

MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



MELKSHAM TOWN

Football Club

SEASON

WILTSHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE
DIVISION 1

1993/1994



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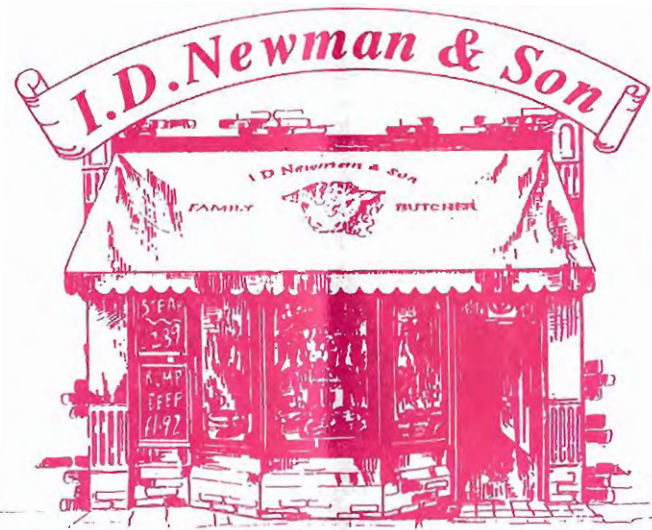
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GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE,
WE EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO
VISITORS CORSHAM TOWN. IT WAS HERE
AT THE CONIGRE THAT THE VISITORS
ENJOYED THEIR FIRST HOUR, BACK ON
APRIL 9TH 1974 WHEN THEY DEFEATED
PARK 4-2 IN THE WILTS. SENIOR CUP
FINAL.

TOWN HAVE ALREADY PLAYED CORSHAM
THIS SEASON AWAY IN THE LEAGUE CUP
WINNING 2-0 WITH GOALS FROM MICHAEL
PAGE AND JIMMY WRIGHT. TODAY THEY WILL
BE LOOKING TO CONSOLIDATE THEIR PUSH
TOWARDS THE TOP OF THE TABLE, AFTER
THE EXCELLENT 4-2 WIN AT BISHOPSTONE
IN DIFFICULT CONDITIONS LAST SATURDAY.
GOALS FROM MICHAEL PAGE (2), DEREK
WATSON AND DARREN PERRIN (PENALTY)
MADE UP TOWN'S TALLY.

ENJOY TODAY'S GAME, AND HAVE A
MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

COMING NEXT...

SATURDAY JAN 1ST WILTS DIV I.
MELKSHAM TOWN V SANFORD
K.O. 3.30PM

Today's
LINE-UP

MELKSHAM T.

1. PAUL STEVENS
2. BEN LANG
3. MARTIN STANLEY
4. DARREN PERRIN (CAPT)
5. WARWICK BURNETT
6. JIMMY WRIGHT
7. WAYNE TOWNSEND
8. DEREK WATSON
9. JERRY WRIGHT
10. CHRIS HENRY
11. MICHAEL PAGE
12. ANDY GATTIKER
14. JASON EDWARDS

**WILTSHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE**

SATURDAY 18TH DEC. '93

K.O.

2.00

REFEREE

M. LODGE (SWINDON)

LINESMEN

G. D. BARNES (SWINDON)

P. K. EYERS (TROWBRIDGE)

CORSHAM T.

1. STEVE MASON
2. NEIL BLACKMAN
3. NEIL SHARDLOW
4. SIMON DENT
5. JEREMY CAREY
6. CHRIS WEEKES
7. ROD PRATT
8. NIGEL CURTIS
9. STEVE HOARE
10. SPENCER WILMOTT
11. STEVE JAVIES
12. SIMON BRAY
14. LUKE CHAPMAN

**Melksham Town
Football Club**



**FACTS AND
FIGURERS**

TOWNS OVERALL RECORD THIS SEASON

PLAYED 20 WON 12 DRAWN 1 LOST 7
GOALS FOR 41 AGAINST 40

LEAGUE RECORD

HOME P 7 W 4 D 1 L 2 F.20 A.12
AWAY P 4 W 4 D 0 L 0 F.13 A.4

1st. TEAM GOALSCORERS RECORD TO DATE

PLAYER	LEAGUE	FA. CHALL CUP	FA. VASE	WILTS FLD CUP	ADKEY CUP
M. PAGE	5	—	—	—	1
W. TOWNSEND	4	—	1	—	—
J. EDWARDS	4	1	1	—	—
A. GATTIKER	3	—	—	—	—
W. BURNETT	2	—	—	—	—
J. WRIGHT	4	—	1	—	1
C. HENRY	—	—	1	—	—
R. GOULDING	2	—	1	—	—
D. PERRIN	2	—	—	—	—
M. WRIGHT	1	—	—	—	—
C. BISHOP	1	—	—	—	—
D. WATSON	1	—	—	—	—

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Melksham Town F.C.

Founded 1876

Melksham Town F.C. was formed in October, 1876. The first game being played at "Challymead". The club were founder members of the Wilts League in 1894, playing in that league for 80 years. They only won the league once in 1903/04, but finished runners up in 1924/25, 29/30, 59/60, 67/68, 68/69 and 71/72. In 1903/04 the club won the Wilts Senior Cup, beating Swindon Haydon Street Workmen in the final, the club did not reach the final again until 1957/58 when they lost 3-0 to Devizes Town after a 2nd replay. This same season saw The Conigres record attendance of 2821, in a FA Cup match against Western League Trowbridge Town in which we lost 6-0, after losing goalkeeper Mick Beaven with a severe finger injury. Mick of course later became a football league referee before his early and untimely death in 1978.

In the early 60s, the club did not enjoy a great deal of success on or off the field. In 1967 the club appointed ex-Bath City player Ken Owens as player manager who brought a more professional attitude to the club. The club reached the Wilts Senior Cup Final three seasons running, 1967/68, 68/69, 69/70, the later being a 2-0 win against Devizes with two penalties from Ron Low. In 1968/69 the club should have won the league, but lost it in the last match. The season was a notable one though with Gareth Lewis scoring a club record "72" goals and we also reached the first round proper of the FA Amateur Cup, losing here in front of a 800 crowd to Harwich & Parkeston 3-2.

In 1974 the club joined the Western League. Results were poor for the first two seasons, and in 1976 we were relegated to the newly formed first division. Alan Skirton took over as manager, but promotion eluded the club, but we won the Wilts Senior Cup again in 1978, beating Avon Bradford 3-0. Pete Carter took charge in 1979 as player manager and guided the town to the first division title. Pete remained in charge until 1982 taking the club to fifth place in his last season, and winning the Wilts Shield in 1980/81 and 81/82. Brian Ballinger took over in 1982/83 but things did not work out, and Mel Gingell took over in November 1983. Mel guided the club to the League Cup semi-finals in 1985 and two further Wilts Shield triumphs. In 1986 new toilets, dressing rooms and floodlights were erected. First division Southampton visited The Conigre for the opening ceremony in front of a 1500 crowd. At the end of the 1987/88 season, the town were relegated back to the first division, it ended an eight seasons stay in the top flight. During the following season 1989/90, a change in management saw Alan McDougall taking over from Mel Gingell. Alan, an ex-Stranraer, Mangotsfield and Trowbridge player, was forced to resign after only a short spell owing to work commitments. Dave King the ex-Larkhall manager was quickly installed in November 1990.

The season ended with Town finishing a disappointing sixteenth position. A change in club policy owing to financial difficulties, ended with Dave King's resignation in pre-season. Local man Nigel Brimble, a former assistant manager to Mel Gingell was appointed. The 1991-92 season saw Town finish in twenty first position, their lowest ever.

At the start of the 1992/93 season, there was confidence in the club that a better season was ahead, despite re-election to the Great Mills League having to be made due to finishing twenty first. However it was not to be and the club finished bottom and were relegated to the Wilts League which they had left in 1974. The town now has the undignified distinction of being the first club to be relegated from the Great Mills League under the pyramid system. For the 1993/94 season Mel Gingell has returned to the club as 1st Team Manager, and with his knowledge and experience of the local scene, it is hoped that the clubs stay in county football is a short one.

After the Match . . .

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