



HL1  
02/09/23, 3pm  
The Northcourt  
OX14 1PL



## Abingdon United Vs Calne Town



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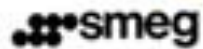






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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Good afternoon and I would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who has come along this afternoon to the Northcourt for the game. I would also like to welcome our visitors today Calne Town and like yourselves I am looking forward a hard fought and well contested game.

Following what was arguably the most successful season in our clubs history, which saw Three of our senior teams lift league winner's trophies, I am super optimistic about coming season on many fronts both on and off the field. With a new management team assembled under our manager John Mills and a fresh and talented squad, I feel confident that on the field we are in a good place to build on our strong finish last season, which saw us miss out on a play off spot during the last round of games.

On the pitch we have been working hard to repair the damage done by last years long hot summer, which hopefully will be evident today. Whilst away from the pitch, we have made exciting progress this year, with the installation of a new bar in the Lounge. the ever increasing popularity of the Abingdon Town Boxing Club here at the Northcourt and earlier in the summer we hosting our 3<sup>rd</sup> successful prog rock festival, raising thousands of pounds for brain cancer charities. The club is always looking for innovative ways to use our fantastic facility and have a range of live music events lined up at the Northcourt throughout the year.

I also want to take this occasion before today's game to share a few thoughts on enjoyment.

I cannot remember a time in my life when I was out with my partner and enjoyed being shouted or sworn at, abused or targeted because our opinion was different.

I am equally sure that everyone who is here today would probably agree that this would not be OK?

So why then I ask myself does this seem to be acceptable during games of football?

Therefore can I ask that all you really great people here today think twice - think RESPECT.

So that this season, everyone here at the Northcourt creates positive memories.

In completing my thoughts today, I just want to say, I am particularly proud of our management team, staff, officials and volunteers here at Abingdon United FC, who work and continue to work tirelessly for this community Football Club,

So on behalf of us all, I would like to thank you for spending your time with us today and hope that you enjoy the game.

**So, be sure to play your part from the stands... and COME ON YOU YELLOWS!**

**Alan Midwinter  
Chairman AUFC**





# General Talks with Stefan Caira

Good afternoon and welcome to The Northcourt for our match against Calne Town.

I would like to extend our welcoming to the players, coaching staff and officials of Calne.

I would like to extend on my first batch of notes since becoming General Manger of this great club over the summer moving up from Matchday operations manager.

Last time I focused on Togetherness, Strength and Impact these are the fundamental instruments which make things tick here at Abingdon United and nothing makes me more proud of the work being done by all at the club when these things are noticed.

On the pitch

Firstly I would like to welcome Alfie Presley to the club who has joined us from Corsham FC. Also I would like to welcome back a bit of a "one of our own" in Dylan Conlon who has returned to The Northcourt after a short stint at Easington Sports. I would also like to welcome back Dan Chalmers following his short stint in Germany with work. I had the pleasure in watching the three mentioned in our Tuesday night 3-0 win at Cheltenham Saracens.

Off the pitch

As previously mentioned in my last notes a lot of work has been going on behind the scenes in each department.

In terms of Grounds & Facilities we have been able to invest heavily in our playing surface for our five sides and with the generosity of our sponsors with donations we have been able to deliver a first class playing surface which the club can be proud of. We would not have been able to achieve this without the generosity of sponsors and guidance by Kieron Jennings who will be looking after the pitch this season. You will also notice alongside this our new look "sponsor wrapped" dugouts. We would like to thank our new sponsors "Manor Flooring" who have taken up sponsorship on the dug outs and adjoining stand being renamed the Manor Flooring Stand. we may have one more big sponsorship deal to announce in due course.

Partnerships

This year we have worked so hard in bringing in and encouraging more sponsorship partners this season we have welcomed the following partners to the club:

Principal partners: GPH Systems, CAIRA Property Solutions & GPH Solutions.

Dug out & Stand Partner: Manor Flooring

Matchday clothing: Dyno Plumbing

Plus many more new pitch side sponsors new and old, we look forward to welcoming them to games this season.

Volunteers

We are always on the look out for volunteers, wether that be turnstile staff, programme sellers, parking stewards, hospitality staff, committee members etc.. If you feel you would like to get involved please get in touch.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at the club who has worked so hard over the summer in preparation for the new season. I'd also like to thank our supporters and in particular the ones who have taken the time to volunteer and contact us in relation on how we can take the club forward. I'm sure todays game against Calne will be a tough and challenging encounter so get behind the team and together deliver the three points.

Please remember my email is always open and welcome positive and any negative experiences you have during the game aufcmatchday@outlook.com

Enjoy the game

Stefan Caira - General Manager



# CLUB OFFICIALS

Position	Name
Chairman	Alan Midwinter
Vice Chairman	Mark Cunningham
General Manager	Stefan Caira
Finance Officer	Sarah Crawley
Treasurer	Robin Yuill
Commercial Manager	Chris Lewis
Communications Officer	Mark Reynolds
Head of Media	Harry Burton
Club Welfare Officer	Chris Cole
Football Secretary (Mens)	Alistair MacDonald
Football Secretary (Ladies)	Abbie Smith
Head of Football Development	Adam French
First Team Player/Manager	John Mills
First Team Player/Assistant Manager	Aaron Woodley
First Team Goalkeeper Coach	Graham Sloper
Physio	Callum Warne
Development Management Team	Jack White & Ollie Tilling
Abingdon United Vets Team Manager	Adam French
Abingdon United Ladies Management Team	Danial Knight & Declan O'Hanlon
Abingdon United Ladies Development Team	Jon Ward & Paul Biddle
Abingdon United Under 18's Management Team	Mark Reynolds & James Booker
Abingdon United Under 13's Team Manager	Adam French
Abingdon United Under 11's Team Manager	Steve French
Abingdon United Under 9's Team Manager	Lewis Andrews
Kit Manager	John Blackmore
Grounds Team	John Blackmore & Jennings Pitch Maintenance
Grounds Caretaker	Alex Armstrong
Bar & Functions Manageress	Kate Fegan





# TABLE

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Malmesbury Victoria	7	6	1	0	17	19
2	Clanfield 85	6	5	1	0	17	16
3	Shortwood United	8	4	2	2	9	14
4	F C Stratford	5	4	1	0	8	13
5	FC Bristol	8	4	1	3	-1	13
6	Southam United	6	4	0	2	2	12
7	Stonehouse Town	7	3	2	2	1	11
8	Hartpury University	5	3	1	1	10	10
9	Sporting Club Inkberrow	6	3	1	2	8	10
10	Tytherington Rocks	6	3	0	3	3	9
11	Devizes Town	7	3	0	4	-1	9
12	Abingdon United	7	3	0	4	-1	9
13	Long Crendon	6	2	1	3	-2	7
14	Calne Town	7	2	1	4	-3	7
15	Newent Town	6	2	1	3	-6	7
16	Kidlington Res	6	1	1	4	-8	4
17	Cheltenham Saracens	7	1	1	5	-13	4
18	Moreton Rangers	7	1	0	6	-19	3
19	Chipping Sodbury Town	7	0	1	6	-21	1



# STATS

Abingdon United Player Stats 2023-24	A	B	C	D	E
Name	2023/24 Appearances	2023/24 Goals	2023/24 Assists	2023/24 Clean Sheets (GK)	
Harry Ackland	1	0	0	0	
Ben Barrett	7	0	2		
Fin Bates	2	0	0		
Eddie Cavanagh	7	0	0		1
Dan Chalmers	4	0	0		
Dylan Conlan	2	0	1		
Ollie Creed	7	0	0		
Lewis Dix	6	0	0		
Macauley Dodson	7	0	0		
Casey Highmoor	6	0	0		
Kyreece Martei	5	0	0		
John Mills	7	3	1		
Zach Morey	5	0	1		
Alfie Presley	3	2	1		
Mani Roper	7	3	3		
Harry Sampford	5	1	1		
Ash Taylor	7	1	0		
Ellis Walker	3	0	0		
James Williams	5	2	1		
Aaron Woodley	2	0	0		



# SQUADS

## Abingdon United



- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Eddie Cavanagh (VC) | 12. Nadeem Shah    |
| 2. Lewis Dix           | 14. James Williams |
| 3. Ollie Creed         | 15. Dan Chalmers   |
| 4. Harry Sampford (C)  | 16. Ellis Walker   |
| 5. Ash Taylor          | 17. Fin Bates      |
| 6. Macauley Dodson     | 18. Zach Morey     |
| 7. Aaron Woodley       | 19. John Mills     |
| 8. Ben Barrett         | 20. Kyreece Martei |
| 9. Harry Ackland       | 21. Dylan Conlan   |
| 10. Casey Highmoor     | 23. Alfie Presley  |
| 11. Mani Roper         |                    |
| Manager- John Mills    |                    |

**Colours**  
**Shirts- Yellow**  
**Shorts- Blue**  
**Socks- Blue**  
**Keeper- Black**

Referee  
Mawgan  
Andrew

Assistant  
Referee  
Ryan Stubbs

Assistant  
Referee  
Michael  
George

## Calne Town



- Rhys Simpkins - GK  
Josh Bright - Captain  
Cameron Sanchez  
Danny Bowyer  
Matthew Robinson  
Declan McStravick  
Harrison Sartin  
Matthew Ashman  
Gabe Costello  
Oscar Webster  
Jack Smith  
Freddie Culley  
Henri Parry

- Sean Bailey  
George Ford  
Asher Jones  
Ben Wootton  
Managers: Trevor Rawlings  
Head Coach: Alex Blake  
Coach: Dan Badman  
Coach: James Stobbart  
Coach: Graham Learmonth  
Colours: Blue/Black Shirts,  
Black Shorts & Blue Socks)  
Keeper: All Green (Shirt,  
Shorts & Socks)

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# ABINGDON UNITED CLUB HISTORY

The club was formed in 1946 when a group of ex-service men decided that the town could support two football clubs. The first meeting to form the club was held in the local Anchor Public House on the bank of the River Thames, as there were no club facilities. They joined the North Berks League and within two seasons had won its Charity Shield. The following year 1953/54 they won the league and cup finalists. The club had its sights on higher things and five years later entered the Hellenic League. Since then it has remained in this league and during this time had success in the lower divisions. In 1965/66 they won the Division One Challenge Cup and the following season were the cup finalists.

No further honours came the club's way until winning promotion in 1976/77 to the Premier Division. After a struggle at this level, relegation back to Division One came after four seasons. With a more ambitious approach, the club bounced back into the Premier League where it has remained ever since. It also won the Division One Cup in the same promotion year. Senior status was achieved in 1985 allowing it to be eligible for the F.A. Vase, County Senior Cup and in 1989 entered the F.A. Cup for the first time. A Members Room, Function Room, Covered Stand and Floodlighting have been completed in recent years to improve the off pitch facilities. 1996/97 has seen the club complete its 50th season and it's most successful. United won the final of the Berks and Bucks Senior Trophy and also winning the League's Floodlit Cup.

The highest ever league position was attained when finishing as Runners Up in the Hellenic Premier Division. The following season again saw success come to Northcourt Road with retaining the County Senior Trophy, Hellenic League Reserve Championship and Allied Counties Youth League winners. 2001 saw the construction of new changing rooms, together with turnstiles, to the Northcourt Road Ground and 2005 saw the construction of a new 150-seater stand and a covered stand. The club clinched promotion to the Southern League in season 2005/06. The club returned to the Hellenic League in 2013/14. United gained runners-up in Division 1 in season 2016/17 to clinch promotion back to the Hellenic Premier League. The 2017/18 saw the young Development team clinch runners up in the Hellenic Div 2 and also winning the League Challenge cup. The 2017/18 season also saw the introduction of United's first women's team who obtained League promotion in its first season together with the County Cup and League Cup. Season 2018/19 saw the women team progress into the Southern Region League, while the First Team were dropped down to the Hellenic Division 1.



# CALNE TOWN CLUB HISTORY

1886 A significant moment in history, the story begins, Calne Town FC are born and start playing friendlies. Home is the town centre Recreation Ground.

1891/92 1st competitive game in the Wilts Cup – the roller coaster ride it begins!

1912/13 trophy case needed winners Wiltshire Senior Cup... 1st of many is hope!

1884/85 history made our 1st game in the Wilts League, stunning 9-0 victory v Bradford Town.

1920's sees a marriage with the famous bacon factory works team, Calne & Harris United.

1960's the club relocates to its current ground, Bremhill View and drops the bacon, back to plain old Calne Town FC ... cheap bacon quickly disappears from the club house.

1979/1980 ...that was quick! The modern era begins along with some sort of club record keeping!, champions Wiltshire County Division 2...nice one!

1984/85 the trophy cupboard grows, winners in the Wiltshire Senior Cup and the Ghia Senior KO Cup.... really getting a taste for Victory!

1985/86 a new committee was formed with the objective of bringing a higher standard of football to Bremhill View, seen as visionaries of their time!

1986/87 100 years old! and a birthday present received. The big time is here, our application to join the Great Mills Western League Division 2 is rubber stamped.

1991/92 further development work at the ground with the expansion of the social club to provide lounge and bar facilities – fans very appreciative...hic!

1992/93 Glory days with manager Graham Fell at the helm we are Division 2 runners up and promoted to the Premier Division.

1993/1994 Turbulent times, 3 managers in quick succession but surprise appointment of a 22 year old Tommy Saunders keeps us in the top rung. His knack for 'finding' quality players means we enjoy a successful run of top half finishes.

1997/98 An excellent FA Cup run, victorious over Fleet Town, Welton Rovers and Clevedon Town, but hearts finally broken in the last minutes of a home replay against Basingstoke.

1998 Tommy's destiny for higher things catches up; he is off to Chippenham Town. Assistant Colin Bush, supported by ex -Calne player Lester Foxhall fills his very large boots. Despite the turmoil our highest ever finish in the Top rung, 6th place no less.

1998/99 a traumatic season! Tommy's legacy fades as many key players desert to higher footballing echelons. New manager Mel Gingell's hastily assembled young squad cannot compete. Mid-season Mel is dismissed, replaced by John Fisher ex. Swindon Supermarine & Wollen Sports. Too little too late, unable to deliver, relegated to Division 2... a bitter pill is swallowed!

1999/2000 new millennium brings former Calne stalwart Graham Learmonth as manager, assisted admirably by Sean Hughes and Ian Monnery. Ship steadied, the young side produced glimmers of excellence and restores some pride.

2000/01 thump!?!@!, we finish bottom and Graham short reign ends, lady luck though is on our side, relegation is avoided by bureaucracy as the league is reconstructed. Phew!

2001/02 brings optimism with newly appointed management team Steve Hale and Paul Rankin. Steve resigns soon after the start leaving Paul and assistant Mark Jefferies in charge.

Although again at the foot of the table club and supporters alike feel blood, sweat and tears have been given by players and management so give them some slack.





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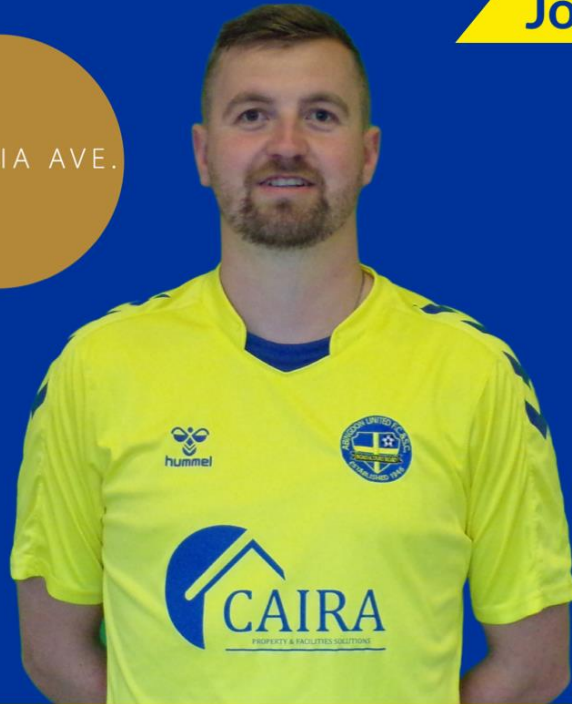




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