

# BALDOCK TOWN FC



**LOVE FOOTBALL  
PROTECT THE GAME**

## **MATCH PROGRAMME**

**BALDOCK TOWN FC v POTTON UTD FC**  
**Sat 4th Nov 2023 - KO 3.00pm**

**SSML Premier Division**  
**2023-2024 Season : Volume 16 Iss 10**

Hello

In this week of celebrating Artificial Intelligence I thought I would use the power of AI to write the programme introduction.

Here it is.

Welcome to an exciting matchday at Baldock Town FC as we host Potton United FC! It's a clash that promises high-octane football and fierce competition. As both teams step onto the pitch, the passion and dedication of these players are sure to shine. Join us for a thrilling encounter that embodies the spirit of the game. It's time to unite and show your support for Baldock Town FC in what is bound to be a memorable match. Get ready for an action-packed 90 minutes!.

I can only assume that this particular AI is used to Premiership or Champions League football as it sounds very appealing. I have tried it for a few things but it doesn't seem to be all that it is cracked up to be.

Here is my attempt:

Welcome to the Officials, Fans and Players of Potton United FC for this afternoons SSML match.

Baldock's form is extremely variable and we could do with a win today. Potton seem to be in a similar dilemma but have a huge 6 games in hand over us so we could easily be behind them in the league. It's looking a bit damp and driech today but hopefully it doesn't affect the match.

Looking for a Baldock win, Come on Ye Reds.

John Graham  
Programme Editor and real person



# POTTON FC - A BRIEF HISTORY

**1943**—Club formed during wartime.

**1945**—When peace broke out the Club joined the South Midlands League. The first matches were played at The Recreation Ground in Sandy Road.

**1947**—A group of local volunteers prepared the present ground at The Hollow, renting the ground from the Land Settlement Association. Won Bedfordshire Senior Cup.

**1948**—Entered the FA Cup and in First Qualifying Round beat Stewartby Works 6-1 away, which is still our highest score in this competition. Reached second Qualifying Round before losing 3-1 at Hitchin Town in a replay. Won Bedfordshire Senior Cup.

**1952**—Were drawn away to Bedford Town in the First Qualifying Round of the FA Cup. Supporters organized a train from Potton to Bedford but saw Potton lose 0-6.



**1955**—Made application to join London-based Parthenon League, but were rejected.

**1956**—After a season in limbo the Club joined the Central Alliance League Division One (South).

**1961**—Joined the United Counties League.

**1963**—Sunday football side Potton Casuals formed and played their home matches at The Hollow.

**1964**—Won Bedfordshire Senior Cup beating Shillington 5-3.

**1969**—Lost 10-0 away to Cambridge United in the FA Cup (which is still our heaviest defeat in this competition).

**1973**—Our landlords, The Land Settlement Association wanted to sell the ground and our President, Peter Hutchinson, bought the ground and gave the club a 99 year lease at a peppercorn rent. Won League Knock Out Cup beating Bedford Eagles in the final.

**1974**—Finished bottom of Premier Division.

**1976**—Won Bedfordshire Senior Cup.

**1977**—Floodlights installed.

**1978**—Agreement was reached with Potton Town Cricket Club that they could use the facilities at The Hollow. Won Bedfordshire Senior Cup for fifth time.

**1984**—Old dressing rooms (including communal bath) and clubroom was knocked down and replaced by the current clubhouse and dressing room. Potton Sports & Social Club formed, which comprised Potton United FC, Potton Town CC and Potton Timber Ltd Sports Club.

**1987**—Won first League title when they were unbeaten on their travels.

**1988**—New wooden stand built. Finished fourth in League.

**1989**—Won League title for second time and Ray Seekings scored a record 56 goals. Potton Tennis Club move to The Hollow with 2 tennis courts.

**1990**—Finished 14th in Premier Division. Reached the Fifth Round of the FA Vase before losing 3-1 away to Billericay in front of a crowd of 1000 plus. Woodentops Playgroup started using the clubhouse in January 1990.

**1991**—Finished fourth in League. Long serving Manager Terry King leaves the club and was replaced by Andy Lloyd and won Hunts Premier and Hinchingsbrooke Cups. The Tennis Club enlarged their facilities and have 4 tennis courts incorporating two Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).

**1994**—Andy Lloyd resigned and was replaced by the charismatic Kenny Davidson (who is now living in Barbados).

**1995**—Won Bedfordshire Premier Cup. 16th in League.

**1997**—Participated in 6 Cup Finals winning four of them. Finished fourth in Premier Division.

**1998**—Finished 14th in League. Kenny Davidson left the club and was replaced by Martin Humberstone, then Reserve Team Manager.

**2001**—Relegated to Division One after third consecutive season in a relegation place.

**2002**—Finished 15th in Division One before former Club Captain and fans favourite Dick Newman was appointed Manager.

**2003**—Wooden stand destroyed by fire. To mark the Club's 60th Anniversary the Club played Rushden & Diamonds X1 that consisted mainly of youth players in front of a crowd of 450. Finished sixth in Division One.

**2004**—A storming campaign saw the Royals winning the Division One title with 80 points and scoring at about 3 goals per game. Match between a Potton United X1 (comprising ex players) and an Arsenal Ex Professional & Celebrity X1 was played when the current stand was officially opened and named The Derek Inskip Stand. Recorded highest win in FA Vase (4-1) when we beat Edgware Town away in Round 2.

**2005**—Early in the year saw the death of two stalwarts of the club. Derek Inskip passed away in January having completed 50 years as Secretary And Terry King passed away in February—he was associated with the club for 40 years as player and then Manager. Reached Round Four of FA Vase before losing 2-1 at Bury Town. Finished runners-up to Cogenhoe United. A league match at Potton against Cogenhoe had to be abandoned due to floodlight failure and the rearranged match was the last of the season and Cogenhoe held on to a draw to secure the title by one point in front of a crowd over 300. Won League Knock Out Cup beating Woodford United in the final. Joint Managers Dick Newman and Roy Bloxham won 3 Manager of the Month awards as well as Manager of the Season award. Dick Newman resigned and was replaced by Ian Donnelly.

**2006**—Finished runners-up again, this time to Woodford United on goal difference. Roy Bloxham replaced Ian Donnelly as Manager and also bringing back Dick Newman as Assistant.

**2007**—Finished fourth in League and lost on penalties in Final of League Knock Out Cup to Boston Town. Roy Bloxham resigned as Manager and was replaced by Dean Chapman who had to build a new team as all of the first team had left to join other local clubs. We reached the Fourth Round of the FA Vase before losing 2-1 to eventual finalists AFC Totton. Finished fourth in league.

## POTTON FC - A BRIEF HISTORY (Cont)

**2008**—After finishing our league programme early in April we had a nervous wait for other clubs to finish their programme of matches and escaped relegation by one point. Dean Chapman resigned as Manager and was replaced by Dean Shipp. Another rebuilding of the squad with the emphasis on youth and local players. Constitution of Potton Sports & Social Club revised to now incorporate as members—Potton United FC, Potton Town CC, Potton Tennis Club and Woodentops Playgroup.

**2009**—Finished second from bottom in the Premier Division, and under instructions from the FA to the UCL the club were relegated to the Division One as the ground did not come up to the required standards.

**July 2009**—Manager Dean Shipp tendered his resignation and Tom Galvin and Declan Milton were appointed Joint Managers, being assisted by Tony Galvin, the ex Spurs and Republic of Ireland player as Head Coach.

**2009-10**—Finished in the bottom half of Division One and losing finalist in Bedfordshire Senior Trophy

**2010-11**—In September Tom Galvin decided he wanted to concentrate on playing and so Darren Staniforth and Glen Clark were appointed joint Managers. Finished near bottom of Division One.

**2011-12**—Darren and Glen still in charge, signing a few new players. Nicky Stocks replaced Glen Clark during the year. Reserves reformed under the management of Duncan Field and Kieran Dempsey and they will compete in Division Two of the Bedfordshire County League.

**2012-13**—In lower level of both UCL and Bedfordshire County Leagues. Reached final of Beds FA Senior Trophy but lost 1-0 to Bedford FC. In March 2013 ground improvements finished that included fencing round the pitch, hard standing now all the way round the pitch and pay hut.

**2013-14**—Planning permission granted for covered standing for 50 spectators. Applied for funding for new floodlights. First Team finished 10th in league and Reserves in lower half of their league.

**2014-15**—Application for grant for new floodlights has been granted and new floodlights being installed. Small Spectator Stand being installed. Reserves enter UCL Reserve Division under management of Nicky Stocks and a Potton United Under 18 has been entered in the Royston Crow League and will play their home matches at The Hollow on Sundays. The 1st team finished in 3rd place in Div 1, just missing out on promotion and got to the UCL knock-out cup final, losing 3-0 to AFC Rushden & Diamonds.

**2016-17** – The club enter a reserve side back in the UCL under the management of Matt Gedney, Steve Maddix and Brad Smith and they make their way to the final of the Beds Intermediate Cup, losing on penalties to AFC Dunstable U21s. Laurence Revell takes over the role of 1st team Manager in October 2016 with Darren Staniforth stepping up to Football General Manager to oversee all teams within the club. The 1st team finish in 6th position in Division One which earns them a place in the FA Cup for the 2017-18 season.

**2017-18** – The club runs an under 18 team for only the second time in the club's history, which was entered in the Northants Senior Youth League. Laurence resigns as manager in December 2016 and former Potton striker Steve Kuhne takes over the role assisted by Lee Pyke.

The 1st team go on a great run in February/March which sees them finish as runners up and promoted back to Step 5 of the football pyramid. They also feature in the final of the North Beds Charity Cup, beating Bedford FC 2-0. The reserves management resign in January and are replaced by senior players James Jordan and Joe Wills.

**2018-19** – The FA laterally moved the 1st team to the Spartan South Midlands League but the reserves remain in the UCL. The 1st team finished a creditable 7th place in the league and made the final of the league challenge trophy. Steve Kuhne resigns at the end of the season and Laurence Revell returns to the club as manager.

**2019-20** – Jimmy Martin joins management team as coach then takes over when Revell resigns in February. Reached final of Bedfordshire Senior Cup but the season was abandoned in March due to global pandemic Coronavirus.

**2020-21** – another season abandoned due to Coronavirus. In May the club were advised they would be laterally moved back to the UCL. An unsuccessful appeal means we will be heading north for all our league fixtures.

**2021-22** – after a difficult start finished in 10th place in UCL Premier. Runners up in Hinchingsbrook Cup, losing to Harborough Town in final. Request to be laterally moved back to SML for 22-23 granted by FA.

# HOW ARE WE DOING

| POS | Team                   | P  | W  | D | L | F  | A  | GD  | PTS |
|-----|------------------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|-----|-----|
| 1   | St Panteleimon         | 15 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 35 | 16 | 19  | 33  |
| 2   | Milton Keynes Irish    | 12 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 43 | 7  | 36  | 31  |
| 3   | Real Bedford           | 12 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 43 | 9  | 34  | 31  |
| 4   | Leverstock Green       | 15 | 10 | 1 | 4 | 34 | 25 | 9   | 31  |
| 5   | FC Romania             | 15 | 8  | 3 | 4 | 40 | 22 | 18  | 27  |
| 6   | Biggleswade United     | 16 | 8  | 3 | 5 | 39 | 35 | 4   | 27  |
| 7   | Baldock Town           | 17 | 7  | 1 | 9 | 38 | 43 | -5  | 22  |
| 8   | Dunstable Town         | 15 | 5  | 4 | 6 | 27 | 28 | -1  | 19  |
| 9   | Harpenden Town         | 12 | 5  | 3 | 4 | 26 | 23 | 3   | 18  |
| 10  | Cockfosters            | 14 | 4  | 6 | 4 | 28 | 26 | 2   | 18  |
| 11  | Tring Athletic         | 14 | 5  | 3 | 6 | 22 | 28 | -6  | 18  |
| 12  | Aylesbury Vale Dynamos | 14 | 5  | 2 | 7 | 23 | 33 | -10 | 17  |
| 13  | London Lions           | 14 | 4  | 4 | 6 | 30 | 33 | -3  | 16  |
| 14  | Potton United          | 11 | 5  | 0 | 6 | 16 | 22 | -6  | 15  |

| Type | Date / Time |       | Home Team           |   | Away Team   |  |
|------|-------------|-------|---------------------|---|---|--|
| PREM | 31/10/23    | 19:45 | Baldock Town        |  1 - 4 |  Aylesbury Vale Dynamos  |  |
| PREM | 28/10/23    | 15:00 | Baldock Town        |  1 - 2 |  Biggleswade United      |  |
| PREM | 24/10/23    | 19:45 | Sawbridgeworth Town |  1 - 2 |  Baldock Town            |  |
| PREM | 17/10/23    | 19:45 | Baldock Town        |  7 - 2 |  Shefford Town & Campton |  |

| Type | Date / Time       | Home Team      |  | Away Team     |  | Venue |
|------|-------------------|----------------|--|---------------|--|-------|
| PREM | 04/11/23<br>15:00 | Baldock Town   |  VS  | Potton United | New Lamb Meadow                        |       |
| GCT  | 11/11/23<br>15:00 | Baldock Town   |  VS  | Totternhoe    | New Lamb Meadow                        |       |
| PREM | 18/11/23<br>15:00 | Dunstable Town |  VS  | Baldock Town  | CREASEY PARK COMMUNITY FOOTBALL CENTRE |       |
| PREM | 25/11/23<br>15:00 | Real Bedford   |  VS  | Baldock Town  | McMullen Park                          |       |

## Recent Form

| Overall |                        |   |   |   |   |    |    |   |  |
|---------|------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|---|--|
| Pos     | Team                   | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | Form  |  |
| 4       | Real Bedford           | 6 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 23 | 7  | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |  |
| 5       | Aylesbury Vale Dynamos | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 9  | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |  |
| 6       | Tring Athletic         | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 13 | 8  | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |  |
| 7       | Baldock Town           | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 15 | 14 | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |  |
| 8       | London Lions           | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 14 | 15 | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |  |
| 9       | Potton United          | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 14 | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |  |
| 10      | FC Romania             | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 13 | 11 | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |  |





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## BALDOCK TOWN FC

Joshua Mollison (GK)

Kit Brown

Newman Carney

Alfie Cooper

Harry Dollimore

Flavius Drescanu

Josh Furness (Capt)

Charlie Joy

Dean Laing

Archie O'Brien

David Parkinson

Dominik Robertson

Owen Robertson

Luke Rowland

Nikolay Rusev

Jamie Snapes

Troy Tizard-Cleghorn

Jude White

Mgr; Dave McAdam

Asst; John Dalli

Coach; Danny Hutchins

Sports Therapist; Amy Kibler

## POTTON UNITED

James Hoskins

Louis Octave

Jaiden Fitzpatrick

Josh Howard-Dobson

James Smith

Richard Chadwick

Cole Butler

Michael King

Shane Fox

Lewis Lynn

Nathan Mullins

Harry Forde

Jack Thomas

Tony Williams

Mike Evans

John Sonuga.

Officials; Peter Kwak, Jakub Gierczyk, Lawrence Gregory



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## **LOVE FOOTBALL. PROTECT THE GAME.**

### **Managers, Coaches and Technical Area Occupants**

#### ***Pre-match briefing***

- Manager / Head Coach is expected to attend and participate in pre-match briefings

#### ***Conduct in the Technical Area***

All occupants:

- Must behave in a responsible manner
- Compliance with the maximum number of staff and substitutes allowed by the competition
- Players and team officials not listed on the team sheet must not enter the technical area
- Must not use technology to challenge any decision made by the match officials
- Must remain within your own technical area during the match
- Must not enter the pitch to confront any match official at half-time or full-time

#### ***Coaching***

- Only one person is permitted to stand at the front of the technical area and coach during the match
- A second person may stand but must remain very close to the technical area seating
- All conversations between the two standing must happen close to the technical area seating
- All other technical area occupants should remain seated

#### ***Captains***

- Should take responsibility for the behaviour of their team-mates, encouraging them to play fairly and show respect towards the match officials and their decisions

#### ***Players***

- Must not confront, invade the personal space of, or make physical contact with the match officials
- Two or more players surrounding a match official in a confrontational manner will result in a yellow card and be reported to The FA
- Must not instigate or escalate a mass confrontation with opposing players and/or technical area occupants



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