



UXBRIDGE FC CLUB HISTORY

In the late 19th century the game of "football" was growing in popularity and on the 3rd February 1871 a group of eminent local businessmen held the inaugural meeting of Uxbridge Football Club. A local solicitor, Mr William Gardiner, was elected as the Club's President and the club's colours were chosen as white shirts with a light blue Maltese cross and a light blue velvet cap with silver tassel. Friendly games against local opposition were played in the early years, until the FA Cup was entered in 1873. A First Round Victory over Gitanos set-up a Second Round tie against eventual finalists Royal Engineers, which the Engineers narrowly won 2-1. It was at this time that Uxbridge could boast amongst its ranks a Full England International. Hubert Heron played for England on two occasions whilst an Uxbridge player before he moved to Wanderers FC where he gained further International honours. His brother Francis, formerly of Uxbridge, also played for England after joining him at Wanderers FC.

The club changed its colours to Oxford Blue and Cambridge Blue shirts in 1874 but they were in financial difficulties and folded later that year. The main problem for Uxbridge was the lack of a permanent home ground (a problem that was to plague them until the middle of the next century), the committee searched the town for a suitable base but were thwarted at every turn and they led a nomadic existence, moving ground every few years. The enthusiasm for a team in Uxbridge was still prevalent and the Club was reformed in 1879. In 1886 Uxbridge FC amalgamated with another local club, Uxbridge Crescents, and played under this name in season 1886/87, before reverting to plain old Uxbridge the following season. It was at this time that the Red Shirts, which are still worn today, were adopted and the nickname "The Reds" was born. Their first trophy was won in 1889 when they lifted the West Middlesex Cup, defeating Colnbrook 1-0 in the Final. The end of the 19th

century was a particularly successful period for The Reds as they won the West Middlesex Cup on three further occasions and also won the prestigious Middlesex Senior Cup twice. In 1894 they beat the 3rd Grenadier Guards 2-0 and repeated that success two years later with a 3-2 victory over local rivals Southall in a replay in front of over 5000 spectators. The outstanding achievement however was in reaching the final of the F.A. Amateur Cup in 1898. This was the club's first season in the competition and they had to win eight ties before meeting Middlesbrough in the final at Crystal Palace.

Unfortunately their North East rivals proved too strong for them on the day and ran out 2-0 winners. During this successful period for the club they became founder members of Division Two of the Southern League in 1894, finishing fourth in their first four seasons. However in season 1898/99 they finished next to bottom and the dwindling crowds (averaging around 500) meant that financially the club was once again in trouble. A decision was therefore taken to withdraw from the Southern League and join the local Middlesex League to try and stabilise the club. However, a majority of the more talented players joined other clubs and they struggled in their new surroundings, finishing bottom with only one point from their 14 games. At the end of the season the club had a deficit of £130 and with few players the club once again folded.

For two years much fund raising amongst the local community finally saw the club's debts paid and the reformed Uxbridge FC joined the West Middlesex League for the 1902/03 season. In 1904 the Great Western Suburban League was entered and here they stayed until the outbreak of the First World War. Their best finish during this period was as Runners-Up to Brentford Reserves in 1910/11. They also won the Middlesex Charity Cup on two occasions in 1908 and 1913 and the West Middlesex Cup was won twice more in 1909 and 1913, as they looked to re-establish themselves as a force in the football world. Following the end of hostilities Uxbridge joined the Athenian League and added "Town" to their name. An unsuccessful first Athenian League campaign saw them relegated back to the Great Western Suburban League in 1920. A successful four seasons saw them back in the Athenian League in 1924 where they remained until 1937. The Middlesex Charity Cup was won for the third time in 1935 as Finchley were beaten 4-3. Two poor seasons saw them finish bottom of the Athenian League in 1936 and 1937 and the club failed to be re-elected. They joined the Spartan League for the 1937/38 season, dropping "Town" from their name and at the end of the campaign stood proudly at the summit. Championship celebrations however were cut short when it was discovered that The Reds had played an ineligible player and were deducted six points, placing them in third position behind Champions Marlow. Following the debacle of their one and only season in the Spartan League they resigned and joined the London League prior to the Second World War.

During the war years they continued to play and joined the newly formed Great Western Combination League before re-joining the London League in 1945, finishing as Runners-up to Edgware Town. Uxbridge were founder members of the Corinthian League in 1946 and remained in this league for the next seventeen years. Finally in 1948, after over three quarters of a century of searching, a ground of their own was purchased. A piece of land in Cleveland Road, Cowley was bought for £5,800 by then president Mr W. S. Try. The ground was named after a large house that stood on the land and "Honeycroft" was the new home of Uxbridge Football Club. During this period they won their only Championship to-date when they were crowned Corinthian League Champions at the end of the 1959/60 season. They also won the Middlesex Senior Cup for the third

time in 1951 when they defeated Hayes 2-1.

This was a successful period in the clubs history as they finished in the top five of the Corinthian League on no less than eight occasions and crowds were averaging around the thousand mark. A re-organisation of Non-League football saw the end of the Corinthian League in 1963 and club found itself once again in Division One of the Athenian League. This was a lean time for The Reds, they were relegated to Division Two in 1967 and financial problems once again beset them. They gained national publicity in 1976 when England were looking for a side to play as part of their warm-up for the forthcoming World Cup campaign. Uxbridge took on a full strength England at Wembley, losing 8-0. The ground problems that had blighted Uxbridge throughout their history surfaced once again and the club had to find a new home. In 1978 they moved to their current headquarters in Horton Road, Yiewsley. A former works Sports & Social Club they have developed the site to the superb standard you see today. Over the past 31 years they have added floodlights (opened by the visit of Arsenal in 1981), new stands, fencing and in recent times a new clubhouse was opened and car park laid. On the playing front the club won the Middlesex Charity Cup for the fourth time in 1982, their first silverware for 22 years, and moved to the Isthmian League in the same year, winning promotion to Division One in 1985. The Final of the AC Delco Cup (League Cup) was reached in 1986, where they met Premier Division Champions Sutton United. The Reds failed to stop Sutton completing "The Double" though, losing 3-1 in the Final in front of over a thousand spectators at Imber Court, the home of Metropolitan Police FC. Uxbridge entered the London Challenge Cup for the first time in the 1992/93 season and hence followed a love affair between the Reds and the magnificent trophy. In the eight seasons they entered the competition they reached five finals, winning on three occasions in 1994, 1997 and 2000. Their last piece of silverware came in 2001 when the Middlesex Senior Cup was won for the fourth time. Harrow Borough were defeated 3-0 in the Final held at Honeycroft. In 2004 the club were moved across the pyramid to the Southern League and have reached the Play-Off Finals on two occasions. In 2004/05 they lost on penalties, after leading Maldon Town in extra-time, and in 2007/08 they narrowly lost 0-1 at Oxford City.

During the last 40 years Uxbridge have had only five different managers. Ron Clack was in charge for 18 years from 1970, followed by Peter Marshall for one season, Michael Harvey for three before George Talbot took the reigns for 14 seasons in 1992. Current Manager Tony Choules is confident he can take the club to the next level and has guided the club to the play-offs twice in recent seasons. Last season the Club lifted the Middlesex Charity Cup for the Fifth time in its history, defeating a young Brentford side 5-2 in the final at Honeycroft.

In 2016 we lost our long serving President, Alan Odell at the age of 92. Alan's relationship with the club started when he was 8 years old, later he was Secretary and Vice-President. Alan spent a number of years at the Football Association working alongside a number of England Managers with Sir Alf Ramsay, Bobby Robson and Ron Greenwood to name a few. All at Honeycroft will sadly miss him.

UXBRIDGE FC HONOURS BOARD

FA Amateur Cup Runners Up 1897-98

Middlesex Senior Cup Winners 1893-94 1895-96 1950-51 2000-01

Middlesex Senior Cup Runners Up 1890-91 1892-93 1913-14 1926-27 1934-35 1954-55 1997-98 2003-04

Middlesex Charity Cup Winners 1907-08 1912-13 1935-36 1981-82 2011-12 2012-13

Middlesex Charity Cup Runners Up 1908-09 1910-11 1913-14 1924-25 1969-70 1976-77 1982-83 1985-86

London Challenge Cup Winners 1993-94 1996-97 1999-00

London Challenge Cup Runners Up 1997-98 1998-99

Corinthian League Winners 1959-60

Corinthian League Runners Up 1948-49

Corinthian League Memorial Shield Winners 1950-51

Athenian League Cup Runners Up 1981-82

AC Delco Cup Runners Up 1985-86

Servowarm Isthmian League Division Two South Runners Up 1984-85

Middlesex George Ruffell Memorial Trophy Runners Up 2000-01

Southern League Division One East Play-Off Finalists 2004-05

British Gas Business League Division One South & West Play-Off Finalists 2007-08



Player Profiles 2017-18

Paul McCarthy – Goalkeeper – Paul returned to the Club in November 2013 from neighbours Ashford Town (Middlesex). Experienced keeper who first joined the Reds in 2008 from Bracknell Town. Previous Clubs Maidenhead, Chesham and Burnham.

Kevin Warner – Kevin, in his 11th season with Uxbridge will pass 400 games during the early part of the 2017/18 season. Kevin is home in the midfield. Despite his lack of inches he wins more than his fair share of aerial challenges.

Ashley Quashie – Ashley has re-joined Uxbridge this season after most of last season in pastures new. An athletic defender that you will always find marauding down the wing.

Ben Peden – In his third year with the first team Ben has made the right back position his. During the 2015/16 season he made 30 appearances scoring a solitary goal against AFC Rushden & Diamonds. Ben was a member of the Brentford U19's when they beat Barcelona, something to tell his grandchildren.

Dave Thomas – Another stalwart of the club with over 300 appearances. Dave spent the majority of last season on the sideline but is back fitter and hungrier to succeed.

Cory Watson – A product of our Youth setup. Corey was a crucial part of the Middlesex County U18's winning the FA County Youth Cup against Cornwall FA where he scored the winning goal in the semi final.

Anthony Thomas – Anthony's career began at Hemel Hempstead Town, where he scored 72 goals in two seasons. His first goal for Barnet came against Dagenham & Redbridge, and burst a hole in the side netting. He was loaned out to Cambridge City in October 2007, and was released at the end of the season. Thomas then joined Stevenage Borough on 17 May 2008. He struggled to make the first team and re-joined Hemel Hempstead Town after 11 appearances, scoring a brace in his first game against Yate Town.

Cole Brown – In his first season with Uxbridge Cole joins the club from Hayes & Yeading United. Cole brings pace and energy to the side along with experience of playing at a higher level.

James Burgess – James joins the club from near neighbours Northwood where he spent the 2016/17 season working alongside his brother who was the manager. James is well travelled in Middlesex having played for Harrow Borough and Hendon previously. A tenacious midfielder who gives confidence to the players around him.

Adam Mohammed – Adam has joined the First Team after honing his skills over the past two seasons in our Reserves. He is a prolific goal scorer with pace and vision.

Hicham Abdellah - Hicham Abdellah, British born of Moroccan descent, competed as a 17 year-old on the 2010 Sky TV show "Football's Next Star" in which the first prize was a six month contract at Inter Milan. Out of over 7,000 applicants, Abdellah was selected for the final ten which earned him five weeks in Italy at Inter Milan's state of the art training complex Interello trying to win the contract before he was eventually eliminated at the semi-final stage. He was subsequently offered and accepted a two year scholarship with Southend United. Since being released by the Shrimpers he has been playing professionally in Cyprus, first for Aspis Pyla and then for Second Division side Digenis Oroklini. Hicham joins the club from Westfield FC.

Player Profiles 2017-18

Chevy Hart – Chevy is another product of our Youth team. Chevy has served Harefield United, Molesey, AFC Hayes and Bedfont over the past few years. A no nonsense defender who has made the position his own since re-joining the club this season.

Rhys Rabess – Rhys joins us from AFC Hayes. During pre season Rhys has impressed all his peers and looks to become a regular starter this season.

Dwain Williams – Another new face at Honeycroft after joining from Tooting & Mitcham.

Joe Wright – Joe is another player who spent time in the USA on a scholarship. Joe joins us from Wembley FC where he has spent the past three seasons racking up 17 goals in 95 appearances.

Sam Aggrey-Adams – A 21-year-old defender who has joined the club this season. Sam has previously played for Regents FC and Islington Admirals.

Joshua Bramwell – Josh has stepped into the First Team after 3 Reserve Team appearances. A product of our Youth setup.

Dylan Kearney - Dylan is a young forward who caught the eye of several professional clubs when scoring goals for Yeading's youth, he was then a regular in the first team following their relegation in 2015 before joining Wealdstone in August 2017.

Harry Tucker – Harry joins us from Chesham United, A young defender who joined Chesham from Beaconsfield. Harry was part of the FAB Academy, which led to him playing for Beaconsfield. Harry previously represented Beaconsfield for two seasons.

Luke Maguire – Luke joins The Red Army after from neighbours Chalfont St Peter where he spent three seasons where he won the Young Player award in 2017. Comfortable in a number of positions and will hopefully step up with important goals this season. Luke started his career at Sandgate Youth FC and progressed to the Southern League via the Alec Reed Academy.

Prince M'Bengui – Prince has joined the club halfway through the season after some time out of the game; he has previously played for Hayes & Yeading Utd, Staines and Molesey.

Yahya El-Kabouche – Yahya joined this season from Ashford Town (Middx), he started his career at Kensington Borough where he demonstrated plenty of skill before leaving at the end of last season. A midfielder with plenty of skill.

Fabian Brown-Johnson – Fabian joins us from Arlesey Town where his opportunities were limited, he is a wide midfield player and has previously played for Northwood, Dunstable Town and Hatfield Town.

Uxbridge FC Squad 2017/18

Kevin Warner
Paul McCarthy
Ashley Quashie
Ben Peden
Dave Thomas
Cory Watson
Anthony Thomas
Cole Brown
James Burgess
Chevy Hart
Rhys Rabess
Dwain Williams
Joe Wright
Joshua Bramwell
Dylan Kearney
Adam Humphries
Harry Tucker
Sam Aggrey-Adams
Luke Maguire
Adam Mohammed
Prince M'Bengui
Yahya El-Kabouche
Fabian Brown-Johnson
Hicham Abdellah

Tony Choules - Manager
Paul Mills - Assistant Manager
Damian Payne - Coach
Sean Dawson - Goalkeeping Coach
Andrew Connor - Physio

