



## **Amersham Town Football Club Season 2025 – 2026**

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

**Amersham Town v North Greenford  
CCFL Premier Division North**

**Kick off 3.00pm**



**Chairman: Paul Serkis**  
**Secretary: Bryan Fisher**  
**Manager: Jason Owens**



Welcome to the players, committee members and supporters of North Greenford. This is the return fixture of our first game of the season, when we drew one each at Berkeley Fields in a highly competitive game.

As we approach the turn of the year it is worth looking back at our season to date. The experience, to say the least, has been mixed. In spite of fears that, with a young team, we might struggle to hold our own we started off well. Possibly the highlight was the one nil victory over Burnham who were leading the table at the time. We then had a mixed series of results but still sat in the middle of the table until mid October. Since then a couple of goalless away draws have been followed by six defeats.

It is difficult to put one's finger on the reason for the recent succession of poor results. On the whole we have been playing reasonably well but seem to lose our way at key points in a game. That might be down to inexperience, and it is certainly the case that we have played more than our fair share of away games to date. However, the team has stuck together under Jason and Alfie and we can face the New Year with some confidence.

Enjoy the game and a prosperous New Year to all.

Mike Gahagan

**Next game at Spratleys Meadow: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2026 v Hilltop: Combined Counties League: kick off 3.00pm.**

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**ENTRY: Adults £8, Senior Citizens £6, Children under 16 free**



## Amersham Town FC: results and fixtures.

Date	Opponents	H/A	Score	Scorers
29.7.25	North Greenford	A	1 - 1	Miah
2.8.25	Cinderford Town	A	1 - 0	Johnson. FA Cup: extra preliminary round
9.8.25	Wokingham Tn	H	3 - 0	Aram 2, Georgiou
16.8.25	Royal Wootton Bassett	A	1 - 3	Roman. FA Cup Preliminary Rnd
19.8.25	Holyport	A	1 - 2	Bartolo
23.8.25	Brook House	H	0 - 1	FA Vase
25.8.25	Harefield Utd	A	0 - 3	
30.8.25	Ardley Utd	H	2 - 0	Aram, Georgiou
3.9.25	Hilltop	A	2 - 4	Jones, Sennett
9.9.25	Holmer Green	H	2 - 3	Aram, Austin B&B Senior Cup
16.9.25	Windsor & Eton	A	2 - 4	Bartolo, Sykes. CCFL Challenge Cup
20.9.25	North Leigh	A	1 - 2	Johnson
27.9.25	Burnham	H	1 - 0	Johnson
4.10.25	British Airways	A	0 - 2	
11.10.25	Edgware & K'y	H	1 - 0	Aram
18.10.25	Milton Utd	A	2 - 3	Aram, Martin-Thomas
22.10.25	Kidlington	A	0 - 0	
25.10.25	Broadfields Utd	H	0 - 4	
1.11.25	Wallingford & C	A	0 - 0	
8.11.25	Wokingham Tn	A	1 - 6	Martin-Thomas
15.11.25	Abingdon Utd	A	0 - 2	
22.11.25	Harefield Utd	H	1 - 9	Bartolo
13.12.25	Virginia Water	H	0 - 2	
20.12.25	Ashford Town	A	1 - 3	Martin-Thomas
27.12.25	North Greenford	H		
10.1.26	Hilltop	H		
20.1.26	Windsor & Eton	H		
24.1.26	Wallingford & C	H		
31.1.26	Burnham	A		



### **Amersham Town**

1. Matthew Messer
2. Joshua Clay
3. Josh Quadry
4. Mark Webb
5. Archie Sykes
6. Ethan Sennett
7. Jayden Gibson
8. Dominic Jones
9. Chris Martin-Thomas
10. Naz Miah
11. Shaun Aram
12. Shane Johnson
14. Pompeyo Castillo
15. Craig Griffith-Dunbar
16. Daniel Fogarasy
17. Rhys Rabess
18. Charles John

Manager: Jason Owens  
Head Coach: Alfie Sanger  
Coach: Ben Clargo  
GK Coach Mark Bonnick.

Colours: Black & White

### **North Greenford**

1. Ryan Lehane
2. Taran Rattery
3. Rahim Jude-Boyd
4. David Taylor
5. Georgie Brown
6. Joseph Mills
7. Taylor Miles
8. Renato Kalaj
9. Charlie Jay Mitchell
10. Harvey John Killeen
11. Francesco Pass
12. George Harmes
14. Morgan Cooper
15. Rory Merrick
16. Daniel Killeen
17. Tommy Mills
18. Michael Kelly

Manager : Joe Gritt  
Assn't Mngr : Mike Molokwu  
Coaches : Dominic Cassells,  
Sam House.

Colours: All Maroon

**Referee:** Ryan Jones  
**Assn't Ref:** Steven Conway  
**Assn't Ref:** Richard Blackwood



## Cherry Red Records Combined Counties League: Premier Division North

As at Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2025

		<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GD</b>	<b>PTS</b>
1	Broadfields United	23	12	7	4	26	43
2	Ardley United	18	13	2	3	26	41
3	Wallingford & C	23	12	4	7	0	40
4	Ashford Tn (Middx)	19	11	5	3	19	38
5	Burnham	20	11	5	4	16	38
6	Windsor & Eton	17	10	6	1	21	36
7	Hilltop	26	11	3	12	9	36
8	Milton United	22	10	4	8	3	34
9	Kidlington	19	8	7	4	6	31
10	North Greenford Utd	19	9	3	7	0	30
11	Wokingham Town	20	8	5	7	7	29
12	Reading City	15	8	4	3	15	28
13	Virginia Water	19	7	4	8	-3	25
14	Harefield United	22	7	3	12	-5	24
15	Abingdon United	18	6	3	9	-3	21
16	British Airways	19	6	4	9	-10	19 *
17	North Leigh	21	5	3	13	-15	18
18	Amersham Town	20	5	3	12	-24	18
19	Holyport	24	4	1	19	-44	13
20	Edgware & K'bury	24	2	2	20	-44	8

\* adjustment made



## **North Greenford United – short history**

The club was founded in September 1944. Following the appointment of John Bivens as First Team Manager in 1994 and the installation of floodlights in 2002, the club was elected to the Combined Counties League. In 2003/04, managed by Steve Hawkins, the club were runners-up in the Premier Challenge Cup losing 4-1 to AFC Wimbledon. In 2004/05 they finished league runners-up and in 2006/07, under Mick Harvey, reached the Challenge Cup final again, this time losing 4-1 to Merstham.

Steve Ringrose took over the Manager's job in 2008 achieving runners-up spot for the second time. Under Ringrose season 2009/10 was the most successful in the club's history to date when we were crowned CCL Champions, earning promotion to the Southern League Division One Central, and also winning the MFA Senior Charity Cup. Although always finishing in the bottom half of the table, the club succeeded in retaining its Step 4 status for five seasons, but with frequent managerial changes, seven before eventually being relegated in 2016.

The club's return to Step 5 football in 2016 began badly and a decision was taken in October to appoint the experienced management team of Danny Vincent and Colin Murphy. They remained with the club until 2017/18 before unexpectedly resigning just before we were transferred to the Spartan League. The committee re-appointed Paul Palmer who had just won promotion with Southall. Hopes for a successful season were short-lived, however, as the club became embroiled in another relegation struggle.

Following two successful seasons leading the Under 18's, the decision was taken to promote Colin Jones to the role along with his assistants, Paul Mills and Gary Brown, with Dino Pashias taking over as Youth Team manager. Much progress was made with regards player development during the two Covid seasons, and in 2020/21 the team reached the FA Vase 3<sup>rd</sup> Round for the first time.

Jones resigned in April 2021, and Paul and Gary were asked to take over



the management role. They both accepted, agreeing to share the responsibilities of the post. In May 2021 the club, as expected, was transferred back to the CCL and placed in the newly formed Premier Division North. The 5<sup>th</sup> place finish in season 2021/22, their first in charge, was the highest the club had reached since being crowned CCL champions back in 2010.

Cup success accompanied league success in 2022/23. We reached the FA Cup First Qualifying Round, the Quarter-final of the MFA Senior Cup and, most successfully, the Third Round Proper of the FA Vase for a second time as well as the Final of the CCL Premier Challenge Cup. During both 22/23 and 23/24, appalling weather conditions caused many postponements with the team having to play over a quarter of its league games in April – 10 in 2023 and 12 in 2024. Despite this, Paul and Gary still managed to finish both campaigns in a very creditable 8<sup>th</sup> position.

However, 23/24 will be most remembered for making more club history in cup competitions. For the first time we progressed to the semi-final of the MFA Senior Challenge Cup and, for the second time, the final of the MFA Senior Charity Cup. By far our greatest cup achievement, though, was progressing to the quarter-finals of the FA Vase following wins against Hollands & Blair, Bedfont Sports, Roffey, Brixham & Tilbury. This wonderful run was ended by Romford. The narrow 1-0 home defeat that day was extremely disappointing for all involved, but in no way did it detract from the magnificent achievement of getting that far in the competition.

Last season began with another historic record-breaking run, this time in the CCL, with the club topping the Premier Division North table after winning our first 6 games on the bounce. From that point, however, results were mixed, and when we faced Burnham in mid-April with just 3 games to play, we had dropped to 9<sup>th</sup>. What followed was an incredible end to the season. It seemed we had little chance of reaching the play-offs. To do so we had to win our final 3 games, and the two other contenders for that 4<sup>th</sup> place had to lose theirs. But that's exactly what happened!! Burnham was one of those and, in that must-win game, we secured a 3-1 victory. On the same day, Holyport, the other contender, lost narrowly to Milton United.



On the final Saturday, while we earned an excellent 4-1 home win, both Holyport and Burnham lost again. But we still had one more game to play, a rearranged home fixture against local rivals Wembley. So much hung on that contest for both clubs. A win or draw for us would earn a play-off semi-final at Bedfont Sports, while Wembley had to win if they were to escape relegation. This was a hard-fought match in which we took our chances to secure a 2-0 win. We also competed well in the semi-final at Bedfont Sports but did not take our chances, and eventually lost 3-1.

There was also late drama in two of the cup competitions. The Senior Charity Cup semi-final against Southall was eventually played on the last day of April, ending in a 1-0 defeat. Then, 2 games later, we found ourselves facing Cobham in the final of the CCL Senior Challenge Cup. This had followed a narrow 1-0 win at Windsor & Eton in the semi-final, a fixture arranged following the removal of Harefield United from the competition. The final against Cobham was played at Sheerwater on 14<sup>th</sup> May. It was our 4<sup>th</sup> attempt to win this particular trophy but, although the tie was closely contested, we again failed to do so, eventually losing by 3 goals to 1.

At the club's Annual Presentation Evening Paul Mills and Gary Brown formally confirmed that they were stepping down as joint First Team Managers. Appointed in 2021 they had managed the team with distinction for 4 seasons and over 200 games. They will remain at the club in their respective committee roles as Chairman and Director of Football. At the same event, the club announced the appointment of Club Captain Joey Gritt as the new First Team Manager, with Mike Molokwu, who joined the club as a coach last season, appointed as his Assistant. We congratulate them both and wish them every success in their new roles.

*A full version of the club history can be obtained by emailing assistant secretary Pat Hillier: [patrickhillier01@gmail.com](mailto:patrickhillier01@gmail.com)*

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## **Charlton's Ballon d'Or Disaster**

Allan Simonsen was undeniably a great footballer. The Dane was European Footballer of the Year in 1977, beating out the likes of Kevin Keegan and Johan Cruyff to the award. He played for Barcelona, had been their top goalscorer and found the winning goal in the Cup Winners Cup final, securing a much needed European trophy for the Catalan side. But when they paid a world record fee for Diego Maradona in 1982, it threw his position into doubt. Spanish football at the time allowed only two European players on the pitch at the time. The Argentine would obviously start, and when it became clear that Bernd Schuster would as well, Simonsen took his leave of the club for new pastures. Nobody could have expected those pastures to be... Charlton Athletic.

Simonsen had offers from across Europe, but the front runners turned out to be Barcelona's hated rivals Real Madrid, and Tottenham Hotspur. Given the tensions between the two Spanish sides, North London seemed the most likely prospect for the Dane, where Spurs had just achieved their highest finish in a decade and were looking at pushing beyond the fourth place they had found themselves in the previous season. But then Simonsen threw a spanner into those plans, stating that he would enjoy a more relaxed footballing environment, something that White Hart Lane didn't really offer. Struggling at the wrong end of the Second Division, Charlton owner Mark Hulyer took his chance, blowing both Tottenham and Real Madrid out of the water with a £325,000 bid. Barcelona accepted on one condition: all of the money was paid up front. They didn't trust in Mark Hulyer's vision any more than anyone else.

The Valley at that time could take 75,000, but hadn't seen even 40,000 for 35 years. Charlton averaged 7000 fans for their home games, but Hulyer wasn't content to sit at that level. The colossal bid for Simonsen, with high salary (by Second Division standards) and no bank to help finance the deal, was a gamble, but the interest he would generate, and the success he would bring, would boost attendances so considerably that he would soon repay the money on the pitch. It was an idea with sadly predictable consequences.



Initially, Hulyer was right, to an extent. 4000 fans turned up for the reserve game where Simonsen would first kick a ball in a Charlton shirt, and more than 10,000 saw him play his first game for the first team, a gate increase of 50%. And Simonsen, European Footballer of the Year only five years earlier, took to his new team with ease. That first game ended in defeat against Middlesbrough, but Charlton fans saw their star signing score his first goal, and create chance after chance for his teammates.

Having dropped from the pinnacle of European Football to the Second

Division, the Dane's first 16 games for the club saw a slight upturn in fortunes for Charlton. He scored nine goals, providing more for his teammates, and usually won man of the match; not a huge surprise for a player deemed a peer of Johan Cruyff. But it was also a frustrating experience for Simonsen. His new teammates were not up to his speed, and incisive through balls, inch-perfect crosses, and magical moments were wasted by teammates who were always behind him. He couldn't do it alone, as evidenced by a 7-1 drubbing against Burnley.

Simonsen did have bright moments, the most notable against Chelsea following that Burnley game. Charlton took a two goal lead in the first half, but let it slip before the hour. Simonsen took charge of the game after that, gliding around the pitch as though he were still a Barcelona player, beating Chelsea defenders that, like most in the Second Division, were far below his level, and scoring two goals, creating another, for a 5-2 win. He had also doubled the attendance at Charlton, to a peak of 13000, but it wasn't enough. Just five months after signing him, the south London galactico was causing financial problems. Hulyer was looking to sell.

Offloading a Ballon d'Or winner was a simpler, but much less profitable, prospect for Charlton than it had been for Barcelona. Fearing this exact situation, Simonsen's agent had put a release clause into the contract he had signed. When Hulyer approached him to explain that they couldn't afford his wages, the agent triggered the clause and Simonsen left the club in January of 1983. He went back to his homeland, and joined his childhood club VB to see out his relaxed career. Things for Charlton were not so cosy.



Facing the massive financial losses of the Simonsen experiment, Charlton were soon also given an even bigger tax bill of more than £400,000. The

club finished that season five places lower than they had the previous, and facing bankruptcy. The club was placed into administration and forced to leave The Valley altogether, to share Selhurst Park with Crystal Palace.

So the signing of Allan Simonsen did have the huge impact on Charlton that Hulyer had claimed, just not the one he had hoped for.

Enjoy the game.

**Martyn Green *The Untold Game***

**Find more at [TheUntoldGame.co.uk](http://TheUntoldGame.co.uk) or on social media  
[@TheUntoldGame](https://www.instagram.com/TheUntoldGame)**



**Allan Simonsen**



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## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF AMERSHAM TOWN FC**

Amersham Town FC was formed in 1890. An inaugural meeting took place at the Crown public house, now a hotel, on 10 October 1890. The Chairman was a local headmaster who was very friendly with W. G. Grace and was, in fact, recommended by that great cricketer. Among the original rules were no bad language on the pitch, that no player should wear any nails, an annual subscription of 1/6d ( or 7.5p ) and an agreement that the club colours would be black and white.

The club originally played at Barn Meadow, down the road from the current ground. Amersham Town moved to Spratleys Meadow in 1920, thanks to the generosity of a local entrepreneur - a Mr Brazil - who founded the famous sausage and pie company bearing his name.

Amersham joined the Hellenic League in 1952 and then the Spartan League in 1972. The Clubhouse, a former school room, was erected in 1968 and extended to its current size in 1983. New floodlights were installed in 1977. In 1998 the Club secured a ninety nine year lease on Spratleys Meadow and built a new stand. In 2000, new pitches were provided across School Lane for the Youth Section.

In 2006/07 the club enjoyed a major refurbishment. The original changing rooms, which were commandeered in the war as an emergency mortuary in the event of an air raid on Amersham, were demolished and modern facilities constructed. The pitch, which had a slope of 11ft 4 inches from touchline to touchline, was levelled and now provides an excellent playing surface. In 2022 the clubhouse was comprehensively remodelled and modern floodlights installed for this season.. Amersham Town was granted Charter Standard Club status in 2013.

The club moved to the Cherry Red Combined Counties League in season 22/23 and was promoted to the Premier Division North for last season. The team is managed by Jason Owens and the club has developed close links with Kings Church FC, a well organised local club which runs more than twenty junior teams.

A hard copy or an on-line booklet recording the club's history, prepared for its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015, can be obtained by emailing Mike Gahagan on [michaelgahagan89@gmail.com](mailto:michaelgahagan89@gmail.com)