

# MALMESBURY VICTORIA



**Vs Devizes Town**  
Hellenic Division One  
Friday August 25<sup>th</sup> 2023  
7:45pm KO

# Welcome from Ant Brown






Good evening and welcome to this Friday night game against Devizes time. I'd like to welcome the players, supporters and club officials from Devizes. I'd also like to welcome our 3 match officials this evening. It's been a busy couple of weeks where I can't fault the lads effort and commitment to win games of football.



Last time out we were away at Calne and if we're critical of ourselves we didn't quite reach the standards of quality that we have done in the last few weeks but again I couldn't fault the work rate, team work and drive to win against a side that I'm sure many teams will become unstuck against this year.

Today we have a completely different challenge in a new look Devizes team where the manager has signed well and I'd expect with the quality and the experience they have to be right up there. So, it's going to be a tough game and we're going to have to be at our best to get anything from it. Get behind the lads tonight and we will see you all in the bar after for a few bank holiday beers!  
COYV

## Recent Results

Type	Date / Time			Home Team			Away Team
HL1	22/08/23	19:45	W	Calne Town		0 - 2	Malmesbury Victoria
HL1	19/08/23	15:00	W	Malmesbury Victoria		3 - 1	Shortwood United
HL1	15/08/23	19:45	W	Newent Town		0 - 5 (HT 0-3)	Malmesbury Victoria
HL1	12/08/23	15:00	W	Malmesbury Victoria		2 - 0 (HT 1-0)	Hartpury University
HL1	08/08/23	19:45	D	Malmesbury Victoria		0 - 0	Stonehouse Town

# Uhlsport Hellenic Division One



## Recent Results

Type	Date / Time	Home Team	Away Team	Competition
	HL1 23/08/23 19:45	Southam United	4 - 2 (HT 2-1)	Kidlington Res Division One
	HL1 22/08/23 19:45	Calne Town	0 - 2	Malmesbury Victoria Division One
	HL1 22/08/23 19:45	Cheltenham Saracens	0 - 3	Abingdon United Division One
	HL1 22/08/23 19:45	FC Bristol	2 - 3	Stonehouse Town Division One
	HL1 22/08/23 19:45	Hartpury University	6 - 0 (HT 3-0)	Devizes Town Division One

## Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Clanfield 85	5	4	1	0	16	13
2	Malmesbury Victoria	5	4	1	0	11	13
3	FC Stratford	5	4	1	0	8	13
4	Southam United	6	4	0	2	2	12
5	Hartpury University	5	3	1	1	10	10
6	Shortwood United	6	3	1	2	3	10
7	Stonehouse Town	6	3	1	2	1	10
8	Tytherington Rocks	5	3	0	2	4	9
9	Devizes Town	5	3	0	2	3	9
10	Abingdon United	5	3	0	2	2	9
11	Sporting Club Inkberrow	5	2	1	2	4	7
12	FC Bristol	6	2	1	3	-4	7
13	Kidlington Res	5	1	1	3	-3	4
14	Calne Town	6	1	1	4	-5	4
15	Long Crendon	5	1	1	3	-7	4
16	Newent Town	5	1	1	3	-8	4
17	Cheltenham Saracens	6	1	1	4	-9	4
18	Moreton Rangers	6	1	0	5	-13	3
19	Chipping Sodbury Town	5	0	1	4	-15	1



Manager: **Ant Brown**  
Assistant: **Jordan Stallard**  
Assistant : **Paul Carson**  
Physio: **Becca Maynard**

Manager: **Chris Allen**

# Malmesbury Victoria

- Travis Wood (GK)
- Matt Fusco
- Zac Berry
- Lewis Toop
- Andy Baker
- Kyle Pitts ©
- Matt Jones
- Biagio Mazzotto
- Jack Smith
- Kyle Witt
- Danny Gudger
- George Evatt
- Harvey Scholes
- Jasper Marsh
- Dale Richards
- Aaron Stevens
- Martin Sinclair
- Josh Langley

# Devizes Town

- Logan Anning
- Jon Bazley
- Jamal Chevoleau
- Jack Coward
- Jack Cross
- Matt Russell
- Dan Skinner
- Will Stead
- Jamie Walters
- Robbie Whyte
- Max Wyatt
- Jack Baker
- Jordan Kirk
- Jamie Cunning
- Lenny Gale

Today’s Match Officials	
Referee	Mr Rob Herrett
Assistant 1	Mr Stewart West
Assistant 2	Mr Luis Gough



# The Vics Squad 23/24



Manager : **Ant Brown**

Assistant : **Paul Carson**

Coach : **Jordan Stallard**

Physio : **Becca Maynard**

**Adam Clatworthy**  
Keeper



Experienced keeper, played at this level for many years, superb shot stopper.

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**BECOME A SPONSOR**

**Josh Langley**  
Keeper



Lang is a local lad who has played at a higher level, and you can see why. Excellent commanding keeper.

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**TQ BARBERSHOP**

**Travis Wood**  
Keeper



Trav re-joins the Vics this season after a couple of seasons the other side of the bridge. A great addition with brilliant distribution and shot stopping.

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**Kyle Pitts**  
Defender – Captain



Pittsy is a commanding, experienced leader at centre back. Came to the Vics last season and has taken on the armband this year.

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**Colin Pitts**

**Ben Patey**  
Defender



Patey has been with the club a few seasons now. Young defender with great potential. Great energy across the pitch.

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**Aaron Stevens**  
Defender



Az re-joined the Vics after a spell at Chipping Sodbury. He's a strong centre back who's good in the air and loves a challenge.

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**Andy Baker**  
Defender



Bakes is coach, club captain, fines master and key member of the squad. A brilliant attitude on and off the pitch and a consistent performer.

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**Zac Berry**  
Defender



Zac came to the club last season from Hartpury. A young left back full of potential. Strong, quick and fit lad.

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**Cecily Developments**

**Matt Fusco**  
Defender



Fusco, been back with the club a few seasons now and recently converted to right back. One of the best touches around this level.

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**Dale Richards**  
Defender



Dale joined last season from Wootton Bassett. He is a ball playing defender who has an eye for goal. When he strikes it, it stays struck.

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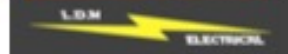
**PGA Philip Gurnhill Accountants**

**Lewis Toop**  
Defender / Midfielder

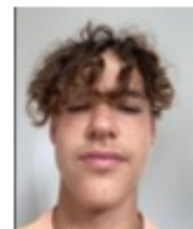


Toop came to the club last season and has played a variety of positions. Set piece specialist who loves a tackle.

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**George Evat**  
Midfielder



George is a homegrown lad who has huge potential for a young lad. A tricky midfielder with excellent feet.

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<p>Biagio Mazzotta- Midfield</p>  <p>Biag joined the club last season from Fairford. A centre midfielder who rarely gives the ball away, keeps us ticking.</p> <p>Sponsored By</p> 	<p>Martin Sinclair Midfield</p>  <p>Martin has been with the club for a few seasons and has made the step up from the development. Good on the ball and in the air.</p> <p>Sponsored By</p> 	<p>Harvey Scholes Midfield</p>  <p>Scholesy is a new addition this season. Previously at Wantage. Scholesy loves getting on the ball and has an excellent range of passing.</p> <p>Sponsored By</p> 	<p>Kyle Witt Attacker</p>  <p>Kyle is a local lad who has shown brilliant commitment to the club. Tricky winger with an eye for goal.</p> <p>Sponsored By</p> <p>Charlie Reid</p>
<p>Danny Gudger Attacker</p>  <p>Gudger recently joined from Fairford town. A winger with an excellent eye for goal. A huge summer addition.</p> <p>Sponsored By</p> 	<p>Matty Jones Attacker</p>  <p>Matty joined last season from Fariford town. Massive part of the squad on and off the pitch. Loves a long throw.</p> <p>Sponsored By</p> 	<p>Jack Smith Attacker</p>  <p>Smithy was new to the club last season. Quality at holding the ball up and has an excellent touch. A key part of the squad.</p> <p>Sponsored By</p> 	<p>Jasper Marsh Attacker</p>  <p>Jasp is a new addition this year. He has impressed in preseason. He's a presence up front, has a decent touch and holds the ball up well.</p> <p>Sponsored By</p> 

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## **History of Malmesbury Victoria FC**

The Club was originally formed in 1898, and was known as Malmesbury Town, then Malmesbury United. Then in the 1960's, amalgamated with a successful Swindon Club known as Swindon Victoria. The Club has played in various locations in and around the Town before eventually settling on the present site, known as The Flying Monk Ground. The ground was previously owned by the pub known as The Flying Monk.

There have been ups and downs over the past few years, but in 1999/2000 the Club was extremely successful with both Saturday sides winning their respective Leagues for the first time since 1974. The first team won the Wiltshire Premier League to clinch promotion to the Hellenic League, with the reserves winning the equivalent Junior Division to gain promotion to the Premier Division.

During their first season in the Hellenic League the first team acquitted themselves well to finish 4<sup>th</sup> in the League. Since then things have been much harder to finish in the top half of the league, but in 2001/2002 the Club did win the Wiltshire Senior Cup. 2004/2005 saw the Club decide to start an Under 18's team in the Wiltshire Floodlit League.

The Club has made huge steps to improve the facilities, in the summer of 2004 the giant step of installing floodlights was completed and the summer of 2005 saw the complete refurbishment of the Clubhouse.

In the 2006/07 season, we were unlucky not to get promotion into the Hellenic Premier League, finishing in fourth place. The following season 2007/08, we had a poor start, and half way through, after a change of management finished the season in 15<sup>th</sup> place.

The 2008/09 season saw the Club finish in the runners-up spot in Division 1 West, and with it came promotion to the Hellenic Premier Division, this being the Club's highest level of football in its history. However, the Club was relegated at the end of 2009/10 as the ground had not reached the required standard to continue in that division.

After dropping down and asking local legend, Wayne Kibble to run the senior sides and return a focus to local players, the club saw great success in the Wilts premier league, ending in being champions in 2014/15 season and gaining promotion to the Western League for 2016/17 season and finishing in a very respectable 9<sup>th</sup> position. Following a mid-table finish in 2017/18, League re-structuring has seen the club return to the Hellenic League in the 1 West Division where we look forward to renewing old friendships and making new ones.

The Club is in the early discussion stages to move to a new ground close to the present one, but high enough not to have to worry about flooding.

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## DEVIZES TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB HISTORY

Football in Devizes was recorded to have been first played in 1876 when Devizes Rangers played out a goalless draw against local rivals Holt. In those days the games were played under both Association Football and Rugby Union rules. Devizes Rangers existed in tandem with Devizes Football Club (Rugby) and the two clubs swapped players as well as codes, until Rangers disbanded in the late 1880s.

The origins of Devizes Town Football Club itself stretch back to 1884 when Southbrook Football Club was formed by the members of Southbroom Cricket Club as a winter activity. Games were played in a field behind the vicarage in Brickley Lane until 1886 when the 39 blues & 39 as they were known joined forces with the cricket and tennis clubs and formed Devizes Recreation Club based in London Road.

In 1896 the club tasted success for the first time in winning the Wiltshire League Championship. In 1898 Southbroom and other smaller clubs amalgamated to form a much larger club, and so Devizes Town Football Club was born. The new club leased a playing field in Quakers Walk and in their first season and won the Wiltshire League as well as reaching the First Round Proper of the FA Amateur Cup and the Wiltshire Cup Final. The elusive Wiltshire Cup finally came to Devizes in 1908 when they defeated

Trowbridge 3-1 to lift the trophy for the first time.

In the aftermath of the Second World War the club had to find a new ground to play, thankfully due to the generosity of the Jennings family they were offered a free 21-year lease on a ground at Nursteed Road. The first competitive game there was against Purton in 1945. In 1949 the Wilts League Championship came to Nursteed Road for the third time, and then the following year this was followed by the capture of the Wiltshire Senior Cup for the first time since 1908 in front of a crowd of over 4000. The late 1950s and 60s were a golden period for the club with numerous league and cup triumphs, including several good runs in the FA Amateur Cup - the most notable bring reaching the Third Round Proper in 1958. In the Wiltshire Senior Cup, the team appeared in every final between 1956/7 and 1962/3 winning 6 out of the seven finals.

Roger Hunt joined the club in 1958 and formed a lethal partnership with prolific striker Tony Edge. Roger Hunt went on to become one of the most celebrated players of his age - playing for Liverpool and the World Cup Winning England side. Tony Edge the goal machine was in line to represent Great Britain in the 1960 Olympics as a result of his prolific goal scoring talents for Town, before he was persuaded to join Bristol Rovers in 1959. He returned to Town though and in 1961-62 scored 92 goals in the treble winning season.

He managed the side in 1967 and the following year was honoured by the club for achieving the amazing record of 500 goals in 500 games.

The 1961/2 treble winning season was remarkable as Town collected the County Senior Cup, Premier League Championship and the League Subsidiary Cup. Walthamstow Avenue visited in 1965 to officially re-open the Nursteed Road Ground which had been purchased by the club after six years hard work. 1967 brought a new era for the club as they joined the Western League, with the new ground facilities being completed the following year with Roger Hunt returning to officially open them. The season 1972/3 saw the club managed by former Bath City player Ken Owens clinch the Western League Championship and the Subsidiary Cup, as well as having good runs in the FA Cup and Amateur Cup. Ted Chivers, chairman and benefactor of the club for 24 years, retired in 1974 and was honoured with a club presentation to thank him for his unstinting support of the club.

Three years after achieving the Western League Championship the club suffered their first ever relegation.

However, the stay in Division One was short lived and in 1980 under Paul Lloyd the club returned to the Western League Premier as Division One Runners-up. The following year Lloyd led the side on their greatest run in the FA Vase reaching the quarterfinals - where they were beaten by Whickham in freezing conditions in the North-East. Success continued with Town winning the Wiltshire Premier Shield in 1983 in a hard-fought victory over Trowbridge Town.



However, all changed with Paul Lloyds resignation in 1984 - playing fortunes declined and once again Town found themselves relegated to Division One the following year. The late 1980s and 1990s were inauspicious times for the club with increasing financial pressures which were only partially eased by the sale of the Nursteed Road ground to neighbours LINPAC in 1991 in return for a lease deal securing the ground for 99 years. Having survived some years of crisis the season 1999-2000 was the most outstanding in the club's history.

Manager Brian Newlands had over the last four years been building a talented squad and they repaid his faith by winning the Division One title with a remarkable run of 32 unbeaten league games to gain promotion back to the premier after 15 years. The season ended with an emphatic 8-0 demolition of Chard Town where

Andy Coombes stepped up to receive the Division One trophy. The following season the success continued with Town enjoying an excellent FA Cup run that took them to a Fourth Qualifying Round tie against Conference side Kingstonian and a chance of reaching the First Round. Unfortunately, in wet and windy conditions the cup run ended with a 5-2 defeat to the Conference side.

After seven successful years Newlands resigned at the start of the 2002-3 season. After a brief 15 weeks stay in-charge by ex-Chippenham player Ray Baverstock, former Town stalwart Peter Tripp was appointed.

He was to lead Town on another epic FA Vase run that took them once again to a quarter-final appearance, this time against Maldon Town. This was their ninth game in the competition and as in 1981 Town failed on the day, being beaten 3-0 by the Eastern Counties League outfit.

The start of the 2003-4 season saw major changes in the structure of the club with a new committee being appointed and a rigorous financial structure bringing much needed stability to the club. Since then, there has been a major investment in the facilities at the club with a new Members Bar (named after Jack Goodship, a stalwart of the club for over 25 years who passed away in 2003) and ongoing plans for refurbishment throughout the clubhouse and grounds. On the pitch results have been variable and the club has flirted with

relegation. On the managerial front Dave Hopkins, Mark Godley and Nathan Sheridan all tried to bring success but results were variable, and the club flirted with relegation. In 2005/6 the Under 18's side under Gary Hopper won their section of the league with some style and then only narrowly lost to Malmesbury in the play-off final.

In the summer of 2006 Nathan Sheridan was relieved of his position and former player Paul Thompson appointed as first team player/manager. He enjoyed a successful two years as manager before departing towards the end of the 2007/8 season. Also departing earlier in the season was popular Chairman Phil Rossiter who had led the club out of one of its darkest periods. Phil was given Life Membership in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the club. For the 2008/9 season former Reserve Team managers Shaun Moffat and Kev Whitbread took the reins but with injuries, suspensions and loss of playing budget were unable to save the club from finishing bottom of the league and so ending their 8 year stay in the topflight. In the close season Shaun took on the role of Chairman and Kev took over full control of the side, being joined as Joint First Team Manager by former boss Paul Thompson. The club had another difficult campaign but managed to retain their Western League status, finishing in penultimate place in Division One. Kev stepped down at the end of the season and Tommy Dryden, the former Malmesbury & Calne Town manager took over as Team Manager, with Trevor Vowles taking over the Wiltshire League side. It was change again by the end of September with Tommy Dryden deciding to step down for personal reasons, former Wroughton and Shrivenham manager Mark Love took over until the end of the year

The club decided to appoint Jamie Bayes from the reserves to cover the first team and will work closely with the reserve's manager Scott Clark and his assistant Bud Walters in bringing back the local players to play for Devizes Town at Nursteed Road, in 2012-13 Mark

Love returned to the club but did not reach the expectation we had hoped and decided to step down at the end of the season due to work commitments.

We appointed Bud Walters and Justin Webster as first team managers at the start of the season 2013-14 season they were together until the end of the year when through work commitments Justin stepped down.

In 2014-15 we saw Bud Walters and Tom Perkins take the helm together who continued in their roles until 2108-19 when they finally felt they had taken the club as far as they could and needed to step away and look to spend some time with their families but still be involved at the club. This was a successful period for the club with some mid table finishes and a Top 5 finish too, this helped bring the local lads back to the club and also some stability.

We went out to look for a new management team for 2019-20 and found father and son Rob and Dan Broadbank from Swindon they worked hard to get the players to work together with Swindon based players but in early October it didn't feel right so they left by mutual consent the deadly duo of Bud and Perks returned again to steady the ship and with the task of stopping some players leaving their hometown club, they continued until January and the club appointed Nigel Tripp as First Team Manager Nigel has played a good level of football and has managed at this level but unfortunately with the season being a stop and start season it just didn't work out for Trippy so it was decided he would leave his role as did his assistant Lee Dodds.

With the 2020/21 season ending early and the reserves being 2nd in their league following a zoom AGM they were voted back to the Wiltshire League for season 2020-21 this will be a good learning time for the youngsters with some old heads to help their quest to play adult football.

2021/22 season the club felt it would go back to local managers and Stewart Swan and Dan Sloan are now in charge assisted with Luke Enderby who as is Dan still keen to play we hope for stability now and some games to be played to complete the season (with Covid restrictions I am sure). Mid-season Trevor Rawlings and Graham Learmonth were brought in to try and avoid the drop, but despite an improvement in form it resulted in relegation from the Western League for the first time since joining it in 1967.

2022/23 A New Management team led by George Bettles was challenged to gain promotion back to level 6. As well as doing this they reached the clubs first cup final for many years and using local players. George resigned from his position a few games before the end of this season.

Big changes for the 2023/24 season both on and off the pitch with new Co-Chairmen in ex player Dan Sloan and Ex Manager Tom Perkins taking over from Shaun Moffat after 15 years in the Chair. Neil Fautley also resigned at the same time having served as Secretary of the club for the same period of time to be replaced by Jonathan Emm who is also current secretary of the Youth Section.

As the previous manager had resigned at the end of last season it was the Co-Chairmans first job to appoint a new manager, they identified local lad Chris Allen who has a wealth of experience playing at non-league level and had his first experience of coaching at Corsham Town last season as the man to take the club forward. He is joined by Luke Hopper as assistant manager who again is a local lad with a wealth of experience playing non-league. As both hope to continue playing when needed they have been joined in the dugout by ex-player/manager Nathan Sheridan as coach, along with Sam Ockenden as first team coach too.


The reserves manager from last season Tom North has been joined by Youth Team coach Ray King as we look to provide a pathway for the young local players of the town.

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
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