

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF
RINGWOOD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB



RINGWOOD TOWN FC

PLAY • GROW • BELONG



RINGWOOD TOWN FC

VS



NEWPORT (IOW) FC



DATE
TUE 4 AUGUST 2026



COMPETITION
HAMPSHIRE
SENIOR CUP



KICK-OFF
7:30PM



VENUE
RINGWOOD COMMUNITY HUB
BH24 3BX



@RINGWOODTOWNFC
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CHAIR'S WELCOME

A very warm welcome to the Ringwood Community Hub for this evening's Hampshire Senior Cup tie against Newport (IOW) FC.

We welcome our visitors' players, committee members, and spectators, together with match officials, referee **William Wright**, and his assistants **Joshua Lewis** and **Colin Hopkins**.

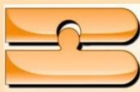
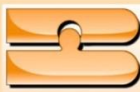


You hear the phrase "*It all comes down to money*" at every level of football, and there's truth in it. As Chair of a thriving grassroots club, a huge amount of time goes into making sure the books balance — weighing up every cost-versus-benefit decision as it competes for limited funds. It's always a moment of reflection when we debate spending say £900 on a replacement kit while the average Premier League player earns £60,000 a week.

But step back from the finances and there does seem to be a strong seam of decency and love running through the game. In recent days we've seen Gianni Infantino forced to abandon his ridiculous attempt to sell the World Cup after administrators pushed back. His position as FIFA President looks increasingly fragile — even before you factor in the fiasco surrounding Balogun's suspension. And of course, I'm sure we all remember how the European Super League collapsed in 2021 when supporters rose up and made their voices heard.

What all of this reinforces for me is the importance of good governance at every level of football. At RTFC we take pride in the detail, the processes, and the standards we hold ourselves to. It may sound dull, but it's fundamental to the integrity of the game — and to the trust our players, volunteers and supporters place in us.

Enjoy the game
Phil

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MANAGER'S NOTES

I was really pleased with most of our performance overall against Aldermaston. The systems and details we've worked hard on throughout pre-season were clear to see, and I loved the way we controlled large parts of the game and showed the character to fight back from two goals down.

The frustration, of course, is that we found ourselves two behind through our own mistakes. Those moments proved costly. If we'd scored first, I'm convinced it would have been a very different outcome, but hindsight is a wonderful thing. We know Aldermaston are a difficult side to play against, especially at home, and we've struggled against them here over the past four seasons, so full credit to them.

I thought our goals, from Ben Bradwell and Danny May's spectacular finish, were deserved rewards for the way we applied ourselves and the control we had for large spells of the game. They reflected the quality we know we have when we stick to the principles we've been working on.

There were plenty of positives to take. It was great to welcome Ollie Bull back to the club, and Harrison Clarke's return was another real boost for the group. It's disappointing that so much good work was undone by a couple of avoidable errors, but that's football. This time last year it was a disaster—we suffered a heavy defeat to a US Portsmouth side that ultimately ended up being relegated. When you look at some of the other results over the weekend, it shows things can always be worse.

Now our focus turns to Newport. Their new ground will undoubtedly give them a huge lift, both on and off the pitch, and I'm really pleased for them because they're a good club with good people behind the scenes. That positive momentum will make them an even tougher proposition, and we know from previous meetings that our games are usually closely contested. The Hampshire Senior Cup hasn't been kind to us over the past few seasons, but we're keen to build some early momentum, especially at home.

It should be a good game. Cup football is always a little unpredictable, with different pressures and circumstances, so anything can happen. We're looking forward to the challenge.

UTT

Fran



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TODAY'S OPPOSITION

Newport (IOW) FC

Club History

In 1927 the club became members of the Hampshire League, taking over the fixtures of the defunct Gosport Albion Club in mid season and within three seasons Newport had won the County League championship for the first time. The 1930's saw further wins in the Hampshire League and also the Hampshire Senior Cup being won in 1932. The 1935/36 season saw Newport reach the 2nd Round of the FA Cup for the first time, bowing out at Southall.

In the 1960's we had further Hampshire Senior Cup wins in 1961 and 1966 and in the 1970s a hat trick of Hampshire League titles in 1979, 1989 and 1981 and two Hampshire Senior Cup successes in 1980 and 1981

In 1986, Newport became founder members of the Wessex League, finishing a creditable fourth place in that debut season. In the 1989/90 season Newport were promoted to the Southern League. The 2000/01 season saw us win the Dr Martens League Eastern Division Championship. However we found the top flight too much and returned the Eastern Division after just one season.

Soon after in the 2003/04 season the club was in administration and the fight to keep the club alive was taken up by the supporters, with The Save Newport (FC) Action Group saving the club. 2004-05 saw Newport make its debut in the Isthmian League.

The 2006/07 season saw a return to the more familiar Southern League, playing in the South and West division. On 1st August 2007 The Port played a friendly against a full strength Portsmouth team which drew 3112 supporters to St George's Park, the highest crowd ever to watch a match at the ground. The club was relegated back to the Wessex league at the end of the 2007-08 season after finishing bottom of Division One South and West of the Southern league. The club then remained in the Wessex League Premier Division but went on to win the Russell Cotes Cup in 2010-11.

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TODAY'S OPPOSITION

Newport (IOW) FC

Club History

Following several top end finishes in the Wessex League Premier Division and a run to the last 16 of the FA Vase, Newport were relegated to Division One at the end of the 2017/18 season.

The club left St George's Park at the end of the 2018/19 season and have since ground-shared with both East Cowes Vics and Ryde Saints.

Newport finished 3rd in Division One in 2021/22 and were narrowly beaten in the play-off final and lost in the semi-finals the following season.

Since being appointed our player manager Joe Butcher has assembled a dynamic squad featuring a blend of youth and experience.



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The Wessex League

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ENGLAND
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FIXTURES COMING UP

Type	Date / Time	Home Team		Away Team	
HSC	04/08/26 19:30	Ringwood Town	VS	Newport (IOW)	
DIV1	08/08/26 15:00	Whitchurch United	VS	Ringwood Town	
DIV1	11/08/26 19:45	Ringwood Town	VS	Hamworthy United	
DIV1	15/08/26 15:00	Ringwood Town	VS	Frimley Green	
DIV1	19/08/26 19:45	New Milton Town	VS	Ringwood Town	
DIV1	25/08/26 19:45	Ringwood Town	VS	Blandford United	
DIV1	29/08/26 15:00	Ringwood Town	VS	Totton & Eling	



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Today's Squads

Tue 4th Aug 2026
KO 7:30pm

Hampshire
Senior Cup



RINGWOOD TOWN FC

All red

Ollie Bull (GK)	
Ell Cresswell	
Bed Bradwell	
Josh Ridland	
Lee Vint	
Jack Ralph	
Pat Correia	
Ted Bignell	
Danny May	
Will Orchard	
Hugh Dathan	
Luke Pothas	
Ollie Brown	
Ben Harris	
Zach Bennett	
Harrison Clarke	

MANAGER: FRAN MATHERS

Assistant Manager: Oscar Easton

NEWPORT (IOW) FC

Yellow shirts, blue shorts, yellow socks

Leon Pitman	
Kai Grace	
Michael Thompsett	
Joe Hancott	
Macauley Waterson	
George Holbrook	
Ji Nash	
Keelan Walsh	
Jordan Brown	
Brad Young	
Joe Butcher	
Jez Conway	
Matthew Benford	
Kudzaishe Mazambara	
Jack Egerton-Read	
Ollie Linington	

MANAGER: JOE BUTCHER

Coach: Steve Brougham

OFFICIALS

Referee: WILLIAM WRIGHT

Assistant: JOSHUA LEWIS

Assistant: COLIN HOPKINS



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