

# OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME

BRITISH  
FARMERS  
TOWNS



27th December 2021



v



**MAYPLACE GROUND, BEXLEYHEATH, DA7 6JT**



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# **From The Chairman**

**Welcome to the Mayplace Ground as we host Erith Town in a SCEFL League game.**

**We head into this fixture from a recent defeat to Welling Town however our last encounter against today's opposition saw us walk out on a 1-2 victory in the Challenge Cup a couple of weeks ago.**

**Erith Town, who are currently sitting in 3rd place in the league, come off a 4-2 win against Rusthall.**

**We are definitely expecting another tantalizing game with 3 huge points on the line!**



# Tower Hamlets

## A Brief History

Tower Hamlets Football Club is an English football club based in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The club are currently members of the Essex Senior League and play at the Mile End Stadium. Up until July 2013 the club was playing under the name Bethnal Green United. The club was established in 2000 by Mohammed Nurul Hoque and Akhtar Ahmed as a community club. The club played in several leagues, including the Canary Wharf Summer League, the Inner London Football League and the London Intermediate League, before joining the Middlesex County League. They were granted Senior status after winning the league's Premier Division in 2009, and were promoted to the Essex Senior League. In the 2009–10 season they finished fifth in the ESL and won both cups operated by the Essex Senior League, beating Burnham Ramblers 4–1 in the final of the Gordon Brasted Memorial Trophy.

In 2020 our First Team switched leagues to the Southern Counties East and are playing our home games at Phoenix Sports Mayplace Road Ground.

### Club Honours

FA Vase – Last 16 – 2011/ 2012 season

Eastern Junior Alliance U18 League Cup Champions - 2010/ 11

Essex Senior League Cup - 2009/10

Gordon Brasted Memorial Trophy Champions - 2009/10

Middlesex County 'Premier Division Champions - 2008/09

Middlesex County Open Cup Winners - 2008/09

Middlesex County Premier Division Cup Runners up - 2008/09

Echo League U16 'A' Division Champions - 2008/09

# Erith Town

## A Brief History

Formed in 1956 as Woolwich Town, the Dockers attained senior status in 1995-96 upon reaching the London Spartan League Premier Division in 1995-96.

By that time the club had already changed their name to Erith Town, reflecting a move to Erith Stadium.

The appointment of former Fisher Athletic player Mark Tompkins as player-manager midway through 2006-7 led to the first silverware as a senior club as record appearance maker Alan Hanlon lifted the Kent League Cup after a 1-0 win over much-fancied Hythe Town in the Final at Folkestone.

Tommo's departure on the eve of 2008-9 led to the appointment of Steve O'Boyle who took the Dockers back to the Kent League Cup Final for a second season.

Despite drawing 1-1 after extra time against Croydon, the Dockers went down 3-1 on penalties.

Tony Russell took over the reins when O'Boyle departed in October 2010 guiding the club to a third successive mid table finish but bringing the Kent Senior Trophy to the club after a 3-1 win over Tunbridge Wells in the Final.

Having achieved a new best of fourth the following season, Russell departed for neighbours VCD Athletic with Erith Town top of the League in November 2012 and after a brief spell with James Collins in charge, Mark Tompkins returned to take the Dockers to new personal best of third spot.

In the summer of 2017 there was a takeover by local businessman Mark Deveney, immediately appointing former owner Albert Putnam as President for his work as player, manager and Chairman in over 50 years with the club.

Mark moved quickly to bring in Adam Woodwood from SCEFL Division One Champions Glebe, expanded the club committee as well as made strides to take Erith back to their own town.

2017-18 on the field saw a 17th place League finish but a return to the Stadium in 2018-19 inspired the Dockers to an excellent ending position of 6th.

2019/20 ended early, due to Coronavirus, as did the following campaign so The Dockers now go into 2021/22 looking to continue our progression both on and off the field.



**Phoenix Sports Club  
Mayplace Road East, Barnehurst, Kent,  
DA7 6JT**

No spectator or unauthorised persons are permitted to persistently stand in a seated area or smoke in any area of the stadium where smoking is not permitted.

**“The Southern Counties East Football League strongly support recent FA statements that there should be a zero tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination. Accordingly any form of discriminatory abuse whether it be based on race or ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, faith, age, ability or any other form of abuse will be reported to the relevant County Association for action by that Association.”**

**“The Southern Counties East Football League supports the ‘Swearing – Let’s Tackle It’ campaign and strongly condemns the use of foul and abusive language at football matches.”**

# Match Filming



**Tower Hamlets are proud to be working with VEO who will be recording our games during the 2021/22 Season**

If any opposition or spectators are looking to also film or use professional photography at our home games please politely inform us at [info@towerhamletsfc.co.uk](mailto:info@towerhamletsfc.co.uk)



# Wood Mangal



## Turkish Kitchen

329 Bethnal Green Rd,  
London E2 6LJ

**Traditional Turkish Food  
to Eat-in or Take Out**

*also on Deliveroo and Just Eat*

# THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER



ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

WHETHER they be taking charge of a local game on a Sunday morning or a cup final in front of a 80,000 capacity stadium, referees and their assistants get called all sorts.

But certain names that never get muttered by managers, players or supporters alike are “vital”, “integral” and “lifeblood” of the game we all love.

Last week, we ran a feature on a dangerous shortage of officials which is threatening to send the grassroots game spiraling into crisis.

Already, it has led to matches at Step 7 and above being played without a qualified referee or, even worse, cancelled altogether.

Indeed, the Liverpool County Premier League has even had to scratch scheduled games in the divisions below its top flight this season due to their pool of referees being required to officiate matches in FA competitions or County Cups. And it's not just a problem being experienced at local level. This season, three referees who normally operate in the Championship were drafted in to take charge of FA Trophy qualifiers during the October international weekend due to shortages.

Just why the situation has worsened so suddenly is unclear but it doesn't take a genius to work out where the problem may lie.

Covid hasn't helped, of course, but abuse directed at match officials for just doing their job (voluntarily in many case) is a problem which sadly won't go away.

The NLP's feature highlighted the work done by Cheshire FA to recruit new match officials and protect existing referees from becoming victims.

“Abuse directed at match officials is one factor but that's been a problem for a while,” said Cheshire League chairman Rob Goodwin-Davey. “But it's definitely not the sole reason.

“We've all lost match officials, but not been able to replace them. There isn't a quick fix.”

Cumberland FA have run a series of extra courses throughout the summer to attract the new batch of matchday officials with a number having hung up their whistle since the Covid outbreak.

The average age of those attending was 15, showing that a demand still exists among the next generation, both male and female.

“I'm encouraged by the take-up,” said Scott Taylor, the area's referee development officer.

“We've got youngsters who are still playing and want to referee alongside, those who referee for health reasons, and those who want a bit of pocket money.

“Because we've not been able to put on courses for almost two years, those 14 or 15-year-olds are now 16 or 17 and might now be doing other things.”

Another bone of contention is the cost of applying for a place on the course – a problem which the West Lancashire League is trying to address.

The fee, around £130, is said to have put off potential match officials – and it's easy to see why. I mean, who would cough up £130 just to qualify to be abused week in, week out?

With this in mind, the West Lancashire League has pledged to reimburse newly-qualified referees a percentage of the course price once they've taken charge of five fixtures in that competition.

Barry Cropp, referee appointments officer for the West Lancashire League said: “Registrations are down in Lancashire and the £20 fee for doing so should have been waived this season to encourage people back.

“The same goes for the course fees. It's a lot of money when you don't often read positive news about refereeing.”

Keeping the conveyor belt of new referees rolling with courses such as this have now become vital in ensuring the grassroots game has a future.

For all the negativity which is publicised, a career as a matchday official has many perks and advantages and can often provide a healthy second income at senior Non-League level.

As New Year's Resolutions go, I would thoroughly recommend you get in touch with your local county or regional FA and enquire about becoming a football referee. You may just even contribute to help save the beautiful grassroots game.

We would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all at The NLP.

# TOWER HAMLETS

## 2021/22 Results

League	Canterbury City (A)	L 1-2
League	Erith & Belvedere (H)	L 1-5
FA CUP	Sheppey United (H)	L 1-4
League	Rusthall (A)	L 0-1
League	Hollands & Blair (A)	W 3-0
League	Fisher (A)	L 0-2
League	Glebe (H)	L 0-4
FA VASE	Balham (A)	W 2-1
League	Erith Town (A)	L 1-3
League	Lordswood (H)	D 3-3
FA VASE	Crawley DG (H)	L 1-3
League	Holmesdale (H)	L 1-3
League	K Sports (A)	L 2-3
League	Punjab United (A)	L 4-5
League	Deal Town (H)	L 0-4
League	Crowborough Athletic (H)	L 0-4
LONDON	Cray Valley PM (H)	L 2-5
League	Bearsted (H)	L 1-3
League	Holmesdale (A)	L1-3
League	Kennington (A)	L1-3
League	Rusthall (H)	D 0-0
League	Crowborough Ath (A)	L 0-5
League	Chatham Town (H)	L 0-10
Cup	Erith Town (A)	W 2-1
League	Canterbury City (H)	D 1-1
League	Welling Town (A)	L 1-4
League	Erith Town (H)	27/12

# Premier Division

## Fixtures

### Saturday 27th December

Crowborough Ath v Tunbridge Wells  
Fisher v Erith & Belvedere  
Kennington v Chatham Town  
Rusthall v Bearsted  
Sheppey United v K Sports  
Tower Hamlets v Erith Town

### Saturday 8th January

Bearsted v Canterbury City  
Chatham Town v Sheppey United  
Erith Town v Welling Town  
Erith & Belvedere v Tower Hamlets  
Fisher v Crowborough Ath  
Hollands & Blair v Kennington  
Holmesdale v Rusthall  
K Sports v Deal Town  
Punjab United v Glebe  
Tunbridge Wells v Lordswood



# **Southern Counties East Football League**

## **Latest Premier Division Results**

### **Saturday 18th December**

Canterbury City 0-3 Chatham Town  
Crowborough Athletic 1-0 Kennington  
Deal Town 4-1 Fisher  
Tunbridge Wells 1-1 Erith & Belvedere  
Welling Town 4-1 Tower Hamlets

### **Saturday 11th December**

Chatham Town 4 - 0 Welling Town  
Erith & Belvedere 4 - 1 Lordswood  
Erith Town 4 - 2 Rusthall  
Hollands & Blair 4 - 0 K Sports  
Kennington 1 - 0 Punjab United  
Tower Hamlets 1 - 1 Canterbury City



# Premier Division SCEFL Table

#	Club		M	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pt
1	 Chatham Town	W W W W W >	18	16	0	2	59	14	45	48
2	 Sheppey United	W W W W D >	16	14	2	0	45	14	31	44
3	 Erith Town	L W L W W >	20	14	1	5	45	29	16	43
4	 Glebe	W W W L D	18	13	3	2	56	21	35	42
5	 Deal Town	L W L W W	17	12	1	4	40	14	26	37
6	 Erith & Belvedere	L W W W D >	18	11	3	4	42	27	15	36
7	 Crowborough Ath	W W W W W >	21	10	4	7	47	36	11	34
8	 Kennington	W L W W L >	20	9	4	7	43	38	5	31
9	 Tunbridge Wells	L W W D D >	18	9	3	6	41	25	16	30
10	 Holmesdale	L W W L L	19	9	1	9	30	23	7	28
11	 K Sports	L W W L L >	18	8	2	8	39	42	-3	26
12	 Bearsted	W W W W L >	18	7	4	7	32	34	-2	25
13	 Hollands & Blair	W L W D W	19	6	3	10	26	29	-3	21
14	 Fisher	W L D L L >	19	5	5	9	25	32	-7	20
15	 Welling Town	L W W L W	19	5	2	12	22	44	-22	17
16	 Canterbury City	L L L D L	20	4	4	12	21	47	-26	16
17	 Punjab United	W L L W L	19	4	2	13	29	47	-18	14
18	 Rusthall	L W D L L >	18	3	2	13	18	51	-33	11
19	 Lordswood	L D L L L	20	2	3	15	19	65	-46	9
20	 Tower Hamlets	D L L D L >	21	1	3	17	21	68	-47	6

Up to and including 26th December

# Player Sponsors



**Tower Hamlets are welcoming Player Sponsors for our 2021/22 Season in the Southern Counties East Football League.**

Those sponsoring a player will have a season long mention in this matchday programme, receive Social Media mentions and feel the warm glow of helping support their local football club.

**For more details or to sponsor one of the lads for just £50 please contact the Chairman or email us at [info@towerhamletsfc.co.uk](mailto:info@towerhamletsfc.co.uk)**

# SportBlogs

## Omari Hutchinson

Set to become another Hale End graduate in due time.

Blew the internet away with his early videos with the famous F2 but don't ever think this young star is just an internet sensation. Serious shining star.

Omari Hutchinson has been the the red side of London from the young age of 11 and risen through the challenging ranks with a sense of class.

Expresses his splendid talent with his wonder of a left foot on the pitch consistently!

He would put pen to paper on his first professional contract at the age of 17!

Arsenal were not trying to see him slide away that's for sure.

Now at the age of 18 Omari is tearing up the u23 academy game. Playing in between the pockets in the number 10 role and it surely won't be long till he looks to claim that famous shirt in the first team.

Serious baller and trust me he is definitely next up from Hale End.

Watch this space!



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# THE SQUADS



**Harrison Abu  
Elliott Assi  
Aziz Conteh  
Arthur Hacoupian  
Ibrahim Kargbo  
Wale Odedoyin  
Olatunde Omotayo  
Akwo Tarh  
Ishmed Turay  
Benas Vaivada  
Charlie Wilfort  
Levi Fernandez  
Ismael Gordan  
Sofaine Hammouda  
Daniel Kakozada**



**Jack Moore  
Harry Gamble  
Jason Goodchild  
Touolope Jonah  
Dan Nash  
Malik Nosike  
Michael Power  
Dan Palfrey  
James Trueman  
Tom Ash  
Alfie Eldridge  
Steadman Callender  
Fred Obasa  
Jude Jeffrey  
Ronnie McClean**

## ***MATCH OFFICIALS***

***Paul Taylor - Adam Back - John Monksfield***