



Jewson Western League Division One

Sturminster Newton United

Vs

Bitton

Saturday 4th October 2025

Kick-Off – 3PM

This programme has kindly been sponsored by Wessex Photo of Sturminster Newton!



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JEWSON



Welcome to Barnett's Field

The Home of Sturminster Newton United FC

Officials At Barnett's Field

President:	Richard Frear
Vice President:	Steve Clarke
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Vice Chairman:	Ian Myall
Club Secretary:	Justine Turnbull
Football Secretary:	Phil Blakey
Treasurer:	John Cowley
Welfare Officer:	Adam Kellaway
Welfare Officer:	Lucy Eckett
Director of Football:	Dan Carroll
Director of Operations:	Mark Deakin
Social Media:	Ellie Cowley
Membership Secretary	Rob Hookins

Committee Members:	Debbie Bright
	Jordan Edmonds
	Fred Douch
	Mark Rowland

Social Media:

You can catch all our updates on our socials here:

www.snufc.com

<https://www.instagram.com/sturminsternewtonutdfc/>

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Welcome from the Chairman

Welcome to Barnett's Field for this afternoon's Jewson Western League Division One fixture.

Our second season at this level has continued to go well for us. A high point with a win midweek against Wells City was a highlight, followed by a good win against Newport in the FA Vase, then a bit of a low with a loss at Odd Down last weekend. On Tuesday evening we will have faced our most local rivals Warminster Town in the Les Phillips cup. So we head into this game still in the top four in the division.

To turn our attentions to today's opponents, we welcome Bitton back to Barnett's Field this afternoon.

Bitton are currently sitting in second place, just five points ahead of us having played one more game, so we would expect a fairly even game. We had two good matches against them last season, winning 3-0 away but Bitton took the points in our home fixture winning 2-1. We ended up just one point behind them last season in seventh place.

Don't forget we play Okehampton Argyle AWAY in the next round (1st round proper) of the FA Vase on Saturday 18th October. **Kick off is at 3pm.** A coach will be provided for those that want to come along – please contact Debbie for details.

Finally, thank you all for your continued support home and away. It really does make a difference! Also welcome to any new supporters who are joining us on our journey. I think you will enjoy the experience.

Thanks to you all

Lee

Lee Bright
Chairman



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Since we were last here...

Having started the season well with results putting us in third place before Saturday's FA Vase match game, the win midweek against Wells City certainly helped. On Saturday we entertained Newport (IW) from the Wessex League Division One and did rather well, earning us a place in the hat for the first round proper, where we meet Okehampton Argyle (same as last season!), but this time we travel to Okehampton.

Tuesday 16th September 2025

Sturminster Newton United 5 Wells City 2

A good first half saw the teams level at 2-2 at half time. A half full of incident where Stur led 2-1 until Wells were awarded a penalty late in the half. First half goals from Bevv and Leney. The second half started at much the same pace, but it was the home side that struck first with three goals within twelve minutes of the restart. Rapid fire goals from Leney, Adam Hall, and Bevv knocked the stuffing out of Wells and Stur continued to dominate for most of the half. Final score 5-2 to the Cherries.



Tuesday's man of the match was awarded to Elliot Bevis

Saturday 20th September 2025

Sturminster Newton United 2 Newport (IW) 0

Two goals in the first 10 minutes were enough to put this FA Vase tie to bed. Six minutes in and Ben Knight got on the end of a cross and headed home to open the scoring followed minutes later by a second for the Cherries when Aaron Lane-Leney found a burst of speed to beat the offside trap and slammed the ball past a very good Newport keeper for his sixth of the season, so far.

The game continued with quite a few chances on both sides, but generally Stur dominated the rest of the game, and had it not been for a superb performance in the Newport goal by Leon Pitman the scoreline could possibly have been bigger.

Great performance from the lads, earning them an away tie at Okehampton Argyle in the first round proper.



Saturday's man of the match was awarded to Aaron Lane-Leney

Saturday 27th September 2025

Odd Down 2 Sturminster Newton United 1

On a day that promised so much more, Stur battled hard and competed well for much of this match, but ultimately it was Odd Down that took two chances during the second half. With time running out a strike from George (W) Coleman on 85 minutes (having come on as a sub just seven minutes earlier) gave the Cherries hope, but it just wasn't to be and the points stayed at the home ground. There will be days like these, we will forget them and move on to the next league match – Bitton at home on Saturday.



Man of the match on Saturday – Ben Knight

Sturminster Newton United FC – History

In 1874 the club, which was then known as the Panthers FC, became the first ever club from the West Country to participate in the FA Cup, reaching the second round on three occasions.

In 1877-78 they played the legendary Wanderers in the first round but lost 9-1. In the 1890's their name was changed to Sturminster St Mary's, with the current name adopted in 1945.

They were among the founding members of the Dorset Combination in 1957, having previously played in the Dorset League. After leaving the league due to financial difficulties in 1960, they played in the lower Dorset Senior League until they re-joined the Combination in 1972. They remained in that competition (since 2002 known as the Dorset Premier League) until 2011, when they were relegated to the Dorset Senior League. During this time, they won the Combination Cup twice, in 1981 and 1995.

They moved from a public recreation ground to their own stadium in Honeymead Lane in 1996.

In 2011-12 under Gary Head, in his first full season in charge, the club won the Dorset Senior Trophy with a 1-0 win over Parley Sports at Wimborne Town. In 2021-22 under the management of Nick Squires the club won its second Dorset Senior Trophy, beating Merley Cobham Sports 2-1 at The County Ground, Hamworthy. In 2022-23 the club continued their success adding the Dorset Premier League Cup to the trophy cabinet beating Sturminster Marshall 4-1 at Wimborne Town. The 2023-24 season has been the most successful in the clubs history as they have won the Dorset Premier League for the first time and have gained promotion to Step 6. A great season first time around in the Jewson Western League Division One saw them finish a very credible eighth under Nick Squires.

Dorset League Division One Winners 1971-72

Dorset Senior Trophy Winners – 2011-12 and 2021-22

Dorset Combination League Cup Winners – 1980-81 and 1995-96

Dorset Premier League Cup Winners – 2022-23 and 2023-24

Dorset Premier League Winners 2023-24

History of Bitton FC

Bitton AFC founded in 1892. They play at the D L Brickwork Stadium which is on the outskirts of the village of Bitton, on the A420 between Bath and Bristol. This has been their home since the club was formed. There is very little history of the club before the Second World War. From 1945 up until the late 1980's they ran teams in the Bristol and District Football League with limited success.

In the 1989/90 season the club 1st team played in the Senior Division of the Bristol and District Football League. After winning promotion two years in succession the 1st team started the 1991/92 season playing in the Premier Division of the Bristol Premier Combination. Season 1994/95 was to prove one of the club's most memorable, winning the GFA Senior Amateur Cup and finishing Runners-Up in the Bristol Premier Combination, achieving promotion to the Gloucestershire County League.

Season 1996/97 saw the club reach the GFA Challenge Trophy Final, losing narrowly to Mangotsfield United. The club also finished Runners Up in the Gloucestershire County League and were promoted to the Western League First Division. After 7 seasons in the First Division, the Club achieved its highest position during the 2003/04 season, when finishing Runners Up and gaining promotion to the Western League Premier Division.

Upon becoming an established Western League Premier Division Club, Bitton AFC were crowned Champions in 2008/09, whilst Winning the GFA Challenge Trophy in the same season. Despite winning the league then, and earning Runners Up in 2010/11, Bitton were unable to gain promotion, as the ground facilities did not satisfy Southern League standards.

Over the last decade the club has matched its playing performance with many off the pitch developments. A stand seating 100 was built. Covered accommodation for 150 was erected. In February 2001 floodlighting was installed which is up to Conference standard. 2004 saw the building of a new dressing room block, including a kitchen and boardroom and also a floodlight multiple use games area.

This investment continues to demonstrate the clubs drive and ambition to push for promotion to the Southern League.

The Reserve Team played in the Premier Division of the Bristol Premier Combination whilst the 'A' team (3rd's) play in Division 1 of the Bristol and District League. Bitton Ladies were formed at the start of the 2007/2008 season and played in the Gloucestershire County Women's Football League. Bitton AFC also run an impressive Youth structure for boys & girls, with teams ranging from Under 6's right through to Under 18's.

Sadly the end of the 2018-19 season it was decided to withdraw the reserve side from the Bristol Premier Combination League. The ladies team had also disbanded but a strong girls team is progressing through the club and it will hopefully see a resurgence of ladies football in the near future.

Happily the ladies have reformed this season 22/23 and we look forward to a brighter future.

Next match at Barnett's Field

Next up at home we welcome Avonmouth on Saturday 1st November.

Meanwhile we are on the road three times:

Next Saturday 11th October away to AEK Boco

Saturday 18th October away (FA Vase) to Okehampton Argyle

Saturday 25th October away to Welton Rovers.

We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible to cheer on the Cherries on their road trips. There are coach trips being arranged for some of these fixtures. Please keep an eye on social media for details of travel.

Thanks to our sponsors

A huge thank you to all of our sponsors! We would struggle to do this without your contributions to the club. We will do a fuller report on our sponsors in a future programme, but supporters will notice the new sponsors signage on the back of the two stands recently, as well as some new advertising boards around the ground.

Thank You to our Headline Sponsors



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League table as at 29/09/2025

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Devizes Town	11	8	3	0	19	27
2	Bitton	12	8	3	1	9	27
3	Wells City	13	8	0	5	15	24
4	Sturminster Newton United	11	7	1	3	19	22
5	Bristol Telephones	11	7	1	3	3	22
6	Avonmouth	10	6	3	1	8	21
7	Mendip Broadwalk	11	6	3	2	6	21
8	Longwell Green Sports	12	7	0	5	-4	21
9	AEK Boco	12	5	3	4	6	18
10	Cadbury Heath	12	5	2	5	1	17
11	Almondsbury	12	5	1	6	-6	16
12	Odd Down (BATH)	12	4	3	5	-2	15
13	Warminster Town	12	4	2	6	-2	14
14	Shirehampton	11	3	4	4	-3	13
15	Calne Town	11	3	3	5	-3	12
16	Keynsham Town	11	3	2	6	-1	11
17	Cheddar	12	2	3	7	-12	9
18	Radstock Town	11	1	2	8	-15	5
19	Hengrove Athletic	12	0	4	8	-17	4
20	Welton Rovers	11	0	3	8	-21	3

Today's squads

STURMINSTER NEWTON UNITED				BITTON			
No.		Goals	Sub	No.		Goals	Sub
	Theo Crane				James Smallcombe		
	Nick Hewlett				Charlie Oats		
	Jack Atkins				Callum Ball		
	Buddy O'Shea				Jacob Gardner		
	Elliot Bevis				Billy Brock		
	Billy Bright				James Hall		
	Ashley Clarke				Joe Carter		
	George (GC) Coleman				Harry Neil		
	Benjamin Cowley				Micky Parsons		
	Jamie Danoris				Luke Bryan		
	Ryan Schouten				Liam Towler		
	William Guppy				Ieuan Crowe		
	Adam Hall				Sebastian Judge		
	Harry Smith				Jamie King		
	Aaron Lane-Leney				Adrian Harvey		
	Jensen Doerr				Aidan Noble		
	George (W) Coleman				Harry Simons		
	Charlie Garrod				Jacon Goodfield		
	Matthew Jobbins				Charlie Roach		
	Ben Reed				Josh Nelson		
	Ben Knight				Mario Mateus		
	Ewan Barkess						
	Mal Benjamin						
	Denzil Gurung						
	Nick Squires	Manager			Dan Langdon	Manager	
	Martin Silk	Asst Manager			Jay Powell	Asst Manager	
	Joshua Mead	Head Coach			Adie Harvey	Coach	
	Dan Stone	Coach					
	Annie Lammas	Physio					
Kit: Red & Black shirts, Black shorts, Red & Black hooped socks				Kit: Yellow & Green shirts, Green shorts, Green socks			

Match Officials:

Referee: Rob Herrett
Assistant 1: Benjamin Taylor
Assistant 2: Barry Underwood