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Cover Photograph Courtesy Alex James.

AROUND THE TOWN

CHIPPING SODBURY
TOWN

v

NEWENT TOWN



CHIPPING SODBURY TOWN
FOOTBALL CLUB
FOUNDED 1885

Saturday, 21st March 2026 - Kick Off 3pm

Chairman's Welcome

A warm welcome to everyone from Newent Town who have made the trip to The Ridings today. The last time we met back in November it finished 3–1 in their favour, so we'll be hoping to put in a strong performance and get a different outcome this afternoon.

After Saturday's game, the message is fairly clear – we need to be more clinical and take our chances when they come. It's been a recurring theme this season that we've created good opportunities but haven't always managed to put games to bed early. The effort from the lads can't be questioned, and if we can add that cutting edge, we know we're capable of getting results.

We also know we're facing a strong side today, with Newent pushing for a play-off position, so it promises to be a competitive and entertaining match for everyone watching.

On a separate note, following the injury to one of our reserve players last weekend, I would like to personally thank everyone who stepped in to help ensure Russ received the care he needed at the time. It was a difficult moment for everyone involved, and we are all wishing Russ a full and speedy recovery.

As always, thank you to everyone who continues to support the club both on and off the pitch. Enjoy the game, get behind the lads, and hopefully we can give you something to cheer about this afternoon.

#UpTheSods | #SodsTogether
James Mapstone

Il Gusto
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Chipping Sodbury
Bristol
BS37 6AR
T: 01454 501020





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



Newent Town FC

Squad Members:

Leyton Joyce
Dylan Hart
Max Le Poideven
Tiago Ribiero
George Brand
Callum Preece
Zac Blood
Tommy Duff
Connor Wagstaff
Ed Bagely
Oliver Godfrey
Jaber Ahmed
Reagan Martin
Mitch Butterworth
Kyle Taylor
Matty Nest
Elliot Vanstone
Luke Firkin
Tyler Weir
Samuel Judge



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Newent Town FC - Club History



Newent Town AFC was established in 1920. We still have a team photo of the 1920 team on the clubhouse wall!

Through history they have played in the North Gloucester league and were promoted to the Northern Senior League in the 1970s. Then spent a while bouncing down and back up again, before finally reaching the Gloucester County League and becoming a founder member.

They remained in the Glos County League for 6 years.

After a tumble, the big push started in 2012 when Newent won the North Glos Premier League Title on the last game of the season.

Milkwall were top, 2 points clear of Newent. But the 2 teams played each other in the very last fixture. So a draw was enough for Milkwall, but Newent needed all 3 points to become Champions.

It all came down to a last minute header, to win the last game of the season 1-0. Moving Newent from 2nd place to Champions in a flash.

They then completing a back-to-back promotions from Northern Senior 2 the very next season. They spend 3 years in Northern Senior 1, with a best place finish of 3rd, picking up the League Cup twice in a row.

Having spent considerable money and work on the facilities, Newent were invited into the Hellenic League system in Div Two West (playing best teams across Hereford, Glos, Oxford, Staffs, Bristol & Wiltshire). Controversially, they attempted to leave a team in the Northern Senior League, claiming that the Hellenic teams was a new one. But after 6 games, an EGM was called and their ejection was voted on by the clubs. The result of the vote was 16 for ejection and 16 against. So the Management Committee took the deciding vote and they were kicked out with immediate effect.

The Hereford League threw the team a lifeline with a league place in Div 2. So the team at least had some football to look forward to, but they started with 6 games in hand.

Amazingly, this team actually won the Hereford League, beating Bartestree on the last game of the season. But, as if there wasn't enough controversy. After the season finished and Newent had completed their presentation evening. The Hereford League pulled Newent up on a rule breach and awarded then Title to Bartestree (although the Medals were never returned).

Meanwhile, the Hellenic Newent 1st team, under the new Management of Ben Stringer and Martin Elton (former Newent players), finished as Champions at the first attempt.

Newent Town FC - Club History

Again, they held their nerve to win it, at home on the last game of the season, edging out 2nd place by 3 points.

They were awarded a £100,000 grant from the FA, installed Floodlighting and a 75 seater stand and claimed their promotion to Hellenic Div 1 West.

With this promotion to Div 1 West, Newents other team (the Reserves) immediately rejected the Hereford Promotion and jumped across to Hellenic Div 2 West, where they still play now. Having joined Hellenic 1 West in 2018/19 (the highest level in their history), they have adapted pretty well to the National League step 6 standard.

With Floodlights and a ground grading 'G', they entered the FA Vase last season, winning their first round game and then getting edged out 2-1 at Longlevens.

Next season Newent made their debut in the FA Cup, losing narrowly out at Cribbs 3-1 and putting themselves firmly on the map.

Match Officials

Please show respect for our match officials today:

Referee: James Wilson

Assistant Referee: Nigel Rees

Assistant Referee: Carl Beard



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First Team Match Report

7/03/2026 League v Clanfield – 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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Reserve Team Match Report

18/03/2026 League v Oldland Abbotonians Reserves – 6-3

Chipping Sodbury Reserves claimed an entertaining 6-3 win over Oldland Abbotonians Reserves on Wednesday, showing great character to come back from 3-0 down inside the first 23 minutes. It was the first game since Saturday's match against AFC Mangotsfield was abandoned early on following a horrific double leg break sustained by midfielder Russ Stone and although The Sods got off to a difficult start the boys were able to clinch for points in style for their teammate. The Sods started brightly and midfielder Jordan Hickman went close on two occasions inside the first few minutes.

Winger Tyler Dacres had started the game very lively and broke down the right channel in the 11th minute before squaring the ball through the 6 yard box but sadly no one was there to finish. Oldland took the lead on 13 minutes in frustrating fashion when a corner failed to be cleared twice before being tucked away. Tyler Dacres raced through on goal only minutes later only to see his effort saved, but shortly afterwards the Sods went 2-0 down in the 16th minute courtesy of a stunning free-kick placed with precision into the top corner from 25 yards.

Another chance came and went for The Sods when rightback Adam Perks overlapped down the flank before squaring, but again no one there to finish.

Disaster well and truly struck when Oldland found a 3rd on 23 minutes. A long ball upfield was chested down by centreback Luke Henderson but straight into the path of the pacey striker who fired underneath James Dobson to stun the home crowd.

The Sods rallied and only had to wait 3 minutes to pull a goal back when Alex Fox' scuffed shot landed to winger Callum Cannings who found the top corner from just inside the box.

Ten minutes before the break a deep cross from Adam Perks found Alex Fox at the back post but the midfielder failed to hit the target after the ball came off his knee.

The Sods did pull it back to 3-2 in the 40th minute in somewhat fortunate circumstances, a ball into the box from deep by leftback Ethan Roberts was shielded from the goalkeeper by Jordan Hickman before going straight in.

The Sods rallied in the changing rooms, taking comfort that no drastic changes were needed and knowing that they'd put pressure on Oldland for the second half. That pressure was rewarded inside the first minute of the 2nd half when The Sods drew level, Jordan Hickman latching onto a ball from striker Liam Barrett before finding a first time finish on the bounce that stunned the visiting 'keeper. Only a few minutes later and the crowd were on their feet as they watched veteran Liam Barrett roll back the years to produce an overhead kick that would come back off the post.

The Sods were left frustrated when the referee failed to award a penalty on two occasions after both Alex Fox and defender Olly Hubbard were seemingly fouled. But that frustration subsided when Liam Barrett gave The Sods a 4-3 lead on 58 minutes, latching onto a ball in behind from Callum Cannings before firing calmly over the 'keeper.

Reserve Team Match Report

Another penalty claim came and went on the hour mark, this time Liam Barrett being impeded, but only 8 minutes later the no.9 was celebrating again with Barrett on hand to tuck away a rebound from Callum Cannings' shot.

The Sods made it 6-3 on 73 minutes with arguably the goal of the game, Liam Barrett flicking the ball on into the path of Callum Cannings who's perfectly executed chip sailed over the goalkeeper and underneath the crossbar.

Home goalkeeper James Dobson was called into action in the 77th minute and produced a fine diving save to preserve the three goal lead and in the dying seconds of the game substitute striker Luke Corbiere nearly put the cherry on the cake only to see his effort comeback off the post.

An entertaining game for the neutral, but despite the early scare The Sods fully deserved the points with Liam Barrett collecting both the players' and managers Man of the Match awards.



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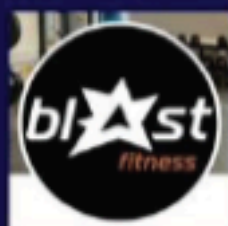




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2	 Wantage	29	18	7	4	+48	95:47	W	W	W	L	W		61				
3	 Bewdley Town	27	19	3	5	+26	56:30	W	W	W	W	L		60				
4	 Cheltenham	27	14	6	7	+14	52:38	W	W	W	W	W		48				
5	 Stonehouse Town	26	13	7	6	+28	63:35	D	W	D	W	L		46				
6	 Malmesbury Victoria	24	11	6	7	+6	46:40	W	D	L	D	W		39				
7	 Newent Town	25	12	3	10	+8	52:44	W	W	L	D	L		39				
8	 Redditch Borough	25	12	2	11	+9	53:44	L	L	L	L	W		38				
9	 Ludlow	28	10	6	12	-13	47:60	W	L	D	W	L		36				
10	 Alcester Town FC	26	10	5	11	+3	35:32	L	L	D	W	W		35				
11	 Brimscombe & Thrupp	26	10	5	11	-3	39:42	W	L	D	L	W		35				
12	 Chipping Sodbury	28	9	6	13	-8	36:44	L	W	W	D	L		33				
13	 Shortwood Utd	23	8	3	12	-1	41:42	L	W	L	W	W		27				
14	 Carterton	25	8	3	14	-23	38:61	L	W	L	L	L		27				
15	 Woodford United FC	25	6	7	12	-24	36:60	D	L	L	D	L		25				
16	 Wellington FC	29	7	3	19	-37	50:87	L	W	L	D	L		24				
17	 Clanfield	26	4	6	16	-30	32:62	L	W	L	D	L		18				
18	 Thame United Reserves	26	1	4	21	-48	26:74	D	L	L	D	L		7				

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Premier League Quiz

(Answers on last page of programme)

Q1: Since the Premier League era began in 1992-93, how many times have Arsenal finished second?

Q2. Which player featured in every one of Aston Villa's 38 Premier League matches (either from the start or coming on as a substitute) in 2024-25?

Q3. Bournemouth achieved their joint-highest finishing position in English football last season. Where did they end up in the Premier League table?

Q4. Which player is Brentford's overall top scorer in the Premier League?

Q5. In August 2024, Fabian Hurzeler became the second Brighton manager to win a Premier League Manager of the Month award. Who was the first?

Q6. Burnley's goalkeepers equalled a Football League record in 2024-25 for keeping the most clean sheets in one season. But how many did they achieve?

Q7. Which of these current Chelsea players scored the most league goals for their respective clubs in 2024-25?

Liam Delap (Ipswich)
Cole Palmer (Chelsea)
Joao Pedro (Brighton)

Q8. Crystal Palace beat Manchester City 1-0 in May to win the FA Cup for the first time, but who did the Eagles beat in their Wembley semi-final?

Q9. Which side did Everton beat to give David Moyes his first league victory since returning to the club for a second spell in charge?

Q10. Who was Fulham's top scorer in the league in 2024-25?



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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: 9, Q2: Ollie Watkins, Q3: 9th, Q4: Yoane Wissa (45),
Q5: Chris Hughton (2018), Q6: 30, Q7: Cole Palmer, Q8: Aston Villa,
Q9: Tottenham Hotspur, Q10: Raul Jimenez.



St Nicholas FC
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