

Official Programme



Chalfont St Peter vs Egham Town

Combined Counties League Premier Division North

Saturday 13 April 2024, 3pm



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CHALFONT ST PETER ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

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**The Club is working to make the ground a safe and enjoyable environment for all.
Visitors are requested to observe the following.**

Ground Safety Regulations

ALL persons entering this ground are only admitted subject to these Rules and the Rules and Regulations of the Football Association.

The Club reserves the right to refuse entry to the ground, prosecute or eject, or cause to be ejected, any persons who within the Ground or the Club premises is considered by the Club, employees or agents (hereafter called the Club), in their absolute discretion to be, or to have been, behaving in any of the following ways:-

- (a) (a) Entering the field of play (without permission from a Club official), before or during the course of a game. The field of play is that area within the railings surrounding the perimeter of the pitch.
- (b) (b) Using obscene or abusive language or persistent swearing.
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- (d) (d) Making vulgar gestures.
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- **NO** bottles, metal cans, glasses, placards, banners, firearms, knives, offensive weapons or other similar articles are permitted and the Police and Club Stewards have the right to search any spectator at any time, and to confiscate any article which they consider could be a danger to other spectators.
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- Bags and packages **MUST NOT** be left unattended.
- In the unlikely event of an emergency evacuation, you must follow all instructions of club stewards and officials and move towards the evacuation points.
- The Club reserves the right to amend these rules at any time.

By order of the Board of Chalfont St Peter AFC

Welcome to the game

A very warm welcome to Mill Meadow for today's Combined Counties League Premier Division North game against Egham Town.

A particular welcome to our visitors, and we hope their players, officials and supporters enjoy their short stay with us.

We also welcome our match officials; Gifford Manyange, Simon Cook and Bailey Wood.

It's been a long, and sometimes painful, time since we last faced Egham back in August for the first league game of the season. Just three of the starting eleven are still at the club, which might explain a lot.

Today is the start of our busiest week so far, with four game to be played in eight days. As always, points will be vital and at a premium. With Hilltop winning last night a gap has opened up against us and our room for manoeuvre has reduced.

We had an opportunity on Thursday in the hurriedly arranged game against Reading City. Against a team still hoping to grab a place in the playoffs, we defended stoutly against a well-drilled side but were eventually undone by a fortuitous bounce.

For once, we looked able to create chances at the other end but, too

often, we were loathe to challenge the keeper and allowed so much good work to fizzle out.

All the teams around us have been able to score three goals in a game just this month. We have managed it only once this year. Therein lies the problem and the difference between success and failure.

Yet, we still have five games to go and anything can happen.

On Tuesday we play the return fixture at Reading City and on Thursday we are at home to North Greenford United, a restaging of the only game we have had postponed for a waterlogged pitch, which is testament to our pitch given the flooding issues in the village. Next Saturday we travel to Virginia Water for our last away game of the season and then, on the 27th, we close the season at home against champions-elect, Flackwell Heath.

Thanks, as always for your support during these current tough times. It is much appreciated..

Enjoy the game and safe home afterwards.

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Ian.

On the cover
Jack James



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RESULTS AND FIXTURES

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL

2-2 Burnham v Milton Utd

THURSDAY 11 APRIL

0-1 **CHALFONT ST PETER** v Reading City

1-3 North Greenford Utd v Bedfont Sports

0-1 Wokingham & Emmbrook v Broadfields Utd

FRIDAY 12 APRIL

3-2 Hilltop v Virginia Water

SATURDAY 13 APRIL

Ardley Utd v North Greenford Utd

Bedfont Sports v Flackwell Heath

Broadfields Utd v Milton Utd

CHALFONT ST PETER v Egham Town

Harefield Utd v Edware & Kingsbury

Wallingford & Crowmarsh v Holyport

Wembley v Burnham

Wokingham & Emmbrook v Reading City

MONDAY 15 APRIL

Burnham v Wokingham & Emmbrook

Hilltop v Rayners Lane

TUESDAY 16 APRIL

Flackwell Heath v Wembley

Milton Utd v Virginia Water

North Greenford Utd v Broadfields Utd

Reading City v **CHALFONT ST PETER**

Wokingham & Emmbrook v Risborough Rangers

WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL

Burnham v Hilltop

THURSDAY 18 APRIL

CHALFONT ST PETER v North Greenford Utd

Harefield Utd v Hilltop

Milton Utd v Bedfont Sports

Reading City v Egham Town

Combined Counties League

Premier North Division

as at 12 April 2024

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-	Pts
1	Flackwell Heath	33	26	4	3	86	25	61	82
2	Rayners Lane (-4pts)	34	27	4	3	101	32	69	81
3	Bedfont Sports	33	19	8	6	91	31	60	65
4	Burnham	31	15	7	9	83	57	26	52
5	Holyport	33	15	4	14	48	53	-5	49
6	Milton United	34	14	6	14	56	67	-11	48
7	Reading City	30	14	5	11	61	51	10	47
8	Risborough Rangers	34	14	5	15	63	56	7	47
9	Broadfields United	33	14	4	15	64	73	-9	46
10	Ardley United	34	12	9	13	52	61	-9	45
11	Virginia Water (-3pts)	33	13	8	12	48	52	-4	44
12	North Greenford United	29	12	7	10	53	49	4	43
13	Egham Town	34	10	12	12	51	57	-6	42
14	Harefield United	34	13	3	18	46	54	-8	42
15	Wembley	34	9	8	17	40	81	-41	35
16	Edgware & Kingsbury	35	8	8	19	44	70	-26	32
17	Hilltop	29	8	6	15	44	64	-20	30
18	Wallingford & Crowmarsh	34	7	9	18	41	78	-37	30
19	Chalfont St Peter	33	7	5	21	43	71	-28	26
20	Wokingham & Emmbrook	30	6	6	18	34	67	-33	24

Chalfont St Peter

Results & Fixtures 2023-24

	Date	Opposition	Comp	Result	Att	Pos	Scorers	S	Y	R
August	Sat 5	WALLINGFORD & CROWMARSH	H FA Cup ExPre	1-3	L	130	-	Krasniqi		4
	Sat 12	Egham Town	A League	0-3	L	91	19	-		3
	Tue 15	HILLTOP	H League	1-1	D	90	13	Wood		2
	Sat 19	BROADFIELDS UTD	H League Cup 1R	1-4	L	64	-	McGarvie		3
	Tue 22	Wembley	A League	6-4	W	74	10	Hodgins 2, McGarvie 2, Kennard 2		5
	Sat 26	Langley	A FA Vase 1Q	1-2	L	39	-	Francis		1
	Mon 28	EDGWARE & KINGSBURY	H League	1-2	L	93	13	Francis		1
September	Sat 2	BURNHAM	H League	2-1	W	81	11	Hodgins, Mead (p)		5
	Sat 9	Holyport	A League	0-2	L	59	15	-		4
	Sat 16	RAYNERS LANE	H League	0-5	L	53	18	-		3
	Sat 23	WALLINGFORD & CROWMARSH	H League	5-0	W	62	12	McGarvie 2, Mead 2, Salami		4
	Tue 26	AMERSHAM TOWN	H BB Sen Cup 1R	1-2	L	73	-	Bircham		2
	Sat 30	Wokingham & Emmbrook	A League	4-2	W	85	11	Mathieson 2, Payne, Salami		4
October	Sat 7	MILTON UTD	H League	0-2	L	76	12	-		2
	Sat 14	Ardley Utd	A League	1-1	D	72	11	McGarvie		3
	Sat 28	North Greenford Utd	A League	1-2	L	76	14	OG		3
November	Sat 4	HAREFIELD UTD	H League	0-1	L	123	15	-		3
	Sat 11	Broadfields Utd	A League	2-1	W	57	11	McGarvie, Hodgins		-
	Sat 25	RISBOROUGH RANGERS	H League	0-5	L	70	13	-		2
Decemb	Sat 2	Bedfont Sports	A League	2-1	W		12	Wood, Mathieson		2
	Sat 16	VIRGINIA WATER	H League	2-2	D	51	13	Wood, Ovington		-
	Sat 30	Edgware & Kingsbury	A League	1-2	L	59	13	Mathieson		1
January	Sat 6	WEMBLEY	H League	1-2	L	58	13	Salami		-
	Sat 13	HOLYPORT	H League	2-3	L	95	14	Mead (p), Mathieson		2
	Sat 20	Rayners Lane	A League	3-4	L		14	Mathieson, Wood, Ovington		2
	Sat 27	Harefield Utd	A League	0-1	L	80	16	-		4
										1
February	Sat 3	WOKINGHAM & EMMBROOK	H League	2-3	L	68	16	Bircham, Quinlivan		1
	Tue 6	Flackwell Heath	A League	0-3	L	153	16	-		2
	Sat 17	ARDLEY UTD	H League	0-5	L	62	17	-		-
	Wed 21	Burnham	A League	2-3	L	55	17	Bircham, Ovington		2
	Tue 27	Milton Utd	A League	2-4	L	65	17	McGarvie, Rogers		1
March	Sat 9	BEDFONT SPORTS	H League	0-0	D	67	19	-		1
	Sat 16	Risborough Rangers	A League	1-0	W	147	17	Spinks		5
	Sat 23	Wallingford & Crowmarsh	A League	0-1	L	120	18	-		1
April	Tue 2	Hilltop	A League	1-1	D		18	Bircham		-
	Sat 6	BROADFIELDS UTD	H League	1-3	L	63	19	McGarvie		2
	Thu 11	READING CITY	H League	0-1	L	37	19	-		1
	Sat 13	EGHAM TOWN	H League							1
	Tue 16	Reading City	A League							
	Thu 18	NORTH GREENFORD UTD	H League							
	Sat 20	Virginia Water	A League							
	Sat 27	FLACKWELL HEATH	H League							

PLAYER STATISTICS

at 12 April 2024

	TOTAL						
	P37	W7	D5	L25			
	A	S	G				
Frankie Bircham	27	5	4	8			
Max McGarvie	24	10	9	2			
Craig Mathieson	23	4	6	1	4		
James Evans	23	2	0	6			
Jack James	23	4	0	3			
Ollie Salami	20	7	3	4			
Cadell Fraser-Robinson	21	0	0	7			
Henry Dudley	18	1	0	6			
Fin Purcell (GK)	19	0	0	1			
Jack Hodgins	17	6	4	2			
Tom Clark (GK)	16	0	0	1			
Harrison Mead	15	0	4	1			
Jordan Payne	11	4	1	4			
Lewis Stevens	11	7	0	3			
Tom Kennard	10	6	2	3			
Jamie Ovington	10	0	3	2	3		
Bradley Dixon-Smith	9	3	0	3			
Kian Austin	9	1	0				
Kayne Connor	9	3	0	1			
Sam Wood	7	3	4	1			
Josh Quinlivan	7	2	1	2	1		
Ben Bell	6	3	0	1			
Callum Rogers	7	0	1				
Tecane Shrowder	6	0	0	2			
Roy Byron	5	7	0	1			
Andrew Tayaca	5	1	0				
Drilon Krasniqi	5	9	1	4			
Connor Spinks	5	1	1	1	1		
Harrison Marquez	4	1	0				
Sam Shaw	4	1	0	1			
Kahlil Francis	3	6	2	2			
Josh Penemo	3	5	0				
Courtney Austin	3	0	0				
Mark Amaning	3	0	0	1			
Caden Barber	2	4	0	1			
Darren Page	2	3	0				
Andrei Cristea (GK)	2	0	0				
Nathan Mandla	2	0	0				
George Blanks	1	7	0				
Dan Griggs	1	2	0	1			
Can Arioglu	1	0	0				
Cem Poyez	1	0	0				
Chris Blunden	1	0	0				
Joe Davies	1	0	0	1			
Jordan Gutteridge	1	0	0				
Kushon Lewis-Thomas	1	0	0				
Prince Nemoh	1	0	0				
Simeon Armstrong	1	0	0				
Ethan Goulding	0	8	0				
Jake McGregor	0	4	0				
Kevin Bilicki	0	3	0				
Samir Shaffi	1	3	0				
Femi Ogunsola	0	3	0				
Freddie Plant	0	2	0				
Aaron Tecke	0	1	0				
Alvin Walters	0	1	0				
Ed Port	0	1	0				
Ethan Hayman	0	1	0				
Harrison Okwu	0	1	0				
Harvey Matthews	0	1	0	1			
Jake Heckford	0	1	0				
Kennedy Newbert	0	1	0				
Troy Murray	0	1	0				
Own Goal			1				

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Jamie Ovington

Today's visitors

Egham Town



Egham Town's forerunners were a team called Runnymede Rovers who were established in 1877 and played in red and white - colours the present club have now adopted as their own. Rovers were reformed as Egham FC in 1905 and were founder members of the Surrey Senior League, claiming the inaugural Championship. The club had an unsuccessful six-year spell in the Spartan League between 1927-33 before returning to the Surrey Senior League, in which they played until disbanding upon the outbreak of World War II.

Unlike many clubs, Egham FC did not reform at the end of the War and it was not until a public meeting at the town's Literary Institute on December 9, 1963 that the present club came into being. The local council offered the use of part of a recreation ground for the new club to play on and this remains the club's home, although it is now an impressive ground for a club of Egham Town's stature. The former park has been developed into the Runnymede Stadium as it is known today. The ground has cover on all sides.

Having played in the Parthenon League in 1964-65 season, Town returned to the Surrey Senior League in 1965, and then moved back into the Spartan League, claiming the title in 1971-72. They were then elected into the Athenian League and captured the Second Division Championship at the first attempt in 1974-75 and finishing as First Division

runners-up the following season. When the Isthmian League expanded in 1977, the Sarnies were elected but after finishing 6th in their first season success always eluded them.

For season 1991-92 the Club was promoted to Division One South of the Isthmian League as part of a re-organisation of non-league football and in 1997-98 were relegated to Isthmian Division 3. That started badly with a 0-9 defeat at Camberley Town. We were switched to the Southern League in 2004, which proved disastrous, as the travelling and a small budget virtually guaranteed bottom place, with 22 points.

With a final placing of sixth in season 2001-2 Egham were in one the allocated places for a move to Isthmian One South.

In the 2005-06 season they played in the Isthmian League Division Two but as a result of the restructuring of non-league football the club entered the Combined Counties League Premier Division.

With a new management trio of John Hamsher, Wayne Noad and Colin Bartholomew an increased emphasis on blending youth with experience for season 2011-12 certainly paid dividends. The first team was only pipped for a 3rd place finish on the last day of a season. Just as eye-catching was the success of the brand new Under 18s, who were a revelation. with their capture of an historic debut season double of the Southern Youth League Central Section Championship and the League Cup Youth.

Season 2012-13 started with the club expecting to progress under the same management but after ten games Hamsher and Noad jumped ship to join Ryman One South side Chipstead, taking half a dozen players with them. The vacant managerial slot was taken by Lee Pasmore. He called on the services of former boss Jack McKinlay, who was joined in his return by another former player, Neerav Patel. Thereafter the season just got

better and better. The Championship was won on 4 May 2013 with a 1-0 win (Luke Muldowney, 79th minute) against Bedfont Sports. Among the wild celebrations there was also time to reflect on the loss, early in the season, of Club President Brian Askew, who had been involved with the club since its reformation.

Season 2013-14 saw a vibrant Egham Town looking forward to the challenge of football back in the Southern League, much better prepared than in 2004-05, aiming initially to better their previous mark in the Southern League, which was achieved fairly comfortably. Despite the clubhouse, the pitch and the surrounding area being badly flooded for weeks on end the club spirit held and in a very competitive division the final finish of 11th, and a run to the Semi Final of the Surrey Senior Cup, left the Sarnies in a confident mood to tackle season 2014 – 2015.

Egham Town were shaken when Lee Passmore resigned his post as manager, Jack McKinlay and Neerav Patel following him. Continuing a club policy of trying wherever possible to promote from within the club the reins were handed to Luke Muldowney, the team captain, with the hugely experienced Richie Byrne assisting him. Unfortunately this only lasted 21 matches as after two heavy defeats and with the club sliding down the table a change was required.

Egham Town were next managed by Koo Dumbuya, a very well respected coach who used to play for the Sarnies. He was assisted by Trevor Norris. Results were mixed and there was a novel switch as Dumbuya and Norris took each other's role. It did not really work, and results into the start of season 2015-16 led initially to Norris leaving then the appointment of exciting young manager Gary Meakin.

Season 2017-2018 began with the experience of Chris Moore and Wayne Carter in charge. Moore's first managerial post saw

him hang up his boots and use his contacts to bring in some decent players, and a five game winning run early on had Egham looking good in 3rd place. A club record FA Trophy win (7-1 at home to Shoreham) was followed by a drawn-out saga with Bowers & Pitsea, who ended up being thrown out of the competition. Form dipped and after 36 games the pair were replaced with former Northwood boss Simon Lane. An exodus of players followed, mainly to Beaconsfield, who actively courted former Sarnies to boost their successful promotion run. Results were variable under the new manager, (1-7 at Hartley Wintney; wins at home against AFC Rushden & Diamonds and Hayes & Yeading United played off against a home loss to doomed Arlesey Town. The final position of 16th was well short of early expectations.

Season 2018-2019 saw Egham Town re-discover what it was like to be an Isthmian League side after 12 years after the FA's massive reorganisation of the non-league structure. Simon Lane was pleased to start the season with a good selection of the previous season's squad but leading marksman Matthew's signing for Beaconsfield Town was as inevitable as night following day.

Lane left by mutual consent after five games, the season not having started as planned, and assistant manager Ashley Smith took over, with a home FA Cup First Qualifying tie against local rivals Staines Town his baptism of fire. Kezie Ibe's goal gave The Sarnies a local derby win. An excellent home performance against another Step 3 side, Brightlingsea Regent, in which Egham were 0-2 and 1-3 before drawing 3-3 preceded a replay which was lost. Smith called in a number of loan players from higher rated clubs but unfortunately the results did not match some encouraging performances. After a loss at Bedfont Sports he resigned with the club sitting in 19th place in Bostik South Central. Next up was Dickson Gill, who

had two previous spells in the manager's seat but his third stint was nothing short of a disaster, garnering only 3 points out of 42. In came Carl Palmer, and some respectability was restored, but the club were relegated a record of: P38 W 4 L 6 L28 F29 A94 Pts 18, the Sarnies' lowest points total ever. While recording decent results against the top five sides the opposite was true when facing sides down the wrong end of the table. Relegation was sealed with a loss at Hertford Town. The club returned to the Combined Counties League Premier Division. Another heavy defeat, 1-6 at home to Balham, left the club in bottom place and led to another managerial change. Palmer was replaced by the experienced Tony Choules, who had spent a long spell at Uxbridge. The club sat in 10th place when Covid struck. Season 2020-2021 lasted only 13 CCL games for The Sarnies, who were 13th when the lockdown came again.

On Tuesday 4 May 2021 Egham Town FC were presented with a threat to their very existence when the latest of a series of attacks by local vandals saw the Brian Askew Stand completely burnt out. The fire, which needed three fire tenders to extinguish, also damaged the dressing rooms behind the party wall, and could not have come at a worse time for a club that, like so many others, had suffered during the Coronavirus pandemic. It was not the way the club wanted to get on the front page of the local paper! The response was immediate, with fans Bradley Graham, Mike O'Grady and Andy Hughes launching a Go Fund Me page that attracted over £5k in about a week and in total £8462. Money and messages of support came from former players and managers, and from the football community far and wide. Chairman Pat Bennett, who has been in post for over 30 years, has had to sort out numerous attacks on the ground and its fittings, but this incident was certainly the worst.

From the ashes arose a new and improved stand, named after Brian Askew and Jimmy Hughes. Brian was a long-serving committee member who died in 2013 and had been with us in various positions since the early days of a club formed in 1963. Jimmy Hughes, brother of Andy, passed away in 2020 after a period of illness. Jimmy had been the cheerful chap manning the turnstile for many years. One of the awful things that the vandals had done in an earlier attack was to damage a plaque placed by the entrance commemorating Jimmy. The club then had another shock as Choules and his management team resigned with the club looking forward to making a positive impact in the newly formed Cherry Red Records Combined Counties League Premier Division (North). Former player Jordan Berry took the reins, recruiting two men who had been at the club under Meakin. Assistant manager Greg Phillips and coach Dave Rogers rejoined, the trio putting together a team that reached the fourth round of the FA Vase (and in winning five matches outdoing their 84-85 run), and finished third in CCL Premier (North). Just one club left Runnymede Stadium with all three points, runaway champions Hanworth Villa, and that with the



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Our Club History

Chalfont St Peter AFC



The club was formed in 1926 and played local junior football from its ground on Gold Hill Common.

1948 saw a move to the Great Western Combination and a year later the club moved to its present location, although the picturesque name of Mill Meadow belies its origins as a refuse tip. As the club developed off the field thanks to the support of many volunteers so success began to arrive on the field and in 1952 the first silverware was won, the Berks & Bucks FA Intermediate Cup. Senior status followed and progress through the Parthenon League, London League and Spartan League followed.

The early 1970's were difficult for the club but a move into the Athenian league saw a change in fortunes.

The 1980's, now in the Isthmian League, brought some consistency in league performances and some successful campaigns in the FA Cup and FA Vase.

The 1990's was another difficult decade, culminating in a low point of two successive bottom places.

2001/02 saw a rebuild under Martin Dean with a good start to the season but

a subsequent falling away saw them finish 14th. The lower echelons became the accustomed territory for Saints for several seasons until Dean's departure at the end of the 2003/04 season.

Managing Chalfont to victory in the Berks & Bucks Under-18 Challenge Cup was a young Danny Edwards. His reward was to be handed the reins of the First Team for the new season. And so began a rollercoaster ride of success and near misses that continued until just recently.

A restructuring within the Isthmian league at the end of the 2005/06 season saw Saints moving to the Spartan South Midlands Premier League.

2006/07 saw a top half finish in their first season in the Spartan and a trophy for the cabinet, the Wycombe Senior Cup, secured with a 7-0 win over Downley Albion at the Wycombe Wanderers ground.

2007/08 was a hugely successful season. Danny Edwards was developing an exciting squad and the style of play was both entertaining and successful. Good runs in both the FA Cup and FA Vase came together with a Final appearance in the Premier Division Cup. Topping them all was winning the Challenge Trophy with a 2-0 win over Brimsdown Rovers. A close three-horse race in the league saw Saints pipped at the post into runners-up spot.

2008/09 was about building on the standards set in the previous season. And it didn't disappoint. Some top scalps in the FA Cup heralded a season of cup runs. The FA Vase was the crowning glory, with the Saints making it all the way to the semi-final and being heart

breaking seconds away from winning the right to play at Wembley. Saints were in the hunt for the league title all the way to the last week of the season but the fixture congestion caused by the cup successes began to tell and they couldn't quite make it across the line, eventually finishing a brave third.

Expectations were high going into season 2009/10 after going close to promotion in the two previous seasons. A slow start and a nightmare run of losses in October saw the title chase wobble and rapid exits from all cup competitions. But an incredible run of form with just one defeat in 23 took Saints to the top to the pile where they became the target for other teams' top performances and it wasn't until they were overtaken by Aylesbury in the last two games that they had to settle for the runners-up spot again.

At the start of 2010/11, the aim was clear: promotion was the number one target. Getting off to an incredible start in notching up seventeen straight wins, Saints grabbed top spot and refused to relinquish it for the entire season, never being less than four points clear at any stage. The focus was clear and any progress in the cups was quickly curtailed. Such was the dominance in the league, the champagne corks popped with five games to spare as the title was secured. The curtain was brought down on the record breaking season and their five year stay in the Spartan League by winning the Challenge Trophy for an unprecedented league and cup double. For the 2011/12 season, life was expected to be a trial for Saints yet they

made a bright start in their new environs and quickly acclimatised. For long periods they were genuine contenders but a poor end to the season saw them fall away into the mid table.

2014/15 saw the goals begin to return. A promising start saw the side hard to beat but too many draws held them back. A run in the FA Cup, was coupled with a strong run in November that saw the club in a playoff position but from such heights, a miserable New Year run saw them tumble down into relegation territory. It took a stubborn recovery in April to ensure eventual safety.

2015/16 was a highwater mark for Saints in their current run in the Southern League. Putting aside an early exit in the FA Cup Saints went on to head the table at New Year and looked set for their first tilt at the play offs, if not more. Sadly they repeated the poor run of results thereafter and fell away to finish sixth. Still an excellent all-round season as Tony Mendy secured top scorer honours in the division with 30 goals.

In contrast, season 2016/17 was possibly the poorest in over a decade. A storming start to the season saw Saints in top spot throughout August but the hole left by the departed Mendy was never filled and as the goals dried up so the tumble down the table gathered pace. Some poor signings added to the problems and the second half of the season delivered just four wins and for a while relegation was a real possibility before safety was finally achieved.

2017/18 was one of our most exciting seasons in the Southern League, our seventh, with the side in playoff

contention right up until the final few games. Our peerless record against those sides who ultimately claimed the top places, with just the single defeat in 12 games, including a notable double against champions Beaconsfield Town, underlined how competitive a side we were. Still struggling for goals, it was our defence that led the way with 16 clean sheets. It was a season that saw ever-green skipper Alan Hedley pass the 500 games mark and manager Danny Edwards reach 700 games in charge. Saints embrace change but enjoy stability at the same time.

2018/19 saw Saints return to the Isthmian League after 12 seasons as football was restructured. An inconsistent defence and a shortage of goals ensured Saints were unable to escape the mid-table places. Towards the end of the season, Danny Edwards signalled his wish to step down from the role he had held with such distinction and Saints had to begin the process of finding a new manager.

If 2019/20 season became the one that never happened, it provided a new launch point for Chalfont as Finlay Johnson took over the reins. New faces and promising youth saw the season start well but a lack of goals eventually started to take its toll. A mid-table finish looked to have been secured before the lockdown put a premature end to the season.

Silverware for both the Under-18s and the Under 23s certainly raised the spirits in the club in the 2020/21 season but for the Senior side the season barely got going before it was abandoned.

2021/22 proved to be a season of shattered dreams. The optimism of an opening day win soon turned into a season best watched from behind the sofa as it seemed that everything that could go against the side did. Several changes of manager failed to halt the slide and with too many games decided by a single or a late goal, and with a squad decimated by injuries and departures, relegation from Step 4 after 11 seasons was confirmed in a play-off game.

2022/23 was a tough learning experience for Saints. A preseason that saw the management and playing squad hollowed out for the second time in recent years ultimately proved too much for manager Dean Goodliff and in the new year Michael East and Liam Dwyer took joint control of the team. The threat of relegation never went away and in a crazy end to the season when the three bottom sides couldn't help but win, Saints held their nerve at Harefield to secure the final day win to ensure safety.

Saints will look to take the lessons learned from a chastening season into 2023/24 with a greater sense of confidence and stability and will be looking to the higher regions of the table and not looking down.



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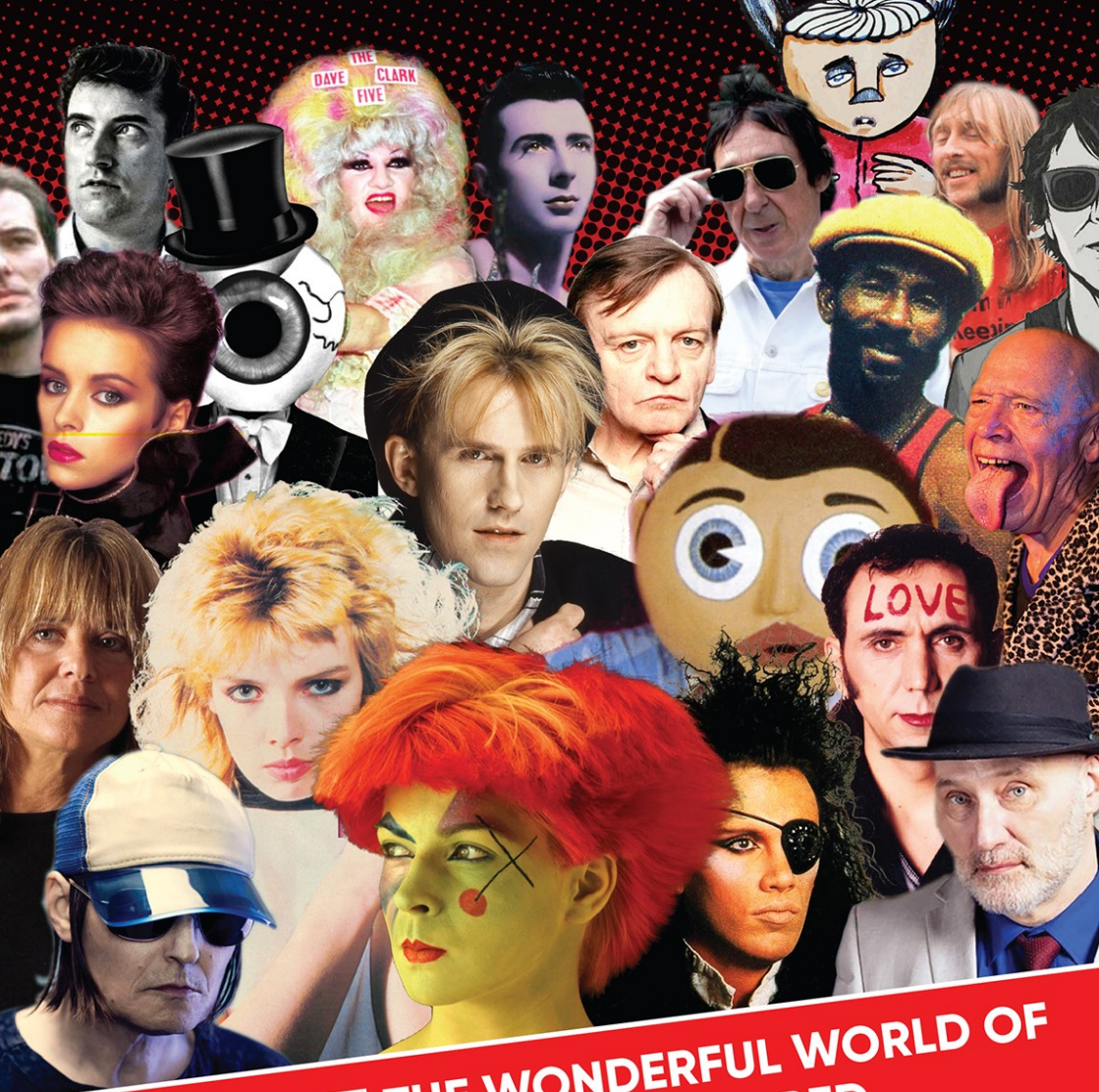
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