

WATERS

The official programme of Virginia Water FC



VWFC vs Wallingford & Crowmarsh

Saturday 21st February 2026

Arbour Park, kick off 3pm

Cherry Red Records

Combined Counties Premier Division North



Club Info

Chairman: Dave McBride

chairman@vwfc.co.uk

Director of Football: Ceri Jones

director.football@vwfc.co.uk

Treasurer: Ceri Jones

treasurer@vwfc.co.uk

Secretary: Russell Croome

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)

- 1st 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**

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

chairman@vwfc.co.uk

Chairman's View

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



We eventually obtained the new 25-year lease on the Timbers this week. This now gives the club long term stability and lets us apply for much needed grants for maintenance work to the clubhouse.

With more girls' teams expected next season and the desire to start a female team, the showers need to be changed to cubicles, for example. This, and the fact that the clubhouse has not been upgraded at all, leaves us with a huge program of works.

Even with the new ground and clubhouse, the expected growth of the club means the Timbers will continue to be integral piece of the jigsaw.

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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RFI FENCING

Today's opponents

Wallingford & Crowmarsh Football Club |

History of the Club



Wallingford's football history dates to at least 1889. A report in the Oxford Journal of 27th April 1889 shows "a match was played in the Croft on Easter Monday between the Wallingford Football Club and the Queen's Park Rangers, London, resulting in a draw, two goals each". A Wallingford side competed in the inaugural season of the North Berks Football League in 1909-10 but Wallingford Town Football Club was not formed until 1922.

The newly formed Wallingford Town won the North Berks War Memorial Cup in 1922 and 1923 and the Charity Shield in 1929. Having finished as North Berks Division 1 runners-up in 1923-24, the club switched to the Reading & District League and were crowned Premier Division winners in 1935-36. We were founder members of the Hellenic League in 1953 became Hellenic League Premier Division champions in 1968-69 League Cup runners-up in 1982-83. After 36 consecutive seasons, our Hellenic premier division status was lost in 1989. A short spell in Hellenic League Division One followed before a switch to the Chiltonian League.

In 1995, AFC Wallingford was formed by the merger of Town and Wallingford United, then members of the Chiltonian League and themselves seven-time winners of the North Berks War Memorial Cup. AFC Wallingford spent 3 seasons in the Chiltonian League, winning the 1995-96 League Cup final against Denham & the League title in 1997-98. Carl Henry was the goal-scoring sensation that season, setting a club record with 62 goals. With the championship came promotion to the Combined Counties League.

Progress continued under manager Dave Crowdy and in 2000-01 he led 'Wally' to runners-up positions in the Combined Counties League and Berks and Bucks Senior Trophy. Season 2001-02 saw the club go one better, winning the Combined Counties Championship and the Berks and Bucks Senior Trophy, beating Milton Keynes City 3-2 in a thrilling final. Striker Andy Shildrick won the Combined Counties Golden Boot award for the top goal scorer in 2002-03, as we were pipped to the league title firstly by Withdean and then by AFC Wimbledon.

The summer of 2004 saw major upheavals and 2004-05 turned into an unsuccessful struggle against relegation. We bounced back at the first time of asking but it was a brief upturn in fortunes. Having been transferred back to the Hellenic Premier in 2006, relegation to Division 1 followed. The financial strain of remaining at step 6 of the national pyramid began to take its toll. A rapid decline in fortunes followed. In 2008 the club decided to step back to local football returning to the North Berks League after an 84-year absence.

In 2013 we reverted back to Wallingford Town AFC, and switched back to the original 1922 colours of red and white stripes. The club applied to return to the non-league pyramid in the 2017/18 season with then Chairman Simon Cowlard and 1st Team manager Duncan Mitchell attending a meeting at Wembley Stadium with The FA to put a case forward for re-submission. The move-up was granted and after 4 seasons in the Hellenic League East, the club moved back to the Combined Counties League after The FA performed a re-structure of Step 5 & 6 leagues. In the summer and with the club's committee weakened by the resignations of several key members, former manager Glenn Goudie stepped into the Chairman's role and his first task was to appoint former Ardley United, Abingdon Town, and Didcot Town Development manager Lee Matthews as 1st team manager. Matthews and his squad gelled quickly and were unbeaten after 17 league games. A club record of games without defeat. After a nervy January, the side began to hit form at the key stages of the season, and promotion was gained via the playoffs, beating Hilltop 2-1 AET.

Behind the scenes, the club had held conversations with Crowmarsh Youth FC to strengthen the player pathway for boys and girls in the local area. After 18 months, both club committees and members agreed that an amalgamation would benefit both clubs greatly. The club has now become Wallingford & Crowmarsh FC in an effort to boost community involvement and to cover the local area. The club now boasts 35 teams from U6 to adults male and female teams. After a difficult start to the 2024/25 season with some key players absent through injury, the team finished strongly showing good form for the final few months of the season which enabled them to finish in a creditable 12th place in the Combined Counties Premier Division North.

The club is very grateful to all our sponsor partners and the club is determined to become stronger over the next few seasons.



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Club Sponsors



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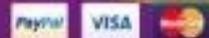
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Foresters Arms



From the Dugout

Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to Arbour Park for this home game against Wallingford & Crowmarsh (take two!). We wish their club officials, management team and players a warm welcome.

Tuesday night was tough and credit to Milton, who defended superbly for 70 minutes with 10 men. They can probably feel a bit hard done by that they didn't take a point, however our character and the will to keep going, got us over the line with a brace from Devonte and a great strike from Flatty.

We know what happened the last time we attempted to play at home against Wallingford, with the game being abandoned. However, it was great to see that the injury was nothing serious after the event and their player was ok. Today is another tough test against a team in the playoff places, so it should be another entertaining game.

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!



TOTTENHAM
HOTSPUR

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: Luke Hearne

Position: Centre Back

Era(s) played at VW: 2004/5 through 2015/16 (longest serving player at the club for a period)



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

I joined the club in 2004 after being recommended by Richard Maybey and played in the reserves for a couple of years before establishing myself in the first team where I remained for 6-7 years before hanging up my boots in the 2015/16 season. During that time we won the Surrey County Cup, a promotion and the Reserve's League Cup.



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

There was a few, my first manager was Mick Smith then Richard Maybey, Richard Goffe, Gareth Morgan, Matt Edwards & Alan Para and there were two managers at the same time for a while at the end too, but their names escape me.



Did you win anything here?

We won promotion in the Surrey Elite under Gareth Morgan, along with the Surrey County Cup and in my later years I won the League Cup with the Reserves.



Who was your favourite/best teammate?

The 'VW Galacticos' era when we won promotion and the County Cup, the whole team were my best teammates, we had a great squad and I'm still friends with most of them today. My number one though, would have to be Alan Para, he was there pretty much the season I joined in 2004 and we still see each other most weekends.



Did you score any memorable goals?

I was only usually good for 1 set piece header per season. None particularly memorable. All came in league games I believe. Although I did score a couple of uncharacteristically good volleys in the reserves.

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

I always keep an eye out for the scores and it's great to see how well the club has grown in recent years.

👑 Are you still involved in football in some capacity?

Not in a playing or coaching capacity. I'm a Brentford season ticket holder so that's about as close to a pitch as I get now.

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

The season where my old Centre Back partner Dave Atkins scored a hat-trick of own goals against bottom of the league Woking & Horsell (we won 7-3). Dave was then crowned Woking & Horsell's top goal scorer at the end of the season. Yes, the same Dave Atkins that is currently coaching the first team.

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

Nothing. I had a great 10+ years at the club and have many good friends and fond memories from my time there.



Competition Info

Recent Results

17/02/26

PDN Holyport 3-0 Abingdon United
PDN Reading City 2-2 Kidlington
PDN **Virginia Water** 3-2 Milton United
PDC Wallingford & Crowmarsh 1-1 Harefield United (Pens 4-3)

Fixtures Today

PDN Amersham Town v Milton United
PDN British Airways v North Greenford United
PDN Broadfields United v Reading City
PDN Harefield United v Wokingham Town
PDN Holyport v Edgware & Kingsbury
PDN Kidlington v Ardley United
PDN North Leigh v Burnham
PDN **Virginia Water** v Wallingford & Crowmarsh
PDN Windsor & Eton v Abingdon United

League Table

| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | GD | PTS |
|-----|-------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|------|
| 1 | Burnham | 29 | 17 | 7 | 5 | 27 | 58 |
| 2 | Ashford Town (Middx) | 26 | 16 | 5 | 5 | 30 | 53 |
| 3 | Broadfields United | 26 | 15 | 7 | 4 | 30 | 52 |
| 4 | Wallingford & Crowmarsh | 29 | 15 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 50 |
| 5 | Windsor & Eton | 22 | 13 | 8 | 1 | 27 | 47 |
| 6 | Kidlington | 28 | 12 | 10 | 6 | 8 | 46 |
| 7 | Ardley United | 22 | 13 | 3 | 6 | 19 | 42 |
| 8 | North Greenford United | 24 | 12 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 40 |
| 9 | Hilltop | 33 | 12 | 4 | 17 | 1 | 40 |
| 10 | Virginia Water | 28 | 11 | 6 | 11 | 1 | 39 |
| 11 | Milton United | 25 | 11 | 4 | 10 | 2 | 37 |
| 12 | Reading City | 20 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 16 | 35 |
| 13 | Wokingham Town | 25 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 4 | 33 |
| 14 | Abingdon United | 26 | 9 | 4 | 13 | -6 | 31 |
| 15 | Harefield United | 26 | 8 | 5 | 13 | -7 | 29 |
| 16 | British Airways | 22 | 8 | 4 | 10 | -4 | 25 * |
| 17 | Amersham Town | 24 | 5 | 5 | 14 | -29 | 20 |
| 18 | Holyport | 29 | 6 | 1 | 22 | -49 | 19 |
| 19 | North Leigh | 25 | 5 | 3 | 17 | -24 | 18 |
| 20 | Edgware & Kingsbury | 29 | 3 | 2 | 24 | -50 | 11 |

* adjustment made

Top Scorers

11 - Lewis Flatman

7 - 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 Hitchinson | 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 | Devonte Webster Swack | Ikpemwinoghena "Pemi" Yakubu



Wallingford & Crowmarsh FC

Kit:

Green & Black Shirts

Green Shorts & Socks

GK: Purple

Manager: Lee Matthews

Asst. Managers: Jerome Sobers, Cip Pintilie

Coaches: Kev Carrigan, Tee Oladele

Physios: Mark Coles, Banjo Malcolm



Squad:

Euan Aitchinson | Isaac Aitchison | Kyle Bestley | Harry Bonner | Max Bonner | Morgan Castle | Joe Cheeseman | Finlay Coles | Tyler D'Cruz | Luke Hayward | Ellis Hercules | Aiden Higgs | Jamie Lightfoot | David Lynn | Alexander Mercer | Anton Mundy | Matthew Ploszynski | Alexander Pratt | Daniel Sefton | Ryan Sheppard | Ben Taylor | Joe Webber | James Williams | Callum Young

Match Officials:

Referee: Sebastian Frazer

Assistant Referees: Paul Bennett, Harry Sweales

Observer: Ahmad Rafique

Guess the player answer: Ray Clemence