

**St. Neots Town Football Club**  
Match Report – Eagle Bitter United Counties League  
4<sup>th</sup> December 2004

**Bourne Town 1 - 3 St. Neots Town**

It was a dream start for St. Neots new manager Kenny Davidson and his assistant Paul Bryant on their debut game, guiding their new team to a 3-1 win at Lincolnshire outfit Bourne Town.

Danny Griggs opened the scoring, on ten minutes, starting the move wide on the right after receiving a throw out from St. Neots keeper Matt Finlay. Griggs worked the ball down the right flank and played a neat one two with Barry Dellar who's pass put Griggs deep into the oppositions penalty area and his first time low shot beat the keeper at the near post. The St. Neots lead was only to last a couple of minutes as former Saints striker Scott McKenzie levelled the score line. A move down the home team's right flank found the St. Neots defence asleep and an early low cross into the visitor's penalty area found the unmarked striker who wasted little time in firing his shot past St. Neots keeper, Matt Finlay, low into the corner of the goal. For the rest of the first half there was little to choose between the sides as the game flowed from end to end, although St. Neots were unlucky not to have been awarded at least one penalty from two good shouts. The first was a clear hand ball and the second a challenge on Danny Griggs from which the referee awarded an indirect free kick inside the box.

Barry Dellar put St. Neots back in front, two minutes into the second half, with what can only be called a miss kick. As Dellar, wide on the right flank, went to cross the ball it bobbed up and his cross became a shot which somehow beat the bemused Bourne keeper, Liam Kelly, at the near post. The Saints players almost seemed reluctant to celebrate their bit of fortune until a firm direction, to do so, came from the St. Neots bench. As the half progressed St. Neots began to dominate the game with Danny Griggs having his best game of the season. One of manager Ken Davidson's new signings Vince Petty was also doing a good job up front, as the target man, and although not match fit, did a great job of holding the ball up and bringing his team mates into the game. Steve Jelly also had a good game in the centre of midfield and was unlucky not to find himself of the score sheet on 53 minutes when his shot, from just outside the area, screamed inches over the cross bar. As with all good fairy tales it was the striker who had returned to the fold with the new manager who had the last say. Petty receiving a superb cross from Danny Griggs, ten yards out from goal, took the ball down turned and blasted the ball into the top of the net giving the Bourne keeper no chance at all. St. Neots more than deserved their win after a good all-round team performance which also included two superb second half saves from St. Neots keeper Matt Finlay.

Team: Finlay, Gatti, Lawes, Clark, Matthews, Griggs, Jelly, Hobbs, Petty, Dellar, Cumberbatch.

Subs: Mannion, Bryant.

Subs Used: Mannion for Dellar.

Goals: St. Neots: Griggs (10), Dellar (47), Petty (64) Bourne: McKenzie (12)

Saints Man of the Match: Danny Griggs