've bought in, and we're settling; and whereas in years gone by we've gone to Chester and Kiddy and had to sit really deep and try and counter attack, in both of these games now we're actually coming out and having a bit more of a go.

'It's been difficult with the late start and the covid and then we had a stop and a start again, it's difficult for continuity. There'll be a lot of draws and close games in this league,



that's the way it is, but the performances are sort of keeping me upbeat at the moment, and I'm pretty sure that if we keep those levels up we can turn a few of these draws into wins.

'I'm probably more pleased at this stage than I was this time last year when we had 5, 6, 7 points. I look at the group and it's good, but there's a concern with all the Tuesday night games coming up, that's something where I possibly think the likes of Kiddy, Chester, Fylde, York, they are more able to cope with it a little bit better, but we'll see. We'll have to trust the squad with that.

'I'm pleased with the way we bounced back after the Boston defeat. We looked way out of our depth against Boston but we've come back with three strong performances against three good football clubs.'

Attendance: N/A - Behind closed doors.
Referee: Mr Ben Wyatt

Assistant Referees: Mr Niall Smith & Mr Jamie Conde

Brakes Man of Match: Kaiman Anderson.

KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS

Kidderminster Harriers: 1 Luke Simpson, 2 Alex Penny, 3 Caleb Richards, 5 Keith Lowe, 6 Lewis Montrose, 7 Sam Austin, 9 Amari Morgan-Smith, 10 Ashley Hemmings (4 Luke Maxwell, 81), 14 Max Taylor (20 Cliff Moyo 61), 16 Alex Prosser, 18 Koby Arthur (8 Jim Kellermann, 66).

Subs not used: 13 Tom Palmer, 17 Ethan Freemantle.

LEAMINGTON

Leamington: Jake Weaver, Junior English, Stephan Morley, Joe Clarke, Kyle Morrison, Jack Lane, Sam Osborne, Simeon Maye, Lance Smith (14 Danny Waldron, 67), Jack Edwards, Kaiman Anderson (16 Dan Meredith, 85).

Subs not used: 12 Josh Martin, 15 Callum Gittings, 17 Connor Taylor.



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MEET THE VISITORS

HISTORY OF ALFRETON

The present Alfreton Town Football Club celebrated the milestone of their Golden Jubilee at the end of the 2008/2009 campaign having been formed in 1959 following the merger of Alfreton Miners Welfare and Alfreton United football clubs. The newly constituted club, playing on a new ground at North Street provided by the local council, was admitted directly to the Central Alliance Division One (North) and progressed sufficiently in the first two seasons to gain entry to the re-formed Midland Counties League. The record attendance at North Street of 5,023 was recorded for the visit of Matlock Town in 1960. After holding the wooden spoon in 1961/62 Alfreton seldom looked back and took the Midland League title in 1969/70 after several near misses.

After success, failure followed and the club was relegated from the Northern Premier League after two successful years, into the Northern

Counties League. The club was acquired in 1997 by local businessman, Wayne Bradley, who took up the role of Chairman. The 2001/02 campaign saw Chris Wilder, appointed Manager and unprecedented, success followed as the Reds landed four trophies - the Northern Counties (East) League Premier Division championship, League Cup, President's Cup and Derbyshire Senior Cup. Promotion back to the Northern Premier League was followed by entering into the Conference (North). The club today operates a Football in the Community coaching scheme in partnership with The National League Trust with around 1600 children receiving fully qualified tuition each year from the full time coaching staff, in addition to hosting numerous 'community' groups. For the 2007/08 season, former Chesterfield and Bradford City boss Nicky Law took over as Reds manager in June. Once again a major squad rebuilding exercise was undertaken and there

were plenty of comings and goings throughout the season with a number of players finding the leap from lower levels too much.

The 2008/09 campaign was one of the most successful in the club's entire history despite no silverware being won. Under manager Nicky Law, the Reds finished in their highest ever position of third in Conference North and competed in the play-offs for the first time ever, narrowly losing out in the semi-finals on a 5-4 aggregate against AFC Telford United who lost out in the final. The side were also guided to the FA Cup second round proper for the first time ever in the club's history, a 4-0 defeat at high-flying League One side Scunthorpe United doing little to diminish from the achievement of reaching that stage in the first place.

The 2009/10 season saw the club again finish third in the final table. That they finished that high after suffering a horrendous crop of injuries mid-way through

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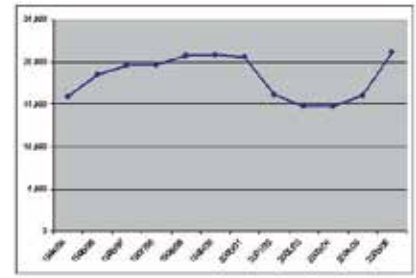


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MEET THE VISITORS

HISTORY OF ALFRETON

the campaign bears testament to the character and spirit within the squad. They recovered to piece together a tremendous run of form which lifted them into the play-offs for the second successive season. This time the Reds went one better, reaching the final, only to narrowly lose out 2-1 in the final at Fleetwood Town. The 2010/11 campaign saw a third promotion tilt prove ultimately successful as Law fourth season in charge at the Impact Arena ended with the side winning the Blue Square Bet North title by a ten-point margin. It is almost

certainly the biggest achievement in the history of the club which saw them competing at the highest level of football ever in their history. The 2014/15 season saw the club relegated, for the first time under Chairman, Wayne Bradley, who had took over the helm in the 1997/98 season. The Club dropped back into the National League North. A position they still hold today. The 2018/19 Season saw the appointment of Billy Heath as First Team Manager. The 2019/20 Season saw the appointment of the Alfreton Towns' Academy side into the National

League Under 19 Alliance League. Last season was curtailed by Covid and being outside the play-off places in March, football stopped with a safe mid-table points-per-game position.

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MEET THE VISITORS

ALFRETON TOWN

MANAGER - BILLY HEATH

Date of Birth 1971

Billy Heath Joined Alfreton Town in May 2018, having previously managed Bridlington Town 2000-2006, Frickley 2006-2011, North Ferriby 2011-2016. In this time he won FA Trophy Halifax Town 2016-2018.

ASSISTANT MANAGER - MARK CARROLL

Date of Birth 1970

Mark Carroll started his playing career at Hull City where he became friends with Billy Heath. He joined as Assistant Manager at Bridlington, then Frickley, North Ferriby and Halifax, moving onto

Alfreton when Billy became manager in May.

ADAM SOLLITT – GOAKEPER COACH

Adam enjoyed a professional career as a goalkeeper from 1995 to 2012. Starting at Barnsley Adam played for Gainsborough Trinity, Kettering Town, Northampton Town Scarborough Athletic, Morcambe and Matlock Town. In 2019 he joined Billy's back room staff as goalkeeper coach from local neighbours Matlock Town.

MARC GEE - Physio

Marc joined Alfreton Town as 1st team physio in the summer and is responsible for keeping players fit whilst rehabilitating from any injuries that may occur. During his time at university he worked with a number of sports teams in the Hull area before working at Lincoln City in both the academy and first team setups

ADEDAPO ADELEKAN

At seventeen Adedapo signed for Dagenham and Redbridge. He moved to Birmingham to attend university and joined Rushall Olympic. On then moving to Nottingham he signed for Grantham Town and joined Alfreton Town in the summer of 2020.

ALEX BABOS

Alex Babos joins Alfreton Town after his release from Derby County in the summer. He is a former Welsh U21 international and while with Derby County had a loan spell with Spanish club Real Union.

DAN BRADLEY

Dan re-joined the Club having had previous spells here in seasons 2012-13 and 2014-15. He left the Club in 2015 to join AFC Fylde from whom he subsequently joined Kidderminster Harriers. He re-signed for Fylde in January 2019 and signed for Alfreton Town in the summer

CONNOR BRANSTON

Conor started his career as a 1st year scholar with Barnsley in 2009 earning a 1 year contract in 2010. In 2011 he joined the Nike Football Academy. In 2012/13 he moved to the USA to play for the Golden Eagles of Charlestown. Connor returned to England in the summer of 2018 signing for Bradford Park Avenue and going on to score 12 times that season. On June 19th 2019 Connor signed for Altrincham from whom Alfreton Town signed him for an undisclosed fee.

JOSH CLACKSTONE

Date of Birth 1996

Josh Clackstone began his career with Hull City; in 2017 he joined Notts County on loan and Halifax Town in November 2017 where he played for Billy Heath. In July 2018 Hull released him and he was immediately signed for Alfreton Town.

DANNY CLARKE - MIDFIELD

Date of Birth 1985

Danny Clarke can play either midfield or attack. His previous clubs include Frickley Athletic, Winterton Rangers, Hall Road Rangers, North Ferriby spent 5 years here in which time he captained the side and Halifax Town from where he joined Alfreton Town.

JAKE DAY - FORWARD

Jake is a striker who scored 85 goals in 107 games for Bridlington Town. He left Bridlington Town to join Tadcaster, from whom he joined Alfreton Town in the summer of 2020.

NATHAN FOX

Nathan started his career at Notts County, signing a scholarship contract in 2009. He made his football league debut in December 2009 versus Darlington. He then joined Corby Town in July 2012. On 1 June 2019 Nathan signed for eventual National League North champions, Kings Lynn Town.

HARVEY GRICE - FORWARD

A former Nottingham Forest academy player who joined the Alfreton Academy in July 2017. A strong, powerful, quick and talented forward with an eye for a goal who can play wide, as an out and out striker or as an attacking midfielder.

KIERON HINCHLEY - MIDFIELD

A former Chesterfield Town winger, Kieron joined the Alfreton academy in 2017 and quickly became an ever-present across all competitions the academy entered. A talented left sided player who is equally comfortable at left back or as a winger, has great delivery and pace to burn.

MEET THE VISITORS

ALFRETON TOWN

BOBBY JOHNSON

Date of Birth 1994

Bobby Johnson placed for Goole AFC, Retford Utd, Frickley Athletic with performances that earned him a move to North Ferriby in the National League.

JAMES JONES - DEFENDER

James Jones is a highly promising central defender who started his career at Chester after his contract ended he chose to join Salford City on a 2 year deal. During his time with Salford City he has had loan spells with Boston Utd and Chester City.

ADAM LUND

Adam was a member of Barnsley's under 18 side, joining Goole FC at the start of season 2018-2019. He then joined Pickering Town in October 2018. Season 2019-2020 he played at Staveley Miners Welfare from whom he joined Alfreton Town in the summer of 2020.

RIO MOLYMEAUX - MIDFIELD

Rio is a right midfielder and can operate as a centre forward if necessary. He joins Alfreton Town following his release from Mansfield Town.

ELLIOT REEVES - FORWARD

Elliot Reeves joined Alfreton Town after a season with Margate, for whom he scored 13 times before the 2019-2020 season ended. Previously he had played locally at Ilkeston Town scoring 36 times and picking up a number of player of the season awards.

DOMINIC SMITH

Started with Shrewsbury Youth at the age of 7 signing his 1st pro contract in February 2014 making his 1st team debut in Oct 2015 vs Colchester. He had loan spells with Barrow and Southport joining AFC Telford in season 2018-19 also having a loan spell with Alfreton Town in that season. He joined Alfreton Town in the summer.

JOE STACEY

Joe Stacey played at Sheffield FC before moving to America to play under a scholarship at Bluefield College Virginia. He also played for USL2 side Red Wolves in Tennessee before returning to England.

SHAUN TUTON

Shaun Tuton has played for a number of National League clubs including Barrow and FC Halifax Town. He also spent 2 years with Barnsley. He joined Alfreton Town last season and resigned for this campaign.

TEDDY UNWIN-MARRIS – GOAL KEEPER

Teddy was part of Chesterfield's development centre before signing for Chesterfield Academy. At the start of season 2019/20 he signed for Selby Town and joins Alfreton Town on a dual registration.

NICHOLAS WALKER

Nicky Walker started his career at Rotherham in 2011. He was released in January 2015 joining Boston Utd in February 2018 he signed for Gainsborough Trinity before re-joining Boston Utd.

MICHAEL WILLIAMS

Michael started his career under Kevin Wilson in the Ilkeston FC Academy as a sixteen year-old. On leaving Ilkeston he joined Matlock Town where he enjoyed a successful period before joining, firstly Sheffield FC and then Gainsborough Trinity.

DWAYNE WILEY - DEFENDER

Dwayne Wiley is a central defender who joined Alfreton Town in the summer after four years with local neighbours Matlock Town who he joined after leaving Micklegate Sports

GEORGE WILLIS – GOAL KEEPER

George Willis progressed through the youth system at Sheffield Utd. He joined Boston Utd in May 2017 after opting to turn down an offer from Gainsborough Trinity. He penned new contracts with Boston Utd in 2018 and 2019 and was named player of the year.

AWAY STATS

ALFRETON TOWN

HOME STATS

Ranked	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
7	4	1	2	1	5	5	0	5

AWAY STATS

Ranked	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
12	3	1	1	1	2	3	-1	4



SEQUENCES

	Home matches/ Current	Home matches/ Season	Away matches/ Current	Away matches/ Season	All matches/ Current	All matches/ Season
Consecutive wins	1	1		1	1	1
Consecutive draws		2		1		2
Consecutive defeats		1	1	1		2
Games without a win		3	1	1		3
Games without a draw	2	2	2	2	3	3
Games without a defeat	1	2		3	1	5
Consecutive scoring	1	2		3	1	5
Consecutive conceding	4	4	1	2	4	4
Games without scoring		1	1	1		2
Games without conceding				1		1



LAST MEETING

Despite slipping to a fifth consecutive defeat in all competitions Leamington put in a committed, wholehearted battling display at the Impact Arena to restrict a frustrated Alfreton Town to just a single goal victory as they played for 85 minutes with ten men before the game changing eighth minute dismissal of goalkeeper Jake Weaver.

The on loan Birmingham City man has been Brakes' only ever present this season but sadly that record will now come to an end as he will serve a one game suspension, giving Paul Holleran a selection headache for his number one slot with Ben Newey apparently injured.

With Junior English missing through suspension and Dexter Walters injured, Holleran handed full debuts to Josh Martin and Jack Storer, while Joe Parker returned to midfield having been cup tied for the previous two games.

The game got off to the worst possible start for Leamington as they lost Weaver to a red card inside the first ten minutes. The hosts had spent practically all of the opening exchanges camped inside the visitors' half, and Amari Morgan-Smith turned and charged into space in the centre circle, playing Danny Elliott through on goal. Weaver charged to the edge of his box and made the challenge, but although there were at least three Brakes defenders between him and the empty goal, after a couple of minutes deliberating Referee Thomas Kirk brandished the red card to leave

the goalkeeper with his head in his hands.

Callum Gittings was the man handed the task of filling the void, and his first contribution was to hold a low drive from Conor Branson at the second attempt. Leamington broke quickly and registered their first attempt at goal, Steph Morley standing the ball up to the far side for Storer to drive in a powerful low effort that flashed past the far post.

The next effort at goal was spilled by the stand in keeper, but as the minutes ticked by his handling and confidence improved as he saved a shot from Josh Wilde. He then watched a free kick from Bobby Johnson all the way to goal, pushing the ball to safety over his crossbar.

A rare attack for Leamington with some decent build up play ended with Parker curling a shot over the bar. Despite being a man light Brakes were manoeuvring their way forward when able to, but it was inevitably at the other end of the pitch where most of the work would be done if they were to gain anything from the contest, and they continued to keep their shape and discipline well, frustrating the home side for long periods.

Gittings came confidently off his line to claim a high ball into his penalty area within seconds of the restart, but he needed to keep his wits about him as Alfreton applied concerted pressure which resulted in the only goal of the evening eventually arriving on 64 minutes. It was a little out of context

with the home sides' approach play as a whole; a neat exchange of passes between Branson and Johnson saw the former latch on to a neat flick and rifle the ball low past a helpless Gittings into the net.

The one way traffic continued for the remainder of the contest but Alfreton were simply unable to find the right pass to break down a determined and stubborn Leamington defence. Debutant West Bromwich Albion loanee Dan Meredith was involved with fellow substitute Kieran Dunbar late on as Leamington attempted to snatch a point, his low ball in from the right flashing across goal.

Another defeat it may have been,

The next effort at goal was spilled by the stand in keeper, but as the minutes ticked by his handling and confidence improved as he saved a shot from Josh Wilde. He then watched a free kick from Bobby Johnson all the way to goal, pushing the ball to safety over his crossbar.

but the players deserve the utmost credit for digging in under the circumstances.

PAUL HOLLERAN'S REACTION

'The biggest decision of the evening has gone against us early in the game. I think the pitch hasn't helped Jake, the ball's got stuck a bit, but he's got his timing wrong with the tackle, I wouldn't dispute that for one minute. I think we had a lot of covering defenders so it's harsh, but it's not the first time we've had it this season, it was the same with Stephan Morley (In the Guiseley home game). I think the officials all need to read that rule correctly, which is that it's got to be a clear and obvious goal scoring opportunity, and that sentence in itself sums up that it's got to be clear and obvious, and on both of those occasions it hasn't been. But that's where we are.

'I think on a Tuesday night at Alfreton it's always going to be a tough game. They are a big, strong experienced side, very powerful, and I thought we were excellent for long periods of the game. We couldn't have done much more with ten men I don't think. We had a couple of good chances in the first half but got a bit leggy in the second - you tend to sit in a bit and you're sort of hoping you can stay in the game, even at 1-0 - it was a good goal from their boy, but if you can keep it at that.. We had a couple of good chances late on with that right hand side with Kieran and Dan. Sometimes with ten men you play for that really, you just have to be disciplined and keep good shape and then try and get your moments.



'Obviously the results over recent weeks and the schedules have been difficult. I think the players have had to put up with a lot of things going against us, but we need to show a lot of character now We've got some home games coming up - tough games but home games, and we've got to turn the positivity of probably Concord and now Alfreton tonight into some points, and hopefully start climbing the league a little bit.

Attendance: 283

Referee: Mr Thomas Kirk

Assistant Referees: Mr Timothy Walker & Mr Pete Henger

Brakes Man of the Match: Callum Gittings.



1 0

Written by Paul Edwards

Vanarama National League North

The Impact Arena

Tuesday 18th February 2020



ALFRETON TOWN

Alfreton Town: Jordan Wright, Danny East, Josh Wilde © (16 Shaun Tuton, 65), Danny Clarke, Ryan Qualter, Dominic Smith, Conor Branson, Danny Elliott (12 Ben Tomlinson, 89), David Lynch (15 Dale Witham, 54), Amari Morgan-Smith, Bobby Johnson.

Subs not used: 13 Teddy Unwin-Marris, 14 Michael Freiter.

LEAMINGTON

Leamington: Jake Weaver, Josh Martin, Stephan Morley, Callum Maycock, James Mace, Jack Lane, Joe Parker (15 Kieran Dunbar, 85), Callum Gittings, Jack Storer (14 Dan Meredith, 68), Jack Edwards, Kaiman Anderson (12 Connor Taylor, 68).

Subs not used: 16 Kyle McFarlane, 17 Joe Clarke.

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ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA

OUT & ABOUT

BRITISH MOTOR MUSEUM

Rev up your engine and zoom down to the British Motor Museum. It's got the largest collection of historic British cars in the world (!) and all sorts of activities for motor-mad kids.

The British Motor Museum is five minutes from Junction 12 of the M40, on the B4100 near the village of Gaydon. It is signed locally with brown Motor Museum road signs. There's no room for itchy feet with activity sheets, interactive gaming screens and the chance to get behind the wheel of a classic car. While you travel through themed zones look out for the interactive tabletops where kids can play with toy cars, or the Sports Car section where you can dress up in replica 60's gear and take a pose.

With a free guided tour see more than one million objects on display, while kids can get



properly hands-on in the Under the Skin zone where the insides of a car are laid bare. Then polish it all off by taking to the sea on an outdoor galleon ship climbing frame.

- Interactive activities, including weekend events
- Tabletops games and a climbing frame
- Dress up!

Parking

There is ample of parking available on site for all visitors. Please follow the blue and white signs for Disabled Museum Parking which will take you to the designated parking area.

Car Parking on Special Show Days

On show days disabled parking is moved to ensure it is nearest to the show entrance, which is usually at the top of site. Should you require any assistance on event days please inform a car parker when you arrive on site and they can arrange for a shuttle down to the Museum.

Drop Off Point

There is a drop off point just outside the Museum entrance located on the left hand side of the road.



HISTORY

OF LEAMINGTON F.C

Leamington Football Club History - REVISED!

Extensive research of our clubs history by club historian Paul Vanes has led to the discovery that there is NO connection between our club and that of Leamington Town - they were two separate entities. The Windmill Ground where both clubs once played provided a link between the two, but that is where it ends. As a club we respect and appreciate the fact that Leamington Town were the pioneers of the game in our great town, but we cannot claim a history that is not ours, hence the decision to re-evaluate.

There is a common misconception that Lockheed/AP Leamington are not the same club as Leamington FC because of the 12 year gap in our playing record, which is emphatically NOT the case.

The origins of Leamington FC are ingrained in Tachbrook Road, with the enormous Lockheed car parts factory that employed so many of the townfolk and would become the driving force behind the football club until things unfortunately turned sour in the 1980's. It is here that our club was born, in 1933, as Lockheed, Borg & Beck.

The team first competed in the Warwick & District League in the 1933/34 season, moving into the Coventry Works League the following campaign, where they spent six seasons before a move to the Leamington & District League in 1940/41. It was back to the Coventry Works League two years later before a switch to the Coventry & North Warwickshire League, where they spent three seasons before being accepted into the short lived Central Amateur League in 1947. It was around this time that the Lockheed Company purchased the Windmill Ground from Coventry City, who had themselves brought the stadium in 1937 for use by their 'A' team after Leamington Town had folded. Also during this time the club name was adjusted to Lockheed - Leamington. After two seasons the club successfully applied to join the Birmingham Combination. It was whilst in this league, early in the 1949/50 season, after signing Les Latham as player/manager the club embraced semi-professional football.

At this time the nickname 'The Brakes' was adopted by virtue of the car products the company manufactured. It was also around this time that the original club colours evolved - Gold trimmed Royal Blue shirts, Royal Blue shorts, and Gold socks. It was not until the early 1970's - that our current colours originated. Apparently somebody at the club made an error when ordering new kit, and from then on we played predominantly in Gold and Black.

It was during their five seasons in this league that Brakes won the Birmingham Senior Challenge Cup for the first time with victory against Hereford United in 1950/51. In 1956/57, with the club now in the Birmingham and District League the Senior Cup was won for a second time with victory over Redditch United.

The 1960's proved to be ground-breaking for the club. They began by winning the Senior Cup, thrashing local rivals Rugby Town, and winning the Birmingham and District League before becoming the first to win the renamed West Midlands Regional League the following season. 1963/64 saw a move to the Midland Counties League, where the Championship was won in only their second season.

After eight seasons the club was on the move once more - this time into the Southern League, which at the time was arguably the strongest, most established league outside the professional game. The Birmingham Senior Challenge Cup was captured for a fourth time in 1969/70.

The club underwent a name change in 1973 as Lockheed became Automotive Products, and AP Leamington, entered another boom period in their history. The

Birmingham Senior Challenge Cup had been won for the fifth time in 1972, and the Southern League Cup and the Southern League Championship Cup followed in 1974, both over Premier Division opposition. Progression to the First Round of the FA Cup was achieved for the first time this year. Brakes went on to reach the competition proper five times in six seasons, reaching the second round twice.

1975/76 saw promotion to the Southern League Premier Division for the first time, and Brakes established themselves in a highly competitive league before becoming founder members of the Alliance Premier League (now the National League) in 1979.

Leamington spent three seasons in this new league before being relegated in 1982, but under young manager Graham Allner, the seeds had been sown for further success, and the following season saw them win the Southern League Championship and with it promotion back to the APL, or so they thought.

Promotion was refused by the APL on supposed ground grading issues, while with the club at its playing pinnacle, Automotive Products decided to sell the club's Windmill Ground on Tachbrook Road for housing, leading to the break-up of one of the most exciting teams in non-league football and the departure of manager Allner, but not before he had led his team to another Southern League Championship Cup, and into the FA Cup 1st Round.

Under new manager Jim Watson, Brakes won the Southern League Cup for a second time, making them the first club to hold all three of the League's trophies at once.

The fight to find a new stadium for the club dominated the next few years as the club tumbled down and out of the Southern League. Leamington FC Limited was formed on September 6th 1983 with the intention of purchasing the Windmill Ground. Our association with Automotive Products ended on July 1st 1985, and the name of the club reverted to Leamington FC. A simple club crest, the first in our history, was created as the club battled to stay alive, but by 1988, now in the Midland Combination and at its lowest ebb, the decision was made to place the club in motballs while the search for a new stadium site continued. A small but determined band of supporters continued to raise money and kept the club's registration with the FA each year.

In 1990 a field was purchased in Harbury Lane and the club was re-launched in 2000, playing at what was called the New Windmill Ground, Leamington FC did not look back. The first two seasons saw successive promotions: the Midland Combination Division Two title in the first year and as runners-up in Division One a year later.

Brakes finished third in the Midland Combination Premier in 2002-03, and were promoted as champions to the Midland Football Alliance in 2004-05 with a league record 109 points.

In 2005-06 Leamington reached the 1st Round Proper of the FA Cup, their first time in the competition since reforming, losing heroically at Colchester United. The cup run enabled the club to move forward its planned infrastructure development. The ground has more recently undergone further improvement ensuring it satisfied Football Conference guidelines.

Brakes completed a magnificent season in 2006-07, returning to the Southern League after 20 years by winning the Midland Football Alliance title and the League Cup, becoming the first club in the League's history to complete the double, also reaching the quarter-finals of the FA Vase.

2007-8 saw Leamington narrowly fail to be promoted again, slipping up to Stourbridge in the Southern Football League Midland Division promotion play-off final.

The 2008-09 campaign saw the team build upon their experience of the previous season by winning the title by 9 points and returning to the Southern League Premier Division after a gap of 24 years.

The club's first season in the Premier Division saw a managerial change with Paul Holleran leading the team to a comfortable 10th position. 2010-2011 saw a strong finish securing fifth place in a play-off semi-final defeat at Hednesford.

2011-2012 saw a top of the league position at Christmas. However, two months without a win in the New Year saw Brakes slip out of the play-offs, despite finishing with a twelve match unbeaten run. The start of 2012-13 saw a further 14 matches unbeaten and despite some fierce competition, Brakes won the Southern League Premier Division for the second time, 30 years after their previous triumph. The return back to the Football Conference, presented a brand new set of challenges for the club.

The inaugural season in the Conference North contained many highlights. Although the season started well it was tempered by several lengthy injuries, which ruled players out for the rest of the season. But the fans' relegation concerns were quieted by a fantastic festive period and a competent 13th place achieved by the end of the season.

The second season in a new league is often difficult, and Leamington found this to be very true. A 'reasonable' position halfway through the season was not sufficient, and the loss of players (especially goalkeepers) throughout the season meant relegation became a reality.

The 2015-16 season in the Southern League Premier Division saw a strong finish, resulting in a play-off place, and a win over Redditch United in the semi-final. However, the final was a game too far with a 2-1 loss away at Hungerford Town.

Key players were added to a mixture of youth and experience for 2016-17, and barring early exits from the national cup competitions, the team made a very good start, securing runners-up spot. Home advantage was key as Slough Town were defeated in the play-off semi-final, before an eventful final in front of a new record crowd of 2,102 saw Brakes finally taste play off glory with a 2-1 victory over Hitchin Town, a late equaliser and a red card for the visitors taking the game to extra time before a spectacular winner from Courtney Baker-Richardson, who went on to sign for Swansea City. The Birmingham Senior Challenge Cup was also added to the trophy cabinet for the first time in 45 years, a young Wolverhampton Wanderers side were beaten on penalties at their Molineux stadium after a 1-1 draw. Competing in the National League North once more in 2017/18, Brakes achieved safety by a single point, defying their tag as relegation favourites.

'Second season syndrome' did not materialise last time out as a storming start kept us away from the bottom three, and despite a wobble mid-season, the sparkling form of striker Colby Bishop returning from injury in October helped Leamington to a comfortable 13th place finish once more, and a second Birmingham Senior Challenge Cup win in three seasons. The young striker then sealed a move back to the Football League with Accrington Stanley. Paul Holleran, who celebrated 500 games and 10 years in charge at the club in 2019, replaced him with Josh March from Alvechurch, and the latest young striker surpassed all expectations - 24 goals in 27 games securing him a move to the professional ranks with Forest Green Rovers by the turn of the year. Despite this Brakes were always clear of relegation danger, finishing in 18th place by the Points per Game system after the 2019/20 season ended prematurely in March due to the outbreak of COVID 19. With the football landscape set to look markedly different due to the pandemic, Leamington will kick off a fourth consecutive season in the National League North with their aims unchanged - to compete and consolidate.

FIXTURE & RESULTS

MATRIX

	AFC	AFC	ALF	ALF	BLY	BOS	BRA	BRA	BRA	CHE	CHO	CUR	DAR	DAR	FAR	GAT	GLO	GLO	GUI	HER	KET	KET	KID	LEA	SOU	SPE	YOR
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AFC																											
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HER																											
KET																											
KID																											
LEA																											
SOU																											
SPE																											
YOR																											



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TABLE, RESULTS & FIXTURES

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Gloucester City	7	5	2	0	23	11	12	17
2	AFC Fylde	6	5	1	0	9	3	6	16
3	Spennymoor Town	6	3	2	1	9	6	3	11
4	Southport	8	3	2	3	8	7	1	11
5	AFC Telford United	8	3	2	3	11	11	0	11
6	Boston United	4	3	1	0	9	3	6	10
7	Kidderminster Harriers	5	3	1	1	9	4	5	10
8	Chester	5	3	0	2	9	8	1	9
9	Alfreton Town	7	2	3	2	7	8	-1	9
10	York City	4	2	2	0	7	4	3	8
11	Bradford (Park Avenue)	6	2	2	2	10	9	1	8
12	Curzon Ashton	8	2	2	4	8	14	-6	8
13	Hereford	4	2	1	1	4	2	2	7
14	Gateshead	6	2	1	3	5	6	-1	7
15	Brackley Town	5	1	3	1	6	7	-1	6
16	Farsley Celtic	8	1	3	4	7	12	-5	6
17	Blyth Spartans	8	1	2	5	6	20	-14	5
18	Guisley	3	1	1	1	5	2	3	4
19	Darlington	4	1	0	3	5	6	-1	3
20	Kettering Town	5	1	0	4	7	10	-3	3
21	Leamington	4	0	2	2	4	9	-5	2
22	Chorley	5	0	1	4	2	8	-6	1

SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

AFC Fylde
P-P
Boston United
Match postponed - Other

Alfreton Town
3-1
Farsley Celtic

Blyth Spartans
0-3
Hereford

Chester
P-P
Guisley
Match postponed - Other

Chorley
P-P
Leamington
Match postponed - Other

Darlington
1-2
AFC Telford United

Gateshead
2-2
Brackley Town

Gloucester City
4-4
Bradford (Park Avenue)

Kettering Town
1-2
Curzon Ashton

Kidderminster Harriers
P-P
York City
Match postponed - Other

Southport
0-2
Spennymoor Town

LEAGUE FIXTURES FOR 17TH NOVEMBER

AFC Telford United	v	Chorley
Boston United	v	Kettering Town
Brackley Town	v	Kidderminster Harriers
Bradford (Park Avenue)	v	Southport
Curzon Ashton	v	AFC Fylde
Farsley Celtic	v	Chester
Guisley	v	Darlington
Hereford	v	Gloucester City
Leamington	v	Alfreton Town
Spennymoor Town	v	Blyth Spartans
York City	v	Gateshead

NEXT HOME GAME



AFC FYLDE

Tuesday 24th November 2020

7.45pm KO



PLAYER

STATS

2020-21	Season					Career						
	Start	Sub	Unused	Total	Goals	Start	Sub	Total	Goals	Joined	Left	Returned
Josh Allen	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Kaiman Anderson	2	2	0	4	1	34	12	46	5			
Joe Clarke	4	0	0	4	0	110	14	124	1			
Jack Edwards	2	1	0	3	1	246	30	276	52			
Junior English	5	0	0	5	1	126	3	129	11			
Callum Gittings	1	1	2	2	0	134	33	167	8			
Chris Knott	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sep-20		
Jack Lane	5	0	0	5	0	72	7	79	2			
Josh Martin	2	0	3	2	0	2	0	2	0			
Simeon Maye	5	0	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	Aug-20		
Dan Meredith	1	2	2	3	1	1	4	5	1			
Stephan Morley	5	0	0	5	0	228	8	209	16			
Kyle Morrison	5	0	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	Jun-20		
Sam Osborne	4	1	0	5	0	4	1	5	0	Sep-20		
Joe Parker	2	0	0	2	0	9	1	10	1			
Lance Smith	2	2	1	4	0	2	2	4	0	Jul-20		
Connor Taylor	2	2	1	4	0	34	36	70	3			
Danny Waldron	3	2	0	5	0	3	2	5	0	Aug-20		
Jake Weaver	5	0	0	5	0	47	0	47	0			

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CHARLIE FOGARTY

Charlie Fogarty MBE an aspiring footballer and bright school pupil had the world at his feet when in March 2012, Charlie suffered a severe brain injury after being hit by an overtaking car whilst crossing the road. Following the accident Charlie was rushed to Birmingham Children's hospital, placed in an induced coma and spent 11 uncertain days in intensive care. He then was transferred on to a Neuro ward where he spent the next four months in the early stages of recovery. Charlie then went on to complete an intense six-month rehabilitation programme ran by The Children's Trust in Surrey where he learned to eat, walk and talk again. He finally returned home in February 2013, from there, he began his inspiring journey to recovery.

Shortly before the accident Charlie had finished a four-year contract at Birmingham City FC's Academy and was trialling for Milton Keynes Dons. Nothing was going to stop Charlie get back on that pitch where he belongs, he is now back playing football for his local Solihull Moors FC Community team and his beloved Northern Ireland CP team as well.

Playing for Northern Ireland has seen Charlie gain 5 International caps and play in two CP World Cups; one in England and one in Argentina.

Alongside his footballing achievements, Charlie also continued his education. Shortly after the accident Charlie's educational memory in some subjects had dropped to level one / two – the equivalent to a year one child at the age of seven. With one-to-one support Charlie has remarkably gone on to achieve a degree in Sports Science programme and graduated in late 2018.



Charlie's inspirational story and never give up attitude has been recognised by him being awarded an MBE for services to Young People in Solihull, West Midlands.

Charlie's dream is to tell his story to the masses, inspiring individuals from all walks of life. Charlie has inspired people throughout the UK and the world, delivering his renowned inspirational speeches. Charlie's speeches transcend age, professions, gender and background; encourage each and every individual that giving up never has to be an option, no matter what.

Charlie Fogarty has been a keynote and headline speaker at many influential events, corporate conferences & premier league clubs.



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PLAYER PROFILE

DAN MEREDITH (DEFENCE/MIDFIELD)

Dan returned to Leamington on a permanent basis in August 2020 having spent a brief loan spell with us at the end of the unfinished 2019/20 campaign. Paul Holleran moved quickly to get him back on board after he left West Bromwich Albion, where he had progressed through the ranks and featured regularly for their Under 23 side.

Having also represented Scotland at Youth level, Dan spent a spell on loan in the National League at Maidstone United in 2019. He has produced some impressive performances in our pre-season fixtures to suggest that he will be a key figure for Brakes this season.



ED BLACKABY INTERVIEW

STEVE MONTGOMERY



WHAT JUNIOR AND SENIOR TEAMS DID YOU PLAY FOR?

I was a goalkeeper at school but started playing upfront at sixteen for Whitnash Youth then Southam United.

I went on to play for Moor Green (Solihull Moors), Racing Club Warwick, VS Rugby (Rugby Town), Stratford Town and Banbury United on two occasions in a twenty year senior playing career finishing at Leamington FC.

I also had four years in Australia where after my first season following being top scorer in the NSW Premier League I was bought by the then largest club in the country Sydney Croatia (now Sydney FC) photo of me at their training ground after signing.

As a teenager I once scored four goals for Racing Club Warwick in a league game against Paget Rangers with former Brakes and Leicester City winger Syd Hall setting a couple of them up for me. I was marked that day by Roger Brown a young centre half who went on to play for Fulham and later in his career also for the Brakes.

A move to Southern League Banbury United followed quickly after that and that is when I first attracted the interest from both Coventry City and Birmingham City.

COULD YOU TELL ME A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOUR TIME WITH COVENTRY CITY, WHO DID YOU PLAY WITH?

I never played first team football at Coventry City only trial games and wasn't good enough unfortunately

COMING FROM A FOOTBALLING FAMILY YOUR DAD IS A BRAKES LEGEND AND YOUR UNCLES WERE ALSO PLAYERS, DID YOU SEE THEM PLAY MUCH GROWING UP?

I was the middle generation of three professional footballers but my Dad and Gary were more talented I just had a big heart and modest ability playing non-league here and pro in Australia.

I saw my Dad play at the end of his career when he was playing non-league dad played centre half at Birmingham City but played centre forward for the Brakes and scored in every game except one in his first season.

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN SO PROUD WHEN GARY BROKE INTO THE SKY BLUES TEAM, DID YOU SEE HIS DEBUT V CHELSEA?

I saw Gary's debut against Chelsea in goal as I very rarely missed any of his games right from a nine year old at Leamington Juniors FC. I was proud beyond belief it was the day after his nineteenth birthday

He also played first class cricket for Lancashire as a left arm quick bowler.

WHEN YOU PLAYED FOR LEAMINGTON YOURSELF AND DUNCAN GARDNER BROUGHT SOME VALUABLE EXPERIENCE TO THE TEAM, IT MUST HAVE BEEN GREAT TO PLAY FOR YOUR HOMETOWN TEAM?

I played for my home town club on three occasions for four different managers in I think nearly every level of non-league football - Southern League, Southern League Premier, Alliance (now the Conference)

I then came back and played in their final season in The Midland Combination with my

old mate Duncan Gardner playing in the last game at The Windmill ground.

The managers were Jimmy Knox, Graham Allner, Bill Branston and in the last season at The Windmill Paul Smyth.

I went to watch them as a kid then became a ball boy; I loved playing for my home town club and feel very proud and privileged to have had that opportunity.

I met some fantastic people associated with the club but two that I would like to mention are Mick Brady who as well as being a real gentleman kept this club alive when it barely had a pulse!

Also my Uncle John Ackerman who has been and still is a Vice President of the club and like so many others has given up so much time over lots of years.

Finally I am delighted to see them back playing in the higher echelons of non-league football and think that Paul Holleran has done a great job in building a competitive squad.

I get to watch the occasional game and it is always good to catch up with some old mates and supporters.

Thank you very much for your time Steve, You should be very proud to come from such a great Leamington football family and what you have achieved in the game. It would be great to see you at a Leamington match.

MEMORABLE MATCH

Leamington 2.1 Kings Heath - 14.11.87 - Midland Combination Premier Division

Harnett, Myton A, Phillpott, Gow, Jawandha, Sykes, Montgomery, Gardner, Hathaway, Graham, Singleton.

Steve Montgomery and Duncan Gardner are the scorers in a league home win.

By Ed Blackaby



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UP & COMING

In these unprecedented times there will be no 'Away Travel' information as we are not allowed to go to any of the Brakes games – and even if this changes it is more likely to be for 'home' fans only to attend, so travel details are not required (unlike the players who will often have to make their own ways to these games.)

The next game for the First Team is again in the National League North away against Curzon Ashton on Saturday 21st November.

The next home game for the Brakes will be in a week in the National League North on Tuesday 24th November against AFC Fylde.

Fans may not be allowed to attend in person, but you have the opportunity of supporting the club by buying tickets for the streaming of the match and so show your support from the comfort of your own home. Check the club website and social media for updated details.

BRAKES LOTTERY

Support your Football Club and WIN Cash with Brakes Lottery

What can I win?

The Brakes Lottery prize fund will be 50% of entry fees for each draw (max £1,176). If there are no winners, then the prize fund will rollover to the next draw until won (max 25,000). The more entries that we have, the bigger the prize fund will be, so tell your friends and family too!

How to enter

Application forms to join the Brakes Lottery can be obtained from Kevin Watson
Tel: 07598 133125
E-Mail: lottery@leamingtonfc.co.uk; or from the official website at www.leamingtonfc.co.uk.

LATEST DRAW

Last Draw Date: 14 Nov 2020

1st Number drawn

25

2nd Number drawn:

37

Winner: Rollover

Next draw: 21 Nov 2020

Prize Fund: **£2,476**



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Written by Matt Badcock

IF YOU'RE reading this, then it's good news – you're reading a football programme, an increasingly endangered species.

Like many things post-covid and in this 'new normal' there are lots of things different at our Non-League grounds now.

The National League have given their clubs the option of not running programmes this year and we've seen similar in the EFL.

In this digital world an increasing number of clubs are looking at those avenues rather than the printed page. Everyone will have their views on this traditional aspect of football match going.

But here we are, in a programme, talking about competitive Non-League football. Hopefully that is as good to read as it is good to write.

For many months now we've not had much competitive football to write about in The NLP. Yes, we had some play-off games, but the return this month of competitive football starting with the FA Cup has been most welcome.

Of course, everything around the game is different. We're all getting used to the added things we have to do. Book a ticket online beforehand, fill out a test and trace form, sanitise our hands as we enter the ground, follow one-way systems.

It's very different to what we left in March when the 2019-20 season stopped in its tracks. Players are turning up in kit, staying out at half-time for team talks – the current weather helps – and sitting apart on the bench.

But, when the whistle goes, it's back to the football we've all missed so much.

Crowds being allowed back in stadiums was a massive breakthrough. Now Steps 2 and above can follow (to some degree) that much needed money can come through the gate.

From a reporter's point of view, we've never covered such a fluid situation. Things changed literally by the hour. Sometimes even within ten minutes of being told one thing, another call would come through saying it was now something else. It's been a challenge!

Without crowds it would have been impossible to start the season. Then the fears for clubs as soon as the

pandemic broke out would have been multiplied.

I remember one week, way back in the summer, being told four different opinions on the start date for 2020-21. One said September/October, another ventured November, someone else thought January and another, informed person, feared not at all!

Thankfully the first person's guess was correct but we all are aware it's a fine line with cases on the rise again.

Already we're getting used to clubs withdrawing from the FA Cup at the last minute because of positive tests and there will no doubt be late cancellations of games throughout the season.

We can all play our part. Help clubs stick to the crucial social distancing rules that need to be adhered to. Fill out test and trace forms and throw a couple of extra quid into the coffers.

Every little helps. Including buying this programme.

Enjoy your football!

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PROGRAMME SHOP

SHOP

The Programme Shop is having to enter a period of hibernation as we can only exist with the fans being able to visit.

Until this changes there will only be a minor presence on the internet, although we will continue to try and source new stock for when football fans can return to actually browse our offerings.

We thank everyone who has supported us in the past and please stay safe until we can meet again.

Craig and Paul



NOTICE BOARD

This season is struggling to gain true momentum. This time last year I was preparing the TWELTH home programme of the season, not the SECOND one of the league! With cancellations at short notice and long delays between any home games or re-arrangements, please think of the people 'behind the scenes' who may struggle to keep everyone up-to-date and

the wheels of Leamington FC turning smoothly. Most are volunteers so if anything isn't quite up to the normally high standards, make allowances (or volunteer to help with the load!)

As you are reading this we have obviously been successful in working miracles with technology and the Covid notifications have relented! It may only be a

small provider of revenue for the Brakes but the advertisers give a lot to appear in the pages and deserve your perusal. Along with the streaming of matches, this can help you contribute to the finances of our club so thank you!

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THE A-Z OF LFC

V is for...
Nathan Vaughan
Signed from:
Kidderminster Harriers

Brakes debut: 14/01/12 @
Hitchin Town - Southern
League Premier Division
- Drew 0-0

Appearances (2011/12):
17 starts

Nathan Vaughan joined Leamington in January 2012 following a brief spell with Kidderminster Harriers. He was well known to Brakes fans from his time at Evesham United, and quickly became a favourite of the Brakes supporters as he helped the team overcome a sticky patch to finish the season 12 games unbeaten.

Nathan was all set to start the following campaign as our number one until Kidderminster came calling again, and he went on to enjoy some of the best years of his career, playing in the Conference and enjoying a memorable FA Cup run with Worcester City in 2014/15.

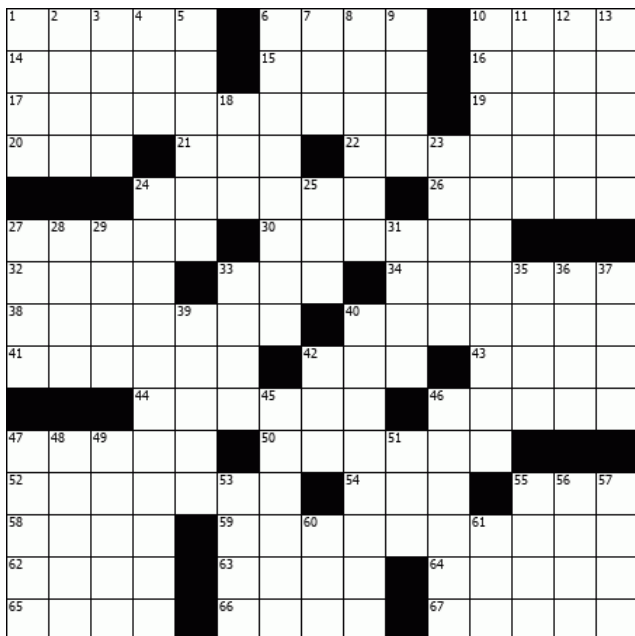


THE BRAIN CELL TESTING SECTION

CROSSWORD

Across

1. Zoo critter
6. PTA milieu
10. French family head
14. Farewell, to 10-Across
15. Claim to property
16. Augury
17. Take blame
19. Good Hope, e.g.
20. Public house potable
21. Race part
22. More in need of a plug
24. Conical tooth
26. Casals' instrument
27. Yesterday, tomorrow
30. Dessert choice
32. Hungary was a member of it
33. Old Ford
34. Naval armament
38. Former Andorra currency
40. Excavation employee
41. Kedge
42. Cruces starter
43. River through Nubia
44. Laser alternative
46. Relinquishes
47. Put down
50. Street sign
52. London midpoints?
54. Pinch, in a way
55. Jacket named for West
58. Queen's nickname
59. Be fired
62. Fireball sound
63. European import
64. Hindu noblewoman
65. Not straight
66. Holmes' "wonderful one-hoss ___"
67. Luges, in essence



Down

1. Stale joke reaction
2. False or golden thing
3. Stack of chips
4. Walker, on signs
5. Expenditure
6. Thomas Gray and John Milton
7. Freedom, in movements
8. Word sometimes spoken with faith
9. "Where's Daddy?" playwright
10. Loose change
11. It might arrive with a beep
12. Brush aside
13. Summertime in Argentina
18. Biddy
23. Bitter in taste
24. Social worker's file
25. Partner of Wynken
27. Spanish appetizer
28. Paired pullers
29. Tiddlywink, e.g.
31. Lea sounds
33. Carefree adventure
35. Lacking rain
36. Typographer's strike
37. Mars, to Uranus
39. Powder used in xerography
40. Having potential
42. Super Bowl great Dawson
45. "Coat of many colors" wearer
46. Poles used in highland games
47. Ghana's capital
48. Word in some temperatures
49. Close by, poetically
51. When doubled, an electric guitar sound
53. Clashers in Hollywood
55. Luxuriant locks
56. Didn't merely pass
57. Makes do with out?
60. Break in London
61. Gal of song

THE BRAIN CELL TESTING SECTION

WORD SEARCH

N	W	E	M	I	N	E	R	S	D	W	I	L	L	V
A	F	N	T	D	R	I	D	D	I	N	G	S	A	A
T	P	I	O	C	R	O	F	T	S	W	I	N	C	N
I	V	M	U	R	B	A	N	E	T	O	E	Y	A	A
O	F	A	C	B	M	H	R	V	R	R	E	R	D	R
N	C	N	L	S	W	A	N	W	I	C	K	L	A	A
A	A	O	D	L	F	R	N	H	C	L	A	R	M	M
L	C	R	L	L	E	D	S	L	T	O	L	I	Y	A
V	A	S	F	L	I	Y	A	E	C	A	W	E	Y	S
R	C	W	T	R	B	V	N	I	E	P	E	R	D	D
S	O	M	E	R	C	O	T	E	S	C	O	E	E	N
E	T	M	E	M	E	B	E	P	I	T	R	T	L	O
A	E	D	A	M	B	E	R	R	C	F	I	A	L	R
M	S	I	S	N	I	N	T	A	S	N	N	I	E	T
S	L	E	A	G	U	E	F	V	U	R	B	L	A	H

The words below are included in the table, horizontally, diagonally, or vertically.

However, there is one word listed that is not included – which one is it? Result will be given with the next Word Search.

The missing word in the previous Word Search (Banbury United FAC) was 'Grimsbury'.

Nieper

Acadamy

Reds

Croft

Factory

Retail

Street

Miners

Colliery

Pit

Welfare

United

Coal

Seams

Derbyshire

Amber

Somercotes

Swanwick

Valley

Norman

Urban

District

Manor

Ironville

Riddings

Roman

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THE BRAIN CELL TESTING SECTION

SPORTS QUIZ

DO YOU KNOW THE ANSWERS TO THESE FOOTBALL BASED QUESTIONS?

1. Who was England's manager at the 2006 World Cup?

- A. Steve Maclaren
- B. Sven-Goran Eriksson
- C. Fabio Cappello

2. Which London-based side has been in the top tier of English football longer than any other club?

3. Who was the last team to win the top tier of the English league before it became the Premier League?

4. Which League One team are the current holders of the Checkatrade Trophy (EFL Cup)?

5. Which London-based side won the 2019 National League?

6. Which National League North side play home games at the Tameside stadium?

7. Which National League side are the current holders of the FA Trophy?

8. Which Isthmian League South Central Division side currently hold the FA Vase?

9. In what year did Manchester United first win the European Cup?

- a. 1970
- b. 1965
- c. 1968

10. Ashley Cole announced his retirement from football this week, but where did the left-back start his career?

GUESS WHO?



WHERE IS THE BALL?



(Answers can be found on page 54)

SPORTS CONNECTIONS

ON THIS DAY

1869- Englishman James Moore wins the first official bicycle road race in the world, racing 13K Paris to Rouen. Moore covered the 113km (70 miles) in 10 hours and 25 minutes. He went on to dominate cycling and bike racing for many years.

1884- Cops arrest boxer John L Sullivan in 2nd round of a championship fight for being “cruel” with his technique.

Sullivan is regarded to be the first heavyweight champion of gloved boxing, holding the title from February 1882 until 1892.

1901- Joyce Wethered, Surrey England, golfer (4 time British Amateur champ) was born.

1931- Australian cricketer Don Bradman scores 135 in 128 minutes for NSW (New South Wales) vs South Africa. Including 15 4's.

Bradman is widely acknowledged as one of the greatest Batsmen of all time. His test Batting average of 99.94 has been cited as the greatest achievement by any sportsman in any major sport.

1940- The Green Bay Packers become the first NFL team to travel by plane to an away fixture, a historic moment in all of world sport.

1986- Gregory James “Greg” Rutherford, MBE is a British track and field athlete who specialises in long jump born on this day. He represents Great Britain at the Olympics, World and European Championships, and England at the Commonwealth Games. Rutherford won the long jump gold medal at the 2012 Summer Olympics, 2014 Commonwealth Games, 2014 and 2016 European Athletics Championships and 2015 World Athletics Championships, and topped the 2015 IAAF Diamond League rankings in the event. From 4 September 2015, when his Diamond League victory was confirmed with a fourth event win in Zürich, until his withdrawal from the British Athletics Championships in June 2016, Rutherford held every available elite outdoor title; national, continental, World, Olympic, Diamond League and Commonwealth

1987- Gemma Mary Spofforth (born on this date) is an English former competition swimmer who represented Great Britain in the Olympics, FINA world championships and European championships, and

England in the Commonwealth Games. Spofforth is the former world record-holder and former world champion in the 100-metre backstroke, and won a total of eight medals in major international championships. She was a member of Great Britain's 2012 Olympic team, and competed in the 100-metre backstroke event at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, where she achieved fifth place in 59.20 seconds. After the 2012 Olympics, Spofforth announced her retirement from competitive swimming.

1991 - In an all-American final Pete Sampras wins his first of 5 ATP Tour World Championship tennis titles with a 3–6, 7–6, 6–3, 6–4 victory over Jim Courier in Frankfurt, Germany

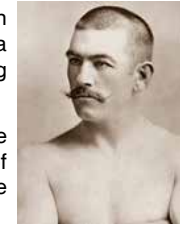
1997- Former Canadian Hockey player Mario Lemieux enters the NHL Hall of Fame.

Lemieux is widely regarded to be one of the best players that the sport has seen. Commonly referred to as ‘le magnifique’ or ‘Super Mario’, he was a gifted playmaker in the sport.

He now owns the Pittsburgh Penguins team

2013- Sebastian Vettel wins a record 8th consecutive Formula 1 race with victory in the United States Grand Prix, held at the Circuit of the Americas.

Vettel is a 4-time champion and 3-time runner up in the Driver's Championship across his career, within that, he also became the youngest ever driver to win the Championship when he won it for the first time with Red Bull in 2010.



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ON THIS DAY

WHO ARE YA?

Who Are Ya... Alfreton Town

Alfreton is a town and civil parish in the Amber Valley district of Derbyshire, England. The town was formerly a Norman Manor and later an Urban District. The population of the Alfreton parish was 7,971 at the 2011 Census.

Famous Folk...

Benjamin Outram, civil engineer, was born in Alfreton in 1764. James Young patented a process to obtain oil from coal whilst working in Alfreton in 1848.

Pointless...

'Nonfat Trowel' and 'Now Oft Rental' are anagrams.

On This Day... 17th November

Events: 1558 – Queen Mary dies and is succeeded by her half-sister Elizabeth I. 1869 – The Suez Canal is inaugurated. 1978 – The Star Wars Holiday Special airs, receiving a negative reception. Births: 1755 – Louis XVIII, king of France. 1887 – Bernard Montgomery, 1st Viscount Montgomery of Alamein. 1944 – Danny DeVito, actor, director, and producer.

Deaths: 1796 – Catherine the Great, of Russia. 1971 – Gladys Cooper, actress. 1995 – Alan Hull, singer-songwriter and guitarist with Lindisfarne. LFC: 2001 - 120 watch a spirited win against an old adversary. Polesworth North Warwick 2v3 Leamington Birmingham County Vase

Over 100 (mainly visiting) fans turned out to watch the second encounter between these two clubs this season. The Brakes started brightly, dominating the early midfield exchanges, and perhaps mindful of how well Polesworth played last time around. Blake was put through by a lovely ball, only to be foiled by a very alert goalkeeper who spread himself well. Within five minutes, there was almost a carbon copy replay – with the same result.

Chances came thick and fast in the early stages for Brakes. Fifteen minutes gone, and it was Mort who found himself bearing down on goal. Again the keeper made a cracking save but the ball rebounded back to Mort who took it round him and fired goalward, only to see a defender clear it off the line.

All in all, four chances were squandered by the Brakes in the first 20 minutes with Burgess also going close. Both teams were in attacking moods, and both had good shouts for penalties turned down by the referee who had an indifferent first half.

The breakthrough eventually came after 22 minutes. The ball came to Timms on the edge of the area. As defenders and goalkeeper came out to close him down, he had a quick look up and lobbed it over their head to score.

At the very end of the first half, the game took a nasty turn when one of the Polesworth players hit Mort with an ugly two-footed challenge. Handbags followed, and the referee, although unsuspected, spoke to both players and booked just Mort after consultation with his linesman.

The second half started with a bang. Within two minutes Jonny Burgess made a scorching run down the right, cut inside and placed a scorcher into the far corner.

Leamington were looking comfortable at this stage, playing some lovely balls from midfield. Polesworth went on the attack and caught Leamington out at the back. The ball came in from the left, and McGovern got a call to leave it. An onrushing attacker jumped and planted a wonderful header past a stranded Morris.

The next quarter of an hour was not pleasant to watch from a visitor's point-of-view. Burgess got hacked down on the right hand side. Despite calls to get the ball out of play, Polesworth kept hold of it until Leamington won it and

thumped it out. Not surprisingly, the Brakes were starting to lose it a bit.

Against the run of play, after 75 minutes Blake battled through past two defenders and poked the ball just past the keeper and inside the near post. A just reward for all the hard work and running off the ball he had done throughout the game.

On 77 minutes Leamington fans held their breath as Morris brought down the last man just outside the left edge of the area. The referee chose to talk to him and didn't seem even to issue a yellow card. At least the referee was consistently wrong! Morris should have walked.

Nevertheless, Leamington battled on. Substitute Miyoba came on and crossed a lovely ball to Perry, who leapt high and just headed the ball over the bar. Once again, Polesworth counter-attacked and an attacker sprinted through on goal. Morris came out to meet him but the ball was poked just past him and into the net. Morris couldn't risk bringing the man down as he had already been let off earlier.

Brakes held out nervously, although there were some pretty heavy tackles flying around. All in all a decent result away from home against a team who consistently raise their game when playing teams that are above them.

Team: Morris, Thompson, McGovern, Payne, Dix (Rippon), Ariss, Burgess (Miyoba), Mort, Timms, Agar © (Perry), Blake

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NOVEMBER



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WAY BACK

THEN

WYN GRANT

In September 1920 the Courier ran a special feature article on the history of football in Leamington. It noted: 'The popularity of Association football with Englishmen – a popularity becoming greater each year – is not to be wondered at. It is a game full of interest from start to finish and, given a bright afternoon, a day spent watching a thrilling game is a fine antidote for the man who has been hard at work or cooped up in a factory or office all week. It has been alleged by "spoil sports" that football leads to gambling, drunkenness and other evils. The late Mr F.J. Brabner, a well-known former chief constable of Leamington, and a keen supporter of the game, in a conversation with the writer said he remembered the time before football was so popular with the crowd, when the working man on leaving work went straight to the public house, and very often stayed there until his wife fetched him out in the evening in a half-drunken condition with what was left of his wages. Since the passion for football has developed, he went on to

say, the man on Saturday rushed home from work, had his dinner, a wash, and was off to the game.'

'There he sat or stood in the invigorating air for a couple of hours or more, thoroughly enjoying himself. Then home to tea with a keen appetite. And if he did go out of evening, it was often with his wife and children. "No", said Mr Brabner, "football does not lead to drunkenness; it does a great deal to prevent it.'

'The writer came to Leamington just over 50 years ago, and saw the beginning of the association game does. The town club was running when I came here as a youth. At this time Mr H.P. Hordern, dentist of the Parade, was secretary of the club. Contemporary with the Town the Leamington Albions ran a team, and later on the Town club ceasing to exist, most of the players threw their lot in with the Albions. The Town played up the Tachbrook Road, where the site of the new housing scheme is; the

Albions on the old Warwick Road. It was the taking of their ground later by the new Association club which led to the passing of the Albions. The players were mostly working men, but they formed a good team and won the Coventry and District Junior Cup two years in succession.'

'In 1891 Association - which was booming all over the land - began to make its impress in Leamington, and the very first club to be formed was in connection with St. Paul's Church. Many of my older readers will remember the singular sporting event that took place between them and the Albions. It was decided that one half should be rugby, and the other association. The Albions were successful at both codes! At the beginning of the 1891 season, in addition to St. Paul's Club, two new clubs made their appearance – the Parish Church club and the Alliance.'

FUN & GAMES

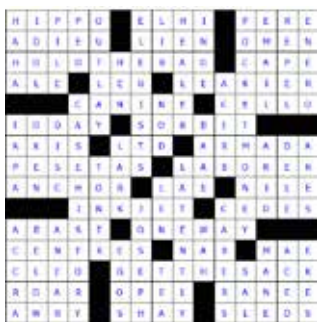
THESE ARE THE FOOTBALL QUESTION ANSWERS YOU WERE LOOKING FOR ON PAGE 47

Answers

1. B. Sven-Goran Eriksson
2. Arsenal
3. Leeds United
4. Portsmouth
5. Leyton Orient
6. Curzon Ashton
7. AFC Fylde
8. Chertsey Town FC
9. 1968
10. Arsenal

Guess Who? **CALLUM GITTINGS**

Where is the ball? **C**



THE FINAL WORD

THE FINAL WORD FROM THE GANTRY MATCHDAY COMMENTATOR

The first game of the season saw the Emirates FA Cup curse strike once again for the Brakes and the following two league games have amounted to nil pois. All in all, it hasn't been the start to the season that we were hoping for. Things have improved on the road since then with a couple of away draws but what I (and all Brakes fans) want to celebrate is a home win.

Just to touch on Leamington's opening league fixture, after missing out in the play-off final last time out, Boston look like they're going to have another right go at

the league this year as the Pilgrims were mightily impressive at the Community Stadium in the 4-0 whitewash last Tuesday. Whilst I sing the away team's praises, Hollers had every right to be disappointed as his side were undone from 4 set pieces after containing Boston from open play for the majority of the game. The gaffer rightly stated that the mid-week performance was a vast improvement on Saturday's Emirates FA Cup exit, but he'll be the first to admit that an improvement on the cup game's display wouldn't be mightily difficult.

Looking to this evening's game, Alfreton Town travel here with a wide mix of results, the latest one

being a 3-1 home win over Farsley Celtic. With both Leamington and Alfreton being keen for 3 points to continue their league progress I'm sure we are going to witness another classic showdown between these two sides.

Up the Brakes,
Matt

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LINE UP



LEAMINGTON FC

ALFRETON TOWN

Paul Holleran	Manager	Manager	Billy Heath
Chris Knott	Coach	Assistant Manager	Mark Carroll
Jake Weaver	1	1	George Willis
Junior English	2	2	Joshua Clackstone
Stephan Morley	3	3	Nathan Fox
Joe Clarke	4	4	Conor Branson
Kyle Morrison	5	5	Toby Lees
Jack Lane	6	6	James Jones
Connor Taylor	7	7	Dominic Smith
Danny Waldron	8	8	Danny Bradley ©
Lance Smith	9	9	Jake Day
Jack Edwards ©	10	10	Elliott Reeves
Sam Osborne	11	11	William Atkinson
Josh Martin	12	12	Bobby Johnson
Dan Meredith	14	14	Nicholas Walker
Callum Gittings	15	15	Adam Lund
Kieran Dunbar	16	16	Teddy Unwin-Marris
Ben Newey	17	17	Michael Williams
Ben Maxwell	18	18	Adam Sollitt
	19	19	Adedapo Adelekan

MATCH SPONSOR



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MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE

Daniel Locker

ASSISTANT REFEREE

Jacob Graham

ASSISTANT REFEREE

Adam Brown

NEXT HOME GAME



AFC FYLDE

Tuesday 24th November 2020

7.45pm KO