

Slimbridge

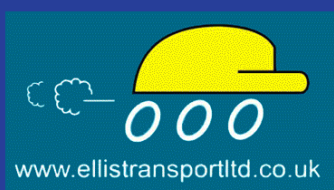
Football Club



The Pitching In Southern Football League
Division One South

Slimbridge AFC v Bristol Manor Farm

Saturday 5th March 2022 3:00pm





A L L F O R S P O R T

www.joma-sport.com

Match Day

Slimbridge AFC would like to welcome everyone
connected with Bristol Manor Farm to Thornhill
Park

SLIMBRIDGE AFC



V



BRISTOL MANOR FARM

**Pitching In Southern League
Division One South**

Saturday 5th March 2022
KICK OFF 3.00PM



Today's Teams

Slimbridge AFC

Bristol Manor Farm

Lewis Adams	1	Ben John
Jack Spark	2	Stuart Tovey
Myron Turner	3	Mason Winter
Michael Ford	4	Josh Ford
Nathan Dennis	5	Aron Robbins
Toby Lawrence	6	Steve Kingdon
Edjija Mbunga	7	Jake Gosling
Don Ogbeifun	8	Sam Boulton
Will Hawes	9	Jayden Nielsen
Ben McLean	10	Mike Bryant
Marley Thomas	11	Jamie Short
Jamie Martin	12	Lloyd Mills
Aleks Novakovic	13	Theo Llewellyn
Raiyan Ahmed	14	Regan Lashenko
Jordan Yeo	15	Ben Bament
Ben Hands	16	Dean Stamp
Johan Flo	17	Lucas Vowles
Rio Tomlin	18	

Managers:

Tom Speers
Tom Deakin Adam Coyle

Lee Lashenko
Grantley Dicks

Physios:

Eleanor McArdle

Stephen Carter

Referee:

Thomas Staten

Assistants:

Luke Brunt
Samuel Lomas

This Week's Fixtures

Saturday 5 March 2022

- 15:00 AFC Totton v Larkhall Athletic
- 15:00 Barnstaple Town v Mangotsfield United
- 15:00 Cinderford Town v Willand Rovers
- 15:00 Frome Town v Evesham United
- 15:00 Lymington Town v Highworth Town
- 15:00 Melksham Town v Bideford
- 15:00 Sholing v Plymouth Parkway
- 15:00 Slimbridge v Bristol Manor Farm
- 15:00 Winchester City v Paulton Rovers

Tuesday 8 March 2022

- 19:45 Plymouth Parkway v Barnstaple Town

Wednesday 9 March 2022

- 19:30 Willand Rovers v Winchester City

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If you would like to become a sponsor or would like further information on how you may be able to help the club please see Barry Gay or Alena Wrixon for details. Every little bit really does help.

Our Visitors Today

Bristol Manor Farm Football Club was formed for the 1960/61 season before disbanding and reforming for the start of the 1962/63 campaign.

Our ground here at 'The Creek' used to be the site of the Port of Bristol Authority Sports & Social Club. In 1965 when the authority moved to new premises, Manor Farm took it over, making it our permanent home.

Having a base of our own enabled the club to apply successfully to join the Somerset Senior League where we made good progress through the divisions. In 1977 the club decided to step up to the Western League, joining the First Division for the start of the 1977/78 season.

The Club were crowned Division 1 Champions for 1982/83 and since that promotion to the Premier Division of the Western League Bristol Manor Farm have played most of our football at that level.

The last decade at the club has certainly been the most ambitious period of our history.

An exciting run during the 2010/11 FA Cup competition saw us win a penalty shoot-out against Almondsbury Town and hold Basingstoke Town to a draw before being pipped by a single goal in the replay.

2011/12 was the most successful season in the history of the club to that date. We won the GFA Challenge Trophy after beating Shortwood United 5-0 in a thrilling final and this was followed three days later with another cup triumph when we beat Willand Rovers in extra time to finally lift the Les Phillips Cup.

We lost the GFA Trophy Final to Bristol Academy in 2012/13 however and finished third from bottom of the Premier Division. After good service to the club, Manager John Black decided it was time to stand down.

Our Visitors Today

The start of the 2013/14 season saw the beginning of a new era at Bristol Manor Farm FC when current boss Lee Lashenko took over the Manager's job. Fresh from winning the title with Bishop Sutton, Lashenko quickly made an impact with Manor Farm.

An FA Cup run that saw us put nine goals past Oldland Abbotonians and then seven past Lymington Town quickly brought us to the attention of the national press. The tabloid photographers had a field day down at The Creek – photographing the team with the FA Cup and a variety of 'army' accessories and costumes – it was a brilliant and fun day that everyone here will never forget. The First Round Qualifying Round tie against Corsham Town then ended in a 4-4 draw with Manor Farm winning the hard fought replay 1-0. We then also held Bridgwater Town to a 4-4 draw in the next round before narrowly going out 2-1 in the replay.

The club continued to fight for top spot in the league and also applied for promotion to the Southern League. We finished the league season as Runners-up but were unsuccessful in our promotion bid when Larkhall Athletic were accepted ahead of us. It was the highest-placed finish in the club's league history, however, breaking club records for goals scored and fewest goals conceded.

In 2014-2015 Bristol Manor Farm missed out on promotion to the Southern League by 3 points, allowing Slimbridge to go up instead. We did win the GFA County Challenge Trophy however with a 2-0 win over local neighbours Shirehampton.

During an epic 2015/2016 season a heroic run in the FA Vase took us to within sniffing distance of Wembley with a notable comeback win in the fifth round, overcoming Sunderland RCA 3-2 and a long return trip to the North-East for a Quarter Final showdown with Morpeth Town. On a heavy pitch The Portwaymen were unlucky to go out with Morpeth scoring a breakaway goal in the dying seconds after Farm had laid virtual siege to The Highwaymen's goal throughout the second half. Morpeth went on to beat Hereford FC 4-1 in the showpiece Wembley final.

Our Visitors Today

We finished third in the Western Premier League – just missing out once again on promotion but won the GFA County Challenge Trophy for the second season in succession with a record 9-2 win over Lydney Town in the final. On a happy night at Ashton Gate our former Exeter City and Truro City striker Dean Stamp also won the Bristol Post 'Footballer of the Year' award for his astonishing tally of 59 goals in all competitions.

The many highlights of Manor Farm's triumphant 2016/17 season will be forever woven into the fabric of the club's history as we finally secured that elusive promotion to the Southern League in emphatic style, amassing 102 points and scoring over 100 goals on the way to being crowned as Western League Champions.

We also unluckily missed out on a second FA Vase Quarter Final in succession with another narrow 2-1 defeat in a fifth round tie in front of 1,500 partisan fans at Bromsgrove Sporting FC.

An extraordinary unbeaten league run of 21 games between September and March (19 wins and 2 draws) went a long way to securing the coveted league title for Manor Farm however, which was eventually clinched with three games to spare following a 2-0 win at local club Hallen on Good Friday.

Lee Lashenko and his squad of title winners were warmly acknowledged later in the year on another great night for the club at Ashton Gate - walking off with 'Coach of the Year' and 'Team of the Year' respectively at the Bristol Post Sports Awards.

Manor Farm hit the ground running during our dramatic, first Southern League campaign ('17/18) – briefly leading in the pack in September and never out of the top six until the final agonising fortnight of the season. Despite the obvious disappointment of an eventual 9th placed finish the club was left to reflect on an exciting debut that proved our players were more than capable of competing at the higher levels we desire as a club.

Our Visitors Today

“Our second season felt more like a first season” remarked Lee Lashenko at the end of year awards for the 2018/19 campaign. Beset by a plague of injuries and a rash of suspensions, The Farm failed to find the league consistency of our debut season but the club’s national profile was given another further boost by an extended run in the Emirates FA Cup – the best ever in the club’s history. We were literally inches and a game away from entering the First Round proper, finally falling to National League side Slough Town in a Third Qualifying Round replay after a valiant 2-2 draw in the original tie at their Arbour Park ground and a 5-2 thumping of Basingstoke Town at home in the previous round.

The club has now established itself in the Southern League. In 19/20 we were plagued with injuries but we will see the benefit of last season with this seasons progression. Last season was memorable for another successful FA Cup run. With a great home fixture against Wealdstone which we drew 0-0 so resulted in us visiting them in the replay which we lost. In the previous round we visited Tiverton Town and came away with a 4-2 win.

The 20/21 season was another one that was brought short thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic but saw another successful cup run. An exciting penalty shoot out at Kidlington saw The Farm secure a place in the Third Qualifying Round. The Farm bowed out to Cray Wanderers on penalties following a heroic comeback in front of a sell-out crowd. The premature end to the season meant that Manor Farm finished the season with a number of friendlies, the highlight of which was the inaugural Steve Hillier Memorial Cup, in honour of the long serving Secretary.

Our Visitors Today

Playing Squad

Ben John. Goalkeeper – Ben has played many seasons at a higher level. Ben is a lively character and adds plenty of passion to his team mates in front of him.

Mason Winter. Defender – Mason signed for the Farm two seasons ago, he was with the Bristol Rovers academy until he was 17yrs. He has since played for Melksham Town, Cribbs and Larkhall Athletic.

Josh Ford. Defender - Ford began his career at Queens Park Rangers and has played for a number of clubs. He captained the Yate Town side who won promotion in 2019. Josh has also featured for Paulton Rovers, Frome Town, and Melksham Town.

Steve Kingdon. Defender – Steve turned professional with Bristol Rovers where he was for 2 seasons, he has also played at Clevedon Town, Taunton Town and was captain of promotion winning Tiverton Town. Steve is a very solid centre back with a great vision and understanding of the game.

Stuart Tovey. Defender – Stuart is a seasoned Southern League player who has also played at Paulton Rovers, Chippenham Town & Larkhall Athletic, he has strength in depth as a defender and can play in midfield too.

Sam Boulton. Defender – Sam signed just before the premature end of last season, making a great impact on the defence. Despite being only 23, Sam has a vast range of experience – including playing alongside Ford in the Yate Town side that won promotion in 2019.

Aron Robbins. Defender – Aron has already played in the Southern League for Clevedon Town before joining the Farm five seasons ago, he is a seasoned left back that likes to get forward and score goals.

Our Visitors Today

Lloyd Mills. Defender/Midfielder - Big Lloyd can play either as centre back or in central midfield, either way he gives 100% to the cause, he has proved to be a big asset to the team over the past seasons.

Jake Gosling. Midfielder – Jake recently signed from Sporting Khalsa. He is a dynamic winger who can play anywhere across the forward line, finding spaces where he can showcase the intelligence and trickery he learnt from playing for Exeter City, Bristol Rovers and Newport County.

Mike Bryant. Midfielder - Mike's second season at Bristol Manor Farm after signing from Yate Town. He got himself in amongst the goals in his first shortened season, so expect more of the same this season.

Jamie Short. Midfielder - The attacking-minded midfielder is another new addition who has great experience at this level, having won promotion with Tiverton in 16/17 and has turned out for Taunton Town and Street.

Theo Llewellyn. Midfielder - A defensive midfielder by trade. Theo started his career with Championship side Bristol City FC. After leaving Ashton Gate in 2018, Theo went on to play for Gloucester City, Alvechurch, and Redditch United.

Lewis Leigh-Gilchrist. Forward – Lewis joined the Farm two seasons ago after being at Bristol Rovers and going out on loan at Yate Town and Hungerford. He is a very quick and intelligent player and will add extreme quality to the team as well as create and score goals.

Ben Bament. Forward - Ben has returned this season for his second spell at The Creek from Roman Glass St George. Since his last spell, Ben has featured for league rivals Paulton Rovers and Bitton.

Kai Stenner. Defender - Kai is a strong defender who has taken the step up from Manor Farm's U18 squad.

Our Visitors Today

Jamie Turner. Defender – Jamie has become a great defender and continues to develop, he is still full of potential and very energetic. He reads the game well and won't make it easy for strikers.

Jayden Nielsen. Midfielder – Jayden signed for the Farm in December 2020 from Brislington.

Dean Stamp. Forward - Dean re-signed for the Farm this off-season after two seasons away. The former Bristol Live Player of the Year has spent time at clubs including Exeter City, Truro City, Taunton, Tiverton and Willand.

Management Team

Lee Lashenko. Manager – also known as Laz, this is his 9th season at the Farm where he lead the team to 2nd place, 4th Place, 3rd place and then as champions of the Western League before being promoted into the Southern League in season 2017-2018.

Grantley Dicks. Assistant Manager – Grantley boasts a wealth of experience having played and coached at a number of clubs including Hengrove Athletic, Weston-Super-Mare, Gloucester City and Forest Green Rovers.

Steve Carter. Physio – This is Steve's fourth season at the Farm. He started his role with Yeovil Town youth and then moved onto Bath City, he also spent 10 years as the Physio at Yate Town.

PITCHING IN

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Fixtures & Results 2021-22

Southern League Div. One South

Fri 9 Jul 2021	Friendly	Fairford Town	A	5-0	
Mon 19 Jul 2021	Friendly	Brimscombe & Thrupp	A	1-1	
Thu 22 Jul 2021	Friendly	Yate Town	A	1-1	143
Tue 27 Jul 2021	Friendly	Taunton Town	H	0-1	120
Tue 3 Aug 2021	Friendly	Weston Super Mare	H	0-4	
Sat 14 Aug 2021	League	Larkhall Athletic	A	1-3	135
Sat 21 Aug 2021	FA Cup Preliminary Round	Marlow	A	0-3	208
Sat 28 Aug 2021	League	Frome Town	A	0-2	262
Mon 30 Aug 2021	League	Cinderford Town	H	3-3	181
Sat 4 Sep 2021	League	Winchester City	H	0-4	114
Sat 11 Sep 2021	League	Willand Rovers	H	2-3	80
Mon 13 Sep 2021	League	Evesham United	A	2-1	199
Sat 18 Sep 2021	League	AFC Totton	A	3-0	270
Sat 25 Sep 2021	League	Sholing	A	1-2	153
Sat 2 Oct 2021	League	Melksham Town	H	0-5	110
Wed 6 Oct 2021	Southern League Cup	Cinderford Town	H	2-2	120
Sat 9 Oct 2021	Buildbase Qual Round	Larkhall Athletic	A	1-3	140
Sat 16 Oct 2021	League	Cirencester Town	A	0-6	185

Fixtures & Results 2021-22

Wed 20 Oct 2021	League	Barnstaple Town	H	3-0	75
Sat 23 Oct 2021	League	Lymington Town	H	3-0	60
Sat 30 Oct 2021	League	Winchester City	A	0-4	132
Tue 2 Nov 2021	Southern League Cup	Weston Super Mare	A	1-3	166
Wed 10 Nov 2021	GFA Senior Cup	Gloucester City	H	3-1	126
Sat 20 Nov 2021	League	Larkhall Athletic	H	2-3	87
Wed 24 Nov 2021	League	Paulton Rovers	A	1-5	122
Sat 27 Nov 2021	League	Bideford AFC	H	1-0	70
Sat 4 Dec 2021	League	Bristol Manor Farm	A	0-0	135
Sat 11 Dec 2021	League	Highworth Town	H	4-2	85
Sat 1 Jan 2022	League	Mangotsfield United	H	3-5	193
Sat 15 Jan 2022	League	Willand Rovers	A	0-3	132
Tue 25 Jan 2022	League	Plymouth Parkway	A	1-6	365
Sat 29 Jan 2022	League	Barnstaple Town	A	2-3	206
Wed 2 Feb 2022	League	Evesham United	H	2-0	230
Sat 5 Feb 2022	League	Melksham Town	A	1-2	409
Tue 8 Feb 2022	League	Cinderford Town	A	2-1	151
Sat 12 Feb 2022	League	Cirencester Town	H	3-2	130
Sat 19 Feb 2022	League	Lymington Town	A	3-2	86
Wed 23 Feb 2022	GFA Senior Cup S/F	Cirencester Town	H	0-4	124
Sat 26 Feb 2022	League	Paulton Rovers	H	3-3	102

Fixtures & Results 2021-22

Wed 2 Mar 2022	7:45 pm	League	Sholing	H	P-P
Sat 5 Mar 2022	3:00 pm	League	Bristol Manor Farm	H	
Sat 19 Mar 2022	3:00 pm	League	Bideford AFC	A	
Sat 26 Mar 2022	3:00 pm	League	Plymouth Parkway	H	
Sat 2 Apr 2022	3:00 pm	League	Highworth Town	A	
Sat 16 Apr 2022	3:00 pm	League	Frome Town	H	
Mon 18 Apr 2022	3:00 pm	League	Mangotsfield United	A	
Sat 23 Apr 2022	3:00 pm	League	AFC Totton	H	

Fixtures & Results 2021-22

Hellenic League Div. Two West

Sat 3 Jul 2021	Friendly	Abbeymead Rovers	A	1-4
Tue 6 Jul 2021	Friendly	Hardwicke	A	1-4
Sat 10 Jul 2021	Friendly	Rodborough	A	5-3
Fri 16 Jul 2021	Friendly	Dursley Town	A	2-6
Sat 24 Jul 2021	Friendly	Hereford Pegasus	A	0-6
Sat 31 Jul 2021	Friendly	Sharpness	H	1-2
Tue 10 Aug 2021	Friendly	Old Richians	A	6-3
Fri 20 Aug 2021	League	Newent Town Res.	A	5-2
Fri 3 Sep 2021	League	Longlevens Dev.	H	5-1
Sat 11 Sep 2021	League	Cheltenham Saracens Dev.	A	1-0
Sat 18 Sep 2021	League	Bourton Rovers Res.	H	3-0
Sat 25 Sep 2021	League	New Dales Vale	H	3-3
Sat 9 Oct 2021	League	Sporting Club Inkberrow	H	0-1
Sat 16 Oct 2021	Senior North County Cup	Cheltenham Civil Service	A	2-2
Sat 23 Oct 2021	League	Kington Town	A	2-1
Sat 30 Oct 2021	League	Newent Town Res.	H	2-1
Sat 6 Nov 2021	League	Tuffley Rovers Dev.	H	2-4
Sat 13 Nov 2021	League	Kington Town	H	1-1

Fixtures & Results 2021-22

Sat 20 Nov 2021		GFA Senior North Cup	Lydbrook Athletic	A	2-1
Sat 27 Nov 2021		League	New Dales Vale	A	0-1
Sat 11 Dec 2021		League	Malvern Town Dev.	A	1-2
Sat 18 Dec 2021		League	Evesham United Dev.	H	2-4
Sat 15 Jan 2022		GFA Senior North Cup	Kings Stanley	H	2-0
Sat 22 Jan 2022		League	Evesham United Dev.	A	6-1
Sat 29 Jan 2022		League	Shortwood United Res.	H	2-0
Sat 12 Feb 2022		League	Sporting Club Inkberrow	A	0-8
Sat 26 Feb 2022		League	Shortwood United Res.	A	4-1
Sat 5 Mar 2022	2:00 pm	GFA Senior North Cup	Longlevens Res.	A	
Sat 12 Mar 2022	3:00 pm	League	Cheltenham Saracens Dev.	H	
Sat 2 Apr 2022	3:00 pm	League	Tuffley Rovers Dev.	A	
Sat 9 Apr 2022	3:00 pm	League	Longlevens Dev.	A	
Sat 16 Apr 2022	3:00 pm	League	Bourton Rovers Res.	A	

Fixtures & Results 2021-22

Cheltenham Floodlit Youth League

Thu 8 Jul 2021	Friendly	Stroud United	H	3-0
Wed 14 Jul 2021	Friendly	Berkeley Town	A	5-5
Fri 13 Aug 2021	Friendly	Lawrence Weston Athletic U18	H	4-1
Thu 26 Aug 2021	Friendly	Lawrence Weston Athletic U18	H	2-6
Tue 31 Aug 2021	FAYC	Odd Down U18 (Bath)	A	1-1
Thu 9 Sep 2021	League	Longlevens U18	A	5-0
Thu 23 Sep 2021	League	Bishops Cleeve U18	A	7-0
Thu 30 Sep 2021	Cup	Longlevens U18	A	5-2
Tue 5 Oct 2021	League	Tuffley Rovers U18	A	4-0
Tue 12 Oct 2021	League	Shortwood United U18	H	0-1
Mon 18 Oct 2021	Cup	Evesham United U18	A	1-1
Tue 26 Oct 2021	League	Lydney Town U18	H	10-0
Tue 2 Nov 2021	League	Bishops Cleeve U18	H	7-2
Thu 11 Nov 2021	League	Cheltenham Saracens U18	A	0-2
Wed 17 Nov 2021	League	Malvern Town U18	H	8-1
Tue 23 Nov 2021	League	Longlevens U18	H	6-1
Thu 2 Dec 2021	League	Evesham United U18	A	2-0
Tue 14 Dec 2021	GFA County Cup	South Cerney U17s	H	12-1

Fixtures & Results 2021-22

Mon 10 Jan 2022		League	Malvern Town U18	A	5-1
Mon 24 Jan 2022		League	Shortwood United U18	A	3-0
Wed 2 Feb 2022		League	Lydney Town U18	A	5-0
Mon 7 Feb 2022		League	Westfields U18	A	2-0
Sun 27 Feb 2022	2:00 pm	GFA County Cup	Mangotsfield United U18	H	3-1
Tue 1 Mar 2022	7:30 pm	League	Cinderford Town U18	A	
Tue 8 Mar 2022	7:30 pm	League	Tuffley Rovers U18	H	
Tue 15 Mar 2022	7:30 pm	League	Hereford Pegasus U18	A	
Tue 29 Mar 2022	7:30 pm	League	Cheltenham Saracens U18	H	
Tue 5 Apr 2022	7:30 pm	League	Cinderford Town U18	H	
Tue 12 Apr 2022	7:30 pm	League	Evesham United U18	H	
Tue 19 Apr 2022	7:30 pm	League	Hereford Pegasus U18	H	
Tue 26 Apr 2022	7:30 pm	League	Westfields U18	H	

Tea & Food Hut

**Visit Our Snack Hut by the Clubhouse for your
Hot food and drink today!**

Tea, Coffee, Soup	£1.00
Bovril, Hot Chocolate	£1.40

Chips	£2.00
Cheesy Chips	£2.50
Bacon Roll	£2.50
Burger, Hotdog	£2.50
Cheese Burger	£3.00

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SPECIALS

Bacon Cheese Burger	£3.50
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Beer, Lager, Cider, Soft drinks, Crisps, Nuts and Chocolate available in the clubhouse

'The best Bacon Burgers in Gloucestershire' (BBC Radio Gloucester)

Swans on the Road!

Saturday 19 March 2022, 3.00pm

Bideford v Slimbridge

The Sports Ground, Kingsley Road, Bideford, Devon, EX39 2NG

The club are running a coach to this game, leaving Thornhill Park at 9:30am at a cost of £10 per person . If you wish to travel please contact a committee member to sign up.



Match Reports

Slimbridge 3-3 Paulton Rovers Southern League Div. One South

Saturday 26th February 2022

In a frantic start to the game, the Swans has two early appeals for penalties turned down by Referee Matthew Perry – firstly, Edji Mbunga was felled in the box, and five minutes later, Marley Thomas was also bundled over, but the Slimbridge appeals fell on deaf ears. In between those two incidents, Thomas had hit the side netting when through on goal.

On 13 minutes, Mike Ford and Ben McLean combined well to set up Mbunga, who drew a save from Paulton Keeper Aaron Sainsbury.

With 17 minutes on the clock, Slimbridge had their third penalty appeal when Mbunga was brought down as he shaped to shoot, and this time, the Referee pointed to the spot. However, Mbunga's penalty was straight at Sainsbury and he made an easy save.

The miss was to prove very costly for the Swans, as Paulton then scored three quick goals in a ten minute spell to put them in control of the game. Firstly, Kyle Anderson converted a chance on 20 minutes, before two quick strikes from Leighton Thomas put the visitors three goals to the good.

The Swans regrouped at Half time, and started the second period as they had done the first – and it only took four minutes for them to get on the scoresheet – McLean and Thomas combined well to set up Mbunga, who drilled the ball past Sainsbury to give Slimbridge a flicker of hope.

After Thomas missed out on his hat trick after his header was cleared off the Slimbridge goalline by Ford, with 72 minutes on the clock, another foul on Mbunga in the Paulton box resulted in Slimbridge's second penalty of the afternoon. This time, Will Hawes stepped up and converted to bring the deficit back to a single goal.

Match Reports

With six minutes remaining, the scores were level, with a contentious equaliser from the home side. Paulton kicked the ball out of play to allow one of their players to be substituted, and as the ball was thrown back toward the Paulton goal by Jamie Martin, Hawes nipped in to equalise.

Speaking after the game, Swans Manager Tom Speers praised the resilience of his side – ‘It was very frustrating after the start we had made to the game to concede as we did – we did everything that we wanted to do in the first 25 minutes, we were playing in behind their centre backs, get at them, play in their half up the hill and really get in their faces. The only thing we didn’t do was score.

To go in three-nil down was massively frustrating, but the turnaround in the second half was great. We got ourselves back in and we were the only team in the game in the second half.’

The result moves the Swans up to tenth in the Southern League Division One South, with two further home games to come this week. On Wednesday, Sholing are the visitors to Thornhill Park (7.45pm), and then on Saturday Bristol Manor Farm make the short trip up the M5 (3.00pm)

Team: Adams, Spark, Novakovic (Hawes 68), Ford, Dennis, Lawrence, Yeo, Ogbeifun, Mbunga (Ahmed 80), McLean, Thomas (Martin 80)

Goalscorers: Mbunga 49, Hawes 72 (Pen), 84

Supporters Man Of The Match: Mike Ford

League Table

Pitching In Southern League Division One South

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	+/-	Pts
1	Frome Town	27	18	5	4	61	26	35	0	59
2	Cirencester Town	28	17	8	3	59	24	35	0	59
3	AFC Totton	26	16	4	6	69	28	41	0	52
4	Winchester City	27	15	6	6	69	38	31	0	51
5	Bristol Manor Farm	28	15	6	7	51	36	15	0	51
6	Sholing	24	14	5	5	44	20	24	0	47
7	Plymouth Parkway	22	13	3	6	55	32	23	0	42
8	Paulton Rovers	28	13	3	12	64	51	13	0	42
9	Melksham Town	27	11	6	10	48	51	-3	0	39
10	Slimbridge	28	10	3	15	46	70	-24	0	33
11	Larkhall Athletic	22	8	8	6	40	29	11	0	32
12	Willand Rovers	26	9	5	12	43	43	0	0	32
13	Highworth Town	25	10	2	13	35	41	-6	0	32
14	Evesham United	27	9	4	14	41	57	-16	0	31
15	Lymington Town	29	7	7	15	41	70	-29	0	28
16	Bideford AFC	25	6	5	14	21	41	-20	0	23
17	Mangotsfield United	26	5	5	16	34	70	-36	0	20
18	Cinderford Town	27	4	7	16	43	68	-25	0	19
19	Barnstaple Town	28	3	2	23	33	102	-69	0	11

League Table

Hellenic League Division Two West

#	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1	Sporting Club Inkberrow	15	14	0	1	63	42
2	New Dales Vale	18	13	2	3	39	41
3	Malvern Town Dev	18	12	1	5	42	37
4	Kington Town	20	11	2	7	30	35
5	Tuffley Rovers Dev	16	10	1	5	13	31
6	Slimbridge Res	17	9	2	6	9	29
7	Evesham United Dev	17	8	3	6	7	27
8	Longlevens Dev	19	7	3	9	-21	24
9	Shortwood United Res	18	5	3	10	-8	18
10	Cheltenham Saracens Dev	19	4	1	14	-55	13
11	Newent Town Res	20	3	2	15	-60	11
12	Bourton Rovers Res	17	0	2	15	-59	2

League Table

Cheltenham Youth Floodlit League

#	Team	P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Slimbridge Youth U18	14	12	0	2	36
2	Cheltenham Saracens Youth U18	15	11	2	2	35
3	Bishops Cleeve Youth U18	18	11	0	7	33
4	Hereford Pegasus Youth U18	14	10	2	2	32
5	Cinderford Town Youth U18	11	9	1	1	28
6	Tuffley Rovers Youth U18	14	8	1	5	25
7	Shortwood United Youth U18	13	6	2	5	20
8	Evesham United Juniors U18	11	4	1	6	13
9	Westfields Youth U18	15	3	2	10	11
10	Longlevens Youth U18	17	2	2	13	8
11	Lydney Town Youth U18	14	2	1	11	7
12	Malvern Town U18	18	2	0	16	6

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Our History

In The Beginning

The Gloucestershire village of Slimbridge is world renowned for its Bird Sanctuary, but much hard work has gone into making Slimbridge better known in football circles.

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. It was not until 1951 that the current ground at Wisloe Road (Now renamed as Thornhill Park) became the club's home, and 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. It was to prove an incredibly valuable treasure in future years.

Point Of Collapse

By 1988, the club had fallen on hard times, but fortunately, a handful of committee members led by Gordon King and Gordon Tudor kept the Club afloat. The following season local businessman Paul Chappell arrived. The Club was stabilised and 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.

Our History

Start Of A New Reign

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 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.

Arrival Of Floodlights

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, that ground attendance record was beaten 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.

Our History

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.

Reserves Make Headway

The Club's Reserve side were also making progress - After two successive third place finishes in the Stroud and District League First Division, season 2005/06 saw them 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.

Rise To New Heights

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

Our History

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 seasons 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.

Promotion To The Southern League

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.

Our History

Return To A New Beginning

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, 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 over as player manager with assistance from long term club captain Leon Sterling to begin the next stage of the club's journey.

Climb Back Up The Ladder

Four promotions followed as the club regained their previous status. James Cole handed over to Leon Sterling, who moved into the Manager's role, with Leon 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.

Switching Leagues

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.

Our History

Return To The Southern League

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.

Welcome To Thornhill Park

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 received from Evil Thornhill 46 years earlier.

Evi's son, Tony and his late wife Margaret were on hand to cut the ceremonial ribbon, and Tony made a short 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.

Onwards and Upwards

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 local footballing legend Lee Driver-Dickerson. With Freddy then stepping aside to concentrate of his last few years of playing having steadied the Swans' ship, 'Drive' took over the reins as Manager of the first team.

Our History

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

The last 2 years have seen an incredible expansion of the football club– the establishment of a thriving Youth setup at Under 18 level, and the resurrection of the Reserve side has seen Slimbridge AFC make great strides as a club.

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 Club has gained a great local reputation both on and off the pitch for looking after players and developing them in their careers - Already some of those previously with the club in the last 2 seasons have moved to Conference South level to ply their trade.

It is a tribute to the committed and very talented team of coaches and managers in place at all levels of the club, that the future is very bright indeed for the Swans...

Swans Pen Pics

Lewis Adams

Goalkeeper

Lewis progressed through our U/18s side and has become a very capable Southern League player. Good shot stopper who has a bright future ahead of him.

Billy Thomas

Goalkeeper

Young up and coming goalkeeper who will be pushing Lewis for a starting spot.

Ben Hands

Defender

Returns to the club from a spell at Cinderford after suffering a serious knee injury. A strong lad at the heart of the defence is also capable of chipping in a few goals.

Nathan Dennis

Defender

Signed from Frampton over the summer having impressed in preseason.

Isaac Thurston

Defender

Another young lad making the step up to Southern league football having previously played for Brimscombe & Thrupp and Leonard Stanley.

Toby Lawrence

Defender

Former Cheltenham Town U18s player looking to make progress in the Southern League with the Swans this season.

Swans Pen Pics

Jack Spark

Defender

Joined recently on dual registration from Gloucester City Under 21 squad.

Aleks Novakovic

Defender

Aleks is a versatile young defender who joined us from Wantage Town mid-season.

Rio Tomlin

Defender

Another of the talented under 18s team that is looking to gain valuable experience with the first team squad.

Myron Turner

Midfield

A popular member of the squad here at Thornhill Park, in his fifth season having previously played for Longlevens FC.

Micheal Ford

Midfield

Had a good season couple of seasons with the club, normally plays in midfield but can fill in at the back when needed. Recently had a spell playing and coaching in Iceland.

Ben McLean

Midfield

Local lad formally with Birmingham City as a youngster looking to bolster the Swans midfield this season.

Johan Flo

Midfield

Young player with bags of talent that can play wide or through the middle, in his second season with the Swans previously with Brimscombe & Thrupp.

Swans Pen Pics

Raiyan Ahmed

Midfield

Young, dynamic midfielder who has progressed from the Under 18s to the Reserves and now looking at break into the first team.

Don Ogbeifun

Midfield

Recently joined from Chippenham Town.

Jordan Yeo

Striker

Pacey winger that can also play up front. Signed midseason from Western League Chedder FC, has previous experience with Frome Town and Brimscombe & Thrupp

Jamie Martin

Striker

Another popular figure here at Thornhill Park, a very loyal player who has improved with age and now in his 12th season with the club. Jamie is a regular goal scorer with 82 goals in his 338 appearances.

Will Hawes

Striker

Will has a very good eye for goal and is a very skilful player; he will be looking to notch plenty more for the Swans this season.

Edjija Mbunga

Striker

Rejoined the club from a spell at Highworth Town. Pacey striker who can be a real handful in and around the penalty area.

Marley Thomas

Striker

Returning to the Swans for a third spell. The pacy winger is fans favourite and looking to rekindle his goal scoring touch after spells away at Evesham United and Cinderford Town.

Swans Pen Pics

Tom Speers

Interim Manager

Tom is currently in charge of the team on an interim basis after the departure of Lee Driver-Dickerson. He has bags of experience as a player having previously played for the club between 2010 and 2013.

Since retiring as a player in 2013 Tom has worked for the AC Milan Academy in Sydney before moving to Auckland where he worked firstly as assistant manager at top flight Eastern Suburbs then manager at North Shore. Currently a OFA B / UEFA B Licence holder and looking to take his A license in the near future. A very popular and well respected figure around the club.

Tom Deakin

Coach

Deaks joined Slimbridge at the start of last season as first team coach. He arrived from Forest Green Rovers after 2 years with the academy and 14 years in total having also coached at Brimscombe and Thrupp working with both the first team and development sides.

Adam Coyle

Coach

Adam is a long term servant with the club joining from the county youth scene to set up and manage the successful Under 18's youth team and more recently managing the reserve side. Has bags of coaching experience and brings a new dimension to the first team.

Tony Woodward

Sports Therapist

Tony has been with us for very many years and is a popular figure in the dugout. Keeps threatening to retire but keeps turning up, Tony is also a qualified football referee.

Eleanor McArdle

Physio

Ellie is in her second season with the club, she is also a keen track and field athlete.



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See Barry Gay for details.

Order online (Click and collect available) from:

www.batemanssports.co.uk/clubs/afc-slimbridge/

Player Appearances

		Started	Subs	Goals
L	Adams	33	0	0
N	Dennis	33	0	6
Mar	Thomas	31	1	2
B	McLean	30	3	2
M	Ford	28	3	2
M	Turner	25	1	2
T	Lawrence	22	2	1
E	Mbunga	20	10	6
W	Hawes	20	4	14
B	Prictor	19	0	0
B	Hands	18	6	0
J	Martin	12	14	3
R	Tomlin	11	1	0
K	Pring	10	0	0
J	Flo	9	7	2
B	Deakin	9	1	0
J	Spark	8	0	0
T	Sidibe	6	3	5
D	Ogbeifun	6	3	0
A	Price	5	5	1
J	Yeo	5	5	0
R	Ahmed	4	5	2
R	O'Boyle	3	1	0
Eth	Dunbar	2	0	1

Player Appearances

		Started	Subs	Goals
L	Harper	1	6	1
J	Annear	1	4	1
A	Novakovic	1	1	0
I	Thurston	1	1	0
Billy	Thomas	1	0	0
T	Jaggers	0	2	0
T	Leonard	0	2	0
J	Liddicot	0	1	0
Z	Berry	0	1	0
G	Driver-Dickerson	0	1	0

Goal Scorers

		Started	Subs	Goals
W	Hawes	20	4	14
N	Dennis	33	0	6
E	Mbunga	20	10	6
T	Sidibe	6	3	5
J	Martin	12	14	3
Mar	Thomas	31	1	2
B	McLean	30	3	2
M	Ford	28	3	2
M	Turner	25	1	2
J	Flo	9	7	2
R	Ahmed	4	5	2
T	Lawrence	22	2	1
A	Price	5	5	1
Eth	Dunbar	2	0	1
L	Harper	1	6	1
J	Annear	1	4	1

Club Constitution

Slimbridge FC
Wisloe Road
Cambridge
Gloucestershire
GL2 7AF



Slimbridge Football Club is a Members Club which is run by Volunteers.

If you are interested in becoming more involved and would like to become part of this Very Friendly, Family Orientated Organisation then we are always on the lookout for more Volunteers.

Why not become a member and have a say on how this Club is run?

Just Approach any Committee member on a Match day for more Information. You will be made Very Welcome

Club Officials

Co-Chairman

Barry Gay

Colin Gay

Vice Chairman

Rob Peck

President

John Mack

Management Committee

Barry Gay

Colin Gay

Alena Wrixon

Rob Peck

David Morgan

General Committee

Tim Blake

Ian Blount

Malcolm Carter

Peter Clark

Emily Knight

Brenda Martin

Linda Morgan

Allan Smith

Ollie Smith

Tony Woodward

Treasurer & Secretary

Alena Wrixon

Operations Manager

David Morgan

Fixture Secretary

Ian Blount

Press Officer

Tim Blake

Programme Editor

Rob Peck

Safety Officer

Barry Gay

Maintenance Officer

Ian Wrixon

Web Site Manager

Rob Peck

Club Staff

Interim Manager Coaches

Tom Spears
Tom Deakin
Adam Coyle

Sports Therapists

Tony Woodward
Eleanor McArdle

Reserves Managers

Tom Hitchins
Michael Mayes

U18 Manager Assistant

Josh Wring
David Morgan

Ground Staff

David Morgan
Robbie the Robot



Robbie the Robot kindly on loan from Dursley Farm & Garden Machinery

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