Slimbridge
Football Club

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Division One South

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Wednesday October 21st 2026
v Hungerford Town

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Slimbridge
Football Club

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General Committee	Tim Blake Ian Blount Malcolm Carter Lewis Hall Natalie Jennings Brenda Martin Tony Woodward
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Sports Therapists	Jasmin Gillingham Tony Woodward
Goalkeeper Coach	Dave Bees
Kitman	Stuart Pearce
U18 Manager	Kieran Brice-Ingles
U18 Assistant	Dave Bees
U18 Coaches	Bradley Barnard
Ground Staff	Barry Gay Malcolm Lineaker

Wisloe Road
Cambridge
Gloucestershire
GL2 7AF

Website: www.slimbridgeafc.co.uk
Email: info@slimbridgeafc.co.uk
Twitter: @slimbridgeafc

Slimbridge v Hungerford Town

Todays Teams

Callum Godfrey (GK)
Sam Hart (GK)
Josh Blyth
Tristan Haswell
Owen Giles
Hadyn Evans
Charlie Mathews
Jacob Rodgers
Kian Kang
Joe Stokes
Toby Soule
Theo Lynden
Sam Moseley
Casey Collins
Olly Sully
Jack W Smith
Alex Bell
Theo Browne
James Tainton
Ellis Rudman
Lincoln Hunt
Luke Bence
Jack Holmes

Ryan Clarke (GK)
Tyler Blackford
Ramarni Medford-Smith
George Smith
Jordan Rose
Matt Berry-Hargreaves
James Clarke
Nana Owusu
Nnamdi Nwachuku
Fabio Lopes
George Franklin
Kyle Bailey
Brad Smith
Ben Stallard
Owen Smith
Sheldon Wright
Sam Tanner
Fraser Bell
Darnell-Joe Luke
Ackeem Stewart
Amie Kamden-Fotso

Referee Nathanael Wormleighton

Assistants Sam Myatt
Luke Rees

Slimbridge
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Fixtures
2026-2027

Date	Time	Fixture	H/A	Opponent
Wed 21 Oct 26	19:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Hungerford Town
Sat 24 Oct 26	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Dorchester Town
Wed 28 Oct 26	19:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Worcester Raiders
Sat 31 Oct 26	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Barnstaple Town
Sat 07 Nov 26	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Weymouth
Wed 11 Nov 26	19:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Larkhall Athletic
Sat 14 Nov 26	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Melksham Town
Sat 21 Nov 26	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Westbury United
Sat 28 Nov 26	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Paulton Rovers
Sat 05 Dec 26	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Falmouth Town
Sat 12 Dec 26	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Tiverton Town
Sat 19 Dec 26	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Bideford
Sat 26 Dec 26	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Bishops Cleeve
Sat 02 Jan 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Sporting Club Inkberrow
Sat 09 Jan 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Exmouth Town
Sat 16 Jan 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Bristol Manor Farm
Sat 23 Jan 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Shaftesbury
Sat 30 Jan 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Willand Rovers
Sat 06 Feb 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Dorchester Town
Sat 13 Feb 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Hungerford Town
Sat 20 Feb 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Barnstaple Town
Sat 27 Feb 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Weymouth
Sat 06 Mar 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Hartpury
Sat 13 Mar 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Portland United
Sat 20 Mar 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Tiverton Town
Fri 26 Mar 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Swindon Supermarine
Mon 29 Mar 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Bishops Cleeve
Sat 03 Apr 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Bideford
Sat 10 Apr 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Westbury United
Sat 17 Apr 27	15:12	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Melksham Town

Results
2026-2027

Date	Match	H/A	Opponent	Result	Att
Sat 17 Oct 26	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Willand Rovers	3-3	112
Tue 13 Oct 26	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Shaftesbury	4-5	224
Sat 10 Oct 26	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Exmouth Town	0-2	276
Wed 07 Oct 26	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Portland United	1-0	115
Sat 03 Oct 26	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Bristol Manor Farm	1-2	168
Wed 30 Sep 26	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Larkhall Athletic	0-1	186
Sat 26 Sep 26	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Falmouth Town	1-0	370
Wed 23 Sep 26	GFA Challenge Cup	H	Bishops Cleeve	2-3	123
Sat 19 Sep 26	FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round	H	Hungerford Town	1-3	188
Tue 15 Sep 26	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Worcester Raiders	0-4	216
Sat 12 Sep 26	FA Trophy Second Round Qualifying	H	Willand Rovers	2-3	118
Sat 05 Sep 26	Fa Cup 1st Qualifying Round	A	Baffins Milton Rovers	4-1	88
Mon 31 Aug 26	Southern League Div 1 South	A	Sporting Club Inkberrow	0-2	235
Sat 29 Aug 26	FA Trophy First Round Qualifying	A	Swindon Supermarine	1-0	182
Tue 25 Aug 26	FA Cup Preliminary Round Replay	A	Milton Keynes Irish	1-1	257
Sat 22 Aug 26	FA Cup Preliminary Round	H	Milton Keynes Irish	2-2	106
Wed 19 Aug 26	Southern League Div 1 South	H	Swindon Supermarine	2-7	243
Sat 15 Aug 26	FA Trophy Preliminary Round	A	Paulton Rovers	2-0	132
Wed 12 Aug 26	FA Cup Extra Prelim Round Replay	H	Burnham	2-1	181
Sat 08 Aug 26	FA Cup Extra Prelim Round	A	Burnham	1-1	105

League Table
2026-2027

Pos	Team	Pl	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1	Dorchester Town	11	10	0	1	25	12	13	30
2	Swindon Supermarine	13	9	2	2	24	11	13	29
3	Weymouth	10	9	1	0	26	7	19	28
4	Hungerford Town	11	6	2	3	16	8	8	20
5	Westbury United	12	6	2	4	17	15	2	20
6	Bishops Cleeve	11	6	1	4	21	11	10	19
7	Worcester Raiders	14	4	7	3	15	15	0	19
8	Falmouth Town	12	5	3	4	18	17	1	18
9	Portland United	11	5	2	4	20	17	3	17
10	Sporting Club Inkberrow	11	5	2	4	19	16	3	17
11	Shaftesbury	13	5	1	7	24	25	-1	16
12	Hartpury	12	4	3	5	16	18	-2	15
13	Exmouth Town	10	4	2	4	15	18	-3	14
14	Willand Rovers	10	3	3	4	17	17	0	12
15	Tiverton Town	11	3	3	5	17	18	-1	12
16	Paulton Rovers	10	2	5	3	10	14	-4	11
17	Bideford	12	2	5	5	16	25	-9	11
18	Barnstaple Town	13	3	1	9	16	22	-6	10
19	Larkhall Athletic	12	3	1	8	15	22	-7	10
20	Bristol Manor Farm	12	1	6	5	8	18	-10	9
21	Slimbridge	10	2	1	7	12	26	-14	7
22	Melksham Town	11	1	3	7	5	20	-15	6

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Slimbridge AFC - Constitution

Slimbridge AFC is a non-profit making members club run by a mangement and club committe.

Membership is £20 per season, offering discount entry to all home league games.

To become a member download the membership from from the club website. Completed forms should be handed in to Natalie Jennings along with payment (Cash and card payments accepted).

Hungerford Town

Club History

The Early Years – The first mention of forming a football club in Hungerford was in the parish magazine of November 1873 when those interested were invited to send in their names. But it was not until October 1886 that Hungerford Town Football Club was officially founded. The club has come a long way since with a vast number of volunteers, supporters and players contributing to its 134-year history. The club's original name was Hungerford Swifts. Matches were originally played on "the Downs" (now Hungerford Common) and then subsequently on the western edge of the town, an area known locally as "the Marsh", before the club moved to its present ground in Bulpit Lane shortly after WW1. Initially the club played only friendly matches but soon became a powerful force in local football and won its first recorded trophy in 1905 when winning the Newbury Graystone Cup. Hungerford won its first league title, the Newbury & District League, in 1912/13, before all competitive football ceased between 1914 and 1918. The club picked up where they left off and was immediately successful when the Newbury League restarted in 1919 and Hungerford were league champions in both 1920 and 1921. That era saw the emergence of Reverend Denning, known locally as 'the old man,' as a driving force and benefactor of the club and the team included surnames still familiar in the town to this day. It was in 1948 when another legend of the club, Ron Tarry, attended his first game. Ron went on to fill every position at Hungerford including 1st Team Manager, Chairman and eventually Club President. He sadly passed away in 2022 but will forever be remembered as 'Mr Hungerford Town'. Hungerford Town continued playing at intermediate level with mixed fortunes in the Newbury & District and the Swindon & District Leagues before senior status was finally achieved in 1958 when joining the ranks of the Hellenic League.

The 1970s & 1980s – After a period of team rebuilding in the 1960's Hungerford began the new decade in fine form and won the Hellenic League Div. 1 and League Cup double in the 1970/71 season. The 1970's were a "golden" decade for the club and we entered the F.A. Cup for the first time in 1973. The facilities were improved with the opening of a new clubhouse in 1974 and new changing rooms and floodlights added in 1975. The club reached three Berks & Bucks Senior Cup Finals in four years and although defeats by Chesham United, Slough Town and Wycombe Wanderers were disappointing it was a sign that the club

was making significant progress on and off the field. In 1974 Don Revie brought his England side, featuring the likes of Kevin Keegan, Mick Channon, Trevor Brooking and Ray Clemence, to Bulpit Lane for a training session. The 1977/78 season saw Hungerford finish 3rd in the Hellenic League, win the League Cup and produce a fairy tale run in the F.A. Vase, eventually losing out to Barton Rovers in a SF replay. These achievements enabled the club to gain election to the Isthmian League in 1978. Hungerford Town soon established themselves as a force in the higher level and just missed out on promotion by finishing third in 1979 and 1980 whilst creating club history in 1979 be reaching the 1st round proper of the FA Cup for the first, and so far, only time, losing 3-1 away to Slough Town. That same season they reached their second FA Vase SF but were again denied a place at Wembley when losing to Guisborough Town 5-3 on aggregate. 1980/81 brought more disappointment with yet another 3rd place finish in the league but there was some consolation when the club was invited to compete in the prestigious Anglo Italian Semi-Pro tournament, alongside Bobby Moore's Oxford City. 1982 finally brought success and a major trophy when Hungerford defeated Wycombe Wanderers 1-0 at Wokingham Town to win the Berks & Bucks Senior Cup. Promotion was again narrowly missed in 1984/85, but the club then entered a rather turbulent period when 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 1990s & 2000s – The club finished in the top ten of the league table in 1991, 1992 and 1993 under Gary Goodwin and later ex-Manchester United player Wilf Tranter (RIP) 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 before former players and brother-in-law Cabbie Smith and Norman Matthews combined to keep the club ticking over in the Isthmian League for the next two seasons. 1996/97 brought the club its highest finish for several seasons but the club entered a transition phase for much of the late 1990s and although former Swindon Town legend Don Rogers took over as manager the league form was disappointing, and Rogers resigned just after the start of the 1999/00 season. Gary Ackling took over as manager and sought to change the emphasis of the club by looking for local youth talent and produced a strong mid table finish in 2002. Unfortunately for the club, the deadline for ground improvements was not met at the end of the 2001/02 season, and a relegation to the newly restructured

Isthmian Division 2 followed. For the long-term benefit of the club, the decision was taken to re-join the Hellenic League for the 2003/04 season and the process of rebuilding on and off the pitch began. Former player Tim North kept things ticking along nicely before Alan Clark was appointed manager in 2006. The league and cup form gradually improved and a push for promotion was mounted once again. The election of Nigel Warrick as Chairman in 2008 kick started a refurbishment program for the club's facilities and fresh impetus for the team. Despite a sticky start in the league the team went on a 22-match unbeaten run and won the Hellenic League title and promotion to the Southern League.

The 2010s – The decade began with a new man in charge, Bobby Wilkinson, and so began the club's most successful decade in its 125-year history. Undeterred by a play-off defeat in 2012, the team finished as runners-up to Poole Town in 2013 and this time there was to be no heartache in the play-offs as Hungerford beat Paulton Rovers and Merthyr Town to win promotion to the Southern League Premier Division. The surge continued and a run of ten wins on the bounce between March and April 2014 took the club to within a point of the play-offs and a magical run to the last 16 of the F.A. Trophy evoking memories of the wonderful F.A. Vase runs of the 70s and 80s. The 2014/15 season saw another strong challenge in the league and a place in the play-offs but this time the bid for promotion was ended by defeat to eventual promotion winners Truro City. The 2015/16 season began indifferently with an early F.A. Cup exit and some inconsistent league performances but a run to the 2nd Round of the F.A. Trophy, only bowing out to National League side Chester, augured well for the season. A strong second half of the campaign resulted in yet another crack at the play-offs. Things looked bleak in the semi-final when the team were two goals down at Hitchin Town on the hour but came back to win 3-2 and on a never-to-be forgotten rainy Bank Holiday Monday at Bulpit Lane another great comeback saw Hungerford beat Leamington FC 2-1 to achieve promotion to the Vanarama National League South. Hungerford's first season in the National League proved that the team could survive at this level despite "punching well above their weight" as a club. At one stage Hungerford were in the play-off places but eventually finished in 6th position and the team reached the final of the Berks & Bucks Senior Cup for the first time in 35 years, losing narrowly to National League South champions Maidenhead United. The 2017/18 season began with much optimism but in August long serving manager Bobby Wilkinson resigned along with his entire backroom staff. Senior players Jon Boardman and Ian Herring stepped up as joint managers and steadied the ship before the departure of Chairman Nigel Warrick, and necessary cuts in the club's playing budget, forced a

re-structure and Herring being handed sole charge of the team. Two seasons of fighting relegation on and off the field ensued but despite the difficulties Herring and his players kept the club in the National League against the odds with successive final day results against East Thurrock United keeping them up. In March 2019, Patrick Chambers stepped forward to become the new Chairman and together with his wife Nicky, provided a welcome boost to the club. With the team struggling at the bottom of the league, and with an albeit slim but mathematical chance of staying up yet again, the Covid-19 worldwide pandemic struck and all football in the UK was suspended. In unprecedented circumstances Hungerford were handed a reprieve and lived to fight another day at their hard earned highest high level of football.

The 2020s – In the close season of 2020, with the pandemic causing worldwide chaos, Ian Herring departed as manager and the club moved swiftly to appoint former Thatcham Town Manager Danny Robinson. Robinson had won the Hellenic League title and F.A. Vase double in 2018/19, and Thatcham were leading Division one South of the Southern League when the season was curtailed. Despite the usual predictions of relegation from those outside the club, and there being no supporters allowed into games, the Crusaders quickly began to surprise many and were in a healthy 7th position in the table when the season was again ended by the pandemic. With recent ground improvements completed, including new changing rooms and the completion of a 400-seater stand in 2021, the team quickly took up where they had left off and were once again challenging for a play-off place before fading towards the end of last season and eventually finishing 12th in the table. Alas, Hungerford Town, with the smallest resources in the league, could not repeat the trick for a 7th successive season in the National League and they were relegated, for the first time in living memory, back to Southern League. Unperturbed, Danny Robinson assembled a new squad of players which finished in 8th position, missing out on the playoffs by only five points, and a similar squad of players repeated that trick last season, this time finishing in 7th place having had a strong second half of the season. The 2025/26 was a huge disappointment for the club, with relegation to step 4, but hopes are high that a return to step 3 can be achieved at the first attempt.

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Hungerford Town
Player Profiles

Ryan Clarke – Goalkeeper
Experienced goalkeeper Ryan needs no introduction to Hungerford fans after returning to the club in 2026 for a second spell after a season at Corsham. Best known for his time at Oxford United, where he helped the club to return to the Football League in 2010. Starting at Bristol Rovers, Ryan also made over 100 appearances for Bath City and played for Torquay United during his career.

Tyler Blackford – Defender
The young full-back stepped up into the first team from our U23 squad last season after making an impressive debut away at Havant and Waterlooville in August 2025.

Ramarni Medford-Smith – Defender
This powerful left-back joined the Crusaders in September 2023. His most recent clubs include appearances for Bracknell Town, Farnborough and Marlow. Ramarni began his career at Reading where he played for both the U18 and U21 sides with a spell at National League Torquay in between.

George Smith - Midfielder
This combative midfielder joined the Crusaders in 2019 from local village side Kintbury Rangers. The last couple of seasons have been blighted by injury, but George recently made his 100th appearance for the club and this fans favourite is back and raring to go again.

Jordan Rose – Defender
Jordan started his career, aged 12, at Southampton before moving to France and playing youth football for Stade Malherbe Caen. On his return to England he undertook a two-year scholarship with Bournemouth before a professional career at Stockport County. He joined Hungerford Town from Winchester City in December 2024 and numbers Salisbury City, Weymouth, Bath City, Hereford United and Hayes and Yeading amongst his previous clubs.

Matt Berry-Hargreaves – Defender (Captain)
A quick and technically gifted defender, MBH graduated from the Hungerford Town Academy having made his Crusaders' debut aged just 17 in the 2015/16 season. Matt then completed a two-year scholarship at Oxford Utd before being released in 2019 and coming 'home' to Hungerford to play at the heart of the defence. He has now made over 180 appearances for the club.

James Clarke – Midfielder/Forward
Clarke also returned to Hungerford for a second spell in 2026 following time at local rivals Basingstoke. A versatile member of the squad, Clarke was a pivotal member of the squad who helped Hungerford gain promotion to National League South in 2016.

Nana Owusu - Forward

A tricky winger, Nana strengthens our options down the flanks. A product of the Reading academy, Nana has extensive experience at step 2 and step 3 of non-league football, featuring for clubs like Maidenhead United, Oxford City, Dulwich Hamet and most recently Havant and Waterlooville.

Nnamdi Nwachuku– Forward

A proven and prolific striker, Nnamdi joined Hungerford from Uxbridge. He made a name for himself at Coggeshall Town scoring 101 goals in 100 appearances, before continuing his exceptional form at AFC Sudbury netting 49 times in 38 games in the 2022/23 campaign.

Fabio Lopes – Midfielder / Forward

Fabio joined the Crusaders for a 3rd time in October 2025 following a recent spell at Sholing and is closing in on 50 appearances for the club. He began his career with Sporting CP, a professional Portuguese club based in Lisbon, before moving to England and signing for Brackley Town before joining the Oxford United Academy.

George Franklin – Defender

George joined Hungerford from Bracknell, and has also had a spell at Ascot United. The defender came through the ranks at Oxford United, and his calmness in possession means he is also able to play as a defensive midfielder when required.

Kyle Bailey – Defender

A quick and strong centre-back, Kyle is a fan favourite following his first spell with the club back in our National League South days. Kyle spent the 2025/26 season at Uxbridge and Westfield, but the defender has played abroad in his career in Scotland, Norway and Malta.

Brad Smith – Midfielder/Forward

Young forward Brad adds creativity to Hungerford's attack after leaving Hemel Hempstead. A successful loan spell in 2024/25 saw Brad hit 11 goals in 23 appearances for Kings Langley, whilst he has also had spells at Hendon and Hitchin Town.

Ben Stallard – Midfielder

A tenacious midfielder, Ben moved to Bulpit Lane from Flackwell Heath, and has also featured for Binfield, Kings Langley and Aylesbury.

Owen Smith – Midfielder

A deep lying midfielder with the ability to dictate matches with his excellent range of passing, Owen moved to the club following a standout breakthrough season at Binfield.

Sheldon Wright – Forward

Winger Sheldon Wright earned a move to Hungerford after starring for Tadley Caleva in the 2025-26 season. Wright was a regular starter as Tadley made the Combined Counties League play-offs, making 121 appearances overall for the club overall, scoring 23 goals.

Sam Tanner – Forward

A pacey and direct winger, Sam played an important role for Reading City as they made the Southern Combination Cup final in 2025-26, and is now looking to help Hungerford earn promotion back to step 3.

Fraser Bell - Defender

A member of Forest Green Rovers' academy, Fraser had a successful time at Cirencester before moving to Hungerford to become our newest right-back. Comfortable on the ball, Fraser has impressed defensively and when supporting the attack.

Darnell-Joe Luke – Midfielder

Signed from Sutton Common Rovers in February 2026, Darnell is a deep lying midfielder who is calm in possession and likes to keep things ticking over in the middle of the park.

Ackeem Stewart– Forward

Previously at Westbury United, Ackeem scored 11 goals during the 2025-26 season and bolsters Hungerford's ambitions to return to step 3. A former professional in his native Jamaica, Ackeem has also played for Calne Town and Royal Wooton Bassett.

Amie Kamden-Fotso- Midfielder

A box-to-box midfielder, Amie arrives at Hungerford with plenty of potential as a technically gifted and composed player who can dictate games in the middle of the park.

Manager – Danny Robinson

Danny has taken charge of over 1000 games as a manager. He made the switch to Hungerford Town in May 2020 after five very successful years with Thatcham Town with whom he won a glorious double of the FA Vase at Wembley and the Hellenic League in 2018. Having guided the Kingfishers to promotion to the Southern League Division 1 South, Danny was on the verge of another promotion with Thatcham before the season was curtailed by Covid-19 in 2020. Danny began his managerial career at Alresford Town before enjoying a spell at Winchester City. He joined Hungerford in 2020 and guided the team to a respectful 7th position in National League South table before the season was again cancelled. In 2021/22 Danny's team defied all predictions by finishing in a safe mid-table position but the team's luck finally run out in 2023 when Hungerford were relegated back to the Southern League. 2023/24 and 2024/25 were seasons of consolidation, only narrowly missing the play-offs, and Danny is now determined to ensure Hungerford return to step 3 at the first opportunity.

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Slimbridge
Club History

The Club's history can be traced back to the 1899/1900 season, when the team were playing in local football at various venues in and around the village. A gap in the records suggests there may have been a couple of seasons when no games were played, and thus, officially, the Club's centenary was celebrated in 2002-03.

For the next forty-odd years the Club were predominantly members of the Stroud and District League with varying degrees of success and failure, except for a period between 1960 and 1968 when they were in the Gloucester Northern Senior League.

By the end of the second World War in 1945, the club were playing in a field just off Moorend Lane, which was sold for housing redevelopment, and which eventually became Tyning Crescent in the village. Therefore, in 1950, they moved just over the other side of Moorend Lane to a pitch in a field on Fishers Farm, with their changing rooms being sited a couple of fields away at the Village Hall.

This upheaval off the pitch did not seem to disturb the footballing side, with the first team winning Stroud League Division Three in 1951-52 (Along with the Gloucestershire Minor County Cup), Division Two in 1952-53, and Division One in the 1953-54 season in an early purple period for the club.

The Fishers Farm site was also sold for housing development a few years later, so between 1950 and 1958, they were forced to move three times. From Fishers Farm, they moved to a pitch alongside the River Cam behind the George Pub in Cambridge, and the nearby White Lion Pub became a de-facto Clubhouse for Club meetings. It was at the White Lion that the deeds to our current ground were formally handed over to the club in 1960.

The pitch behind The George was the site of some legendary Boxing Day tussles, when the First Team and Reserves played a Tug of War on either side of the River Cam. The great football tradition of leaving fishing nets on the side of the pitch to retrieve stray balls from the river was also part and parcel of those years. You can still visit this site, although nowadays it is part of a campsite situated behind the pub.

The current ground at Wisloe Road (Now renamed as Thornhill Park) became the club's third home in the 1950's when they moved there in 1958. It subsequently became the legal property of the club after former player, and ex-Chairman of the club, Evi Thornhill, bequeathed the land to the Club in his Will, with the Club becoming legal owners in 1960

having played the previous two seasons at what would become their permanent home. It was to prove an incredibly valuable treasure in future years.

Evi had purchased the two fields upon which the club and the industrial estate next door are now situated for £600.

The reserve team continued to play on the Field behind the Slimbridge British Legion during the mid 1960's.

The modern history of the club really starts nearly thirty years after they acquired the Wisloe Road pitch. In 1988 a handful of committee members led by Gordon King and Gordon Tudor, and the following season joined by Paul Chappell, started to move the club forward. Construction of new changing facilities, to County League standard, were completed. Paul Chappell was to remain a vital part of the club until his retirement from his duties in 2020, and still remains a regular visitor to the club.

As playing standards improved, 2000 saw the completion of the building of a long awaited Social Club in an area of the ground that in it's old life had housed a cowshed. John Mack, a successful local entrepreneur, joined the club as Chairman, and he also remains a committed supporter of the club to this day as Club President. In the summer of 2001, Doug Gray was appointed Manager, and the club began a period of upward momentum.

The team achieved a Runners-up spot in their first season in the Gloucester County League, and were accepted into the Hellenic League. Hellenic Division One West was won by an eleven point margin in 2002/03. A creditable fourth place finish was achieved in the Hellenic Premier League in 2003/04. In a marvellous season the club also claimed the Hellenic 'Norman Matthews' Floodlit Cup and the G.F.A. Challenge Trophy.

Floodlights arrived at the ground in the summer of 2003. A pre-season visit from Conference side Forest Green Rovers on 22nd July, produced a then ground record attendance of 427 to witness the inaugural game under lights at Wisloe Road.

A few weeks later on Sunday 24th August, the ground attendance record was beaten again at a Bank Holiday Hellenic Premier Division fixture that was part of the 2003-04 annual 'Ground Hop' weekend. Local rivals Shortwood United provided the opposition in front of a crowd of 525.

Season 2004-05 again saw a fourth place finish in the Hellenic Premier. The club also made their first appearance in the F.A. Vase, which resulted in a run to the third round proper before a 2-1 extra time defeat at Western League side Backwell United.

In February 2005, Gray stood down after nearly four seasons at the helm of the club.

The club started season 2005-06 under newly appointed Manager Doug Foxwell. A first entry into the F.A. Cup saw a visit from Wessex League side Wimborne Town. A 1-0 defeat did not dampen the sense of occasion on the first day of the season. A second successful run in the F.A. Vase came to an end in the Third Round Proper, with a 3-1 defeat at South Midland Premier, Welwyn Garden City.

After a record-breaking 64 game season, the team achieved a fifth place finish in the Hellenic Premier, and the club also won the Hellenic 'Norman Matthews' Floodlit Cup and the GFA Challenge Trophy, both for the second time in three seasons.

After two successive third place finishes in the Stroud and District League First Division, season 2005-06 saw the Reserves finally win the title and with it, promotion to the Gloucester Northern Senior League Division Two. This was the same League title that the first team won in season 1998-99 which proved the springboard for five successive first team promotions.

Season 2006-07 proved to be the most successful in the Club's history to date, with both the First Team and Reserve side recording League and Cup doubles, with the added bonus of record-breaking F.A.Cup and Vase runs for the senior side.

In the F.A. Cup, a five match run from the Extra-Preliminary Round finished at Merthyr Tydfil in the Third Qualifying Round. Along the way there were memorable wins against two other
Southern Premier sides, 2-1 at Yate Town and 3-1 at home to Chippenham Town.

It was six matches in the F.A. Vase before defeat was tasted, the run ending in the Fifth Round Proper at home to the eventual winners, Truro City.

In the Hellenic Premier Division, bad weather, which led to a record number of postponements during the subsequently extended season, led to half a season's fixtures being played in the final two months. A tremendous effort saw the Club bring the Championship Shield to Wisloe Road, the winning margin being three points over second placed North Leigh.

There was a rousing performance in the G.F.A. Trophy Final against Almondsbury Town. A 3-1 victory not only retained the Trophy, but recorded a third success in four seasons in that competition.

The Reserve side had an early success in the Gloucester Northern Senior League Cup with a 2-0 win against Division One Tuffley Rovers. This saw confidence rise and they went on to break a Gloucestershire Northern Senior League record in winning Division Two with a Played 30, Won 30 record.

As a result of winning the league after an inspiring final day victory, and the upgrade to the ground facilities at Wisloe Road, the club were promoted into the BGB Southern League Division One Midlands for Season 2007-08, however, there was a twist to come in the tale.

On July 10th 2007 the club decided not to take up the promotion, and effectively, the first team took over the position in the pyramid occupied by the reserve team four steps below, and which was disbanded.

The First Team reverted back to the Gloucester Northern Senior League. This meant a severe upheaval in the club both on and off the field with the manager Doug Foxwell and several senior players moving on the pastures new.

However, a loyal band of players stayed on including James Cole, who took over as player manager with assistance from long term club captain Leon Sterling to begin the next stage of the club's journey.

Four promotions followed as the club regained their previous status. James Cole handed over to Leon Sterling, who moved into the Manager's role, joined as Assistant Manager by long time Slimbridge stalwart Freddy Ward. The two guided the side to three top six finishes in their first three seasons back in the Hellenic Premier.

After the completion of the 2012-13 season, the Swans applied for a transfer to the Toolstation Western Premier League in an effort to reduce prohibitive travelling costs, a move which was approved by the FA in the Summer of 2013.

After two seasons in the Toolstation Western Premier League, a third place finish at the end of the 2014-15 season gave the Swans a second opportunity to return to the Southern Football League. This time the club accepted the offer and took their place in the South and West Division, finishing a credible 18th in their first season, the highest level the club had ever achieved at that time in their history. Prior to the commencement of that campaign, John Mack had stepped back from Chairman duties and his position was taken up by Barry Gay.

At the start of the 2016-17 season, and prior to our pre-season friendly fixture with neighbours Forest Green Rovers, the football ground in Wisloe Road was formally renamed to Thornhill Park in recognition of the marvellous gift we had received from Evil Thornhill 46 years earlier.

Evi's son, Tony and his wife Margaret (Sadly neither of them still with us) were on hand to cut the ceremonial Ribbon, and Tony made a short and very heartfelt speech about how much the renaming meant to him and the entire Thornhill family, and how honoured they were that the football club had recognised their father in this way.

A difficult two seasons of struggle at a higher level saw the eventual departure of Leon Sterling as Manager, with Freddy Ward stepping up to the plate, assisted by Lee Driver-Dickerson. With Freddy then stepping aside to concentrate on his last few years of playing having steadied the Swans' ship, 'Drive' took over the reins as Manager of the first team.

The Club's previous ground attendance record was smashed on 4th February 2017, when 898 fans saw the side suffer a 3-0 defeat to Hereford FC, who were working their way back up the league pyramid following their reformation after the collapse of Hereford United.

Prior to the Covid suspension of football in March 2020, the Under 18s and the Reserves were top of their respective leagues, while the first team were sitting in 12th place in the Southern League Division One South, the highest placing in the history of the football club. Although the FA has made the season's results null and void, they have been officially added to club statistics and all appearances and goals will stand in our records as a permanent tribute to all who represented the club in a fantastic season in the strangest of all campaigns.

The 2021-22 Season saw the departure of Driver-Dickerson, who decided to accept an opportunity to move to Evesham United, and the assistants team of former Swans' legend Tom Speers and Adam Coyle took over the reins, assisted by Tom Deakin and Tom Hitchings.

The 2022-23 season was a very difficult one for the side resulting in the departure of Speers in February 2023 with the side having achieved only four victories at that point. Adam Coyle and Tom Deakin moved into the Management role, but the season resulted in relegation and a return to the Hellenic League for the 2023-24 Season.

On a brighter note, the Under 18s side had a historic Double winning season, winning the S.Turier and Son Cup, beating Bishops Cleeve at Evesham United's ground, before clinching the Cheltenham Floodlit league title and the double on a memorable night a few days later at Tuffley Rovers.

In their third season in the Hellenic League, Tom Deakin assumed the role of Sole Team Manager following Adam Coyle's decision to step back from the position during the 2024-25 Season, with Sam Prior brought in to work as his Assistant.

After an inconsistent season that petered out, the introduction of Mike Palmer (as Joint Manager) and Ben Powell prior to the start of the 2025-26 season completed the 'Fab Four' Management Team, and it paid off spectacularly.

The Swans clinched the Hellenic League Title with two games remaining, for only the second time in the club's history, securing promotion to the Southern League South after four years away. A late winner at Tuffley Rovers and an excruciating 11 minutes of stoppage time in other games made them wait, however, the celebrations were unrivalled once all the games had finished.

Kieran Brice-Ingles and his management team also made some superb progress with the Under 18 side, who won the Cheltenham Youth Floodlit League and also triumphed in the HFA Giantkillers Cup Competition to crown a superb season for the team and for the football club.

With a fresh Southern League challenge in front of them, these are exciting times for the little village team from Gloucestershire.

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