

# WATERS

The official programme of Virginia Water FC



**VWFC vs Holyport**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Arbour Park, kick off 7.45pm**

**Cherry Red Records**

**Combined Counties Premier Division North**



# Club Info

**Chairman: Dave McBride**

[chairman@vwfc.co.uk](mailto:chairman@vwfc.co.uk)

**Director of Football: Ceri Jones**

[director.football@vwfc.co.uk](mailto:director.football@vwfc.co.uk)

**Treasurer: Ceri Jones**

[treasurer@vwfc.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@vwfc.co.uk)

**Secretary: Russell Croome**

[secretary@vwfc.co.uk](mailto:secretary@vwfc.co.uk)



## Club Address:

**The Timbers**

**Crown Road**

**Virginia Water**

**Surrey**

**GU24 4HS**

## First Team Playing Address:

**Arbour Park**

**Stoke Road**

**Slough**

**Berkshire**

**SL2 5AY**

To enquire about advertising in the programme, or club sponsorship, please use the above contacts

## Sponsorship Opportunities

### Adult team sponsorship (30 players)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Team kit sponsorship, your name and logo on back or chest of kit - £2000
- All Senior teams Warm up tops, your name and logo on back or chest - £2000

The research & support charity

### Youth section sponsorship (>200 players)

- Youth Team Kit sponsorship, your name and logo on back or chest of kit - £500
- Youth Team Kit and Tracksuit sponsorship, your name and logo on back or chest of kit - £900
- Youth Section training jackets sponsorship (12 Teams every player will get a jacket with your company name on the back) - £2000

### Pitch-side banners

- 2m x 600cm Banner pitch side at the Timbers - £500
- Web banners; your company logo on the Virginia Water FC website (1000 hits per month) - £500

### Digital Matchday programme

- Quarter page advertisement £250 for a season
- Half Page advertisement £500 for a season
- Full Page advertisement £800 for a season

Please contact the club for more information:

[director.football@vwfc.co.uk](mailto:director.football@vwfc.co.uk)

[chairman@vwfc.co.uk](mailto:chairman@vwfc.co.uk)

# Chairman's View

A very warm welcome to the players, staff, officials and supporters of Holypore Football Club. Welcome to Arbour Park, I hope you enjoy our facilities.



With no game on Saturday the management and a few of the players attended the Division 1 fixture between Spelthorne Sports and Staines Lammas, where there were many players on show with links to Virginia Water.

It was a typical derby, and the game finished 1-1.

Let's hope we can get back to winning ways tonight, after a couple of losses that have knocked us off our stride.

Enjoy the game, up the Waters!!

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# Our History

Founded in the 1919–1920 season, Virginia Water FC celebrated its centenary in 2020, marking 100 years of grassroots football. In its early days, the club received royal support from King Edward VIII and King George VI, who gifted the club its current ground—a legacy that continues to inspire.

Starting in the Woking & District League, the club progressed through the Surrey Intermediate and Spartan Leagues. A milestone came in 1969 when Sir Stanley Rouse, CBE, then FIFA President, opened the clubhouse at The Timbers, named in honour of founder Harry Timbers. Promotion to the Combined Counties League followed in 1970, along with qualification for the FA Vase. The 1980s brought challenges, including relegation, but the club bounced back in 1990/91, winning the Surrey Intermediate Cup and earning promotion. The mid-90s were a golden era, with three consecutive Surrey County Premier Cup wins and a League and League Cup Treble in 1997.

After stints in various Surrey leagues, the club joined the Surrey Elite League in 2010. Despite cup success, promotion remained elusive until the arrival of Ceri Jones in 2015–16, who guided the team to a fourth-place finish. Following Richard Banks being appointed as Head Coach together they led the club to back-to-back promotions into the Hellenic League Division One and then the Premier Division, capped by a cup double in 2016–17. Following consolidation in the Hellenic Premier, the club moved to the Combined Counties Premier League (North) due to league restructuring. In 2021–22, Ceri Jones became Director of Football, appointing Adam and Jake Bessent. Under their leadership, the club reached the Senior County Cup Final and achieved its highest-ever league finish of 7th place.

The 2023–24 season saw Adam Sams take over as First Team Manager, assisted by Ben Warren, leading the club to another 7th place finish and a League Cup Final appearance. In 2024–25, the team entered a ground share at Slough Town, finishing 9th and reaching the FA Cup First Qualifying Round, narrowly losing to Horsham FC.

At the end of July, Adam Sams stepped down, and Dan Bailey was promoted to Player Manager, supported by Ben Warren, Chris Ellis, and Dave Atkins. On 21 October, Dan Bailey and Chris Ellis stepped down from their roles. The club is now excited to welcome Paul McCarthy and Ryan Parsons as the new management team, supported by Dave Atkins and Ben Warren. Paul brings a wealth of non-league experience, having managed Ashford Town and worked with Chertsey Town, and is known for his strong leadership and success.

Off the pitch, Virginia Water FC continues to thrive. Plans are underway for a new ground development back in Virginia Water. The Youth Section is booming, with 27 teams (20 boys and 7 girls) and over 300 players. On Saturdays, the club runs three joiner classes—Wildcats, Squads, and Football Fanatics—welcoming 50 new players to begin their football journey.



# club Sponsors

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# Today's opponents



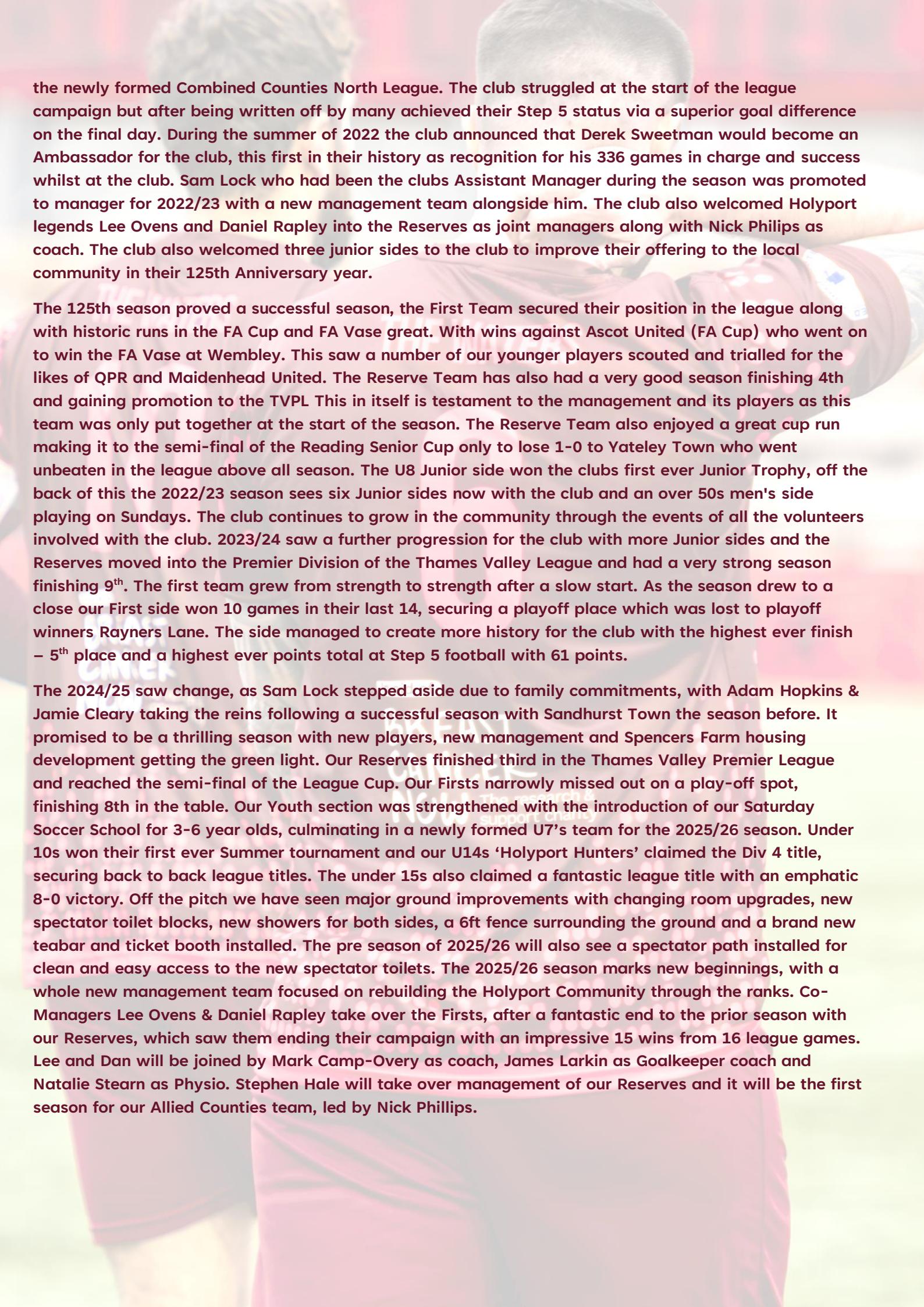
## Holyport Football Club | History of the Club

Holyport Football Club was formed on 1st September 1897 in The George Pub in Holyport Village, with 20 members at a Shilling a piece to join. Initially playing in the Maidenhead and District League, their home ground was at Windsor Road, Bray. The club slowly progressed and joined the Hayes and Giles League where they played their home games at Braywick Park.

At the beginning of the 2002/2003, after three very successful seasons, Holyport were promoted to the Hellenic League Division 1 East. Two

seasons later they moved to their current ground at Summerleaze Park in North Maidenhead. This move signaled the start of a new and exciting era for the club. Having secured the necessary planning permission, as well as funding from the Football Foundation, the new ground has been in a state of continuous improvement. In season 2007/8 the ground was fenced, floodlights installed and since then has seen further improvements to the changing facilities, hard standing on three sides of the ground, the erection of three spectator grandstands and a hospitality room. These changes are the culmination of several years of hard work and the club's Summerleaze Park ground now meets the F.A and League requirements for Holyport to continue to play at their current step five level of football. The club have also been awarded planning permission for a new teabar and turnstile, this was awarded in March 2022 with the board in the process of obtaining grants to fund this project. These continuous improvements, both on and off the pitch, have all contributed to progressing the Club's ambitions of playing in the F.A. Vase and the FA Cup which they achieved in 2008 and 2010 respectively. Additionally in the 2009/10 season and 2010/11 season the club was jointly awarded the Hungerford Cup (shared with Shortwood United in 2009/10 and then Thame United 2010/11). The cup is awarded to the club who has shown the most development, both on and off the field, throughout the season.

The 2010/11 Season was a historic season for Holyport. In their first season with the club the new management team of Derek Sweetman, Kevin Carvell and Calvin Maye led the side to the Uhlsport Hellenic 1 Division East title, AM Print and Copy Floodlit Cup and The Bluefin Insurance Challenge Cup. In 2009/10 Jamie Handscomb was also recognised by the League winning the Division Player of the Year award, the third time a Port player has won this trophy. Along with the Hungerford Cup, four cups in one season will probably be the club's most successful season for a good number of years to come. The 2011/12 Season saw Holyport finish a very respectable 13th in their debut season and also as Semi Finalists in The Berks and Bucks Senior Cup and League Supplementary Cup. The 2012/13 brought yet more development for Holyport FC as they fielded their first ever Youth side in The Allied Counties League. 2014/15 saw Martin Kenealy step aside after 12 months in charge, The committee had a think about the future and decided it was best to step down to Division One East and promote Barry, Dan, Chris and John into the management setup. The side had a steady season in 2015/16 but 2016/17 was a struggle. 2017/18 saw Dan and Chris move on but ex Holyport player Matt Rolfe was appointed as Asst Manager and with this the team finished 5th in the league. Barry Rake resigned in the summer of 2018 and with this the club appointed Derek Sweetman as Manager for 2018/19 season with Rolfe, Ovens and Deverall assisting him. Along with this the side re-entered the FA Cup and announced a three year sponsorship deal with Anthony Mullan furniture. The 18/19 season produced a good FA Vase run and once again a 5th place in the league but securing more points than the previous season. 19/20 The side were placed in the top 3 before Covid-19 struck and our pleasing season was wiped out. After another Covid-19 struck season the club were finally awarded promotion to Step 5 on a PPG basis, but moving across to



the newly formed Combined Counties North League. The club struggled at the start of the league campaign but after being written off by many achieved their Step 5 status via a superior goal difference on the final day. During the summer of 2022 the club announced that Derek Sweetman would become an Ambassador for the club, this first in their history as recognition for his 336 games in charge and success whilst at the club. Sam Lock who had been the clubs Assistant Manager during the season was promoted to manager for 2022/23 with a new management team alongside him. The club also welcomed Holyport legends Lee Ovens and Daniel Rapley into the Reserves as joint managers along with Nick Philips as coach. The club also welcomed three junior sides to the club to improve their offering to the local community in their 125th Anniversary year.

The 125th season proved a successful season, the First Team secured their position in the league along with historic runs in the FA Cup and FA Vase great. With wins against Ascot United (FA Cup) who went on to win the FA Vase at Wembley. This saw a number of our younger players scouted and trialled for the likes of QPR and Maidenhead United. The Reserve Team has also had a very good season finishing 4th and gaining promotion to the TVPL This in itself is testament to the management and its players as this team was only put together at the start of the season. The Reserve Team also enjoyed a great cup run making it to the semi-final of the Reading Senior Cup only to lose 1-0 to Yateley Town who went unbeaten in the league above all season. The U8 Junior side won the clubs first ever Junior Trophy, off the back of this the 2022/23 season sees six Junior sides now with the club and an over 50s men's side playing on Sundays. The club continues to grow in the community through the events of all the volunteers involved with the club. 2023/24 saw a further progression for the club with more Junior sides and the Reserves moved into the Premier Division of the Thames Valley League and had a very strong season finishing 9<sup>th</sup>. The first team grew from strength to strength after a slow start. As the season drew to a close our First side won 10 games in their last 14, securing a playoff place which was lost to playoff winners Rayners Lane. The side managed to create more history for the club with the highest ever finish – 5<sup>th</sup> place and a highest ever points total at Step 5 football with 61 points.

The 2024/25 saw change, as Sam Lock stepped aside due to family commitments, with Adam Hopkins & Jamie Cleary taking the reins following a successful season with Sandhurst Town the season before. It promised to be a thrilling season with new players, new management and Spencers Farm housing development getting the green light. Our Reserves finished third in the Thames Valley Premier League and reached the semi-final of the League Cup. Our Firsts narrowly missed out on a play-off spot, finishing 8th in the table. Our Youth section was strengthened with the introduction of our Saturday Soccer School for 3-6 year olds, culminating in a newly formed U7's team for the 2025/26 season. Under 10s won their first ever Summer tournament and our U14s 'Holyport Hunters' claimed the Div 4 title, securing back to back league titles. The under 15s also claimed a fantastic league title with an emphatic 8-0 victory. Off the pitch we have seen major ground improvements with changing room upgrades, new spectator toilet blocks, new showers for both sides, a 6ft fence surrounding the ground and a brand new teabar and ticket booth installed. The pre season of 2025/26 will also see a spectator path installed for clean and easy access to the new spectator toilets. The 2025/26 season marks new beginnings, with a whole new management team focused on rebuilding the Holyport Community through the ranks. Co-Managers Lee Ovens & Daniel Rapley take over the Firsts, after a fantastic end to the prior season with our Reserves, which saw them ending their campaign with an impressive 15 wins from 16 league games. Lee and Dan will be joined by Mark Camp-Overy as coach, James Larkin as Goalkeeper coach and Natalie Stearn as Physio. Stephen Hale will take over management of our Reserves and it will be the first season for our Allied Counties team, led by Nick Phillips.



# THE ELITE CHOICE

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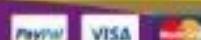
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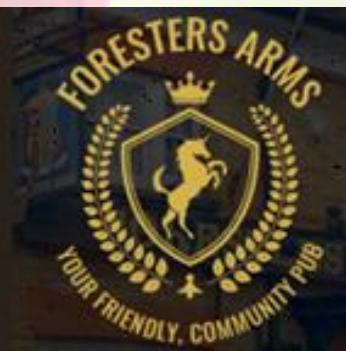
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**Foresters Arms**



# From the Dugout

Good evening, everyone. Welcome to Arbour Park for this home game against Holyport. We wish their club officials, management team and players a warm welcome.

Last time out was against Ardley United, in what was awful conditions for both teams, I thought a draw was probably a fair result and, on another day, we may have pinched a win.

As quick as winning becomes a habit, so does losing, so it was important to get something out the game.

Tonight will be difficult. Holyport are fighting to stay up and will provide another tough test. So, it's important that we pick something up and get back on an unbeaten run.



As always, enjoy the game and I'll always be available in the bar after if anyone would like a chat.

Up the Waters!

Macca

# Just For Fun

Can you guess the professional player from the clubs they have played for? Answer is on the last page!



→ 6



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# Where are they now?

We catch up with some Waters' Alumni and ask them about their time at the club, and what they are up to now

**Name: Martin Peters**

**Position: Striker**

**Era(s) played at VW: 2007-2020ish**



问问 In a nutshell, can you give a brief overview of your time at the club?

I joined the club at 18 years old from Englefield Green, when Gareth Morgan took over, and played on and off until into my 30s. We enjoyed good success in both the league and cups.

问问 Who was your manager(s) at the club when you played?

I played for a number of managers during my time at VW, the most memorable being Gareth Morgan and Ceri Jones – who both liked to drop me to the bench unfairly.

In aid of

问问 Did you win anything here?

We won the Surrey County Cup with about 10% possession; we all thought the game had gone when we had to bring the water boy on after 10 minutes, as the regular right back got injured.

We also won the League Cup with the Ressies

and a couple of promotions towards the end of my time.

问问 Who was your favourite/best teammate?

I was lucky enough to play with some of my closest friends, not necessarily favourite but memorable mentions to Mark Pisani who, at every goal kick would ask me to move from one side of the pitch to the other, only to kick it to where I had just come from - maybe why I never lasted past 60 minutes. Trigger for a memorable 18th birthday in the shower, Liam Hill for being the only player slower than me and Alex Richards for always making me look good compared to him.

🏆 Did you score any memorable goals?

Most memorable goal was the winner in the Surrey County Cup Final; it took me a few days to recover from the celebrations in Banksy's restaurant in Egham. Legendary times had in there.

🏆 Do you keep up to date with what Waters are doing nowadays?

Yes, always keep an eye on the scores, hoping to see the club doing well. Also get regular updates from current coach David Atkins - who's been claiming every year will be his last for the past 15 seasons.



Martin (left) with Luke Hearne after the Reserves Cup win

🏆 Are you still involved in football in some capacity?

Unfortunately, not. I could hardly run when I did play so I stick to watching Fulham play now.

🏆 What was the standout memory for you during your time at Waters?

Outside of the cup wins, a couple of memories stick with me, Jon Harris hiding in the long jump sand pit behind the goal away at Merrow to avoid having to run the line, not sure getting covered in the bird poo was worth it but he never liked running anywhere. David Atkins scoring so many own goals and being the opposition's leading goal scorer for the season. However, my favourite must be during the celebrations of the League Cup win, Pisani handing the cup to the 1<sup>st</sup> team players that had supported us, having wiped his genitals around the rim (there is photo evidence of that somewhere!), I've never seen Liam Hill enjoy a drink so much!

🏆 If you could go back and change one thing when you played here, what would it be?

Nothing, I made lifelong friends during my time at VW.



# Competition Info

## Recent Results

24/01/26

PDN	Ardley United 1-4 Burnham
PDN	Broadfields United 3-2 Hilltop
PDN	Harefield United 1-1 Kidlington
PDN	Milton United 1-5 Wokingham Town
FAV	Windsor & Eton 1-1 Fisher (Pens 3-4)

## Fixtures Today

PDN	Ardley United v Amersham Town
PDN	British Airways v Kidlington
PDN	Reading City v Windsor & Eton
PDN	Virginia Water v Holypot

## League Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Burnham	27	16	6	5	25	54
2	Broadfields United	25	14	7	4	29	49
3	Ashford Town (Middx)	24	14	5	5	25	47
4	Wallingford & Crowmarsh	27	14	5	8	2	47
5	Ardley United	22	13	3	6	19	42
6	Windsor & Eton	19	11	7	1	24	40
7	Hilltop	31	12	4	15	6	40
8	Kidlington	23	10	8	5	7	38
9	Milton United	24	11	4	9	3	37
10	North Greenford United	22	11	3	8	1	36
11	Reading City	19	10	4	5	16	34
12	Wokingham Town	23	9	5	9	5	32
13	Virginia Water	24	9	5	10	-4	32
14	Harefield United	26	8	5	13	-7	29
15	Abingdon United	23	8	4	11	-5	28
16	British Airways	20	7	4	9	-5	22 *
17	Amersham Town	23	5	5	13	-27	20
18	North Leigh	24	5	3	16	-23	18
19	Holypot	26	5	1	20	-45	16
20	Edgware & Kingsbury	26	2	2	22	-46	8

\* adjustment made

## Top Scorers

- 7 - Lewis Flatman
- 6 - Jojo Kinzonzi, Jack Mills
- 5 - Cal Hamiton
- 4 - Aiden Payne-James

# The Teams

## Virginia Water FC

### Kit:

Maroon Shirts

Maroon Shorts & Socks

GK: Purple

**Manager:** Paul McCarthy

**Asst. Manager:** Ryan Parsons

**Coaches:** Dave Atkins, Ben Warren

**Physio:** Elisha Timms



### Squad:

Freddie Babbage | Josh Baines | Ryan Blake | Emerson Butcher (gk) | Kai Boylan | Firas Chniba | Armani Church | Guy Davies | Aderi Dede | Jamie Di Giuseppe | Rayan Djouadj | Adam Dougui | Uriel Ekperuoh | Lewis Flatman | James Goodey | Cal Hamilton | Ash Hutchinson | Shay Honey (gk) | Shuaib Jalloh | Matthew Jones (gk) | Harry Kidd | Jehovany Kinzonzi | Conor Lee | Darnell Lemar | Jack Mills © | Billy Murphy | Kris Naicker | Albie Nolan-French | Aston Nunn | Jake Rangecroft | Jibril Sharmarke | Turnell Sinclair | Dominic Wall | Ikpemwinoghena "Pemi" Yakubu



## Holyport FC

### Kit:

Yellow Shirts

Yellow Shorts & Socks

GK: Red or Green

**Managers:** Lee Ovens, Daniel Rapley

**Coaches:** Mark Camp-Overy, James Larkin, Phil Johnson

**Physio:** Natalie Stearn



### Squad:

Amari Dumont | Andy Forisky © | Callum Childress | Dan Wilson | Denzel Abia | Elijah Gayle | Freddie Lewendon | Gabriel Amadiah | Harry Laflin | Jacob Turner | Liam McVicar | Lucas Surpanu | Manny Kingsley | Matteo Cedrola | Matt Ensby | Murphy Camp-Overy | Rafael Da Mata | Ramon Rose | Ryan North | Sam Garofalo | Sam Thurston | Shaun Heuer | Tom Moulder | Will Cullum | Zakaria Zaoui | Kickie Dzimba

## Match Officials:

**Referee:** Daniel Harvey

**Assistant Referees:** Steve Monks, Michael Oakes