

Spaceport Cornwall kicks off new sponsorship of Newquay AFC

- Newquay AFC have scored a new kit sponsor for the 2021/22 season.
- Working with local organisations is a key part of the project's engagement plan, ensuring the benefits of the 2022 launch are felt across the entire community.
- Both organisations are passionate and committed to inspiring future generations, and this partnership creates a unique fusion of past and present and future.

Recognising the importance of grassroots football to both the local community and the future of the game nationally, Spaceport Cornwall has announced it is sponsoring Newquay AFC's first team kit for the 2021/22 season.

Newquay AFC, like many grassroots clubs across the country, has been hit hard by the financial impact of the coronavirus pandemic. In February 2021 a report entitled 'The Final Whistle for Grassroots Football in the UK' found that more than 5,000 grassroots football clubs will cease to exist as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, with 96 per cent having seen a reduction in income in the last year.

Both organisations are passionate and committed to inspiring future generations, and this partnership creates a unique fusion of past and present and future - building a solid legacy for Newquay and Cornwall, as the county continues to become a vibrant hub of growth, innovation, investment and entrepreneurship.

The sponsorship is part of a wider commitment from Spaceport Cornwall, who are working with local organisations to ensure that bringing the 2022 Virgin Orbit launch into Cornwall benefits the community as a whole.

Newquay AFC ('The Peppermints') was founded in 1890 and currently plays in the South West Peninsula League Premier Division West and plays at Mount Wise Stadium in Newquay, Cornwall. The club has approximately 90 registered players across 4 club teams (First X1, Academy, Veterans and Women's Teams), with around 200 members, 60 season ticket holders and a footfall of roughly 500 spectators a week.

Tom Moran, Newquay AFC Treasurer & Customer Development Manager for Truro and Penwith College: "Onboarding Spaceport Cornwall as our first team sponsor has absolutely revolutionised our thinking as a club. Such partners aren't easy to attract across grassroots football, but we are encouraged by such approach and investment from Spaceport Cornwall, and we strongly feel working in synergy, both of our offerings can enhance and support local community engagement."

As the UK's horizontal satellite launch site, set to be home of the country's historic first sovereign orbital launch in 2022, working with local organisations is a key part of Spaceport

Cornwall's engagement and outreach plan. The team are on a mission to bring the benefits of bringing space home to Cornwall - ensuring they are felt across the whole community

Melissa Thorpe, Head of Spaceport Cornwall: "Newquay AFC is a fantastic club which has been a key part of the local community for over a hundred years. The team, like all grassroots clubs, has been hit hard by the financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, and Spaceport Cornwall is proud to be able to support the club in this way and help them look forward to a successful future."

To celebrate the start of the partnership, teams from Newquay AFC were invited to a private viewing of Spaceport Cornwall's 'Story of a Satellite' exhibition to hear first-hand about the exciting role Cornwall is playing in the UK's space ambitions.

The 'Story of a Satellite' exhibition is open to the public this summer, with tickets available on the Spaceport Cornwall website.

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Notes to editors:

- In 2020, Newquay AFC secured £10,500 in a Crowdfunder Campaign with an original objective of £3,500. Crowdfunder VT - <https://youtu.be/HoZ0Q95c1GM>
- Spaceport Cornwall's 'Life of a Satellite' exhibition is available for viewing by the public throughout the summer at Cornwall Airport Newquay. Tickets can be booked at: <https://spaceportcornwall.com/visit>

About Spaceport Cornwall:

Spaceport Cornwall brings space closer to more people and businesses; by being as open and sustainable as possible and helping to generate a new economy for Cornwall, while always considering its impact on the environment and local community.

Website: <https://spaceportcornwall.com/our-purpose/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SpaceCornwall>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/spaceport-cornwall>

About Newquay AFC:

Newquay Association Football Club is a football club based in Newquay, Cornwall, England, established in 1890. The club is currently a member of the South West Peninsula League Premier Division West, with a home base at Mount Wise Stadium.

Website: <https://newquayafc.co.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/newquayafc1>

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