

# The Official Matchday Programme of **Sevenoaks Town** **Vs Chichester City**

Season 2021/2022  
Issue 10



**Pitching In Isthmian  
South East Division**

**Saturday November  
13th, kick-off 3pm**

**Respect**



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# 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  
**Programme Editor:** Fred Atkins - Back Page Media  
**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** @Sevenoakstowncf  
**Website:** www.sevenoakstowncf.co.uk  
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**Sevenoaks Town Football Club Limited: Registered in England No. 07298016**  
**Registered Charity No. 113763**

# In today's programme ...

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Their origins date back all the way to the 1870s and they recently had a brush with fame, making it to the second round proper of the FA Cup

## 5 From the chairman

Paul Lansdale on an eventful period for the club, a distressing injury and news of a new vacancy

## 6-7 Micky's Message

The manager reflects on two improved performances and attempts to strengthen

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Stefan Wright on the best goal he ever scored and his love for Arsenal's "Invisible Wall"



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Andrew Gidley on victory over Corinthian and a defeat at Herne Bay

## 23 Non League Paper

The latest column from the bible of non-league football: Hollywood to Wrexham?



# Chichester FC History

The first Chichester Football Club was formed in 1873 and added the title 'City' to its name in 1948.

The club's original home was Priory Park but it relocated to Oaklands Park in the early fifties.

The club was represented at the inaugural meeting of the Sussex County FA in 1882 and featured in the first ever Sussex Senior Cup competition in the same year losing 5-0 to Storrington. In 1896 Chichester became members of the newly formed West Sussex League and remained there until they joined the Sussex County League in 1920. The first major honour was achieved in 1926 when they won the Sussex Senior Cup but inter-war success was limited.

In 1960 Chichester clinched their first Sussex County League title and then retained it the following season, shared the Sussex RUR Cup with Brighton & Hove Albion after a 2-2 draw and reached the first round proper of the FA Cup, only to lose 11-0 to Bristol City. Chichester beat Eastbourne in the RUR Cup in 1964 and recaptured the league title in 1968.

In the 1970s Chichester's fortunes were mixed; the high point being another league championship in 1973 and a good run in the FA Amateur Cup. At the end of the decade, City faced relegation for the first time. However, the appointment of ex-Plymouth and Portsmouth player, Richie Reynolds, as manager sparked an amazing revival which saw City claw their way to safety. The following season was one of City's best ever as Reynolds masterminded a league championship win.

The club was relegated though in 1983 after a dismal season. Promotion and Division Two Cup success followed in 1985 but they returned to the Second Division for the 1987-88 campaign winning the Division Two Challenge Cup again in 1988.

Steve White took over as manager in 1990 and the side enjoyed another promotion campaign alongside Division Two Challenge Cup success. The club struggled for several seasons in the County League top flight before again being relegated to Division Two in 1994. In 1997, City returned to the top flight after finishing runners-up. Permission was

finally granted for floodlights at Oaklands Park and they remained in the top flight of the Sussex County League in one guise or another for over twenty years.

Following a millennium merger with Portfield FC the club became known as Chichester City United FC and in 2004 Adie Girdler and his assistant Gary Brockway led Chichester to their first Sussex County League title since 1980. The club also won the Brighton Charity Cup in 2005 and 2006 and the RUR Cup for a third time in 2007. At the start of the 2009-2010 season, following discussions with Chichester District Council, it was agreed to revert back to the name of Chichester City FC as this more clearly reflected the club and the city.

The club faced challenges after this, both on and off the pitch, for a number of years. However, the management team of Miles Rutherford, Graeme Gee and first team coach Danny Potter has transformed things at Chi in all sorts of ways. A top five finish in the Southern Combination Football League premier division in 2015-16 was followed by a third place spot in 2016-17, a six month unbeaten run in the league and a record equalling 4th round appearance in the FA Vase. Chichester went one round better in the Vase the following season, losing 1-0 to 1874 Northwich in the last minute of the game.

Chi won the RUR Cup in the 2017-18 season, beating local rivals Pagham 4-0 in the final at Culver Road, and gained promotion to Step 4 of the non-league football pyramid for the first time ever in the club's history after clinching the SCFL premier division title in 2018-19.

Darin Killpartrick joined the coaching staff at Chichester in the summer of 2019 and an exceptional start to life in the Isthmian League was complemented by an extraordinary FA Cup adventure of qualifying to make it to the first round proper of the competition - a run in which Chichester beat three Step 3 sides.

And in a unique FA Cup first round draw Chichester, the lowest ranked team left in the competition, were given the bye into the second round.

# Chairman's message

Good afternoon and welcome you all to the Bourne Stadium for this Pitching In Isthmian League South East fixture.

We welcome the officials, players and supporters of Chichester City FC. A welcome also to our three match officials.

An injury to Max Carbune was the low point of the 2-1 defeat at Herne Bay last week.

He was carried off in the closing stages of the first half, and the first update was he suffered serious knee ligament damage which could mean he faces a lengthy lay-off.

It was good to see Joe Ten-

nent back at the ground as a spectator in our last home game against Corinthian, albeit on crutches, continuing his recovery from a broken leg sustained at Phoenix Sports in September.

One new face in the side last week was latest signing Bobby Dunn.

A former Sevenoaks Youth team player, he played against us for East Grinstead last month, before joining us last week.

One recent major development at the club is the announcement regarding the newly created post of Head of Youth Football.

Full details can be found

elsewhere in this programme.

We make a second trip to Herne Bay next month in the Kent Senior Cup First Round tie. The game takes place on Tuesday December 14 (7.45pm).

We have been paired away to either Hashtag United or Corinthian in the second round of the Velocity Trophy.

No game next week - we are away to Faversham Town on Saturday November 27.

Our next home fixture is at home to Whitehawk on Saturday December 4.

Enjoy The Game

**Paul Lansdale**

## THE LAST TIME WE MET



**Saturday March 7 2020**  
**Chichester City 3 Sevenoaks Town 1**  
**Isthmian League South East:**

**Lost 1-3:**

**Scorers:** Chichester: Axell 3, Rowlatt 29, Davidson 78; Sevenoaks: Sawyer 27 mins

**Sevenoaks Town:** Patrick Lee, Frazer Walker, Joey Taylor, Dan Parkinson (Kyle De Silva (78 mins) Joe Tennent, Jack Miles, Ryan Hayes, Liam Gillies, Tyrell Richardson-Brown, Frankie Sawyer (90 mins), James Bessey Saldanha.



A photograph of three men in blue jackets, likely football staff, looking towards the left. The man in the foreground has a grey beard and is wearing a blue jacket with a white Nike logo. The man behind him is bald and also in a blue jacket. The man on the far left is partially visible, looking towards the other two.

# Micky's Message

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to the Bourne Stadium for this league fixture. I would like to extend this welcome to our visitors today Chichester City.

The last couple of games have seen us put in decent performances. We had a narrow defeat last week away at Herne Bay and a good home win for us v Corinthians the week before, but Max Carbune suffered a serious knee injury at Winch's Field which will see him sidelined for at least a few weeks. We wish him a speedy recovery.

It was good to see young 18 year old Bobby Dunn come straight into the side and put in a very good performance, but it was the last game that Fjord Rogers played in his loan spell and he has returned to his parent club Cray Wanderers. We wish him well and thank him for his efforts.

Next weekend sees us without a fixture and the following week we're back at home v Whitehawk.

We are continuing to work hard on the training ground and also behind the scenes on trying to strengthen the squad.

I hope you all enjoy today's game and look forward to seeing you all in a couple of weeks time.

MC



# Sevenoaks

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# Pitching In Isthmian South East

Cray Valley PM	12	9	2	1	32	12	+20	29
Haywards Heath	12	9	1	2	26	11	+15	28
Ashford United	12	8	2	2	24	8	+16	26
Ramsgate	12	7	2	3	30	16	+14	23
Herne Bay	11	7	2	2	20	8	+12	23
VCD Athletic	13	6	3	4	25	16	+9	21
Hastings United	10	6	1	3	25	15	+10	19
Sittingbourne	11	6	1	4	19	17	+2	19
Corinthian	12	5	2	5	15	16	-1	17
Whitehawk	11	4	2	5	13	18	-5	14
Faversham Town	12	4	2	6	13	20	-7	14
Hythe Town	11	4	2	5	11	22	-11	14
<b>Chichester City</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>+4</b>	<b>13</b>
Three Bridges	12	2	7	3	12	23	-11	13
<b>Sevenoaks Town</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>-13</b>	<b>13</b>
Burgess Hill Town	11	3	3	5	14	18	-4	12
Lancing	12	3	3	6	11	23	-12	12
East Grinstead T	12	2	3	7	12	21	-9	9
Whitstable Town	12	1	2	9	13	25	-12	5
Phoenix Sports	12	1	1	10	10	27	-17	4

## Results: Saturday 6th November

Ashford United	4	0	Hythe Town	410
Hull (19'), Wisson (59'), Diallo (65'), Ter Horst (88')				
Burgess Hill Town	2	2	Lancing	328
Uwezu (72'), Finney (91')			Daniel (75'), Diallo (79')	
Chichester City	2	1	Whitstable Town	155
Madhani (71'), Haitham (78')			Cham (31')	
Corinthian	2	1	Hastings United	127
Dembele (66'), Morgan (82')			Worrall (45')	
East Grinstead Town	0	2	Ramsgate	140
Peck (22'), Miller (77')				
Faversham Town	3	1	Haywards Heath	193
Oluwasemo (32'), Dickens (37') Ogboe (85')			Robinson (72')	
Herne Bay	2	1	Sevenoaks Town	281
Millbank (45'), Anidugbe (67')			Rogers (42')	
Phoenix Sports	2	3	Whitehawk	130
Duah-Kessie (44' pen), Evans (60')			Fitchett (28' og), Splatt (34'), Lawson (54')	
Sittingbourne	1	0	VCD Athletic	133
Rowland (30')				
<b>Tuesday 9th November 2021</b>				
Burgess Hill Town	1	0	Faversham Town	262
Taylor (72')				





# Player Profile: Stefan Wright

**Age:** 27

**Position:** Central Midfielder

**Born:** Lewisham

**Home:** Beckenham

**Occupation:** Sports Coach

**Previous Clubs:** Greenwich Borough, Phoenix Sports, Faversham Town, Sittingbourne, Beckenham Town, Staines Town

**Club supported:** Arsenal

**Favourite Player:** Gilberto Silva

**Best Mates in Football:** Conrad Lee and Lamin Ba - "known them for years"

**Best Goal Scored:** "Playing for Bromley Academy against Aldershot when I was 16 or 17.

"The ball went up in the air, I chased it down, the defender's cleared it - it's gone up in the air again - as high as a plane, dropped down I ran after it to try and win it and it bounced off my shin and went in.

"It wasn't the greatest goal, but one I have never forgotten."

**Best Thing About Football:** "Being with the boys here - there's a great spirit among us all.

**Worst Thing About Football:** Losing

Thoughts on the season:

"Me personally, it's been good, I have been consistent - probably one of the first seasons I have been.

"Everyone at the club is great - supporters, committee, management team, good people to play for.

"I am pleased with my stats and assists- and a couple of goals as well.

"We played six games in the FA Cup but the result against Redhill will always stick with me for ever.

"Coming in 3-0 up and then losing really hurt - and then going on that five-match winless run."

**Favourite Drink:** Coke - "I drink a bottle before every game."

**Favourite Meal:** Katsu Chicken Curry - home made

**Favourite TV Programme:** Fresh Prince of Bel-Air - old school - it's Comedy Gold, and I have still got the DVD's.





# Collins clinches crunch Corinthian clash

**Sevenoaks Town 1  
Corinthian 0**

**By Andrew Gidley**

Louis Collins' penalty helped Sevenoaks edge this tight contest.

It was a hard earned victory against their newly promoted Fawkham based neighbours, the first Pitching In Isthmian League South East meeting, and rewarded with back-to-back home wins and clean-sheets.

Top scorer Collins tucked away the early spot-kick with goalkeeper Ben Bridle-Card claiming a deserved third shut-out of the season.

Collins netted his first goal in seven games after 15 minutes, beating the diving Aidan Prall after Charlie Holmes was felled by James Trueman.

Louis Clarke squandered a great chance to put the visitors level nine minutes later, shooting wide when unmarked inside the box. Oaks defender Conrad Lee's header was ruled out for offside close to the half time. which proved his last action of the game, forced off at the break with a hamstring injury.

Bridle-Card pulled off two important saves in the first half, and was kept busy throughout the second, as Corinthian looked for a way back.

He pushed away visiting skipper Oscar Housego's free-kick, low down at his near post, before tipping another effort over the bar.

Sevenoaks: Ben Bridle-Card, Danny Divine, Conrad Lee (Lamin Bah 46 mins), Charlie Holmes (Max Walsh 65 mins), Freeman Rogers, Dean Gunner, Kweku Anseh, Bradley Schafer, Fjord Rogers (Kieran



## Cabune injury compounds loss

**Herne Bay 2  
Sevenoaks Town 1**

**By Andrew Gidley**

Sevenoaks Town suffered another injury blow in this latest Pitching In Isthmian League South East defeat. Defender Max Carbune was carried off eight minutes before half time with boss Micky Collins waiting on an update earlier this week, but confirmed it was "serious knee ligament damage minimum." Collins included new signing Bobby Dunn, following his midweek move from rivals East Grinstead, while left back Jason Fregene made his first appearance of the season, following a spell at Southern Counties East League Hollands & Blair, completing his recovery from a long-term ACL injury. Cabune's injury caused a lengthy delay, but Oaks

responded well, skipper Freeman Rogers heading in new-boy Dunn's well flighted corner to give Oaks the lead, four minutes before half-time. However it lasted out two minutes Bay's Aaron Millbank firing home. Louis Collins then missed a great chance to restore the lead a minute later racing into the box, only to shoot over the bar. Second half saw few clear-cut chances - Ben Bridle-Card saved from Keiron Campbell, before Bay went in front two minutes later. Bode Anidugbe worked himself time and space before a low finish from the edge of the area. Sevenoaks: Ben Bridle-Card, Danny Divine, Jason Fregene, Stefan Wright, Freeman Rogers, Dean Gunner, Kweku Anseh (Ben Davison 84 mins), Bobby Dunn, Fjord Rogers (Lamin Bah 74 mins), Louis Collins, Max Carbune (Steve Smith 37 mins).



# 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.



# 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)

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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 Vacancies

## HEAD OF YOUTH FOOTBALL

We're looking for a Head of Youth Football to join the club to oversee our youth teams. Ideally looking for a qualified coach with experience of managing players, coaches and parents.

## VENUE MANAGER

We have a vacancy for a Venue Manager on a Sunday:

Hours 9am to 2pm

### Job Description

Check our venues are being used correctly, this includes:

- Making sure the FA Respect Barriers are in use
- That correct footwear is in use on our 3G
- That teams are warming up in the correct places
- That goals are moved safely and secured
- That goals are stored away correctly
- That venues are left secure

### Locations

Greatness Park  
Seal Rec  
Sevenoaks School  
Kemsing Rec

## PART - TIME ADMINISTRATOR

We have a vacancy for an administrator to help with the large number of email enquires we receive every week.

The role of Administrator would be to work closely with the Club's directors to build up a knowledge base, respond to the emails and follow them up where required.

To create a FAQ from the emails to help reduce the volume of emails in the future.

Hours - We would estimate on average 1 hour per day Monday to Friday

To apply, please email [info@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk](mailto:info@sevenoakstownfc.co.uk).



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# 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.





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# The bumpy road from Hollywood to Wrexham

By Matt Badcock

YOU HAVE to wonder what Hollywood actors Ryan Reynolds and Rob McElhenney really made of their first experience of Non-League football.

In case you hadn't heard, the actors who bought Wrexham turned up at Maidenhead United to see their first Red Dragons in the flesh last week.

For people who roll in some pretty high-profile and glamorous circles, walking in to be greeted with some heckling must have been an eye-opening experience. I doubt that happens on the red carpet.

The depth of the National League System on full show with more than 1,600 turning out on a dark night to watch 90 minutes of the Beautiful Game. Fantastic.

I imagine they returned home with an even greater sense of how vital all these clubs are to their communities, not to mention how much it means to the supporters of the club they now own.

Of course, as is the way with these things, their team lost 3-2 before conceding a late equaliser against Torquay United on Saturday to draw 1-1.

The documentary covering their take-over will be titled Welcome to Wrexham. Last week was also a Welcome to Football. Where it rarely goes to plan.

After Tuesday's defeat, Deadpool star Reynolds – a seriously successful businessman to boot – described his feelings on an Instagram post.

"Football is a staggering, heartbreaking, gorgeous, tommy-gun of soul-deadening, evil and beauty and I'm never sleeping again ever, ever."

Whether you are interested in their take-over or are indifferent, we can probably all relate, in some form, to that summary.

Whoever you support, there must have been times when you think: Why do I do this? I know I have.

There are millions of people in this country who have no interest in this mad game. Who don't spend their Saturdays – or midweek evenings – standing in the cold, or glued to websites and social media to see how their team and rivals have got on.

And sometimes, after those last-minute goals, you do wonder if it would be easier to not bother.

But that's the thing with football. It hooks you in. It refuses to let go. Conceding stoppage-time goals is equalled out by those stoppage-time winners. Or at least the hope of one.

And there's something bizarrely magical about being out in the freezing cold watching a drab draw.

Especially in Non-League. Where you're so close to the action and feel so much a part of it. I think we've seen that this season with some of the attendances across all levels – a combination of people just happy to be out at games again, mixed with an apathy of the higher reaches of the game.

Because, yes, football can be a real pain at times. There are issues at all levels that really grate and things in Non-League that could be better.

But it also provides more drama and moments than any Hollywood script. Hopefully the Wrexham duo saw that for themselves.

# Today's team sheet

## Sevenoaks Town

1: Ben Bridle-Card

2: Danny Divine

3: Jason Fregene

4: Stefan Wright

5: Freeman Rogers

6: Dean Gunner

7: Kweku Ansah

8: Bobby Dunn

9: Fjord Rogers

10: Louis Collins

11: Jason Thompson

12: Charlie Holmes

14: Harvey Welford

15: Max Walsh

16: Ben Davisson

17: Lamin Bah

## Chichester City FC

1: Kieran Magee

2: Ryan Davidson

3: Rob Hutchings

4: Jamie Horncastle

5: Lewis Hyde

6: Ben Pashley

7: Lloyd Rowlett

8: Emmett Dunn

9: Callum Overton

10: Ben Mendoza

11: Ethan Prichard

12: Kaleem Haitham

14: Oliver Carroll

15: Scott Jones

16: Tyrone Madhani

17: Daniel Wood



Saturday November 13th 3pm. Pitching In Isthmian South-East Division, Sevenoaks v Chichester City

**Referee:** Jamaal Horne

**Assistant Referee 1:** Joshua Howard

**Assistant Referee 2:** Kennedy Kikulwe

**Next home match:** December 4th 3pm. Pitching In Isthmian South-East Division, Sevenoaks v Whitehawk

