



The Official Matchday Programme of Aldershot Town Football Club // Issue 13 vs Solihull Moors // Tuesday 16 February 2021 // Kick-Off 7pm // Vanarama National League













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FOOTBALL CLUB

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First Team Analyst & Coach: Michael Koopowitz

Coach: Danny Whitehorne
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Print:

Bishops Printers Ltd 023 9233 4900

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vs **Solihull Moors**

Tuesday 16 February 2021

Kick-Off: 7pm

Vanarama National League









Good evening a warm welcome to you all, wherever you may be watching or listening to the match from. A welcome also to our visitors for tonight's game, Solihull Moors, their manager Jimmy Shan, his players and staff. We recently played Moors in an entertaining FA Trophy match here at the EBB and know that tonight will be a challenging match against a good passing side.

Of course, winning that match led us to a Round of 16 game with Chesterfield which was due to be played here on 6 February. Then with an hour to go before kick-off, Chesterfield discovered that one of their players had some covid symptoms and as a result, the match was postponed and then subsequently cancelled, with the tie awarded to us.

I think that you rely on people, especially in the current situation, to be honest. It's dangerous times out there at the moment and fair play to Chesterfield, we would never have known, so for them to do things properly just shows that there is still some integrity left in the game. Obviously it was not how we wanted to qualify, we would rather have beaten them and played the game but we can't look a gift horse in the mouth - we take it and we've got a very tough draw against Hereford which we are looking forward to.

This meant that our midweek match with Chesterfield was also postponed so we were glad that Saturday's game went ahead at Stockport. To be honest though, I think if we hadn't already travelled and they had done a pitch inspection before we left, I think they would have called the game off. The pitch was very, very poor and you know the pitch isn't great when even the opposition management team is saying to you, 'I'm not sure we should be playing this.' The referee gave us an option, he said let's get the game started and we were all in agreement that if it got to a state where it was starting to get dangerous we would make the necessary decisions from there.

So it wasn't great but it was the same for both teams and they are a really good side. We rode our luck at times but I also think that we earned the right for that luck. We worked extremely hard and there were small moments in the game when we were thinking, we could win this. But we would have taken a point before the game with the form that Stockport are in and with a fantastic save from Mitch, we earned what I believe was a well-earned point.

Tonight we face a team we only faced a month ago, albeit in a different competition. We are on a run of matches where we are facing all the teams who are play-off contenders and we have said in the dressing room, we want to be competing with these teams. Solihull will be really tough opposition. In the FA Trophy game in the second half they were outstanding in the first 30 minutes and pulled themselves right back into the game. We know what they are capable of doing, we've just got to be, as we seem to say every week at the minute, at our best to make sure that we can put out as competitive game as we can.

Enjoy the game,

Danny

JAMES SCARLETT

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CHAIRMAN

SHAID AZEEM

On behalf of Aldershot Town Football Club we welcome the Solihull Moors manager, players, staff and directors and in particular Tim Murphy, my fellow board member of the National League, his wife Caroline and twins, Max and Amber, whose birthday is tomorrow. We wish Max and Amber a very Happy Birthday.





Whenever I write these notes, the current saga of playing, suspending the season or continuing with it evolves every day and we as a Board and Club have to make some decisions with our finger in the air, it is all so unknown.

As I said in my short Q & A on Shots TV last Thursday, this is the most difficult time that we are all facing not just on football matters but in every other aspect of our lives. We all know someone that has either lost a loved one, or someone who has been extremely unwell, lost their livelihood or had many other challenges in their lives.

As I have previously stated, I sit on the National League board along with Tim, and I can tell you we have at least three to four meetings a week at the moment, either regarding rules, resolutions, the DCMS, the Government or other challenges, all which doesn't help but we have a few clubs who actually want to sue the league.

Let me be clear why we at Aldershot Town agreed to proceed with starting the season in October, last August

We were all due to start the delayed season on Saturday 3 October, just 11 days before that the PM announced that they were no longer allowing spectators into stadia from 1 October as planned.

Uproar from clubs who said they couldn't possibly start the season the following week.

Over the next seven days there was lots of pressure on MPs and the PM and Oliver Dowden, DCMS Minister, announced in Parliament that grants would be provided.

It took several weeks for the details to be sorted and in the meantime the FA provided the first month's grant at the end of October so that clubs could pay wages.

There was a meeting in November when the DCMS were asked what would happen in January if still no fans were allowed. The FA and the NL were told that if that was the case "support would be continued". Crucially this didn't say grants but equally they didn't say in the form of loans. If you are in a meeting talking about grants, why would you think loans would now be on the table?

Clubs are now in a worse position as the start of the season triggered contracts.

If the National League stops and clubs claim furlough payments, this will be in excess of the grants we have been asking for!!

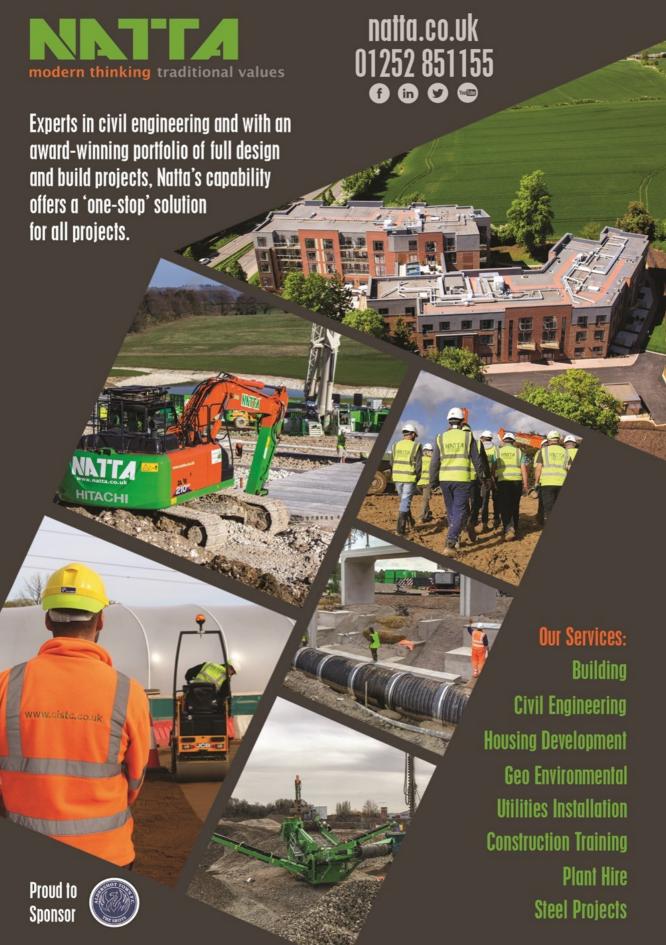
I also listen and watch social media activities from some, although certainly not all, Chairmen and managers of clubs. It's embarrassing, some of the comments that are being directed to the Board, they all seem to be experts. The interview I saw last week where a manager from one club is calling the board clowns, my answer to all of these so-called "experts" is to call an EGM and vote the board off. I am happy to let these experts resolve these issues, but instead of putting their names forward, they sit and give their expert opinion and criticise without an answer or solution

On a personal note, in my opinion, to question a board member, Jack Pearce who is the Vice Chairman of the National League Board and FA Vice Chair and also who for the past 40 odd years has run Bognor Regis Football Club as a manager and Chairman, is totally deplorable. Jack Pearce has done more for Non-League than anyone else I have come across, he has supported and lobbied and always had the best interests of the Non-League at heart. It is disgraceful that some chairmen and managers have the audacity to question Jack's integrity.

That's my rant over, but whilst I have always been or try to be diplomatic, I just wanted to get this off my chest.

Finally, enjoy the game, we all need to let off steam, and please keep safe.

Shahid Azeem



JAMIE SENDLES-WHITE CAPTAIN

After a week where the Shots made progress in the FA at the Ito Trophy without kicking a ball and had a second match munity with those opponents postponed due to a positive covid test within the Chesterfield playing squad, Jamie reflects on what it's like to be declared the winners of a match that hasn't been played and also what it feels like to be ready for a game that is called off with just over an hour to go

So how did you feel once you knew the Shots had made it to the Quarter-Finals of the FA Trophy without having to play a game?

It is weird but with things the way they are at the moment it is what it is and we are through which is the main thing. It's a very strange way of it happening but that is the times at the moment, unfortunately. The main thing is though that we have gone through to the next round.

I was obviously in my kit ready to go and warm up so it was a strange feeling. I think we were all a bit stumped as to what to do on a Saturday without a game to play! But it was tough on Chesterfield and I hope that they are all alright there, hopefully they will all be.

Having not played for 11 days, Shots then travelled up to Stockport on Saturday where an important point was gained against a team challenging for the playoffs. How did Jamie feel about that result, played on a difficult and hard pitch?

It was a very good result. It was extremely tough conditions, I was surprised that the game was even on to be honest. But we dug in and it was another professional performance against a very good side who will probably be up there (top of the table) at the end of the season. We defended well, I thought we were regimented in our defence and it was a very good result.



A good result to achieve before the visit of tonight's opponents, Solihull Moors, another strong team

They will be another test, indeed, every game is a test in this league. But we're confident that if we can play how we know we can play we can match up with anyone in the league, there's no one to fear. But this will be a tough game, they're a good team, a good passing team so we are going to have to be at it tonight.





WORDS BY VICTORIA ROGERS

I suspect like many of you, I was pleasantly surprised to see that Stockport were able to keep their pitch in a just-aboutplayable state for Saturday's match and that the Shots were not faced with another postponement as many other clubs were across the division. This season has been incredibly difficult for everyone involved in the game of football, whether player, manager, director, staff or supporter whoever you are, the delay to the start of the season, the absence of supporters in the ground, the concern that a game might be called off because of illness in the camp along with the ongoing situation over how clubs might be funded over the next few months has made this season, the challenging one that it is - and just when the threat of matches being called off because of illness had receded slightly, the weather has stepped in to add to the fixture pile -up. All that considered, I can quite see why Stockport worked so hard to prepare their pitch and why both clubs decided to go ahead with the game on a surface which one Shots player suggested afterward, was like concrete!

As I said above, the majority of the postponements were due to the weather, not the current virus situation, with only Chesterfield, our erstwhile two-times opponents from the week just gone by who were off due to fulfilling the period of quarantine required after a positive test in their squad, something which was discovered just an hour before our scheduled FA Trophy game with them. They showed great integrity in what must have been a horrible situation for

Nobody wants to make progress in a cup competition in this way – we all want the win and the glory and excitement that that engenders, but with limited days available in this unfortunate and unique season, rules were put in place for the FA Trophy that if a club cannot play their game within four days of its original scheduling, it is then awarded to the opposition. Sending their youth team to play would have allowed Chesterfield to fulfil the fixture but as we know at Aldershot Town, however good your youngsters are, sending them to play a first team fixture can lead to not the best of circumstances as we experienced in the FA Trophy two years ago, and in the end the Spireites declined to do this.

There is now a raft of measures in place at Aldershot Town and at other National League clubs too to further restrict the likelihood of the virus causing further postponements. It is good to see that infections are falling once again across the country but to be quite frank, we are running out of days to play matches and clubs are rightly endeavouring to keep themselves playing rather than isolating. The weather is warmer now so hopefully not too many postponements from frozen pitches either! Despite all that is going on with the season, and the Chairman will explain that far better than I in his notes, we are grateful for the football we are seeing and all that the players and management are doing to produce this. A big thank you to Danny, Anwar and the 2020-21 Aldershot Town squad of players for making this happen! The football, for the time being at least, still goes on.



FA TROPHY QUARTER-FINAL

Aldershot Town will face Hereford in a home tie in the Quarter-Finals of the Buildbase FA Trophy

This Quarter-Final fixture will take place provisionally on Saturday 27 February and will also see our home Vanarama National League fixture against Eastleigh FC be rescheduled as a result.

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



KING'S LYNN MATCH - NEW DATE

Our Vanarama National League match at home against Kings Lynn Town that was due to be played on Saturday 6th February 2021 has been rearranged to Tuesday 20th April 2021 with a 7pm kick off.

The match was postponed due to Aldershot Town's involvement in the FA Trophy on that date, a match that was subsequently also postponed and then cancelled after Chesterfield reported a player experiencing covid symptoms.

More information on our streaming services for the game will be given once we are closer to the date.



MATCH ACTION

Saturday 13 February Vanarama National League Kick-Off 3pm

Stockport County 0

The Shots 0

Edgeley Park



Stockport County: Hinchcliffe, Jennings, Hogan, Williams, Maynard, Palmer, Rooney, Walker (Minihan 81'), Southam-Hales, Reid (Collar 73'), Bennett Subs: Minihan, Stott, Keane, Barnes. Collar



The Shots: Walker, Finney, Lyons-Foster (Booked), Sendles-White, Gillela, Rees (Booked), Anderson, Edser (Panayiotou 88'), Miller, Nouble (Kandi 66'), Bettamer Subs: Rowe, Kandi, Panayiotou, Whittingham, Ogie

Photos: Mike Petch







44 POST-MATCH THOUGHTS 77

DANNY SEARLE

'We definitely rode our luck at times. Mitch Walker was outstanding, topped off with that penalty save... We're a little disappointed with our quality at times in the final third. But I think we deserved to get a point. To come to the favourites to go up this year and get... a clean sheet, all credit must go to the lads.'

SIMON RUSK

'We created enough to win the game and we got a clean sheet so we've got to take the positives, move on and take it into Tuesday.'





PLAYER KIT S



HOME: Andy Wilde

AWAY:

Shots Away Travel

HOME: Muhammed Ali

AWAY: Andy Wilde



HOME:

AWAY:

Mitch Walker



HOME & AWAY: Roger Niblett



Mo Bettamer

HOME: Andrew King

AWAY: Hussayn Awais-Ali

Dinesh Gillela

HOME & AWAY: Sunnyside Removals

George Fowler



HOME: Martin & Adam Jessop

AWAY: For Gillobean

Chike Kandi



HOME: Heather Nicklinson

AWAY: SCSJ Consulting

Reece Wylie



Alex Finney



HOME & AWAY: The Three Grumpy Gits

Harrison Panaviotou

HOME: The Blair Family

AWAY: Bobby Proudlock

Toby Edser

HOME & AWAY: O'Neill & Brennan

Jamie Sendles-White



HOME: SCSJ Consulting AWAY: Adrian Butt

Alfy Whittingham

HOME & AWAY: Richard, Julie & Bradley Layton

Ben Shroll



HOME & AWAY: Andy Pusey

Kodi Lyons-Foster



HOME & AWAY: Ian White



Joel Nouble

Ryan Hall

HOME: Bobby Proudlock

AWAY: Marc Bowerman

Killian Colombie



Shadrach Ogie

HOME: Adrian Butt

AWAY: Jim Speight

James Rowe



HOME: The Rightsiders

AWAY: Marshels Roofing

HOME:

AWAY:

Lewis Kinsella

Jermaine Anderson



HOME: Simon Regan AWAY: Phoenix Plumbing and Heating

Josh Rees

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Phoenix Plumbing and Heating

AWAY:

Noman & Neil Kelsey

Craig Tanner



HOME & AWAY:

Promote UK Ltd

Joe Rabbetts



HOME:

George Harland & Ruby Harland

AWAY: Liam Puttock

Ricky Miller



HOME & AWAY: ATFC Runners

Brad James



HOME:

AWAY:

Mike Fondop-Talom



HOME:

Marshels Roofing

AWAY:

The Rightsiders

Ross McCormack

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Danny Searle



SPONSOR:



Anwar Uddin



SPONSOR:

SPONSOR:



Michael Koopowitz



Danny Whitehorne

SPONSOR:



Nathan Lugg



SPONSOR:



SPONSOR: Last of the Summer Wine

Mark Butler

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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



Have you seen the Aldershot Town Midweek Extra show yet? If not, you've been missing out on so much! Going out on the Shots YouTube channel on a Thursday evening, kick-off 7pm and ably hosted by Aldershot Town Commercial Manager, Mark Butler, it's 90 minutes of interviews and features on your favourite club. So far we've had in-depth chats with manager Danny Searle and former Shots favourite, Steve Stairs, Club Ticket Office Manager Matt Wigman demonstrating his School of Coaching and week by week, the players facing off in the Aldershot Town version of Mastermind. The last two episodes have included an interview with former Aldershot Town striker and captain, Scott Rendell in which he spoke openly and honestly with Mark Butler about not just his time with the Shots but much more of his career as well, a must-listen.

This week's edition will be at the same time, 7pm on Thursday evening and to watch it live, click on the link on the Club website news article or, if you want, you can watch it later at any time, again on YouTube – in fact, why not subscribe to the Club's official YouTube channel and never miss a news update from the Red and Blue ever again? And once subscribed, you can watch the editions you may have missed.

The Midweek Extra Show - you know it makes sense!

FUTHER MEMORIES OF JACK ROLLIN



How ironic that when I wrote the Boardroom notes for the Weymouth game I happened to refer to Club vice president Jack Rollin, and then within 24 hours of the match he had succumbed to the Covid virus. I, like many others, left a message of condolence on his telephone knowing that his daughter Glenda would receive it. Little did we all down at Aldershot know that Jack's wife then passed away shortly afterwards, having gone into hospital for a hip operation. Whilst all this was going on, daughter Glenda and her husband Steve were suffering from Covid.

What a terrible start to 2021 for the Rollin family. Those that knew him will be left speechless at that turn of events. That will not change my memories of Jack and his numerous stories. One of his earliest involved his time on the Match of the Day production team. This was in the day when Kenneth (they think it's all over) Wolstenholme was the single commentator employed for Saturday's one match in black and white. Understudy was the ambitious David Coleman, desperate to make his mark and take over. This opportunity appeared a long way off when Jack observed Coleman 'persuading' the production team to send Wolstenholme to the wrong ground. Around midday the following Saturday the BBC would receive a call from Wolstenholme in St James'

Park Newcastle asking where the camera crew were, only to be told they were set up at Stamford Bridge to film Chelsea v Everton. Of course Wolstenholme had no chance of making kick-off so Coleman had to substitute.

Jack played football himself and recalls a bizarre incident when playing in north London on a dark and very foggy evening. His side were camped out in the opponents' half and with goalkeeper Jack right out of sight in his own penalty area. Suddenly out of the dense fog emerged the opposing number nine with the ball and two defenders in hot pursuit. Before Jack could react the ball was blasted over his head into the top of the goal, rebounding off the net onto the frosty surface and back out and up into a startled Jack's arms. As the centre forward wheeled away in celebration the referee appeared out of the murk, saw Jack holding the ball and shouted at Jack to "get on with it". At that he kicked the ball high back up into the fog and the game continued – no goal.

Jack's journalistic career made him a well-known figure in the world of football. Way back in 1975 he published "The History of Aldershot Football Club". I also have his "Shots at War" book. Neither book would have had huge production runs and Jack promoted sales personally, often turning up at the Club with a few on the back seat of his Mini. Mine are all signed by the great man. "So Jack", I challenged him one match day, "will my signed first editions be valuable one day?" "No Lewis", he said "the valuable ones will be the unsigned first editions".

Everyone who knew Jack will have a similar story. They will involve football, they will be personal and they will be amusing. He was irreplaceable and will be sorely missed.

Lewis Scard

Director

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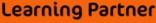


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SHOTS IN FOCUS ROSS MCCORMACK

EITES CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY O



Full Name: Ross McCormack

Date and place of birth: 18/08/86 in Glasgow

Height: 5'10"

Married: No

Nickname: Rossco

Car: BMW X5

Previous clubs: Rangers, Motherwell, Cardiff City, Leeds United,

Fulham, Aston Villa

Team you supported as a boy: Celtic

Favourite current player: Neymar

Most difficult opponent: Michael Morrison (Reading)

Most memorable match: Porto v Rangers

Biggest disappointment: Not doing anything at Aston VIlla

Football honours: SPL, 13 full caps for Scotland, 10 Scotland Under-

21 caps

Favourite other sports: Tennis, golf, snooker

Favourite other sportsmen/women: Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal,

Ronnie O'Sullivan

Hobbies: Spending time with my kids

Favourite TV show: Entourage

Favourite musicians: Celine Dion

Miscellaneous likes: Studying the beautiful game we call football

Miscellaneous dislikes: Smelling smoke from folk who smoke

Best country visited: Australia

Favourite food: Salad, pizza

Favourite restaurant: Pizza Pomodoro, Knightsbridge

Favourite drink: Diet Irn Bru

Biggest drag in football: Pre-season

If you weren't a footballer what do you think you'd be: An

accountant

Which person in the world would you most like to meet: Jimmy Carr

- funny guy with a similar sense of humour to mine

If given £1million what would be the first thing you would buy: Buy

my two boys their first property



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

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AVAILABLE NOW AT CHARTERS



ALDERSHOT TOWN SUPPORTERS CLUB

Good Evening Everyone,

Hope you are all keeping well and hungry for some home action!!

We are welcoming Solihull Moors back to the EBB Stadium tonight, whose game was postponed on Saturday due to a frozen pitch. We had a draw on Saturday away to Stockport County, one of only three games that survived weather/covid. With the draw we should hopefully want to change this to a win tonight but it will be a tough battle.

Our lovely and reasonably priced supporters badges are able to be purchased at the club shop or our website at just £4 (+post & packaging) if required. Also hoodies will be available from the website soon.

We will be doing the next members draw winner on 1 March so if you'd like to be included in this join the Supporters Club by emailing us or join on the website at just £15 for over 18s and £10 18 and under for new members which includes an Official Supporters Club scarf. There are many benefits including early tickets once we can start attending games again. Even if you

don't personally have your card/scarf you are included in draws.

Another way to help the Club is by joining In with a Shot which is a weekly draw, either a £2 game or £5 game. So far the money raised for the Club is over £8,000 and we have given out over £10,000 to us the fans, pretty good for something which has only been going just over a year. To do this, just email the supporters club at atfc.supclub@yahoo.com or contact Mark Butler at the Club mark.butler@theshots.co.uk

The new Midweek YouTube Show that the Club have now started is such a laugh, and a good mix of interviews and fun. We must suggest guests and ideas to keep it interesting as it is for us fans. Get more questions in!!

Remember we are also on Instagram atfc_supporters_club

Hope you enjoy the game.

Ray Hedgman - Supporters Club Chairman

Sponsored by fff Brewery





ON THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN



There is no easy outcome to the current predicament football faces. There will be many clubs where "the heart rules the head" with regards to continuing whilst other clubs have been quite forthright about their situation and already declared a wish for the season to be "null and void".

I read in Sunday's Non-League Paper that tonight's opponents Chairman Darryl Eales is quoted as saying, "Completing the season behind closed doors and under lockdown will cost the club an additional £450K between January and June." Of course I cannot quantify the financial situation of individual clubs but I do know that if the same was applicable to Aldershot then it must be unsustainable. I have huge admiration for every club who has been able to continue and manage itself during these continued desperate times but I would not be comfortable and would not expect any club to "gamble" its long-term future for a short-term fix.

It is soul-destroying for all involved really. If a season was concluded some may contest it to be morally wrong to "null and void" the whole campaign at National League level where the majority of clubs are at or approaching 50% capacity with regards to completing their fixtures. Not so difficult in the North/South where capacity is well below 50% and at Step 3 where few teams have even completed 10 matches.

I am also not overly comfortable with the FA Trophy situation. Of course it is nice to see Aldershot in the quarter finals; a rare experience over the years. However, this is a national competition and to receive a bye into the last eight does not sit well with me. Add to that, 50% of the remaining clubs play in regional football. If the whole of the National League was to come to a permanent halt then I presume the competition would fall by the wayside too. However if our level continues but Step 2 (National North/South) and below doesn't what would that mean to the tournament? For me it would become a farce to receive another bye (or even two) to reach a final. Mind you. you just know that this could well be our year of finally reaching Wembley. The dream so many of us have had for years only to occur in the one season we might not be able to attend in person!! Let's hope that is not the case and we can reach it by genuine means and that the crowd restriction is lifted too. If we play as well as we did against this evening's opponents in the FA Trophy recently, we will give ourselves every chance in league and cup action.

Words by Graham Brookland





THE BIG INTERVIEW

Kodi Lyons-Foster arrived back at Aldershot Town for his second spell at the Club in the 2019 close season, signed on this occasion by manager Danny Searle, the centreback having previously played for the Shots in the 2017-18 season under then Aldershot Town boss, Gary Waddock. Kodi left the EBB Stadium at the end of 2017, moving to Whitehawk and then Braintree Town and it was while he was at the Essex club that he come under the caretaker management of Danny Searle when Searle took over the reins at Cressing Road in January 2019.

The season ended in disappointment for The Iron as they were relegated back to the National League South but Kodi had shown enough of his abilities to impress the now new Shots boss who offered him a two-year contract, taking him through to summer 2021. Two-year deals are unusual at Aldershot Town, so how pleased was he to be offered such a deal and was it a big reassurance for Kodi, in all the turmoil of last summer, to know that he was already signed up to a team once football recommenced?

'It was definitely reassuring. I think I am very grateful to the Gaffer for trusting me, for giving me that opportunity and that two-year contract in the first place.

'I was definitely happy to sign up to the two years, I wanted to commit to the Club and to the management and over those two years repay the Gaffer and generally help to take the Club as far as it can go.'

And what else led him to sign that contract? Kodi is very clear on this.

'From my very first spell at the Club under Gary Waddock, I just loved the fanbase. I always love a match day at the EBB, I think it's one of the best grounds in the league with the best fanbase. I can't even put my finger on why it's special, it just means something. It's a different kind

of vibe, a different kind of energy that you get in the crowd and in the fans at Aldershot.'

The squad changed a lot over the summer and since then there has been a fair amount of movement with loanees and new signings arriving at the EBB. Kodi is not concerned by this, seeing it as a common occurrence in football.

'I think that that is part and parcel of the game and players coming in and out of a squad each season is what happens in football. Fortunately for us, the boys that have come in or who have been additions to the squad are now in the majority, regular starters, and they've fitted in like a glove socially as well as on the pitch, they are all good guys and we're a tight-knit group this season and maybe that's something we didn't have as much last year, this year we're all much tighter off field. Everyone has fitted in really well.'

There has been a fair amount of movement in the defence as well, with injuries affecting the line-up. Again, Kodi sees this as something to be dealt with, another factor in football, and works hard to build partnerships with all his fellow defenders.

'Obviously as a centre half you just want to find someone you can gel with and create a partnership with but you can't call what's to come. Jamie had a little injury time, I picked up a little niggle, Finney's picked up niggles too and across the back four, it's tough to call it. I've played with Giles (Phillips), with Finney, with Jamie this year, three different centre halves and I have thoroughly enjoyed playing with all three of them.'

Along with enjoying good playing and social relationships with his team mates, Kodi also has a lot of respect for Aldershot Town manager Danny Searle and the way he has helped him develop and improve his game.

'This is my third season playing under the Gaffer now. I feel like a big part (of what he has given to Kodi) is the trust that I think the Gaffer has always had in me, from early on when I was at Braintree. Even when we weren't doing so well there I was trusted by him there and he played me and that is something that I will always be grateful for, that he has always given me an opportunity. So even now, when the Gaffer rotates the squad and I'm not in the team, of course I'm frustrated but I'm not the type of player to go and knock on the manager's door straight away because I trust the Gaffer and I believe he is doing what is best for the team and that is something that I am very grateful for again, that he's always put his trust in me. And that has helped me develop, through playing games and gaining experience. I am coming up to nearly 100 National League games I think and the majority I've played under the Gaffer.'

A century of National League games is an excellent achievement for a young player (Kodi is 24) and he is keen to keep playing and keep on improving too.

'I think I'm having quite a strong season as it stands and I just want to keep doing more of the same. This season and last season as well I put in a lot of work on upper body strength and on core strength, things like that and I think that has helped me massively this season because I've come back fairly strong, my performances have been a lot better. I would like to add a few more goals to my tally this year as I've not opened my account yet this season and I'd also like to contribute to more clean sheets of course but in the main I just want to play in games, win games and take it as far as I can with Aldershot.'

Kodi has already explained that the support at Aldershot Town was one of the reasons he wanted to re-sign for the Club. What does he feel supporters bring to a game and therefore is being missed at the moment while matches are still being played behind closed doors?

'It gives you that extra edge. Playing at home at the EBB Stadium in front of the fans is one thing but even when we're on the road, I remember years ago, under Gary, playing away at Gateshead and how there was a good few hundred supporters up there that time and even last year, thinking back to the Stockport fixture there was a couple of hundred supporters there too. And even though they can't attend games at the moment I still get messages over social media from them and that's nice, but I'm really looking forward to when the gates open up and they they can come in and watch us play again.'



Nobody is really going anywhere at the moment but there's still a need for downtime for everyone once work is finished for the day. What does Kodi like to do to relax?

'I'm currently moving into a flat with my girlfriend so we've been busy running around getting things ready for the flat. Otherwise just kind of normal stuff really. I like watching films, I like watching Netflix, reading that kind of thing.'

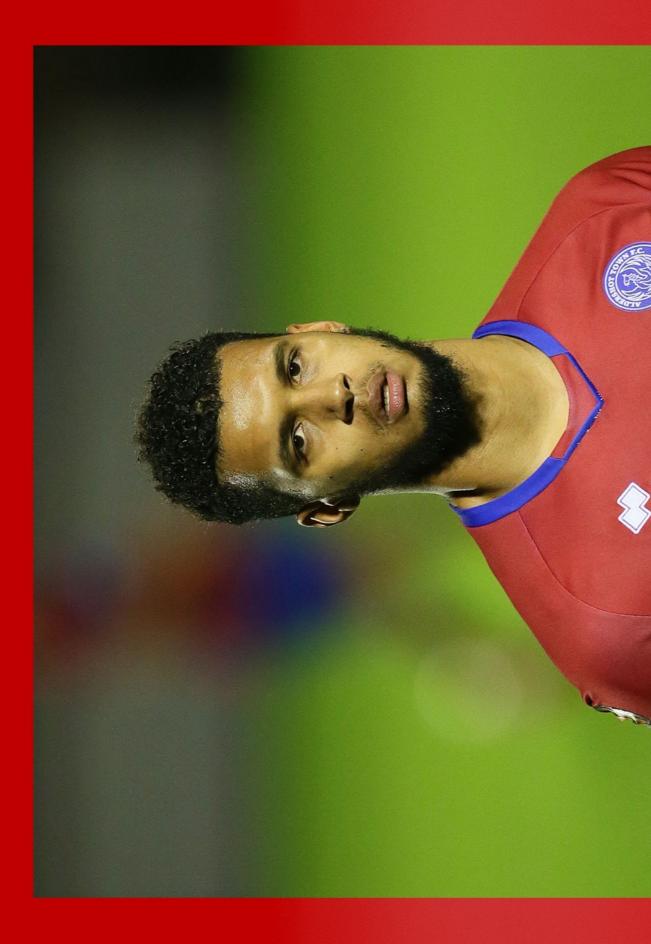
And what about the future? Does Kodi have thoughts about what he'd like to be doing five years down the line or is his focus purely on the here and now?

'I think I'd like to take it step by step at the moment, at the moment I'm here at Aldershot and my aim is to focus on here. I'm looking to make progress in the quarter finals of the FA Trophy, I want to go to the final, I want to play at Wembley, I really want to go and win something and I want to finish in the play-offs, I'd like to get promoted, too, with Aldershot Town, and get the Club back in the Football Leaque.'

Great ambitions and ones that all Aldershot Town supporters will get behind and heartily endorse.

Words by Victoria Rogers







MATCH SPONSOR

Craig Morrow



Craig's first ever Shots match was former Aldershot FC trainer John Anderson's Testimonial, not that he remembers much about it. He started attending games regularly in the 1986/87 season with school friends and his favourite players from AFC times were Adie Randall and Glen Burvill with Scott Davies winning his vote for his top player so far for Aldershot Town. He has good memories of the play-off win against Wolves and of course, the promotion into the Football League in 2008.

Craig watches matches (when this is allowed!) from the North Stand East Corner, next to the East Bank and of the current crop of Aldershot Town players, thinks Ricky Miller has injected some real drive into the squad. He has this to say about being match sponsor this evening.

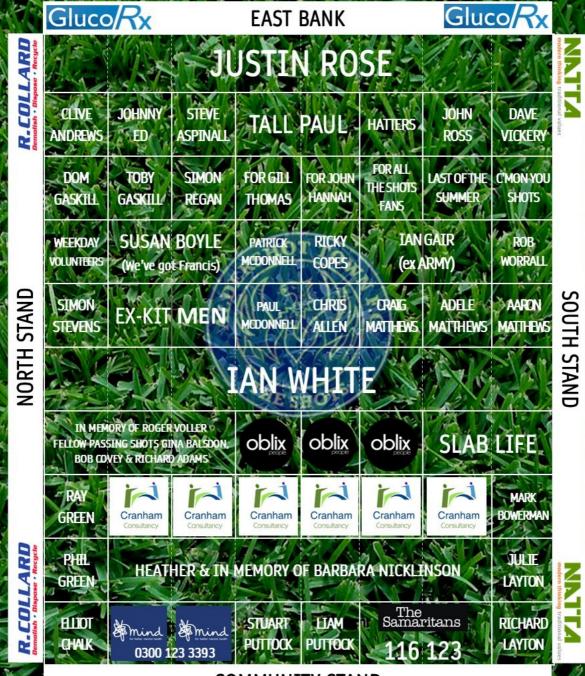
'I am very happy to sponsor this match against Solihull Moors and to help the Club a little over this very difficult period of time. Well done to all involved at the Club for doing such a great job with the streaming service and with the improvements on the pitch. Very much looking forward to getting back to the ground and seeing The Shots in person. Hoping for a win today!'

BALL Sponsor





Thank you to tonight's Ball Sponsor who is Shots supporter, John Ross. John says, 'I'm originally from Aldershot. My dad started taking me to matches in the mid 1980s and I caught the bug. I moved to Belfast at the end of 1992 but still follow the Shots and get over for games as often as I can.'



COMMUNITY STAND

The second second

Thank you to everyone who has sponsored a pitch square, your support means so much to the Club.

And now you are all a part of the fantastic EBB Stadium hallowed turf!

THE ACADEMY

PROFILE



Name: George

Age Group: U12s (Playing with U13s)

Playing Position: Centre Back

When did you join the Aldershot Town Academy?

U8s

When did you first start playing football?

When I was seven years old

What team do you support?

Tottenham Hotspur

What type of player are you?

I am an aggressive, ball-playing centre-back. I like to be vocal and lead the team from the back.

Who is your favourite footballer?

Virgil van Dijk

Describe the best goal you have scored?

When I was in the U8s, during a semi-final, the ball came to me just inside the halfway line on the left-hand side of the pitch. I took a good first touch and drilled it into the top right-hand corner. It won us the game.

What do you want to achieve this season with the Academy?

To continue playing up an age group and to keep learning and developing.

What are your hopes for your footballing-future?

To become a professional footballer and captain England.

What advice would you give yourself, if you were starting in the academy all over again?

To get involved, don't be shy and play without fear.



Be an Aldershot Town Virtual Mascot

Young Aldershot Town fans can be a virtual mascot from the comfort of their own homes with the launch of our new package!

While we cannot be together in person, we are delighted to launch our virtual mascot packages, which allows you to have an experience like never before.

This is designed to be a truly unique experience for our Junior Shots. Whether it be a birthday present, a congratulatory gift or just because you think they deserve it; we have the perfect experience for you.

VIRTUAL MASCOT

The package includes:

An Aldershot Town 2020/21 home or away shirt (depending on which one the mascot prefers).

A pre-match zoom call from the mascot's favourite player or the manager.

An appearance on Aldershot Town's official social media channels on matchday.

A copy of our The Shots match day programme (a hard copy will be sent out after the match).

A signed picture of our first-team photo

An Aldershot Town certificate of authenticity signed by Commercial Manager Mark Butler

* We also ask our virtual mascots to have a 'second choice' for the player they would like to partner with and pass on these details to the emails detailed below.

Price: £75 per mascot (which is a bargain given the package would individually total up to £100!)

Booking is online only and we ask that those interested to email either our Commercial Manager Mark Butler at mark.butler@theshots.co.uk or our Ticket and Merchandise Officer Matt Wigman at matt.wigman@theshots.co.uk

SHOTS ONLINE SHOP SALE EXTENDED!

We have plenty of extended January offers available for Aldershot Town fans, with the opportunity for FREE UK postage as well!

This offer of free UK Postage is only available as long as you buy a 2020/21 Home or Away shirt from our online shop!

In order to get your option of free UK shipping, just use the code 'SHOTS' in the coupon box.

This offer is only available for a limited time only, so make sure to make the most of the offer!

The offer of free UK postage is also available if you purchase this season's home or away shirt NOW.

We also have lots of other great discounts during this extended January sale which are only for a limited time:

Football Manager 2021 – (was £25) – now £20

White Errea Luis Polos - (was £35) - now - £30 (ONLY LIMITED STOCK AVAILABLE!)

Errea Praga Polos – (was £40) – now £35

Errea Markus Bomber Jackets - (was £54.99) - now £50

ATFC Errea Lucas Training Shirt – White/Red/Navy – (was £30) – now £25

2019/20 Home and Away Shirts now only £10!

Children's Dressing Gowns – (was £25) – now £10!

Children's PJS - (was £18) - now £7.50!

Make sure you make the most of these offers as they are only for a limited time only!





PLAYER AND GOAL OF THE MONTH



Congratulations to Aldershot Town number 14 Joel Nouble who the supporters have voted as both Player of the Month for January and also scorer of the Goal of the Month, too.

Joel made five appearances for the Shots in January, featuring in the wins over Woking, Wealdstone and Solihull Moors, hitting a stunning goal in the 4:3 victory away to the Stones, his first for Aldershot Town. He is pictured here, celebrating that goal along with his team mates.

Well done Joel, we look forward to seeing more of your goals going forward along with more strong performances with the team.







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INTRODUCING SOLIHULL MOORS

We welcome Solihull Moors to the EBB Stadium for the second time in a month. The teams played in an FA Trophy 4th round tie, on 19 January, a game which The Shots won 3-2. Since the teams met in the FA Trophy Solihull Moors have played in four league games, with varying results. The game after the FA Trophy tie, Solihull beat Dover 2-0 and that was their last win. A 2-0 defeat against Notts County, a 1-1 draw with Eastleigh and a 2-0 defeat at Hartlepool being the other results. Solihull's home game on Saturday against Barnet was postponed due to frozen pitch and was one of eight National League games to be postponed. Solihull Moors sit in 14th place in the National League, two points behind The Shots. Solihull Moors' team for the 2-0 defeat at Hartlepool, will be the line-up that we take a closer look at.

In goal for the Hartlepool game was Ryan Boot who has made 17 league appearances this season, keeping seven clean sheets. Boot kept four successive clean sheets in October, in games against Wrexham, King's Lynn, Boreham Wood and Stockport. Boot started his career with Port Vale where he made 29 first team appearances. Solihull Moors did not have a substitute goalkeeper on the bench for the game.

In defence, the versatile Tyrone Williams has made 17 league appearances this season. Williams can slot in at either right-back or centre-back for Jimmy Shan's team. Jordan Cranston was a trainee with Wolves who went on to make several appearances for Cheltenham and Morecambe. This season is his first season with Solihull Moors and Cranston has made 16 league appearances. Cranston scored his first goal for the Club against former club Morecambe, in the second round of the FA Cup. He has been cautioned twice in the past four league games. Cameron Coxe was rumoured to be interesting Manchester City earlier this year, following his departure from Cardiff City. Coxe has 13 Wales Under -21 caps to his name. Since Coxe's arrival, he has made 12 National League appearances. New signing Nathan Cameron made his Solihull Moors debut against Chesterfield in January. Cameron

has made five league appearances and scored his first Solihull Moors goal against Dover in the 2-0 win over the Kent club. Cameron made two appearances for Wigan Athletic in League One this season. Alex Gudger has made six league appearances this season and was a Buildbase Trophy winner with former side, Brackley Town.

In midfield, captain Kyle Storer has recently gone over the 100 league appearance mark for Solihull Moors. Storer has made 15 league appearances this season. He was a member of Cheltenham Town's National League-winning 2015/16 squad. Joe Sbarra began his career with Burton Albion and went on to make 66 appearances for them. Sbarra was on loan with Solihull between March and May of 2019, making six appearances. He joined the Club on a permanent basis before the start of the season and he has made 15 league appearances thus far. Sbarra has scored four goals this season with goals against Kings Lynn, Altrincham. Chesterfield and a 90th minute equaliser against Eastleigh at the beginning of February. Callum Maycock was a signing from Coventry City. Maycock has made 15 league appearances this season. Prior to signing for Solihull Moors, Maycock had been loaned out by Coventry to Curzon Ashton, Leamington and Macclesfield in recent seasons.

Up front, former Derby, Nottingham Forest and Chesterfield striker Jamie Ward has made 11 league appearances for Solihull Moors, scoring against Woking in October. Ward is a Northern Ireland international and has scored four goals in 35 caps for his country. Former Salford and Aberdeen striker, Adam Rooney, has made six league appearances for Solihull Moors and scored the only goal in the 1-0 home win against Boreham Wood in October. Bermudan international Justin Donowa, was among the substitutes alongside Kyle Hudlin. Hudlin scored his fourth goal of the season against Dover.

HISTORY

Historically this has been a closely-fought contest, with four wins for The Shots, three for Solihull Moors and a draw, in the eight previous encounters. Solihull Moors have won the last three of the past four encounters. The FA Trophy tie here saw a Mo Bettamer double and a Toby Edser goal give The Shots a 3-2 win. Kyle Hudlin and Jimmy Ball, scored the Solihull Moors goals. The sides only met once in the 2019/20 season and it was Solihull Moors who came out 2-1 winners. A Paul McCallum penalty and a Matthew Stenson goal gave

Moors a 2-0 lead before Ethan Chislett pulled a goal back for The Shots. The last time The Shots beat Solihull Moors in a league fixture was at the EBB Stadium in September 2017, a ninth minute goal from Shamir Fenelon, being the difference between the sides.

Words by Dan Blake

THE BOSS JIMMY SHAN

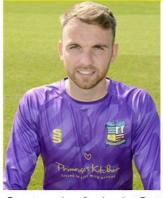
Solihull Moors confirmed the appointment of Jimmy Shan as the club's new manager on February 12th 2020

The 42-year-old, who came close to guiding West Bromwich Albion to the Championship play-off final in the 2019-19 season, most recently offered his support at Kidderminster Harriers on a voluntary basis.

In working his way up the coaching ladder, Shan began his career at Birmingham City and then went on to enjoy a 13-year spell with West Brom.

Shan was promoted from first-team coach to caretaker manager at the Hawthorns in March last year. Despite winning six of his 10 matches in charge, he left Baggies in the summer and moved to Kidderminster at the start of December.

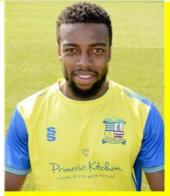




T Ryan Boot

Ryan turned professional at Port Vale in April 2013 having initially been an academy player at Stoke City. In a five-year career there he made 28 appearances and had various loan spells at Worcester City, Newcastle and Macclesfield. In 2013 he had a trial at Fulham.

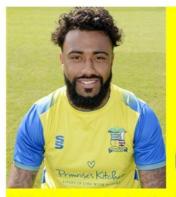
He joined the Moors in the summer of 2018 after being released from Vale upon the expiry of his contract. The number one has played every minute of the last two National League seasons, keeping 46 clean sheets in 100 appearances. In the summer of 2020, he extended his stay at the Club by signing a new contract.



TYRONE WILLIAMS

Versatile defender Tyrone Williams was signed from Kidderminster Harriers in February 2018. He was a graduate of the Harriers academy after signing his first professional contract in 2013. He made his first team debut for the National North team in 2016 (at which time he was Harriers longest-serving player) and went on to make more than 70 appearances, with loan spells at Hednesford, Redditch and Stourbridge providing him with valuable experience.

The 26-year-old, comfortable at centre back and right back, quickly established himself as a regular in Moors' team. He is a powerful defender who can also score goals.



JORDAN CRANSTON

Left-back Jordan Cranston signed from Morecambe in August 2020, penning a two-year deal with the Moors.

Cranston, 27, spent his early career with Wolverhampton Wanderers, securing his first professional contract with the Molineux club.

He played locally with Nuneaton and Hednesford, before moving onto Notts County in 2014/15.

Since then, Cranston has played his football at Lincoln City, Gateshead and Cheltenham Town where he became a National League winner in 2015/16.

The defender signed for Morecambe in 2018 and went on to make 54 appearances, scoring four times including the 2018/19 goal of the season.



6 Joe Sbarra

The Moors announced the return of midfielder Joe Sbarra in July 2020.

The 22-year-old played six times for Solihull in the 2018/19 campaign when the club narrowly missed out on promotion to the EFL.

Sbarra was on loan from Burton Albion in that campaign and, following his departure from the Pirelli Stadium earlier this summer, he has made the Moors his permanent home this time around.

He began his footballing career through the youth academy of West Brom before becoming an academy graduate at Burton, making his senior debut on the final day of the 2016/17 season.

In total, Sbarra made 76 appearances for the Brewers.

Kyle Storer

The 33-year-old began his career with local side Bedworth United before joining Tamworth in July 2004. He racked up 27 appearances in his first season at The Lamb before joining Nuneaton Town. Kyle made the step to play full-time football with Kidderminster Harriers in July 2011 as a 24-year-old where he became club captain.

After a spell with Wrexham he moved to Cheltenham Town where he was skipper for the last two-and-a-half years, won the National League title in 2015/16 and went on to play 101 times at Whaddon Road.

He joined Moors in January 2018 and has been an ever-present in the team. Kyle is Moors' First Team captain, with over 600 career appearances to his name.

Alex Gudger

28-year-old central defender Alex Gudger signed from Brackley Town prior to the start of the 2018/19 season. He was an ever-present with the Saints in his two-year stint at St James Park and was also a member of the squad that came so close to gaining promotion to the National League last season, losing away at Harrogate Town in the play-off final. He played at Wembley in the FA Trophy win over Bromley.

Alex progressed through the youth ranks at Nuneaton as they won promotion to the Conference but it was at Rugby Town that he made his mark as a 19-year-old and went on to play 111 times for them, collecting the Player of the Season award in his first season and being made Club Captain for the 2013/14 season. He signed for Worcester City in 2015 and onto Brackley for 2016-17.

He played a huge chunk of games in his first season at the Moors, gaining plenty of recognition for both his defending and goalscoring ability. Gudger collected a number of awards at the end of season dinner in April 2019.

After another impressive campaign last time out, Gudger was named in the 2019/20 National League Team of the Season.

Stephen Gleeson

Solihull Moors announced the signing of Republic of Ireland midfielder Stephen Gleeson in August 2020.

The 32-year-old has four years of Championship experience under his belt having made well over 100 appearances for Birmingham City and Ipswich Town.

His most recent football came north of the border with Scottish Premiership side Aberdeen.

Capped four times by his country, Gleeson was given his league debut by Mick McCarthy at Wolves in the 2006/07 season after progressing through the academy.

But it was at MK Dons where Gleeson really started to excel, clocking up more than 200 appearances over five years.

In his time with Birmingham, Gleeson played 125 times and scored six goals.

Adam Rooney

The 32-year-old Irishman arrived at the Moors in March 2020 on a contract until May 2022, for an undisclosed fee.

Rooney gained promotion to League Two via the play-offs with the Ammies in 2018/19, scoring 21 goals in the process.

He joined Salford on the back of a highly successful spell with Aberdeen in the Scottish Premiership where he scored 88 goals in 197 appearances, won the League Cup, scored goals in Europe and picked up a golden boot.

Supporters will also know the forward from his time at Birmingham City for whom he spent one playing season with and scored his first European goal against NK Maribor. However, it was at Stoke City where Rooney's career began, and he became the Club's youngest ever hat-trick scorer on the last day of the 2005/06 season against Brighton & Hove Albion.

Rooney then went on to enjoyed spells at Inverness Caledonian Thistle, Swindon Town and Oldham Athletic to name a few.

Jamie Ward

Jamie Ward signed for the club on 2 October 2020.

The vastly experienced forward began his career with Aston Villa before moving onto Torquay United and Chesterfield. He would then spend two seasons at Sheffield United between 2009 and 2011, before a three-month loan to Derby County became permanent.

Ward spent over four years with the Rams making 149 appearances, scoring 34 goals before switching to Nottingham Forest in 2015. During his four-year stay at the City Ground, he would be loaned to Burton Albion, Cardiff City and Charlton Athletic.

Born in Birmingham, Ward is capped by Northern Ireland with his eligibility coming through his grandfather. He has a total of 44 caps, 35 of which are senior, scoring six goals. His first senior cap came back in 2011 in a Euro 2012 qualifier, while he was also included in the Euro 2016 squad for his county.

Cameron Coxe

Wales under-21 international Cameron Coxe signed on a two-year deal, with the option of a further year in place.

The 22-year-old's career long spell with Cardiff City came to an end when he departed the Bluebirds in June 2020.

Coxe joined the club's youth academy at the age of seven before signing his first professional contract in February 2017.

He made his first-team debut during a 2-1 defeat against Burton Albion in the second round of the EFL Cup in August 2017. In total, the defender made four senior appearances at the Cardiff City Stadium.

Coxe has represented Wales at Under-17, Under-19, Under-20 and currently Under-21 level.

Niall Clayton

Niall Clayton impressed Moors in pre-season and signed a one-year deal.

The shot-stopper spent his formative years at Wolves and then Birmingham City before earning his big break at Oxford United, putting pen to paper on a two-year scholarship with the U's.

Clayton has already been involved with the Wales Under-21 set-up and was drafted in as a trialist for Moors in the summer of 2020.

Callum Maycock

Born in Birmingham, Maycock was given his first-team opportunity by Coventry City after initially joining the club as an apprentice in 2014.

The 23-year-old made his professional debut for the Sky Blues in November 2016, coming on as a substitute in a 1-1 FA Cup draw with Morecambe.

He played 32 times whilst on loan at League Two side Macclesfield Town in 2018/19, before playing regularly for Leamington in the National League North last season.

Maycock departed Coventry in June 2020 following the expiry of his contract, with 12 senior appearances to his name.



Jordan Piggott

West Brom academy graduate Piggott arrived at the Moors in July 2020 on the back of a successful season for Halesowen Town.

The Yeltz were battling for the title in the Southern League Central Division One and made it to the semi-final stage of the FA Trophy, prior to the premature curtailment of the season.

Piggott, 21, has previous experience at Dundee, East Fife, Bangor City and Alvechurch.

Joshveer Shergill

Moors demonstrated their ambition when Joshveer Shergill arrived from Leeds United on 7 September, 2020.

The promising left-back started life in the Midlands, earning his stripes at West Brom before signing as a two-year scholar for Walsall in June 2018.

An attacking full back, much is expected of the bright teenage talent.

Kyle Howkins

Howkins arrived on loan from Newport in January. He signed his first professional contract with West Bromwich Albion in 2017 and went on to enjoy loan spells at Kidderminster Harriers, Mansfield Town, Cambridge United and Port Vale.

He signed a two-year contract at Newport in June 2019.

Jimmy Shan said, "I've known Kyle since he was 10 years of age at West Brom," he said. "I know he's got a good character, good attitude to learn and improve.

"I am sure he will bring a physical presence, strength, speed and a thirst to defend, dominate and win first contacts. He is also very calm and competent in possession."

Darren Carter

Darren was part of the Forest Green Rovers squad who gained promotion to the Football League in 2017. He is a former England Under-19 and Under-20 international.

He began his career with Birmingham City where at the age of 18 his penalty in the 2002 First Division play-off final clinched the club's promotion to the Premier League. He was loaned to Sunderland in winter 2004 and helped them win promotion to the Premier League. He moved to West Bromwich Albion in July 2005 and had spells at Preston North End, Cheltenham Town, and Northampton Town before joining Forest Green Rovers.

Darren has clocked up 125 appearances for Moors since arriving in the summer of 2017. More recently, he has made the transition into coaching and become a player-coach under Jimmy Shan - the 37-year-old is also the club's ambassador.

Mitch Hancox

Former National League winner and Solihull-born Mitch Hancox became the Club's first signing of the 2019 summer.

The ex-Birmingham City star spent the whole of his youth career with the Blues before going on to make 40 appearances in the first team.

He made 15 appearances during a loan spell at Crawley Town, scoring twice. His time at St Andrew's then came to an end as he signed for Macclesfield Town in August 2016.

His second season under John Askey was a memorable one as the Silkmen clinched the National League title, with Hancox playing a key role alongside Nathan Blissett. He made 39 appearances, scoring seven times – a hat-trick in

a 4.1 win away at FC Halifax Town gave him his second match ball in as many seasons.

He most recently spent the season with MK Dons who gained automatic promotion back to League One at the first time of asking, although Hancox found opportunities limited in an injury-troubled campaign.

Cameron Archer

Rising Aston Villa hotshot Cameron Archer arrived on loan on 2 October, 2020.

Born in Walsall, Archer showed star potential from an early age and was headhunted by Villa at six-years-old. The tag 'one to watch' soon became synonymous with Archer who regularly played in higher year groups for his age.

Archer broke into Villa's u23 side at just 16-years-old and he has been a regular ever since. His performances at youth level caught the eye and first team boss Dean Smith handed Archer his senior debut during Villa's second round Carabao Cup tie at Crewe last August.

That same season, Villa entered an U-23 side in the EFL Trophy, Archer starred and grabbed the headlines with a long-range strike against Tranmere Rovers.

Justin Donawa

Justin Donawa signed for the Moors on 28 October 2020.

Donawa has an impressive all-round sporting background, having grown up as a cricket player and thrived as a triple jumper in his formative years. As an athlete, he won three medals in regional competitions and also competed at the 2013 World Youth Championships in Athletics.

However, football was to prove Donawa's true calling, especially once he moved to the United States to attend the Berkshire School and then Dartmouth College. During his time in the States, the Bermudan won three Ivy League championships with the Big Green, appeared during school breaks with Somerset Trojans, and spent time with Black Rock FC. He was drafted by Columbus Crew in the third round of the 2019 MLS SuperDraft but was not signed by the club.

Donawa moved to England last summer after impressing during pre-season with Darlington, which bagged him a contract with the Quakers. He went onto play 37 times throughout the 2019/20 season, scoring nine goals.

After representing Bermuda at Under-20 level, Donawa has since progressed to accrue 20 senior caps for his national side, scoring three goals.

Kyle Hudlin

Towering centre forward Kyle Hudlin sprang a surprise when he signed for Moors on 27 October 2020.

Hudlin joined Moors after a spell with Midland League Division Two side Solihull United and put pen to paper on a two-year deal at the SportNation.bet Stadium.

The 20-year-old has been a non-league hot-shot for a few years, most noticeably catching the eye at former side Boldmere Sports and Social Falcons.

During the last campaign, the 6ft 9inch striker notched 25 times in just 22 games for the Falcons before signing for United in March.

Coronavirus curtailed the season soon after, but Hudlin still made his mark for Solihull, bagging a hat-trick in only his second game for the club.

A new challenge now awaits Hudlin as he makes the jump from playing in step seven of English football to the National League.

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FANZONE THE SHOPS TO SHOP TO SHOP THE SHOPS TO SHOP THE SHOP TO SHOP THE SHOP TO SHOP THE SHOP TO SHOP THE SHOP

With Rob Worrall

Welcome to Fanzone for tonight's National League game with Solihull Moors.

The FA Trophy tie between these two sides four weeks ago was a real thriller, one of the most exciting matches at the EBB Stadium for a long time. The Shots progressed that night and we now subsequently find ourselves in the Quarter-Finals of the FA Trophy, just 180 minutes from Wembley.

Whether you've been a Shots supporter for one, 10, or 50 years, you'll evidently know that neither Aldershot FC or Aldershot Town FC have ever played there. We dare to dream!

Just a few days ago, a good friend of mine celebrated eight years a Shots fan. He doesn't know that this is going to be in tonight's match programme. Here's the post he put on Facebook just a few days ago, along with a couple of photos of him, one of which is of he and I, singing "We are top of the League" after a midweek game at Ebbsfleet.

"It was eight years to the day on Tuesday 9th Febuary 2021, that I have been supporting Aldershot Town. I have seen many ups and downs during this time.

"I have seen five managers and many players come and go. My favourite players over the eight years have been Danny Hylton, Adam Mekki, Brett Williams, Jake Gallagher and at the moment, it is Alex Finney.

"I have enjoyed supporting Aldershot Town more than Arsenal because I feel closer to the club, part of it. Our supporters are so passionate and the players show a lot of heart and character, battling week in week out whether they win, lose or draw.

"I have also travelled the country with my good friend Rob to support them and been to many grounds that

I could only imagine I would have visited. I have also made many new friends and enjoyed weekends away staying in some great B & B's too, particularly Southport, Torquay, Blackpool and Hartlepool.

"They are truly a great team to support and I hope to continue to support them for many more years to come. There is only one more thing that I would like to say; 'I'M ALDERSHOT TIL I DIE'"

Well said Tony and here's to the next eight years!

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



THE BIG PICTURE





FUN WITH TI

SPOT THE BALL

Can you find the names of of four of this season's loan players in our wordsearch?

HUNGBO PHILLIPS JAMES GILLELA

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HAT-TRICK QUIZ

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

- 1 Which former Solihull Moors player has made appearances for Aldershot Town, Barnet, Leyton Orient and Eastleigh?
- 2 Who scored the Shots' goals in the 2:1 FA Trophy QF win over Tamworth on this day in 2008?
- 3 What was the score in the Manchester United v West Ham FA Cup match last Tuesday evening?





WHO AM 1?



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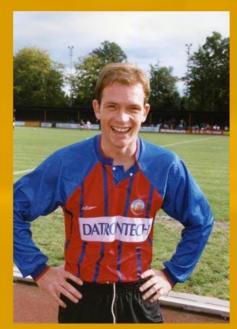
Spot the Ball **Anwar Uddin** Who am 1? Gander Green Lane, Sutton United

Guess the Ground 3 1:0 to Manchester United 2 Dave Winfield and Kirk Hudson

> 1 Paul McCallum Hat-Trick Quiz

VNSMEKS





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!

Mark Butler v Clapton

Saturday 22 August 1992

Aldershot Town 4-2 Clapton

Goalscorers: Mark Butler (2), Steve Stairs (2)

Diadora League Division 3

Attendance: 1.493

On the face of it, for the majority of people who lived in Aldershot, 22 August was just another ordinary Saturday in the summer of 1992; people were preparing to go on holidays, picnics, days out in the country, all the ordinary and enjoyable ways that there are of spending a pleasant summery Saturday.

However, for one particular group of people, more specifically supporters of the local football club, there was only one place to be – the Recreation Ground in the High Street in Aldershot, to watch the very first competitive match to be played by the newly-formed Aldershot Town FC.

Of course, these supporters had previously been devoted to Aldershot FC, a sometime Division Three and mainly Division Four Football League club that had been in existence since 1926, entering the heights of professional football in 1932 before finally and tragically being wound up and liquidated 60 years later, in March 1992. It had been a grim day for supporters of Aldershot FC but even as the final curtain was falling on the Shots, work behind the scenes from a dedicated group of men and women was already underway to ensure that the name of Aldershot would not be lost to the world of football the result, Aldershot Town FC and the return of live football to the Recreation Ground five months after the final fixture had been played there, a 3:0 defeat to Lincoln City, albeit five divisions lower and now a truly part-time team.

But what a team it was! Managed by former Shots defender, Steve Wignall and packed full of local men, it was a squad of players determined to bring glory to their local area and in some cases, the town of their birth. Key amongst those players was 27-year-old Mark Butler, a striker who arrived at Aldershot Town from

Egham Town and with a reputation for goal scoring. Mark was a local man, having been born in Aldershot and had grown up watching Aldershot FC from the East Bank, the Club being within walking distance of his childhood home. He'd seen all the greats – Murray Brodie, Alex McGregor, Joe Jopling, Glen Johnson – and had been at the memorable play-off match against Wolves in 1987, and now he was looking to emulate these legends of AFC himself

Indeed, 'Buts', as he was soon to become known as, had been scoring goals already in the pre-season fixtures but now it was time to get serious – Aldershot Town (1992) had a ten-year plan to return the Club to the Football League and with five divisions to traverse to achieve this there was a need to come out of the blocks with alacrity! Because of the importance of this game there was a massive build-up – local press in attendance, fireworks before kick-off, players introduced to the crowd, a spanking new programme – and the expectation levels were off the scale. Because of this, it was probably hardly surprising that within half an hour, the Shots were 2:0 down!

However, it was at this moment that the very first club legend was, metaphorically, born. Mark Butler, moving down the South Stand side of the ground towards the High Street End goal, fired home past the Clapton goalkeeper, the Shots were finally in the game and Butler the scorer of the very first competitive Aldershot Town FC goal. It was a magical moment and the supporters celebrated it as both that and the unique moment it was too. And by the end of the half they had been able to repeat that performance twice more as the Shots were 3:2 up and cruising towards a final 4:2 win.

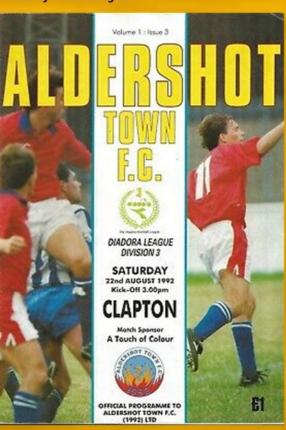
Butler ended the game having bagged a brace, his first two goals for Aldershot Town and the sign to the supporters that in both him, and his strike partner Steve Stairs, the Club had two players who were going to take them along an exciting and win-filled road. And what a road that was to be for Buts, who ended this inaugural season on 50 appearances and 30 goals, 10 of which came from five braces and accompanied by two hat-tricks, the first to be scored for the new club. He wasn't to be the leading goalscorer in that first season, beaten to the prize by his fellow striker, Steve Stairs, but over the following five campaigns he notched a further 125 goals in the red and blue,

resulting in him becoming Aldershot Town's leading goalscorer, a record which he still holds to this day.

Having made 271 starts for the Club accompanied by 32 from the substitutes' bench, Mark had the enviable record of a strike rate of better than one-in-two. He was leading goalscorer in three of those seasons, Player of the Year in 1993 and a member of three Aldershot Town promotion sides, two as champions (92/93 and 97/98), before finally leaving the Club for Staines Town – where he was then the leading goal scorer for the following four seasons!

Still living locally, the Club was always special to Mark and everyone was delighted when he joined the staff as Commercial Manager in 2014, a role which he still works in today, his hard work and dedication bringing in much needed revenue and sponsorship for the Club. But for those supporters who were lucky enough to be at the Recreation Ground back in August 1992, the first thing that they will always think of when they see the name Mark Butler is goals – and that very first one scored for Aldershot Town FC (1992), a first for the player and a first for the Club, too, was truly golden...

Words by Victoria Rogers



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OUR PARTNERS



FARNBOROUGH AIRPORT







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	Alfy Whittingham
13	Ryan Hall
14	Joel Nouble
15	Jermaine Anderson
16	Dinesh Gillela
17	
18	Reece Wylie
19	
20	Toby Edser
21	Ben Shroll
23	Killian Colombie
25	Shadrach Ogie
26	Lewis Kinsella
27	Craig Tanner
29	Joe Rabbetts
30	Ricky Miller
36	Mike Fondop-Talom
44	Ross McCormack

SOLIHULL MOORS

Manager: Jimmy Shan

1	Ryan Boot
2	Tyrone Williams
3	Jordan Cranston
4	Kyle Storer
5	Callum Howe
6	Alex Gudger
7	Joe Sbarra
8	Stephen Gleeson
9	Adam Rooney
10	Jamey Osborne
11	Jamie Ward
12	Cameron Coxe
13	Niall Clayton
14	Lewis Miccio
15	Callum Maycock
16	Reiss McNally
17	Jordan Piggott
18	James Ball
19	Joshveer Shergill
20	Kyle Howkins
21	Ben Usher-Shipway
22	Melis Bushaj
23	Darren Carter
24	Mitch Hancox
25	Cameron Archer
26	Justin Donawa
27	Kyle Hudlin
28	
29	Nathan Cameron

NEXT UP AT THE EBB STADIUM Wrexham

Saturday 20 February 2021 Kick-Off 3pm Vanarama National League

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Daniel Lamport Assistant: Benjamin Williamson Assistant: Conall Bartlett

Fourth Official: Stephen Hawkes



@OfficialShots



AldershotTownFC



AldershotTown1992

TONIGHT'S FIXTURES

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

LEAGUE TABLE

P	GD	PTS
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