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The Official Matchday Programme of Aldershot Town Football Club // Issue 08 // £3  
vs Woking // Saturday 26 December 2020 // Kick-Off 3pm // Vanarama National League

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# ALDERSHOT TOWN

## FOOTBALL CLUB

*The EBB Stadium  
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Hampshire, GU11 1TW*

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**Vice President:** Jack Rollin  
**Club Ambassador:** Terry Owens

**First Team Manager:** Danny Searle  
**Assistant Manager:** Anwar Uddin  
**First Team Analyst & Coach:** Michael Koopowitz  
**Coach:** Danny Whitehorne  
**Kit Man:** Nathan Lugg  
**Physio:** Georges Berthonneau  
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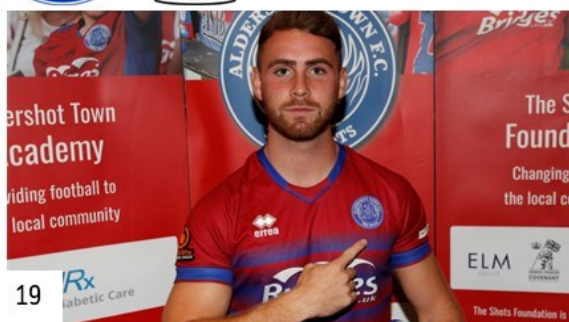
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Shahid Azeem, Deane Wood  
Company Reg no: 8362929

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vs **Woking**  
Saturday 26 December 2020  
Kick-Off: 3pm  
Vanarama National League



19



34





**MANAGER'S**

**NOTES**

**FIRST TEAM**

**MANAGER**

**DANNY**

**SEARLE**

“The lads went there and did a very good job and if I’m honest, we probably could have scored a lot more. ...”





Good afternoon and a warm welcome back to the EBB Stadium or wherever you are watching today's game from. After making progress into the fourth round of the FA Trophy last weekend, we now look towards three matches in eight days in the always busy Christmas period starting today with a visit from our near neighbours, Woking. I'd like to welcome their manager, Alan Dowson, his players and staff to the EBB Stadium as well. We had a tight match against Woking in the FA Cup in October which we were disappointed to lose. Since then they have performed well in the National League and are currently in seventh place. It will be a tough game today but we are well prepared and are looking forward to the challenge.

Since my last programme notes we have played three games, two of which were disappointing defeats to FC Halifax Town and Boreham Wood. The Halifax game, take away what was a seven or eight minute period of madness and I was actually really pleased with our performance. We created good chances, we looked solid, we looked comfortable and we just had that massive lapse in concentration and at this level against a team like Halifax, they are going to punish you. It was a shame because most of the managers I spoke to said how good Halifax are and I thought we made them look ordinary for the best part of the game but switch off like we did - you can't do that in this league.

And we could say almost the same thing for the Boreham Wood match. The early penalty for them killed the game after we had started relatively solidly. We had momentum and players going forward and then they scored their penalty and it knocked us back a bit. But fair play to the boys, we got ourselves back to two-all and by then I would have said there was only one team who were going to go on and win it. You get to the last five or ten minutes and think let's take the point, just make sure we are solid and then I don't know what the decision was about, ducking a header and letting them through on goal but it was an individual error that has cost us. Performance-wise, against a very good side we were also good, we've just got to learn when we are defending those last few minutes to get the decisions right and we give ourselves a good chance of points.

Last Saturday in the FA Trophy I was very pleased with the result. It shows how far the boys have come that the game was never in any question, there was never a period in the game when you watched it when you thought that this could be an upset. The lads went there and did a very good job and if I'm honest, we probably could have scored a lot more. The pitch was horrendous although their groundsman had done the best job he could, the amount of rain they had had the pitch was always going to be like that. The lads tried to play when they could and the bottom line was, we had to go there and do a professional job and that's exactly what we did do.

For today's game, I hope that the rules have stayed in place which means we can have supporters in the ground. This is such a massive game in what is such a tight schedule of fixtures and we want to make sure that our league record against Woking stays as it is!

Enjoy the game,

**Danny**

# JAMES SCARLETT

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# CHAIRMAN

## SHAHID AZEEM

**What a year! This has been without doubt the most challenging year we as a majority of people have known in our lifetime, although I am sure the older members of our community have known worse in the past and indeed, that there are many others both locally and across the country who have had worse on many fronts too. It's been frightening and however we look at it, it has affected all of us both globally and personally on many fronts. As I type this, our own manger Danny is at his father's funeral; he passed away two weeks ago after suffering from Covid-19, and there are so many more that we all know have been affected.**

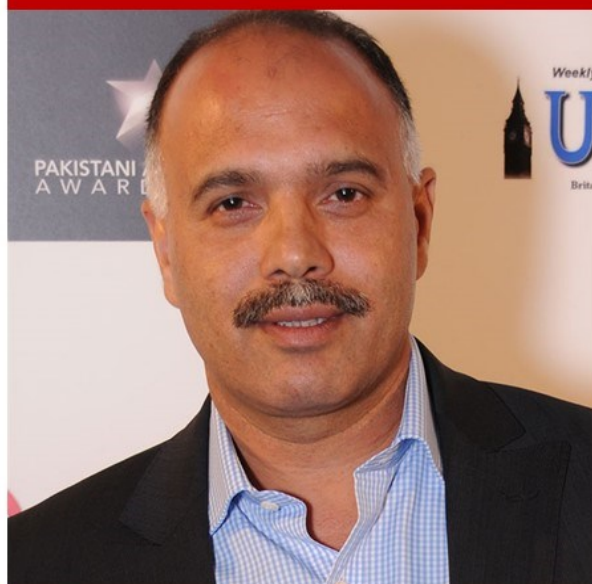
It's going to be difficult for everyone to get back to what was "normal". However, I also believe this is an opportunity for a reset for all. Hopefully after what everyone has done to support one another and after millions have made sacrifices for one another, I really hope we come out of the pandemic as a better, caring society.

There will be many who either have or know of family, friends or colleagues who are no longer with us after this dreadful year. My sincere condolences to you all.

To all supporters, we hope you had a good Christmas and hopefully managed to spend some quality time with your loved ones.

Returning back to today's fixture, we welcome the board members, players, manager and assistant manager of Woking FC, Alan Dowson and Martin Tyler, both good friends of mine. I hope they had a safe journey to the ground. It's a real shame that this Boxing Day fixture will not allow away supporters but as I write these programme notes ahead of our Boxing Day fixture against Woking, we are not sure if we will even be able to have the limited home crowds to the game that we did for the Dagenham and Halifax games, or if we will be back to playing behind closed doors. We can only wait and see what the current rulings are.

We have had positive feedback on our TV streaming and the National League, BT and the FA have given us the go ahead to stream live matches until further notice. With our enhanced hardware we continue to evolve and develop a better product. We are not Sky or BT, but we do our best and



a huge thank you to the media team and Mark Butler who work so hard each game to produce such an excellent product.

I also want to say a huge thank you to all the staff, players, volunteers, supporters and sponsors in helping us to carry on in a limited capacity, adhering to the many protocols which evolve every day. It is not easy but everyone has dealt with each new situation with positivity and practicality which has enabled Aldershot Town FC to keep running smoothly.

It was a real shame that we couldn't hold our annual Christmas Carol service but we thank Rev. Pusey and Rev. Newton for their hard work in trying to make it happen. Hopefully we will be able to join together next year once again for this lovely seasonal event.

Many congratulations to The Shots in the Community Foundation who were awarded the Aspire Business in the Community Award for Hampshire. This highlighted all the good work the Club and the Foundation, working with the Rushmoor Community Resilience Partnership Group supporting many vulnerable groups and individuals during the past eight months has done, and we will continue to do so going forward.

To finish, as these will be our final notes for this year, we can all pray and hope that we are all in a better, healthier and more prosperous place next year. Happy New Year to you all.

Enjoy the game

**Shahid Azeem**



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# JAMIE SENDLES-WHITE

## CAPTAIN

After progress was made in the FA Trophy last Saturday, a match which saw him return to the starting line-up, Jamie reflects on just how important cup runs are for a club and players, along with honest assessments of the recent defeats to FC Halifax Town and Boreham Wood

**Were you pleased with the way the team approached the game away to Welwyn Garden City? Sometimes playing a team lower down in the pyramid can be tricky.**

Yes, it was pleasing. It was a professional performance from the lads and we did what we had to do. We said to each other before the game that this is a good opportunity to do well in a Cup. Obviously the end goal is to play at Wembley, it's probably every footballer's dream and so we all want to give it a go.

**The previous two results in the National League had been disappointing. How did you see those games and what were your thoughts on how the team were unable to see the games out?**

I think we're just a little bit naive at the minute, we need to have a bit more nous, we need to have the ability to be able to see out games, to kill them off when we are on top and put them to bed. If we had got another goal in the Halifax game when we were so much on top at the start of the second half it would have been a very different outcome. Maybe the experienced boys need to help the younger ones out a little bit so that we can see those games out when we are on top, rather than conceding three goals in a short period of time.



At Boreham Wood too there was a late goal which meant we missed out on a point after we'd come back from 2:0 down. Again, I think that was down to a little bit of naivety creeping in, maybe a little bit of inexperience – for that last-minute goal we just needed to clear the ball and we would have walked away with a good point. But that's football and we will learn from it and we can take what we learn into the games which come thick and fast over Christmas.

**And what of those Christmas games? Christmas is a key time in the football season, albeit coming a little earlier in the campaign this year**

The good thing about the Christmas period is with the amount of games we play, you can turn it around. At the moment we're in 17th position but if you have a good Christmas period you can push up towards the top ten or even into the play-off positions. That's what we are going to try and do with this time – we've had a chat about it and we want to put things right over Christmas so that we go into the New Year in a positive position in the table.







# SHOTS NEWS & VIEWS

**WORDS BY VICTORIA ROGERS**

Torquay United, Bedford Town, East Thurrock United (twice!), Eastleigh and Burgess Hill – what do all these football clubs have in common? Well, they've all knocked Aldershot Town out of the FA Trophy in the first tie that the Shots have played in the competition over the past six years. Not since 2013, under the management of Andy Scott and in their first season back in Conference football, have the Shots made it past their first tie in the premium non-league cup competition – that season of course they won three rounds, going all the way to the quarter finals before being knocked out by Havant and Waterlooville, making the last time Aldershot Town was victorious in the FA Trophy, 11 January 2014, a 3-0 home win over Guiseley, goals from Aiden O'Brien, Jordan Roberts and an own goal. Heady times indeed.

Since then it's been a chapter of incident and accidents, sendings-off and generally a lack of being able to make it past either the stiffest opposition (Torquay, Eastleigh) or the considerably weakest (Bedford Town). So there MAY have been some anxious hearts and minds last Saturday when the Shots travelled to Welwyn Garden City FC, of the Southern League Central Division One for their third round FA Trophy tie. But in the event, there was no drama or upset – the Shots powered through the game 5-1, putting in a professional performance of the type supporters have waited years for in this competition. Well done to players, management and coaching staff, the result certainly brightened up the weekend and earned the Club some vital funds too. The draw for the next round was held on Monday lunchtime. See page 11 for who we face up to in the fourth round on 16 January.

Despite the level of opposition, and Welwyn ply their trade much further down the non-league pyramid than the Shots, it was

pleasing to see five goals scored and those goals shared around the players. Confidence-building stuff, and that confidence will be needed for facing up to today's opposition – Woking FC. Two months ago the two teams met in the FA Cup and Woking eased past the Shots in a 2-1 victory. Today of course it's back to National League matters and a match which has almost become a regular occurrence in Aldershot Town and Woking FC Christmases – a Boxing Day home game, followed by the return fixture on New Year's Day – although last season saw us partnered up with different seasonal games despite Woking having returned to the National League.

This year though it's a return to normal and the annual two games in eight days with our local rivals. As I wrote these notes there was some level of uncertainty as to whether there would be supporters in the ground for this game but wherever you are watching it, be it in person, on the live stream or listening to BBC Surrey coverage, we can be guaranteed a high level of commitment from both teams, along with the watching/listening supporters – the players can hear us when we shout at the TV, can't they?!

At the end of a tough year for everyone and with the expectation of matters carrying on into the New Year, we are all looking for ways to distract ourselves. Football could be seen both as highly irrelevant in a time of such difficulty – some thoughts being that it is an unnecessary frivolity – or as something really important as it gives people something to focus on and distract themselves with. As with all debate, there will be people of both sides of this argument and I certainly don't know the right answer. What I will say is that personally, as a fan of football and more specifically, a supporter of Aldershot Town, I am truly grateful for all that the football authorities in general and Aldershot Town in particular have done to keep the game going. I know it has been a huge effort and involved much personal sacrifice – but it has meant that me, my family, friends and fellow supporters of this amazing club have had something different to focus on over the past few months. If today we can gain a result from this always difficult game, it will give all followers of the red and blue a huge lift – beating the neighbours has always proved very satisfying in the past!

And if we don't win, then there's always the next game, or the next one, because like everyone is doing at the moment, we are all travelling forward hopefully – it is all we can do. As we move towards 2021, may I wish you all health, peace and times of joy and happiness where they can be found, and a Happy New Year when it comes. And thank you also for continuing to buy and read the programme – it is much appreciated





# FA TROPHY 4TH ROUND

Aldershot Town will play fellow National League side Solihull Moors at home in the Buildbase FA Trophy Fourth Round.

The tie will take place on Saturday 16th January 2021 with a 3pm kick-off.

We will provide more details for this fixture as we get them.



# NEW DATE FOR SOLIHULL MOORS NATIONAL LEAGUE GAME

The home game against Solihull Moors, originally scheduled for 28 November, 2020 and postponed due to Moors' involvement in the FA Cup, will now be played on Tuesday 16 February, 2021, kick-off 7.45pm.



# MATCH ACTION

Tuesday 8 December  
Vanarama National League  
Kick-Off 7:45pm

## The Shots 1

Bettamer 36' (p)

## FC Halifax Town 3

Hyde 63', 70' (p), Bell 66'

## The EBB Stadium

Attendance: 818



**The Shots:** James, Fowler, Lyons-  
Foster, Rees (Booked), Kandi  
(Hungbo 63'), Rowe (Anderson  
73'), Panayiotou (Booked) (Fondop  
-Talom 74'), Edser, Phillips  
(Booked), Ogie, Bettamer **Subs:**  
Walker, Sendles-White, Anderson,  
Hungbo, Fondop-Talom



**FC Halifax Town:** Johnson, Byrne,  
Maher, Summerfield, King  
(Booked), Bradbury, Williams,  
Woods (Booked) (Danns 83'),  
Green (Earing 59'), Hyde, Bell  
(Nepomuceno 71') **Subs:** Senior,  
Earing, Davidson-Hale,  
Nepomuceno, Danns





# “ POST-MATCH THOUGHTS ”

## ANWAR UDDIN

“Very disappointed with the outcome. I thought in the first half, we were ok, we weren't at our very best but we went in with a 1:0 lead. In the second half there was a twenty-minute period where we let ourselves down. Halifax were ruthless in that spell and they saw the game out very well.... There were some positives in the first half, I don't think we were great but when you're not great and you're winning, that is something to work on.”



# PLAYER KIT S



**HOME:**  
Andy Wilde

**AWAY:**  
Shots Away Travel

**Mitch Walker**



**HOME:**  
Muhammed Ali

**AWAY:**  
Andy Wilde

**Mo Bettamer**



**HOME :**

**AWAY:**

**Joseph Hungbo**



**HOME & AWAY:**  
Roger Niblett

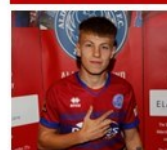
**George Fowler**



**HOME:**  
Andrew King

**AWAY:**  
Hussayn Awais-Ali

**Chike Kandi**



**HOME & AWAY:**  
Sunnyside  
Removals

**Reece Wylie**



**HOME:**  
Martin & Adam Jessop

**AWAY:**  
For Gillobean

**Alex Finney**



**HOME:**  
Heather Nicklinson

**AWAY:**  
SCSJ Consulting

**Harrison Panayiotou**



**HOME & AWAY:**  
Richard, Julie &  
Bradley Layton

**Toby Edser**



**HOME & AWAY:**  
The Three Grumpy Gits

**Jamie Sendles-White**



**HOME:**  
The Blair Family

**AWAY:**  
Bobby Proudlock

**Alfie Whittingham**



**HOME & AWAY:**  
O'Neill & Brennan

**Ben Shroll**



**HOME:**  
SCSJ Consulting

**AWAY:**

**Kodi Lyons-Foster**



**HOME & AWAY:**  
Richard, Julie &  
Bradley Layton

**Ryan Hall**



**HOME:**

**AWAY:**

**Giles Phillips**



**HOME & AWAY:**  
Ian White

**James Rowe**



**HOME:**  
Bobby Proudlock

**AWAY:**  
Marc Bowerman

**Joel Nouble**



**HOME & AWAY:**  
Andy Pusey

**Killian Colombie**



**HOME:**  
The Rightsiders

**AWAY:**  
Marshels Roofing

**Josh Rees**



**HOME:**  
Bobby Proudlock

**AWAY:**  
Marc Bowerman

**Jermaine Anderson**



**HOME:**

**AWAY:**

**Shadrach Ogie**



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**Lewis Kinsella**



**HOME:**  
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**Craig Tanner**



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**Brad James**



**HOME:**  
  
**AWAY:**

**Mike Fondop-Talom**



**HOME:**  
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**AWAY:**  
The Rightsiders

**Ross McCormack**

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One of the most enticing ways to be linked with Aldershot Town Football Club is by sponsoring a player's home or away kit. It is an ideal opportunity for fans to show their support for their favourite player, as well as the club.

For more information on the player and staff kit sponsorship package, please contact Mark Butler, Commercial Manager on 01252 320211 or you can email him on [Mark.Butler@theshots.co.uk](mailto:Mark.Butler@theshots.co.uk)



# MATCH ACTION

Saturday 12 December  
Vanarama National League  
Kick-Off 3pm

**Boreham Wood 3**

Tshimanga 12' (p), Mafuta 21',  
Thomas 87'

**The Shots 2**

Ogie 28', Fyfield 53' (og)

**Meadow Park**

Attendance: 650



**Boreham Wood:** Ashmore,  
Champion (Booked), Fyfield,  
Thomas (Booked), Murtagh  
(McDonnell 47'), Ilesamni, Mafuta,  
Smith, Francis-Angol, Tshimanga,  
Rhead **Subs:** Woodards, Stephens,  
Mingoia, Coulthirst, McDonnell



**The Shots:** James, Colombie  
(Booked), Lyons-Foster, Phillips,  
Ogie, Rowe (Anderson 76'), Rees,  
Panayiotou (Fondop-Talom 69'),  
Edser, Kandi, Bettamer **Subs:**  
Walker, Sendles-White, Nouble,  
Anderson, Fondop-Talom





# “POST-MATCH THOUGHTS”

## LUKE GARRARD

‘It was a gritty, well-drilled performance. The players are giving the club everything. It was great to have the fans back in. They made a massive difference.’

## DANNY SEARLE

‘Great credit to the lads, I thought we played well. We got ourselves back into the game and if I was honest, up until the last six or seven minutes I was thinking, we’re really comfortable here. Then I don’t know why we made the decision to play offside, we’ve ducked out of the header to clear the ball and at this level, Thomas is not going to miss and you end up with nothing.’





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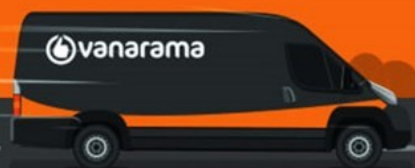
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# SHOTS IN FOCUS GEORGE FOWLER



**Full Name:** George Fowler

**Date and place of birth:** 20/12/97 in Ipswich

**Height:** 6ft

**Married:** No

**Nickname:** Fowler

**Car:** BMW

**Previous clubs:** Ipswich Town

**Team you supported as a boy:** Spurs

**Favourite current player:** James Rowe

**Most difficult opponent:** Ademola Lookman

**Most memorable match:** Rowe's free kick against Bromley at home

**Biggest disappointment:** Not moving out with Rowe sooner

**Football honours:** Playing with Rowe

**Favourite other sports:** Golf

**Favourite other sportsmen/women:** Tiger Woods

**Hobbies:** Golf, gym

**Favourite TV show:** Love Island

**Favourite musicians:** Drake

**Miscellaneous likes:** Rowe and playing guitar

**Miscellaneous dislikes:** Injuries

**Best country visited:** Thailand

**Favourite food:** Curry

**Favourite restaurant:** Nando's

**Favourite drink:** Guinness

**Biggest drag in football:** Half-time v Torquay

**If you weren't a footballer what do you think you'd be:** Single!

**Which person in the world would you most like to meet:** Barack Obama

**If given £1Million what would be the first thing you would buy:** Aldershot Town FC. Up the Shots!!!!





**Steven Goddard**

**Will Writer, Estate Planning Consultant and life-long SHOTS supporter.**

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# ALDERSHOT TOWN SUPPORTERS CLUB

Good Afternoon Everyone,

This afternoon we are finally able to welcome Woking back to the EBB Stadium in person after missing out on the fixture last season. Albeit without their supporters.

It's still quite a strange experience, but at least we are able to watch in person.

I hope that everyone had the best Christmas that they could in these still strange and changing times.

Please keep your membership cards until we are able to come back to our supporters' club hut. To keep everyone safe we are not able to open as yet, but hope to be back there soon!

Our lovely and reasonably priced supporters' badges are able to be purchased at the Club Shop

or our website at just £4 (plus postage and packing if required).

Congratulations to Simon Regan who has won £1,000 in the Christmas draw which was drawn on Friday 18 December. Hope this has made your 2020 that little bit better. In with a Shot has only been going just under a year and you have raised £7,500 for the Club and they have given out £9,000 in prize money.

If you'd like to join In with a Shot, please ask at the Club shop or email the Supporters Club at [atfc.supclub@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:atfc.supclub@yahoo.co.uk). Plus if you'd like to join the Supporters Club, email us or join on our website at just £15 for over 18s and £10 for 18 and under for new members which includes an Official Supporters Club scarf.

Remember we are also on Instagram  
[atfc\\_supporters-club](https://www.instagram.com/atfc_supporters-club)

Hope you enjoy the game.

**Sian Blair - Membership Secretary**

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# ON THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN



These are the strangest of notes being written on this Boxing Day afternoon. Some of you will be in the stadium reading them whilst others locked in "Tier 4" may be viewing them via digital means. Who would ever have envisaged in any period of our lifetime that you would be permitted (or not) to attend an Aldershot home match dependent on your postcode? It probably sums up the desperation of a year that, I am sure, we will all be happy to see the back of.

I am sure that is also the case for manager, Danny Searle. I don't know Danny too well but have had a couple of conversations when the squad have been training at the home of Army football on Queens Avenue and have been impressed with his enthusiasm, understanding and vision for the club. I have full respect for the dignity Danny showed after the sad loss of his father due to Covid-19 earlier this month. It will have had a huge impact for Danny and the way that he quietly continued his business during this period was admirable. I, as I am sure many did, so much wanted to see a home win versus Halifax on the day the sad announcement

was made. Our thoughts and prayers should be with Danny during such a difficult time.

Assessing the progress of the football club over the past year is extremely difficult this time around. I've covered my own thought process in blogs during the year and the understanding and consideration of how any football club operates during a pandemic. It has been the most excruciating of times for all. There are no easy answers, no easy solutions.

Quite frankly my aspirations for the remainder of this season are clear- I want to see the club compete and progress on the pitch, but not to the detriment of its financial position which must be fragile as there are no guarantees on how benefits will be provided via external grant aid or loans. Any current income provided through the turnstiles or the Shots TV streams is just "pocket money" at the moment and any financial estimates will be turbulent due to the Covid-19 uncertainty. The challenge for many clubs is to ensure that they are in a position to exist come the start of next season. That has to be the case for Aldershot Town too. I don't want to see any unnecessary expenditure in any shape or form that may come back to bite us at a later date. If that means working with what we have to shape our future then I'm happy with that. Public confirmation as to where the club stands with regards to the lease situation would be welcome too.

I have sympathy with anybody within the football world at the moment. Balancing expectations with reality is so difficult. Somebody, somewhere will be disappointed. Somebody, somewhere will voice their displeasure. However, the safeguarding of our football club has to be a priority as it must be for every football club. The challenging times will continue and we may all have to remain patient.

Happy New Year!

**Words by Graham Brookland**







*MO*

*BETTAMER*



# THE BIG INTERVIEW

Aldershot Town number nine Mo Bettamer arrived at the EBB Stadium just over a year ago, having had a disappointing time with his former club, Barnet, a spell when he had been unable to prove himself on the pitch, mainly due to not appearing to be in the manager's plans. However, a move to a new club and new management was to prove to be highly successful and it wasn't long before he was delighting the Aldershot Town supporters with his goal scoring on the pitch and his genial and friendly personality off it, and despite picking up an injury in mid-February, scoring seven goals in that truncated campaign.

It was a long layoff during the summer for all of non-league football but when finally plans began to be made for the 2020-21 season, Mo had no hesitation in re-signing for the club into which he had fitted so comfortably, making the red and blue shirt his own. He explains his reasons for making that decision.

'I think towards the end of last season I got a bit more consistency and I was coming into my flow and I was starting to prove what I could do on a football pitch. The club itself has been very good to me. The manager has been good to me and I don't think I could see anywhere else but Aldershot at the time. I had got a few other offers but I really didn't see leaving here - I enjoy my football, I've got the backing of the manager, the fans have been amazing with me so there was nothing else to think of really, I was always going to be here.'

So what is it that is so special about Aldershot Town?

'I think the family vibe that I've got from here, the connection between the players and the fans and especially the team too. We've got quite a tight group and I think one thing you want to be when you are with a team is to feel like you are comfortable and I definitely feel comfortable here. Not to the stage where I can just relax, but the stage where I've got the people that believe in me

and I just go and perform on the pitch and make sure we get the results I know we can get.'

Clearly being with good colleagues and management is having a strong influence on Mo. How important is it to him and his game to have the backing of Danny Searle and Anwar Uddin?

'Football is based on opinions, one opinion might not favour you playing week in week out but the support I have had since arriving here from Anwar, the manager and Mike Koopowitz (first team analyst and coach) has been really good. They look at my games and tell me what maybe I can do better next game and I think it shows, even on the pitch where I'm willing to play anywhere for the team. I'll play out wide if needed because as I've said, we're quite a tight-knit group here and the gaffer has played a really big part in my staying here. So far this season it's been alright.'

And how important was having a full pre-season with Aldershot Town in terms of in-season performance?

'One-hundred-percent important! I have always said that to have a pre-season under the belt with the club you are going to play for in the next season is good because in a way it's a kind of an ice-breaker. You have new players in the team and I think with pre-season it's just a good way of getting all the cobwebs away, especially with having been out for so long with the Covid crisis.'

'It's been strange times but I'm happy that we are back at the football ground. We've got really good players in the team and I really do think we can do something. We might not have started exactly how we wanted to because as I said, with new players it does sometimes take a bit of time but with the team that we have I am sure we will be fine and at the right end of the table at the end of the season.'



Of course, what every team needs to be at the right end of the table is goals and Mo has proved himself as an exciting and consistent goalscorer this season – seven goals so far from 14 appearances, an excellent rate of one goal in every two games and matching last season's total. As also asked last season, does he set himself a target at the start of each campaign?

'I think I said when I last spoke to you, I always set myself a target at the start of the season and even though I've been moved out right, I've been getting goals as well. I have played out there before so I have had a bit of experience out there but one thing that I think the gaffer has been happy with is that I can play in a variety of positions and still score goals. When you are a goal scorer, you always have that kind of mentality, knowing where to be around the goal, and it's easier when you have good players around you as well.'

And Mo also took and scored his first penalty for the Shots too, in the home game against FC Halifax Town.

'It was the first penalty I've taken for Aldershot as well. I am confident, I am confident in myself and for the team as well to go and do well this season.'

Of course, every supporter want the team to do well, particularly today and next Saturday too, as the Shots face their big rivals, Woking. Mo hasn't played in a Shots v Woking game before and indeed, had been eager to play in the fixture before it was called off last season. At the time of this interview going to print, supporters were still permitted to attend Aldershot Town home games and Mo was looking forward to playing such a big game in front of supporters.

'I was planning to return for the game last season against Woking after injury, itching to get back playing so when we went into lockdown we didn't know what was happening. So to play in front of supporters again, it's just that little bit extra. That extra 10 percent you can say goes to the players. Because first of all, we want to make fans happy and secondly, with their encouragement with their chants and everything because we can hear them, I think it gives us that little extra boost. As a player, I love to play in front of them, so it's good. The fans are amazing, it's something I live for, the fans and their support.'

And has he always enjoyed building a bond with supporters?

'I think the fans take to people that want to work hard for the team. I think if you show that, and even if you don't



have great games, I think if the minimum was that you worked hard then I think that the fans appreciate that. That's the least they should be expecting; that should always be there, that you work hard.'

Mo also enjoys good relationships with his team mates and sees those as positively impacting those around him as well.

'To be fair, I get on with everyone. In the changing room I have Kodi and Harry either side of me and Jamie on the side too and they are the guys who I am always having a little chit chat with, a little group that we have. But I get on with everyone in the team, we have good banter, we know when to be serious and when not to be. We all have one focus and that is to do well for Aldershot Town and hopefully have a good season and lift the mood of the town because these are serious times, everyone is kind of down so for people to come out to football hopefully might make them feel a little bit more normal. As a fan myself of Arsenal, when I see that Arsenal have scored it gives you that little bit of relief. So I understand where they (the fans) are coming from when they want us to do well, which will help lift up spirits.'



A personal highlight for Mo in this most difficult of years was playing for his national side, Libya, in November. Not only did he make his international debut but he scored as well, a huge matter of pride and joy.

'I travelled to Egypt first as we played our home game there because of the ongoing situation in Libya. Then the next day we travelled to Guinea and it was a great experience to make my debut. As a footballer and for my family it was a very proud moment for them and for me as well. I can't even describe the feeling now. I scored on my debut (against Equatorial Guinea) and it was an emotional thing for me, for coming from where I was and working my way up, it was a very proud moment. And I hope that there will be many more proud moments to come.'

Videos of that goal can be seen on YouTube and Mo thinks that watching those can sum up best just how he felt when he scored.

'If you see the video of the goal and the celebrations after, a lot of things and emotions were going through me at the time and you will see what it meant to me.'

Apart from international trips, Mo has like most footballers, been focussing on training, playing matches and home life with staying in being the way forward for most people at the moment. As we approach the busy Christmas spell of games, he is happy for things to be that way.

'My little one keeps me occupied at home and we are expecting another one any time now! It's nice to have just a little bit of quality time at home because that's really all we can do at the moment, stay close to the family. Now that gyms are open I can go and that helps as well. The plan for me at the moment is work (football, gym) and home with the family.'

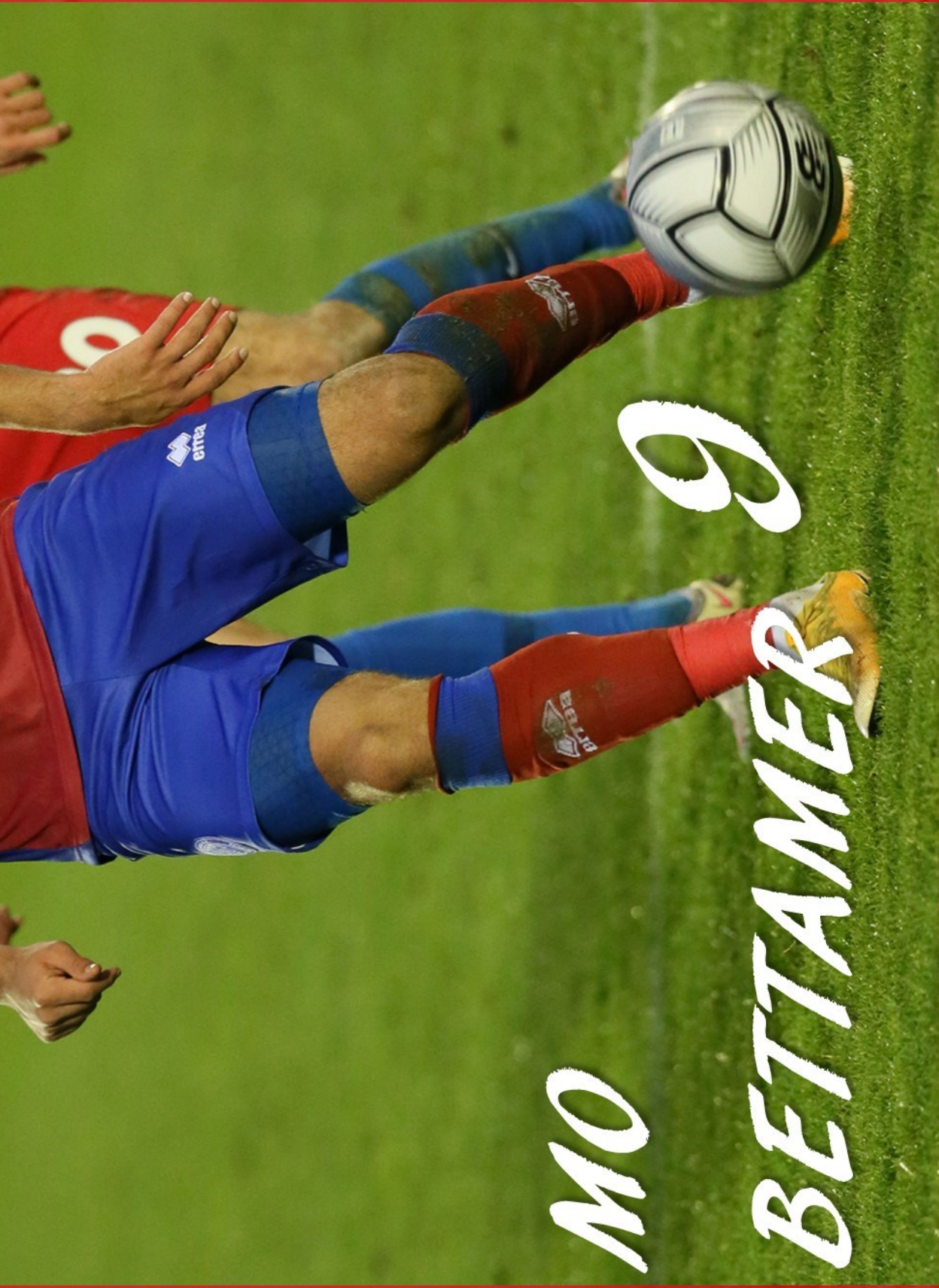
A quiet but hopefully fulfilling path for this Aldershot Town striker as he continues to work hard to develop his career and to bring success to his club.

**Words by Victoria Rogers**









MO

9

BETTAMER

# MATCH SPONSOR



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# THE ACADEMY

## PROFILE



**Name :** Tommy Willard

**Age group:** U23

**Playing position:** Striker

**What team do you support?**  
Southampton

**When did I join the academy?** I joined the academy at the start of the 2020/2021 season

**Who is your favourite footballer?** Lionel Messi, for me the greatest player of all time.

**What are your hopes for your footballing future?** For me I want to play at the highest level I can. Of course my dream is the Premier League, but to be a professional footballer as a job is something I've always dreamed of.

**When did you first start playing football?** I joined my local team at six-years-old, I then joined Southampton academy at the age of nine. My first word as a baby was Ball.

**Describe the best goal I have scored?** Weirdly enough it was in Year 7 at school, a Hampshire Cup Final at the EBB, and it was a free kick about 30 yards out straight into the top bin!

**Any advice for an academy player?** Don't dwell on setbacks. I've been released twice, from Southampton and Barnsley and all I can say is learn from the experience and use the setback to make a massive comeback in your next adventure and take the next chance you get.

**What type of player are you?** Goal scorer, I like to drop into the pocket to receive the ball and I like to make runs in behind.

**What do I want to achieve this season with the academy?** As a team I want to win the league and as an individual I want to finish top goalscorer in the league, and show the gaffer what I can do and what I'm about when I get the chance.



# EBB STADIUM

## CODE OF CONDUCT

We look forward to welcoming you back in line with Government guidance on the admission of spectators.

This Code of Conduct distributed by the National League acts to principally guide and advise ticket holders of the protocols in place on any match day:

The Club has in place a range of processes to ensure the safety of all entering on any match day, however it is vitally important that all attendees play their part in making it safe and enjoyable and to do so we need your full cooperation.

You are therefore kindly reminded of the requirement to adhere to this Code of Conduct at all times, and follow all safety requirements, in order to assist Club staff, stewards and volunteers, and to help protect you and your fellow spectators.

You are reminded if purchasing tickets on behalf of others, they are also required to provide their names and contact details for each individual ticket holder. Tickets must not be passed on to anyone else.

You must not attend if suffering from COVID-19 symptoms, are feeling unwell, or if you've been in close contact recently with anyone experiencing symptoms or who has tested positive. In the event you develop COVID-19 symptoms whilst at the Stadium, please notify the nearest member of Club staff immediately.

Plan your journey in advance and arrive at the stadium in plenty of time – check any advice of arrival times expected for you, which is issued at the time of purchasing your ticket(s). Normal entry points might be closed and additional stadium entry procedures will be in place. On arrival at the ground please be aware that social distancing and other safety measures will be in operation. Follow all Club signage, instructions and guidance issued by stewards and/or Club personnel.

It is Club policy that all entering must wear a face cover when entering until exiting the Stadium. Face covers may not be removed unless eating or drinking.

Avoid bringing large bags into the stadium and only do so if absolutely necessary, to avoid slowing down the stadium entry process.

Tickets must be purchased before match day. There will not be any ticket sales on the day.

At all times please observe social distancing and avoid close contact with others not in your social bubble. Upon entering the

stadium please pay close attention to signage and instructions issued by stewards or via the club's PA system, this will help get you where you need to be in the most efficient way. Some of the ground's amenities, such as toilets, food and drink outlets, may not be in operation or may be operating at a reduced capacity.

When using toilet facilities, please follow all guidance. Be patient and considerate towards other users, and wait your turn to avoid toilets areas becoming crowded. Where possible, try to avoid peak times (such as half-time and the end of the game). Maintain good hand hygiene at all times around the stadium – use the sanitiser dispensers provided and avoid touching your face, or handles and railings whenever possible. Please remain in your seat/standing location for the full game if possible – including at half time, and avoid unnecessary movement. If you need to move, wait until gangways are clear, avoid face to face contact and follow stewards' instructions.

We all hope we'll be celebrating a goal but please remember to maintain safe distances to other supporters not in your social bubble, and be respectful and mindful to those around you whose individual circumstances may differ from your own.

Please refrain from touching the match ball if it is kicked out of play and into where you are watching the match. A member of Club staff will collect the ball in order to sanitise it and return it to the field of play.

Do not approach any of the Club's or visiting Club's players or coaching staff at any time, as players and staff will not be able to sign autographs or pose for photographs.

Please be ultra-patient when leaving the stadium and listen to the advice from stewards. In most cases you will only be permitted to leave upon the direction of a steward to ensure staggered exits across the stadium footprint and thus mitigate any risk. It will take longer than normal to leave due to these procedures.

The Club reserves the right to eject any supporter that fails to comply with this Code of Conduct and reminds you the stadium capacities under which we can operate to allow spectators to return may ultimately be negatively impacted as a result of any safety issues.

Thank you for your support and full co-operation. Stay alert, follow these guidelines and help us all enjoy your attendance as safely as possible under the circumstances.

# MATCH ACTION

Saturday 19 December  
FA Trophy 3rd Round  
Kick-Off 3pm

Welwyn Garden City 1  
Kinoshi 85'

## The Shots 5

Fondop-Talom 20' (p), Finney 55',  
Ogie 73', Bettamer 75', Kandi 90+1'

## Herns Way



**Welwyn Garden City:** Crowley,  
Mensah, Sexton, Walkin, Close  
(Booked), Rolfe, Buchanan  
(Booked) (Tshikala 53'), Ironton  
(Booked). Vasey (Kinoshi 53'),  
Keenleyside (Booked), Bailey  
(Akwas 76') **Subs:** Kinoshi,  
Bennett, Akwasi, Tshikala, Marfo



**The Shots:** Walker, Colombie  
(Booked), Finney, Sendles-White,  
Ogie, Anderson, Rees, Fondop-  
Talom, Edser (Bettamer 72'),  
Kandi, Nouble **Subs:** James, Lyons-  
Foster, Bettamer, Whittingham,  
Phillips





# “POST-MATCH THOUGHTS”

## NICK IRONTON

'I'm disappointed with the scoreline, it didn't really reflect the game. We're not embarrassed by the 5-1 but we don't usually concede that amount of goals. We got a bit leggy at the end, ran out of steam in the last 10 or 15 minutes.'

## DANNY SEARLE

'I came and watched Welwyn on Tuesday night to see what they've got. Ironically, I thought they left their best player on the bench which was interesting, but overall it was a professional performance and the message was quite clear; we wanted to be in the next round.'





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# INTRODUCING WOKING



This afternoon sees a second visit of the season for our local rivals, Woking, as today sees the first National League derby of the season against them. The visitors were 2-1 winners here in the FA Cup at the end of October and will be looking to double their tally of victories here this season. Woking currently sit in seventh place in the National League table, as we rapidly approach the New Year. Woking have won their last two games, with a 3-0 home National League win against Hartlepool, being followed up by an FA Trophy win against Dover last Saturday by a 2-1 scoreline. A win could see Alan Dowson's side climb as far as third in the table, if results go their way.

In goal for the last league game against Hartlepool was Craig Ross. The Woking goalkeeper has kept four clean sheets in 13 league games. Weymouth, Dagenham & Redbridge, FC Halifax Town and Hartlepool are the teams that were unable to beat The Cards goalkeeper. Woking chose not to have a substitute goalkeeper on the bench, which has been a frequent theme this season.

In defence, Jack Cook has played in all 13 games and was on the scoresheet against Hartlepool. He has also scored this season against Dagenham & Redbridge. Former Shot, Josh Casey, is back at the EBB Stadium this afternoon. Casey has made 13 league appearances this season and he has previously played for Salisbury City and Hampton & Richmond. Former Birmingham trainee, Charlie Cooper, has made 12 league appearances this season and was sent off in November against Barnet, in a 4-1 Woking win. Cooper was a scorer in the FA Trophy tie against Dover. Cooper has Forest Green Rovers and Newport County amongst his former clubs. West Brom loanee Saul Shotton was at Bury prior to their difficulties and left the club in September of last year. Shotton has been ever-present for Woking this season in the National League, making 13 appearances, and played for West Bromwich Albion U-21s in a Football League Trophy tie

against Swindon in September.

In midfield, Max Kretzchmar was sent off against Hartlepool. He will not feature this afternoon as he is serving the second match of a three-game suspension. Kretzchmar has made 12 league appearances, scoring three goals. Kretzchmar also scored in Woking's FA Cup first round defeat to Gillingham. Charlton loanee Ben Dempsey has made nine appearances for Woking in the National League this season. Dempsey made his debut against Dagenham & Redbridge on 13 October. Dempsey played for Charlton in their 2-1 Football League Trophy defeat against AFC Wimbledon in September. Former West Ham midfielder, Matt Jarvis, has made nine appearances in the National League for Woking and scored his first league goal for the club against Hartlepool. West Ham paid Wolves £7,500,000 for Jarvis in the 2012/13 season. Kyran Lofthouse joined Woking on loan from Oxford at the end of October. Lofthouse has made eight National League appearances and is looking for his first Woking goal. Prior to joining Woking, Lofthouse had made two appearances for Oxford in cup competitions this season.

Up front, Oxford loanee Slavi Spasov made his Woking debut on the opening day of the season against Solihull Moors. Spasov scored the only goal of the game in the 1-0 away win at Weymouth and has also scored against Dover and in the Hartlepool match. Spasov has made 13 league appearances this season. Josh Davison is on loan from Charlton Athletic. Davison has scored three goals in eight league appearances for Woking. Davison was also on the score sheet against Gillingham in the FA Cup. Davison had a four-game scoring streak, with goals against King's Lynn, Gillingham, Yeovil and Dover.

Following this afternoon's game Woking end 2020 with a home game against Eastleigh on 28 December, before the return game against The Shots starts Woking's 2021 fixtures on 2 January.

**Words by Dan Blake**



# HISTORY

Words by Dan Blake

The Shots have an enviable record against their local rivals. Out of a total of 26 games between the sides The Shots have won 15, five have been draws and Woking have won six. Five of the last six contests between the sides have gone the way of The Shots. At the end of October, Woking won here 2-1, to secure themselves a place in the FA Cup First Round away to Gillingham. Last season, the sides only played once due to the shortened season. That game at the Laithwaite Community Stadium saw Jacob Berkeley-Agyepong's 23rd minute strike win the game for The Shots on their travels. The last league game

played here saw The Shots come out 3-1 winners, Shamir Fenelon's first half brace and Manny Oyeleke were the Shots scorers, Inih Effiong was The Cards goalscorer. The 2016-17 season saw an emphatic first half display here at the EBB as a Scott Rendell hat-trick and a Shamir Fenelon goal saw the Shots go in 4-0 ahead and that would be the score at the end of proceedings. Woking's last victory here was on Boxing Day in 2015, when John Goddard's 40th minute goal took all three points back to Woking.

## THE BOSS ALAN DOWSON

Alan, better known as 'Dowse', took over as Woking manager in May 2018 following the Cards' relegation from the National League. Dowse enjoyed a superb first season, earning an immediate return to the top flight of non-league football with promotion via the play-offs. After finishing as runners-up to Torquay United, the Cards defeated Wealdstone and Welling United in the end of season competition to bounce back at the first attempt. His side continued that great form into the shortened 2019/20 season, securing a top 10 finish in the National League for the first time since 2015.

He also led the Cards to the third round of the FA Cup, the first time Woking have progressed to that stage since 1997. They knocked out Swindon Town en route to a third round meeting with Watford, which ended in an admirable 2-0 defeat, in front of a sold out crowd at the Laithwaite Community Stadium.

After enjoying a playing career

which took him to Millwall, Fulham, Bradford City and Darlington, Dowse became player-manager at Walton and Hersham in 2004, with the highlight of a three-year spell being a run to the fourth round of the FA Trophy the following year. In 2007 he moved to Kingstonian where he led the club to promotion from the Isthmian Division One South as champions. His side also twice reached the play-offs of the Isthmian Premier Division.

In 2014, Dowse joined Hampton & Richmond Borough, winning promotion from the Isthmian Premier at the second attempt. Their fine form continued into National League South as back-to-back play-off campaigns followed – with only a penalty shoot-out defeat at the hands of Braintree Town preventing the club from earning promotion to the National League in 2018. That would prove to be Dowse's final game with Hampton as he took his self-proclaimed dream job at Woking that summer.





# 13

## CRAIG ROSS

Craig is a former Woking academy graduate who returned to the club in 2018. During his debut campaign he made 34 consecutive league starts, including both play-off victories. He also played every minute of the Cards' run to the third round of the FA Cup, featuring the memorable 1-0 victory over Swindon Town, and culminating in the defeat to Premier League Watford. He finished the campaign with 14 clean sheets. His exploits during the shortened 2019/20 season won him three of the end of season awards – Manager's, Players' and Fan's Player of the Year.

Before his return to Woking, he enjoyed an impressive career in non-league football. His senior career started at Ashford Town (Middlesex) where he spent two years before joining Carshalton Athletic. Brief spells followed at Godalming and Welling but it was at Hampton and Richmond Borough where he first began to establish himself. From Hampton he joined Cambridge, then Eastbourne. After a short stint with Farnborough he spent close to two years with Whitehawk, subsequently earning a move to Macclesfield. The Football League beckoned twelve months later as he made 38 appearances for Barnet. He started the 2018/19 campaign at Leatherhead before returning to Woking.



# 2

## JACK COOK

Jack is a versatile defender who spent much of his early career as a centre-back before being transitioned into a right-sided full-back. He was one of several players to join the Cards from Hampton in the summer of 2018 and he quickly made an impact at both ends of the pitch, netting four league goals in his debut season. Despite his success at the heart of the Woking defence, he would end the year as the club's first-choice right-back. He continued in his new role throughout the disrupted 2019/20 season where he became one of the team's most consistent performers.



# 8

## KANE FERDINAND

A talented box-to-box midfielder, he first joined the club in December 2016, making his debut in the Boxing Day defeat to Aldershot Town. Ferdinand earned a new contract in summer 2017, under incoming manager Anthony Limbrick. A near ever-present for Limbrick, making 50 appearances and scoring four goals, whilst the season ended in a disappointing relegation, Ferdinand remained one of the team's few shining lights. He stayed on with new manager Alan Dowson in 2018 and started the season as a key player. Sadly, an injury suffered in early October restricted him to just 14 appearances. He returned on the final day of the season before playing a crucial role in the Cards' play-off victories over Wealdstone, where he came off the bench at 2-0 down and helped his team to a 3-2 win, and Welling United. He retained his spot as a key player throughout the shortened 2019/20 season, scoring four times in 38 appearances.

The midfielder began his career at Southend United in 2010, making more than 60 appearances and scoring 10 goals. A move to Peterborough United followed in 2012 where he made 32 appearances during his debut campaign. Over the next two years, following Peterborough's relegation to League One, his appearances were more limited, and he spent time on loan at Northampton Town, Luton Town and Cheltenham Town. He joined Dagenham & Redbridge in 2015 but left the following February. He eventually joined East Thurrock United that September, scoring five goals in 13 games, before joining Woking.



# 11

## MATT JARVIS

Matt signed a new contract with the Cards in the summer of 2020. The one-time England international, launched his comeback in February 2020 after nearly five years of injury problems. He scored with his first touch in a Woking shirt after coming off the bench in a 2-0 home win over Maidenhead United. The experienced wide player, who can feature on either flank, ultimately managed just two appearances before the season came to an end, but certainly did enough to whet the appetite of Woking fans for what could follow across a full season.



### 1 Harvey White

Harvey joined the Cards in the summer of 2020 after a successful trial period. The young goalkeeper started his career with Queens Park Rangers before joining Watford, where he was part of the club's Under-23 setup last season. He also spent time on loan with Stratford Town and Hendon during the 2019/20 campaign.

### 3 Josh Casey

Josh is Woking's club captain. He joined the club in 2018. A natural leader and an industrious left-sided defender, he has become a firm fan favourite. The skipper enjoyed a clean sweep of the end of season awards in 2019 when he took home the Manager's, Players', and Fans' Player of the Year awards.

He began his career with Aldershot Town in 2009. From there, he moved to Salisbury and Bashley, before linking up with Kingstonian in 2013. He spent two years with the K's before moving to Hampton in 2015. The following campaign saw the Beavers finish as Isthmian League champions. Three successive play-off campaigns followed as Hampton were beaten semi-finalists in 2017 and finalists in 2018, before Josh finally tasted play-off victory with the Cards in 2019. He was a near ever-present as Woking finished second in National League South and reached the third round of the FA Cup, and remained one of the first names on the teamsheet throughout the shortened 2019/20 campaign as he closed in on 100 appearances for the Cards in all competitions.

### 4 Charlie Cooper

Charlie joined Woking in the summer of 2020. The ball-winning midfield player spent last season with FC Halifax Town, for whom he made 30 appearances, scoring once.

He started his senior career at Birmingham City after graduating from the club's youth academy in 2015. He spent a further two seasons with the Championship club, enjoying time on loan at York City and Forest Green Rovers, managed by Charlie's father, Mark. He made 28 appearances for Rovers during the 2016/17 campaign as the Gloucestershire side sealed promotion to the Football League via the play-offs. He joined FGR permanently that summer, playing a further 31 times, before injury disrupted his development. Charlie comes from a fine footballing family. As well as his father Mark, his grandfather is former Leeds United and England defender Terry Cooper.

### 6 Saul Shotton

Saul joined the Cards on a short-term loan deal from Premier League side West Bromwich Albion shortly before the start of the 2020/21 National League season. A highly-rated central defender, he joined the Baggies from Bury. He made six appearances in total for the Shakers before being picked up by West Brom last summer.

### 7 Dave Tarpey

Dave initially joined the club on a one-month loan deal during the 2018/19 season, scoring three times in seven appearances, helping the Cards win promotion to the National League. After finishing the campaign with parent club Barnet, he returned to Woking that summer. He went on to enjoy a positive season as the Cards secured a tenth place finish, predominantly playing on the right of a three-man forward line. He scored eight times in 41 appearances in all competitions.

The forward began his career with Henley Town before his performances earned him a move to Basingstoke Town in 2007. After just over 60 league appearances he moved to Hampton & Richmond Borough in 2009 and became a key player with 31 goals in 115 games. Two seasons with

Farnborough followed before he joined Maidenhead United in 2015. It was there that his career truly took off. He netted 95 goals in 141 games for Maidenhead, including 45 in all competitions during the club's National League South promotion season in 2016/17, as well as seven in the first six games following promotion to the National League. His exploits finally earned him a career-long dream of a move into the Football League, only for an injury on just his second appearance for Barnet ending his season. He spent the rest of the season sidelined nursing his anterior cruciate ligament. The following season he joined Woking.

### 10 Max Kretzschmar

Max signed a new contract in the summer of 2020 ahead of a fourth season with the club. The attacking midfield player has had two spells with the Cards. He originally moved to the Laithwaite Community Stadium in 2016, joining from Wycombe Wanderers, making 24 appearances. He netted three times, including the crucial goal against Dagenham & Redbridge on the final day of the 2016/17 season, which ensured Woking's National League survival. After a one year absence he returned to the club in 2018 and played a key role in the Cards' National League South promotion-winning campaign. He finished the year as the club's joint top scorer with 15 goals in all competitions. Injuries limited his impact on his return to the National League, keeping him to just 13 league starts.

### 12 Nathan Collier

Nathan signed a new contract in the summer of 2020. The experienced utility player, who has predominately been utilised at right-back during his time with the Cards but can play anywhere across the back four and in midfield, is a popular figure at the club. He played a vital role throughout the 2018/19 season, making 48 appearances including 45 starts, as Woking won promotion to the National League via the play-offs and reached the third round of the FA Cup. Whilst he found his minutes on the pitch marginalised during the shortened 2019/20 campaign, making 19 appearances in all competitions, he continued to play an important role off the pitch, as an experienced player in the dressing room, whilst also providing cover in numerous positions from the bench.

### 14 Slavi Spasov

Slavi joined the Cards on a short-term loan deal shortly before the start of the 2020/21 National League season. The striker is highly-rated at parent club Oxford United. He won the U's Young Player of the Season Award in 2019, at the end of a season where he made his first-team debut in the EFL Trophy, scoring a penalty in a 3-0 win against Fulham's academy team, before making his Football League bow against Bristol Rovers in December 2018. Last season his progress was disrupted by injury. The teenager now joins Woking, looking for more chances in men's first-team football, and aiming to score goals in the National League.

### 15 Jack Skinner

A versatile attacking player who can play out wide or behind the striker, Jack signed for the first-team in the summer of 2019, after graduating from the club's academy. Born in New South Wales, Australia, Jack moved to England with his family in 2014. He participated in a college programme with Luton Town, before relocating to Surrey four years later. He joined the Woking academy, coming straight into the Under-23 team to play with the other third years.

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He scored a hat-trick in a 5-0 Surrey Senior Cup debut win against Croydon in December 2018. He went on to play twice more in the competition, finding the net once again in the quarter-final defeat to Banstead Athletic. After the Cards were knocked out, he signed dual-registration forms with Isthmian League Premier Division side Leatherhead for the rest of the season, gaining first-team experience in the process. Last season he was able to make further strides on loan at Hampton & Richmond Borough, Walton Casuals and Eastbourne Borough, where he impressed with two goals in eight appearances before the season was cut short.

#### **16 Kyran Lofthouse**

Kyran joined fellow Oxford youngster Malachi Napa and Slavi Spasov at Woking in late October 2020, signing a short-term loan deal. The pacey wide player, who is comfortable at either as a right-side winger or at right-back, has already made two appearances for the U's this season, featuring in both the EFL Cup and EFL Trophy. Last season he spent time on loan at Oxford City in National League South, where he played 17 times in all competitions, scoring three times.

#### **18 Ben Dempsey**

Ben joined the Cards for a second loan spell in October 2020, shortly after the start of the new National League season. A tough-tackling central midfield player, he originally enjoyed a month's loan starting in February, making an immediate impact and helping the team to two wins and two draws in five league outings before the season was cut short.

A highly promising member of the Charlton Athletic youth team, he made his debut for the London-based club in August 2018, appearing twice in cup competitions - once in the League Cup and once in the EFL Trophy - also spending time on loan at Alan Dowson's former club, Kingstonian. Last season saw play four times in the Championship, including during a 2-2 draw with promotion-chasing West Bromwich Albion. He also spent time on loan at National League South side Dulwich Hamlet before making the move to the Laithwaite Community Stadium after the turn of the year.

#### **21 Tommy Block**

Tommy joined the Cards in the summer of 2020 after a successful trial. A defensive midfield player also capable of dropping into defence, he joined Woking from Scottish Premiership side Hibernian, where he was predominately part of the club's reserve team set-up. He spent the bulk of the shortened 2019/20 season on loan at Queen's Park in the fourth tier of Scottish football, where he made 20 appearances in all competitions, scoring twice. He was also an unused substitute for one Hibs first-team game, a 4-0 win over Elgin City in the SFA Cup.

A former Woking academy player, he started his senior career with Pagham before joining hometown club Bognor Regis Town in 2017. He became a first-team regular in a challenging 2017/18 campaign, making 38 appearances as Bognor battled unsuccessfully against relegation from the sixth tier. He made a further 25 appearances the following season, which included him scoring his first goal for the

club in a 3-2 cup win over Three Bridges, before a surprise move to Scotland beckoned in January 2019.

#### **22 John Goddard**

John re-joined Woking for a second spell in the summer of 2020. The versatile attacking midfield player, who can play on either flank or behind a central striker, enjoyed a stellar three seasons with the Cards between 2013 and 2016, establishing himself as a firm fan favourite. He scored 31 goals in 139 appearances in all competitions, including 20 in his final season, where his exploits won him the club's Player of the Year award and earned him a move to League One side Swindon Town. Highlights included goals in consecutive wins over local rivals Aldershot Town as well as the winner against league leaders Forest Green Rovers, who were unbeaten at the time. He was also a regular starter in the club's hugely successful 2014/15 campaign which saw Woking finish seventh in the National League - missing out on a play-off place by just three points.

Before joining Woking, he started his career with Hayes & Yeading United, whom he joined from Reading's academy system. His Football League career also started strongly after he swapped Woking for Swindon in 2016, making 48 appearances in his first season with the Robins. After struggling with a foot injury during the first-half of the 2017/18 season he was sold to Stevenage, but quickly fell out of favour after a change in manager and was loaned to Bromley, before finishing the 2018/19 season at Aldershot. He spent all of last season with Ebbsfleet United. He made 23 appearances in all competitions, scoring once on his debut, before the season was cut short.

#### **23 Jayden Wareham**

Jayden is a highly-regarded second-year academy player who joined the Cards youth set-up on a two-year deal in the summer of 2019. After regularly impressing for the youth team, he was promoted to the senior side at the start of the following year, making his debut as a substitute against Sutton United on New Year's Day, aged just 16. Further appearances followed, including a first club start in the Surrey Senior Cup match against Dorking Wanderers in February, as well as successive appearances from the bench in the final two games of the season against FC Halifax Town and Barnet.

#### **25 Josh Davison**

Josh joined Woking in October 2020, signing an initial loan deal until January. The highly-rated striker started his senior career at Peterborough United, but was released without making a first-team appearance, and joined Enfield Town for the 2018/19 campaign in the Isthmian Premier League. He enjoyed a brilliant campaign for the London-based club, scoring 22 goals in 25 games in all competitions, earning him a move to Charlton. He made 10 appearances in his first season, scoring a memorable first goal in a 2-2 draw with West Bromwich Albion, before signing a new long-term contract last summer.



# MERRY CHRISTMAS

GOODBYE 2020!



TOM



FRANK



BETH

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# FANZONE



*With Rob Worrall*

Merry Christmas to everyone connected with Aldershot Town FC and welcome to Fanzone for our Boxing Day clash with local rivals Woking.

Unlike the FA Cup tie earlier this season, hopefully today The EBB Stadium, whilst not filled, can at least be full of noise, vibrancy and there can be some Christmas cheer through these challenging times.

Our featured Shots supporter in this Fanzone, is Tenerife-based Aldershot Town fan Lindsay Morrish.

Lindsay, who grew up in the Farnborough area, has been watching The Shots since the early 1970s, having been invited along to 'The Rec' by a friend of his late father. Lindsay has two daughters, both of which have been Match-day Mascots.

Lindsay has twice moved further away from north-east Hampshire, initially to Fife, Scotland and approximately ten years ago, out to the Canary Islands. He had been holidaying in Tenerife for a number of years prior to that and having taken the plunge to move out there, now works in the Tourist Change.

Having played a lot of sport, Lindsay missed a lot of games through the 1980s, but when Aldershot Town FC was formed in 1992, Lindsay and his youngest daughter became transfixed and went "home and away, to places that we didn't know existed". These days, he mostly listens to BBC match commentary of Shots games and often interacts with his best wishes for the team, or reaction to the result.

He doesn't get to see the team play much, but hopes that "Ross McCormack manages to get fit and helps the team move up the league." Lindsay also sends his best wishes to all Shots fans; "Stay safe everybody. A New Year is coming so let's hope for a better 2021. If any of you manage to get out to Tenerife, please get in touch."

Lindsay's photos are of; himself in a Shots top and of his grandson Noah, aged seven.

That's it for today. Please keep your photos, birthdays and anniversaries coming and your funny Shots-related stories.



Email your Selfies, Stories, First Matches, Anniversaries and Birthdays to [robaworrall@gmail.com](mailto:robaworrall@gmail.com)





*THE BIG PICTURE*



Alex Finney rises highest to score his first Aldershot Town goal in last Saturday's 5-1 FA Trophy third round win over Welwyn Garden City.





# *FUN WITH T*

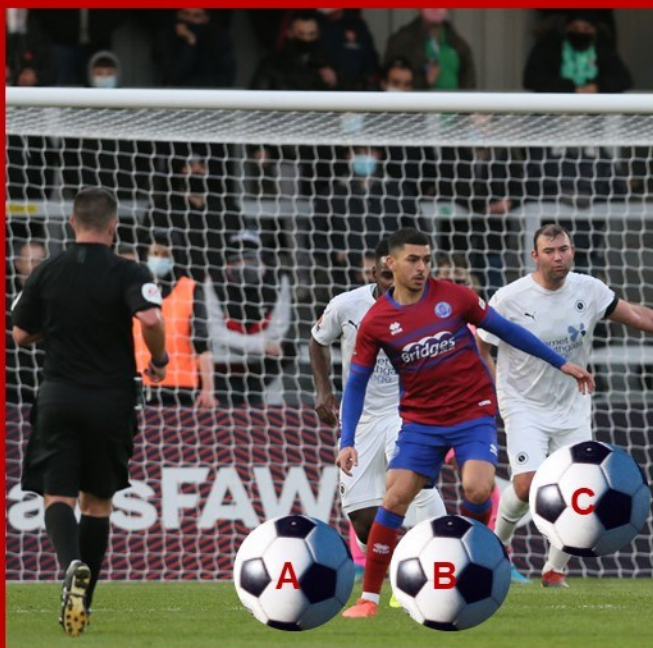
## *WORDSEARCH*

Can you find the names of four  
Aldershot Town Boxing Day goal  
scorers in our wordsearch?

**GALLAGHER**  
**RENDELL**  
**STAIRS**  
**CHEWINS**

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

## *SPOT THE BALL*



## *HAT-TRICK QUIZ*

Can you score a hat-trick of answers in our quick-fire quiz?

1 Why are Woking nicknamed 'The Cards'?

2 Which future staff member at Aldershot Town scored the Shots' only goal in the draw away to Basingstoke on Boxing Day in 1994?

3 Who recently took the manager's post at West Bromwich Albion after Slaven Bilic was sacked?



# THE PHOENIX!



## GUESS THE GROUND



## WHO AM I?



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

Wordsearch solution

Hat-Trick Quiz  
1 From the cardinal red in their  
playing strips  
2 Andy Nunn  
3 Sam Allardyce  
Guess the Ground  
Crabble, Dover Athletic  
Who am I?  
Killian Colombie  
Spot the Ball  
B

ANSWERS



# GOLDEN GOALS



This season sees a new way of looking at Shots games gone past, this time through the medium of goals. But not the most exquisitely executed goals, although there's been plenty of those over the years – the mazy runs, the stunning free-kicks. No, this feature is going to focus on the vital goals, the significant goals, the ones that turned games and seasons, the well-timed goals in the context of the game, turning one point into three, defeat into a dramatic draw or victory over rivals, be that neighbourly or positionally. And a few goals that just announced that the Shots were back. Some were penalties, some were tap-ins, some were out of this world, but whatever they were, they were significant and sent the fans wild. And in all cases they were most definitely golden!

## **Jake Gallagher v Woking**

Sunday 1 January 2017

Woking 1 – 2 Aldershot Town

Goalscorers: Scott Rendell, Jake Gallagher

Vanarama National League

Attendance: 3,224 (Visitors 1,117)

Big matches need big players – not necessarily the six-foot-plus colossi that bestride the non-league game like man-mountains, much as their importance can be, but those who are big in heart, belief and ability. In a match which in recent times has become one of the biggest in the Aldershot Town season calendar, Shots v Woking, there is a need for several players with those qualities and in Gary Waddock's first season after his return to the EBB Stadium, the team was full of them, including the fast-growing-in-popularity Jake Gallagher, now in his second season with Aldershot Town.

Indeed, Gallagher was one of only four players that Waddock had retained from the previous season's squad, and two of them had now also left the Club. It was testament to Jake's desire to play his heart out in every match, along with his passion for the game coupled with natural terrier-like ability which had led him to becoming more and more of a fans' favourite with every game, even taking the captain's armband at the end of the previous season for one or two matches. But it had been a season riddled with trouble for the Shots number 16, with that passion for the game leading him into trouble and seeing a red card no fewer than three times, leading to a total of 12 games missed through bans and there had been considerable anger shown towards the former Welling player on social media. But manager Barry Smith persisted with the young player and his faith and belief in the midfielder, along with Waddock liking what he had seen of him on scouting trips to the EBB, gave Jake the base on which to work towards becoming an Aldershot Town legend.

In this process, he was helped massively by what he was to do in the dying seconds of this 2017 New Year's Day match, away to rivals Woking. The previous season, under the management of Barry Smith, had been a deeply painful one for all Shots supporters as the double header over the festive period had seen Aldershot Town defeated both home and away – but this season was going to be so different. Of the team who took the field to play the Boxing Day match at the EBB, the only two players who remained from the previous campaign were Jake Gallagher and Cheye Alexander, and the same applied to the eleven players who ran out onto the Kingfield pitch on this first day of 2017. Just Gallagher and Alexander from the team named exactly 12 months earlier.





The Boxing Day match had ended in a resounding 4:0 victory for Waddock's men and there was a level of determination from the Woking players to not be turned over in the same way in front of their own supporters. Tensions were high, with former Cards favourites Scott Rendell and Jake Cole now both wearing Shots shirts and with neither man receiving any kind of warm welcome from their former supporters, the scene was set for drama. It was also hammering it down with rain which meant the Aldershot Town fanbase, massed along the open Chris Lane terrace, was soaked through by half-time – not that they let it affect their support in any way. Drenched they might be but their volume could be heard all around the ground.

That wet first half ended goalless but things were to escalate dramatically in the second. From an Anthony Straker cross, Rendell headed the visitors in front in the 62nd minute, slap bang in front of the Woking supporters. Not since Eric Cantona scored for Manchester United against Leeds in 1996 had there been such a dichotomy of reaction in the same football ground to a goal! The Shots' jubilation was extremely short-lived though. Stung into action by yet another Rendell goal – his hat-trick a week earlier had been a cruel blow – Woking hit back immediately, Max Kretzschmar's header skimming the top of Cole's head and into the back of the net. Equal terms once again.

And it might have ended there, with everyone wet through, the pitch dragging on tired legs but there was to be one moment of magic that would settle the match. Even as the pitch announcer was informing supporters of how much time

was to be added on, a move down the left-hand side of the pitch saw the ball crossed into the Woking penalty box, flicked on by Idris Kanu whose shot was pushed across the front of the goal by Michael Poke and then bundled into the back of the net by an onrushing and well-placed Jake Gallagher! The celebrations for this goal were only bettered two minutes later when the final whistle was blown and the Shots ended the game with three hard-fought-points. Gallagher, clutching a Shots scarf was front and centre of these amazing scenes, his place in Aldershot Town legend now assured!

Jake finished that season on 45 appearances and with four goals to his name and went on to make a further 78 appearances in a Shots shirt over the following two seasons. In the four seasons he was at the EBB Stadium he became one of the most popular and loved players to pull on the red and blue in recent times, known for his exuberant winning celebrations in front of the East Bank – he also scored a few more goals and picked up a strong selection of yellow cards. But nothing could diminish the bond between supporter and player and when he departed the Rec in the summer of 2019, to sign for Dorking Wanderers, he went with everyone's good wishes. And no one who was at Kingfield that day will ever forget that goal; last minute, against rivals, taking the three points – it was most definitely golden...

**Words by Victoria Rogers**



## FIXTURES & RESULTS

# FIXTURES & RESULTS

DATE	OPPOSITION	COMP	RES	ATT	AWAY	POS	Mitch WALKER	George FOWLER	Alex FINNEY	Jamie SENDLES-WHITE	Kodi LYONS-FOSTER	James ROWE	Josh REES	Mo BETTAMER	Chike KANDI	Harrison PANAYIOTOU	Alfy WHITTINGHAM
Sat 3 Oct	Hartlepool United	VNL	L 1-2	N/A	N/A	17											
Tue 6 Oct	Sutton United	VNL	L 1-2	N/A	N/A	22											
Tues 13 Oct	Dover Athletic	VNL	W 5-0	N/A	N/A	15			>		<	>>	2	2		1>>>	
Sat 17 Oct	Eastleigh	VNL	D 2-2	N/A	N/A	13						>					>>
Sat 24 Oct	Woking	FAC 4Q	L 1-2	N/A	N/A	N/A						>>>		1	<		>>
Tue 27 Oct	Torquay United	VNL	L 1-4	N/A	N/A	17			</>>>			>>	>				
Sat 7 Nov	Notts County	VNL	W 1-0	N/A	N/A	13										1>	
Sat 14 Nov	Altrincham	VNL	W 2-1	N/A	N/A	11						<			<<1		
Tue 17 Nov	Maidenhead United	VNL	D 0-0	N/A	N/A	10						<		<	>>		
Sat 21 Nov	Wrexham	VNL	L 0-1	N/A	N/A	15									<<		>
Tue 1 Dec	Chesterfield	VNL	D 0-0	N/A	N/A	15				<							
Tue 5 Dec	Dagenham & Redbridge	VNL	W 2-1	920	N/A	13				<<<			>	1	>>	1	
Sat 8 Dec	FC Halifax Town	VNL	L 1-3	818	N/A	16						>>		1	>	>>>	
Sat 12 Dec	Boreham Wood	VNL	L 2-3 *og	650	N/A	17						>>				>	
Sat 19 Dec	Welwyn Garden City	FAT 3	W 5-1	N/A	N/A	N/A			1					<1	1		
Sat 26 Dec	Woking	VNL															
Mon 28 Dec	Yeovil Town	VNL															
Sat 2 Jan	Woking	VNL															
Sat 9 Jan	Barnet	VNL															
Sat 16 Jan	Solihull Moors	FAT 4															
Sat 23 Jan	Wealdstone	VNL															
Tue 26 Jan	Weymouth	VNL															
Sat 30 Jan	Bromley	VNL															
Sat 6 Feb	King's Lynn Town	VNL															
Tue 9 Feb	Chesterfield	VNL															
Sat 13 Feb	Stockport County	VNL															
Tue 16 Feb	Solihull Moors	VNL															
Sat 20 Feb	Wrexham	VNL															
Tue 23 Feb	Maidenhead United	VNL															
Sat 27 Feb	Eastleigh	VNL															
Sat 6 Mar	Notts County	VNL															
Tue 9 Mar	Torquay United	VNL															
Sat 13 Mar	Altrincham	VNL															
Tue 16 Mar	FC Halifax Town	VNL															
Sat 20 Mar	Boreham Wood	VNL															
Sat 27 Mar	Solihull Moors	VNL															
Fri 2 Apr	Stockport County	VNL															
Mon 5 Apr	Dagenham & Redbridge	VNL															
Sat 10 Apr	Yeovil Town	VNL															
Tue 13 Apr	Weymouth	VNL															
Sat 17 Apr	Barnet	VNL															
Sat 24 Apr	Wealdstone	VNL															
Sat 1 May	Sutton United	VNL															
Mon 3 May	Dover Athletic	VNL															
Sat 15 May	Hartlepool United	VNL															
Sat 22 May	Bromley	VNL															
Sat 29 May	King's Lynn Town	VNL															



# PLAYER STATS

Player	13	14	15	17	18	20	21	22	23	25	26	27	29	35	36	44
Ryan HALL																
Joel NOUBLE																
Jermaine ANDERSON																
Joseph HUNGBO																
Reece WYLIE																
Toby EDSER																
Ben SHROLL																
Giles PHILLIPS																
Killian COLOMBIE																
Shadrach OGIE																
Lewis KINSELLA																
Craig ATNNER																
Joe RABBETTS																
Brad JAMES																
Mike FONDOP-TALOM																
Ross MCCORMACK																

	2020/21 APPS   GLS	ATFC Career APPS   GLS
1 Mitch WALKER	7 -	48 -
2 George FOWLER	13 -	76 2
3 Alex FINNEY	4+1 1	40+3 1
4 Jamie SENDLES-WHITE	8+2 -	8+2 -
5	- -	- -
6 Kodi LYONS-FOSTER	13+1 -	41+13 2
7 James ROWE	7+4 -	58+17 4
8 Josh REES	15 2	15 2
9 Mo BETTAMER	12+2 7	31+4 14
10 Chike KANDI	8+3 2	8+3 2
11 Harrison PANAYIOTOU	10+1 3	28+13 7
12 Alfie WHITTINGHAM	9+1 1	19+15 3
13 Ryan HALL	- -	1 -
14 Joel NOUBLE	3+2 -	3+2 -
15 Jermaine ANDERSON	1+3 -	1+3 -
16	- -	- -
17 Joseph HUNGBO	2+3 -	2+3 -
18 Reece WYLIE	- -	- -
19	- -	- -
20 Toby EDSER	10+5 1	10+5 1
21 Ben SHROLL	- -	- -
22 Giles PHILLIPS	7 -	7 -
23 Killian COLOMBIE	2+3 -	2+3 -
24	- -	- -
25 Shadrach OGIE	15 2	15 2
26 Lewis KINSELLA	- -	91+1 -
27 Craig TANNER	7 3	20 7
29 Joe RABBETTS	- -	1 -
35 Brad JAMES	8 -	8 -
36 Mike FONDOP-TALOM	3+2 1	3+2 1
44 Ross MCCORMACK	1+2 -	1+2 -

Started Match Used Sub Unused Sub BOLD NUMBER Goal(s) Scored

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## ALDERSHOT TOWN

Manager: Danny Searle

- 1 Mitch Walker
- 2 George Fowler
- 3 Alex Finney
- 4 Jamie Sendles-White
- 5
- 6 Kodi Lyons-Foster
- 7 James Rowe
- 8 Josh Rees
- 9 Mo Bettamer
- 10 Chike Kandi
- 11 Harrison Panayiotou
- 12 Alfie Whittingham
- 13 Ryan Hall
- 14 Joel Nouble
- 15 Jermaine Anderson
- 17 Joseph Hungbo
- 18 Reece Wylie
- 20 Toby Edser
- 21 Ben Shroll
- 22 Giles Phillips
- 23 Killian Colombie
- 25 Shadrach Ogie
- 26 Lewis Kinsella
- 27 Craig Tanner
- 29 Joe Rabbetts
- 35 Brad James
- 36 Mike Fondop-Talom
- 44 Ross McCormack

### NEXT UP AT THE EBB STADIUM

Barnet

Saturday 9 January 2021

Kick-Off: 3pm

Vanarama National League



## WOKING

Manager: Alan Dowson

- 1 Harvey White
- 2 Jack Cook
- 3 Josh Casey
- 4 Charlie Cooper
- 5 Ben Gerring
- 6 Saul Shotton
- 7 Dave Tarpey
- 8 Kane Ferdinand
- 9 Connor Hall
- 10 Max Kretzschmar
- 11 Matt Jarvis
- 12 Nathan Collier
- 13 Craig Ross
- 14 Slavi Spasov
- 15 Jack Skinner
- 16 Kyran Lofthouse
- 17 Sam Evans
- 18 Ben Dempsey
- 19 Tyler Reid
- 20 Malachi Napa
- 21 Tommy Block
- 22 John Goddard
- 23 Jayden Wareham
- 24 Leo Hamblin
- 25 Josh Davison
- 27 Joe Leslie
- 30 Sam Cartwright
- 31 Mark Smith

### MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Elliott Swallow

Assistant: Hugh Gilroy

Assistant: Stephen Parkinson

Fourth Official: Stephen Hawkes



@OfficialShots



AldershotTownFC



AldershotTown1992



### TODAY'S FIXTURES

Aldershot Town vs Woking  
 Altrincham vs Stockport County  
 Boreham Wood vs Barnet  
 Bromley vs Sutton United  
 Dover Athletic vs Dagenham & Redbridge  
 Eastleigh vs Weymouth  
 Hartlepool United vs FC Halifax Town  
 King's Lynn Town vs Notts County  
 Maidenhead United vs Wealdstone  
 Torquay United vs Yeovil Town

### LEAGUE TABLE

	P	GD	PTS
Torquay United	14	16	32
Sutton United	13	9	26
Notts County	13	7	23
Bromley	14	6	22
Altrincham	14	0	21
Wealdstone	14	-4	21
<b>Woking</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20</b>
Wrexham	13	3	20
Maidenhead Utd	13	-4	20
Stockport County	10	8	19
Solihull Moors	11	5	19
Boreham Wood	12	3	18
Hartlepool United	13	-2	18
Eastleigh	9	8	17
Chesterfield	13	6	16
FC Halifax Town	13	6	16
<b>Aldershot Town</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>15</b>
Dagenham & Red	13	-4	15
King's Lynn Town	13	-13	14
Barnet	13	-21	9
Yeovil Town	11	-6	8
Weymouth	12	-10	7
Dover Athletic	9	-18	6

League Table correct as of Midday on Tuesday 22 December