



CHERRY RED RECORDS COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE

Division One

Fleet Spurs FC

v

Epsom & Ewell FC

Saturday 7th December 2019

Kick Off – 3pm



"WELCOME TO "KENNELS LANE"

The home of Fleet Spurs FC

Personnel at Kennels Lane

<u>President:</u>	Paul Hampshire
<u>Chairman:</u>	Kierin Gurrie
<u>Vice President:</u>	John Porter
<u>Vice President:</u>	Brian Ritchie
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<u>Tea Bar / Catering:</u>	Shelagh Gurrie
 <u>1st Team Management:</u>	 James Simms, Alan Read, Adrian Wilson & Rich Lane
 <u>Hospitality/match reports:</u>	 John Porter - Vice President Brian Ritchie – Vice President,

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN

On behalf of the Club, it is my pleasure to welcome back the Officials, Players and Supporters of today's visitors Epsom and Ewell to Kennels Lane for what is expected to be another exciting encounter after our first game earlier this season which was a thrilling 8 goal encounter with Spurs coming out on top 5-3 winners.

Both sides will be looking on continuing their winning form after Epsom and Ewell beat Godalming Town last weekend and Spurs, who have now won 5 out of the last 6 games beating Westside in a Cup fixture here at Southwood on Tuesday night.

We all hope you enjoy your visit to Kennels Lane today and the football played will be exciting to watch.

Kierin Gurrie, Chairman



Wishing Fleet Spurs a fantastic 2019-20 Season. Please give me a call if you would like to discuss any fencing requirements you have

Fixture and Results Information

Div1	07/12/2019	15:00	Fleet Spurs	v	Epsom & Ewell
Div1	10/12/2019	19:45	Farnham Town	v	Fleet Spurs
Div1	14/12/2019	15:00	Cove	v	Fleet Spurs
Div1	21/12/2019	15:00	Fleet Spurs	v	Bagshot
Div1	28/12/2019	15:00	Godalming Town	v	Fleet Spurs
Div1	04/01/2020	15:00	Fleet Spurs	v	FC Deportivo Galicia
Div1	11/01/2020	15:00	Fleet Spurs	v	Eversley & California
Div1	18/01/2020	15:00	Westside	v	Fleet Spurs
Div1	25/01/2020	15:00	Bagshot	v	Fleet Spurs
Div1	01/02/2020	15:00	Fleet Spurs	v	Walton & Hersham
Div1	08/02/2020	15:00	Fleet Spurs	v	Tooting Bec
Div1	15/02/2020	15:00	Bedfont & Feltham	v	Fleet Spurs
Div1	22/02/2020	15:00	Sandhurst Town	v	Fleet Spurs
Div1	29/02/2020	15:00	Fleet Spurs	v	Jersey Bulls
Div1	07/03/2020	15:00	Fleet Spurs	v	Ash United
Div1	14/03/2020	15:00	British Airways	v	Fleet Spurs
Div1	21/03/2020	15:00	Fleet Spurs	v	Cove
Div1	24/03/2020	19:45	Fleet Spurs	v	AFC Hayes
Div1	28/03/2020	15:00	Kensington & Ealing Borough	v	Fleet Spurs
Div1	11/04/2020	15:00	Chessington & Hook United	v	Fleet Spurs
Div1	13/04/2020	11:30	Fleet Spurs	v	Dorking Wanderers Reserves
Div1	18/04/2020	15:00	Walton & Hersham	v	Fleet Spurs

Results

	DATE	HOME			AWAY
Cup	03/12/2019	Fleet Spurs	3	1	Westside
Div1	30/11/2019	Eversley & California	0	2	Fleet Spurs
Div1	23/11/2019	Fleet Spurs	2	0	British Airways
Div1	16/11/2019	FC Deportivo Galicia	4	1	Fleet Spurs
Div1	09/11/2019	Fleet Spurs	2	1	Westside
Div1	29/10/2019	AFC Hayes	1	5	Fleet Spurs
Div1	26/10/2019	Ash United	2	1	Fleet Spurs
Div1	19/10/2019	Fleet Spurs	1	3	Farnham Town
Div1	12/10/2019	Tooting Bec	2	1	Fleet Spurs
Div1	05/10/2019	Fleet Spurs	1	2	Chessington & Hook United
Div1	28/09/2019	Fleet Spurs	1	2	Kensington & Ealing Borough
Cup	24/09/2019	Cobham	2	4	Fleet Spurs
Div1	21/09/2019	Fleet Spurs	2	4	Tooting Bec
O	17/09/2019	Eastleigh	3	0	Fleet Spurs
FAV	14/09/2019	Milton Keynes Robins	4	1	Fleet Spurs
Div1	07/09/2019	Fleet Spurs	1	2	Bedfont & Feltham
FAV	31/08/2019	Cove	0	1	Fleet Spurs
Div1	25/08/2019	Jersey Bulls	4	0	Fleet Spurs
O	20/08/2019	Fleet Spurs	2	0	Solent University
Div1	17/08/2019	Dorking Wanderers Reserves	0	1	Fleet Spurs
Div1	10/08/2019	Fleet Spurs	4	2	Godalming Town
Div1	03/08/2019	Epsom & Ewell	3	5	Fleet Spurs

Fleet Spurs FC – History

The origins of Fleet Spurs Football Club can be traced back to 1948, shortly after World War II, when a group of young footballers began playing friendly matches in the Fleet and Aldershot area. Opponents included the Royal Medical Corps, Royal Engineers, Royal Artillery, Royal Army Service Corps, Parachute Regiment, and Wellington Press. In 1951, Fleet Spurs FC first gained admittance to Aldershot and District League. The first club badge was a cockerel on ball, the same as for Tottenham Hotspur Football Club, the rising stars of English Football at the time. Club Colours were originally black and white, again as for Tottenham. Subsequently, they changed to red and black stripes (AC Milan), and eventually became the present red and blue. Tradition holds that Fleet Spurs FC was formed as a reaction, or an alternative, to the long-established "semi-professional" Fleet Town FC. This was to provide an amateur football club for local players with a strong social environment. Notwithstanding, the proud Fleet Spurs FC cockerel motto has undergone transformations over the years and many will recall the challenges that the club faced with logos and Tottenham Hotspur a few seasons ago.

The first honours were awarded in 1952-53, when Spurs were Hants Junior Cup B Winners and Aldershot Junior Cup Winners. From the Aldershot and District League, the club moved briefly in 1954-55 to the Hampshire League, North Hants Division, and then effectively the 4th Division of the County. Then, after winning various League and Cup honours with the Aldershot and District League, the Reserves were formed in 1965. From 1965-1971, Spurs 1st team saw a spell in the Surrey Premier League, B and then A division, becoming League A Champions in 1968-69 and Cup Finalists in 1970-71. The Reserves remained with the Aldershot League. Spurs 1st team returned to the Aldershot and District League from 1971, where Spurs have continued to field teams to the present. The A Team was formed in 1977, and the B Team in 1991. A period of almost continuous League and Cup honours flowed from 1979-1990, with significant achievements at 1st, Reserves and A Team levels. Notably, for the 1st Team, this period included 4 seasons as Aldershot Senior League Champions and 3 seasons as Runners-Up. Then in 1991, as dual Aldershot Senior League Champions and Peter Bunyon Cup Winners, promotion was gained to Hampshire League Division 3. The Reserves, A team, and newly formed B Team remained with the Aldershot League. Then, promoted to Hants Div 2 in the first season (from 3rd place), the 1st team progressed to become Hants Div 2 Champions in 1998. The 1st team then played 2 seasons in Hants Div 1, at the highest Hampshire League level, finishing near the top of the League (6th), before cruelly being demoted from this lofty position immediately down to Div 2 for failure to meet new Hampshire League grounds standards.

Significantly, in 1991, Fleet Spurs FC formed an association with Fleet Spurs Youth Football Club. Formed in 1981, FSYFC is a member of the North East Hampshire Youth League, entering typically 10 teams, ranging from Under 8s through to Under 18s. At the opposite end of the scale, and reflecting the maturity of the club, in 2003, led by Manager J Winter, the B Team became established as a veteran's side in Aldershot and District League Division 2, eligible for over-35's cup competitions. Particular mention should be made of Eric Heanes, loyal club servant in many official and unofficial roles. In 2000, Eric was honoured by Hampshire FA in recognition of over 40 years of service to football with Fleet Spurs FC. Unfortunately, Eric passed away leaving the club in good hands.

In 1997-98, the club moved to play football at the new Hart Council development, with a joint Hart/ Spurs Sports Council funding award, sited at Kennels Lane, Southwood. Kennels Lane provides pitches and modern dressing room facilities catering for all five teams if necessary, with a kitchen refreshment area, substantial spectator shelter, and a pitch surround and hard-standing and excellent floodlighting. The 2009/10 season saw Spurs begin to re-establish themselves in senior football. Bryan Sheppard was appointed Chairman and the 1st team under manager Neil Baker finished 3rd in Wessex League Div 1, the Reserves under Dave Bennett were crowned Aldershot & District Senior League Champions. At the beginning of 2010/11 season Neil Baker was offered a job at step 4 side Godalming and Fleet Spurs needed to rebuild. The season proved difficult with over 70 players being signed on and a number of off field issues including significant vandalism at the club ground. However the club has come through these issues and a mid table finish was a positive outcome to a very difficult year. For 2011/12 Andy Hunt was appointed manager with a rebuilding job and completed a very successful couple of seasons for Fleet Spurs with a totally new squad. Andy went on to Godalming in June of 2014, and the Committee appointed as Player/Manager Sam Knowles, Sam has been with Fleet Spurs for nine years and was assisted by Tommy Taylor until last season.

2017/18 saw a change of league for Fleet Spurs as they were moved laterally by the FA into the Combined Counties League which should help the club tremendously especially with travelling as the majority of clubs

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Delighted to be Supporting the refurbishment of "Shelagh Tea Bar" during the 2019-20 season
Good luck to everyone at Fleet Spurs



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Epsom & Ewell F.C. Club History 1918 - 2019

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 summer 2017, we suffered a large player exodus with a substantial number joining local rivals Sutton Common Rovers. 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 promoting our 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!

The attempts at bouncing straight back did not start particularly well and Grant departed in October. He was replaced by Simon Funnell, who stepped up from his Assistant role and oversaw a good run of results which took us back up to the fringes of the promotion race, before a defeat to Frimley Green derailed our season and we tailed off to finish in eighth position. We had the consolation of reaching the Division One League Cup Final at Meadowbank, home of Dorking Wanderers, but again Frimley Green stood in our way and defeated us by the only goal. We now commence our eighth season at High Road with a clear target of promotion back into the top flight of the Combined Counties League through one of the four promotion spots that are available this year.

Meanwhile, the search continues for a new ground back in the Borough.....

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