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Cover Photograph Courtesy Alex James.

AROUND THE TOWN

CHIPPING SODBURY
TOWN

v

LUDLOW TOWN



CHIPPING SODBURY TOWN
FOOTBALL CLUB
FOUNDED 1885

Saturday, 14th March 2026 - Kick Off 3pm

Chairman's Welcome



A warm welcome to everyone from Ludlow Town for our first fixture against them this season, with the return game scheduled away in three weeks' time.

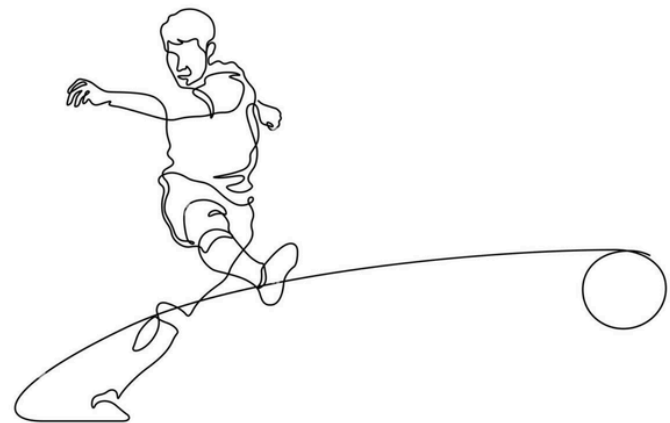
The Sods come into today's game in good form, having picked up seven points from our last three matches. The lads have worked hard to build some momentum and will be looking to continue that progress this afternoon.

It should be a competitive encounter, as Ludlow also sit mid-table on the same points and with a game in hand, so we know we'll need to be at our very best.

As always, thank you to everyone who contributes to the club behind the scenes, and to all of you for your continued support. Please enjoy the day, make the most of the clubhouse, get behind the lads, and hopefully cheer them on to another three points.

If you haven't already, grab a ticket for our online raffle, where you could win an iPhone 17 and £500 cash. Also check out and share details of our Easter Sunday Family event, which is shaping up to be another great day at the club.

#UpTheSods | #SodsTogether
James Mapstone



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The FA Respect Code of Conduct

SPECTATORS

We all bear a collective responsibility to set a good example and help provide a positive environment in which children can learn and enjoy the game. Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct for spectators at all times.

I WILL:

- Remember that Under 18's and vulnerable adults maybe at the game
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success
- Respect the Referee's decisions even when you don't agree with them
- Appreciate good play from whatever team it comes from
- Remain behind the touchline and within the Designated Spectators' Area
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Support positively and offer players encouragement not criticism
- Never engage in, or tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken:

I MAY BE:

- Issued with a verbal warning from a club or league official
- Required to meet with the club, league or CFA Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club
- Requested by the club not to attend future games
- Suspended or have my club membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents.

IN ADDITION:

- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and/or suspension on the club.

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CSFC History



In the summer of 1959 Cliff Phelps decided it was time football association was brought back to the town. It had been six long years since the boys of the town had donned the Blue & White of Sodbury in the Western League. After several meetings at The Bell Inn (Now Brooks Bar & Kitchen) the new club was formed. Major L.M.Harris was President, Mr. E Purbrick Chairman, Mr. C Phelps Vice Chairman, Club Captain Dennis Greenaway and Youth Captain Michael Boulton. In the initial 1959/60 season they entered a senior team into The Dursley & Wotton League and a team into the Youth Section. The following season Sodbury joined the Bristol and District League and throughout the 60's remained in Division 3.

The 1970's began with relegation, when we finished bottom of Division 3 and the slump continued in 1971/72 Season when finishing bottom of Division 4. The Mid 70's saw a few changes and the ground work of the team today. Mike Fox became player Manager and 'The Sods' began a Sunday Side. In the 1976/77 Season, Sodbury finished third in Division 5 and gained promotion. The 1978/79 Season saw us go one better and finished runners-up of Division 4. To finish the decade off and celebrate twenty years of the club's rebirth, we won the Championship of Division 3 in 1979/80.

The 1980's began were the 70's left off and a fourth place finish gave Sodbury promotion to Bristol and District Division 1. 1981/82 saw the rebirth of our Reserve side and by the end of the season, the 1st's had gained promotion to the Senior Division. From Division 5, to the Senior League in six seasons. The first season in the Senior division was mid-table finish and the end of the season saw Mike Fox's testimonial and an Ashton Gate appearance against Mangotsfield united. The following season we finished third. After finishing 15th in 1985/86 we were relegated to Division 1, where we remained until finishing runners up in 1988/89.

The 1990's kicked off with a third place finish and promotion to the Bristol Premier Combination Div 1. in 1990/91. The early 90's saw a new clubhouse and changing rooms built with Players and Committee members contributing their trades. A fourth place finish and the winning of the Premier cup in 1992/93 was the clubs best season so far. The Sods remained in Division 1 until the end of the nineties, when they were promoted to the Premier Division for the 1999/00 Season.

The 2000's and after 3 seasons in the Premier, the Sods were relegated at the end of 2001/02 season. A new manager and new era began in 2002/03. Les Underdown and his Assistant Jeff Clark both ex-players with the club took over the reins. A mid table finish in their first season, saw Les leave and left Jeff in the hot seat. The following season saw another mid-table

finish and the Reserves become Champions with the exciting players now in the squad. 2004/05 ended in a disappointing third place but the club now had a third team as well. The following season, the previous year was forgotten when the club won the Championship and promoted back to the Premier division.

A mid table finish in the Premier division and the other 2 teams both winning promotion was a good season in 2006/07. 2007/08 became the clubs most successful season, when the first's won the Championship of the Premier and the reserves Champions of Bristol & District division 1. The first season and a change of manager in the Gloucestershire county league and the team finished bottom of the league, only winning 5 games. Even though the club finished bottom, they were not relegated. Mark Stenner was appointed manager and he started the steady march up the County league.

The 2010's has produced the club's most successful time in their history. Mark Stenner had taken the team to a third place finish in the County league in 2010/11. After his departure early the following season, Scott Gibson took over. A disappointing bottom place finish was followed by two seasons of rebuilding and climbing the league. Karl Reese was appointed new manager at the beginning of 2014/15 season and in his first season had promoted the club from the County league to the dizzy heights of Western League football with a third place finish. Not a bad start for the new gaffer but with some new faces and playing great football, we went 1 better the following season and won the Western League Division 1 Championship. 2016/17 and the Western League Premier division was tough but a very creditable 13th position and competing in the F.A.Vase was our most successful season so far.

2017/18 was going to be a massive mountain to climb. Karl had left the club and also half the first team had departed to pastures new. Enter Neil Simons our new gaffer, a season in the Western league to take on with half a team and to make things a little more difficult, your first game is the clubs first ever game in the F.A.Cup. The season ended with a 13th place finish, an FA Cup victory and a quarter final place in the GFA Challenge trophy.

Early in the 2018/19 Season Neil decided to leave the club and shortly afterwards we appointed our present manager Joe White and his assistant Steve. At the end of the season under his leadership, the club had finished 10th in the Western League and had the best run in the FA cup in the clubs history. The club were successful in their appeal against the Hellenic League, sideways move by the F.A. So 2019/20 season was in the Western League Premier. The uncertainty of which League we would be playing in unsettled the players and so several departed the Club before a ball was kicked that Season. Three weeks before the season started the club also lost our Manager and his Assistant. Justin Bishop & Scott Gibson took control of the 1st team as Caretaker management and remained there until the League came to an abrupt halt. The F.A. announced on 26th March 2020 that the Step 1-7 game and all grassroots football leagues and competition under its umbrella had ended,

CSFC History

as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic. All results for the season would be expunged.

The 2020's began with Jeff Roberts and his team, Drew, Sean & Nick steering the 1st Team. The season was to be curtailed due to Covid-19. The 2021/22 season looked more promising with the new FA restructuring of the leagues; the football club then began their journey together with Jeff and his team in the Hellenic League - Premier Division. With a new 1st Team manager, James Mapstone, taking over towards the end of 2022/2023 season which unfortunately ended in relegation from the Hellenic Premier Division.

The 2023/2024 in the Hellenic Division 1 season showed great promise with new players joining the squad, things were looking up for the team. Pre-season went very well winning games. The team were looking good! Football has a way of knocking you back; picked up injuries to key players and never recovered from a bad run of results. Half way through the season, players began to leave. It was at this time Kevin Ashwood (was Wicks manager) became available to join the club, working alongside James. Kevin, then brought along his assistants and an influx of players.

The team finished in the relegation zone; due to other movements within the NLS stayed up.

The 2024/25 season was in the end quite successful. The team had a new manager in Kevin Ashwood who assembled a very good crop of young but inexperienced players at this level. The team played some really good football but just couldn't get results that we probably deserved. There had been some turmoil within the management team and sadly Kevin resigned his post as manager. Jeff Roberts who had stepped in to help Kevin just before resigning took over the reins again after a two year gap. Jeff managed to pick up where Kevin left off and got results that managed to see the team climb up the table. Unfortunately, the players ran out of steam and finished 10th.

We look forward to the 2025/26 season.

For the rest of the club - The Reserves have a new manager, Tim Seymour, who is entrusted now to take the team to the Bristol Premier Combination League. The A team will have a name change to Development team with Will Theobald at the helm in Div 1 of the Bristol and District League. During this season Will stepped down due to a new job. This meant Mike Cunningham and Lee Rendle took over the role of joint managers.

If you feel you would like to join the club as a volunteer please contact the Club Secretary, Les Theobald via Info@cstfc.co.uk. The Committee have worked tirelessly over the break to update and move forward the club. We are all volunteers and always welcome more people to join this fantastic club.



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Chipping Sodbury Town FC

Squad Members:

Sam Allen
Toby Allsopp-Jones
Keane Ashwood
Harvey Baker
Owen Bell
Lewis Beazer
George Box
John Britton
Tyrese Carter
Josh Coombe
Tyler Dacres
James Dobson
Goerge Hale
Kyle Head
Jordan Hickman
Liam Jones
Joshua Law
Teddy Maggs
Sean McSharry
Josh Pandolfino
Liam Pullen
Kalil Traore
Archie Williams



Colours:

Black & White Shirts,
Black Shorts,
Black & White Socks

Goalkeeper Jersey:

Green

Management Team:

Jeff Roberts, Martin Robinson,
Sean McSharry & John Britton

Goalkeeper Coach:

George Hale

Physio: Ken Purnell



Ludlow Town FC

Squad Members:

Zach Venables
Regan Tonkinson
Cameron Marsh
Josh Bull
Aaron Dovey
Harry Hurst
Jack Beaumont
Reece Williams ©
Morgan Millard
Jamie Richards
Connor Davies-Austin
Jack Marston
Zac Williams
Charlie Edwards
Jordan Morris
Harry Jones
Sean Evans
Ryan Clarke
Jack Dwyer
Tom Dwyer
Callum Gibbons
Charlie Clent
Ian Havard
Louis Griffiths
Harley Morris
George Crump

Management Team:

Manager:
Sean Evans
Assistant Manager:
Chris Waldron
Coach:
Dave Cooper



Colours:

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Black Shorts & Navy Socks

Goalkeeper Jersey:
Purple



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Ludlow Town FC - Club History



LUDLOW TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB THE KNIGHTS

Ludlow Football Club has a long history, originally being founded in 1890.

We have many teams within the club ranging from:

Juniors – u8's-u16's – Various Herefordshire Leagues

Ladies – Adults - Midwest Counties Womens League

Reserves – Adults – Herefordshire Premier League

First Team – Adults – Hellenic League Division One

The First team, after a break from football was reset in 2017 where they competed in the West Midlands Football League Division Two. Ludlow struggled in the first two seasons before having a successful third season being in the runners up spot before Covid hit and put a stop to Football.

Ludlow moved leagues in 2020, entering the Salop Leisure League Premier Division (Shropshire) who gained NLS Feeder League status. Ludlow's first season started well as they were in second place before football was again cut short due to Covid.

Once football restarted the next two seasons saw a 4th & 2nd place finish. It was however in the 2023/24 season that saw all the hard work pay off and Ludlow to go onto win the league with 87 points losing only once.

Ludlow applied to be promoted into Step 6 Football and after getting accepted they were placed into the Hellenic League Division One for the 2024/25 season. The first Shropshire team to play in the league.

Match Officials

Please show respect for our match officials today:

Referee: Owen Brimicombe

Assistant Referee: Peter Darby

Assistant Referee: Jason Cuthbert



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Match Report - First Team

07/03/26 League - Clanfield 85 – Home – 1-1

Chipping Sodbury Town were forced to abandon their usual passing rhythm on a bobbly, unforgiving pitch that never allowed the ball to settle. Clanfield, bottom of the league and fighting for every scrap of survival, adapted far better. They were happy to bypass the surface altogether, playing longer, more direct passes that avoided the worst of the grass and kept Sodbury uncomfortable throughout.

From the first whistle, Clanfield's urgency was unmistakable. Every tackle, every second ball, every loose touch—they attacked it with the hunger of a side desperate to claw their way off the foot of the table. Sodbury, by contrast, struggled to impose themselves, unable to build the phases of play that usually define their game.

The breakthrough came in the 26th minute, and it was a messy one from a Sodbury perspective. A seemingly harmless cross from the right drifted into the box, but a mis-clearance left the defence exposed. The ball dropped kindly to the Clanfield forward, central and just inside the penalty area. One touch to settle, and then a composed lofted finish into the far left corner—leaving the Sodbury keeper helpless and the visitors ahead.

The rest of the half became a battle of attrition. Both back lines stood firm, and while the effort was unquestionable, the quality needed to unlock either defence simply wasn't there. The pitch dictated the tempo, and neither side could wrestle control from it.


The second half continued in the same scrappy vein. Cohesion was hard to come by, and frustration grew as both teams struggled to string together meaningful passages of play. But in the 69th minute, Sodbury finally found a lifeline. A mistake at the heart of the Clanfield defence gifted Tyler Dacres a clear run through on goal. With only the keeper to beat, he showed great composure, sliding the ball under the onrushing stopper to level the match.

At 1–1, you hoped Sodbury might push on and tilt the momentum their way. Instead, Clanfield dug in, determined not to let their hard-earned point slip. They defended with grit and organisation, and Sodbury couldn't find the spark needed to break them down again.

In the end, the game fizzled out, the draw feeling fair on the balance of play. Sodbury will be disappointed not to have built on the equaliser, but with the conditions as they were, it was always going to be a grind.

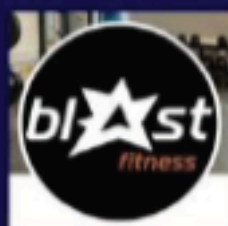
Plenty to reflect on—and plenty to put right—heading into next week.



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#	Team	P	W	D	L	DIFF	GLS	Last 5	PTS
1	 FC Stratford	26	21	2	3	+44	65:21	W W W W W	65
2	 Bewdley Town	26	19	3	4	+30	56:26	W W W W W	60
3	 Wantage	28	17	7	4	+47	92:45	D W W W L	58
4	 Stonehouse Town	25	13	7	5	+29	61:32	W D W D W	46
5	 Cheltenham	25	12	6	7	+6	44:38	D D W W W	42
6	 Malmesbury Victoria	24	11	6	7	+6	46:40	W D L D W	39
7	 Newent Town	24	12	3	9	+9	51:42	L W W L D	39
8	 Redditch Borough	23	11	2	10	+9	50:41	L D L L L	35
9	 Chipping Sodbury	27	9	6	12	-7	36:43	L L W W D	33
10	 Ludlow	26	9	6	11	-13	45:58	D L W L D	33
11	 Alcester Town FC	25	9	5	11	+2	33:31	W L L D W	32
12	 Brimscombe & Thrupp	25	9	5	11	-5	37:42	W W L D L	32
13	 Carterton	24	8	3	13	-21	36:57	L L W L L	27
14	 Woodford United FC	23	6	6	11	-22	34:56	D L D L L	24
15	 Wellington FC	27	7	2	18	-33	48:81	L W L W L	23
16	 Shortwood Utd	21	6	3	12	-7	33:40	W L L W L	21
17	 Clanfield	26	4	6	16	-30	32:62	L W L D L	18
18	 Thame United Reserves	25	1	4	20	-44	26:70	L D L L D	7

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World Cup Quiz

(Answers on last page of programme)

Q1: Which nation hosted the 2014 FIFA World Cup?

Q2: Which player won the Golden Boot award at the 2018 World Cup with six goals?

Q3: Which nation reached the World Cup final for the first time in their history in 2018?

Q4: Who scored a hat-trick for France in the 2022 World Cup final, despite losing?

Q5: Which nation won the 2022 FIFA World Cup after a penalty shootout against France?

Q6: Which player became the first to score in five different World Cups?

Q7: Which country achieved their best-ever World Cup finish in 2022, reaching the semi-finals?

Q8: Which country was the only team to beat Argentina at the 2022 World Cup?

Q9: Which country holds the record for the most World Cup titles, with five wins?

Q10: Which country finished fourth at the 2022 World Cup?



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Volunteers Needed



Are you able to lend a hand?

The Sods are looking for people to join their club, if you can spare a few hours a week why not come along and help us! We are all volunteers and work behind the scenes for FREE for the lover of the game & club.

If you are interested in joining the committee or the club to volunteer please email the Clubs Secretary **Les Theobald** via info@cstfc.co.uk. Clubs like ours need more volunteers to help with it's survival. Whilst we don't get paid we do get to watch the football for free, as well as enjoying both the half time and full time hospitality.

We are inclusive club and all volunteers are welcome.. so please join us.

Quiz Answers: Q1: Brazil, Q2: Harry Kane (England) Q3: Croatia, Q4: Kylian Mbappé, Q5: Argentina, Q6: Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal), Q7: Morocco, Q8: Saudi Arabia, Q9: Brazil, Q10: Morocco



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