



Keynsham Town  
Juniors Football Club  
Established 1985

## Keynsham Town U14s

### 2011-12 Match Reports

#### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January – Keynsham Town 3 – 1 Mangotsfield Colts**

After a spirited performance last week, Keynsham were at home to Mangotsfield on a chilly Sunday morning at Crown Playing fields. They started well and after only a few minutes, JayDee slotted home a neat finish to make it 1-0.

However, this prompted a fight back from Mangos as they started to dominate possession and create some chances for themselves. Fortunately, the Keynsham defence was well organised and was able to see off the majority of pressure being applied. If the defences did get broken down, then Ben was there between the sticks to make some important saves.

The game opened up a little and Owen had a free kick and a header saved by the Mangos keeper. Also, JayDee had a good effort saved, and a long range effort from Callum had the crowd excited but with just a few seconds left before half time, Mangos broke out of defence and although Ben pulled off a great save, the ball ricocheted out to the striker who nodded home to make it 1-1 at half time.

Keynsham started the 2<sup>nd</sup> half well and the game became a midfield battle for a while as both sides tried to assert some authority. JayDee was hacked down when through on goal and earned a free kick just outside the box. He struck it himself and when the keeper spilt the ball, Owen had followed in well to finish it off. 2-1 up.

Although Mangos tried to press for an equaliser, Keynsham's fitness seem to be superior and the clearer chances were falling to them as the Mangos keeper was required to make a series of good saves. A fine move down the left saw Josh in space and he showed superb vision, as he timed a beautifully paced pass for JayDee who tucked away his second goal of the game in some style. 3-1.

As Mangos strived to get back into the game, Ross made a brilliant tackle in his own area and after a harsh handball decision against Callum, Ben made a great save from the spot kick to keep Keynsham 2 goals clear at full time. Deserved men of the match were Ben Nicholls and Owen Smale

#### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January – Downend Saints 3 – 0 Keynsham Town**

Sunday morning again, and Keynsham made the short trip to Tennis Court Road to play high flyers, Downend Saints. Keynsham started well and defended manfully against some very big and fast Downend players. Forcing Downend to only create half chances, the Keynsham defence managed to keep Downend at bay for the first 25 minutes. Then the inevitable happened and Downend went 1-0 up following a period of sustained pressure.

Keynsham hit back with a corner and a keeper fumble nearly saw Keynsham nip in for an equaliser. Then just a few seconds before half time, Downend scored again to make it 2-0 at the break.

Again, Keynsham started the 2nd half well, with Ben coming out of goal to play up front and Will going in goal. Tom Mainstone was playing really well but unfortunately had to come off with a mystery knee injury.

The game started to open up a little and Keynsham created an opportunity with a great cross from Ben from the right. A great save from Will kept the score to 2-0 and the game had become a more even contest. Elliott, at right back, continued to frustrate the talented no 18 and although he rattled the post he wasn't able to get the goal he desperately craved.

Late Keynsham pressure saw Ben drill a free kick just wide of goal and Jaydee knock one over the bar. With only a few seconds left, a flukey punt in the air blew into the roof the net to give Downend a flattering 3-0 victory. The Keynsham boys can be very pleased with their performance and should go into next weeks game with fresh confidence. Men of the match were Callum Lee and Max Board, well deserved rewards for stout defending throughout.

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Keynsham Town 0 - 3 Thornbury Town.**

On a bright but cold morning, this was Keynsham's first game for a month and both sides started tentatively. It was Keynsham who started to build some consistent pressure but could not forge a genuine chance. A Thornbury break out of defence led to the opening goal against the run of play but this gave them confidence and they scored another goal through a fine run and finish from their centre forward. Although Will Nichols and Callum Lee looked solid in defence, Keynsham went in at half time 2-0 down.

Some major changes at the turnaround saw Ross Millen come on at right back and Ben Nichols passed his keeping gloves to Will Nichols and moved into midfield. Both played very well as Keynsham created better opportunities in the second half with the help of some clever play from Billy Harris, but Thornbury were defending well and completed the victory with a third goal with a few minutes left on the clock.

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November - Bristol Rovers Juniors Supporters Club 1 - 3 Keynsham**

Keynsham travelled to Kingswood to play the Rovers boys for the 2<sup>nd</sup> week running after their superb performance the previous week to beat them 1-0 at home. The fans were pleased to find a little on-site cafe providing bacon sandwiches and takeaway hot drinks. Marcus, in particular enjoyed his four sandwiches before the game!

The pitch was slow due to longish grass and heavy overnight rain and the early encounters suggested this would be another even contest. However, it was Rovers who struck first following a neat finish from their forward. 1-0 down but Keynsham responded well with some good attacks mainly down the left through Jay-Dee. Some good possession led to a few half chances but Keynsham couldn't force the equaliser.

A series of corners from Rovers and they were unlucky not to go further ahead after hitting the post twice. More solid defending kept them at bay and a fine breakaway created some space for Owen who smashed his rasping shot onto the crossbar. Half time still 1-0 down.

Keynsham started the 2<sup>nd</sup> half very well and good vision and control from Billy was helping Keynsham create some pressure. Ben was, as ever, making some important saves and the game was end to end. More pressure from Keynsham led to a defensive error and Jay-Dee latched onto the loose ball to score the equaliser - 1-1.

Shortly after, Billy struck a shot from the edge of the box which was well saved by the Rovers keeper, but a brave follow in from Jay-Dee led to another goal deflected in off his body. 2-1 to Keynsham.

Rovers bounced back into action, but a great challenge from Ross and constant strong tackling and clearances from Callum, kept them out. Dan also made an important clearance and with tension mounting and only a few minutes left, a quick throw by Ollie MU enabled Billy to break into the Rovers area and slot the ball past the keeper to make it 3-1.

This rounded off a great 2nd half comeback and for the 2nd week running, Keynsham showed some steely character in an evenly contested game. Thoroughly enjoyable to watch for the spectators, especially the Keynsham fans. Well done boys!

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November – Keynsham Town 1 - 0 Bristol Rovers Juniors Supporters Club**

After last week's disappointment at Saltford, Keynsham were at home to Bristol Rovers Juniors Supporters Club who were placed just above them in the league table and the fans were expecting a tough game.

Keynsham started well playing some good football and building decent pressure. Rovers hit back with some pressure of their own and it was an entertaining game to watch. Jay-Dee looked a threat down the left and the Keynsham back line looked in control when dealing with any opposition attacks. 0-0 at half time and Keynsham could be pleased with their efforts thus far.

2<sup>nd</sup> half saw Keynsham raise their game and collectively, the lads showed some real commitment. There was a chance for Tommy which the keeper saved and Rovers were starting to commit regular fouls as the pressure increased on their defence. The ball broke to Nathaniel in the box and as he moved the ball away from the defender, another foul was committed - PENALTY! Nathaniel himself stepped up and smashed the ball in the top left hand corner. 1-0 up and the boys were playing really well.

As the game reached its final few tense minutes, Keynsham looked the fitter team and more neat football led to a rasping shot from Tommy which crashed into the bar. Fans were heard to say “that would have been the icing on the cake” although Tommy’s brother could only say “what an epic fail”!

As the final whistle blew, Keynsham were very happy with this 1-0 victory and can be extremely proud of this wonderfully committed performance.

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Saltford Stars 6 Keynsham Town 2**

Keynsham made the short trip along the A4 for their away fixture with Saltford Stars and an afternoon kick off, on a pleasant autumnal day.

It was the visitors who seemed to have the initial surge of energy as they won the early exchanges and Rock on Tommy Pearce made it 1-0 in the first minute of the game. A few minutes later, Ollie Dodge finished off a good move down the left hand side to make it 2-0. A fine start by the Keynsham teenagers.

However, Saltford started to push forward and build pressure. It wasn’t long before they forced a fine save from stand in keeper, Nathaniel Dewfall, following some silky skills from Adam Banfield the main Saltford threat. This was to spark a superb comeback from the Stars as the game became spread out and Keynsham struggled to retain any possession. 2-0 soon became 2-2 with some good finishing by the home team and just before half time, Saltford won a penalty which was neatly put away to make it 3-2 at the break.

Unfortunately, the half time oranges weren’t enough to stem the tide as Saltford scored 2 more to make it 5-2 and Keynsham were looking stunned into submission. Nathaniel came out of the goal and Owen Smale donned the gloves in an attempt to assert some midfield dominance but Saltford were now flowing with confidence and scored a 6th goal from yet another breakaway.

With only a few minutes left and the game lost, Keynsham suddenly seemed to believe in themselves and managed to keep the ball for longer periods resulting in a half chance for Jay-Dee Snook who did well to chip the keeper but only to see his shot bounce wide of the goal. More good football from Keynsham, resulted in a another tidy move and saw Jay-Dee force a fine save from the Saltford keeper but when the final whistle blew, a disappointing 6-2 defeat had to be accepted by all the Keynsham faithful.

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November – Keynsham Town 1 Golden Hill Sonics 8**

Golden Hill Sonics arrived at the Crown Playing Fields sitting just above Keynsham in the league and the crowd were expecting a close match. Pitch Conditions were wet and skiddy but the sun was shining down.

Right from the kick off, the Sonics looked alert and the Keynsham boys looked a little sleepy. A great team move resulted in an early goal from the visitors and then a quality finish made it 2-0. This seemed to ring an alarm bell with the home team and they started to assert some pressure on the Sonics defence. Some good work down the left from Jay-Dee and a fumble from the keeper allowed Rock on Tommy Pearce to pull one back.

However, although the game was more of a contest, the Golden Hill lads were always threatening on the break and produced some quality wing play and a neat finish to make it 3-1. Shortly after, Jay-Dee broke free on the left again and produced a fine cross for Billy who was unlucky to see his shot come off the inside of the post.

Once again, just when Keynsham looked like they were fighting their way back into the game, the Sonics scored again, this time a fortunate goal when the ball ricocheted in off the forwards back! Yet another goal just before half time and one immediately after made it 6-1 and the Sonics were out of reach. Even though the final 20 minutes produced several breaks for both teams, Keynsham couldn't add any more goals to their tally and Sonics scored two more with some high quality finishing to make the final score a disappointing 8-1

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October – Keynsham Town 1 Downend Saints 3**

Autumnal weather greeted the gathering hoards at Keynsham as the squad enjoyed a professional photo shoot before their game against Downend Saints. Because of a clash of colours with the Keynsham gold, the Saints had to find an assorted collection of blue shirts ranging from dark blue bibs to pale blue under garments.

The game kicked off with Keynsham hopes high following last weeks convincing victory away at Thornbury, but spirits were soon dampened as Downend scored 2 goals early on thanks to a very pacey forward who cut the defence to shreds early on. Although Keynsham created some half chances, they were being dominated for large passages of play and just before half time, conceded a 3<sup>rd</sup> goal after a mazy run from a Downend substitute.

However, revitalised by the team talk, Keynsham showed some real steel in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half and started to reduce the Downend attacking threat with some strong and clever defensive work, cutting down on the supply to their forwards. This allowed the boys to push forward and in the last 15 minutes, they deservedly pulled a goal back through a marvellous chip from "Rock On Tommy" Pearce.

The Downend defence was under some pressure but to their credit, they held firm to the final whistle, and ran out winners 3-1. Keynsham can be pleased with their overall performance, once again, displaying that they can cope with the stronger teams in this division.

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – Thornbury Town 2 Keynsham Town 6**

## **A GAME OF TWO HALVES (AND TWO GROUNDS)**

After a couple of decent performances which resulted in defeat, Keynsham were keen to get their season back on track. Due to play Thornbury Town whose website ground address was in Bradley Stoke, they arrived to find no opposition and no football posts set up! After a couple of phone calls, the cars were back on the road and speeding off to Alveston where Thornbury awaited their arrival!

The rush across the Gloucester highways had no effect on the Keynsham boys as they put on a dominant 1<sup>st</sup> half display with the whole team looking lively and up for the challenge. After only a couple of minutes, Owen whipped in a viciously curling corner which the Thornbury defence could only stick into their own goal. More Keynsham pressure followed and a lovely move down the right hand side resulted in a fine cross from the skipper, Nathaniel, which Ashley nodded in at the far post to make it 2-0.

More celebrations were to follow as Owen slotted one home following fine work from Josh and Jay-Dee in midfield and then Nathaniel bagged a goal of his own to reward his very sharp 1<sup>st</sup> half performance. 4-0 at half time.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> half was a different story as Thornbury reacted well to Keynshams rather lack lustre restart. Within 10 minutes, they had pulled 2 goals back and the supporters club were getting a little concerned.

However, after a little re-organisation, Keynsham stepped up a gear and Tommy "Pearced" the Thornbury defence to score Keynshams 5<sup>th</sup> goal and re-assert their dominance in this match. There was still time for Jay-Dee to hit the post and Tommy to calmly slot home his second goal to the screams of "Rock on Tommy" from the sidelines.

Final score 6-2 and a thoroughly deserved victory by the lads.

(Jeremy Board)

## **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September – Whitchurch Colts 4 Keynsham Town 1 (AYL Plate)**

Keynsham played Whitchurch in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the Cup at the old Imperial Ground, now known as the South Bristol Sports and Social Club. There was a scramble for minimal car park spaces and then a mile walk to the pitch, (not much different to our home games at the moment) for players and their respective fan club, family members! Almost as soon as the young referee blew his whistle to begin the match, the heavens opened and continued to deliver several inches of rain throughout the course of the game.

However, spirits weren't dampened as the Keynsham lads showed great mettle against a big, powerful and talented Whitchurch XI. A series of exceptional saves from Ben "the cat" Nicholls kept Keynsham in touch in the early minutes, and although a flash of brilliance from one of the Whitchurch lads saw a 40 yard chip find the back of the net, the team defended stoutly to go into half time 1-0 down.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> half saw more surges from Whitchurch but Keynsham stood firm and even started to threaten the giant Whitchurch goalie with chances of their own. However, more goals against were to follow and even though “Captain Courageous” Nathaniel Dewfall was able to finish a good team move, Whitchurch ran out deserved winners at 4 – 1; but Keynsham can be proud of their performance.

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September – Hanham Athletic Kestrels 0 Keynsham Town 2**

Keynsham secured their first league victory of the season with this hard fought away win. Hanham started brightly, using the slope of the pitch to their advantage to put pressure on the Keynsham defence from the start. An excellent save from Ben Nichols diving to his left prevented Hanham from taking an early lead when they broke through on goal .

Keynsham battled their way back into the game and took the lead when a clearance by the Hanham defence broke to Nathaniel Dewfall who scored with an excellent left foot shot from the edge of the box which went over the Hanham keeper.

Keynsham had to reorganise defensively shortly after when Elliot Saunders had to leave the field. Callum Lee and Tom Mainstone made some crucial interceptions and showed good strength in the air against a tall Hanham attack. At the other end Keynsham had their chances with the lively Tommy Pearce, Kane McDonald, Ashley Grice and Josh Pollard all having efforts on the Hanham goal. With Nichols making further saves and Daniel Money and Jay-Dee Snook playing well at left and right back Keynsham managed to get through to half time without conceding.

In the second half Keynsham were able to use the slope to apply more pressure onto Hanham, but despite good work by William Nicholls and Dewfall in midfield and non-stop running by Pearce and McDonald the second goal was proving elusive. Pollard showed real courage with some brave tackles in midfield and Snook continued with some fine defensive work both on the floor and in the air.

Mainstone, Lee, Money and Grice all made good interceptions to maintain the lead with Nichols providing a solid last line of defence.

In the closing minutes the ball was played to McDonald in the centre circle who held the ball up well before playing an excellent through ball for the energetic Owen Smale to run through on goal. Showing good composure Smale cut inside the defender before placing a good finish past the advancing keeper.

### **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September – Keynsham Town 5 Bradley Stoke United 3**

Keynsham came out on top in this exciting encounter in the Avon Youth League Plate. Keynsham got off to an explosive start with an early goal from Kane McDonald. Some excellent defensive work from Callum Lee, Tom Mainstone, Max Board, Ollie Maggs-Usher and Ross Millen prevented Bradley Stoke from getting back into the game. Keynsham doubled their lead when Nathaniel Dewfall scored the second before McDonald completed an excellent first half with a third goal. Bradley Stoke came out blazing in the second half and scored an early goal before Keynsham reestablished their three goal lead with an excellent ball from Josh

Pollard for Tommy Pearce to score. Chances occurred at both ends with Bradley Stoke again reducing the deficit. Stoke secured a third with a penalty when Ben Nichols in the Keynsham goal was left with little choice but to bring down the Bradley Stoke striker.

With William Nichols and Max Board struggling with injury, Elliot Saunders and Jay-Dee Snook came back into the game in the second half to tighten up the Keynsham defence.

The tension was eased for Keynsham when a ball down the right was crossed in by Owen Smale for Ashley Grice to run in at the far post to score Keynsham's 5<sup>th</sup>

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September – Keynsham Town 3 Longwell Green 4**

Keynsham Town were unlucky to not gain at least a point in their opening encounter of the season. The team played some excellent football in a competitive game and following some good saves from Ben Nicholls in goal for Keynsham they took a deserved lead with a fine goal by Kane McDonald.

Longwell responded with pressure of their own, but Max Board, Ross Millen, Callum Lee and Tom Mainstone were solid in the Keynsham defence. Unfortunately a five minute lapse in concentration led to two goals for Longwell just before half time.

Keynsham continued to play their football in the second half with good creative play in midfield by Nathaniel Dewfall, Jay-Dee Snook, Josh Pollard and Owen Smale and were rewarded with an equaliser when Kane McDonald rifled his shot past the keeper from a tight angle.

The game continued to be well contested with Daniel Money and Elliot Saunders making some important tackles for Keynsham. Longwell regained the lead and went further ahead when a period of pressure led to a penalty which was well taken and left Nichols with no chance in the Keynsham goal.

In the closing fifteen minutes Keynsham showed real character and ability and were rewarded when Tommy Pearce rounded off a fine move with an excellent run and finish over the keeper. Despite late pressure Keynsham were unable to get the equalising goal that their efforts and football deserved.