DORKING FC
THE CHICKS

v

BANSTEAD ATHLETIC FC

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
TUESDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2016
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Welcome to Dorking FC at Westhumble - our home venue for what promises to be quite a season in the history of Dorking FC, both on and off the field.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our visitors today - all the players, management, staff and supporters of Banstead Athletic.

It’s exciting to watch the work get underway building our new home ground at Meadowbank. It’s only in the early stages but, after nearly three years of doubt and debate, we can finally see all the plans and hopes becoming a reality. As you can read elsewhere in today’s match programme, our thriving Under 18s and Ladies teams also have their seasons up and running and it’s good to know that, this time next year, all our teams will be sited together, playing on the 3G artificial pitch in the new Meadowbank stadium - Dorking FC’s ancestral home.

With Surrey FA relocating their headquarters to the ground, Dorking Wanderers’ first team playing home matches there and local youth clubs training weekly, our new clubhouse will be at a thriving hub of Surrey football – a lasting legacy for sport that will regenerate that area and bring people into the town centre. We’ve come a long way from the days when Meadowbank was expected to become another supermarket and be lost to sport forever!

While we wait for the construction, thanks must go to Marc White, Jeremy Pain, Chris Moon and all the Dorking Wanderers staff for making the fantastic and picturesque ground they’ve built here at Westhumble available to us. Both clubs are working together with enthusiasm to promote grassroots football in the local area through the new Dorking Football Development Alliance.
On the field, we’ve had mixed fortunes, but we’re rebuilding Dorking FC from bottom to top with an emphasis on bringing on young local players who can be with us for many years to come proudly representing their hometown club - so its no surprise that there’s ups and downs week-to-week. The important point is that we can see all our plans progressing in the right direction over a period of time.

From that point of view, more than half the squad is from Dorking and the immediately surrounding villages, we see individual players improving week on week, including a number of graduates from the Under 18s, under a manager in Danny Fox who’s totally committed to developing local players, has a track record working with young talent, and is building a squad that blends youth and experience,

That’s reflected in the renewed enthusiasm we’re seeing for the club from people in the community. Our attendances so far this year are running well above the average for clubs in our league. Thank you very much for your support – it means a lot and is really important as we all work to revitalise this great old club for the benefit of the whole town.

I would like to thank our Dorking FC Matchmakers – the team of volunteers from the community who have helped make sure that everything runs smoothly at our home games here at Westhumble, giving spectators a warm welcome to both first team and Under 18 matches. The Matchmakers are everything this club is about. If you’d like to be a part of it, then please just talk to the volunteers behind the bar, or email dorkingfc@btinternet.com.

Last – but by no means least – it’s congratulations from me, the Board, Committee and everyone at Dorking FC to our club captain Kieran Lunn and Samantha Nightingale who has just given birth to their first child, Arlo Joshua. Congratulations also to club legend, all time record appearance holder and current Under 18 manager, Steve Lunn, who becomes a granddad.

After a short absence, we look forward to seeing Kieran back in the team very soon. But, with such great heritage, now might be the time to ask your bookie for odds on young Arlo making an appearance in the Cockerel Colours at some point in the future!

I hope you enjoy the game and your visit to Dorking FC today – and look forward to welcoming you back here again soon.

Kind Regards

Alan Gout
Chairman, Dorking FC
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Good afternoon and welcome to Westhumble for this evening’s match against Banstead Athletic. I’d like to welcome James Cameron, his management team, their players and officials.

Our opposition have had a strong start to the season and look likely to push on from their consistent top six finishes of the past few seasons. And with former Dorking striker Martin Smith leading the line well, I’m sure tonight’s encounter will be an interesting one.

Our run of form in the league came to an end on Saturday against Bagshot. Despite the result, I thought our performance was much more creative and disciplined than in the previous week’s draw against Sheerwater, who ironically sit higher in the league than Bagshot.

So I feel we’ve shown we can compete with the teams at the top of the table - we just need to tighten up a few aspects of our game to bring the results home.

This will undoubtedly take a little time given the average age of the squad and the number of teenage players we’re developing to give Dorking FC a bright locally-based future. But there have been plenty of signs that improvement is being made in recent weeks.

It was good to see James Herouvin’s first senior goal last week - the composure he showed in taking the chance was beyond his 18 years. And our resident MC Jordon Boukhari has started to show the potential that we all thought he had in him during pre-season.

I’d like to finish by congratulating our skipper Kieran Lunn and his partner Samantha, on behalf of the squad, on the birth of their son, Arlo. The Lunn dynasty continues?

I hope you enjoy the game.

Up the Chicks.

Danny
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Dorking FC Ladies captain Abi Patrick had little choice but to take an interest in football.

“I grew up with an older brother so played football in the street with him and his friends,” she says. “And my dad is a Geordie - so there’s a passion for football in my blood!”

Having made her mark at Crawley Wasps, Abi’s delighted to be part of the team putting Ladies football on the map as part of the revitalised Dorking FC. She now plays alongside childhood friend Amy Shepherd and describes the team as a big family, “It’s great to be on the pitch with Sheps but, from the very first training session, I was made to feel welcome and it’s the same for everyone who turns up.”

And, Abi adds, it’s not just the football that brings the Ladies team together. “Dorking has so many good restaurants, pubs and places to go in the town, and we’re such a sociable team, so we take full advantage.”

Abi takes inspiration from current England women’s captain Steph Houghton, so she was delighted to also be given the chance to show her leadership qualities when Ladies manager Matt Dilger gave her the Dorking captain’s armband.

“It was a very proud moment,” she says, “the best so far. But probably my favourite time at the club so far was our win against Crystal Palace. I played against Palace in my first game for the Chicks and we lost that one 2-1, so to go out again in the same season and beat them 2-0 was really satisfying.”

But there’s not much time for reminiscing. The Ladies have just started their new league season and Abi says there’s so much to look forward to.

“That’s the beauty of being involved in the club at this time, she says. “Mostly I’m excited about the rebuild of Meadowbank. Having access to that artificial pitch and clubhouse will be amazing and is sure to attract lots of women that want to join a Ladies team such professional facilities.”
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Jason Rabbetts: dorkingfc@btinternet.com
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TOM DAY
D.O.B: 08/09/1999
sponsored by Wake Media

DEFENDER
MATTHEW FINN
D.O.B: 11/04/1992
sponsored by Wake Media

DEFENDER
PAUL GOUGH
D.O.B: 10/11/1989
sponsored by Wake Media

DEFENDER
RUSSELL HARTT
D.O.B: 28/09/1983
sponsored by Wake Media

DEFENDER
DARRELL MOTHEE
D.O.B: 13/12/1989
sponsored by Wake Media

DEFENDER
BRANDON WATTS
D.O.B: 22/03/1999
sponsored by Wake Media

DEFENDER
RICHARD WEBBER
D.O.B: 29/10/1987
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DEFENDER
JACK WISBEY
D.O.B: 16/09/1999
sponsored by The Oddfellows, Dorking
MIDFIELDER
JORDON BOUKHARI
D.O.B: 23/02/1996

MIDFIELDER
JAMES BRAZIL
D.O.B: 07/10/1989

MIDFIELDER
JAMES HEROUVIN
D.O.B: 11/04/1998

MIDFIELDER
OWEN HUNTE
D.O.B: 29/08/1991

MIDFIELDER
RYAN LUNN
D.O.B: 03/12/1998

MIDFIELDER
ANDREW MILLER
D.O.B: 09/03/1992

MIDFIELDER
STUART RUSSELL
D.O.B: 02/09/1995

MIDFIELDER
JOEL SAUNDERSON
D.O.B: TBC

STRIKER
PAUL DAVIES
D.O.B: 04/05/1990

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MEET THE STAFF 2016/17

FIRST TEAM MANAGER
DANNY FOX

ASSISTANT MANAGER
GREG FIDELE

Assistant Manager
CHRIS WYE

GOALKEEPING COACH
IAN PURKISS

FIRST TEAM COACH & LADIES MANAGER
MATT DILGER

sponsored by Clearmasters

FIRST TEAM UNDER 18 MANAGER
ANDREW BUSHE

HEAD OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
NICK TORPEY

UNDER 18 MANAGER
STEVE LUNN

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UNDER 18 ASSISTANT MANAGER
SIMON COFFEY

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A performance full of character saw Dorking recover from conceding an early goal and earn a draw against early season pacesetters, Sheerwater at Westhumble.

Indeed, there was a sense of disappointment that the Chicks didn’t take all three points after an exciting end-to-end second half that saw Dorking take a 2-1 lead with a quarter of an hour to go.

Danny Fox blended local youth with experience, starting with no fewer than five teenage players but also giving a home debut to former Sheerwater player Joel Saunderson, who joined the Chicks in the summer but has had to wait for recovery from a serious knee operation before donning the cockerel colours.

It was a sluggish start by Dorking and it took just six minutes for Sheerwater to take full advantage, as an apparently tame shot by Shane Rideout from the edge of the box was misjudged by keeper Nimmo and squeezed inside the far post for an early 1-0 lead.

A free kick by Richard Webber, easily collected by the Sheerwater keeper, was the closest the Chicks came to showing any attacking threat, until the half hour mark, when the home team flickered into life.

Corners to the back post were causing Sheerwater problems at the back post, and a great delivery by Saunderson, knocked down by Brandon Watts ended with a shot from Jordan Boukhari that rose over the bar. A shot on the turn by Owen Hunte also sailed over as the Chicks stuttered through to half time.

Manager Danny Fox made use of every last second of the half time break, keeping the visitors waiting for the restart, as he attempted to inspire his side to raise their game. Whatever words were said in the dressing room proved highly effective as the youthful Dorking team began the second half with far more purpose.

The equaliser came just before the hour as Jimmy Brazil, running tirelessly as ever upfront, tackled a defender on the edge of the Sheerwater box and proceeded to curl and unstoppable shot into the far corner of the net.

The game burst into life as both teams went in search of the winner. A stunning fingertip save by Jake Nimmo pushed a shot from ten yards out just over the bar, when looked certain to retake the lead. Immediately, at the other end, Brazil fed Ryan Lunn whose shot from a tight angle was lifted just over the bar.

The back post corner led to Dorking going ahead on 73 minutes. This time it was second half substitute James Herouvin who whipped in the ball, for Brandon Watts to power into the net.

But the lead lasted just seven minutes as a ball from deep found Michael Leech at the far post, and he headed home an equaliser from just a couple of yards out.

Unwilling to settle for a draw and sensing a win was still possible, even against high flying opponents, Danny Fox brought on striker George Knight but, as the rain began to fall, the Chicks were unable to carve out any further clear chances.

Dorking FC: Nimmo, Wisbey, Webber, Saunderson, Gough, Watts, Hunte (Herouvin 56), Hearn (Mothee 56), Brazil, Boukhari, R Lunn (Knight 81)
Subs not used – Day, Miller

“Jimmy Brazil equalised with a delightful curled shot.”

Report by Roger Mahony
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Defensive errors proved costly for Dorking as Bagshot took full advantage to grab all three points.

Despite putting in one of their strongest performances of the season - with Jordon Boukhari, Stuart Russell and Will Hearn combining well in midfield and a first senior goal for U18 graduate James Herouvin - the Chicks were left to rue errors at the back as a run of three league games unbeaten came to an end.

Starting again with five teenagers, the game began in an open fashion as Dorking’s midfield three, playing together for the first time, developed an understanding. The Chicks’ first good chance came on 15 minutes as left winger Darrell Mothee got behind a sluggish Bagshot defence and fizzed an inviting low ball across the mouth of the goal.

Mothee was involved again ten minutes later, exchanging passes with Hearn in midfield, before local lad Boukhari - enjoying his most impressive game since joining the club in the summer – clipped a ball over the top of the defence. It put Mothee in on goal but his slightly snatched shot flew over the bar.

There were signs of danger from Bagshot too. Jake Nimmo saved superbly, getting down low to stop a fierce strike that he could only have seen at the very last moment as it pierced through a crowded penalty area.

With left back Richard Webber and central defender Brandon Watts looking immovable at the back, the game appeared to be heading towards a goalless first half but, on the stroke of half time, the Chicks were let down by a lack of concentration. Having struggled to clear the ball, inviting late pressure, a delivery from the left found an opposing player unmarked on the right of the box, and his strike was then turned in at close range.

The Chicks responded well after the break. Within a minute of the restart, Mothee floated a free kick over the wall, only to see it rebound off the cross bar.

Dorking went on to dominate the next 15 minutes, without quite finding the killer final ball, so it was completely against the run of play that Bagshot doubled their lead as their left winger was allowed to run into the box far too easily, weaving past three defenders before planting a low shot under Jake Nimmo and into the far corner.

The Chicks continued to press, with some sweeping passing moves and substitute James Herouvin adding some real determination and purpose on the right, but it was game over just a few minutes later as a complete defensive mix up in the six yard box, left the ball loose for Bagshot to poke into the net for one of the simplest goals they can hope to score this season.

Dorking had a good penalty shout as a shot on goal appeared to strike the hand of a Bagshot defender right on the line, but the officials were unmoved and the frustration was too much for Mothee who saw red for an ill-advised comment to the referee’s assistant.

Down to ten men, the Chicks continued to play and saw some reward on 85 minutes as another excellent ball left the Bagshot defence standing and Herouvin coolly swept it into the corner of the net.

But, despite the quality of the finish, it could offer little more than consolation in a game where the Chicks played pleasing football, were very much architects of their own downfall.

Dorking FC: Nimmo, Wisbey, Webber, Boukhari, Watts, Finn, R Lunn (Herouvin, 59), Russell, Brazil (Hunte, 78), Hearn (Davies, 68), Mothee
Subs not used – Day, Miller

Report by Roger Mahony
When the Chicks move back to Meadowbank next year, we’ll be sharing the new stadium with all the local youth clubs, hosting over a thousand young players taking part in weekly training.

That doesn’t just create much needed facilities for the town, it represents a closer connection between Dorking’s 136 year old senior club and youth football as we build a pathway so that talented young players can move through to Dorking’s senior sides and keep playing a high standard of football in their home town.

Two months into the season and three youth team graduates have already become regulars in the first team squad. Others, such as 16 year old forward Haris Bouzida who appeared as a second half substitute in last month’s cup game at Worcester Park, are regularly training with the first teamers under the guidance of manager Danny Fox.

But the conveyor belt of talent hasn’t come about by good fortune. The progress made by the likes of Jack Wisbey, James Herouvin and Ryan Lunn is part of a concerted effort to build for the future with a core of young and local players who can develop their game while representing their town.

The Dorking Football Development Alliance, established for this season by the Chicks and Dorking Wanderers, has been key to this progress, along with the desire of the new first team management to work with and improve the local players at their disposal.

The Alliance has seen the merger of the two clubs’ Under 18 set ups into a single squad, run by Dorking FC.

The unified Dorking youth squad fields two teams - making use of Wanderers’ first team status to participate alongside the likes of Woking, Sutton, Leatherhead and the Met Police in the prestigious Ryman Youth League, as well as playing deeper into Surrey and Sussex in the Southern Youth League.

With players free to switch between the two teams as their development requires, it provides a step-by-step approach for players to move from Under 16 football at the likes of St Paul’s Panthers, Dorkinians, Wanderers and Brockham Badgers, up to men’s football when they reach 18. The club has assembled a strong team of coaches with all the experience necessary to prepare the 38-strong squad for non-league football.

The Ryman team is guided by Dorking FC legend, Steve Lunn, the club’s all-time record holder James Herouvin.
appearance holder who played and scored in that famous 1992 FA Cup tie against Peter Shilton’s Plymouth, as well as going on to manage the Chicks before developing his youth coaching at Brockham. Steve is joined by Simon Coffey, a long-experienced local youth team manager as well as a no-nonsense defender in his day at local clubs such as Chessington and Hook.

Alongside Steve and Simon is the club’s Head of Youth Development, Nick Torpey who has also clocked up more than 300 appearances for the Chicks and is now a familiar figure on the grassroots youth scene in the town as a UEFA B qualified coach.

The early signs for the new set up have been good. In the FA Youth Cup, the Ryman team saw off Guildford City 3-2 in an extra time thriller here at Westhumble, going on to meet Met Police at Imber Court. Despite going down 1-0, the performance was an immense credit to the Dorking squad, who only lost to an 89th minute penalty - and against a team that knocked out Burnley’s elite academy in the third round proper last season. That was followed up by a win in the Ryman Youth League over Carshalton Athletic.

In the Southern Youth League, Dorking U18s have notched up home wins against South Park (4-1) and Crowborough Athletic (5-2), as well as drawing with Merstham along with a couple of defeats, away at Lingfield and Horley.

And it’s not just about creating the players of the future. Dorking FC is determined to also develop the next generation of coaches. Nick Torpey is currently in the process of recruiting two up and coming young coaches to join the set-up and manage the Southern Youth League side under his expert guidance.

So, while all eyes today are on the first team, keep a look out for the Dorking youth set up, building a sustainable club where local talent and ambition can thrive in a club with top quality facilities and a succession plan on and off the field.

The future begins here.

Dorking FC and Alliance Under 18s Squad 2016/17:
Callum Agent, Harrison Ash, Max Austin, Ethan Belward, Haris Bouzida, Jack Butler, Bradley Cannon, William Conroy, Leon Eales, Charles Edwards, Robert Feeley, Matt Ford, Jay Jenkins, Charlie Kenway, Nataniel King, Dominic Lane, Henry Lanyon, Joshua Lanyon, Henry Lucas, Ryan Lunn, Jacob Moon, Sam Nicholson, Cemil Odun, Tom Phillips, Jake Purcell, Sam Raby, Claude Remmer, Frankie Shipton, Joe Teague, Aidan Torpey, Ollie Turner, Dominic Venn, George Warne, Alex Watts, Alex Wells, Ollie Wilson, Jack Wisbey, Lucas Woolley

Jack Wisbey

Ryan Lunn

Dorking Football Development Alliance
# Fixtures

## DFC Under 18s

The Under 18’s home venue this season is Westhumble Playing Fields

### October 2016

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## DFC Ladies

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SYFL = Southern Youth Football League  
RYL = Ryman Youth League  
*Surrey FA Floodlit Midweek Cup  
SCWGL = Surrey County Women & Girls League  
*Updated on Sunday 9th October
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More to be announced...
STARTING XI

DAY, WISBEY, MOTHEE, BOUKHARI, HARTT, FINN, R LUNN, MILLER, DAVIES, KNIGHT, HUNTE
DAY, WISBEY, MOTHEE, BOUKHARI, HARTT, FINN, R LUNN, WATTS, KNIGHT, K LUNN, HUNTE
DAY, WISBEY, MOTHEE, BOUKHARI, WATTS, FINN, R LUNN, RUSSELL, DAVIES, K LUNN, HUNTE
DAY, WISBEY, MOTHEE, HARTT, WATTS, GOUGH, MILLER, VASISHTA, HUNTE, K LUNN, R LUNN
DAY, WISBEY, MOTHEE, HARTT, WATTS, FINN, MILLER, BOUKHARI, HUNTE, K LUNN, R LUNN
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NIMMO, WISBEY, WEBBER, BOUKHARI, WATTS, FINN, R LUNN, RUSSELL, BRAZIL, HEARNE, MOTHEE

SUBS

BELWARD, WEBBER, WATTS, RUSSELL, VASISHTA
GOUGH, WEBBER, RUSSELL, MILLER, VASISHTA
GOUGH, LONGHURST, VASISHTA
LONGHURST, FINN, HEROUVIN
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NIMMO, WISBEY, WEBBER, BOUKHARI, WATTS, FINN, R LUNN, RUSSELL, BRAZIL, HEARNE, MOTHEE

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Football has been played in Dorking since the 1830s. The first matches took place in the street. An annual game was staged every Shrove Tuesday in the High Street, preceded by a procession led by a band as well as men dressed as women collecting donations and carrying a cross.

On the left of the cross was a red, white and blue football, on the top a gold ball and on the right a red and green football representing the 'cockerel colours' of Dorking FC - the same colours we wear proudly today. The Shrove Tuesday game tradition continued until 1905 when it became outlawed - although the club is now looking at ways to reintroduce the historic community event.

Dorking Football Club was founded in 1880, shortly after the FA had defined formal rules for the game, and now lays claim to the title of the oldest senior club in Surrey. The cockerel logo was also immediately adopted as the club’s badge. It still remains there today and is why we are affectionately known as ‘The Chicks’.

The club first played at a pitch on West Bank before moving to Fairfield Drive and then on to Pixham Lane in the 1920s. In 1953 we moved to our current home location at Meadowbank - an iconic, picturesque location just behind the High Street, where the bells of St Martin’s can be heard peeling during the games. The new stadium was the pride of the town with a capacity of 5000, including a stand accommodating 700, opened by the then FA Secretary Sir Stanley Rous.

In 1974 we joined forces with Guildford City to become Guildford & Dorking United FC for an ill-fated three year period, before being reconstituted as Dorking Town FC, before reverting to the traditional named of Dorking FC in 1981.

On the pitch, our record over the years reflects the traditional highs and lows of non-league football, including many notable achievements as well as the occasional despair. In 1955 we became the first Surrey club to defeat a professional team when we beat Folkestone 3-1 in the first qualifying round of the FA Cup in front of a record crowd of over 4000 spectators.

The late 1980s and early 90s are considered to be our glory years with cup victories and a league title, along with a promotion in 1989 followed by another promotion in 1993 to the Premier Division of the Isthmian League. In 1992-3 we won the Southern Counties Combination Cup and reached the first round proper of the FA Cup, losing a thrilling game 3-2 at home to Peter Shilton’s Plymouth Argyle in front of TV cameras and a bumper crowd, many of whom still talk about it today while continuing to support the Chicks with a passion.

We continued to play at Meadowbank until 2013 when the ground was closed by the local authority...
on health and safety grounds. A lack of investment and years of decay came home to roost and the club, now playing in the Combined Counties League Division One, was forced to leave the town and ground share in Horley.

The future was uncertain for the Chicks but, in early 2014, a new Board of local enthusiasts took over control and set out on an ambitious plan to rebuild the club as a community and social enterprise that would re-establish itself in the town, developing local talent.

An agreement was made with Mole Valley Council for the ground at Meadowbank to be re-developed and Dorking FC have returned to playing in the town this year - initially at Westhumble Playing Fields before finally going home to the new Meadowbank for the 2017-2018 season.

Our new ground will feature the latest 3G artificial playing surface and, as well as having a new clubhouse, the site will also house the new headquarters of Surrey FA. Dorking FC will once again be very much at the centre of football activities in Surrey.
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Creating windows of opportunity
League and Banstead finished runners up in 1977/78. The club Redhill 4-0. In 1975/76 the League became the London Spartan in 1966/67 they won the East Surrey Charity Cup by beating on both occasions to Hampton. During nine seasons in this two seasons Banstead reached the League Cup Final, losing Owing to having only a short term lease arrangements the club were unable to obtain the necessary financial support to enhance ground facilities, which severely restricted their ambitions of playing in a higher grade of football. When in 1965 the club received promises of a long term lease they joined the Spartan League for season 1965/66. In the first two seasons Banstead reached the League Cup Final, losing on both occasions to Hampton. During nine seasons in this League their highest achievement was 5th position. However in 1966/67 they won the East Surrey Charity Cup by beating Redhill 4-0. In 1975/76 the League became the London Spartan League and Banstead finished runners up in 1977/78. The club beat Whyteleafe to win the East Surrey Charity Cup in 1976/77 and were beaten finalists the following year.

Banstead joined the Athenian League in 1979/80 and won the League Cup in 1980/81, beating Windsor & Eton 1-0. The following season they successfully defended the trophy defeating Uxbridge 1-0 after a replay. One year later (1982/83) they lost to Chalfont St. Peter in the final by 2-1. With the demise of the Athenium League Banstead joined the Isthmian League Division Two (South) in 1984/85 and in their first season finished 9th.

Towards the end of season 1989/90 the club faced closure due to the resignation of the Chairman and his family Directors over differences with the local council on ground leasing. Fortunately our then Reserves team manager Terry Molloy rescued the club by negotiating a settlement with the previous Chairman and the council to become the new owner and Chairman of Banstead Athletic. He then improved facilities at Merland Rise with the installation of new floodlights and the upgrading of clubhouse amenities. The team did well enough to reach 11th position in season 1990/91 and saved the club from the drop into the newly formed third division. The club then appointed joint Managers in Bob Mapleson and Mickey Sorensen.

The period between 1959 - 1964 was a barren time for Banstead with only one notable achievement, the winning of the East Surrey Charity Cup in 1959/60. However, under the management of Gordon Taylor the League title was won again in 1964/65.

Owing to having only a short term lease arrangements the club were unable to obtain the necessary financial support to enhance ground facilities, which severely restricted their ambitions of playing in a higher grade of football. When in 1965 the club received promises of a long term lease they joined the Spartan League for season 1965/66. In the first two seasons Banstead reached the League Cup Final, losing on both occasions to Hampton. During nine seasons in this League their highest achievement was 5th position. However in 1966/67 they won the East Surrey Charity Cup by beating Redhill 4-0. In 1975/76 the League became the London Spartan League and Banstead finished runners up in 1977/78. The club beat Whyteleafe to win the East Surrey Charity Cup in 1976/77 and were beaten finalists the following year.

Banstead joined the Athenian League in 1979/80 and won the League Cup in 1980/81, beating Windsor & Eton 1-0. The following season they successfully defended the trophy defeating Uxbridge 1-0 after a replay. One year later (1982/83) they lost to Chalfont St. Peter in the final by 2-1. With the demise of the Athenium League Banstead joined the Isthmian League Division Two (South) in 1984/85 and in their first season finished 9th.

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Banstead were approached by their near neighbours Epsom & Ewell to ground share at Merland Rise for the 1993/94 season as Epsom’s ground had been sold for redevelopment. An agreement was reached but Banstead had to carry out considerable ground improvements to acquire a Grade C rating. With the help of Epsom & Ewell this was achieved at a cost of £40,000. League and Cup success eluded the club in seasons 1993/94, when they finished in 9th place and 1994/95 when Banstead faded out of the promotion battle to finish in 8th spot. Good runs in the Carlsberg Trophy, FA Vase and
Surrey Senior Cup kept interest alive, whilst further ground improvements secured a B Grading.

The 1995/96 season proved to be one of the clubs more eventful and eventually frustrating seasons in recent years. Promotion was snatched from their grasp in the final match at Wivenhoe, and a last minute Peacehaven goal brought elimination at the 5th round stage of the F.A. Vase, whilst Canvey Island beat us 2-1 in the final of the Carlton Trophy.

A poor start to the 1996/97 League campaign plus an end of season schedule of 17 games in 40 days virtually rule out a serious promotion bid, but a fabulous and exciting run in the Vase saw the club reach the semi-finals and after two tremendous tension-filled games eventual Vase winners Whitby Town emerged 2-1 aggregate winners, nevertheless the media attention lifted the profile of the club. Manager Bob Langford and player/coach Mickey Stephens had the task of rebuilding the side in 1997/98 as several of the longer serving and better quality players left for pastures new and as a result Banstead struggled to achieve consistency. Out of all Cup competitions before the end of December and a final League position of 13th summed up what was a transitional period for the club.

The 1998/99 season saw Banstead hovering around the top four places in the table for most of the campaign, but were unable to clinch a promotion spot and Bob Langford stood down as manager at the season’s end. New manager Chick Botley previously with Hampton replaced Langford for season 1999/2000, however after just eight games Botley resigned as Manager and Bob Langford was recalled to the Manager's chair. Ray Best, previously Manager at Molesey was brought in by Langford as Assistant Manager and Mickey Stratford took on the role of Coach. A clear out of players brought in by Botley took place and it took time for Langford’s squad to settle in.

The League campaign was a struggle to keep out of the relegation zone, however a splendid end of season run of seven victories in eight games saw the club finish in a very respectable tenth position. Defeats at the first hurdle in the F.A. Cup, F. A. Vase, League Cup and County Cup were offset by a good run in the Vandanel Trophy which ended at the 4th round stage, and silverware was gained in the East Surrey Charity Cup when Chessington United were beaten 2-0 in the final.

A good run in last season’s F.A.Cup indicated a promising League campaign ahead, but this never materialised as the team struggled for much of the time in the lower half, however five wins in the last seven games hoisted the club to a respectable 11th position. With no promotion or relegation at stake in division two in season 2001/2, Bob Langford will be motivating his players into finishing in the top six.

2001/02 season we managed to finished 5th in the League.
2002/03 season we flirted with relegation but finished 16th.
2006 season we joined the Combined Counties League.
2006/07 season saw Graeme Banyard take over as Manager with a new side we finished 6th.
2007/08 season Dave Leworthy took over and then left after a short while, Graeme returned. 2008/09 season finished mid-table. Graeme left again. 2009/10 season Barry Barnes became Manager, but he found it difficult, and Paul Norris his assistant took charge, with Barry taking the coaching role. 2010/11 season new managers: Russell Harmsworth & Bobby Knock & new first team including Coach Ben Murphy and Physio Denis Lawton.

2011/12 season Graeme Banyard takes over again as Manager. Graeme decides to call it a day. 2011/12 season 14 games in Dave Tidy takes over as Jt. manager with Perry Gough, in came Paul Elsey Assistant Manager left in March 2012. At the end of the 2011/12 campaign after a difficult season where the team finished bottom of the Premier League Dave Tidy left along with James Deacons and all the management team.

2012/13 (Aug) We began life in the first division after being relegated from the Premier League. A new Manager in Andrew Tucker took charge, along with Michael Watson Asst Manager, Michael Thompson 1st Team Coach and Steve Bennett as G/ Keeping Coach /Team Scout. 2012/13 (Feb’13) Andrew Tucker leaves due to personal reasons. Also gone is Michael Watson, Michael Thompson. 2012/13 (Feb’13) Danny Lee is installed as Manager. Along with his Assistant Manager Nicky Bolt Assistant Coach/Fitness Assessor is Darren Tomlin. Goalkeeper Coaches and Scouts are Steve Bennett and Arron Tarry. March 2013 Nick Bolt decided he wanted to leave. After a difficult season in the First Division the football club finished 2nd from bottom.

May 2013 The club committee decided to have a change of manager and backroom staff. Out went Danny Lee, Steve Bennett & Arron Tarry. In came Jack Johnson as manager. His assistant managers will be Gary Ring, Ross Birch & Lee Malyon is the Match day Preparation manager.

April 2014 Reached the semi-finals of the RPM Records Division One Challenge Cup. First season with Jack in charge we finished 12th in Division One. Lee Malyon left in 2014. June 2014 A new Assistant Manager has been appointed, he is James Cameron.

A very proud moment for this club as we won the Combined Counties League programme of the year award for 2013-2014 Aug 2014 Appointed Steve Tyson as head coach and Ross Birch as coach, with Gary Ring becoming coach. March 2015 Steve Tyson leaves to persue other things. April 2015 Ross Birch has been released by the club. May 2015. Jack Johnson resigns as manager of this football club. James Cameron takes over the role as manager for the new season. Brian Downing, Peter Day & Dennis Partridge… the three sons of the founder members of this club visit Merland Rise. James brings in as his assistant managers Ross White & Rod Davis. Ross will also take on the coaching role and Sean Bradley will be his assistant coach.

July 2015 A very sad time indeed. Mr Gordon Taylor-President of this club passes away. Dec 2015 Len Walker central defender died. May 2016 Finished 6th after we were in a good position with a few games left.
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