



The Official Matchday Programme of Aldershot Town Football Club // Issue 24
vs Eastleigh // Tuesday 18 May 2021 // Kick-Off 7.45pm // Vanarama National League

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vs **Eastleigh**

Tuesday 18 May 2021

Kick-Off: 7:45pm

Vanarama National League



12



24



**MANAGER'S
NOTES**

FIRST TEAM

MANAGER

DANNY

SEARLE

"I thought Hartlepool were very good and I was impressed with the way they played but I thought we had done enough to maybe get something out of the game..."



Good evening and a massive warm welcome to everyone who has been able to attend tonight's game - we've really missed you all at matches, welcome back! And welcome also to those of you watching on the stream and listening to commentary online - our supporters are all highly-valued, wherever you are supporting us from.

I'd also like to welcome our visitors, Eastleigh, their manager Ben Strevens, his players and staff to the EBB Stadium. Eastleigh are having another good season and are still in with a shout of the play-offs and will present strong opposition for tonight's game.

Saturday's game was ultimately disappointing, ending as it did in a 3:1 loss for ourselves. It was a tough one and I lost it a little bit with the lads afterwards, probably more out of frustration than anything else because I think we deserved more out of the game. I thought Hartlepool were very good and I was impressed with the way they played but I thought we had done enough to maybe get something out of the game. When you lose a game to mistakes it just makes things so much harder to take whereas if they'd cut us open, like with the shot that George blocked on the line in the first half, if that had been a goal you would have said what a good one it was. We

should have done better with the first two goals and although I can see why the ref gave the penalty at the end, watching it back there was no contact, the player made contact with Jamie!

When I watched the game back on Sunday I thought we played well. We weathered that first 10/15 minute spell which we knew would happen and we controlled large parts of the game, but Hartlepool came away with the win and that's why they are where they are and we are where we are.

Eastleigh have also had a really good season. I think Strevs and his coaching staff have done a good job there and they have been consistent over the last two or three years. That's something that we have looked at, not just with Eastleigh but with quite a few of the teams who are up near the top of the table. The players they've got are all similar players, they add one or two a season but generally the squad stays the same. When you've got that you know that you're going to have continuity. They've only lost one game in the last five so it's going to be a tough game tonight. We should have won the game at their place last October so hopefully we can emulate that kind of performance and this time make sure we get ourselves over the line.

And of course we will be playing in front of supporters too, which is what we have all been looking forward to so much. However many supporters are in the ground, it's going to be so much better than none and I know those of you who are here this evening will make a lot of noise - the boys are buzzing and can't wait to play in front of you all.

Enjoy the game,

Danny

JAMES SCARLETT

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DIRECTOR

WALEED KHAN

Let me start by welcoming our visitors this evening, Eastleigh Football Club; The Spitfires, together with their officials and players to the EBB Stadium.

19 December last saw us enter another lockdown with no prospect of knowing when this would end and for us in the football community, when fans would be allowed to return. Tonight is that moment when we warmly welcome back home fans and again on Saturday, for our last home game against Bromley. Sadly, still no away fans can enjoy our hospitality. It feels so bizarre writing about having fans come to a game when this should be the norm. A sign of the times that we hope very soon changes for the better.

The Eastleigh game is the third of four consecutive matches at the EBB where the hallowed turf is just about holding out. Come 7 June, we hope to begin the renovation of the pitch making it ready for the 21/22 season. Let's pray for sun and more sun with a sprinkle of rain.

With no relegation, we know our players are still keen to give their very best in what has been a season full of opportunities that have just slipped through our fingers. Next season beckons with new challenges and opportunities.

There was much pride for the Academy when Reece Wylie made his First Team debut on Saturday against Hartlepool. Reece has patiently waited for his turn and we know that he will go from strength to strength. We wish him much success.

Continuing with Academy theme, a few weeks ago it was great to see Harry Taylor return to the EBB playing for Charlton Athletic FC. One of our boys!



Danny on Thursday 6 May at the EBB that we gave to the next crop of our boys, parents and guardians we shall be looking to get First Team exposure next season. A key part of our development plan for these boys will be to put in place a comprehensive loan programme, ideally to Step 3 clubs. This will enable the boys to experience the next level of football and provide us with a good assessment of where areas of development can be improved and worked on. I am very excited at this prospect and the boys involved. The door is open for others to join them.

As we return to some form of pre-COVID living, we shall once again be holding our Community Cup tournament on Sunday 23 May at the EBB. Having played and scored(!) at the Community Stand End, I very much hope this year's event is as successful as our last one in 2019. If you're allowed to attend, please do so as it's always a good day.

I hope everyone enjoys the game tonight, we get a win and that our guests return home safely to their loved ones.

COYS!

Waleed Khan

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JAMIE SENDLES-WHITE

CAPTAIN

After Saturday's defeat to play-off chasing Hartlepool United here at the EBB Stadium, Jamie reflects on a disappointing result for himself and the team

I think again we probably saw that difference in quality with the top teams, it shows why they are where they are, pushing for the play-offs, even automatic promotion at one stage. They are a good side, they know their jobs, they know exactly how they are going to play and they played the same way as they did when they beat us last October. There was probably no shame in losing to them – the score line might have flattered them a little bit but I don't think there are any complaints from our end because they are a good side and we probably didn't play to our best.

Tonight's visitors, Eastleigh, are still in with a shout of the play-offs too, with two games in hand over the three teams above them

I think they are going to want to make those games in hand count. I'm sure they will be looking to get into the play-offs before the end of the season. It's going to be another tough game, Eastleigh are going to be



fired up and as always, we've got to be at our best to be able to get something from the game. And if we do that I am confident we can pick up a positive result.

One major change for tonight's match is the return of supporters to the stadium, something that Jamie is very much looking forward to

We've been desperate for the fans to be back this season and I'm sure not just at Aldershot but at every single club in the country. So you know, we're really excited that we are going to have the last two home games of the season with the fans here and I am sure that's going to give us a massive boost and it's going to make it feel like football again. We're delighted they'll be here tonight and Saturday and really looking forward to it.





SHOTS NEWS & VIEWS

WORDS BY VICTORIA ROGERS

I heartily applaud the formation of @HerGameToo, a new campaign run by female football fans which has recently appeared on Twitter to raise awareness of sexist abuse in the game. Its purpose is to offer support and help to women involved in the game of football, be they fans, working for a club or working in football media. Their simple but striking video where women wearing football shirts pass pieces of paper to each other which display many of the unpleasant and sexist comments made to women from those who feel they shouldn't be involved in football or have an opinion on it has now been watched by over 1,000,000 people. The downright ignorance of some of those comments is phenomenal - You can't comment, it's a man's game, You know nothing about football, you're a woman, Do you even know the offside rule? - are just a few taken from the one-minute video. I am fully aware of the fact that these remarks come from an incredibly tiny percentage of people and in no way do they represent the main proportion of male football supporters but as with everything in life, it is the small but vocal minority who often ruin things for everyone else.

Unpleasant and rude though they were, incredibly I felt some of the comments were quite mild compared to those I have seen directed at presenters such as Alex Scott, Karen Carney and Sky's Michelle Owen on social media where even her appearance and parenting skills have been questioned (not sure what that's got to do with football) but all of them had several things in common- they showed ignorance, they

showed rudeness and they showed sexism and that kind of intolerance needs to be fought against wherever and whoever it is targeted at.

I'm going to be honest here, I have watched football since 1975, principally here at The Recreation Ground and worked in one form or another for this club since 2012 and I can't remember ever receiving an outright sexist remark addressed directly at me; not on the terrace, not at my programme content, not on my Twitter account and not from my colleagues or employers. Young footballers who are probably more used to being interviewed by media graduates in their twenties have never once looked askance at me when I rock up to interview them for the programme, even if they weren't expecting a woman in her mid-50s! I've worked with six different managers, four different media managers, stood on the terrace both here and up and down the country and as mentioned above, interviewed over 100 footballers and have never been challenged about my 'right' to talk and write about football. I am very grateful for this.

However #HerGameToo isn't about me, it's about the many hundreds and 1,000s of women who are tired of receiving sexist misogynistic, and abusive attacks on them when all they want to do is watch, talk about and work in the game we all love - some of them are my fellow supporters here at Aldershot Town. The level of anger in the comments seen on social media is frightening, the lack of tolerance incredible.

In the Big Interview feature in today's programme our assistant manager, Anwar Uddin, talks about his work with the Football Supporters Association and particularly on his work in trying to make football as inclusive as possible, and that is something we can all get alongside and become part of. Football has just had the toughest year of its life and many clubs are reeling under the loss of income. What better time than now to make football as accessible and as open to everyone, regardless of gender, belief, ability or religion? Make it the welcoming place where people can enjoy themselves, join together once again in sociable groups and watch the match, regardless of who or what we are. As Anwar says, it might take effort, it might take an investment in time, we might even face some opposition - but it can be done and in the doing, we can only bring benefits and positivity to the game of football, the game we all love so much.



GRAHAM LOUCH

Aldershot Town FC was saddened to hear of the recent passing of Shots supporter, Graham Louch. He was a lifetime fan, first seeing the Shots in the pre-war years. He then introduced his son, Mark, to the Club and he has been a regular here too since the late 60s. Graham was a season ticket holder until the 2019-20 season with his final position in the ground being the Directors' Box. Prior to that after a one season experiment in the South Stand, he had always stood on the East Bank, his preferred option by a mile!

Whilst he was never brilliant at remembering names, including those of his children, he could recall in graphic detail the war years where Mercer and Lawton etc graced the Rec, as well as remembering very fondly names like Howfield, Melia, Brodie, Walden and Howarth. Saturdays and Tuesday nights at the Rec provided so many happy memories, with the Shrewsbury FA Cup game being a particular favourite (he blamed Will Dixon rather than Crosby) as well of course as a few lowlights over the years. The demise of the Club in 1992 was a desperate time and he was one of many who was at the Officers Club as it was reinvented, including the purchase of a few shares.

He enjoyed the new era greatly, with the Waddock promotion year being the absolute highlight, accompanied as ever by some disappointments. The day we drew with Barrow after being two up in the last five minutes and them down to nine players summed up his view that we could always snatch defeat from the jaws of victory.

Over 80+ years, through thick and thin, he supported the Shots and all the friends he made at the Rec!



MATCH ACTION

Tuesday 11 May
Vanarama National League
Kick-Off 7pm

The Shots 2
Panayiotou 51', Kandi 83'

Yeovil Town 0

The EBB Stadium



The Shots: Walker, Fowler, Sendles
-White, Lyons-Foster (Booked),
Kinsella, Rees (Nouble 28')
(Booked), Edser, Anderson, Kandi
(Hinds 74'), Panayiotou, Tanner
(Bettamer 74') **Subs:** Bettamer,
Nouble, Ogie, Hinds, Miller



Yeovil Town: Smith, Kelly, Quigley,
Knowles, Lee, Neufville, Sonupe
(D'Ath 67'), Bradley (Sent-Off),
Redi, Dagnall (Stephens 82'),
Sass-Davies **Subs:** Evans, D'Ath,
Stephens, Heaton, Medrano



“ POST-MATCH THOUGHTS ”

ANWAR UDDIN

'Really pleased – clean sheet, three points, the win and a win against Yeovil who we have found difficult to play against over the past couple of years so we're really pleased... The message was let's get forward, let's get wide, let's get the ball forward... and great little play down the right (for Chike's goal) and a great time to score.'

DARREN SARLL

'I thought their application all night was brilliant... I thought anyone who played out of position was very good... The first half an hour where we had chances I thought we played well... but the first goal was a poor one to concede, poor decision-making.'



PLAYER KIT S



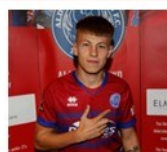
HOME:
Andy Wilde
AWAY:
Shots Away Travel

Mitch Walker



HOME:
Muhammed Ali
AWAY:
Andy Wilde

Mo Bettamer



HOME & AWAY:
Sunnyside
Removals

Reece Wylie



HOME & AWAY:
Roger Niblett

George Fowler



HOME:
Andrew King
AWAY:
Hussayn Awais-Ali

Chike Kandi



HOME & AWAY:
Richard, Julie &
Bradley Layton

Toby Edser



HOME:
Martin & Adam Jessop
AWAY:
For Gillobean

Alex Finney



HOME:
Heather Nicklinson
AWAY:
SCSJ Consulting

Harrison Panayiotou



HOME & AWAY:
O'Neill & Brennan

Ben Shroll



HOME & AWAY:
The Three Grumpy Gits

Jamie Sendles-White



HOME:
The Blair Family
AWAY:
Bobby Proudlock

Alfie Whittingham



HOME & AWAY:
Andy Pusey

Killian Colombie



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Adrian Butt

Kodi Lyons-Foster



HOME & AWAY:
Richard, Julie &
Bradley Layton

Ryan Hall



HOME:
Adrian Butt
AWAY:
Jim Speight

Shadrach Ogie



HOME & AWAY:
Ian White

James Rowe



HOME:
Bobby Proudlock
AWAY:
Marc Bowerman

Joel Nouble



HOME:
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MATCH ACTION

Saturday 15 May
Vanarama National League
Kick-Off 3pm

The Shots 1
Bettamer 87' (p)

Hartlepool United 3
Armstrong 59', Oates 77',
Featherstone 90' (p)

The EBB Stadium



The Shots: Walker, Fowler, Sendles
-White (Booked), Lyons-Foster,
Kinsella (Booked), Edser,
Anderson, Kandi (Booked)
(Bettamer 74'), Panayiotou, Tanner
(Booked) (Wylie 85'), Miller (Hinds
61') **Subs:** Bettamer, Whittingham,
Wylie, Ogie, Hinds



Hartlepool United: James, Sterry,
Kass, Featherstone, Johnson,
Little, Ferguson (Francis-Angol
87'), Holohan (Booked), Shelton
(Donaldson 83'), Armstrong, Oates
(Elliott 83') **Subs:** Donaldson,
Molyneux, Williams, Francis-Angol,
Elliott



“ POST-MATCH THOUGHTS ”

ANWAR UDDIN

'They got stronger and we didn't. We were quite comfortable until ten minutes after the break but didn't continue that momentum.'

DAVE CHALLINOR

'I thought the performance was very good and really deserving of the three points. We should have scored more goals but it's about winning and we've done that relatively comfortably.'



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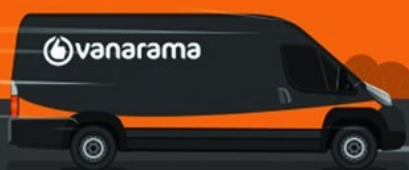
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SHOTS IN FOCUS CRAIG TANNER



Full Name: Craig Tanner

Date and place of birth: 27/10/94 in Aldershot

Height: 5'8" (on a kerb!!)

Married: No

Nickname: Tanz

Car: Ride a bike!

Previous clubs: Reading, Wimbledon, Plymouth Argyle, Motherwell

Team you supported as a boy: Liverpool until Michael Owen left

Favourite current player: Lionel Messi (GOAT)

Most difficult opponent: Kieran Tierney

Most memorable match: Liverpool at Anfield in the FA Cup

Biggest disappointment: Losing play-off final

Football honours: Play-off final, promotion, two cup finals at Motherwell

Favourite other sports: Golf

Favourite other sportsmen/women: Roger Federer

Hobbies: Walking, hiking

Favourite TV show: Suits

Favourite musicians: Paulo Nutini

Miscellaneous likes: Finding new places to eat

Miscellaneous dislikes: Poor manners

Best country visited: Bali

Favourite food: Pizza

Favourite restaurant: Pizza Daddy-Hamilton

Favourite drink: Asahi

Biggest drag in football: Long journeys/being away from family

If you weren't a footballer what do you think you'd be: Travelling doing random jobs

Which person in the world would you most like to meet: David Attenborough

If given £1million what would be the first thing you would buy: One-way flight to Bali



Steven Goddard

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

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ALDERSHOT TOWN SUPPORTERS CLUB

Good Evening Everyone.

Tonight we welcome Eastleigh to the EBB Stadium for the first of the last two home games that fans are allowed back into the EBB before the end of the season. So let's be the team's 12th man and spur them on to victory.

We came up against a very strong Hartlepool side on Saturday who came away the winners. Eastleigh had a good 3:0 win against Barnet and will be playing for a position in the Play-Offs to try to get a home tie with home fan advantage.

Like I said in the last notes, we have decided NOT to open our Supporters Club Hut tonight or on Saturday 22nd. This is line with the Club as they have announced that none of the catering facilities are open or the Club Shop.

We Supporters Club Committee are arranging to have a meeting as soon as possible so that we can organise events to raise funds for the Club and get everyone back and involved. Thank you again for your patience. If you do have any queries, please email us at the below address.

To join the Supporters Club, email us at atfc.sup@yahoo.com or join on the website at just £15 for over 18's and £10 18 and under for new members, which

includes an Official Supporters Club scarf. Forms are also available in the Club Shop.

If you haven't already, please sign up for In with a Shot. As you know, there are winners every week and money goes to the Club and you the fans. It is a weekly draw, either a £2 game or £5 game and so far the money raised for the Club is over £13,882.50 and we have given out over £14,000 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

Remember that there will be another BUTTS BONUS of £1,000 around November time, just ready for Christmas!!!! (Sorry to mention in May!!).

The Midweek YouTube Show that the Club has been doing is now on its 17th week. Still such a laugh, and a good mix of interviews and fun. I loved the two-part interview with Tony Calvert, he seemed such a character to have in the dressing room (or a pain!). Who knew that the kitman starts at 6.20am, getting things ready; that was interesting too. Like Mark has said, let's give them ideas for the show and get involved. When things go back to 'normal' let's hope that they carry it on as I'm loving it!!

Remember we are also on Instagram and have a Twitter account [atfc_supporters_club](#) and [@officialatfc](#)

Hope you enjoy the game.

Ray Hedgman - Supporters' Club Chairman



ON THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN



It goes without saying that it will be great to see fans back this evening. As excellent as the Shots TV service operated by the Club has been there can only be so many streamed matches you can take in (and my son Oliver and I have viewed every match during the current lockdown). Of course it is not the same and being totally frank about the situation it won't be totally back to normal until the masks are off, all the facilities are open and the social distancing is removed. Let's hope by August that will be the case.

However, tonight and Saturday is a start. It is an opportunity for the players to show what they are capable of with the excitement and buzz of a bit of atmosphere.

The FA Cup Final on Saturday proved that you don't have to be at full capacity within a stadium to make it work. I loved seeing Leicester City win the FA Cup. I

loved to see that smaller club come through, especially after the fallout of the recent European Super League nonsense. But, above all, I just loved the pure exaltation, the joy, the emotion of the fans on the day. It was raw, it was natural and, for me, watching on the screen, it showed why football can never be the same without the fans and hasn't been since the Covid-19 regulations started.

Realistically, in my view, the fans aren't going to remember this season with any great fondness. That has nothing to do with the team. It is because we haven't been a part of it, because when you get down to it, it is being part of the team from the terraces that makes it all tick. Harrison Panayiotou's goal versus Yeovil Town was a fantastic strike and worth a rerun or two, but how more effective would it have been had he been able to charge over to the East Bank to celebrate with the fans? To share a special moment that would always live with him.

Today isn't going to be like the FA Cup Final, of course it isn't, but just to hear some cheering when the players come out onto the pitch, Craig Matthews playing "Alive and Kicking" on the tannoy, having a read of the match day programme standing on the terraces (I understand if you skip past this page !), to even a murmuring or two when the Man of the Match is announced. All of this is natural. It is what makes match day tick.

I hope the players come out this evening and play the game as though it was the opening day of the season. The fans- we're here, we're there, we're everywhere tonight, and to have two strong performances in front of us will be a great way to end the home campaign.

Words by Graham Brookland





ANWAR
UDDIN

THE BIG INTERVIEW

Aldershot Town assistant manager, Anwar Uddin, is a very busy man. When I call him on Wednesday morning, the day after Shots' 2:0 win over Yeovil Town, he points out with humour, that Danny and the players are still in bed but he is already up and working!

This is because Anwar shares his time with Aldershot Town with the job he has held for seven years, Diversity and Campaigns Manager at the Football Supporters Association and leading the Fans for Diversity Campaign with Kick it Out, and it is a balance he has perfected having also previously been first team coach at Maidstone United and managing Sporting Bengal United, Ware and Glebe.

His playing career saw the east Londoner start out at West Ham before moving to Sheffield Wednesday and Bristol Rovers. Signing for Dagenham and Redbridge where he captained the side in 2004, he made 188 appearances over six years and was part of the squad that gained promotion to the Football League in 2007. He then joined Barnet where he was also captain – indeed, Anwar was the first British-Asian to captain a side in the top four divisions, and he made his first steps towards his coaching career when he was made caretaker assistant manager with the Bees at the end of the 2010-11 season. However, there was also a keen interest in football governance and he moved into the role with the Football Supporters Association when he retired from playing in 2013, and has coupled that that with his coaching career ever since.

'I'm really proud of the work I do. When I retired from football I started to work on fan engagement, working around discrimination and equality and I've worked for the likes of Kick it Out and the Football Supporters Association for the last seven years, basically trying to

make our football as inclusive as possible. And what that means is that we work with football fans all over the country. We've got 800,000 members, it's free to join, anyone can become a member and we work with fans on a number of things because the FSA are like the voice of football fans. We are doing a lot of work at the moment around governance and reform because recently everyone will have seen the top six try to break away from football and into a super league, so there is a lot of work that we are doing around better governance and ownership around football and making sure that football is kept in the tradition and history for fans, and that is important.

'So generally that is to do with fans, but what I do specifically is work on the equality aspect of that, working on all forms of discrimination and on all strands of diversity. I work with older fans, younger fans, fans from the LGBTQ+ community, fans from under-represented groups like the Asian community, the black community, the Nepalese community. I work with different faith groups, disabled fans. I am extremely busy but it's something that I am really passionate about.'

With his long playing career in football, alongside his mixed heritage, Anwar is well-placed to understand the changes that are needed in football, both on and off the pitch and feels that football itself can be an agent for change.

'For me, it's interesting to be in the position as an ex-player and go around clubs and help them whether it's a strategy around fan engagement, equality, or to work with fans and make things better for them and their clubs. Having played for 20 years as one of the only British Asians in the country I've seen a lot and

I've heard a lot and I feel like football can be a place where we can really complement change. In society there's not many places where on a Saturday, everyone in a town or a city comes together regardless of who you are, where you are from, puts on a shirt and watches their team. I think there's something magical about that and for me, it's about making individuals realise that we can all do a little bit more for each other.'

Last week was Mental Health Awareness Week and mental health has very much come under the spotlight in more recent times, along with the need to take the matter far more seriously than maybe it has been in the past, along with ensuring we all look after one another. Again, Anwar was very much involved in this.

'Every single day this week I'm on a Webinar. I've got a Government Webinar and fans Webinars on Thursday - because it's important that fans are there for each other. It's important that when you ask someone how they are you actually say, are you OK? How are things with you? Because we never know what people are going through. So these are the kinds of things I'm trying to raise awareness with and to be honest, it's something that I work so hard to do.'

Prior to last year, Anwar's work saw him travelling up and down the country to meet with supporters and clubs. The pandemic has curtailed this for the time-being but still the work goes on, via Zoom and Webinars. Some of that work is focussed on looking to find ways to deal with the abuse that is flung around in football, sometimes from the terraces but more often now, from social media accounts.

'I'm passionate about it and I really want to drive change. Clubs like Aldershot, Manchester United - clubs from all over the country, I want the doors to be open, I want fans to be able to embrace football, to be able to go and watch a game, just to enjoy it and get involved in it. We don't want to sanitise football, we don't want to make it anything different, we want to have that aggression, that atmosphere, but ultimately, it's about making people realise there's a fine line between being a football fan and doing the right things and being offensive and abusive.

'And that's not just on the terraces, it's on social media too. We are doing a lot of work with the government at the moment about trying to reduce the

amount of online hate crime which is really common. I know I'm talking about racism, homophobia, mental health, disability, but actually it all links in to mental health as well. If you are a player or a fan, no one should be abused because of the colour of their skin or their religion or their sexual orientation.'

Anwar's role here at Aldershot Town means he is right at the sharp end of football, involved on a day to day basis with coaching and players which can then feed into his other work. He is very happy to be working for the Shots, too.

'I feel very, very honoured to be able to be the assistant manager at Aldershot Town. Because my job is very flexible, I don't have set hours, it's like, I've got so much to do but Anwar, do it in your own time - I work evenings, in the days, I sometimes work at the weekends, I've got no real nine to five. But what that has done over the last six years has given me an opportunity to stay in football. I was doing that part-time in non-league and now I'm doing that at Aldershot. I have the flexibility at work, I can come in and do the games and my organisation are fully behind what I do because they want to encourage my development and they know I love football and that's also important for me.

'I'm a British Asian and how many British Asians are there on the touchline in football - there isn't? So for me it's about representation, every time I have the privilege to stand on the touchline at Aldershot it's an honour for me. And I can see the Bangladeshi flag every single home game on the East Bank, people don't realise just how much that means to me. I put a picture of it up on Instagram and I had about 200 messages from people from Bangladesh saying that's amazing and on Facebook I had about 1,000 messages. People were saying, there aren't many Bangladeshi flags flying high over football stadiums in this country - that's part of change, and that's the beautiful thing about football, that you can do that, you can give someone an opportunity.

'I'm mixed heritage, my mum's English and my dad's Bangladeshi, but I'm from east London and I've been given the opportunity to have a really fantastic career and now I'm able to coach and manage at Aldershot which I'm privileged to do. Obviously I have to thank Danny Searle for bringing me into the Club and making me part of his management team.'

Anwar is clearly enjoying co-ordinating his work with the Shots with his role at the FSA, despite the long hours it entails and it's obvious that the supporters are something that really matter to him, driving him to always find the time to get everything achieved. He is also responsible for one of the FSA's most well-known campaigns.

'It's a crazy story! So I'll have a game with Aldershot, say Torquay away, I get home at 5am and I've got a Zoom meeting with Manchester United at 9am! There's not many people who probably do that but for me, it's that I love the game, I can't get enough of it – I love the Club and I love what I do.

'I'm so passionate about change. I created the Fans for Diversity campaign six years ago and I created it from scratch and it's just exploded, and that's because people buy into it. Fans for Diversity is all about fans getting together to make football as inclusive as possible, making football open and beautiful for everyone so they can embrace it. And to see people in my t-shirts all over the world and clubs like Tottenham

in the Premier League tweeting my work from their main accounts makes it all worthwhile.'

And rightly, there is interest in the work of the FSA from the very top of football.

'I had an hour and a half with Gareth Southgate last week on Zoom, he wanted to meet some of the fan groups I work with. We do events every single day from the Premier League all the way down to non-league and it's amazing. And one of the big things about the work I do is that we have funds available. So if any football fan wants to do something that is productive around inclusion, be that helping a community to come and watch the games, creating banners, t-shirts, flags – then contact me! Because the funding is there and it's about actually making the most of it.'

Read more about Anwar's work in Saturday's programme, both with the FSA and here at Aldershot Town in part 2 of this Big Interview

Words by Victoria Rogers

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FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS' ASSOCIATION





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BALL SPONSOR



Steve Brett

Tonight's match ball has been sponsored by long-time Aldershot Town supporter, Steve Brett. Steve, who describes himself as a keen 'Rightsider' (on the East Bank), travels to many of the Shots' away games too each season (when permitted!) Steve also helped facilitate the 500 Club fundraising scheme in the 2017-18 season which raised money to supplement the playing budget.

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COMMUNITY STAND

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: William

Age Group: U-11s

Playing Position: Winger

When did you join the Aldershot Town Academy?

I joined Aldershot Academy U-9s in the 2018/19 season

When did you first start playing football?

I started playing football age four

What team do you support?

I support Liverpool FC and Aldershot Town FC

What type of player are you?

I think I am a robust player who likes to get stuck in, always giving 100%

Who is your favourite footballer?

Ben Godfrey (Everton)

Describe the best goal you have scored?

My best goal was scored from a free kick. I kicked it perfectly and the ball dipped and went in the top corner. Boom!

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

I would like to graduate to the next level of the Academy and maybe catch the eye of a passing Liverpool scout

What are your hopes for your footballing-future?

I want to play for the Aldershot first team.

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

Teamwork, hard work, listen to coaches and never give up.

ALDERSHOT TOWN FC EBB TOURNAMENT 2021



SATURDAY 5TH JUNE

U9 (6 spaces available) & **U10** (FULL)

- 9am-12pm (7aside)

U11 (2 spaces available) & **U12**

(4 spaces available) - 1pm-4pm (7aside)

SUNDAY 6TH JUNE

U13 (4 spaces available) & **U14**

(7 spaces available) - 9am-12pm (7aside)

U15 - 1pm-4:30pm (11aside) 3 spaces available

U16 - 4:30pm-8pm (11aside) 4 spaces available



PRICES

7aside - £70 per team

11aside - £120 per team

SHOTS ACADEMY HOLIDAY CAMPS

UPCOMING 2021 DATES

Tuesday 1st June - Friday 4th June

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£25 PER DAY

A promotional graphic for Aldershot Town FC. It features a large image of a man in a blue hooded jacket with 'vanarama' on the chest, and a smaller image of a player in a red jersey with 'Bridges' on the front. They are positioned over a stylized green football pitch. The background is blue with large red diagonal stripes. The Aldershot Town FC crest is visible in the lower center of the graphic.

2021/22 SEASON TICKETS: ADMISSION AND SEASON TICKET PRICES

Aldershot Town are pleased to announce their season ticket and match day admission prices for the 2021/22 Season

The club have also added some new initiatives to our deferred 2020/21 Season Ticket holders as we encourage them to continue their fantastic support for the club by taking up these offers ahead of the 2021/2022 season, including four home games free!

As we look to re-welcome fans back into the EBB Stadium for 2021/22, we will be restructuring our Ticketing scheme (for both general admission and for Season Tickets) in a bid to continue encouraging our supporters to continue helping OUR football club during these difficult times.

General match-day admission prices for the 2021/22 season:

Adult (18 yrs – 64 yrs) – £20

Seniors (65+, Disabled + Carer) – £16

Junior (17 & under) – £7

Under 5s Free

We will also be introducing a family ticket which we also encourage supporters to take up, with the offer open for either two Adults and three Juniors for £45 or two Concessions and three Juniors for £40!

Our 2021/22 Season Ticket prices are also as follows:

Adult (18 yrs – 64 yrs) – £360

Seniors (65+ Disabled + Carer) – £288

Junior (17 & under) – £126

* Our Season Ticket prices for a 22 game season will mean supporters get four games free! Including our first home game in both the FA Cup and FA Trophy!

Please find several ways to purchase your season ticket for the 2021/22 season using the methods below:

Via BACS payment (Information can be found on our website)

Via cheque (Information can be found on our website where to send these)

Over the phone (01252 320211)

All of these will require the form attached which can be found on our website. These will need to be returned via email to admin@theshots.co.uk.

Supporters who took the option for their 2020/21 season ticket for the streaming or part-streaming, we will ask them to pay the amount they had previously paid (or pro rata for the games they used during 2020/21), as we are grateful for their support in a difficult time.

SHOTS IN FOCUS MITCH WALKER



Full Name: Mitch Walker

Date and place of birth: 24/09/1991

Height: 189cm

Married: Soon to be!

Nickname: Mitch

Car: E46 3 series

Previous clubs: Crawley Down, Three Bridges, Brighton and Hove Albion, Dover Athletic

Team you supported as a boy: Arsenal

Favourite current player: Never!!

Most difficult opponent: !!!!

Most memorable match: My debut for Brighton when I was 18, we won 1-0

Biggest disappointment: Breaking bones in my elbow and tearing ligaments which kept me out for eight months

Football honours: Youngest goalkeeper to start a League game for Brighton, Four England C caps

Favourite other sports: Fishing, tennis, shooting

Favourite other sportsmen/women: Rafael Nadal

Hobbies: Pub lunches

Favourite TV show: River Monsters, Monster Carp, Passion for Angling

Favourite musicians: Royal Blood, MGK, Oasis

Miscellaneous likes: Pizza, gin, ginger beer

Miscellaneous dislikes: Unpacking the dishwasher

Best country visited: Bermuda

Favourite food: Roast lamb

Favourite restaurant: Havet (Turkish)

Favourite drink: Ribena

Biggest drag in football: Losing matches

If you weren't a footballer what do you think you'd be: Professional fisherman, Dog rescuer

Which person in the world would you most like to meet: Megan Fox

If given £1million what would be the first thing you would buy: Buy a big house and rehome homeless dogs

Compiled by Craig Matthews



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INTRODUCING EASTLEIGH



Eastleigh arrive at the EBB Stadium lying in 10th place in the table, on 59 points. However, they still have an outside chance of making the play-offs due to their having two games in hand over the three teams above them, including Chesterfield in seventh place, currently on 63 points. Saturday afternoon saw the Spitfires canter to a comfortable 3:0 win over Barnet down at the Silverlake Stadium and they will come into this evening's match on a run of three wins from four games, their only recent loss being to promotion-chasing Torquay United on 1 May.

In goal for Eastleigh was Joe McDonnell. McDonnell is in his first campaign with the Spitfires and has made 41 appearances, keeping 15 clean sheets in the league.

The back four consisted of Joseph Tomlinson, Pierce Bird, Andrew Boyce and Alex Wynter. Full back Tomlinson arrived in the summer of 2020 and has had a fine season, making 39 appearances and scoring 10 goals including a penalty on Saturday. He also scored in the 2:2 draw between the Shots and Eastleigh last October, Eastleigh's opening goal of the game. Centre-back Pierce Bird was another new arrival in Hampshire this season, having previously played in France. Boyce has been with Eastleigh since 2017 and has joined the Club's centurion's list and Wynter, after an injury-hit 2019-20 campaign has made 18 appearances for the team this season, standing strong in the centre-back position.

In midfield for Eastleigh were Michael Green, Cavanagh Miley and Jack Payne. Green is a Club legend who holds the most appearances record in the current squad. This season he has added further 39 to that total. Miley has made 32 appearances with three goals while Payne has made 38 appearances this season, scoring once.

Up front, former Shots youth product Ben House has made 36 appearances and been on target 10 times, the last being the 17 April match away to Notts County where he scored the only goal of the game. Tyrone Barnett is leading goalscorer at Eastleigh this season and scored his 11th of the campaign on Saturday, the opening goal of the 3:0 win over Barnet, and Adam Marriott is on 30 appearances with nine goals to his name.

HISTORY

Eastleigh have had the best of encounters with The Shots historically since both teams arrived in the National League, with seven wins; there have been four draws and two Shots victories. In recent times Aldershot's fortunes have been on the upturn with the Spitfires, last season seeing the first ever league victory over Eastleigh here at the EBB, a 3:1 win on New Year's Day, the goals coming from an Ethan Chislett brace and one from Craig Tanner. Later that month, on 28 January 2020, the Shots secured another point against their Hampshire neighbours, this time down at the Silverlake Stadium, with a 0:0 draw. And a further point was gained there earlier this season in October in a 2:2 draw. Eastleigh went ahead through a Joe Tomlinson penalty in the 42nd minute but Craig Tanner put the teams level on the stroke of half-time. Alfie Whittingham then put the Shots into the lead on the hour before Eastleigh snatched a point when Alex Wynter headed home past Mitch Walker in injury time.

Words by Dan Blake



THE BOSS

BEN STREVENS

Born on 24 May 1980 in Edgware, Ben returned to Eastleigh for a second spell in December 2016 from Whitehawk. Ben has also played for Wingate & Finchley, Barnet (195/42), Slough Town, St Albans City, Crawley Town (15/4), Dagenham & Redbridge (125/35), Brentford (25/6), Wycombe Wanderers (76/11) and Gillingham (12/1). At the start of the 2017-18 campaign he became a member of then-Eastleigh boss Andy Hessenthaler's coaching team. When Hessenthaler left the Spitfires in October to take charge at Dover Athletic, Strevens was moved into the position of interim manager. A run of games through October which saw two wins, two draws and just one defeat led to Ben being awarded the post on a permanent basis on 5 November, 2018.

Strevens had a successful first season in charge, leading the Spitfires all the way to the 2018-19 National League play-off semi-finals where they were defeated by eventual winners, Salford City. Last season was curtailed in March due to Covid-19 but in his second full season in charge, Strevens once again has his team challenging for the play-offs.





1

JOE

MCDONNELL

Goalkeeper- McDonnell is a new arrival for the 2020/21 season from fellow National League side Notts County. The 26-year-old also holds Football League experience with AFC Wimbledon, where he played for five and a half years before his move to the Magpies.

Joe began his footballing career at Basingstoke Town under Jason Bristow, who is now Assistant Manager at Eastleigh, and the pair have reunited at the Spitfires this season.



10

TYRONE

BARNETT

Striker - Barnett left Cheltenham Town in July 2019 to make the switch to Eastleigh. The established Football League goal scorer joined the Spitfires with plenty of experience in his career, from the Championship with Peterborough United and Ipswich Town as well as spells in League One and League Two. The Posh paid Crawley Town over £1 million for his signature in 2012 and alongside current team-mate Jack Payne, the pair won the Football League Trophy together during the 2013/14 season.

He continued his goal scoring records in his first season at the Spitfires, finishing as top scorer with 12 goals in last year's National League campaign.



15

ALEX

WYNTER

Centre-back - Wynter signed from Maidstone United in 2018. Spending his youth career at Crystal Palace, Wynter made his debut for the Eagles in the FA Cup at just 16-years-old. After several loan spells, he joined Colchester United permanently in 2015, featuring in both League One and Two for the U's.

He spent the 2017/18 season at Maidstone United, captaining the England 'C' team and helping Maidstone survive in their debut National League season.

Wynter was ever-present at the heart of Eastleigh's defence in his debut season for the Spitfires, making 45 appearances and scoring four goals in the run to the 2018/19 play-offs, earning him the Player of the Season award. After an injury-hit season in 2019/20, Wynter is now back to full fitness.



11

SAM

SMART

Winger - Talented young winger Sam Smart joined the Spitfires from Evo-Stick South side Basingstoke Town FC in July 2019, and has quickly become a fan favourite at the club. His electric pace and strong delivery make him a threat from the flanks, and his acrobatic goal celebrations are much loved by the Spitfires supporters.

Smart made 38 appearances last season in all competitions for the club, scoring three goals.

2 Joe Partington

Right-back. Partington re-signed for Eastleigh in 2019 following his release from Bristol Rovers. In a two-year stay, he made 63 appearances with the League One club.

He began his career with Portsmouth before spending four years with Bournemouth. After brief loan spells with Eastbourne and Aldershot Town, Partington joined Eastleigh on a free transfer from the Cherries. The experienced defender went on to win the Spitfires' Player of the Year in the 2015/2016 season and scored the opener in Eastleigh's 3-2 loss against Bolton in the 2016 FA Cup third round. He has been capped at youth level by Wales, making 21 appearances from the U17 to U21 age groups.

3 Michael Green

Left-back. Club legend and fan favourite Michael Green holds the most Spitfires appearances in the current squad, and has the fifth highest appearances in the Club's history. Green was signed from Port Vale in 2011 and has since played more than 370 games for the club. He was part of the side that won promotion to the National League during the 2013/14 season.

After briefly departing the club in February 2017, he returned just a matter of weeks later and has been at the Silverlake Stadium since.

Green remains ever-important to Eastleigh's back-line, accumulating 38 appearances en route to the National League play-off semi-final in 2018/19.

4 Cavaghn Miley

Centre-midfield. Miley joined Eastleigh in 2017 from Jersey side St Pauls, and has since appeared over 100 times for the club. Before moving to the Silverlake, he captained the Jersey Official Football Team whilst living on the island and caught the eye of the Spitfires.

The central-midfielder played in all but four National League games in the 2018/19 run to the playoffs.

He was also selected for England C side against the Football Association of Ireland Amateur International XI in 2018.

5 Pierce Bird

Centre-back. Bird is another new addition for the 2020/21 season, the second summer signing from Notts County. The 21-year-old started his career at Dunkirk before moving to the Magpies, where he made 26 appearances at League Two and National League level. The centre-back is also capped at international level, with four appearances for Northern Ireland's U21s.

6 Andrew Boyce

Centre-back. Signed from Grimsby Town in 2017, Boyce is a well-rounded and reliable defender. During the 2014/15 season whilst at Scunthorpe United, he gained promotion to League One. As well as plenty of National League experience, Boyce is no stranger to playing in higher divisions with over 50 appearances in League One and League Two combined. The centre-back joined the 100-club for Eastleigh as well last season, and has scored four goals in his four seasons with the Spitfires.

7 Abdulai Baggie

Winger. Baggie is another summer signing ahead of the 2020/21 season, having joined from National League South promotion winners, Weymouth. The 28-year-old winger has plenty of experience in both the Football League and non-league, featuring for the likes of Tranmere Rovers, Stockport County, and Weymouth before joining the Spitfires. Baggie has represented England four times at youth level, before making five appearances for the Sierra Leone national side.

8 Jack Payne

Centre-midfield. Jack Payne became a permanent signing in 2019 from Ebbsfleet United, after spending a brief spell on loan at Eastleigh the season before. Payne is a very experienced midfielder, playing in the Championship, League One and League Two throughout his career thus far, with over 100 appearances for both Gillingham FC and Peterborough United. Payne's excellent vision and delivery makes him a threat when on set-pieces, which he has demonstrated in his time at the Club.

9 Dan Smith

Striker. Dan Smith is an exciting new addition to the Spitfires in 2020/21. The young striker was signed from Isthmian League Premier Division side Bognor Regis, after a prolific season scoring 16 goals in 19 games. With competition from teams higher up the football pyramid, Smith is an excellent capture for the Club. The 21-year-old started his footballing journey in youth tournaments with Eastleigh, before joining Portsmouth in 2007 and rising through their academy, making his Pompey debut in the EFL Trophy in 2019.

12 Callum Baughan

Centre-back/full-back. Baughan signed his professional contract with Eastleigh in the summer of 2018, after graduating from the academy. The versatile young defender is highly thought of on and off the pitch at the Club, and has been unlucky with two successive ACL injuries that kept him sidelined for much of the past two campaigns. The young defender made his debut in a 3-1 win over Maidstone in 2018/19, and notched an assist on his first start in a 3-3 draw with Boreham Wood in the final game of that season.

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13 Ross Flitney

Goalkeeper. Experienced goalkeeper Ross Flitney has made over 200 appearances for the Spitfires in two spells at the Club. He first featured between 2012 and 2016, then re-joined Eastleigh in 2017 from Bromley. Beginning his youth football career at Arsenal and then with Fulham, Flitney was understudy to Edwin van der Sar in the Premier League from 2003 to 2005. In the latter stages of his career, Flitney is now combining his position with being goalkeeper coach for the first-team and academy goalkeepers.

14 Tom Bearwish

Striker. Bearwish has been at the Club since 2017, progressing his way through the youth system all the way to the first team as a real example for Eastleigh Academy prospects. The forward has now made over 30 appearances for the first-team, with last season proving to be a breakout campaign for 'The Bear'. Bearwish bagged his first goal for the Club with a last-minute winner against Torquay in September 2019, and increased his tally to four goals in all competitions during 2019/20.

16 Ben Scorey

Centre-back/full-back. Another Eastleigh academy graduate, Ben Scorey was promoted from the youth set-up in 2018/19 and made his Spitfires debut in a 3-3 draw against Boreham Wood in April 2019. Scorey has featured four times in all competitions for the Club, proving to be a versatile option in defence.

17 Joe Tomlinson

Full-back. Joe Tomlinson became the first Spitfires signing for the 2020/21 season after joining from Hungerford Town in June 2020. The 20-year-old defender is an exciting prospect, proving to be a talent both offensively and defensively at full-back. Tomlinson was Hungerford Town's captain at just 19-years-old in the National League South last season and was voted the league's Young Player of the Season.

He already has over 70 non-league appearances, with seven goals and 15 assists, so far in his career.

18 Ben House

Striker. Ben House was another summer signing ahead of the 2020/21 season. The 21-year-old striker joined the Spitfires following his release from Championship side, Reading. He spent 2019/20 on loan at fellow National League side Dagenham & Redbridge, scoring twice in 11 games. Despite being born in England, he has represented Scotland at U20 and U21 level.

House has settled in well at the Silverlake as the Club's top scorer during the pre-season campaign, and continued that form in the league. House's five league goals in the first five

games earned him the National League Player of the Month in October.

19 Danny Hollands

Centre-midfield. Experienced centre-midfielder and club captain Danny Hollands has made over 100 appearances in his three years with the Spitfires. Hollands began his career with Chelsea and spent three years at Stamford Bridge from 2003. He is well-known on the south coast, having played for Bournemouth and Portsmouth, whilst also featuring for the likes of Charlton Athletic, Gillingham FC, and Crewe Alexandra during his career. Hollands scored a wonder goal against Wrexham in the 2018/19 play-off semi-finals, before finding his form in front of goal last season, bagging 10 goals in the most prolific season of his career.

20 Ryan Hill

Attacking Midfielder/Winger. Ryan Hill is another new addition to the Spitfires, signing during the start of the season on a permanent deal from Hampton & Richmond Borough. Hill started his career at Beaconsfield, before being scouted by Stoke City and joining their youth academy in 2017. After a season with the Potters he moved to Hampton & Richmond to gain regular first-team football, and impressed with his pace and trickery on the ball. Ryan's 2019/20 season saw him score eight goals and get 14 assists in 33 games.

21 Lewis Beale

Striker. Beale is another product of the Eastleigh youth academy that has progressed through the ranks to the first team. A frequent goal scorer at youth level, Beale scored on his first start for the Club last season, in a 2-1 win over Matlock Town in the FA Trophy.

24 Tom Blair

Winger. Tom Blair is the most recent addition to the Spitfires squad in the 2020/21 season. Fitting with the majority of this summer's signings, Blair is a promising young player who impressed in a lower division last season. Tom already became a club legend at Dorchester Town at just 21-years-old, making 153 appearances and scoring 30 goals in his five years at the Club where he rose through the youth ranks to become a vital part of the side. 'Blairo' brings more pace to the flanks and an eye for goal, as well as a more physical presence on the field.

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FANZONE



by Rob Worrall

Welcome to Fanzone for this evening's penultimate National League home match of the season against play-off chasing Eastleigh.

After being featured in 'Shots TV Live - Midweek Extra' a few weeks ago, many of you will be aware of the 'Stray Shots' - a group of 'exiled' Shots fans (those living away from the local area, either elsewhere in the UK or dotted across the world in various far flung places).

They shared a collective desire to raise funds for Aldershot Town FC, and thanks to the work of Stray Shot John Ross (and local support from Scotty Lorimer) they recently designed and then collectively ordered Stray Shots Polo Shirts, available in both Red and Blue, adorned with their Stray Shots badge.

Some of the shirts are still winging their way to destinations across the globe but, here are six of them, being worn with pride by six of us. On 'Stray Shots' modelling duty are: John Ross, John Bell, Gina Basildon (and her four-year-old daughter Ellie), Drew Mercer, Guy Owen and myself (taken whilst commentating on Shots v Pools on Saturday).

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



Celebrations and big smiles in front of the East Bank as Chike Kandi opens the scoring for the Shots in last Tuesday's 2:0 win over Yeovil Town





FUN WITH THE

WORDSEARCH

Can you find the names of Shots' leading goal scorers from this season in our wordsearch?

PANAYIOTOU
BETTAMER
REES
KANDI

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

SPOT THE BALL



HAT-TRICK QUIZ

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

- 1 Why are Eastleigh known as the Spitfires?
- 2 Who scored Shots' goal in the 2004 Conference Play-Off final?
- 3 Which club will now host the Champions' League final?

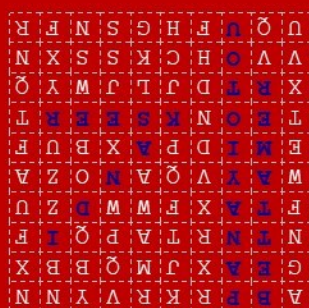
THE PHOENIX!



GUESS THE GROUND



WHO AM I?



Wordsearch solution

- ANSWERS**
- 1 The plane was first flown from Southampton Airport
 - 2 Aaron McClean
 - 3 FC Porto
- Guess the Ground**
The Walks, King's Lynn Town
- Who am I?**
Craig Tanner
- Spot the Ball**
B

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!

Tim Sills v Accrington Stanley

Sunday 10 August, 2003

Aldershot Town 2 – 1 Accrington Stanley

Goalscorers: Tim Sills, Rosco D'Sane

Nationwide Conference

Attendance: 3,680

Following their promotion as Champions from the Ryman Premier League at the end of the 2002-03 season under manager Terry Brown, Aldershot Town were back playing in a national league for the first

time since their expulsion from the Football League 11 years previously.

If it was a momentous day for the Shots, it was equally momentous for their visitors, Accrington Stanley, then as now, managed by John Coleman. Under Coleman, Stanley too had been promoted at the end of the previous campaign, in their case from the Northern Unibond Premier League but not only was this match between two League-winning champion sides, it was also between the last two former Football League sides to lose their status mid-season – the Shots in March 1992, Stanley three decades earlier, in 1962.

The newsworthiness of this match had attracted the Sky TV cameras, hence the match being played 5pm on a Sunday. And although football supporters usually resent their traditional times being meddled with for the purposes of TV, in this case it was probably a blessing as the temperature had been in the mid-nineties earlier in the day and even now, was essentially far too hot to play football in.

However, the teams had waited a long time for this day and weren't going to let a little thing like heat put them off playing and they both put on a performance worthy of the occasion, one to delight both supporters in the stadium and those watching at home. However, there was one question that needed to be answered – who was going to be Shots' first goal scorer in this most important of games for Aldershot? Whoever it was, they would be the owner of one of many key goals

scored by Shots players throughout the previous 11 years, including Mark Butler (first ever Aldershot Town goal) and Rosco D'Sane (scorer of the goal which essentially clinched the Shots the Ryman League title at Canvey Island earlier in the year) and there were plenty of players on the pitch that day who were more than capable of claiming this new achievement, including D'Sane himself.

One player who was looking to prove himself in front of the Shots supporters was Tim Sills. Tim had been Shots' first signing as a Conference club, arriving from Kingstonian over the summer. While with the Ks Tim had scored 33 goals in 64 appearances and it didn't take long before he was showing the Aldershot Town supporters what he could do – in the 16th minute he headed home from a Stuart Tanfield cross and a new Shots hero was born, scorer of the first ever Aldershot Town goal in the Conference League. It might have been his first ever Shots goal but it certainly wasn't going to be his last.

The Shots went on to win the game 2:1, Rosco D'Sane scoring the winner just before half-time after Accrington had equalised through Andy Proctor. In between those two goals there was great drama, the Stanley keeper, James Speare, being dismissed for hand ball. Despite the opposition going down to 10 men, the Shots were unable to increase their score in the second half – maybe the heat did come into play in the end.

Although nobody knew it at that point, the season was to end in more excitement for the Shots as they went all the way to the play-off final and Tim Sills was key to that journey, making 52 appearances and scoring 21 goals in that wonderful campaign. He was a playing substitute in the play-off final against Shrewsbury and although several clubs in the Football League were reputed to be keen to sign the 25-year-old, he chose to stay with Aldershot Town as they became a full-time club. That second season saw him make 48 appearances, scoring 18 goals as the Club went all the way to the play-off semi-finals and to everyone's delight, he then signed on for a third year with Aldershot Town, in the summer of 2005. However, in January 2006 he could ignore the lure of the Football League no more and signed for Oxford United, attracting a £50,000 fee.

Sadly Tim made only one appearance for the Us and a spell with Hereford United was no better. In 2007 he moved to Torquay United and enjoyed a special time down in Devon, making over 100 appearances for the Seagulls and scoring over 30 goals. In 2011 he returned to play for the Shots under Dean Holdsworth and made a further 19 appearances in the red and blue, adding a further two goals to the 51 he'd previously notched, a brace against Chesterfield.

These days Tim is retired from playing but is still very much involved in football, managing Hamworthy United of the Wessex League, Premier Division. And with such a fine record of appearances and goals here at the EBB Stadium, is rightly a part of Aldershot Town history. Many of those goals were spectacular, many were important, but that very first one in red and blue, scored on a blazing hot day and setting the Shots off on their Conference journey, was most definitely golden...

Words by Victoria Rogers



FIXTURES & RESULTS

FIXTURES & RESULTS

							Mitch WALKER	George FOWLER	Alex FINNEY	Jamie SENDLES-WHITE	Kodi LYONS-FOSTER	James ROWE	Josh REES	Mo BETTAMER	Chike KANDI	Harrison PANAYIOTOU	Alfy WHITTINGHAM	Ryan HALL
DATE	OPPOSITION	COMP	RES	ATT	AWAY	POS	1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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					>	<		1			<<<	
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						>				>>	1	
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								<	>>	>		
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				<				>		>>		
Sat 5 Dec	Dagenham & Redbridge	VNL	W 2-1	920	N/A	13				<<<			>	1	>>	1		
Tue 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	W 3-0	N/A	N/A	16				>	<					>>>	1	<<
Mon 28 Dec	Yeovil Town	VNL	L 0-3	N/A	N/A	16									>			
Sat 2 Jan	Woking	VNL	W 1-0	N/A	N/A	12										<<		
Tue 19 Jan	Solihull Moors	FAT 4	W 3-2	N/A	N/A	N/A								2	>		<<	
Sat 23 Jan	Wealdstone	VNL	W 4-3	N/A	N/A	9							1		1>		<<	
Tue 26 Jan	Weymouth	VNL	L 0-2	N/A	N/A	12					<<				<		<<<	
Sat 30 Jan	Bromley	VNL	L 0-2	N/A	N/A	15						<		>>>		<		
Tue 2 Feb	Barnet	VNL	W 2-1	N/A	N/A	12				1				<1	<<	>		
Sat 6 Feb	Cheslerfield	FAT 5	H-W	N/A	N/A	N/A												
Sat 13 Feb	Stockport County	VNL	D 0-0	N/A	N/A	12									<	<<		
Tue 16 Feb	Solihull Moors	VNL	L 1-3	N/A	N/A	13			>>>			<	1		<<			
Sat 20 Feb	Wrexham	VNL	W 3-0	N/A	N/A	11								<	>>	<<		
Tue 23 Feb	Maidenhead United	VNL	W 4-2	N/A	N/A	9			<				3	<<	>>>			
Sat 27 Feb	Hereford	FAT Q-F	D 1-1 **	N/A	N/A	N/A					>>	1		<	>			
Sat 13 Mar	Altrincham	VNL	W 2-1	N/A	N/A	12				<				>>>	<<1	<<<		
Tue 16 Mar	FC Halifax Town	VNL	L 0-1	N/A	N/A	14								>>	<	<<		
Sat 20 Mar	Boreham Wood	VNL	D 3-3	N/A	N/A	13							2	<	<<	>>		
Tue 23 Mar	Cheslerfield	VNL	L 0-1	N/A	N/A	15		>>>						<	<<	<<<		
Sat 27 Mar	Solihull Moors	VNL	L 0-1	N/A	N/A	16								<	<<	<<<		
Tue 30 Mar	Notts County	VNL	W 1-0	N/A	N/A	15					<			<<	>>	1>		
Fri 2 Apr	Stockport County	VNL	L 1-2	N/A	N/A	16		<					1	>>			>	
Mon 5 Apr	Dagenham & Redbridge	VNL	W 2-0	N/A	N/A	12								1>		>>		
Tue 13 Apr	Weymouth	VNL	W 3-0	N/A	N/A	12							2		>>	1>>>		
Sat 17 Apr	Barnet	VNL	L 1-3	N/A	N/A	12		>>						<	>	1>>>		
Tue 20 Apr	King's Lynn Town	VNL	D 1-1	N/A	N/A	12					<			<<		>>>		
Sat 24 Apr	Wealdstone	VNL	W 2-0	N/A	N/A	11										<1	1>>>	
Tue 27 Apr	Torquay United	VNL	L 1-2	N/A	N/A	11					1			<	<<			
Sat 1 May	Sutton United	VNL	L 1-3	N/A	N/A	14								<		>>>		
Tue 11 May	Yeovil Town	VNL	W 2-0	N/A	N/A	15							>>	<	1>>>	1		
Sat 15 May	Hartlepool United	VNL	L 1-3	N/A	N/A	15								<1	>			
Tue 18 May	Eastleigh	VNL																
Sat 22 May	Bromley	VNL																
Sat 29 May	King's Lynn Town	VNL																

*It was announced at a National League hearing of 26 March 2021 that Dover Athletic's results for the 2020/21 season have been made null and void.

PLAYER STATS

[illegible]

	2020/21	ATFC Career
	APPS GLS	APPS GLS
1 Mitch WALKER	30 -	71 -
2 George FOWLER	28+1 -	91+1 2
3 Alex FINNEY	12+1 1	48+3 1
4 Jamie SINDLESWHITE	26+3 1	26+3 1
5	- -	- -
6 Kodi LYONS-FOSTER	35+5 1	63+17 3
7 James ROWE	11+7 -	62+20 4
8 Josh REES	43 13	43 13
9 Mo BETTAMER	27+14 12	45+17 19
10 Chike KANDI	21+15 6	21+15 6
11 Harrison PANAYIOTOU	28+6 9	46+18 13
12 Alfie WHITTINGHAM	19+6 1	29+20 3
13 Ryan HALL	3 -	4 -
14 Joel NOUBLE	28+5 5	28+5 5
15 Jermaine ANDERSON	29+3 4	29+3 4
16 Dinesh GILLELA	3 -	3 -
17 Joseph HUNGBO	2+3 -	2+3 -
18 Reece WYLIE	+1 -	+1 -
19	- -	- -
20 Toby EDSE	36+8 3	36+8 3
21 Ben SHROLL	1 -	1 -
22 Giles PHILLIPS	19 -	19 -
23 Killian COLOMBIE	9+4 -	9+4 -
24	- -	- -
25 Shadrach OGIE	30+2 2	30+2 2
26 Lewis KINSELLA	6+4 -	97+5 -
27 Craig TANNER	9+5 3	22+5 7
28 Kaylen HINDS	+5 -	+5 -
29 Joe RABBETTS	- -	1 -
30 Ricky MILLER	15+7 4	15+7 4
35 Brad JAMES	11+1 -	11+1 -
36 Mike FONDOP-TALOM	3+2 1	3+2 1
44 Ross MCCORMACK	1+2 -	1+2 -

Has left the club

Started Match

 Used Sub

Unused Sub

BOLD NUMBER Goal(s) Scored

**** Lost 43 on Penalties**

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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
- 16
- 17
- 18 Reece Wylie
- 20 Toby Edser
- 21 Ben Shroll
- 22
- 23 Killian Colombie
- 25 Shadrach Ogie
- 26 Lewis Kinsella
- 27 Craig Tanner
- 28 Kaylen Hinds
- 29 Joe Rabbetts
- 30 Ricky Miller
- 44 Ross McCormack



EASTLEIGH

Manager: Ben Strevens

- 1 Joe McDonnell
- 2 Joe Partington
- 3 Michael Green
- 4 Cavaghn Miley
- 5 Pierce Bird
- 6 Andrew Boyce
- 7 Abdulai Baggie
- 8 Jack Payne
- 9 Dan Smith
- 10 Tyrone Barnett
- 11 Sam Smart
- 12 Callum Baughan
- 13 Ross Flitney
- 14 Tom Bearwish
- 15 Alex Wynter
- 16 Ben Scorey
- 17 Joe Tomlinson
- 18 Ben House
- 19 Danny Hollands
- 20 Ryan Hill
- 21 Lewis Beale
- 22
- 23
- 24 Tom Blair
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28
- 29



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AldershotTownFC



AldershotTown1992

TONIGHT'S FIXTURES

Aldershot Town vs Eastleigh

Solihull Moors vs Barnet

Wrexham vs Notts County

Yeovil Town vs Maidenhead United

LEAGUE TABLE

	P	GD	PTS
Sutton United	40	35	81
Torquay United	40	29	78
Stockport County	40	36	73
Hartlepool United	40	22	73
Wrexham	39	20	64
Notts County	39	18	64
Chesterfield	40	15	63
Bromley	40	8	63
FC Halifax Town	40	9	62
Eastleigh	38	8	59
Dagenham & Red	40	6	59
Solihull Moors	38	4	54
Boreham Wood	39	6	52
Maidenhead Utd	38	2	52
Aldershot Town	39	-4	51
Yeovil Town	39	-8	51
Altrincham	39	-15	42
Weymouth	39	-17	39
Wealdstone	40	-49	34
Woking	40	-25	32
King's Lynn Town	39	-46	29
Barnet	38	-54	24
Dover Athletic	0	0	0

NEXT UP AT THE EBB STADIUM

Bromley

Saturday 22 May 2021

Kick-Off 3pm

Vanarama National League

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Robert Whitton

Assistant: Karl Sear

Assistant: Jack Fagg

Fourth Official: Mark Stevens