

THE CITIZENS POST

WCFC v Hungerford Town

Saturday 14th July 2018

Pre-Season Friendly



Winchester City Football Club is a committee run members club and as such is an unincorporated association.



THE CITIZENS POST

TODAY'S VISITORS – HUNGERFORD TOWN CLUB HISTORY



Hungerford Town Football Club has come a long way since its formation in 1886. The club first played on Hungerford Marsh field but soon moved to the present ground at Bulpit Lane. Initially playing at Intermediate level (Newbury & District League and also the Swindon & District League), Senior status was consolidated in the ranks of the Hellenic League in 1958 and in 1961 the club won the Hellenic League Benevolent Cup. After a period of team rebuilding in the 1960's Hungerford won the Division 1 League and Cup double in the 1970/71 season. The 1970's were memorable times as the club reached 3 Berks & Bucks Cup Finals in four years losing to Chesham Utd in 1976 and to Slough Town in 1977 (though only after a replay at Elm Park, Reading). The 1977/1978 season, Hungerford's last in the Hellenic League, saw them finish third in the league and win the League Cup. The club also produced a fairy tale run in the FA Vase eventually losing out to Barton Rovers in a semi-final replay. These achievements enabled the club to gain election to the Isthmian League in 1978. In addition to the action on the field, the current clubhouse was opened in 1974 and new changing rooms and floodlights were added in 1975. The 1978/79 season, Hungerford's first season in the Isthmian League, ended with a twelfth place finish in Division 2 and another Berks & Bucks Senior Cup final visit (the third in 4 years - this time it was the mighty Wycombe Wanderers who narrowly won after a replay). In the next two seasons the club narrowly missed out on promotion finishing in 3rd place each time, though some consolation was gained in 1981 when Hungerford Town was invited to compete in the Anglo Italian Semi-Pro tournament. 1982 brought further success when Hungerford defeated Wycombe Wanderers 1-0 to win the Berks & Bucks Senior Cup. Promotion was again narrowly missed in 1984/85. However this was also a turbulent period for the club as, after 9 successful years as manager, Jim Kelman left the club. 1988/89 saw a return to prominence under joint managers Gary Goodwin and David Dodds who guided the club to sixth place in the table and a third FA Vase Semi Final appearance. This time it was Sudbury Town who denied Hungerford its much-deserved trip to Wembley. The 1990-1993 seasons saw the club finish 9th, 9th and 10th under Gary Goodwin and later ex Man Utd player, Wilf Tranter, before a dismal start to the 1992/93 season saw the departure of Tranter at Christmas. Former Hungerford goalkeeper Jimmy Greenwood briefly returned to the club as manager and achieved Division 2 safety though he departed 5 months later to re-join Thatcham Town. The club then secured the services of two ex-players, Gerald Smith and his assistant Norman Matthews from the Hellenic League Club, Kintbury Rangers, and the two together managed to keep the club ticking over in the Isthmian Division 2 for the next two seasons. 1996/97 brought the club its highest finish for several seasons and a Quarter Final Associate Members Cup appearance though in the following year the club narrowly escaped relegation again. The following year former Swindon Town player Don Rogers was appointed as manager and although the club reached the third qualifying round of the FA Cup, the league form was disappointing - Rogers resigned just after the start of the 1999/2000 season to be replaced briefly by Richard Evans who parted company with the

club at the start of the 2000/01 season. Evans was replaced by Gary Ackling who changed the emphasis of the club to looking for local youth talent and produced a strong mid table finish in the 2001/02 season, with help from assistant and long-time player Tim North. Unfortunately for the club, the deadline for ground improvements was not met at the end of the 2001/02 season, and a forced relegation to the newly restructured Isthmian Division 2 followed. Despite achieving a respectable fifth place finish in the league on top of a great FA Cup run into the third qualifying round, the decision was taken, for the long-term benefits to the club, to re-join the Hellenic League for the 2003/04 season, they finished the season in a creditable sixth place and winning the Hungerford Cup defeating AFC Newbury 2-0.

After a disappointing start to the next season Ackling resigned in October and was replaced by assistant Tim North. The club ended the 2004/05 season by winning the Hellenic League Supplementary Cup by beating Ardley Utd 3-2 after extra time. 2005/2006 began with the election of Andrew Fitton as Chairman and following a disappointing below mid table finish to the end of the season Tim North resigned and was replaced by Alan Clark. With the pieces in place, the 2006/2007 season began with high expectations and a marvellous F.A.Cup run to the 4th qualifying round, which included victories against Weston Super Mare (Conference South) and Bashley (Southern League South champions) before a 0-3 defeat against Conference league side Weymouth. The league results were vastly improved on previous seasons and eventually the club finished in 3rd place. There was consolation in the fact the club won the Linaker Brokers Challenge Cup beating Witney Utd 2-1 in the final. The 2007/2008 season began with high hopes for success in the league and with some great league and cup performances, they entered March still chasing trophies on three fronts. Unfortunately, home defeats in the FA Vase quarter final against Whitley Bay and Ardley in the league proved costly. Consolation was once again achieved by retaining the Challenge Cup by beating Almondsbury Town 2-1. During the season club chairman Andrew Fitton announced that he was leaving to form a consortium to take over at football league side Swindon Town. The 2008/2009 season began with the election of a new chairman, Nigel Warrick a local businessman who stated he wanted to improve the club both on and off the pitch. He immediately set about a refurbishment program for the club including both bars. On the pitch despite a sticky start in the league and a disappointing early exit in the FA Cup, the club went on a 22-match unbeaten run which took the club to the top of the league and after a period where the lead swapped between ourselves and Shortwood United, a last day draw at Hook Norton enabled the club to clinch the Hellenic League championship on goal difference and promotion to the Southern League. There was disappointment for the team in both the Floodlit Cup final where we lost 2-3 after extra time to Marlow United, and also the FA Vase 5th round where we lost 3-4 also after extra time after leading twice in normal time. 2009/2010 saw the team promoted to the Zamaretto League Division One South & West and after an early spell where the team was challenging for a play-off spot, the second part of the season was not so good and the team ended in the bottom third of the league. There was some consolation for the club, when the newly formed Reserve side won the Hellenic League Reserves Division One title and were also runners-up in the Reserves Cup. 2010/2011 began with a new man in charge, Bobby Wilkinson and his coach Michael Gilkes. In the league the club hovered around the play off zone but eventually finishing in 7th place but there was some consolation in the shape of an FA Cup run. 2011/2012 was a landmark year as the club celebrated its 125th anniversary and despite a great start in the league which saw the side stand at the top until November, we eventually ended up in 5th position. This allowed us to qualify for the play-offs where we lost 1-2 to Poole Town in the semi-final. Last season began with disappointing early exits in both the FA Cup and the FA Trophy and indifferent results in the league but a consistent run of results from October took the side to the top of the table where we remained until being overhauled by the eventual champions Poole Town in March and had to make do with the runners-up spot and the dreaded play-offs again. This time there was to be no heartache for the club, as after an excellent semi-final win over Paulton Rovers, we eventually clinched promotion on Bank Holiday Monday beating Merthyr Town 3-1 after extra time. The club also gained more silverware, winning the Basingstoke Senior Cup for the first time beating Fleet Town

3-0. 2013 begins with the club playing in the Southern League Premier Division, the highest ever level we have played at, who knows what happens next.

TODAY'S VISITORS – HUNGERFORD TOWN PLAYER PROFILES



MARCUS BEAUCHAMP – A young goalkeeper who has played for Newport County since August 2016 but now hoping to make his mark with the Crusaders. If preseason is anything to go by, then Marcus is showing an incredible attitude and professionalism mixed with goalkeeping abilities that exceed his 20 years of age.

DIAK JOHN - Strong, Fast and Determined are just a few words that describe Diak John. Back on his third spell with The Crusaders. Lists Chippenham Town, Burnham Town and Hayes & Yeading amongst his former clubs.

MATTHEW PARTRIDGE - Matt Partridge is a Central defender who started his career at Reading progressing through the Academy as the under 18's captain. He went on to sign a professional one-year contract in July 2012. In October 2012 he joined Bognor Regis on loan and then returned to Reading U21's. In 2013 he joined Conference South Basingstoke Town. In July 2014 he signed for football league side Dagenham & Redbridge on a 1-year deal followed by further moves to Basingstoke and Newport. In 2017, Matt was signed for Hungerford Town FC in the Vanarama National League South and has quickly established himself as the principle Central Defender and foundation of our defensive back line. With senior players such as Jon Boardman moving into HTFC management, Matt is considered as part of our long-term future and is hugely influential to the Crusaders success.

PAUL STONEHOUSE – Formerly of Forest Green Rovers, Mansfield Town, Bath City, Oxford City and Slough Town. 29-year old signed from Slough by Bobby Wilkinson. Left back and also a left offensive midfielder. Played 170 times for Forest Green Rovers.

GARETH THOMAS – Previously of Thatcham Town, Tadley Calleva, Didcot Town and Abingdon United. Ball-playing centre-half.

RHYS TYLER – A defender who started his youth career at Reading FC. Made his professional debut in the German Third Division for Fußball-Liga and also played for FC Rot-Weiß Erfurt.

MATT WILLIAMS – Defender or midfielder that has previously lined up for Cheltenham Town, Evesham United, Bishops Cleeve and Gloucester City.

JAMES RUSBY – Versatile defender and midfielder that used to play for Wokingham & Emmbrook as well as Marlow and Binfield.

ANTON RODGERS – Son of Celtic Manager, Brendan Rodgers. Midfielder who started out at Brighton & Hove Albion before joining Exeter City on loan in 2013. Rodgers was released that summer and signed for Oldham Athletic. He spent a season with Oldham before joining Swindon Town. He had a brief pre-season trial with Celtic in 2017 before eventually joining Hungerford in November 2017.

LOUIE SOARES – A much-travelled Barbadian footballer. Lists Oxford City, Basingstoke Town, Aldershot Town, Reading, Tamworth, Bristol Rovers, Barnet, Southend United, Hayes & Yeading, Grimsby Town, Ebbsfleet United and Alfreton Town amongst former clubs. Energetic and quick midfielder with an eye for goal.

RICHIE WHITTINGHAM – Former AFC Bournemouth youngster. Whittingham joined Eastleigh following his release by the Cherries. He then went on to Basingstoke Town, Gosport Borough, Hayes & Yeading and Whitehawk FC. Skilful midfielder.

CALLUM WILLMOTH – Talented young midfielder that has previously played for Newbury, Thatcham Town and Swindon Town.

SCOTT REES – Defensive midfielder who joined Hungerford Town from Thatcham Town in 2012. Has also previously played for Reading Town.

JAMES CLARK – Joined Hungerford Town in 2010 from Didcot Town. Previous clubs also include Reading Town and Thatcham Town. Clark can also play as a striker, as well as a midfielder.

NICHOLAS BIGNALL – Powerful forward who has travelled much in his playing career. Bignall was the top scorer for Reading Under 18s between 2006 and 2008. He was loaned out to Northampton Town shortly after signing a professional contract at the Madejski Stadium. Went on to play for Cheltenham Town on loan as well. Has also played for Southampton, Stockport County, AFC Bournemouth, Wycombe Wanderers and served Gosport Borough on loan.

LUKE HOPPER – Switched to Hungerford Town from Gloucester City. Before Gloucester, Hopper was playing for Swindon Supermarine. He is in his second spell at Hungerford Town. Has also played for South Melbourne, Chippenham Town and Swindon Town. Forward with an eye for goal.

TOM MEECHAN – Striker that lists Newport County, St Neots Town and Godmanchester amongst his former clubs. Recently completed a degree in Sports and Exercise at the University of Birmingham.

ALEX WALL – A towering striker who played in the football league for Luton Town. Has also played for Thatcham Town, Maidenhead United, Dartford, Bristol Rovers and Bromley.



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WELCOME TO THE SIMPLYHEALTH CITY GROUND TO...

There are several new faces that have signed for the Citizens this summer...

CONNOR COCKLIN – Joins the club from Andover Town along with REECE RUSHER.

SAM ROBERTS – Formerly of AFC Totton and was also dual-registered with Hamble Club last season.

LAMAR KOROMA – Has signed for the club having spent last season with Woking U23s.

BRAD GALE – Re-joins the club after a spell away last season at Verwood Town.

TYRELL MITFORD – Prolific Team Solent striker has joined the club.

JAKE RAWKINS – Bemerton Heath Harlequins top scorer from last campaign has also joined the Citizens.

MATT ANDREWS – Forward from Fareham Town has also moved up the M27 to City.

JOHN McFARLANE – ‘Macca’ joins Davo’s backroom staff from Andover Town where he worked with Glenn Burnett in the North Hampshire clubs’ successful season last term.

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WHO'S WHO?

BEHIND THE SCENES

PRESIDENT – JOHN MOODY RPSL

CHAIRMAN – ELLIOTT TRODD

DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL – DAVID MALONE

VICE PRESIDENT –STEVE BRINE MP & COUNCILLOR IAN TAIT

LIFE VICE PRESIDENTS – TERRY PAINE MBE & TERRY BONE

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN –

SECRETARY – MATT RICHBELL

TREASURER – PAUL MURRAY MBE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS –WAYNE ELKINS, ROBERT CONWAY, SALLY STATHAM, STEVE (RONNIE) RAINBIRD, ELLIOTT TRODD, MATT RICHBELL, MIKE CARTER, JO BROCKSOM, ALLAN HIGGS, KEN RAISBECK, JOHN MOODY, MARGARET MOODY, JUDY MALONE, JUDITH TOWERTON, DAVID MALONE, RYAN ANDRESS, MARTIN MOODY, LIAM DIFFORD

HEAD OF COMMERCIAL – MIKE CARTER & MATT RICHBELL

CAR PARKING & STADIUM – SALLY STATHAM

STADIUM ANNOUNCER – WAYNE ELKINS

WEBSITE – STEVE (RONNIE) RAINBIRD

PROGRAMME EDITORS – MATT RICHBELL & MIKE CARTER

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY – WAYNE ELKINS

GROUND MAINTENANCE – MIKE CARTER & DAVE GREEN

GROUNDSMAN – RAY BULPIT

CHIEF STEWARD – STEVE RAINBIRD

BAR MANAGER – KEVIN WATKINS

PHOTOGRAPHER – TONY SMITH

PLAYER SHIRTS SPONSORS – ROB CONWAY

SHOP MANAGER – NIKKI PERCIVAL

ASST. SHOP MANAGER – ROD YOUNGMAN

CLUB CATERING – JUDY MALONE, JUDITH TOWERTON, TINA ELKINS, MARGARET MOODY & SALLY STATHAM

DUG-OUT CAFÉ – RONNIE THOMAS, RHIANNON TRINDER, SUZANNAH TAYLOR, SUMMER THOMAS CAR

PARKING – SALLY STATHAM, DAVE GREEN

50-50 DRAW – JUDY MALONE, JUDITH TOWERTON.

TURNSTILE OPERATORS – RICH PICKETT & ALLY BROWN

ON THE PITCH

FIRST-TEAM MANAGER – CRAIG DAVIS

FIRST-TEAM ASSISTANT MANAGER – JOHN McFARLANE

FIRST-TEAM COACH –GARETH BYRES

SPORTS THERAPISTS – JO BROCKSOM & MARK GIBSON

CHIEF SCOUT – PETE MILLARD

RESERVE TEAM MANAGER – RYAN ANDRESS

HEAD OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT – ELLIOTT TRODD

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Winchester City Football Club



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CUP DRAWS

Hampshire Senior Cup 2nd Round - TBC

WCFC v Hartley Wintney

FA Trophy Extra Preliminary Round – Saturday 29th

September

Slimbridge v WCFC

FA Trophy Preliminary Round – Saturday 13th October

Slimbridge or WCFC v Melksham Town

FA Cup Preliminary Round – Saturday 25th August

WCFC v Bashley or Bournemouth FC

FA Youth Cup First Qualifying Round – Week beginning

17th September

WCFC v Moneyfields

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MALCOLM'S MUSINGS

Hungerford Town's Bulpit Lane ground was the first ground I visited with both Clanfield (Oxon) and Eastleigh., but I was not able to attend the Red Insure Cup match in the 2015/16 season which Winchester won 2-0, which to my knowledge is the only competitive match, between the clubs, although Warren Bentley and Brendan Norris have both represented both teams.

When I first came across Hungerford Town Tony Williams was a major driving force at the club and he has since then done some tremendous things in publicising non-league football. Who can forget his efforts with the Team Talk magazine and the non-league football directory to name just two of his initiatives and his son Michael is now involved with the latter publication.

For a town with a relatively small population Hungerford have done very well to reach the National League South and this will be their third season in this competition. In the first of these they finished 6th, but last season only narrowly avoided relegation. Their player manager is Ian Herring who I recall playing for Eastleigh in both 2012/13 and 2013/14 and in the latter season I can recall him giving some excellent performances at right back.

Another great servant of the Hungerford club is Ron Tarry who four years ago received the Freedom of Hungerford for over 60 years to the football club as Manager, Chairman and President and in fact I have just read Ron's report of the Red Insure Cup described in the opening paragraph, in which Warren Bentley and Jamie Barron scored second half goals.

Ron was also a town councillor for 28 years and involved in many other organisations in the town. He was also mayor during the town's tragic event of 1987.

My cricket scoring commitments mean that I am unlikely to be at today's game, although the match I shall be at is the return fixture of the match that clashed with Danny King's successful testimonial match.

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LEAGUE HONOURS

Southern League: Play-Off Semi-Finalists (2016)

Wessex Premier League: Winners (2003-2004, 2005-2006, 2011-12)

Runners-Up (2004- 2005, 2014-2015)

Hampshire County League: Winners (1928-1929)

Hampshire Premier League: Winners (2002-2003)

Hampshire League Division 1: Winners (2001-2002)

Runners-Up (1929-1930, 1949-1950 & 1970-1971)

Hampshire League Division 2: Winners (1957-1958, 1973-1974 & 1991-1992)

Hampshire League Division 3: Runners-Up (1967-1968 & 1979-1980)

Hampshire League Division 3 East: Runners-Up (1949-1950 & 1951-1952)

Hampshire League North Division: Winners (1904-1905 & 1928-1929)

Runners-Up (1909- 1910, 1911-1912 & 1919-1920)

Hampshire League Championship Shield: Winners (1928-1929)

Hampshire League Combination Division 2: Winners (2005-2006)

South Hampshire League: Winners (1896-1897, 1897-1898 & 1898-1899)

North Hants League: Winners (2002-2003)

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CUP HONOURS

FA Vase: Winners (2004)

Hampshire Senior Cup: Winners (1935 & 2005)

Finalists (1888 & 2016)

Hampshire Tournament Cup: Winners (1888)

Finalists (1889 & 1890)

Hampshire Floodlit Cup: Winners (2005)

Finalists (2003)

Russell Cotes Cup: Winners (1955 & 1971)

North Hants Senior Cup: Winners (1982, 1987, 2002 & 2015)

North Hants League Cup: Winners (2003)

Southampton Senior Cup: Winners (1950, 1952, 2001 & 2003)

Finalists (1909) Basingstoke Senior Cup: Finalists (2002)

Andover & District Open Cup: Winners (2002)

Hampshire Intermediate Cup: Winners (1952, 1968, 1973 & 2002)

Wessex League Cup: Winners (2004)

Wyvern Challenge Shield: Finalists (2013)

Hampshire League, League Cup: Winners (1994 & 2003)

Hampshire League Combination Cup: Finalists (2002)

Hampshire Chronicle Cup: Winners (2005)

Southern Newspapers Invitation Cup: Winners (1971)

Inter-League Challenge: Winners (2001 & 2002)

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TODAY'S SQUADS

WINCHESTER CITY FC (From):

RYAN PRYCE
DANNY KING
JOE HAYWARD
JOSH HARFIELD
CRAIG DAVIS
SAM ROBERTS
SIMBA MLAMBO
JAMIE BARRON ©
LIAM GILBERT
LAMAR KOROMA
JAKE RAWKINS
TYRELL MITFORD
OLI BAILEY
MATT ANDREWS
REECE RUSHER
CONNOR COCKLIN
BRAD GALE
ROB CARR
JOSH CORNER
BEN SUNLEY
CALLUM KITCHER
HARVEY CLARK
JOSH TOMBS

Referee – Stephen Graham

Asst. Referee – George Kimber-Sweatman

Asst. Referee – Jack Birch

HUNGERFORD TOWN (From):

MARCUS BEAUCHAMP
DIAK JOHN
PAUL STONEHOUSE
MATT PARTRIDGE
GARETH THOMAS
MATT WILLIAMS
JAMAL LAWRENCE
ANTON RODGERS
LOUIE SOARES
LEWIS LEIGH-GILCHRIST
CALLUM WILLMOTH
JAMES CLARK
NICHOLAS BIGNALL
LUKE HOPPER
ALEX WALL
TOM MEECHAN
SCOTT REES
RICHIE WHITTINGHAM
JAMES RUSBY
RHYS TYLER
ALFIE KILGOUR
OLIVER DAVIES

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