

The Official Matchday Programme of

# Sevenoaks Town Vs Ashford United



**Pitching In Isthmian South East Division**

**Saturday October 16th: Season 2021/2022: Issue 7**



**Respect**



MANAK  
SOLICITORS



PARTNERS WITH





# In today's programme ...

**4-7 A history of Ashford United**  
 The Nuts and Bolts have been around for a long time, but reformed as Ashford United as recently as 2011



**9 The Non-League Paper Column**  
 Enjoy the FA Cup in the early rounds, when it still holds its magic



## Sevenoaks Town Info

**Chairman and Director:** Paul Lansdale  
**Secretary and Director:** Sam Lansdale  
**Directors:** Kevin Marsh, Ray Miles, Frank Le Sibirel  
**Committee Members:** Dan Thomas, Michael Tapp  
**Match Secretary:** As chairman  
**Safety Officer:** Ray Miles  
**Club Welfare Officer:** As chairman  
**Covid-19 Officer:** As chairman  
**Equality and Diversity Officer:** Michael Tapp  
**Press Officer/ PA announcer:** Andrew Gidley  
**Club Photographer, App and Social Media:** Adam Beaumont  
**Video Analyst:** Josh Hill  
**First Team Manager:** Micky Collins  
**Coaches:**  
 Julian Leigh  
 Jason Bourne  
 Terry Groom  
**Physio:** Jade Shaw

**Club Address:**  
 The Bourne Stadium,  
 Mill Lane,  
 Sevenoaks,  
 Kent.  
 TN14 5BX

**Twitter** @Sevenoakstownfc  
**Website:** www.sevenoakstownfc.co.uk  
**Instagram** sevenoakstownfc  
**Email** info@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk

**Sevenoaks Town Football Club Limited: Registered in England No. 07298016**  
**Registered Charity No. 113763**

**10**  
**Player Profile**

Conrad Lee is the man in the hot seat this week: he talks to Andrew Gidley

**14-15**  
**Permission Granted!**

STFC get the green light to transform Greatness Park



# Ashford United History

Senior football has been played in Ashford since 1881, but the present incarnation of Ashford United is relatively new, having been formed in 2011, after Ashford Town went into administration.

Under FA rules the 'new' Ashford United were not permitted to re-join the league where their predecessors had left-off: for their inaugural season of 2011-12 they were placed into 'step 6' football in the newly formed Kent Invicta League.

Initially the club appointed former Town manager Tony Reynolds as manager for the 2011-12 season but owing to personal commitments he stepped aside and Paul Chambers took up the reins. After an indifferent start to their first season results improved over the second half and the team finished in fifth position.

Their finishing position improved two places in the 2012-13 season to third, with the new "United" setting a record with six straight league victories, which was just two less than the eight match winning streak twice achieved by Ashford Town, the side actually went unbeaten in their first twelve league games. An individual player record as United was also established with forward Mo Takalo (full name

Takalobighashi) scoring in each of these six matches.

Although only the teams finishing in the top two positions were eligible for automatic promotion to the Kent League, Ashford United were awarded promotion instead of the second placed club Hollands & Blair, as Ashford had the facilities and ground grading in place in order to take the promotion.

During the close season the Kent League renamed itself as the Southern Counties East Football League. The names of opposing clubs were more familiar to long-time Ashford supporters than in the previous league with clubs from Canterbury, Deal and Tunbridge Wells as opponents.

After a positive start on the pitch to the 2013-14 season it was announced in November 2013 by owner Tony Betteridge that he had relinquished his ownership of the club and the Homelands freehold to a company whose director was the wife of Don Crosbie – the director he had fought for ownership of the club back in 2010.

In the 2013-14 season's cup competitions the team reached the last 32 of the FA Vase competition and reached the Final of

## Previous Names

Ashford United (1891 to 1906-07, recorded expunged after 10 matches of season)  
Ashford Railway Works (1909-10 to 1927-28)  
Ashford Town (1930-31 to 2009-10)\*

\*Kent League tables to season 1949-50 list team as Ashford

## Previous Grounds

Rear of Victoria Hotel  
Godinton Road  
Newtown

Essella Park (1930 to 1987)  
Cheriton Road, Folkestone (1987 to 1989) –

## Highest Attendance

6525 at Essella Park v Crystal Palace – FA Cup 1st Round 1959  
3363 at The Homelands v Fulham – FA Cup 1st Round 1994

## Highest Goalscorers (Ashford Town)

Dave Arter – 197

## Highest Goalscorers (Ashford United)

Shaun Welford – 85

**Most goals in a single season** (Both Town & United)

Shaun Welford – 48 (2016-2017)

## Most Appearances (Town)

Peter McRobert – 765

## Most Appearances (United)

Pat Kingwell – 180

## Biggest Win

15-0 v Erith & Belvedere – 28 April 1937 Kent League

11-2 v Folkestone Town – 1946-47 Kent League

## Heaviest Defeat

3-14 Folkestone Reserves – 1933-34 Kent League

League

## Highest Fee Paid

£7,000 for Jeff Ross & Dave Arter – Sittingbourne 1994

## Highest Fee Received

£25,000 for Jeff Ross & Dave Arter – Hythe Town 1990

## Highest Fee Received (individual)

£20,000 for Lee McRobert – Sittingbourne 1993

# Ashford United History

the Kent Senior Trophy played at Tonbridge, where they lost 0-4 to Beckenham Town. During a good campaign Ashford went on a 10 match winning league run from 14 September 2013 to 18 February 2014 and United topped their league around Christmas 2013.

However fixture congestion due to their cup exploits saw a slight dip in form with the team having to play three games a week in the closing weeks of the season and they finished in second position.

The following season was in some ways a re-run of the previous one with a last 32 appearance in the FA Vase and a runners-up finish in the league. A return including seven draws and two defeats in the first sixteen league matches meant the 'Nuts and Bolts' were always playing catch-up to eventual 2014-15 league winners Phoenix Sports. The team did though put together a run of thirteen successive victories and were the only club to record a league victory over the league champions, but in the end Phoenix proved worthy champions by an eight-point margin.

A noteworthy occurrence of the season was the breaking of the Ashford club post-war single season goalscoring record by Stuart Zanone (who signed seven competitive games into the season) with 47 goals in 35 appearances.

Stuart was also the winner of the league Golden Boot award for the season. Included in his record haul was a club record all seven goals in a 7-0 victory over Lingfield. The previous club season goalscorer record had been established by Alan Morton playing for Ashford Town forty-two years previously.

The incredible goalscoring season by Zanone was a dream for a football statistician, as not only did he surpass Morton's 46 goal haul, he also beat Mo Takalo's new "United" record by scoring in seven successive appearances from 8 November 2014 to 27 December 2014. Overall, he also found the net in 11 consecutive league appearances (18 Oct 2014 to 28 February 2015), as well as scoring 28 goals in 11 consecutive away games, a run started on 18 October 2014 which ended with his one-man seven goal show at Lingfield on 24 March 2015.

As the 2014-15 season ended the club

announced that the natural grass pitch at the Homelands (which had a history of poor drainage leading to postponed fixtures) was to be replaced during the close season with a synthetic 3G playing surface – this mooted as being the first stage of a sports village redevelopment plan to ensure a steady source of income for the club owners.

The installation of the new pitch was delayed owing in part to Operation Stack which caused the delay in delivery of materials required for construction of the pitch.

As a result, several early 2015-16 season home fixtures for both United and tenants Canterbury City were postponed.

These on-going disputes detracted from an otherwise more than satisfactory 2015-16 season on the pitch – albeit it was without silverware. It actually started inauspiciously when after just two games of the season, the manager Paul Chambers was relieved of his duties after four years and 171 matches in charge following a heavy 1-5 loss in the FA Cup to fellow SCEFL side Cray Valley PM on 15 August 2015. Former Ashford Town defender Danny Lye – who had returned to the Homelands as a player in December 2014 – was duly appointed as player-manager until the end of the season.

After a run of four defeats and two draws over his first ten league matches whilst he re-fashioned his squad Lye saw only two more league defeats and 18 victories in the remaining 25 league matches to see the team finish third in the table (which would have been second, nine points behind winners Greenwich Borough had it not been for the ten points deduction). The club went two rounds better than previously in the FA Vase: after a replay win away in the north-east at Gateshead based Northern League Dunston UTS they reached the last eight before being eliminated by former Southern League rival Salisbury. It was heartbreak once again in the Kent Senior Trophy final though where the 'nuts and bolts' lost out in a penalty shoot-out 6-7 to Sheppey United in the final.

The previous season's top scorer Stuart Zanone left early in the season but his record of scoring in seven consecutive matches was eclipsed by veteran forward



# Ashford United History

Shaun Welford who had been brought in as player-assistant manager from Hythe Town). He strung together a run of scoring in nine consecutive matches, which was last achieved in Ashford colours by Lee McRobert for the former Town side during season 1999–2000. Welford also finished as club top scorer, netting on 37 occasions: 31 league plus six cup goals.

The club began the 2016–17 season with the legal dispute from the previous campaign unresolved. Against this backdrop the returning player coach Danny Lye put together a strong squad with many players returning from the previous campaign and with several strong additions.

On the pitch the team challenged all season at the top of the SCEFL Premier Division. In a pivotal match at the Homelands at the start of April they defeated their closest rivals in the table Crowborough Athletic. It was the only defeat the Crows suffered all season on their travels and although they had established a one-nil lead, a hat-trick from Rory Hill saw the Nuts and Bolts triumph.

It put the clubs level on points but crucially Ashford had a superior goal difference and victories in the remaining five matches of the campaign meant they clinched the SCEFL Premier League title and promotion to Division One South of the Isthmian League.

There was also success in the Kent Senior Trophy where after twice in previous years being runners-up United lifted the trophy with a 2–1 win (both goals from Shaun Welford) over Cray Valley PM on neutral turf at Maidstone.

With the legal/stadium disputes settled and promotion achieved the close of the 2016–17 season saw the team return to where their forerunners Ashford Town had been when they ceased existence seven years previously, in the Isthmian League.

Any thoughts of a successful season were quickly extinguished with defeats in the first two games which led to the club

parting company with manager Danny Lye and subsequent departure of experienced players.

Youth team coach Jason Whitmore was appointed manager but having to rebuild the squad – and in the interim fielding inexperienced youth team players – led to a continued run of poor results including an autumn run of 12 league matches without a win (10 losses; 2 draws). During January the club appointed experienced former manager of Greenwich Borough Gary Alexander[48] as Whitmore's assistant with a plan for the former to take over as manager the following season.

There was a significant turnover of players with 78 players donning the club's jersey over the season; the highest appearance by any player was 32

(Jonathan Difford and Pat Kingwell); 31 players played in 3 or fewer matches; there were 21 goalscorers with Max Watters topping the list with 8 (from 27 appearances).

The previous season had been one of positive records this one featured negatives: in conceding a record 111 goals over the league campaign it was the first time that in excess of over 100 had been conceded by either Town or United; the goal difference of negative 51 was similarly an unwanted

record; the 28 league losses was the worst since the record 29 in the 1997–98 campaign; the Nuts and Bolts 9–1 defeat at Cray Wanderers was the record league-wide scoring/winning margin match of the season. The team finished 21st from 24 clubs in the league and thus maintained their league status.

With Gary Alexander in position as manager the 2018–19 season started well with three wins. This though was followed by a league run of five defeats and two draws and early exit from FA Cup and Trophy competitions. Three successive wins in November looked to have got the team back on track and seventh in the table but the manager was sacked at the end of November.



## Tommy: The man in charge

With a playing career spanning 20 years, Tommy Warrilow has enjoyed professional football at Millwall and Torquay United in England. He has also played overseas in Australia and Finland. Starting out at semi-professional level, he cut his teeth at Maidstone United and then went on to play for Canterbury City, Tonbridge Angels, Gravesend & Northfleet, Crawley Town, Sittingbourne, Hythe Town, Ashford Town and Leatherhead before finishing his playing career at Horsham where he moved into a management role. Warrilow's career highlights include making his Football League debut and also being sold by Crawley to Hythe town for £15,000, which at the time represented a Sussex non-league record. He has captained an England FA Eleven and won promotion



four times with four different clubs.

During his two seasons as a player with Ashford Town, in 1995/96 and 1996/97, centre-half Warrilow made a total of 90 appearances, scoring 17 goals. During the 1995/96 season, he was a key part of the team that finished as runners-up and earned promotion to the Dr Martens Premier League. Warrilow was also an influ-

ential part of the Ashford Town team that enjoyed famous FA Cup runs under then manager Neil Cugley. During the 1995/96 season, the club reached the First Round before losing to Bognor Regis Town in a replay. The following season saw the Nuts & Bolts reach the second round, before losing at Watford.

Outside of playing, Warrilow has been involved in football management for 19 years, starting as a player manager at Leatherhead before moving to Horsham to join his old boss at Crawley as Assistant Manager where he remained for over three years. Upon leaving Horsham, Warrilow enjoyed seven years managing Tonbridge Angels. A stint managing Cray Wanderers and Thame-smead Town followed, before he was appointed Manager of Ashford United

He was immediately replaced by Tommy Warrilow. Under the new manager the team achieved a fourth-placed finish in the league and a promotion play-off spot. Danny Parish was top scorer over the league campaign with 24 goals from the 26 games he played, with Sam Corne second with 15. In the play-off semi-final the Nuts and Bolts played on a Monday night in front of 1,123 spectators at Hastings United and ran out 3–2 victors; twice coming from a goal behind with strikes from Jay May and Sam Corne and the latter additionally converted a penalty one minute from the end of extra time for the deciding goal.

In the promotion final Ashford lost 2–1 after extra-time away at Horsham although even had they won, owing to the arrangement of the 'step four' play-off scheme they would not have not been promoted.

The 2019–20 and 2020–21 seasons were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with both seasons fore-shortened and

no promotion or relegation. The club rode high in the table during the 2019–20 the season and at suspension of the league in March 2020 with thirty of their scheduled thirty-eight fixtures completed the team were second in the table (albeit only fifth on a points per game basis). The teams' away record was the best in the league with eleven wins, one draw and four losses from sixteen matches but home form with eight wins, one draw and five defeats from fourteen was not up to the standard of the other leading clubs.

With 75 goals scored the Nuts and Bolts were the league's leading scorers with David Smith notching 20 and Aaron Condon 14 of these. Following a six month close season the 2020–21 season hardly happened at all with only six league matches completed before curtailment at the end of October 2020 – with the team showing a disappointing return of three defeats from their four home league matches.



SEVENOAKS SPORT & WELLBEING

MAGAZINE IS THE MOST WIDELY READ

MULTI-AWARD WINNING FREE

PUBLICATION IN THE SEVENOAKS

DISTRICT. WRITTEN BY LOCAL

PEOPLE, FOR LOCAL PEOPLE,

PICK UP YOUR FREE COPY IN

THE CLUBHOUSE TODAY!



Best Community Business in Kent



Sevenoaks Business  
Award Winner 2018

sevenoaks



## Now that's magic!

By Matt Badcock

ONE OF my football bugbears centres around the FA Cup. More specifically, about The Magic of the Cup (TM).

In a few months time, the Premier League and Championship clubs will enter at the third round proper stage and The Magic of the Cup (TM), will be raised. When did it go? Where did it go? Why has it gone? Remember when the FA Cup used to have magic? There will be lower league clubs who do well, held up as the poster boys with lines such as..."think the FA Cup has lost its magic, tell that to (insert club here)..."

But, from what I see every season, there is plenty of the sparkling dust flying around and there always has been.

We'll see it this weekend, with a brilliant fourth round qualifying draw – the follow-up reaction could have filled the whole paper itself last week.

While a lot of the national attention won't turn to the competition until the first round proper, here in Non-League we all know the romance has been burning bright since the start of August.

Shocks have been served up, record cup runs achieved, big Non-League names have fallen and dreams are still alive.

In the case of Kettering Town, records have been reclaimed. The Poppies are back on top of the competition's goal charts following last week's 2-0 win over Leamington. That made it 901 FA Cup goals throughout their history and inched them back in front of Premier League Tottenham Hotspur.

Poppies boss Paul Cox knows a thing or two about the romance of the FA Cup – he had the trophy at his wedding just a few days before his Mansfield side played Liverpool, then featuring a striker called Luis Suarez. Wonder what happened to him!

Of course, Marine played Spurs in last year's third round proper. Residents fortunate enough to have gardens that back

onto the Marine Travel Arena were able to peer over their fences to get a glimpse of Jose Mourinho's side. They were the lucky ones, with the game behind closed doors because of the Covid-19 situation at the time.

Not that Neil Young's side are settling for one run. They upset Step 3 Atherton Collieries in their replay to set-up a home date with National League big-spenders Wrexham. The Mariners' crowds are booming – I spoke to manager Neil Young last week and he explained the place is booming, with last year's FA Cup run a big catalyst. It catapulted the club into the living rooms of people – and seems to have inspired many to get along to a game.

Creating memories and lasting legacy is what the FA Cup is all about.

This weekend's fourth round qualifying will have all the feel of those magical first round occasions. Bromsgrove Sporting hosting National League leaders Grimsby Town. Chertsey Town off to the club Grimsby dropped out of the EFL with, Southend United.

Marske United hosting a north-east derby with Gateshead. Pontefract Collieries hosting high-flying FC Halifax Town. Former League side Kidderminster Harriers take a trip to Step 4 Bedfont Sports, while Stamford are off to Stockport County.

There are plenty of other intriguing ties across the country, with the first round proper at stake and the entry of some of the most famous names in English football like Sheffield Wednesday, Sunderland, Portsmouth and Ipswich Town.

No doubt in the coming months, we will see top flight managers using the FA Cup to rotate their squads and complain about the number of matches they have to play. It's the same every year.

But, just as it is each season, the FA Cup will produce some lifelong memories. And that's pretty magical in my book.



# Player Profile: Conrad Lee

**Age:** 26

**Position:** Left Back

**Birthplace:** Greenwich

**Home:** Charlton

**Previous Clubs:** Sheppey United, Faversham Town, Phoenix Sports, Greenwich Borough, Greenwich Borough, Erith Town, Sittingbourne.

**Club Supported:** Liverpool

**Favourite Player:** Steven Gerrard

**Best Mate in Football:** Stefan Wright

**Best Football Memory/ Best Goal Scored:** Probably when I was 12-13 years old, playing for Erith Town's Youth team, and scoring with a right foot volley.

**Favourite Drink:** Pepsi Max Cherry

**Favourite Meal:** Indian

**Favourite TV programme:** I prefer the animated

**Favourite Film:** Training Day

**Best Thing about Football:** Winning

**Worst Thing about Football:** Losing - worst experience ever

**Thoughts on coming to Sevenoaks:** "I took time out because I wasn't enjoying football - and haven't played since the pandemic started in March 2020.

"As bad as the result was at VCD on my debut on Saturday, I felt I had a bit more buzz about me, and hoped that showed in my performance.

"We were still in the game at 2-0, but a little lapse in concentration made the result a lot worse than it actually was."



## The last time we met:

**Tuesday Oct 27 2020**

**Ashford United 2 Sevenoaks Town 3**

**HT: 1-2. Attendance: 290.**

**Scorers:** Frankie Sawyer (4 mins), Dean Gunner (6 mins), Tom Ripley (90 + 6).

**Sevenoaks Town:** Ben Bridle-Card, Joe Tennent, Joey Taylor, Stefan Wright, Dean Gunner, Tom Ripley, James Bessey-Saldana, (Alec Fiddes 84 mins) Zac Guerfi (Jason Thompson (Zac Guerfi (85 mins), Tyrell Richardson-Brown, Frankie Sawyer, Hayden Skerry (Ben Davisson 46 mins).







# Permission for Greatness!

Sevenoaks Town FC is delighted to announce the club has been granted planning permission for a new club house, covered stands, changing room facilities and associated landscaping works at Greatness Park.

As a FA England Accredited club in the heart of the local community, Sevenoaks Town offers football provision to over 60 teams including 54 youth teams including three girls' teams, seven adult teams including a women's team and four disability teams. Alongside this, the club runs a Wildcats Centre and popular community scheme for children aged 4- to 8-year-olds who wish to try football for the first time.

*"After lots of hard work and endeavour, I am thrilled for everyone connected to the football club to reveal this brilliant news."*

The plans for the future will enable The Oaks to enhance the playing experience for those currently enjoying the game at Greatness Park but importantly it means the club can explore new opportunities to offer even more to those across the community with a first-class facility that provides a base for people

of all ages and abilities to enjoy.

Speaking about the news, Club Chairman Paul Lansdale said: "After lots of hard work and endeavour, I am thrilled for everyone connected to the football club to reveal this brilliant news. Greatness Park welcomes hundreds of participants and visitors each week and our new clubhouse will be a catalyst for us to further progress as a club and build upon what we offer to our players, coaches, parents, volunteers and local community."

"We wouldn't have been able to get this far without the help and support of many people and now we can look ahead to making our plans a reality which is incredibly exciting."

Lansdale added: "We are looking forward to working very closely with our landlords and our key stakeholders and partners. The future looks incredibly bright especially after two very tough seasons and we are all excited to push forwards and make Greatness Park even greater."

Councillor Peter Fleming expressed his delight at the news.

"Sevenoaks Town FC is truly one of the towns sporting giants, however it is the sheer scale

of the club, its unstinting commitment to the community and provision of access to football for all that sometimes goes under the radar, these amazing facilities will allow this outstanding work to continue for many generations to come."

Laura Trott, MP for Sevenoaks and Swanley was delighted with the news, adding:

"This is absolutely fantastic news, and I applaud the whole team at Sevenoaks FC for all their hard work, and the support shown by Sevenoaks Town Council. The last 18 months have been so difficult for sports clubs, but the dedication from Paul and his team has been remarkable throughout. I was struck during my visit that they have never lost sight of what matters most - the future of the club and its community."

Sevenoaks Oaks Sports Council Chair Edward Oatley believes the news marks a positive new chapter for sport in the area.

"This is such brilliant news and will help put

Sevenoaks even more on the British Map on the contribution that the town makes to the development of youth sport from 5 to 18. We are without doubt role models for the whole of GB in the way that qualified volunteer coaches in all sports dedicate themselves to improve the wellbeing and development of the self-confidence of the young and help them understand that teamwork is the essence of success in all walks of life."

Lee Suter, Kent FA Senior Football Development Officer echoed the sentiments of those involved with the planning process so far, saying:

"This is fantastic news for everyone involved with Sevenoaks Football Club who positively support so many using the power of football. Paul and his army of volunteer work tirelessly to improve the lives of others and that of the Sevenoaks area, and this milestone will allow them to develop a facility at the heart of one of Kent's largest and well thought of football clubs".



An artists impression of the new look for Greatness Park. Full details can be found on the club's website [www.sevenoakstown.co.uk](http://www.sevenoakstown.co.uk)



# Sevenoaks Town FC

# 2021 Squad Pictures



**History:** Sevenoaks Town were originally formed in 1883, one of the founding members of the Kent League.

In April the same year, the club played Royal Arsenal, then the only professional club in the South East of England in front of around 1000 spectators at Knole Paddock.

They combined with St Johns United in 1951, and joined the Western section of the Kent Amateur League.

Division 1 League Cup winners in 1965-66, they were twice winners of the Premier Division in 1968-69 and 1975-76.

They won the Kent County League - three times - 1984-85, 1995-96 and 2002-3.

The club were Kent Intermediate Challenge Shield and Inter-Regional Challenge Cup winners twice, and lifted the Sevenoaks Charity Cup on 12 occasions.

**Recent successes:** Southern Counties East League Cup champions: 2016-17  
Southern Counties East League champions: 2017-8

**Best FA Cup Performance:** Second Qualifying Round: 2016-17

**Best FA Trophy Performance:** First Qualifying Round: 2018-19

**Best FA Vase Performance:** Third Round Proper 2017-18.

A new state of the art 3G pitch was installed in June 2017, and plans are in place to construct a brand new stadium in the next two years.



Graphics by Leafcutter Studios

# Support Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks Town FC has prided itself on providing for the local community to serve and assist those in the local area.

In March, the football season came to an abrupt end. In the unprecedented months that have followed, the club has had to re-focus, re-plan and re-model in order to find our feet again.

Following every step of Government and FA guidance, we were able to get back playing again in June.

Throughout lockdown and as measures have eased, our committee have recognised the need for the club to support those who need our help the most. One of the clear areas to focus upon was local business.

**"We take great pride in our identity and the area we are a part of. We know first-hand, how challenging the past few months have been."**

As a club, we want to be there for the people living, working and socialising in the area and have devised and a proud to launch a new scheme we hope you'll support and get involved with.

Support Sevenoaks is our campaign set up to help local businesses get back on their feet. We have created a Support Sevenoaks card which is free a loyalty scheme. If you make a purchase at stores and services who are a part of the scheme, you'll receive a stamp of thanks.

Once your Support Sevenoaks card is full of stamps, you can use it to gain free entry

to a First Team games during the 2020/21 season, when crowds are allowed to return. You simply bring the fully stamped card along to your chosen game and present at the turnstile.

And if for whatever reason, you don't want to use your card to attend a game, you can email [hello@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk](mailto:hello@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk) with your details and an upload of your complete card and we will donate the equivalent of the match day entry to a local charity.

Club Chairman, Paul Lansdale hopes the scheme will further incentivise local people to support businesses in the area.

"I am extremely proud to be launching our Support Sevenoaks initiative. The scheme was devised by us as a club because we know just how important local provision and services are.

"We take great pride in our identity and the area we are a part of. We know first-hand, how challenging the past few months have been. The impact of Covid19 on businesses and organisations of all shapes and sizes has been huge. We want to help these businesses, their owners and employees find their feet again."

"We hope the idea is something those involved with the football club alongside residents and the businesses of Sevenoaks itself can get behind. Businesses can get in touch with us to be a part of Support Sevenoaks and we will equip them with the materials, the card and branding required. The Eat Out to Help Out scheme finishes at the end of the month, whereas this card will be in operation by us throughout the 2020/21 season and maybe even beyond if it proves to be valuable and enjoyed by people living, working and visiting Sevenoaks."

If you'd like to get involved with the Support Sevenoaks initiative please email [charlotte@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk](mailto:charlotte@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk)

## Our supporters

Sevenoaks Haberdashery,  
Fargs Barbers,  
Archers Dry Cleaners,  
7OaksTraditional Cobblers,  
Number Six Barbers,  
County Dry Cleaners,  
Paperchase,  
Nonna Cappuccini,  
Harveys Menswear,  
Wilkinson Eye Studio,  
Bat and Ball Sports,

Marcos,  
County Clothes,  
Mint Dry Cleaners,  
The Chocolate Shop,  
Patmores,  
Eat "N" Mess,  
Hoads,  
The Hardware Centre,  
Sevenoaks Computer,  
White Stuff.

UPDATE: The Support Sevenoaks initiative continues to gather impetus with more than 20 shops now signed up. Picking up a card at any of those listed allow shoppers in the town to make it a purchase and get it stamped. Every completed card will give free entry to a Pitching In Isthmian League first team game. Shoppers not taking advantage can send the card to [hello@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk](mailto:hello@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk), and the club will donate the equivalent of the matchday ticket price between West Kent Mind and Hospice in the Weald.



# Grow the Oaks!

Since 1883, Sevenoaks Town FC has provided playing opportunities for footballers of all ages and abilities. As our club seeks to take each step of the Government's Covid 19 roadmap and beyond with care, we are determined to find our feet as quickly as possible, making sure Greatness Park returns to becoming a safe, friendly hub of footballing activity for the local community and our football family.

It is now over a year since the global pandemic was declared, it is poignant to reflect on the things we've learned from these, tough, strange and unprecedented times. With our lives changed beyond recognition, we have learnt to appreciate all the things we enjoy – football being one of them. All the people who dedicate hours of time to helping Sevenoaks Town FC run are providing a selfless service we all appreciate goes beyond supplying physical benefits. It's the social elements of being part of a team; the mental health release of being active and empowered; its feeling and being a part of something unique, constructive and valuable.

With lots of people impacted economically, whether that be by being placed on furlough, losing employment or having planned opportunities postponed or cancelled, we are aware there may be individuals and groups out there who want to seize opportunity

once lockdown eases. Opportunity to give back. Opportunity to contribute to their local community. Opportunity to reignite with the game they love and have most probably sorely missed.

We want to #GrowTheOaks with a specific push to recruit volunteers to be a part of our team at Sevenoaks Town FC. However, no specifics are required for you to be a part of it. Whatever your skills, whatever your experience; if you want to get involved, if you'd like to contribute some hours and if you'd like to give up your free time, then you'd be most welcome.

Every volunteer at Sevenoaks Town FC is supported and given guidance around their role and responsibilities. We pride ourselves on looking after our players, coaches, officers and wider community. As a volunteer at our FA Charter Standard Community club, you will be a part of a club that prides itself on meeting and exceeding standards. You'll have opportunity to improve both yourself and the club in turn.

We are looking forward to a continued safe and positive return to football and if you want to be a part of it you can explore volunteering options and be a part of #GrowTheOaks by emailing [info@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk](mailto:info@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk)

## Zero tolerance for racism

"The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the FA statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination. Accordingly, any form of discriminatory abuse whether it be by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, sex and sexual orientation or any other form of abuse will be reported

to The Football Association for action by that Association." (The FA 0800 085 0508 / Kick it Out 020 7253 0162). The Isthmian League and all Member Clubs in the League are committed to promoting equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of the community."

## STFC COVID-19 Policy Statement

The entire team at Sevenoaks Football Club are committed to providing a safe football environment.

COVID-19 Restrictions In accordance with the current Government guidelines and The FA guidelines, individuals can play match football and carry out competitive training with additional control measures in place. All of the well-publicised Government social distancing and hygiene requirements must be fully observed in and around the match and training pitches and parking areas at all times.

At the Bourne Stadium, anyone entering will be subject to a machine temperature check with anyone failing this check refused entry on safety grounds. In addition, there will be no access to the changing rooms except where league guidance requires it for matches or for safeguarding purposes. We have provided player/parent guidance and we are constantly receiving updates from The FA and Government which we will ensure to update our control measures when any further changes can be made. The measures that have been put in place are for you, your family and everyone else's safety.

• An individual is required to self-assess before travelling to a match/training and if showing any symptoms of the virus or has been in contact with someone displaying symptoms within the last two weeks, then they should stay at home and call 111. They should remain isolated until it is safe to return.

• We will be complying with additional control measure when carrying out match play and training with social distancing measures before, during breaks and after match play/training. Please respect each other and any decisions that are made on behalf of the club for safety reasons.

• For training, a maximum number of people are allowed into the designated training area within the red zone at any one time in order for social distancing to take place when contact training is not taking place. STFC and their coaches will abide by this maximum number as provided by The FA.

• All training activities are undertaken entirely at your own risk and parents/players must sign up to participate in footballing activity along with signing up to The FA's 'Code of Behaviour'.

• All players and attendees to training and matches are required to provide contact information to enable STFC to support the NHS Track and Trace program and all information provided will be covered under the club's Data Protection Policy.

• Players/parents/officials should arrive at the designated match/training time as entrance to the pitch will not be permitted before this time.

• All parents not remaining pitch side will be asked to drop and collect their children at the allotted time from the edge of the pitch or if at the Bourne Stadium from outside the ground exit.

• Players should bring to training with them, named hand gel bottle and named water bottle as well as naming any other item they bring such as sun cream, medication, etc, for their own personal use.

• All training equipment will be appropriately sanitised including football equipment such as footballs, cones, goal posts and any other training equipment being used.

• At the Bourne Stadium, all signage for social distancing is installed in the ground to remind everyone of social distancing with volunteers to provide continued guidance.

• At the Bourne Stadium, the entrance and exit touch points, along with other areas at the ground will be sanitised with a cleaning sanitiser which continues to work for up to 30 days after it has been applied.

• Periodic touchpoint testing will take place to measure levels of microbes present on surfaces at the Bourne Stadium to ensure the sanitising program in place is effective. We look forward to welcoming you back to the club.

Play Safe, Stay Safe.



@drakesplumbing

**BOTH TRADE AND RETAIL WELCOME!**

**GREAT PRICES ON A HUGE RANGE OF STOCK!**

# PLUMBING, HEATING & BATHROOMS AT DRAKES SEVENOAKS!

From pipe and fittings to a set of basin taps or a whole new bathroom suite, visit Drakes Sevenoaks for competitive prices on a huge range of stock! Our bathroom showroom showcases the very best bathroom products and accessories from your trusted brands!



Drakes Sevenoaks, Block 9, Unit 2 Vestry Road Industrial Estate, Kent, TN14 5EL  
01732 453334 • [sosales@drakes.biz](mailto:sosales@drakes.biz)



# Sevenoaks Town Women and Girls' Strategy

Sevenoaks Town FC are currently in the exciting process of putting together three-year plan for the women and girls' section of the club, in which they are aiming to help the team move from tier 7 (b) to tier 4 within the next 3 years. This is an ambitious jump to a high standard of football which STFC are confident they can achieve.

In order to help Sevenoaks Town accomplish this, the club has been working with two consultants who both have a lot of first-hand experience in women's football: Natalie Curtis, a Football Development Officer for Women & Girls Football at the Kent FA who has also played for a pro club and managed and coached at the same level, and Charlotte Richardson, an FA Club Consultant who has been involved in the Women's Sport & Leadership Academy.

Both Natalie and Charlotte have experience of working with clubs and taking their Women's and Girls' teams up a few tiers, which is what Sevenoaks Town aspires to achieve. Natalie and Charlotte have begun to map out this three-year plan to help STFC achieve our goals.

Furthermore, Sevenoaks Town have also appointed Paul McDonagh who will be a great addition to the Women's and Girls section at Sevenoaks Town. Paul is a UEFA A Coach, and has also been Technical Director for Women's and Girls football at Charlton Athletic for two years.

Paul will take on and oversee STFC's Women and Girls' section, and he will also manage the Women's First Team for the upcoming 21/22 season supported by Maddie Smith and Dan Thomas who bring a wealth of experience and have been instrumental in our progress so far.

We at Sevenoaks Town FC are confident that with the addition of Natalie, Charlotte and Paul to STFC's Women and Girls' section, as well as

the foundation we have built since our first girls' team in 2012, we will be able to really push on and increase the profile and exposure of women's football at the club. The ultimate aim is to have our women's and men's teams run in the same way and be on the same level, and we hope to achieve this starting with the three-year plan which is being put in place.




# PITCHING IN

proudly supports

## THE TRIDENT TRUST FUND

Providing access  
to grants and funding  
for your club,  
in your community

@PitchingIn\_



# Bah strikes in vain

## Lancing 2 Sevenoaks Town 1

Lamin Bah's first goal for the club proved not enough to earn any reward in rainy and windy West Sussex. Oaks fell behind three minutes before half-time when an home player-manager Kane Louis' shot took an unlucky deflection off new defender Conrad Lee, wrong footing Ben Bridle-Card. Bah levelled things up around the hour mark side footing home to finish off a neat move down the left. Louis was also involved in the build-up to his side's winner seven minutes later - Matt Daniel firing home to settle the contest.

Sevenoaks: Ben Bridle-Card, Danny Divine, Conrad Lee, Ben Davison (Bradley Schafer 84 mins), Freeman Rogers, Dean Gunner, Frankie Sawyer (Hayden Skerry 38 mins), Lamin Bah, Steve Smith, Louis Collins, Stefan Wright (Max Walsh 79 mins).



## Shoot-out ends Trophy hopes

### Burgess Hill 1 Sevenoaks Town 1 (Hill win 3-1 on penalties)

Sevenoaks Town suffered a penalty shoot-out FA Trophy exit at the hands of Isthmian League rivals Burgess Hill on Saturday. The Second Qualifying Round tie ended 1-1 after 90 minutes - and with no extra-time in this season's competition, spot-kicks proved the decider - Hill winning it 3-1, with Louis Collins' first spot-kick, Oaks' only success. An own goal by defender Josh Spinks gifted Oaks the lead three minutes after

half-time - following great work by Stefan Wright on the byline, before Michael Uwezu headed the hosts level twenty minutes later. Oaks went close twice in a minute to regaining the lead inside the last 10 minutes. Substitute Bradley Schaffer's goal bound strike was deflected for a corner, before Hayden Skerry's fierce effort was palmed away for a corner by home keeper Taylor Seymour. Collins fashioned another late chance, only for his cross to fall too high for Skerry at the far post. The West Sussex side might also have snatched a late

winner as Max Miller missed out at the far post a minute from time. Oaks weathered the home side's storm in the first half, new signing Conrad Lee's effort, a minute before half-time tipped over the bar by Seymour proving their best chance, while skipper Dean Gunner headed wide from a Lee corner, while another flashed across the six-yard box, with nobody able to get a touch.

Sevenoaks: Ben Bridle-Card, Danny Divine, Conrad Lee, Ben Davison, Freeman Rogers, Dean Gunner, Lamin Bah, Stefan Wright, Hayden Skerry, Louis Collins, Max Walsh Bradley Schafer (68 mins).



# Today's team sheet

## Sevenoaks Town

1: Ben Bridle-Card

2: Lamin Bah

3: Maxim Cabune

4: Stefan Wright

5: Tommy Cooney

6: Danny Divine

7: Kyle De Silva

8: Max Walsh

9: Jason Thompson

10: Louis Collins

11: Hayden Skerry

12: Frankie Sawyer

14: Bradley Schafer

15: Michael Peete

16: Dean Gunner

17: Ben Davisson

## Ashford United FC

1: Tyler McCarthy

2: Tariq Ossai

3: Bradley Simms

4: Daniel Hull

5: Ben Gorham

6: Liam Friend

7: Rhyle Ovenden

8: Thomas Fagg

9: Johan Ter Horst

10: Tashi-Jay Kwayie

11: Josh Wisson

12: Jack Steventon

14: Mamadou Diallo

15: Luke Burdon

16: Brett Patton

17: Lee Hook



Saturday October 16th, 3pm. Pitching In Isthmian South-East Division, Sevenoaks Town v Ashford United

**Referee:** TBA

**Assistant Referee 1:** Leigh Ballinger

**Assistant Referee 2:** Nicholas Vermaat

**Next home match:** Wednesday October 20th, 7.30pm. Pitching In Isthmian South-East Division, Sevenoaks v East Grinstead

