

Tooting Bec FC

MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

30/03/2019



Cherry Red Records Combined Counties
Division One

Tooting Bec

V

Epsom & Ewell



LondonFA



Respect

Design by



Club History

The Bec were only formed in 2004 on Tooting Common boasting just one side and with a completely social focus, this is just our 15th season in existence. Within 6 years and 4 promotions we achieved step 7 football and were also running a reserve side. Last season was our 8th season in the Surrey Elite League, running 6 sides including a Vets & Women's side and we have enjoyed a good couple of seasons at all levels.

After missing out on the title on the last day two seasons ago we came back strong and comfortably won the Elite league title by 5 points last term gaining promotion in the process. We also tasted FA Vase action for the first beating Littlehampton 3-1 before going out to Fisher in the next round.

The club is based out of Tooting & Mitcham F.C. where all our sides train and play on the 3G. However, due to Dulwich moving in the first team have returned to a ground share with Raynes Park Vale seven years from the last time we called Grand Drive home. This has given us the chance to move to the Combined Counties and Step 6 football for the first time and we are looking forward to visiting new grounds and making new friends, but we haven't just come to make up the numbers.

Our finest hour before last season's league title victory came in 2010 when the club won the SSEC League and Cup double and were a cup final defeat away from becoming the only club ever to claim the treble. In the last few seasons the reserves and 'A' team have added to the trophy haul as the club continues to strengthen on and off the pitch.

This season is our first in step 6 football, so whatever the result today, it's another historic day for all involved at Tooting Bec FC.

Best of luck to both sides.

Steffan Wells

Chairman

Tooting Bec FC

Club History

HISTORY OF EPSOM & EWELL FC

We were founded in March 1918 as Epsom Juniors Cricket Club and played throughout the summer. In the autumn, Epsom Juniors F.C. came into being and played a handful of games from what is now known as Alexandra Recreation Ground. Competitive football followed as we entered the Surrey Junior League in 1919, and became founder members of the Sutton & District League in 1920.

A change of name in July 1922 to Epsom Town F.C. heralded the start of a very successful era. By now resident at the Horton Hospital Sports Ground, we were unfortunate to lose 2-1 after extra time at Dorking F.C.'s Pixham Lane ground to Caterham Mental Hospital in a replay of the Surrey Junior Cup Final. However, we won three other trophies that season, the Leatherhead Hospital Shield, the Sutton Hospital Cup, and the Epsom Hospital Cup. In addition, we also won the Sutton & District League, and under the forward thinking of their visionary Chairman Hugh Bradley, took the step into Intermediate Football, where we won the Southern Suburban League without losing a match. Senior football was granted as we were unanimously accepted into the Surrey Senior League for 1924/25, where we finished third.

In September 1925, the club relocated to the old Ewell F.C. ground at West Street, which was purchased through the generosity of our future President Robert Bradshaw. In 1925/26 the Championship of the Surrey Senior League was attained, and the following season, we defeated Egham 1-0 at Egham in the League Charity Cup to complete a League and Cup "double".

Election to the London League followed, and the title was claimed in the first attempt in 1927/28. Unfortunately, we were unable to repeat this, instead finishing runners-up in 1931/32, 1932/33, 1934/35, 1936/37 and 1937/38. Cup Honours were limited, although in 1929 Redhill defeated us 3-2 in front of 4,600 at Guildford in our first Surrey Senior Cup Final, having seen off Wimbledon 4-1 in the semi-final!

The thirties were a very successful era, and we won the Surrey Charity (Senior) Shield in 1933 with an impressive 5-0 win over Woking at Kingfield. However, the proudest moment of our pre-war history was an appearance in the First Round Proper of the F.A.Cup in 1933/34. Woking (after a replay), Nunhead, Tooting & Mitcham, Beddington Corner, and Leytonstone were defeated, and a crowd of 9,485 at the Lea Bridge Speedway Stadium witnessed a 4-2 loss against the hosts Clapton Orient. At the end of that season we changed our name to Epsom F.C.

In 1939 a newly formed team, Epsom Town (no connection to the earlier name) shared the ground with Epsom F.C. However, this arrangement was suspended when war was declared, and we folded for the duration. In the meantime, Club Chairman Charles Pettett threw in his lot with Epsom Town in an attempt to boost morale by keeping the football flag flying. It was successful, as that club competed continuously throughout the war years, winning the Surrey Combination in 1939/40, and reaching the Surrey Senior Cup Final in 1944, losing 3-1 to Tooting & Mitcham, at Sandy Lane. After the war, Epsom F.C. restarted, continuing in the London League and reclaimed West Street. Temporary homes were found for Epsom Town while they competed for a season in the newly created Corinthian League, but disbanded in 1946.

In 1949 we entered the Corinthian League ourselves, where in 1952 we reached the League Memorial Shield Final in 1952, going down 2-1 to Champions Hounslow at Eastbourne after leading at half-time. Things improved further with the signing of the former English Amateur



International Pat Lynch from Hendon, finishing third in 1952/53, while in 1954 we reached the Surrey Senior Cup Final for the second time in our history, losing unluckily 2-0 to Corinthian Casuals in front of 6,159 at Selhurst Park. In 1955 we won the Surrey Senior Shield with a 1-0 win over Carshalton Athletic at West Street.

We appointed our first ever Manager, Kingstonian legend Doug Whitehead in 1955 and the Corinthian League double was almost achieved in 1956/57, but two losses in the final week, along with a 2-0 defeat in the Cup Final to Maidenhead United at Dorking ensured that we ended with neither, finishing fourth. However in 1960, we finally raised the Shield with a 2-0 revenge win over Maidenhead at Vale Farm, home of Wembley F.C.

In 1960 we changed our name once again to Epsom & Ewell F.C. This was not because of any merger with Ewell & Stoneleigh as is often quoted, but was an attempt to increase support across the whole of the Borough. In 1963 the Corinthian League merged with the Athenian and Delphian Leagues, and we were placed in Division One of the new structure, but the sixties were full of poor results and we were relegated in 1965.

Despite a string of managers, most notably ex-Leyton Orient winger Jimmy Smith, and Tony Williams, now famous for his creation of the F.A. Yearbooks, our fortunes did not improve significantly and further relegations were avoided in the early seventies by the benefit of re-election. However in 1973, despite "improving" to finish second from bottom, the Athenian League ran out of patience and cut us loose. This was unfortunate timing as we had just cleared all of our debts, and in addition to a virtually new Committee, former Fulham player Pat O'Connell had taken over as Manager.

The Surrey Senior League took us in at the last minute, and the new squad, including young striker Tommy Tuite, won the League Cup, and the following season, 1974/75 achieved a second Surrey Senior League "double". However, the season would always be remembered for reaching the Final of the inaugural F.A. Vase, where 9,500 saw the Blues edged out 2-1 by Hoddesdon Town at Wembley Stadium. The Athenian League welcomed us back, and promotion to the top flight was achieved in that first season. In 1976/77 we reached the Athenian League Cup Final, losing 1-0 at Chalfont St Peter.

By then, we knew that we had been invited to join the expanding Isthmian League for 1977/78, and were placed in the new Division Two. Our first match under floodlights took place against Met Police in August 1977, and the title was clinched the following April, securing a move to Division One. In 1979/80 we won the Southern Combination Cup 7-2 over Hampton on their own pitch, where the opposition were blitzed by five goals from Tuite. The following season a new clubhouse opened at West Street, and we finally won the Surrey Senior Cup, defeating Woking 2-1 at Tooting & Mitcham, although we just missed out on promotion. In 1983/84 we clinched a spot in the Premier Division as runners-up, although this time we missed out in the Surrey Senior Cup Final, defeated 4-0 by Sutton United at Imber Court.

With Adrian Hill as Manager since 1982, we survived comfortably in our first season at the new level, but Hill's departure to Croydon in 1985 started a decline. Much of the squad left with Hill, and new Manager Alan Webb had too much to do. We were relegated in 1986, and following Webb's departure soon after, Player / Manager Ricky Kidd nearly but not quite saved us from our second straight relegation. Adrian Hill replaced Kidd for a second spell at the helm in 1990, but we were placed in the new Division Three in 1991 in league reorganisation following a finish one position below the required half way mark.



In 1993 a large chapter in our history ended as we left West Street and moved in as tenants of Banstead Athletic. The decade was largely one of frustration, although we did reach the Final of the Associate Members Trophy, losing 2-0 to Bedford Town at Hendon's old Claremont Road ground.

In 2002 Adrian Hill took us back up to Division 1 South, where we topped the table for a month, eventually finishing 9th, but Hill's retirement at the end of the season led to relegation a year later and then in 2006 we were transferred into the Combined Counties League Premier Division. In October 2006 Lyndon Buckwell, a former player became our new Manager, and in his first full season (2007/08) we were back in the top ten. In 2008/09 we exceeded this achievement and finished in fourth place after heading the table for a few months. In 2009/10 the club recovered from a slow start to finish fifth and also reached the last 32 of the F.A.Vase for the first time in 21 years, bowing out 3-2 in Northamptonshire to Long Buckby. In April of 2010 we terminated our seventeen-year ground sharing agreement with Banstead Athletic and spent two unspectacular seasons at Merstham F.C. before relocating to High Road, home of Chipstead F.C. for the 2012/13 season.

The season brought significant playing success as a slow start was followed by a spectacular run of form, including a club record 12 straight League wins, which put us at the top of the table for over a month before a tough run in resulted in a final position of fifth. However, any disappointment there was tempered by the club's first silverware since 1981 when we defeated South Park 3-0 at Farnborough to win the Combined Counties League Cup. Lyndon also marked 300 games in charge of the club in early 2013. On a sadder note, 2012/13 also marked one thousand games since we left West Street.

We carried our fine form into 2013/14 and led the league with eight straight wins but couldn't hold on and had to settle for third place, our highest league finish since 1984, but the following season Lyndon Buckwell departed and Glyn Mandeville and new Assistant Matt Smith steered the club to seventh place, despite a substantial budget cut and this improved to fourth place in 2015/16.

In the summer of 2016 our club visited France and played a friendly against our twin town Chantilly, which was where the England team had been based before their Euro 2016 campaign. The players were able to meet Roy Hodgson and Gary Neville and performed admirably as ambassadors for our town.

In 2016/17 we started the season with an incredible 9-2 win at newly promoted Bedfont & Feltham in a match where we had trailed 2-0 at half time and went on to repeat our fourth place finish in the League. In addition, we reached the League Cup Final but were defeated 4-1 by Westfield at Windsor FC.

However, in the summer of 2017, we suffered a large player exodus with a substantial number joining local rivals Sutton Common Rovers and our Coach Matt Smith also left. Glyn was unable to replace them with enough players of real quality and three quarters of the season was spent at the foot of the table. Glyn's resignation in January 2018 led to the club appointing our new Coach Neil Grant into the Manager's role and although he managed to get us off the foot of the table, relegation was always likely and was confirmed in mid-April; not a great way to celebrate our Centenary!

Because of the situation Neil inherited, he never had a proper opportunity to save us from relegation, but the club saw enough to indicate that he can get us back up to Step Five this



season. He remains at our club with a new Management team around him, including Simon Funnell and Sam Morgan and with a clear target of promotion back into the top flight of the Combined Counties League.

We continue at High Road for the 2018/19 season, having signed a new two year agreement with Chipstead. Meanwhile, the search continues for a new ground back in the Borough.....



TOOTING BEC FC

30. Zdenek Machacek
2. Nick Thompson
3. Matthew Stone
4. Chris Thurbon ©
5. George Wheeler
6. Martin Allison
7. James Parsons
8. Myles Blenkinsop
9. Panikos Oritis
10. Alistair Wiltshire
11. Jack Martin
12. Tom Field
14. Eddie M'bango
15. Kieran Patel
16. Nigel Fox

Manager: John O'Connor

Assistant Manager: Terry Tuvey Head Coach: Paul Golah

Secretary: Roger

Primary Colours: Black/White striped Shirt, White shorts, Black and

White socks

GoalKeeper, Green or Yellow



EPSOM & EWELL FC

Conor Young (GK)

Reisse Griffin

Liam Roberts

Scott Murphy (C)

Lloyd Connelly

Sam Morgan

Ryan Sullivan

Bobby Bennett

Luke Elgar

Elliott Thompson

Adam Heagney

Robert Hendry

Oliver Martinez

Joshua Caulcrick

Jamie Watts

Ben Chick

Billy Carney

Hakim Griffiths

Todd Murphy

Louis Chin

Jake Robinson

George Smart

Samuel Eastgate

Chris Head

Manager: Simon Funnell

Coach/Assistant: Matt Drew

Assistant: Paul Marshall

Physio: Chantelle Farrell

Shirts: Blue & White hoops

Shorts & Socks: Blue



Match Report

Kensington Borough 1-0 Tooting Bec

Bec travelled to a rejuvenated Kensington Borough side for their penultimate away league game of the season looking to cement their place in the top 6 of the league standings.

An even first 10 minutes saw both teams trying to establish a foothold in the game. Borough's tactic were clear, looking to get the ball quickly to their 2 tricky wingers and this worked well early on with a couple of nervy moments for the Bec backline without Machacek ever being called into action. As the half wore on Tooting went very close on 3 occasions to taking the lead, Patel's shot on the turn from 8 yards out was straight at the grateful home stopper before M'Bango hit the inside of the post from an acute angle. Just before the interval Field bent his free-kick around the outside of the wall only for it to be tipped onto the post by the keeper.

HT 0-0

Tooting started the second half looking to build on their strong end to the first period but it was Kensington who were the better of the 2 sides in the second half, with Bec being frustrated by a lack of rhythm and some marginal off-side calls. Machacek was called into action on a number of occasions and pulled off some great saves despite carrying a hip injury. Into the last 10 minutes it was clear that both sides were going for victory and when Bec failed to clear a long range set-piece the ball was stood up to the back post for the Borough midfielder to nod home. Tooting had one last chance to restore parity but M'Bango's low side footed shot went through a ruck of bodies but agonisingly for the Bec past the far post as well.

MoM: Carlo Fernando



Player Profile

Name

David Whyte

Position

Goalkeeper

Date joined the Bec

December 2012

Team Supported

Manchester United

Favourite Player

Peter Schmeichel

Favourite Stadium

Old Trafford

Best game you've watched

Nice v Monaco 2017 or
France v Croatia World Cup Final

Favourite Bec moment

Winning League last Season
After coming back into Goal



Favourite Film

Happy Gilmour

Favourite TV

Game of Thrones

Favourite holiday destination

Canada but looking forward to Colombia

Favourite meal

Curry



***More accuracy,
more control
more power.***

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