

RISELEY SPORTS



ELSTOW ABBEY

Bedfordshire County League
Premier Division 2023-24

Wednesday 10th April, 2024

Kick off 6.15pm

Official Matchday Programme



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HALF-TIME TEASER

1. Which clubs did former Tottenham Hotspur defender Joe Kinnear manage?
2. When were Peterborough United elected to the Football League and what did they achieve in their first season in the competition?
3. What are Arsenal defender/midfielder Ben White's previous clubs including loan spells?
4. Matches between Rangers and Celtic are known as the 'Old Firm Derby'. What is the derby between Norwich City and Ipswich Town known as?
5. Which club plays at the ground pictured?



WHO PLAYS AT THE GROUND PICTURED?

Answers on Page 7


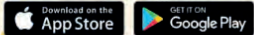


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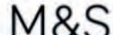









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DO NOT FORGET TO HAVE A DRINK IN THE BAR AFTER THE MATCH WITH THE PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS

FROM THE MANAGER

Welcome to Elstow Abbey for this Bedfordshire County League Premier Division match along with the referee Shabz Hussain.

With the season drawing to a close, it's our final home game of the season. It has been another excellent season for the Sports and I want to thank every one of the lads that have been involved this season for all their hard work and dedication.

We have definitely had an up-and-down campaign with some brilliant performances but some very off-days. However overall it's been very positive year with a good platform to build from for next season with some very good youngsters coming through.

I would like to thank all the committee members, parents and even some of the kids that help out on setting the pitch up before and after every home game. They all do a wonderful job and it's all very much appreciated. Also a special mention to those that help run the bar/village hall during match days and Sporting Targets for providing food after every home game.

It has been a really enjoyable season and on a personal level I would say I'm slightly disappointed in where we'll eventually end up but that's just from knowing how good this group can be and the potential they have.

We'll go again next season and push even harder. Thanks to everyone for all your support throughout the season look forward to seeing you all one last time, before the summer break, at Gold Street to cheer the lads on.

James Woolf



Riseley Sports Officials

President: Nigel Gell
Vice President: Andrew Clifton
Chairman: David Balderstone
Club Secretary: Andrew Groom
Treasurer: Andrew Gell
Manager: James Woolf
Assistant Manager: Jason Woolf
Welfare Officers: James Cooke, Jay Willett
Kit Manager: Sam Langley
Assistant Kit Manager: Georgina Wallace
Marketing Manager: Nigel Rees

Committee Members: David Balderstone, Andrew Gell, Andrew Groom, James Cooke, Jordan Harris, James Woolf, Nigel Rees, Paul Brown, John Cappa, Jay Willett

REES GRIPS

FILM & TV CAMERA MOVEMENT

THE 100

FOOTBALL SCRATCH CARD



Choose a team from the 100 clubs listed and pay your entry, it's as simple as that. The winning team will be revealed once all teams are sold. Five chances to win! Prizes for 2nd and 3rd place will be drawn at random.



£5 PER TEAM



1ST: £100
2ND X2: £50
3RD X2: £25



HOW TO ENTER

- Home Matchdays: Card or Cash Payments available at the ground
- None Home Matchdays: Message, email or WhatsApp us for bank transfer details using your chosen team as reference
- All winners will be contacted on completion of the draw

Riseleysportsfc@mail.com Whatsapp: 07398924390



FOR LIST OF CLUBS SEE PAGE 5



The 100 Football Scratch Card



1. Newcastle	26. Bournemouth	51. Hull City	76. Rochdale
2. Chelsea	27. Leyton Orient	52. Bristol City	77. Bristol Rov.
3. Everton	28. Fleetwood	53. Bury	78. Wycombe
4. Fullham	29. Huddersfield	54. Crew Alex.	79. Northampton
5. Liverpool	30. Rangers	55. Wimbledon	80. Hearts
6. Man Utd	31. Derby	56. Chesterfield	81. York City
7. Norwich	32. Bolton	57. Hartlepool	82. Charlton
8. QPR	33. Oldham Ath.	58. Tonquay Utd	83. Brentford
9. Southampton	34. Nottingham F	59. Shrewsbury	84. Crawley
10. Stoke	35. Coventry City	60. Mansfield	85. Forest Green
11. Birmingham	36. Cheltenham	61. Ipswich	86. Gateshead
12. Barnsley	37. Tranmere	62. Burnley	87. Oxford Utd
13. Man City	38. Southend	63. Notts County	88. Lincoln City
14. Aston Villa	39. Watford	64. Sheffield Utd	89. Reading
15. Wigan Ath	40. Luton	65. Colchester utd	90. Motherwell
16. West Ham	41. Wrexham	66. Port Vale	91. Middlesbrough
17. WBA	42. Brighton	67. Stevenage	92. Crystal Palace
18. Tottenham	43. Yeovil	68. Morecambe	93. MK Dons
19. Swansea	44. Sheffield Wed	69. Bradford City	94. Scunthorpe
20. Sunderland	45. Preston NE	70. Newport Co.	95. Carlisle
21. Blackburn	46. Plymouth	71. Leeds	96. Exeter City
22. Blackpool	47. Swindon	72. Cardiff City	97. Bruton Albion
23. Millwall	48. Gillingham	73. Walsall	98. Rotherham
24. Peterborough	49. Doncaster Rov	74. Barnet	99. Celtic
25. Aldershot	50. Aberdeen	75. Portsmouth	100. Leicester

SCRATCHCARD INSTRUCTIONS SEE PAGE 4

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

2023-24 SEASON

FIX	DATE	OPPOSITION	COMP	KO/ RES	POS	1	2	3	4	5
M1	Sep 02	Marston Shelton Rovers	BCL	1-3	-	Lewin	E.Harris	K.Cooper	Willett	Hislop
M2	Sep 09	Queens Park Crescents	BCL	0-6	13	Lewin	J.Harris	K.Cooper	O.Crook	Hislop
M3	Sep 16	Stotfold Development	BCL	1-4	13	Austin	J.Harris	K.Cooper	O.Crook	Knight
M4	Sep 23	Caldecote	BCL	0-1	13	Austin	Spavins	K.Cooper	Marler	Knight
M5	Sep 30	Sharnbrook	BCL	VV		Austin	Spavins	K.Cooper	J.Harris	Knight
M6	Oct 07	Biggleswade Utd Res	BCL	4-5	12	Austin	Bennett ¹	K.Cooper	J.Harris ¹	Knight
M7	Oct 14	Flitwick Town	BCL	3-1	11	Austin	Spavins	E.Harris	J.Harris	Knight
M8	Oct 28	AFC Oakley	ART	1-6	-	Austin	Poole	Bennett	J.Harris	Hislop
M9	Nov 04	AFC Oakley	BCL	1-8	12	Austin	Spavins	O.Crook	J.Harris	Hislop
M10	Nov 11	Shefford TC Res	BC	2-2	-	Watson	Spavins	K. Cooper	J.Harris	Knight
M11	Nov 18	Biggleswade FC Res	BCL	4-1	11	Austin	Spavins	K.Cooper	J.Harris ¹	Knight
M12	Nov 25	Crawley Green Res	BCL	1-2	11	Watson	Simmons	K.Cooper	J.Harris	Knight
M13	Dec 16	The 61 FC Luton	CST	0-1	-	Austin	Spavins	K.Cooper	J.Harris	Hislop
M14	Jan 06	Elstow Abbey	BCL	0-6	12	Austin	Bennett	K.Cooper	J.Harris	Hislop
M15	Jan 13	Marston Shelton Rovers	BCL	3-0	11	Austin	Bennett ²	K.Cooper	J.Harris	Hislop
M16	Jan 27	AFC Kempston TH	BCL	4-0	8	Austin	Spavins ¹	K.Cooper	J.Harris	Hislop
M17	Feb 03	Queens Park Crescents	BCL	2-3	11	Austin	Spavins	K.Cooper	J.Harris	Hislop
M18	Feb 10	Stotfold Development	BCL	0-3	11	Austin	Bennett	K.Cooper	J.Harris	Hislop
M19	Feb 17	Shefford TC Reserves	BCL	1-0	10	Austin	Bennett	K.Cooper	Spavins	Hislop
M20	Feb 24	Biggleswade FC Reserves	BCL	4-2	9	Austin	Bennett ¹	K.Cooper	Willett	Hislop
M21	Mar 09	Biggleswade Utd Reserves	BCL	3-2	8	Austin	Bennett	K.Cooper	Knight	Hislop
M22	Mar 16	Caldecote	BCL	0-3	9	Austin	Bennett	K.Cooper	Knight	Hislop
M23	Mar 23	Crawley Green Reserves	BCL	2-3	10	Watson	H.Johnson	E.Harris	Knight	Hislop
M24	Mar 30	Flitwick Town	BCL	1-2	10	Austin	Spavins	E.Harris	Prior	Hislop
M25	Apr 06	AFC Oakley	BCL	1-5	10	Austin	Spavins	K. Cooper	J. Harris	Hislop
M	Apr10	Elstow Abbey	BCL	6.15						
M	Apr 17	Shefford Town Campton Res	BCL	7.30						
M	Apr27	AFC Kempston Town Hamm	BCL	3.00						

OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

☐ Riseley Gardening Club are holding an **Open Day** at the Riseley Community Hub, adjacent to HP Motors garage in High Street Riseley, on Saturday 20th April from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

☐ The Riseley-based Early Risers Choir are performing at the Riseley Community Hub on Saturday 11th May at 11.30am. It will be a 'Share A Song' session. There will be a variety of songs and you will have the opportunity to sing along with the choir.



**IF YOU SEE IT
OR HEAR IT,
REPORT IT.**

"It' is discrimination, in all its forms. Racism. Homophobia, Misogyny. Disablism. If you have seen it or heard it, follow the QR code to report it to Kick it Out. Together, we can put an end to it.



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Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Hampshire, England Follow us on social media and get involved with our #loveitall campaign!

Riseley Sports v Elstow Abbey

BOLD FIXTURES - HOME GAMES
(1,2) - GOALS SCORED

6	7	8	9	10	11	S	S	S	FIX	
Simmons	Keech	M.Crook 1	Taylor	Donald	Cooke	Blades	O.Cooper	OCrook	Henman	M1
Simmons	Keech	M.Crook	Taylor	Donald	Cooke	Henman				M2
Simmons	Keech	M.Crook 1	Bennett	Donald	Willett	Henman	Spavins			M3
Hislop	Keech	M.Crook	Bennett	Donald	Willett	Blades	EHarris	JHarris		M4
Hislop	Keech	M.Crook	Bennett	Donald	Simmons 1	EHarris, Henman, Taylor, Willett				M5
Hislop	Keech	M.Crook 1	Taylor 1	Donald	Simmons	Bolton	Henman			M6
Hislop	Keech	M.Crook	Taylor 1	Willett 1	Simmons	Cooke 1	Henman			M7
Marler	Keech	M.Crook	Cooke	Willett	Donald	Simmons	Spavins	Taylor 1		M8
Simmons	Keech	M.Crook	Taylor	Willett	Bennett 1	Watson, Henman				M9
Hislop	Keech	Simmons	Taylor	Donald 1	Bennett 1	Cooke, O.Crook, Henman				M10
Hislop	Keech	Willett 1	Taylor 1	Donald 1	Bennett	Cooke, E.Harris, Simmons				M11
Hislop	Keech	M.Crook	Taylor	Donald 1	Willett	Henman				M12
Bennett	Keech	M.Crook	Taylor	Donald	Willett	Henman, Cooke, O. Crook, Field				M13
Knight	Keech	M.Crook	Cooke	Donald	Willett	Taylor, O.Crook, Field				M14
Marler	Keech	Willett 1	Taylor	Donald	Cooke	M.Crook	Field, Henman, Jermyn			M15
Marler	Keech 2	Willett	Bennett	Donald 1	Bolton	Field, Harding, Harrison, Henman, Simmons				M16
Bennett 1	Keech	Willett	Taylor 1	Donald	Cooke	Henman, Simmons, Poole				M17
Knight	Keech	Simmons	Taylor	Donald	Cooke	M.Crook, Field				M18
Knight	Keech	Raines	Taylor 1	Donald	Cooke	,Field, Simmons, Willett				M19
Simmons	Keech	Raines	Taylor 1	Donald 1	Dallas	,Cooke, Field, 1 Spavins				M20
Simmons	Keech	Raines 1	Taylor 1	Donald	Cooke 1	Willett, Field, Spavins				M21
Simmons	Keech	Raines	Taylor	Spavins	Dallas	Willett, Field, Cooke, Goodfellow, KJohnson				M22
Simmons	Keech	Raines	Taylor 2	O.Crook	Willett	Field,, KJohnson				M23
Simmons	Keech	Raines	Taylor 1	Cooke	Willett	M.Crook, J.Harris				M24
Simmons	Bolton	Raines 1	Taylor	Cooke	Williams	M.Crook, O. Crook				M25

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THE DAILY GRUNCH
SERVING VILLAGE COMMUNITIES IN NORTH BEDFORDSHIRE

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For Riseley Sports Club
10th April 2024
Email: dailygrunch@outlook.com
Web: www.grassrootpublication.co.uk

JULIA JARMAN
BOOK SIGNING
SEE PAGE 9

THEATRE
COVERAGE
SEE PAGES 30-32

SPORTS
COVERAGE
SEE PAGES 33-35

HALF TIME TEASER ANSWERS

1. Al-Shabab (assistant manager), India, Nepal, Doncaster Rovers (caretaker), Wimbledon, Luton Town, Nottingham Forest, Newcastle.
2. 1960. Peterborough United won the Fourth Division in their first season scoring a Football League record 134 goals.
3. Brighton & Hove Albion, Newport County (loan), Peterborough United (loan), Leeds United (loan).
4. The derby between Norwich City and Ipswich Town is known as the 'Old Farm Derby'.
5. Watford

INCLUDES THE BIG MATCH AND LOCAL FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

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RISELEY SPORTS
BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION
2023-24 Appearances and Goalscorers

	League			Cup			Total		
	Starts	Sub	Goals	Starts	Sub	Goals	Starts	Sub	Goals
Andrew Field		9	1		1			10	1
James Cooke	11	3	2	1	1		12	4	2
Koron Cooper	18			2			20		
Mitchell Crook	10	4	3	2			12	4	3
Lewis Donald	16		4	3		1	19		5
Elliot Harris	4	3					4	3	
Jake Hislop	20			3			23		
Aaron Keech	21		2	3			24		2
Jamie Simmons	15	4	1	1	1		16	5	1
Alex Taylor	18	2	10	2	1	1	20	3	11
Jay Willett	14	4	3	2			16	4	3
Tarik Dallas	2						2		
Ryan-Lee Prior	1						1		
Owen Crook	4	3			1		4	4	
Harvey Johnson	1						1		
Jordan Harris	14	2	2	3			17	2	2
George Austin	18			2			20		
Daniel Bennett	14		6	3		1	17		7
Patrick Knight	13			1			14		
Freddie Spavins	10	3	1	2	1		12	4	1
Reece Williams	1						1		
Harley Goodfellow		1						1	
Kyle Johnson		2						2	
Bradley Raines	7		2				7		2

Thomas Lewin 2; Liam Bolton 2 (1); Lewis Blades 1 (1); O'Shea Cooper (1); Terry Watson 3(1); Jesse Harding (1); James Jermyn (1); Josh Poole 1 (1); Sam Henman (9); Sam Harrison (1); Matt Marler 4

VISITING GOLD STREET

ELSTOW ABBEY

It was a memorable 2022-23 season for Elstow Abbey when they completed a Bedfordshire County League Premier Division and Britannia Cup double.

They were unable to take up the chance of promotion to the Spartan South Midlands

League with Cranfield United going up instead.

The Abbey have not been able to reach the same heights but have a good chance of finishing in the top three of the Premier Division.

They also reached the final of

the Bedfordshire County FA Senior Trophy but suffered a 4-2 defeat against Spartan South Midlands League outfit Totternhoe.

After trailing 2-0 at half-time Abbey improved after the break with Kye Andrews and James Copley netting.

BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE ROUND-UP

Sharnbrook Football Club will be hosting a Memorial and Charity Match as a tribute to two of its legendary members Mark Singleton and Nick Cook.

The special match will take place on **Sunday 14th April** at Lodge Road, Sharnbrook with a 10.30am kick-off. There will be a raffle and an auction of promises while the Sharnbrook Sports and Social Club will be open for food and drink. Money raised from the day will go towards Parkinsons UK and Cancer Research UK.

☐ AFC Oakley continued their recent fine form in the **Bedfordshire County League Premier Division** when they clinched a 5-1 victory over Riseley Sports on **6th April**. Joel Ives netted twice for AFC Oakley while their other goals came from Emojiseoluwa Bankole and Chisom Amadi. Bradley Raines replied for the visitors.

Leaders Stotfold Development edged to a 2-1 victory over Elstow Abbey while Caldecote had a 2-0 win against Crawley Green Reserves.

BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION 2023-24

Supported by Sportsform

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Stotfold Development ..	23	18	2	3	52	56
Caldecote	17	15	1	1	37	46
Elstow Abbey	17	12	2	3	35	41
AFC Oakley	19	11	2	6	38	35
Biggleswade Utd Res..	21	10	2	9	12	32
Flitwick Town	22	9	4	9	-11	31
Marston Shelton Rov...	23	8	5	10	-10	29
Biggleswade FC Res...	20	8	2	10	-4	26
Crawley Green Res.....	20	8	1	11	1	25
Riseley Sports.....	21	7	0	14	-24	21
Queens Park Cres.....	18	4	5	9	-14	17
Shefford TC Res.....	18	5	1	12	-20	16
AFC Kempston TH	20	0	1	19	-92	1
Sharnbrook.....	0	0	0	0	0	0

As at 9th April

FIXTURES

Wednesday 10th April

League

Biggleswade FC v Reserves v Caldecote
Riseley Sports v Elstow Abbey
Shefford TC Res v Crawley Green Res

Saturday 13th April

League

AFC Oakley v Flitwick Town
Biggleswade FC Res v AFC Kempston TH
Caldecote v Biggleswade Utd Reserves
Marston Shelton Rovers v Elstow Abbey
Queens Park Crescents v Crawley Green Res
Shefford TC Res v Stotfold Development



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Fund raising event for
Riseley Sports Football Club

Cash prizes to be won!
FREE Entry!
Cash only at the Tote!
Large screen video race night



**BAR & BURGER VAN
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FIRST RACE 7PM**

THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER



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Footballers are often accused of forgetting their roots but that's not necessarily a fair reflection of the reality.

Even this week, Aston Villa striker – and England Euro 2024 hopeful – Ollie Watkins took time out of his end of season run-in schedule to watch Truro City take on Torquay United in the National League South.

Watkins' mate Connor Riley-Lowe is Truro captain and the 28-year-old went along to show his support.

The pair played together at Exeter City but Watkins is no stranger to non-league football following a loan spell at Weston-super-Mare a few years back before his career really took off in the EFL and, these days, beyond.

Of course, non-league is a haven for former top flight footballers, FA Cup winners and ex-internationals – many enjoy winding down their careers on the pitch or go into management at the level. Some even enjoy great success.

Others choose to focus on getting involved with a club off the pitch too. It will be interesting to see how many look to go that route in the future.

Former Crystal Palace winger Wilf Zaha is now involved with AFC Croydon Athletic – alongside British rap star Stormzy – and watched their Combined Counties League game at Camberley Town on Tuesday night.

In last week's NLP, Tony Incenzo wrote a revealing piece with QPR defender Steve Cook and his involvement with Sussex-based outfit Westfield.

The Mid Sussex League side are dreaming of climbing the Pyramid over the coming

seasons with Cook happy to be helping out.

"Hastings is my home town," the former Bournemouth man told Tony. "My mum and dad still live there. Westfield is only five minutes down the road and it is a lovely little village. Hopefully I can raise the club's profile to push them forward.

"I decided to get involved because my close friend Jack Stapley and his family have been running Westfield for a while. I'd often spoken to Jack about the club and a lot of my friends play non-league. So I said to Jack: 'Oh, if you ever need a hand or want me to help out then just let me know.' And he replied: 'Yeah!'

"I've always taken an interest in life below the EFL. When I was a young Brighton player, I went out on loan to non-league clubs at Havant & Waterlooville, Eastleigh, Eastbourne Borough and Mansfield Town - who were then in the Conference

"It benefitted me a great deal. I came up against tough adult opponents rather than other youth players. It was a major influence on my early development and even the way I play football nowadays."

And Cook recognises the important role non-league football plays in the English game.

He added: "It is rewarding for me to give something back to the game. Yes I am playing for Queens Park Rangers but I regularly chat to other Westfield officials via Zoom meetings which keep me in the loop.

"I firmly believe our non-league ranks play a huge part for any aspiring footballers who want to go far."

Non League Paper Team

THE TEAMS

Wednesday 10th April



**RISELEY
SPORTS**

Sky Blue

**SAM SEUKE (GK)
JORDAN HARRIS
REECE WILLIAMS
JAY WILLETT
MITCHELL CROOK
LIAM BOLTON
AARON KEECH
JAKE HISLOP
JAMIE SIMMONS
KYLE JOHNSON
FREDDIE SPAVINS**

**KORON COOPER
OWEN CROOK
BRADLEY RAINES
ALEX TAYLOR
JAMES COOKE**

Manager

James Woolf

Referee: Shabz Hussain

NEXT AT GOLD STREET

**RISELEY SPORTS WISH OUR SUPPORTERS A
PLEASANT SUMMER AND SEE YOU NEXT SEASON**

**ELSTOW
ABBEY**



Black + White

**LUKE PELL
TOBY WILLIAMS
WESTLEY LEWIS
CRAIG DAMON
JAMES COPLEY
JOEL SIMPSON
KYE ANDREWS
AARON JONES
DAN MATTIN
JUSTIN NEWMAN
LEWIS PARKIN**

**OLLY DUNKLEY
STEVE GENTLE
ARTUR SLOWINSKI
IAN SINGA
DANIEL PARKIN**

Joint Managers

Tony Milioti, Kevin Poulton

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