

Latest Round-ups:

FA Vase: Barnstaple Town reached the fourth round of the FA Vase for the first time in 31 years, after overcoming league rivals Buckland Athletic in a dramatic penalty shootout. The game took a little while to come to life, but once it did there was plenty of entertainment for the large crowd at Homers Heath, with Ryan Bush scoring in the sixth minute of first half stoppage time to break the deadlock in the host's favour. Barnstaple then hit back right at the beginning of the second period, with Josh Parry cutting in from the right before finding the far left corner to make it one apiece. Bush then struck again to put Buckland back in front, but Parry's influence continued to give the away side a threat, and his good work ended with Gabby Rogers firing home to make it 2-2 for the ten-man visitors. There were no more goals in normal time, meaning the game would be decided on penalties, with Barnstaple duo Luke Alden and Brodie Montague proving to be the heroes. Buckland were unsuccessful with all four of their spot kicks, meaning the shootout was short-lived, but Barnstaple will have no complaints, and they now face a home clash against AFC Stoneham in mid-January for a shot at the last 16.

Premier Division: Leaders Clevedon survived a huge scare away at Wellington, overturning an early deficit, scoring a stoppage time winner to beat their hosts 2-1. Despite their lowly league position, Wellington have been playing as well as most in the last few weeks and it almost came as no surprise when they took a fourth minute lead courtesy of Josh Baker. The Seasiders slowly built their way back into the contest, and managed to get level late in the first half when Seb Scott managed to beat the home keeper. With the points seemingly on their way to being shared, Clevedon had other thoughts and managed to pinch the victory with Glen Hayer scoring in added time to help maintain their three-point lead atop the division. Second-spot still belongs to Sidmouth Town after they scored two first half goals in their 2-0 victory away at Oldland Abbotonians. Having gone ahead midway through the first half courtesy of a Zack Williams, Town then put the game out of reach ten minutes before half-time, with Will Collins converting a penalty after he had been fouled in the home area. In what ended up being a successful afternoon for all of the top sides, Joe Rapson scored twice to help lead Torpoint to a 3-1 win at home to Street. Having already opened the scoring for his side in the 18th minute, Rapson then doubled his tally on the half-hour, firing home after being teed up by strike partner Curtis Damerell. A header late in the first half from Sam Stapleton got Street back into the contest, but it was Torpoint who ran out relatively comfortable winners thanks to a third goal on the hour mark from James Rowe. Fourth-placed Paulton enjoyed a comfortable afternoon against bottom-side St Austell, scoring seven first-half goals in a game that ended 11-0 to the home side. Kyle Witt, who was substituted at half-time, struck four times during the opening 45 minutes, with leading scorer Kitan Jaiyeoba also bagging a brace. Substitute Dylan Tate then made it 8-0 after 64 minutes, with a Dan McBeam strike followed by a late double from Elliot Haffenden to complete the scoring.

In one of the games of the season, Saltash recovered to claim a point away at Bridgwater, with the sides sharing the spoils at the end of a six-goal thriller. Things looked to be going well for Bridgy at the end of the opening half, with Owen Howe scoring twice in quick succession to put the home side two goals in front. Deacon Thomson then scored a thunderbolt to trim the deficit, before Jason Quick poked home from close range to give Bridgwater a 3-1 lead with 20 minutes left on the clock. Saltash then saw Thomson strike again to get them back within a goal, with his namesake Reece then getting on the end of a corner to bring the sides level. There were then a plethora of chances during the closing stages, but neither side could break through and were forced to settle with a point apiece. There were also plenty of goals at Shepton Mallet, where the home side claimed their first league victory since the end of October after beating Brislington 6-4 in a wildly entertaining clash. The opening 20 minutes was a back-and-forth affair, with Bradley Pfupa and Luke Wilkinson twice handing Shepton the lead, only to see Brislington hit back instantly on each occasion courtesy of goals from Shea Mannings and Jordan Scadding. The early goalscoring pace couldn't be maintained, with Shepton taking their third lead of the afternoon on the hour mark when Tom Ovigne scored on debut to make it 3-2 in the home side's favour. An Ovigne penalty followed soon after to stretch the advantage, with Shepton suddenly taking complete control thanks to goals five and six from Fin Koppa and Ethan Cannings. Brislington ended the game by scoring twice in added time through Ben Snell and Lewis Saunders, but a disappointing spell during the second half condemned them to their 13th league defeat of the campaign. In the lowest scoring game of the afternoon, Owen Allison's 20th minute effort was all that separated the teams at Trowbridge Road, with Bradford beating Ivybridge 1-0 to register back-to-back home wins.

First Division: Devizes Town became the first side in either division to reach a half-century of points this season after easing to a 4-0 win at home to Shirehampton on Saturday afternoon. The league leaders powered into a strong position early on, with Oaklan Buck scoring twice inside the opening ten minutes to leave Shirehampton with a big hill to climb. As it turned out, Devizes were able to ease to victory, with Dan Demkiv adding a third before half-time, with Sam Jordan then completing the scoring to make it back-to-back 4-0 victories for Chris Allen's charges. Second-placed Wells mirrored Devizes' efforts, claiming a four-goal win of their own at home to Odd Down to give them 21 points from a possible 21 since early October. Having seen the goals fly in during recent weeks, City found it a little bit more difficult than usual, with Ross McErlain's 20th minute strike all they had to show for their efforts for much of the game. Wells did finish strongly however, and after Charlie Dashfield made it 2-0, they added two more goals in the closing stages through McErlain and Jake Brown to condemn the Bath side to another heavy defeat. Avonmouth edged to a 1-0 victory over Calne thanks to a 25th minute effort from leading scorer Josh Pearce, while Sturminster overturned a half-time deficit to beat Radstock 3-1. Having fallen behind to Ben Millett's opener late in the first half, Sturminster drew level on the hour mark through Aaron Lane-Leney. A goal from Ashley Clarke then edged the hosts in front, with Elliot Bevis scoring ten minutes from time to complete the impressive second half turnaround.



The remaining top-five outfit to also claim maximum points were **Bitton**, with an early Mickey Parsons hat-trick proving to just about be enough to hold off a fast-finishing **Welton** at West Clewes. If the early stages were any indication of how things would turn out, Bitton were on track for a huge away win, with Parsons opening the scoring in the sixth minute, before adding two more goals to complete his treble before the half-hour mark. Rovers got a lifeline shortly before half-time when Aaron Seviour scored from close range, giving the bottom side hope of a second-half fightback. The fifth and final goal of the game went in favour of the Green Army, with Courtney Charles knocking home a penalty, but it was too little, too late and Bitton managed to hang on for a crucial three points.

The most dramatic game of the day saw **Boco** beat **Bristol Telephones** 4-2, with the home side scoring three goals at the death to stun their opponents who battled manfully with nine men for much of the afternoon. After Reeko Best had plundered the opener to put Boco in front, the Phones then suffered their first red card of the day ten minutes before half-time. However, that dismissal didn't stop the visitors from sharing the spoils at the end of the opening period after an excellent long range strike from George Rooke made it one apiece. Another red put the visitors in further peril, but incredibly they then managed to go 2-1 in front after 75 minutes when Jamie Noble found the back of the net. Eventually the extra men paid off for Boco, and they levelled things up in the 90th minute when Jack Sheppard-Cozens kick-started the late drama. That equaliser seemed to crush the Bristol side, and they fell apart during the stoppage time period, conceding twice more, with George Fowler scoring the final goal of the game from well outside the area after the keeper had left his goal unattended. Elsewhere, Rohan Hartery's lone goal led **Mendip Broadwalk** to a 1-0 defeat of **Almondsbury**, while **Warminster** score five unanswered second half goals to win 6-1 at **Keynsham**. After Keynsham had levelled things up through Noah Turner right at the end of the opening period, Warminster then dominated after the interval to run out comfortable victors. There was also late theatrics in the remaining fixtures, with a Matt Huxley penalty in the dying embers leading **Cadbury Heath** to a crucial 1-0 win at home to **Longwell Green Sports**. In a game with few clear-cut chances, it was the Heath who pinched all three points, with Huxley holding his nerve to score from the spot late in the piece. **Hengrove** also snatched something late on, rescuing a draw away at **Cheddar** thanks to an injury time equaliser from Gael Basana. After falling behind to a Jamie Moss strike, Hengrove saw their late penalty saved, but Basana was quickest to the rebound and made it 1-1 in the battle between 18th and 19th.

Podcast Episode 19

On the podcast this week, Ian was joined by **Helston** manager, Dan Bua, who discussed the challenge of the Premier Division, before touching on how their rebuild is progressing on schedule.
There is also a conversation with **Cheddar** boss, Phil Hucker, who describes his journey to the dugout, and why he's committed to lifting his side away from the foot of the First Division table.
https://www.westernleague.co.uk/news/podcast-episode-19-1



Recent Results

Saturday 13th December 2025

FA Vase – Third Round Proper

Buckland Athletic	2-2	Barnstaple Town

(Barnstaple win 2-0 on penalties)

Premier Division

Bradford Town	1-0	Ivybridge Town
Bridgwater United	3-3	Saltash United
Oldland Abbotonians	0-2	Sidmouth Town
Paulton Rovers	11-0	St Austell
Shepton Mallet	6-4	Brislington
Torpoint Athletic	3-1	Street
Wellington	1-2	Clevedon Town

First Division

AEK Boco	4-2	Bristol Telephones
Avonmouth	1-0	Calne Town
Cadbury Heath	1-0	Longwell Green Sports
Cheddar	1-1	Hengrove Athletic
Devizes Town	4-0	Shirehampton
Keynsham Town	1-6	Warminster Town
Mendip Broadwalk	1-0	Almondsbury
Sturminster Newton	3-1	Radstock Town
Wells City	4-0	Odd Down
Welton Rovers	2-3	Bitton

Leading Goalscorers

Premier Division

Ryan Bush (Buckland) - 16
Jack Bray-Evans (Newquay) – 15
Kitan Jaiyeoba (Paulton) – 14
Rhys Simmonds (Newquay) – 12
Sam Beresford (Clevedon) – 12
Josh Parry (Barnstaple) – 11

First Division

Jake Brown (Wells) – 15
Harry Warwick (Wells) - 15
Liam McCracken (Bristol Telephones) – 14
Josh Pearce (Avonmouth) – 12
Jack Newman (Warminster) – 11
Elliot Bevis (Sturminster Newton) – 11
Liam Nicholls (Almondsbury) - 10

All Competitions

Ryan Bush (Buckland) - 23
Jack Bray-Evans (Newquay) – 18
Josh Parry (Barnstaple) – 17
Rhys Simmonds (Newquay) – 17
Jensen Wakefield (Bradford) - 16
Curtis Damerell (Torpoint) – 15
Harry Warwick (Wells) - 15

Upcoming Fixtures

Wednesday 17th December 2025

Les Phillips Cup

Ivybridge Town	vs	Helston Athletic	19:45KO

Saturday 20th December 2025 (3pm kick off unless noted)

Premier Division

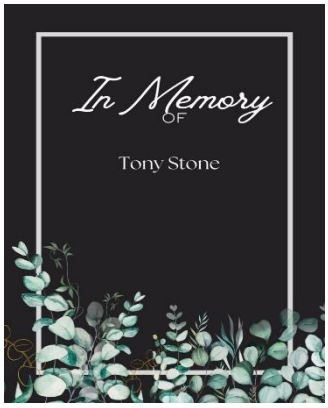
Brislington	vs	Wellington
Clevedon Town	vs	St Blazey
Ivybridge Town	vs	Paulton Rovers
Newquay	vs	Bridgwater United
Saltash United	vs	Buckland Athletic
Shepton Mallet	vs	Torpoint Athletic
Sidmouth Town	vs	Helston Athletic
St Austell	vs	Bradford Town
Street	vs	Oldland Abbotonians

First Division

Almondsbury	vs	Welton Rovers
Bitton	vs	Avonmouth
Bristol Telephones	vs	Sturminster Newton
Calne Town	vs	Cheddar
Longwell Green	vs	Hengrove Athletic
Odd Down	vs	Mendip Broadwalk
Radstock Town	vs	Cadbury Heath
Shirehampton	vs	Keynsham Town
Warminster Town	vs	AEK Boco
Wells City	vs	Devizes Town



https://www.westernleague.co.uk/news/maurice-washer-r-i-p



https://www.westernleague.co.uk/news/tony-stone-r-i-p

League Tables

	PREMIER DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
1	Clevedon Town	20	16	1	3	27	49
2	Sidmouth Town	23	14	4	5	24	46
3	Torpoint Athletic	17	13	3	1	23	42
4	Paulton Rovers	20	12	4	4	33	40
5	Saltash United	19	11	4	4	15	37
6	Barnstaple Town	18	11	3	4	25	36
7	Buckland Athletic	20	10	4	6	13	34
8	Bridgwater United	22	9	4	9	-3	31
9	Helston Athletic	21	9	3	9	7	30
10	Newquay	16	8	3	5	15	27
11	Bradford Town	23	7	6	10	-3	27
12	Ivybridge Town	20	8	2	10	-6	26
13	Street	18	6	5	7	10	23
14	Shepton Mallet	20	6	4	10	-2	22
15	St Blazey	23	5	7	11	-18	22
16	Wellington	19	5	3	11	-11	18
17	Brislington	20	5	2	13	-16	17
18	Oldland Abbotonians	17	1	2	14	-19	5
19	St Austell	20	0	0	20	-114	0

	FIRST DIVISION	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GD	Points
1	Devizes Town	21	15	6	0	42	51
2	Wells City	21	15	0	6	41	45
3	Avonmouth	20	12	7	1	16	43
4	Sturminster Newton United	19	13	2	4	29	41
5	Bitton	20	12	5	3	12	41
6	Bristol Telephones	20	11	4	5	7	37
7	Almondsbury	20	10	3	7	0	33
8	Mendip Broadwalk	19	9	5	5	5	32
9	AEK Boco	20	9	3	8	11	30
10	Longwell Green Sports	21	9	2	10	-9	29
11	Warminster Town	20	8	4	8	10	28
12	Cadbury Heath	23	8	4	11	-18	28
13	Calne Town	20	6	5	9	0	23
14	Odd Down	21	5	5	11	-11	20
15	Shirehampton	18	4	5	9	-21	17
16	Keynsham Town	20	4	4	12	-17	16
17	Radstock Town	19	3	7	9	-12	15*
18	Cheddar	22	2	8	12	-28	14
19	Hengrove Athletic	20	1	6	13	-28	9
20	Welton Rovers	18	1	3	14	-29	6


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