

THE FOXES

MATCH DAY PROGRAMME



BRISLINGTON V BRIDGWATER UTD



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Poplar Insulation

CLUB ADMINISTRATION

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CLUB STATEMENT

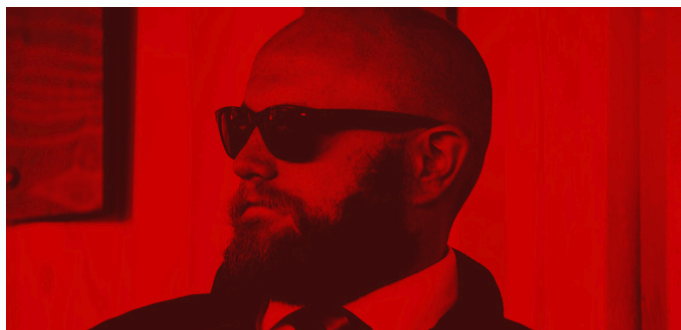
Brislington Football Club will not accept any liabilities for accidents to spectators or their property either within the ground or in its premises.

Children and spectators must not sit or stand in front of the railings surrounding the pitch at any time.

Please assist the club with this request as serious injury could occur. We must ask that spectators comply with the following regulations:

- 1.Anyone within the Stadium must comply with Club Officials instructions and shall not use foul, abusive or racist language or offensive gesture towards anyone.
- 2.No alcohol will be consumed outside of the club house, before or during a match and no glasses are to be taken outside of the Charlie Garland Bar at any point.
- 3.No person(s) shall enter onto the playing field before, during, between or after a match. The pitch surface is out-of-bounds at all times.
- 4.Only authorised personal are to enter the Changing Rooms and Hospitality suits on matchdays.

These rules are designed in order to ensure our officials and visiting officials, as well as all spectators enjoy football without any offence from others upsetting their game, and to ensure the day is enjoyed by all!



FROM THE BOARDROOM

Good afternoon and welcome back to the Poplar Insulation Stadium for this afternoon's Jewson Western League – Premier Division clash against Bridgwater Town. We extend a warm welcome to the players, management, officials and supporters who've made the trip from Somerset and hope you enjoy your visit to BS4.

Today marks the end of what has been a busy opening month to the season – one where we've seen the squad tested, reshaped, and slowly starting to find its feet. Last time out here at the Poplar, we faced a strong Helston Athletic side and, despite a spirited effort, fell to a disappointing 3–0 defeat. With a depleted squad and two key players unavailable, we struggled in key moments and were punished for lapses of concentration. That said, the numbers told a slightly different story: we had more possession and completed more passes, and while stats alone don't win football matches, they offered encouragement that this team isn't far away.

That belief was rewarded just over a week later, away to Nailsea & Tickenham, where we picked up our first league win of the season thanks to a determined team display and a late finish from returning defender Ben Withey. It wasn't pretty, but it was gritty – and that grit is exactly what's needed as this young squad continues to gel under Ash's leadership. The boys stood up, including several teenagers thrown into the mix late on, and the win was no less than they deserved. Let's hope it sets the tone for the weeks to come.

Across all levels of the club, there's a great deal to feel encouraged about. Our Reserves, Under-18s, and Veterans sides have all completed pre-season preparations and begin their respective campaigns shortly. The signs so far are hugely positive, with all three showing energy, identity and no shortage of talent. That momentum is credit to the work being done across the club – from coaches and volunteers to parents and players – and it speaks volumes about where we're heading as a footballing community.



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2025-26 SEASON FIXTURES

JULY

Sat 26/07/25 – Street V Brislington
Tue 29/07/25 – Brislington V Clevedon Tn

AUGUST

Sat 02/08/25 – FA Cup Extra Preliminary Rd
Sat 09/08/25 – Brislington V Sidmouth
Tue 12/08/25 – Bradford Tn V Brislington
Sat 16/08/25 – Brislington V Newquay
Sat 23/08/25 – FA Vase First Round
Tue 26/08/25 – Nailsea & T'ham V Brislington
Sat 30/08/25 – Brislington V Bridgwater

SEPTEMBER

Sat 06/09/25 – St Austell V Brislington
Tue 09/09/25 – Brislington V Bradford Tn
Sat 13/09/25 – St Blazey V Brislington
Tue 16/09/25 – Brislington V Nailsea & T'ham
Tue 23/09/25 – Brislington V Paulton Rvrs
Sat 27/09/25 Ivybridge Tn V Brislington

OCTOBER

Sat 04/10/25 – Torpoint V Brislington
Tue 07/10/25 – Brislington V Street
Sat 11/10/25 Helston Ath V Brislington
Sat 18/10/25 Brislington V Shepton Mallet
Sat 25/10/25 Brislington V Buckland Ath

NOVEMBER

Sat 01/11/25 – Saltash V Brislington
Tue 08/11/25 – Brislington V St Austell
Sat 15/11/25 Sidmouth V Brislington
Sat 22/11/25 Brislington V Barnstaple
Sat 25/10/25 Brislington V Torpoint

DECEMBER

Sat 13/12/25 – Shepton Mallet V Brislington
Sat 20/12/25 – Brislington V Wellington
Fri 26/12/25 – Oldland Abb V Brislington

JANUARY

Sat 03/01/26 – Bridgwater V Brislington
Sat 10/01/26 – Brislington V St Blazey
Sat 24/01/26 – Buckland Ath V Brislington

FEBRUARY

Sat 07/02/26 – Brislington V Ivybridge Tn
Sat 21/02/26 – Wellington V Brislington

MARCH

Sat 07/03/26 – Barnstaple V Brislington
Sat 14/03/26 – Brislington V Helston Ath
Sat 28/03/26 – Paulton Rvrs V Brislington

APRIL

Fri 03/04/26 – Brislington V Oldland Abb
Mon 06/04/26 – Clevedon Tn V Brislington
Sat 11/04/26 – Newquay V Brislington
Sat 18/04/26 – Brislington V Saltash





FROM THE BENCH

Good afternoon everyone and a warm welcome back to Ironmould Lane for today's match. I'd especially like to extend a welcome to everyone connected with Bridgwater United, including my old manager Lee Lashenko and my former teammates Danny Doddimead and Jude McCarthy. It's always good to see familiar faces, and I'm sure today will be a great contest.

We go into this game on the back of our first win of the season on Tuesday night away at Nailsea & Tickenham. The pitch made it a difficult evening to play much football, but what pleased me most was the lads' character and fight. They dug in, showed real determination, and got the job done with three vital points. We'll need more of that resilience today, but also the bravery to impose our game on a very strong Bridgwater side, who we know have clear intentions of challenging at the top end of the table.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to welcome our new signing Paulo Borges to the club. Paulo joins us from Nailsea and is a powerful striker who will give us a strong presence and focal point in attack. We're all looking forward to seeing him in a Bris shirt and the qualities he will bring to the side.

Reflecting on Tuesday, I was clear beforehand that the key to the game was going to be our energy—being aggressive in our press, sharp into challenges, and first to second balls.

The players carried that out brilliantly, and I felt we were rarely troubled defensively as a result.

That energy from the younger lads was equally matched by the responsibility shown by our more experienced players, who did an excellent job in organising our shape and keeping the group patient in difficult moments. A special mention must also go to the young lads Ronnie Moore and Ollie Lovell, who gave us fantastic energy when they came on. I also want to acknowledge Billy Wiltshire, who didn't get onto the pitch but continues to show a great attitude.

That willingness to stay positive and support the group, even when you're disappointed, is vital to creating a strong bond in any squad.

We know today will be another tough test, but with the fight, togetherness, and organisation we showed in midweek, alongside the backing of our supporters, I'm confident we can give a good account of ourselves.

Enjoy the game.

UpTheFoxes 🦊
Ash

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Non League Football Review



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Motor Neuron disease Charity

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MEET THE FOXES



JORDAN SCHOFIELD

Goalkeeper: Jordan joined us from Oldland, hit the ground running and definitely helped steady the ship, pardon the pun but he's been a much needed safe pair of hands.



ALFIE CLARKE

Defender. An energetic left back with a cultured left foot who's comfortable in possession, and ruthless out of it!!



CHARLIE AMES

Defender: A player who's made the step up from the U18's last year, and showed he can more than mix it with the adults. A class defender who reads the game well and is comfortable in possession.



BEN WITHEY

Midfield/Defence: Ben is an experienced player who's played at Southern league level, technically good and extremely versatile player who looks equally comfortable in pretty much every position!



LEWIS DUNN

Defender. Lewis has been a mainstay for the Foxes for many years a left sided central defender Lewis has bags of experience, is comfortable in possession and chips in with vital goals.



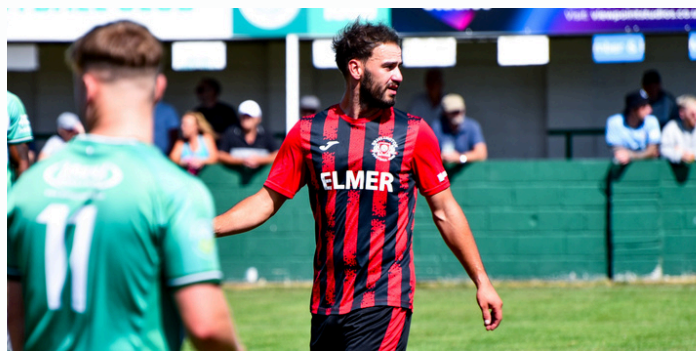
OLLIE WILLIAMS

Midfield. Ollie has joined us from AEK Boco and has looked very good in pre season. Ollie is a talented midfielder who likes to get on the ball and make things happen, also chips in with a few goals.



HARRY TOBIN

Defender. Experienced full back Harry is dynamic in both directions, has a cultured left foot and chips in with his fair share of goals.



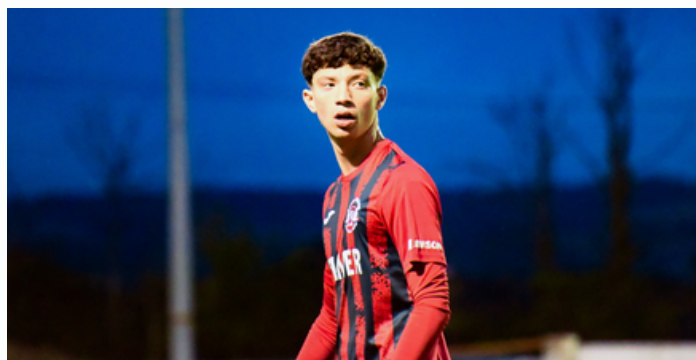
CALUM EVANS

Defence/Midfield. Has a top class pedigree having started his career at Man Utd, Calum arrives at Ironmould Lane via Barnsley, Macclesfield, Forest Green, Port Vale, Torquay Utd, Bath & Frome.



CALLUM PRITCHARD

Midfield. Callum is a talented player with a rich future having played a fair share of games in the last two seasons whilst starring in the 18's. Comfortable in possession and a player who we're looking to see kick on this year.



FREDDIE FRASER

Midfield – New to the club this season, Freddie has recently played for Malvern Tn & Cribbs and is a stylish midfielder who is comfortable in possession.

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JAYDEN RADWAY

Midfield/Forward. Jayden has represented Bris U18's for the last two seasons whilst playing for Keynsham and Corsham Town in the adult game. A pacey and skilful forward he has an eye for goal and is a tireless runner. Jayden has all the potential to rise higher in the non league pyramid should he wish!



JAY MALPAS

Midfield. Jay's 3rd season at the club, previously with Bristol Rovers another comfortable midfielder with an extensive range of passing and an eye for a goal. On his day can be unplayable and is a joy to watch when on top form.



GEORGE JONES

Midfield/Forward. George has been with the Foxes for over 5 seasons. A versatile player who can play in midfield or up front. scored 22 goals during the title winning season including a double hat trick against Portishead Town.



AMARI MCLEARY

Midfield/Forward. Amari is a new addition to the Foxes, a pacey, tricky, old school wide man who makes things happen when he gets on the ball. A full backs nightmare who undoubtedly will have a bright footballing future.



BILLY WILTSHIRE

Defender. Billy is yet another product of the successful U18's who has progressed into the first team squad. A solid 8 out of 10 full back who will more than likely have an fruitful non league career ahead.





ELLIOT SAUNDERS

Midfield/Forward. Elliot has probably the sweetest left foot you'll see at this level. Has played on and off for the Foxes because of work commitments but really is a class act. Able to put the ball on a sixpence he is deadly from free kicks and corners.



JACK WEAVER

Defence/Midfield. Jack is a combative young midfielder who's come to the Foxes via Welton Rovers & Keynsham Town. Has an eye for winning back the ball and has a great work ethic.



DAN WINSTONE

Midfield. A new acquisition, Dan is an experienced midfielder having played for Cadbury Heath at Western Premier league level. He is a combative and steady player who reads the game, brings calmness, and retains possession well.



OAKLAN BUCK

Forward. Oaklan has been with the Foxes for over 5 seasons on and off was integral in the title winning season scoring 19 goals in that season. Hard working and with an eye for goal Oaks wears his heart on his sleeve and is always a threat.



PAOLO BORGAS

Forward. Recently arrived from Nailsea & Tickn'm Paolo brings strength and power to lead the line.

IN THE DUGOUT



GEORGE DORRINGTON – ASST. MANAGER

Another well travelled and well respected player, in both the professional and amateur game. George has finished playing regularly after a double leg break last season but will prove invaluable on the sidelines, and never say never between the posts.



NEIL GRAYDON – COACH

Sweet connoisseur Neil has been around the non league scene for many years after youth football with Bristol Rovers. Senior clubs include Brislington & Welton Rovers. Neil suffered a ruptured ACL for the reserves and has since come in to provide a much valued extra voice.



ASH KINGTON – MANAGER

A well travelled and well respected player, in both the professional and amateur game Ash has a wealth of experience to pull from. Ash has stepped in to the role after Lee Perks departure, having been instrumental behind the scenes for the last couple of years.



EVERETT WELCH – PHYSIO

A brilliant guy on and off the pitch, Everett has a wealth of experience in non league football. Everett played as a goalkeeper in western league football, and served as a Matchday physio at Ashton & Backwell, Odd Down & Paulton Rovers



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LATEST MATCH REPORT

Brislington took the short trip west to fellow strugglers Nailsea & Tickenham, with both sides desperate to find a first league win of the season.

The Foxes were buoyed by several returns: Ben Withey from injury, Oaklan Buck from suspension, and manager Ash Kington naming himself in the starting XI. There was also a late twist, with forward Paulo Borges making his debut against his former club, going straight into the line-up.

At the other end of the pitch, Seb Tylek came in between the sticks for Bris, deputising for their regular shot-stopper Jordan Schofield. Bris started brightly, dominating possession and territory in the opening exchanges, though the fluency to carve out a clear chance was missing. On 14 minutes, déjà vu struck when Buck was sent to the sin bin for dissent, leaving the visitors temporarily down to ten men. Nailsea grew into the contest with the advantage, but much like Bris earlier, they couldn't turn pressure into meaningful openings.

Once back to full strength, the game settled into a scrappy affair, the first half lacking clear chances for either side. The pattern continued after the break, with the uneven pitch playing its part in a low-quality contest.

FULL TIME



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NAILSEA & TICKENHAM
V BRISLINGTON FC
MATCHDAY 06

MOTM



ELMER
BEN WITHEY

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As the half wore on, Brislington began to reassert themselves. Injuries forced changes up front, with Radway and Borges replaced by teenagers Lovell and Moore. The youngsters brought fresh energy, showing impressive strength and maturity.

On 80 minutes, Moore's flick and Lovell's relentless pressing forced a Nailsea defender into conceding a corner, taking no risks by knocking the ball behind. From the resulting set-piece, Kington's clever low delivery caught the hosts off guard, and Withey was the sharpest man in the box, calmly slotting home to put Brislington in front.

The Foxes nearly scored ten minutes later when Lovell again pressed the defence into making another mistake only to see his flick roll agonisingly wide. As the game rolled into extra time it looked like Brislington had put the game to bed.

A Kington free kick was controlled by Moore who battled free to get his shot away only to see his shot parried to Lovell who was on hand to smash the ball home, unfortunately the youngster was offside.

Nailsea never mounted a meaningful fightback, and Brislington held firm to secure a priceless 1-0 victory – their first league win of the season. Kington will hope this hard-fought success provides the platform for his side to build upon in the coming weeks.



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PLAYER STATS

	Apps	Goals	Starts	Yellow Cards	Red Card	2nd Yello	Sin Bin	Sub On	Sub Off
CHARLIE AMES	7		7	1					
ALFIE CLARKE	7		7	1					4
OLLIE WILLIAMS	7		4					3	2
JOE FRAZER	6		2	1				4	
JAY MALPAS	6	1	6						2
JAYDEN RADWAY	6		5					1	2
JORDAN SCHOFIELD	6		6						
DANIEL WINSTONE	6		6						
OAKLAN BUCK	5	2	5	1	1	1	2		4
CALLUM EVANS	5		4	1				1	3
BILLY WILTSHIRE	5							5	
BEN WITHEY	5	1	5	1					2
LEWIS DUNN	4		4	1					1
AMARI MCLEARY	4		2					2	1
ELLIOT SAUNDERS	4		4						2
GEORGE JONES	3		2	1				1	1
ASHLEY KINGTON	3		2	1				1	1
RONNIE MOORE	3							3	
ANTHONY ESSONO	2		2						
JOSHUA LEWIS	2							2	
OLLIE LOVELL	2							2	
JACK WEAVER	2		2	2					1
DANNY BARWOOD	1							1	
PAULO BORGES	1		1						1
CALLUM PRITCHARD	1							1	
SEBASTIAN TYLEK	1		1						

THIS WEEKS FIXTURES

PRM	30/08/2025	Barnstaple Town FC	VS	Paulton Rovers FC
PRM	30/08/2025	Brislington	VS	Bridgwater United FC
PRM	30/08/2025	Buckland Athletic	VS	Bradford Town First
PRM	30/08/2025	Clevedon Town FC	VS	Newquay AFC
PRM	30/08/2025	Helston Athletic	VS	Shepton Mallet
PRM	30/08/2025	Nailsea & Tickenham	VS	Ivybridge Town
PRM	30/08/2025	Oldland Abbotonians	VS	AFC St Austell
Cup	30/08/2025	Royal Wootton Bassett	VS	Torpoint Athletic
PRM	30/08/2025	Sidmouth Town	VS	Saltash United
PRM	30/08/2025	St Blazey	VS	Street FC

JEWSON WESTERN PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE

			Home					Away					Overall						
Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Saltash United	6	2	0	1	10	3	3	0	0	8	3	5	0	1	18	6	12	15
2	Clevedon Town FC	5	3	0	0	7	1	2	0	0	4	1	5	0	0	11	2	9	15
3	Paulton Rovers FC	6	3	0	0	7	1	1	1	1	6	3	4	1	1	13	4	9	13
4	Torpoint Athletic	5	2	1	0	5	2	2	0	0	8	2	4	1	0	13	4	9	13
5	Helston Athletic	5	1	0	1	3	4	3	0	0	12	3	4	0	1	15	7	8	12
6	Shepton Mallet	6	1	1	2	6	5	2	0	0	7	0	3	1	2	13	5	8	10
7	Buckland Athletic	5	2	0	0	4	1	1	1	1	6	6	3	1	1	10	7	3	10
8	Bradford Town	5	2	0	0	6	2	0	2	1	4	5	2	2	1	10	7	3	8
9	Sidmouth Town	4	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	1	5	2	3	7
10	Bridgwater United FC	6	2	1	2	8	9	0	0	1	1	3	2	1	3	9	12	-3	7
11	Barnstaple Town FC	4	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	5	3	2	0	2	6	5	1	6
12	Ivybridge Town	5	0	0	2	1	6	2	0	1	8	3	2	0	3	9	9	0	6
13	St Blazey	7	0	1	1	1	3	1	2	2	7	7	1	3	3	8	10	-2	6
14	Wellington	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	4	5	1	2	2	4	5	-1	5
15	Street FC	5	1	2	1	5	6	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	2	5	8	-3	5
16	Newquay AFC	4	1	1	1	6	6	0	0	1	1	3	1	1	2	7	9	-2	4
17	Brislington	6	0	1	2	0	5	1	0	2	2	5	1	1	4	2	10	-8	4
18	Oldland Abbotonians	5	0	0	2	2	6	1	0	2	2	4	1	0	4	4	10	-6	3
19	Nailsea & Tickenham	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	2	0	4	-4	0
20	AFC St Austell	2	0	0	1	0	7	0	0	1	0	7	0	0	2	0	14	-14	0

LATEST RESULTS

PRM 27/08/2025	AFC St Austell 1st	1-6	Torpoint Athletic 1st
PRM 26/08/2025	Bridgwater United FC 1st	0-1	Wellington 1st
PRM 26/08/2025	Nailsea & Tickenham 1st	0-1	Brislington 1st
PRM 26/08/2025	Newquay AFC 1st	2-2	St Blazey 1st
PRM 26/08/2025	Paulton Rovers FC 1st	1-0	Oldland Abbotonians 1st
PRM 26/08/2025	Saltash United 1st	1-2	Barnstaple Town FC 1st
PRM 26/08/2025	Sidmouth Town 1st	2-1	Buckland Athletic 1st
PRM 26/08/2025	Street FC 1st	1-1	Bradford Town First

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FOXES RESULTS & FIXTURES

Home Team		Away Team	Result	Goalscorer
Street FC	V	Brislington	L 1-0	
Brislington	V	Clevedon Town FC	L 0-2	
Wokingham Tn	V	Brislington	L 3-2	Malpas, Buck
Brislington	V	Sidmouth Town	D 0-0	
Bradford Town	V	Brislington	L 4-1	Buck
Brislington	V	Helston Athletic FC	L 0-3	
Nailsea & Tickenham	V	Brislington	W 0-1	Withey
Brislington	V	Bridgwater United FC		
AFC St Austell	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	Bradford Town First		
St Blazey	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	Nailsea & Tickenham		
Brislington	V	Paulton Rovers FC		
Ivybridge Town	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	AEK Boco First		
Torpoint Athletic	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	Street FC		
Helston Athletic	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	Shepton Mallet		
Brislington	V	Buckland Athletic		
Saltash United	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	AFC St Austell		
Sidmouth Town	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	Barnstaple Town FC		
Brislington	V	Torpoint Athletic		
Brislington	V	Newquay AFC		
Shepton Mallet	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	Wellington		
Oldland Abbotonians	V	Brislington		
Bridgwater United FC	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	St Blazey		
Buckland Athletic	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	Ivybridge Town		
Wellington	V	Brislington		
Barnstaple Town FC	V	Brislington		
Paulton Rovers FC	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	Oldland Abbotonians		
Clevedon Town FC	V	Brislington		
Newquay AFC	V	Brislington		
Brislington	V	Saltash United		

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BS4'S FOOTBALL HEARTBEAT SINCE 1957

The club was established in 1956 as an under-16 team, and initially played in the Bristol Church of England League, winning the Somerset Intermediate Cup in 1961–62 and 1962–63, and the Somerset Junior Cup in 1963–64. By 1965 the club were playing in the Senior Division of the Bristol & Suburban League.

During the 1970s we moved up to the Somerset County League, winning the League Cup in 1976–77, and finishing as runners-up in the Premier Division in 1979–80, 1983–84 and 1984–85.

The club went on to win the Premier Division and the Somerset Senior Cup in 1988–89, and after finishing as runners-up and winning the Senior Cup in 1990–91, they were promoted to Division One of the Western League.

Brislington won the Somerset Senior Cup again in 1992–93, and after a third-place finish in Division One in 1993–94, they won both Division One and the Senior Cup the following season and were promoted

to the Premier Division. After winning the Somerset Premier Cup in 1995–96, the club were Premier Division runners-up in 2002–03 and again in 2012–13.

Due to the escalating travel costs of the Toolstation Western League Premier Division, which forced Odd Down to take voluntary relegation, and with a sideways move to the Hellenic Premier ruled out, the club decided to follow Odd Down's lead and take the step down to the Toolstation Western League Division one.

This proved to be a decisive move as the 2022/23 Season saw the Foxes win the league, scoring 130 goals in the process, and reach the Semi Final of the Les Phillips Cup.

Brislington were unable to return to the Premier Division, although this was a blessing in disguise as that season saw the demise of Ashton & Backwell as a Western league club and Bitton, who failed to fulfil their fixtures, pulling out midway through the season, both falling foul of the increased running costs.

The 2023/24 Season saw the reintroduction of an U18s side as the club look to rebuild a pathway to adult football from within. Unfortunately the season was plagued by poor weather, far too many games were cancelled due to persistent rain, leaving all three teams a far-from-ideal heavily-backloaded schedule. Despite that however, all three teams were to gain a level of success on the pitch.



The first team were promoted back to the Premier Division albeit via the play-offs, after finishing a very disappointing seventh in the table (despite finishing the league's leading goalscorers). However they redeemed themselves by beating Radstock Town away in the semi-final then Wincanton Town away 2-3, where a dramatic second-half comeback saw a two-goal first-half deficit overturned with the winner coming in the 93rd minute, courtesy of Lewis Dunn!!

They also reached the Final of the Somerset Senior Cup although that game wasn't played due to the backlog of league fixtures, both the semi-final and final were due to be played before July 31st 2024!

The reserve team made it to their cup Final. Unfortunately they would lose to opponents Haywood Village, missing out on penalties after the game couldn't be settled in 90 minutes.

The re-emergence of the U18s, lead by John Smallwood, Phil Wiltshire & John Lovell were a revelation, winning their league to gain promotion losing only one game in the process.

More importantly from a club perspective, 10 young players were to feature for the first team, unsurprisingly none looking out of place, with a few excelling, proving the decision to reintroduce an 18s set-up was a very good one.

The 2024/25 season saw Matt Lewton replace John Smallwood and challenge for the league which went down to the final games, eventually missing out, however they did win the Roger Stone Memorial Cup to cap a memorable two years for the group.

The first team were to finish comfortably mid table in their first season back in the Jewson Western Premier League. Unfortunately they would lose long standing manager (and now club legend) Lee Perks who retired from his first team management duties after 10 years at the helm and 18 years at the club as a player, reserve team manager, 1st team assistant manager and ultimately 1st team number one.

Lee is replaced By Ash Kington who will front the campaign for the upcoming season.

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TODAY'S OPPONENT

BRIDGWATER UTD

Early attempts to establish a senior association football club in the rugby stronghold of Bridgwater failed to attract supporters, were beset with financial woes and were thus short-lived. It was not until after the Second World War that solid foundations for a club were finally laid. A group of enthusiasts formed CROWN DYNAMO FC in 1946 based at a public house in St John Street. The team quickly gained a substantial following and became the forerunner of BRIDGWATER TOWN AFC. The purchase of land off Bristol Road for a home ground [Castlefield], the backing of a large supporters' organisation and the support of prominent local businessmen, who became directors enabled the club to flourish. Soon the club owned a portfolio of residential property and was able to offer a house, a job and a good part-time wage to prospective footballers. This enabled the club to attract many ex-Football League professionals and field strong, competitive teams, which enjoyed great success as one of the Western League's leading sides. Two Western League championship mantles, cup final wins and thrilling runs in the FA Cup and FA Trophy were experienced throughout the 1960s, 70s and 80s. In 1982 Bridgwater Town AFC became members of the Southern League. However, it all came to an abrupt end in June 1984 when substantial debts forced the club into voluntary liquidation.

A new club, BRIDGWATER TOWN 1984 FC was quickly established by a band of loyal supporters: and from humble beginnings worked all the way back up from Somerset County League origins to attaining Southern League membership inside a twenty-three year timespan. On the way the club enjoyed a hat-trick of Somerset County League titles, a Screwfix Western League Division 1 championship and two Les Phillips Cup Final wins. As members of the Southern League they reached the Final of the League Cup (2009) and were beaten finalists in the promotion play-offs (2010). However after 2010 leaner times returned, eventually leading to relegation in 2017. Returning to Step 5 level once more, the club remains ambitious, with the aim of competing strongly for the title and regaining its previous status. The club's ambitions received a massive boost during the early part of 2021 as it merged with Yeovil United FC to become BRIDGWATER UNITED FC. Now, with a new club status, ownership and business model, plans are at an advanced stage to make the club a real community asset – not just for the town of Bridgwater but for the whole of Somerset. 2021/22 was a success clinching the Les Phillips Cup with a 1-0 victory over Cadbury Heath at Wells City FC along with a number of other cup wins for the Women's squad and youth teams. Last season tailed off after a fantastic start, reaching the FA Vase Fifth round was the highlight but in front of a decent attendance and with a number of players missing United succumbed to a 1-0 defeat against the eventual winners Ascot United. In the Toolstation Western League the team finished fourth, Mousehole winning the league with Saltash United runners-up and Barnstaple Town 3rd, 6 points above the Robins. Soon after the season finished Adam Murry sold the club to IT entrepreneur Ian Davis who has many exciting plans to take the club forward, in his first season he dismissed manager Dave Pearce replacing him with Bristol City legend Andy Llewellyn. The team finished in a play-off spot but lost at home to Clevedon Town, the third 1-0 defeat against them. Last season was a disappointment for everyone associated with Bridgwater, the Robins finished in the bottom four despite being in the top two in August. Four managers came and went as the side struggled for goals, fifty players wearing the first team shirt. In June Davis appointed former Bristol Manor Farm manager Lee Lashenko to stabilise the club on and off the pitch.



TODAY'S OPPONENT

BRIDGWATER UTD

Louis Smith: Young keeper who started at Bristol Manor Farm and then played for Keynsham Town, spent last season at Corsham Town. One of Lashenko's first signings.

Ben John: Goalkeeping coach who has joined Lee Lashenko from Bristol Manor Farm. Ben has played more than 750 games in his career including the likes of Larkhall, Paulton Rovers, Chippenham Town, Almondsbury and Cinderford Town. Has also previously played for Bridgwater Town.

Mark Armstrong: Captain of the club and a born leader, Mark is an experienced, hardworking, tough tackling midfielder, equally comfortable in central defence, made well over 200 appearances for the Robins so far.

Harry Horton: Powerful 26 year-old midfielder, missed almost the last eighteen months with an ACL injury but returned at the end of last season. A long serving member of the squad, signing from Wells City where he played 37 games scoring 12 times. He has played for Yate Town amongst others.

Finn Hodge: Versatile young defender who came through BMF under 18's to break into the first team last season. The Robins beat off competition from Southern League sides to sign the youngster who came through Bristol City's Foundation side and also played first team football for Mendip Broadwalk.

Haydan Chambers: Young wide player picked up from local football, great turn of pace, has already found the net four times this season.

Jake Llewellyn: Left back approaching 300 games for Bridgwater, returned from Exmouth Town last season and now firmly established in the side. Formerly with Weston-super-Mare.

Jude McCarthy: 20-year-old right back signed from Brislington where he had made 122 appearances. Previously with Hengrove Athletic where he played over 80 games.

Lloyd Mills: Former Bristol Manor Farm centre-back who spent 11 years with the Portwaymen before departing for Roman Glass St George. Has also played for Nailsea & Tickenham and Bishop Sutton.

Josh Ford: Tough tackling centre-back who has joined from Paulton Rovers for whom he has had three spells. Has also played for Frome Town, Melksham Town, Bristol Manor Farm and Willand Rovers.

Joe Teall: Central midfielder signed from Clevedon Town who had signed him from Clevedon United. Played 39 times for the Seaside in 2023/24 scoring 5 times and 41 times last season netting 7 goals.

Regan Lashenko: Highly rated young midfielder who followed his father from BMF. The 19 year old started five games in the Southern League last season, he has also played for Bishop Sutton.

George King: Re-signed from Clevedon Town where he made 43 appearances last season scoring 3 times. Joined The Seaside from Bridgwater last summer after a highly successful season at Fairfax Park. Has also played for BMF, Weston-super-Mare, Yate Town and Larkhall Athletic.

Billy Tucker: Goalscoring midfielder who has joined from Bideford (where he has played over 200 games) and also played for Helston Athletic and Okehampton Argyle last season. 25 games and 5 goals in the Southern League and 2 goals in 10 for Okehampton. Now 30 he has also played for Barnstaple Town and Ilfracombe Town.

Will Hughes: - Defender Hughes can play across the entire back four, primarily from the right-hand side. Far from no nonsense despite his young age, the defender is incredibly calm under pressure. Previous clubs include Bristol Manor Farm, Cribbs and Andover.

Sam Beresford: Striker and the third Seaside to join from Clevedon Town. Scored 45 goals in the last two seasons in the Western League. Joined Clevedon from Uphill Castle for whom he netted 146 goals in 239 games.

Dan Dodimead: Ex-BMF striker who turned down Southern League offers to follow Laz to Bridgwater, scored 9 in 45 games last season and 9 in 24 the previous season. Has also played for Larkhall Athletic and Hengrove.

Freddie King: 21 year old forward Freddie is on loan from Weston-super-Mare who he joined in the Summer from Clevedon Town, where he made over 100 appearances and scored 34 goals for the Seaside in the 24/25 season.

Owen Howe: joined from BMF, prolific centre-forward who achieved legendary status at Tiverton Town making his debut as a 16 year old. Still Tiverton's youngest ever scorer netting against Exeter City in the Devon Cup in 2011. Went on to score 78 goals in 175 games. Has also played for Bideford, Salisbury City (two spells) BMF (three spells) Weston-super-Mare, Taunton Town, Barnstaple Town and Willand Rovers. Scored 8 in 24 games last season.

THE FOXES

JORDAN SCHOFIELD GK
BEN WITHEY
LEWIS DUNN
BILLY WILTSHIRE
ALFIE CLARK
CHARLIE AMES
CALUM EVANS
HARRY TOBIN
OLLIE WILLIAMS
JAY MALPAS
CALLUM PRITCHARD
JAYDEN RADWAY
GEORGE JONES
FREDDIE FRAZER
DANIEL WINSTONE
AMARI MCLEARY
OAKLAN BUCK
DANNY BARWOOD

MANAGEMENT:

MANAGER
ASH KINGTON

ASST MANAGER
GEORGE DORRINGTON

COACH
NEIL GRAYDON

PHYSIO
EVERETT WELCH

TODAYS OFFICIALS

REFEREE: GRACE DICKENS
REFEREES ASSISTANTS: JACK JARMAN-DAVIS – KENNETH COX

MARK ARMSTRONG
SAM BERESFORD
HAYDAN CHAMBERS
DANIEL DODIMEAD
JOSH FORD
FIN HODGE
HARRY HORTON
OWEN HOWE
WILL HUGHES
BEN JOHN
FREDDIE KING
GEORGE KING
REGAN LASHENKO
JAKE LLEWELLYN
JUDE MCCARTHY
LLOYD MILLS
LOUIS SMITH
JOE TEALL
BILLY TUCKER

THE ROBINS

MANAGEMENT:

MANAGER
LEE LASHENKO

ASST MANAGER
GRANTLEY DICKS

COACH
MATT LEWTON

PHYSIO
OWEN WOOD

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