

# THE SQUADS FOR TODAY



AFC Aldermaston		Verwood Town
Squad From	No.	Squad From
Nathanial Knight (GK)		Joe Flachi
Vandyic Addai		Sam Danvers
Fadul Hussein		Sam Hockey
Byron Anderson		Joe White
Liam Springer		Sam Forewaker
Thai Morgan (Capt)		George Richardson
Eldad Adjei		Matthew Davis
Harry Peters		Harrison Whitelaw
Ryan Alexander		Reece Mitchell
Simeon Weekes		Dillon King
Mo Adam		Lee Bradley-Haensel
George Allen (GK)		Liam Ferguson
Charles Appiah		Adam Brazier
Ejiro Shedrach-Abbey		Cameron Smith
Ahmed Zamil		Jack Broad
Sharheim Prince-Graham		Matthew Pope
Jayden Wiggins		Callum McHale
Kartel Forde		Jordan Thornton-Dibben

AFC Aldermaston Manager: Marcus Richardson  
 AFC Aldermaston Ast. Manager: Liam Springer  
 AFC Aldermaston Physio/Coaches: Fabian Coultress, Kelvin Husbands, Matt Desay

Verwood Town Manager: Joe White

Today's Match Referee: Mark McGowan  
 Assistants: Michael Ridge & Ben Knights

# AFC ALDERMASTON



Photo of Ryan Alexander in a recent game credit to Paul Roberts

TODAY'S VISITORS TO THE METTAL STADIUM

VERWOOD TOWN  
 17/04/24  
 KICK-OFF 7:45PM  
 PDF COPY NOT FOR RE-SALE





**AFC Aldermaston  
Football Club**

The Mettal Stadium  
Waterside Park, Crookham Hill  
Thatcham  
Berkshire  
RG19 4PA  
01635 862016



**Club Directory**

**President:** Dave Griffiths  
**Chairman:** Martin Desay  
**Secretary:** Damion Bone  
**Fixture Secretary:** Gareth Dew  
**Programme Editor:** Matt Desay

**1st Team Manager:** Marcus Richardson  
**1st Team Assistant Manager:** Liam Springer  
**1st Team Physio:** Phil Hoyland  
**1st Team Coaches:** Fabian Coultress, Kelvin Husbands, Liam Springer, Matt Desay

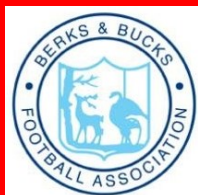
**Reserve Team Manager:** Matt Haines  
**Reserve Team Assistant Manager:** Kyle Bone

**'A' Team Manager:** Gary Bone  
**'A' Team Assistant Manager:** Dave Griffiths

**Members of:**

Berks and Bucks FA  
Velocity Wessex League  
Thames Valley League  
Basingstoke League  
Peter Houseman Youth League  
East Berkshire League

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# Velocity Wessex League Fixtures 16/04/24, 17/04/24 & 18/04/24



DIV1	16/04/24	Fawley AFC		VS		Newport (IoW)
SPC	16/04/24	Ash United		VS		Dorkinians
DIV1	16/04/24	Cove		VS		Andover Town
VWLC	16/04/24	Downton		VS		Hamble Club
DIV1	16/04/24	East Cowes Victoria		VS		Totton & Eling
DIV1	16/04/24	Folland Sports		VS		New Milton Town
DIV1	16/04/24	Hamworthy Recreation		VS		Fleetlands
DIV1	17/04/24	AFC Aldermaston		VS		Verwood Town
DIV1	17/04/24	Whitchurch United		VS		Alresford Town
IOW	18/04/24	East Cowes Victoria		VS		Brading Town
SSC	18/04/24	Fawley AFC		VS		Bashley FC First
DIV1	18/04/24	Hamworthy Recreation		VS		Downton
DIV1	18/04/24	New Milton Town		VS		Ash United
DIV1	18/04/24	Totton & Eling		VS		Fleetlands

## From the Chairman..... Martin Desay



Welcome to Waterside Park and the newly named Mettal Stadium. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to the officials, players, and supporters of Verwood Town FC, and to the match officials for today's game.

Today we meet new opposition at home as we play Verwood Town FC. The fixtures are coming thick and fast now as we try to catch up on our backlog of matches as a result of the very wet weather, which doesn't seem to stop! Hopefully, the weather has improved in the last day or two and the team and their officials have made the trip safely and without incident.

We are now at the 'pointy' end of the season, with clubs at both the top and bottom of the league looking to push on and consolidate and improve their position as the end of the season comes into sight. We are acutely aware of the difficult position we find ourselves in. Its imperative the we start to get some points on the board in the next few games to ease the pressure and get out of the bottom three. The games are coming thick and fast now with 7 games this month, which will really stretch our commitment and resources to the limit. Winning a few games will certainly improve confidence and lighten the load around the team.

We enter this game following a great performance and a 7-2 win against Newport IoW last Saturday. This was a performance that has been coming for a few weeks now, as our performances have been steadily getting better, but without getting any points on the board. Hopefully we can use that win as a springboard for the remaining games, as we try to get out of the bottom end of the table. It was a nice change to see happy faces after the game, and I'm sure our confidence will be high as we go into this next game.

I'm sure the match will be a very lively and competitive game, played in the right spirit with due respect shown by players and supporters to today's match officials. I'm sure AFC will work hard and get a positive result to send us all home in a cheerful mood and good spirits. The best of luck to both teams, for an enjoyable and competitive game.

Please join us in the bar after the game for a post-match drink and chat.

*Martin*





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# LEAGUE STANDINGS

## Combined Counties Division One - 15/04/24

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Hamworthy Recreation	35	32	3	0	140	32	108	99
2	Millbrook	37	28	1	8	140	50	90	85
3	Downton	35	25	6	4	111	42	69	81
4	Alresford Town	36	22	7	7	93	52	41	73
5	East Cowes Victoria	36	19	6	11	74	52	22	63
6	Cove	35	19	6	10	84	78	6	63
7	Fleetlands	33	16	8	9	73	47	26	56
8	Clanfield	38	15	8	15	90	66	24	53
9	Romsey Town	37	15	7	15	94	71	23	52
10	Fawley AFC	36	16	4	16	49	62	-13	52
11	Folland Sports	34	15	6	13	64	70	-6	51
12	Newport (IoW)	36	13	7	16	61	70	-9	46
13	Whitchurch United	36	13	7	16	73	105	-32	46
14	Totton & Eling	31	13	5	13	49	71	-22	44
15	Ringwood Town	38	11	8	19	72	88	-16	41
16	Verwood Town	36	12	5	19	60	81	-21	41
17	Ash United	37	9	7	21	71	88	-17	34
18	Frimley Green	38	10	3	25	58	105	-47	33
19	New Milton Town	35	7	5	23	45	107	-62	26
20	Andover Town	36	5	1	30	39	140	-101	16
21	AFC Aldermaston	35	5	0	30	44	107	-63	15

### Half Time Quiz Answers

Q1. Sevilla

Q2. Luton Town

Q3. West Ham United

Q4. Richard Dunne

Q5. Alan Shearer





# A SHORT HISTORY OF THE CLUB

Our club was founded as AWRE Football Club in 1952 by Charles Green, Ted Hall, Gordon Carter, and Don Sharp, and were nicknamed "The Atom Men" after the newly founded Atomic Weapons Research Establishment. As the AWRE complex was still under construction when the club was established, the players used empty contractors' huts as changing rooms – carrying the tin bath into whichever building was designated for that day's football. The players were also responsible for the pitch, and would mow and mark out the pitch before the match started. The club received support from Sir William Penney during his work at AWRE on the Operation Hurricane project.

In the late 1960s/early 1970s, we changed our name, to AFC Aldermaston. In 1979 we were promoted from the Reading & District League into Division One of the Hellenic League, where we spent the next seven seasons. From 1986 until 1991 we played in local football leagues, including the North Hampshire League, before joining Division Three of the Hampshire League in 1991. We finished fifth in the first season, earning promotion to Division Two. However, we were soon relegated back to Division Three the following season, where we remained until 1999. When the Hampshire League was re-organised prior to the 1999–2000 season, we were placed in the Premier Division.

When the Hampshire and Wessex Leagues merged in 2004, we became members of Division Two of the Wessex League. At the end of the 2004–05 season we suffered relegation. The division was renamed Division Two in 2006, and was disbanded at the end of the 2006–07 season, and as a result we moved up back up to Division One. 2009–10 season, was our worst season and during a very difficult time we lost 40 consecutive games, which broke the previous record of 39 straight losses held jointly by Stockport United and Poole Town. The 40th defeat came on 8 April 2010, a 2–0 loss to Downton. This was undoubtedly the worst time for the club in living memory, and it took a great effort to keep going at this time. The losing streak thankfully came to an end on 10 April 2010, when we club drew 1–1 against Warminster Town, and then finally winning the next match against Petersfield Town 2–1 win for Aldermaston, to provide a much needed boost for all of us at that difficult time.

Unsurprisingly, we finished bottom of Division One with just the one win in 40 matches, and were relegated to the Hampshire Premier League, where played for four seasons before moving to the Thames Valley Premier League for season 2014-15, when we reached the final of the Berks & Bucks Intermediate Cup, which we narrowly lost 2-1 to Hale Leys Utd, the final of the Reading Senior Cup played at the Madjeski which we lost 1 -0 to champions Marlow Utd, and the final of the Basingstoke Senior Cup where we lost to our local rivals Tadley Calleva 2-1 AET. 2015-16 season we finished seventh in the TVPL Premier Division, and again reaching the final of the Reading Senior Cup only to be beaten in a fourth final 1-0 to Cookham Dean. We made a welcome return to Step 6 football as we were promoted to Division One East of the Hellenic League. 2016-17 saw us finish 7th in the Hellenic League this matched our highest ever finish at Step 6 football. 2017-18 season saw us finish 11th in the Hellenic League. 2018-19 season saw us finish 3rd in the Hellenic League this beat 2016-17 seasons highest ever finish. This was well deserved by everyone connected to the club. Also getting to the Reading Challenge Cup Final at the Madjeski Stadium which saw us lose 5-0 to Hellenic Premier League Winners Wantage Town and collecting the runners up medals. We are hoping to improve on last season's 3rd place finish for the 2019-20 season.

The Wessex Football League Show is the official podcast of the Wessex Football League. We are on air live from Awaaz 99.8FM studios & simultaneously on Fiesta 95FM based in Southampton from 14:00 to 16:00 every Sunday and you can also listen live on [www.awaazfm.co.uk](http://www.awaazfm.co.uk) from anywhere in the world. You can listen back again from the following link <https://awaazfm.co.uk/listen-back/wessex-football-league/>

Our aim is to promote all local football but specifically the 40 teams of the Wessex Football League. So far, we have had managers, chairpersons, players, press officers and secretaries joining us as studio guests, and via zoom and phone guests from many Wessex Football League clubs, as well as guests from local teams both higher up and lower down the pyramid.

This is your show and is a platform for your club to promote its events and raise its profile. If your club produces post-match interviews, please either email us a copy of the audio or give permission for us to play them on air straight from your website or social media sites, as we will aim to play them on the show.

Please come and join us one Sunday, we do have access to the two studios so it is easy to accommodate guests in the studio, for more information please email [gregdickson94@gmail.com](mailto:gregdickson94@gmail.com) or [cliffpledge@hotmail.com](mailto:cliffpledge@hotmail.com)

# TODAYS VISITORS

## Club History: Verwood Town FC

Originally believing the club to be formed in the 1920's, we now have information to show that it was formed earlier than this in 1905 and affiliated to the Dorset County FA that same year. Despite the early on-field results, the club flourished and after an initial move to the recreation ground, continued to play home games there until 1986 when it moved to Potterne Park. According to long established club members and ex-players, traveling in and around Dorset by steam train and changing behind well layed hedge rows proved conducive to good team spirit and offered a different slant to country life. During the war years matches were organised against army teams.

De-mob saw ex-players reunited re-establishing it's winning ways bringing minor and junior trophies to the village. Returning also were local hostilities, particularly the annual battle against Cranborne. Memories recall one particular game when police were called from Wimborne to control the crowd and restrain the reverend Williams from striking the referee with his walking stick. Fortunately we don't get that sort of trouble anymore. Moving from Dorset FA to Bournemouth FA gave us a chance to broaden our horizons. The early 1960's saw some of the club officials involved with the villages youth side Rossgarth YFC. These links continued with an increasing number of players (and management) coming through the ranks of local youth football. In 2017 the two clubs merged, cementing their close ties.

An ambitious move to Potterne Park in 1986 and a strong willing committee brought the club in 1989 to Hampshire League football. High league positions achieved and promotion to Hampshire League Division One in 1993. It was during this period that with the growth of the village into a town our new name Verwood Town Football Club was established. In 2004/5 the Wessex League amalgamated with the Hampshire League and formed three new leagues. Verwood Town joined the new Sydenhams Wessex League Division Three.

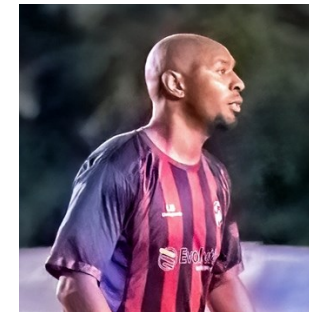
# PLAYER PROFILE

Name: **Liam Springer**

Age: **35**

Position: **Centre Back**

Place of Birth: **Reading**



Favourite Sports (Other than Football): **Boxing but I've started getting into the NFL recently so American Football as well.**

Previous Clubs you were at: **Reading Town.**

What are your best qualities as a Footballer: **Anticipation and reading the game.**

What do you need to improve on? **Fitness maybe but at 35 it is not easy as it used to be.**

Which team do you support? **Arsenal**

Who do you think is the club to keep an eye out this season in the Premier League, Championship or Football League? **Brighton. They are starting to look like a solid team and I think their young striker Ferguson will be a TOP player!**

Who do you model your game on? **I aim to help out the team by being loud and leading by example so I'd say I model myself on someone like Wes Morgan at the end of his Leicester career.**

What is the best thing about football? **The sense of brotherhood in a good squad of different characters.**

What is your favourite food? **Lasagna**

What is your favourite music? **On game days hip hop is always good to get in the mood but my favourite is R'n'B.**



# HALF TIME QUIZ

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE FOOTBALL QUIZ QUESTIONS

- Q1.** Which club with 7 titles has won the UEFA Europa League the most?
- Q2.** Who has the smallest capacity stadium (10,356) in the Premier League?
- Q3.** Which Premier League club in the 2002-03 season achieved 42 points and still got relegated?
- Q4.** Which player holds the record for the most own goals (10) scored in Premier League history?
- Q5.** Which player scoring (260) goals is top of the Premier League record charts?



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## Verwood Town Football Club History Continued

Two seasons and a great deal of effort off the pitch, erecting dugouts, hard standing and stands were rewarded with a third place finish and promotion to the newly renamed Sydenhams League (Wessex) Division One.

Progress continued apace with erection of floodlights, spectator facilities and entries into the FA Vase and later the FA Cup. In 2011/12 promotion to the Sydenhams League Premier Division was achieved. Consolidation with a solid 14th position finish was followed in ensuing seasons largely safe from relegation. Three management changes from 2014 resulted in the First Team entering a more unsettled period which culminated in relegation and a drop to Division 1 for the start of 2017/18 season. The club remains committed to grow and in 2023/24 season new management joined the club bringing in new and fresh ideas and a youthful squad. 2024/25 season will be an interesting one!

### Recent Results

Type	Date / Time	Home Team	Away Team
DIV1	13/04/24 15:00	Frimley Green	Verwood Town
DIV1	11/04/24 19:45	Fleetlands	Verwood Town
DIV1	06/04/24 15:00	Millbrook	Verwood Town
DIV1	30/03/24 15:00	Harworthj Recreation	Verwood Town
DIV1	23/03/24 15:00	Verwood Town	Romsey Town
DIV1	16/03/24 15:00	Verwood Town	Ash United
DIV1	09/03/24 15:00	Verwood Town	Folland Sports

### Club Details

**Full Name:** Verwood Town Football Club

**Nickname:** The Potters

**Founded:** 1905

**Ground:** Potterne Park, Verwood

**League:** Wessex League Division One

**2022-23:** Wessex League Division One (14th of 20) Reference: Wikipedia

# AFC Aldermaston League Fixtures

## Upcoming Fixtures

[ALL FIXTURES >](#)

Type	Date / Time	Home Team	Away Team	Venue
DIV1	17/04/24 19:45	AFC Aldermaston  VS  Verwood Town	WATERSIDE PARK	
DIV1	20/04/24 15:00	AFC Aldermaston  VS  Totton & Eling	WATERSIDE PARK	
DIV1	23/04/24 19:45	Millbrook  VS  AFC Aldermaston	TEST PARK SPORTS GROUND	
DIV1	27/04/24 15:00	Ash United  VS  AFC Aldermaston	ASH UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB	
DIV1	01/05/24 19:45	Whitchurch United  VS  AFC Aldermaston	LONGMEADOW SPORTS CENTRE	

# Around the Club - Basingstoke League Division One AFC Aldermaston 'A'



## League Table

[FULL TABLE DETAIL >](#)

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	North Warnborough	11	9	2	0	45	7	38	29
2	Silchester Village	8	6	1	1	41	7	34	19
3	Basing Utd	10	5	0	5	36	30	6	15
4	CK Andover	11	4	3	4	26	21	5	15
5	Overton Utd Res	11	4	2	5	30	29	1	14
6	AFC Aldermaston A	10	3	1	6	22	61	-39	10
7	Simply Soccer Spartans	11	0	1	10	9	54	-45	1



# Respect



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Good luck for the season ahead.



**Around the Club - Thames Valley Football League**  
**AFC Aldermaston Reserves - Division 3**



**AFC ALDERMASTON**  
**CLUB SPONSORS 2023-24**



**League Table**

[FULL TABLE DETAIL >](#)

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Wraybury Village	16	12	2	2	29	38
2	Taplow United Reserves	15	9	1	5	4	28
3	AFC Winkfield Reserves	13	8	2	3	23	26
4	AFC Aldermaston Reserves	15	8	2	5	3	26
5	Maidenhead Town "A"	14	7	1	6	28	22
6	Harchester Hawks	13	7	1	5	17	22
7	Finchampstead Development	15	3	2	10	-35	11
8	SB Phoenix "A"	16	3	1	12	-34	10
9	Goring United Reserves	15	2	2	11	-35	8





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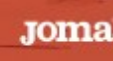
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