



Jewson Western League Division One

Sturminster Newton United

Vs

Wells City

Tuesday 16th September 2025

Kick-Off – 7.45PM

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



Welcome to Barnett's Field

The Home of Sturminster Newton United FC

Officials At Barnett's Field

President:	Richard Frear
Vice President:	Steve Clarke
Chairman:	Lee Bright
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

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Welcome from the Chairman

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

Our second season at this level has continued to go well for us. Apart from a bit of a blip at Cadbury Heath and away to the current leaders Devizes Town, we have had a good FA Vase win, and undefeated in the other seven games (having won six of them). Saturday's win was astounding against a team that where the result was difficult to predict based on current form. Two goals from Aaron Lane-Leney and further goals from George (GC) Coleman and Ben Reed and an own goal gave us a 5-1 win over Longwell Green.

To turn our attentions to today's opponents, we welcome Wells City to Barnett's Field this evening.

Wells City are currently sitting in second place, just two 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, both ending in a narrow defeat. The away fixture was an epic where Stur battled hard with 10 men for an hour following a sending off!

Don't forget we play Newport (IW) in the next round of the FA Vase on Saturday so we hope to see you all there. **Kick off is at 2.30pm**

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



WessexPhoto

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 today, as well as some new advertising boards around the ground.

Since we were last here...

Having started the season well with results putting us in fifth place before Saturday's game, the win on Saturday certainly helped and left us in fourth place just two points behind today's visitors. On Saturday we entertained Longwell Green Sports, just a few places below us in the division and were excited after the midweek win.

Saturday 13th September 2025

Sturminster Newton United 5 Longwell Green Sports 1

With the cheese festival on in town this weekend and the forecast for fairly gloomy weather, Saturday's crowd was a little smaller than normal for what turned out unexpectedly to be a high scoring game. For the first twenty minutes there were a few chances carved out but not a lot to get excited about, although The Cherries seemed to have the upper hand. Then suddenly the ball was played over the visitors defence and Aaron Lane-Leney raced past the defenders to get onto it and blasted the ball into the net from the edge of the penalty area. Good to see him scoring! Just three minutes later, from a corner Aaron placed a powerful header past the Longwell Green keeper for his and Stur's second of the afternoon. Three minutes later a cross from Adam Hall floated beautifully into the path of George "GC" Coleman who slotted the ball into the back of the net with the ease of a natural forward. The crowd went wild!

The second half started with much the same pace, but it was the visitors that struck next with a good goal on 53 minutes to take us to 3-1. A fourth goal turned up on 65 minutes courtesy of a stray pass back by the away defender following intense pressure from the home forwards which ended up rolling past the keeper and into the back of the net. Rather than take that result, Sturminster Newton continue to put pressure on the Longwell Green goal, and just three minutes from the end of the 90 minutes, Ben Reed opened his account with a great strike having done some good work with the ball to get himself in a scoring position.

So the game ended 5-1 to the home side and we moved into fourth place, and started to look forward to the visit of Wells City.



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

Next match at Barnett's Field

Next up at home we welcome Newport (IW) of the Wessex League Division One in the 2nd round qualifying of the Isuzu FA Vase this coming Saturday 20th September.

Following a shaky start Newport have had some better results of late so we are expecting a good match.

Please note that the kick off time is a little earlier than normal at **2.30pm**

We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible to cheer on the Cherries into the first round proper.

See you all on Saturday!

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 Wells City FC

Wells City FC were formed on May 27th 1890 following a meeting at the Star Hotel in Wells. The club play their fixtures at what is known as the "Torfurlong" sports field, and win the first ever Somerset Senior league in 1891. B In 1892 the club retain the Somerset Senior league and join the Bristol & District league (which was the forbearer of the Western league). The visit to the Bristol & District league is brief with the club returning to the Somerset Senior League in 1893 and move to their current home the Athletic Ground.

The first ever Somerset Senior Cup is held in 1896 in which Wells City FC lost 4-0 to Radstock Town.

The Mid Somerset Senior League is formed in 1923, the club compete in both this league and Somerset Senior league, winning the Mid Somerset Senior League in its first inaugural season.

In 1929, the club and Radstock Town share the Somerset Senior League title and are invited to join the newly formed Western League. Wells remain in the Western League through to 1960.

Following the 2nd World War the club becomes professional on January 18th 1948, winning the Western league on goal difference in 1950, with the trophy being paraded by the team from the balcony at Wells Town Hall to a packed crowd in the marketplace below.

In the late 1950s the club have a difficult period, finishing bottom of Western league division 1 and are relegated in 1957. The club have mounting financial problems, culminating in 1959 in finishing bottom of Western League division 2 but remain a member of the Western League. The club return to Amateur status. Finally, the financial issues become too great and the club end their membership of the Western League after the League propose just one Division for the next season in 1960. This ends 31 consecutive years in the Western League (excluding 1940 to 1945 when the league was suspended for World War 2).

After a period of close to 50 years in the Somerset County League, in 2008 the club finish runners up in the Somerset County League and are

promoted back to the Western League. Unfortunately, promotion achieving Manager Mark Leaney resigns 24 hours before the clubs' first game in the Western League for over 50 years.

In 2010 the club win the Western League first division and are promoted to the Western League Premier division, they also reach the semi-final of the Somerset Premier Cup losing to Southern League Bridgwater Town 2-0. Unfortunately, in 2013 the club are relegated back to the Western League division 1.

After finishing runners up in 2016, the club are promoted back to Western League Premier Division, also winning the Somerset Premier Cup, beating Southern League Larkhall Athletic 2-1 in the Final at Weston Super Mare FC.

The recent years have been frustrating, in 2023 missing out on promotion after finishing third with 96 points, after holding a top 2 position for most of the season, including a run of 18 games unbeaten. The promotion play-off semi-final is lost 3-0 to Brislington. In 2024 the club finish fifth again achieving a place in the promotion play offs, but again losing the play-off semi-final 6-4 to Wincanton after leading 3-1 at half time.

In 2024 the club achieved a new record in Somerset football, with the Reserves winning the Somerset Senior Cup beating Sporting Weston 4-1 at Paulton Rovers FC and the 'A' team winning the Somerset Junior Cup beating Weston Town 3-1 at Middlezoy Rovers FC.

In the summer of 2024 ex Shepton Mallet and Paulton Rovers Manager Craig Loxton was appointed as first team Manager, with Jon Burr as his Assistant. They resigned on 23rd November. Shaun Potter Wells's Manager in the 2022/23 season and caretaker for a month in 2023/24 returned as Manager for his 3rd stint on 2nd December.

Shaun has been joined by Mark Mckeever and they work as joint managers.

Club Honours

Somerset Senior League Winners: 1891, 1892, 1894, 1903, 1929

Somerset Senior Cup Winners: 1897, 1931, 1932 (shared with Radstock Town), 1938, 2007

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League table as at 15/09/2025

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Devizes Town	9	7	2	0	17	23
2	Wells City	10	7	0	3	18	21
3	Bitton	9	6	2	1	6	20
4	Sturminster Newton United	9	6	1	2	17	19
5	AEK Boco	10	5	2	3	7	17
6	Avonmouth	8	5	2	1	7	17
7	Mendip Broadwalk	9	5	2	2	5	17
8	Bristol Telephones	8	5	1	2	1	16
9	Longwell Green Sports	10	5	0	5	-6	15
10	Keynsham Town	9	3	2	4	3	11
11	Shirehampton	8	3	2	3	-1	11
12	Warminster Town	10	3	2	5	-2	11
13	Cadbury Heath	9	3	2	4	-4	11
14	Odd Down (BATH)	9	2	3	4	-1	9
15	Cheddar	10	2	3	5	-10	9
16	Almondsbury	9	3	0	6	-11	9
17	Calne Town	9	2	2	5	-6	8
18	Radstock Town	9	1	2	6	-11	5
19	Hengrove Athletic	9	0	3	6	-12	3
20	Welton Rovers	9	0	3	6	-17	3

Today's squads

STURMINSTER NEWTON UNITED				WELLS CITY			
No.		Goals	Sub	No.		Goals	Sub
	Theo Crane				Jacob Brown		
	Nick Hewlett				Noah Brown		
	Jack Atkins				Louis de Gregorio		
	Buddy O'Shea				Michael Duffy		
	Elliot Bevis				Max Dyer		
	Billy Bright				Reece Obamwonyi		
	Ashley Clarke				Freddy Harvey-Larmar		
	George (GC) Coleman				Ross Benedict McErlain		
	Benjamin Cowley				Charlie Moon		
	Jamie Danoris				Kai Murrell		
	Ryan Schouten				Tom Ovigne		
	William Guppy				James Tait		
	Adam Hall				Sam Towler		
	Harry Smith				Harrison Veale		
	Aaron Lane-Leney				Harry Joshua Warwick		
	Jensen Doerr				Adam Wright		
	George (W) Coleman						
	Charlie Garrod						
	Matthew Jobbins						
	Ben Reed						
	Ben Knight						
	Ewan Barkess						
	Mal Benjamin						
	Denzil Gurung						
	Nick Squires	Manager			Shaun Potter	Jt Manager	
	Martin Silk	Asst Manager			Mark Mckeever	Jt Manager	
	Joshua Mead	Head Coach			Ross Padfield	Coach	
	Dan Stone	Coach			Josh Morris	Coach	
	Annie Lammas	Physio			Steve Vowles	Physio	
Kit: Red & Black shirts, Black shorts, Red & Black hooped socks				Kit: Yellow shirts, Yellow shorts, Yellow socks			

Match Officials:

Referee: Cain Collins
Assistant 1: Paul Bell
Assistant 2: Benjamin Haskett