

John Aitken & Alien Copeland

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<sup>1.</sup> EFL Groundhopper book 2019/20

Guide to League One teams for 2019-20 season in this part of the book I have outlined their history old grounds with pictures a ground guide plus historical facts plus how to get there driving, public transport and walking to the ground along with where to drink for a neutral or away supporter and what you will pay to get in.



**Local Bus** 

Rail



**London Underground Transport** 



**Flying** 



→ - Walking time distance





- London Overground





TFL Elizabeth Line (Crossrail) London





**DLR Trains** 







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Front Cover – Merthyr Town FC (1920 – 1930 Third Division South)

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# Accrington Stanley

Ground - The Crown Ground, Livingstone Rd, Accrington, Lancashire, BB5 5BX

Main Tel No: 01254 356 950 Fax No: 01254 356 951 Ticket Office: 01254 356 950 Capacity: 5,057 (2,000 seated) Pitch Size: 111 x 72 yards

Team Nickname: The Reds, Stanley

Year Ground Opened: 1968 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Mansion Kit Manufacturer: JD Sports

Website: www.accringtonstanley.co.uk

Programme: £3.00



#### **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** - 1968

Years at Today's Ground – 46 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 2006

First Official Floodlit Match – Aug 1976

Highest Attendance – 10,801 v Crewe Alexandria FA Cup Second Round 05/12/1995

**Ewood Park Blackburn** 

Highest Score for – 9-1 Blackburn Swifts FA Vase 1970

**Highest Against –** 1-7 Southport Central FA Vase 1971

Highest Scorer in a Season – 56 David Hargreaves Lancashire Combination in 1975/76

**Highest Scorer Overall –** 318 David Hargreaves from 1970 - 78

Player with most First Team Appearances - 342 Steven Hill 1970 - 78

#### **Former Grounds**

Peel Park 1967-68

#### **Colours**



#### **Ground Guide**

On one side of the ground is the Main Stand, which at first glance looks like one stand, but in fact it is comprised of two small stands; the Main & Thwaite's Stands. They sit on either side of the half way line, with an open gap between the two.



Main Stand & Thwaite's Stand

Both are all seated covered stands and have a row of floodlights at the back of them. To compensate for the fair slope of the pitch which runs up along the ground from the Coppice Terrace to the Sophia Khan End, the Thwaite's Stand has fewer rows of seats than the Main Stand. Both these stands also have an unusual array of tubular steelwork, running across the top of them.



The Sophia Khan Stand

Opposite is a very small covered seated area, called the Whinney Hill side. This former terrace had seating installed before the start of the 2009/10 season, in order that the Club could meet Football League stadium criteria of having a minimum of 2,000 seats with further seating was also installed into the Sophia Khan End.



Both ends are fairly new looking affairs, of which the home end, the Sophia Khan Stand covered, whilst the Coppice Terrace opposite is open to the elements with the Away fans are mostly housed, where up to 1,800 fans can be accommodated after this area was recently extended. If demand requires it then part of the Whinney Hill side can also be allocated. The Sophia Khan Stand looks a little odd, with a terracing at the rear, but with seating at the front, especially when you consider that the stand is quite a small structure.

#### **Driving to the Ground**



Leave the M6 at Junction 29 and take the M65 towards Blackburn. Continue past Blackburn

towards Accrington and leave the M65 at Junction 7. Then take the first exit at the roundabout onto the A6185 towards Clitheroe, at the first set of traffic lights turn right onto Blackburn Road/A678, towards Padiham, and then at the next traffic lights, turn right onto the A680 towards Accrington.

After about half a mile along the A680 you will see the Hare & Hounds pub on your left take a right into Whalley Road, and then take the next left into Livingstone Road and then an immediate left for the Club Car Park. The car park is of a reasonable size and is free, however as you would expect it fills up pretty quickly or otherwise street parking around the ground.

#### **Public Transport & Walking**





 $\rightarrow$  20 mins

From **Accrington Railway Station** is about a mile away from the ground. Leave the station and travel down King Street towards the large viaduct roundabout, then take the Milnshaw Lane exit at the opposite side of the roundabout past Aldi store then turn left at the next junction into Whalley Road, follow Whalley Road for about a mile, passing the Grey Horse Pub, hospital and then a mini roundabout. Take the next right after the mini roundabout junction into Livingstone Road. The football club is approximately 100 metres on the left on Livingstone Road.

#### **Admission**

Adults £15 Over 60's £10, Under 16's & Students £5 Under 12's £1

#### Where to Drink Locally

**The Crown Inn** on Whalley Road which virtually overlooks the ground offers a warm welcome to all supporters for banter, swapping stories and a good chat before and after the game. The Crown has a spacious beer garden, pool table and shows live sport on the big screen and this where we meet for the game.

**The Whitakers Arms** it is situated just 200 yards away from the Old Peel Park ground 322 Burnley Road. They do a selection of home cooked meals in the pub or restaurant and have great facilities including pool table, beer garden, sky sports, darts and lots more besides. Walking distance from ground is about 20 minutes, in a car about 5 minutes.

**The Grey Horse** is just 2 minutes' walk from the ground serving a wide selection of drinks all day.

## AFC Wimbledon

Ground - New Plough Lane Ground, Plough Lane, Wimbledon London SW17 0BL

**Main Telephone No:** 020 8547 3528

Main Fax No: 0808 280 0816

Capacity: 9,500 Pitch Size: 110 x 75 yards

Team Nickname: The Dons or Wombles

Year Ground Opened: 2020 Undersoil Heating: No

Shirt Sponsors: Football Manager

Kit Manufacturer: Puma

Website: www.afcwimbledon.co.uk

Programme: £3.00



#### **Colours**



#### **History Facts & Records**

Founded - 2002

Years at Today's Ground - 0 years

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First Admitted to the Football League – 2006

First Official Floodlit Match – Aug 1989

**Highest Attendance –** 4,722 v St Albans City Isthmian Premier League 25/04/2009 (Kingsmeadow)

**Highest Score for –** 9–0 v Chessington United Combined Counties League Premier Division 14/02/2004, v Slough Town, Isthmian League Premier Division 31/03/2007

**Highest Against –** 0-5 v York City, Conference Premier 7/04/2010

Highest Scorer in a Season – 49 Kevin Cooper in 2002-03

Highest Scorer Overall - 104 Kevin Cooper from 2002 -04

Player with most First Team Appearances – 192 Sam Hatton from 2009 – 2012

#### **Former Grounds**

Kingsmeadow 2002 - 2020

#### **Ground Guide**

The new ground has a capacity of 9,500 with good banqueting facilities and the main stand has a capacity of 3,500 with the Riverside Road End holding 1,500, the away end on Copperside Road has a capacity of 1,500 with the Railway End has like the main stand has dedicated for familys



Main Stand and Riverside Road End

#### **Driving to the Ground**

Take the M25 to junction 10 then take the A3 for Guuilford and at the roundabout take the first exit on to the A3 from the West and third exit from the east and continue to Raynes Park then take the A298 for Wimbledon.



Copperside and Railway End

Follow the road onto the A298 and just before Wimbledon Range Rover at the lights take a right into Grand Drive and go past Raynes Park Railway Station and just before the library take a left and then first left and then first right and continue into Worple Road till the Francis Road mini Roundabout there take the third exit then first left into Francis Road and go past Wimbledon Underground Station and go straight on at two mini roundabouts.

At the third roundabout take the second exit into Leapold Road and go straight on through two roundabouts into Plough Lane and the ground is on the left hand side.



From the North take the train to any of the main station and then take the Northern Line to **Tooting Broadway Underground Station** then take the **London Bus 493** to Haydon Road and its three minute walk to the ground.

From the North is to take the train to **Luton Railway Station** and then take the Thameslink to **Haydon Park Railway Station** and then take a right and walk up to the main road take a right walk across the river bridge into Plough Lane and the ground is on the left after a 15 minute walk.



Flight to **Heathrow Airport** then walk over to **Hatton Cross Underground Station** and then take the Piccadilly Line to **Earls Court Underground Station** change there to the District Line and take the train to **Wimbledon Underground Station** then take the **London Bus 493** from Stop K to Haydon Road and its three minute walk to the ground



Flight to **Gatwick Airport** then walk over to the railway station then Southern train to **Clapham Junction Railway Station** then walk out and cross the road take the **London Bus 156** (for Wimbledon) from Stop M and it will drop you off outside the ground

#### **Admission**

Adults £20, Concessions £15, Under 18's £10

#### Where to Drink Locally

It best getting off at Earslfied Station to the right is the Wandle or on the left is the Halfway House and it's a 10 minute walk to the ground for those that get off at Haydon Road then walk up to the crossroads then turn left cross the road and go to the RBS on Gap Road.

# **Bolton Wanderers**

Ground - Reebok Stadium, Burnden Way, Horwich, Bolton, BL6 6JW

**Main Telephone No:** 0844 871 2932

Main Fax No: 01204 673 773
Ticket Office: 0844 871 2932
Ticket Office Fax: 0844 871 2931
Capacity: 28,723 (all seated)
Pitch Size: 105 x 68 yards
Club Nickname: The Wanderers
Year Ground Opened: 1996
Undersoil Heating: Yes
Shirt Sponsors: Betfred
Kit Manufacturer: Macron
Website: www.bwfc.co.uk

Programme: £3.00



#### Colours



#### **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** - 1874

Former Names – Christchurch FC

Years at Today's Ground – 22 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1888 Founder Member

First Official Floodlit Match - October 1957

Highest Attendance - 69,912 v Manchester City, FA Cup Fifth Round, 18 February 1933

**Highest Score for –** 13–0 v Sheffield United second round, 01/02/1890

Highest Against - 1-9 v Preston North End, FA Cup Round Two, 10 /12/1887

Highest Scorer in a Season - 285 Nathaniel Lofthouse 1946 - 60

Highest Scorer Overall - 38 Joseph Smith 1920/21

Player with most First Team Appearances - 578 Eddie Hopkinson 1952 - 70

#### **Former Grounds**

Christ Church Playing Fields (1874 – 77), The Park Recreation Ground (1877 – 78), Cockles Field (1878 – 81) Pikes Lane (1881 – 95) Burnden Park (1895 – 1997)

#### **Ground Guide**

The stadium was opened in 1997. From the outside it looks simply stunning especially when it is lit up at night. It has a great eye catching design and is unlike anything else in the country just know.



The inside is functional and tidy, and situated between the two tiers is a row of executive boxes. Above the stands there is a gap between the back of the stands and the roof to allow additional light to reach the pitch and situated between the South and Nat Lofthouse Stands. One unusual feature of the ground is that the teams emerge from separate tunnels on either side of the halfway line.



There are no bad views in the stadium and away fans are accommodated up to 5,000 in the South Stand behind the goals. Outside the stadium is a statue of former player and legend Nat Lofthouse.

#### **Driving to the Ground**

#### From The South:



Drive to Junction 21a M6; take eastbound M62 leaving at Junction 12. Follow signs for M61 (Bolton/Preston) and exit the M61 at junction 6, and take the first exit off the slip road roundabout onto the A6027 Mansell Way. Just before the ground take the first exit and then

take the fourth exit at the next roundabout into the car parks.



#### From The North:

Take the M6 to Junction 30 and take the M61 towards Blackburn. Then leave the M61 at junction six. The grounds is visible from this junction and follow the road markings for Horwich and at the roundabout just before the ground take the first exit and then take the fourth exit at the next roundabout into the car parks.

Parking is available for £6.00 per car and the car park is secure but its slow getting out at some matches but if you wish to park away from the stadium then put in the beehive pub into your sat nav and park there for £5.00 its 10 minutes the stadium at 991 Chorley New Road, Bolton BL6 4BA a good meal and drink (but not if you're driving) but it well worth the 17 minute walk to and from the ground down the A6027 you will get home quicker

#### **Public Transport**





 $\rightarrow$  5mins

Take the Northern Rail to **Horwich Parkway Station** serves the stadium, with regular trains and the ground is only a few minutes' walk from the stadium just walk up Middlebrook Lane with the ground is in front of you.

#### **Admission**

Bolton operates a four category system of ticket pricing (A, B & C) so choose your match carefully

Adults £30 (B £26) (C £23) (D £15)

Over 65's/Under 23's £20 (B £18) (C £16) (D £7)

Under 18's £12 (B £10) (C £9) (D £7)

Under 12's £7 (all categories)

#### Where to have a Drink

Drink in the city before going to the match either at the Barracuda Bradshawgate, or the Spinning Mule in Nelson Square, there is good food and beer at all three pubs and are only five minutes from Bolton Railway Station.

### **Burton Albion**

Ground - Pirelli Stadium, Princess Way, Burton upon Trent, Staffs, DE13 0AR

Main Telephone No: 01283 565 938

Fax No: 01283 523 199

Capacity: 6,912 (2,034 Seated)
Pitch Size: 110 x 72 yards
Team Nickname: The Brewers
Year Ground Opened: 2005
Undersoil Heating: No

**Shirt Sponsors:** Tempobet **Kit Manufacturer:** TAG

Website: www.burtonalbionfc.co.uk

Programme: £3.00



Eaton Park & Pirelli Stadium

#### **Colours**



#### **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** - 1950

Years at Today's Ground - 10 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 2002

First Official Floodlit Match – 1968 Eaton Park

Highest Attendance - 6,193 v Manchester United FA Cup Third Round 8/01/2006

Highest Score for - 12-1 v Coalville Town, Birmingham Senior Cup, 6 September 1954

Highest Against - 0-10 v Barnet, Southern League Premier Division, 7 February 1970

Highest Scorer in a Season - 45 Richie Barker from 1960 - 67

Highest Scorer Overall - 159 Richie Barker from 1960 - 67

Player with most First Team Appearances - 270 Richie Barker from 1960 - 67

#### **Former Grounds**

Lloyds Foundry Ground 1950 - 1958

Eaton Park 1958 - 2008

#### **Ground Guide**

In 2005 the Club left their Eton Park ground, which had been their home since 1958 and moved to a new £7.2m purpose built stadium nearby 400 yards up Princess Way. The Main Stand, which is covered and all seated. The Clubs administration offices and corporate facilities are located in this stand and so at the back of the seated area is a row of windows running across it.



West Terrace

The other three sides are small, steep covered terraces and they each have a large visible back wall. Each of these terraced stands has solid windshields to either side, apart from one side of the South Stand where there is a Police Control Box present.

Away fans are predominantly housed in the Coors East Stand Terrace at one end of the ground, where just over 1,400 fans can be accommodated plus an addition 400 seats are also made available to visiting supporters in the Main Stand.

#### **Driving to the Ground**





Leave the M1 at junction 28 and join the A38 towards Derby. Continue on the A38 through Derby towards Burton. Leave the A38 at the Burton North exit and follow the A5121 towards Burton. Go straight across a roundabout and you will then pass a McDonalds on your right. Just before the next roundabout you will see the stadium on your right. Turn right at the roundabout into Princess Way. A short distance along Princess Way on the right is the entrance to the Club Car Park.



East Terrace



#### South

Exit the M1 at junction 22 (signposted Coalville, Ashby, Burton) and follow the A511 past Coalville, Ashby-De-La-Zouch, Woodville and Midway. When you enter Burton, get into the right hand lane going straight through the traffic lights and across the Trent Bridge. Stay in the right hand lane going straight through the first set of lights at the end of the Bridge and then in the middle lane at the second set, into Horninglow Street, and then straight again at the next lights (next to the Magistrates Courts). Turn right at the traffic lights underneath the Brewery flyover, into Hawkins Lane. Go through the industrial estate, straight across the mini-roundabout, past the Ruby Cantonese Restaurant and over the Railway Bridge, and then straight over the roundabout into Princess Way. The ground is 100 yards on left.



Main Stand

#### **Public Transport**





 $\rightarrow$  25 mins or







V1 or V2



Take the Cross Country train to **Burton upon Trent Railway Station** is around a mile and a half from the ground. As you come out of the main entrance of the station go out down the lane then turn right into Derby Road and from there it is a straight road when you get to the roundabout take a left into Princess Way up to the stadium. It should take about 25 minutes to walk. The **Trent Barton V1 and V2 bus** service runs every half an hour from directly outside the railway station to the Pirelli Stadium.

#### **Admission**

#### Seating

Adults £22 Over 65's and Under 23's £20 Under 17's £12

#### **Terrace**

Adults £18 Over 65's £16 Under 23's £13 Under 17's £5

#### Where to have a Drink

Near to the railway station are the Roebuck Inn 101 Station Street one minute from the station serves good food and beer and for staying over for a night

The Devonshire is just past the Roebuck Inn at 86 Station Street three minutes from the station Great pub, excellent Burton Bridge beers and wonderful arrangement with a local sandwich shop to order food!

The Cooper's Tavern at 43 Cross Street 1 minute from the Devonshire and four minutes from the railway station However, you don't visit this pub for its comfort or ambiance, you go for its amazing choice of beers and ciders, mainly straight from the barrel. If you walk from the station to the ground, you will pass The Albert on Derby Street on your left good food and beer and friendly staff.

# **Cambridge United**

Ground - Abbey Stadium, Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8LN

Main Telephone No: 01223 566 500

Fax No: 01223 729 220

Capacity: 9,617 (4,376 Seated)
Pitch Size: 110 x 74 yards
Team Nickname: The U's

Year Ground Opened: 1931(Cambridgeshire Cricket Club)

Undersoil Heating: No Shirt Sponsors: Mick George Kit Manufacturer: Hummel

Website: www.cambridge-united.co.uk

Programme: £3.00



#### **Colours**



#### **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** - 1912

Years at Today's Ground - 83 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1971 for Bradford Park Avenue

First Official Floodlit Match - Sept 1963

Highest Attendance - 14,000 v Chelsea Friendly 01/05/1970

**Highest Score for –** 7-0 (v Weymouth, Conference Premier, March 2007, v Forest Green Rovers, Conference Premier, September 2009

**Highest Against –** 0 – 7 v Sunderland, League Cup Second Round, 1/10/2002

Highest Scorer in a Season - 24 - David Crown in Division Four, 1985-86

Highest Scorer Overall - 319 JS Forfar from 1922 - 36

Player with most First Team Appearances – 450 Steve Fallon 1974 – 86 with 27 goals

#### **Former Names**

Abbey United FC 1912 – 1951

#### **Former Ground**



Parkers Piece (1923 – 33) (The birth of Football Association Rules)

#### **Ground Guide**

The ground has four separate stands each with its own character. The big main stand dates back to the start of time and has been pencilled in for redevelopment in the past. The North stand, also known as the Newmarket Road End is where the home fans congregate, with its social club in the corner.



Main Stand

Away fans are usually housed in the south stand known as The Marston's Smooth Stand which is an all-seated affair with a capacity of 1,600 which is quite uncommon within the

lower leagues of English Football. The entrance to the away stand is located along a path through the common field, and once you are in the stand you will have decent views of the game with the stand being relatively modern.

For away fans The Earl of Beaconsfield Pub at 133 Mill Road with good food and an assortment of Ales and wines it's on the walk to the ground or The Devonshire Arms at 1 Devonshire Road pub shows BT & Sky Sports on large screens and has up to five real ales from the Milton Brewery; it is listed in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide and The Kingston Arms at is a traditional pub award winning ales and first rate food in a cosy venue with beer and wines changing nearly every day to give you a more choice of what you would like to drink



South Stand

#### **Driving to the Ground**



#### From the North

Take the A1 to junction 14 at the Huntingdon Rd/A14 (signs for Cambridge/ A1307/ A10/ Ely/ Felixstowe/ Harwich) then drive for about three mile till you get to Murray College take a left into Victoria Road and follow the signs for the A1134 and at the roundabout take the third exit down Elizabeth Way then continue down to the next roundabout and take the first left down Newmarket Road then at the City Life Centre take a right up Coldhams Lane then at the roundabout go straight on and after the railway bridge take a left into Coldhams Road and leave the car there and walk back down to the Greyhound then walk to the lights and turn left and walk through the park under the railway bridge and follow the path to the ground.



#### From the South

Take the up the M11 until you reach junction 14. Take a turn onto the A14 East, passing the junction for Histon. Then exit the A14 at the fourth junction (situated east of Cambridge), up the slip road to the roundabout (signposted Stow-Cum-Quy). Turn right onto the A1303, and return westwards towards Cambridge. Go straight over the first roundabout, passing Marshall Airport to the left. Go straight over two sets of traffic lights to a roundabout.

The Ground's floodlights can be seen from here and McDonald's is on the right. Turn left

onto the ring road. Turn right at the first roundabout (a large Sainsbury's is on the left here), and go along Coldhams Lane. After half a mile, immediately after the traffic lights (at the Greyhound Public House) turn right into Coldhams Road before the railway bridge.

There is no car parking at the ground and you will have to find a space in the nearby streets so park there and walk back down to the Greyhound then walk to the lights and turn left and walk through the park under the railway bridge and follow the path to the ground.



#### **Public Transport & Walking**



Take the train if coming from the North to **Peterborough Railway Station** and from London **Kings Cross Railway Station** in the South then on to **Cambridge Railway Station** come out of the station walk across the car park to the footbridge over the railway walk up the steps after going under the bridge on to Rustat Road down to the next junction take a right into Charles Street and walk on to the next left into Argyle Street follow the road round till the crossroads

From the crossroads take a right into Mill Road at the Earl of Beaconsfield Pub and cross the road and turn down Cavendish Road and then cross the road at the second right turn right into Weterhall Road and then first left into Sedgwick Street walk down to the roundabout then turn first left into Cromwell Street and walk to the end cross at the light and walk down to the Greyhound for a pint then walk back to the lights and turn left and walk through the park under the railway bridge and follow the path to the ground.

The Alternative cut through the car park go out through the pedestrian exit which takes you onto Devonshire Road. Turn right and just before the end of the road you will see the entrance to the Devonshire Arms on your left and then straight across into Kingston Street, there is another CAMRA Good Beer Guide pub, the Kingston Arms up on the left.

Take the first right after the Kingston Arms then first right into Hooper Street and then first left into Ainsworth Road and then third right into Sleaford Street take the path through into the shopping centre and walk to the main road crossing at the lights and take a right and walk over the railway bridge to the Greyhound Pub (now closed) and turn left and walk through the park under the railway bridge and follow the path to the ground.



Train to Cambridge Railway Station then walk out of the station and take the Stagecoach Cambridge Citi 3 from Stop 6 to Ditton Walk on Newmarket Road it's a two minute walk to the ground and get a Day rider ticket for £3.70

#### **Admission**

South Stand (Seating): Adults £19, Concessions £13, Under 18's £9 Habbin Terrace: Adults £16, Concessions £11, Under 18's £6

## **Charlton Athletic**

Ground - The Valley, Floyd Road, Charlton, SE7 8BL

**Main Telephone No:** 020 8333 4000

Main Fax No: 020 8333 4001 Ticket Office: 0871 226 1905 Ticket Office Fax: 020 8333 4011

**Capacity** - 27,000

Pitch Size - 112 x 73 yards Club Nickname: The Addicks Year Ground Opened: 1919 Undersoil Heating: No Shirt Sponsors: KV

Kit Manufacturer: Nike Website: www.cafc.co.uk

Programme: £3



#### **Colours**





Alternative Away

#### **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** – 1905

Years at Today's Ground – off and on around 100 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1921 from Southern Football League Founder Member of Division Three South

First Official Floodlit Match – September 1961

Highest Attendance - 75,031 v Aston Villa FA Cup Fifth Round 12/02/1938

**Highest Score for –** 8 – 1 v Middlesbrough Division One 12/09/53

Highest Against - 1 - 11 v Aston Villa Division Two 14/11/59

Highest Scorer in a Season - Ralph Allan 33 in 1934/35 season

Highest Scorer Overall - Derek David Hales 168 from 1973 - 76 & 1978 -85

Player with most First Team Appearances - Samuel Bartram 623 from 1934 - 56

#### **Former Grounds**

Siemens Meadow Woolwich (1905 – 07), Woolwich Common (1907 – 09) Pound Park (1909 – 13), Horn Lane Greenwich (1913 – 19), The Valley (1919 – 23), (1924 – 85) The Mount Ringstead Road Catford (1923/24), Selhurst Park (1985 – 1992) Boleyn Ground (1992)

#### **Ground Guide**

The club first move to the Valley Ground in 1919 and at one time had a capacity of 75,000 which was exceeded in 1938 in a FA Cup against Aston Villa when 75,031 watched the match but by the 1980's the old ground was in need of repair but there was no money at the club the club moved to Crystal Palace FC ground of Selhurst Park for the 1985-86.



West Stand

The club moved back to the Valley in 1992 and the club redeveloped the East Stand was constructed during the 1993–94 season and fully completed in 1994. As part of the first development to the ground and it replaced the massive east terrace, which had remained closed and prohibited from use since the mid-1980s after the Bradford City stadium fire. The East Stand consists of a single tier of 6,000 seats and houses the television gantry, and also has numerous executive boxes. Occasionally, for FA and League Cup matches, part of the East Stand is used to house away supporters if the demand for away team tickets is high.

The West Stand with a capacity of 9,000 was built in 1998 after Charlton's first promotion to the Premier League and is also two tiered. This is the main stand at the Valley with the largest capacity, and also houses the club's offices, as well as the director's box, board room dug-outs, changing rooms and the commercial centre (ticket office). There are also many conferencing rooms in this stand which are used for official and community events.

The North Stand with a capacity of 9,000 was built as a replacement for the 'covered end', and is still called by this name. It was built during the 2001–02 season as part of the developments to bring the Valley's capacity to 26,500 after promotion to the Premier League in 2000. The North Stand houses what is considered the most vocal supporters in the ground, along with restaurants and executive suites?



East Stand

The Jimmy Seed (or South) Stand is the oldest part of the ground, and dates from the early 1980s. This stand is named after Charlton's manager, Jimmy Seed – with whom Charlton won the FA Cup in 1947. This stand has a capacity of around 3,000 and hosts the away supporters at games. It is also the only part of the Valley with a supporting pillar.

The stadium doesn't have any floodlight pylons as such, but has rows of small floodlights running across the tops of the stands with the stadium is overlooked by a block of flats at the South Stand and it is not uncommon to see fans out on their balconies watching the game for nothing.

In one corner of the stadium between the Jimmy (South) Seed & East Stands is a large video screen. Outside the ground there is a statue of Charlton's legendary former goalkeeper Sam Bartram.



Jimmy Seed Stand (Away End)

#### **Driving to the Ground**



Exit M25 at junction 2 and follow until the road becomes A102 (M). Continue along to the A102 (M), until you reach the exit sign posted Woolwich Ferry. Turn right onto the A206 Woolwich Road. At the first set of traffic lights turn right and Floyd Road is the 2nd turning on the left.

Parking at the ground is for permit holders only. There is street parking, but due to a local residents parking scheme, not in close vicinity to the ground. However as you come off the A2 onto the A206, there is some parking to be had around the industrial estates in the area, in Westmoor Street, Eastmoor Street (the very road where the club was apparently formed 100 years ago!), Warspite Road and Ruston Road. If you are coming up the Woolwich Road from the Blackwell Tunnel, then as you go past the ground, the industrial estates are on the left hand side.

#### **Public Transport**



From Charing Cross, Euston and Kings Cross Railway Stations then then walk over to the Underground station take the Northern Line direct to London Bridge Underground Station then then walk over to the railway station then Southern trains to Charlton Railway Station from Platform 1 and come out Charlton Railway Station into Charlton Church Lane and cross over to the other side and turn right into Valley Grove.



From the north take the train to **Luton Railway Station** then take the Thameslink take it to the **Elephant & Castle Railway Station** and then take the **London Bus 53** from Stop J to Charlton Park Road and a seven mins walk to the ground.



From Waterloo Railway Station then then walk over to the Underground station take the Jubilee Line direct to North Greenwich Underground Station then London Bus 472 from Stop A to Charlton Lane on Woolwich Road and its eight mins to the ground.

From Victoria Railway Station then then walk over to the Underground station take the Jubilee Line to Westminster Underground Station then take the District lines to North Greenwich Underground Station then London Bus 472 from Stop A to Charlton Lane on Woolwich Road and its eight mins to the ground.



For those coming from East Anglia alight at **Stratford Railway Station** and walk over to the **Stratford DLR Station** and take this to **Woolwich Arsenal DLR** then cross over to the Rail station and take the train to **Charlton Railway Station** and do the return it will save you waiting in the queue for those heading into central London and you will get home quicker.



From the west from August 2021 change at **Reading Railway Station** take the Elizabeth Line to **Woolwich Railway Station** then change and take the train to **Charlton Railway Station**.



Flight to **Heathrow Airport** then then walk over to the railway station, take the Elizabeth Line to **Woolwich Railway Station** then change and take the train to **Charlton Railway Station** Come out Charlton station into Charlton Church Lane and cross over to the other side and turn right into Valley Grove and the ground is on the right.









 $\rightarrow$  5 mins

Flight to **Gatwick Airport** then then walk over to the railway station, then Thameslink train to **London Bridge Railway Station** and then change to Platform 1 to **Charlton Railway Station** Come out Charlton station into Charlton Church Lane and cross over to the other side and turn right into Valley Grove and the ground is on the right.

#### **Admission**

Adults £30 (£25), Over 60's £22 (£20), Under 18's £10, Under 11's £5

#### Where to have a Drink

The Antigallican pub at 426 Woolwich Road Located on the corner of Woolwich Road and Charlton Church Lane, Antigallican is a stone's throw from the CFC football ground and Charlton station and the do a very good sandwiches.

The Rose of Denmark 296 Woolwich Road is a very attractive looking pub. The pub is Charlton Athletic through and through, but don't let that put you off - it's a welcoming place; you don't see many footy pubs with photos of away fans from previous seasons. There are three large television screens showing sporting events.

### **Cheltenham Town**

Ground - Whaddon Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5NA

**Main Telephone No:** 01242 573 558

Fax No: 01242 224 675

Capacity: 7,066 (3,912 seated)
Team Nickname: The Robins

**Year Ground Opened:** 1927 (Cheltenham RFP)

**Undersoil Heating:** No

**Shirt Sponsors:** Mira Showers **Kit Manufacturer:** Errea

Website: ctfc.com Programme - £3.00

#### **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** – 1887

Years at Today's Ground – 84 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1999

First Official Floodlit Match – Aug 1960

Highest Attendance – 8,326 v Reading FA Cup Round One 17/11/1957

Highest Score for - 12-0 v Chippenham Rovers, FA Cup 3rd qualifying Round, 2/11/1935

Highest Against – 1–10 v Merthyr Tydfil, Southern League, 8 March 1952

**Highest Scorer in a Season –** 53 Dave Lewis in 1974/75 scored 290 goals from 1967 – 79 and 1982/83 and 600 appearances

Highest Scorer Overall - Reginald Smith 391 goals 1890 - 1903

Player with most First Team Appearances – Roger Thorndale 702 from 1958–1976



#### **Former Grounds**

Gardner's Recreation Ground (1887 – 1900), Whaddon Lane (1900 – 1919) Carter's Field (1919 – 1932)

#### **Colours**



#### **Ground Guide**

At one end of the ground is the newest addition to the stadium this is the Hazlewoods Stand and has a capacity of 1,100 fans. It is particularly steep in its design, is unusual in the respect that it has a couple of more rows of seats on one side of it. There is also a small electric scoreboard on its roof.

On one side of the ground is another relatively new stand. The In2Print Stand this stand sits proudly at one side of the pitch and houses 2,034 supporters, all seated, single tiered stand, part of which is given to away supporters. The ground is now enclosed in one corner where the two new stands meet, although it is not used for spectators.



On the other side of the pitch is the Main Stand, it has seating to the rear and terracing at the front. Straddling the half way line, it does not go the full length of the pitch, having open spaces to either side. At one end is the small covered terrace, called the Prestbury Road Stand, which is the home end of the ground.



For away fans if you get bus E or walking then drop in at the Sudeley Arms' on Prestbury Road it's nice to go somewhere where the landlord treats you more of a mate than a customer that is relaxing and all of the locals do not give you that 'local' look. 'The Conservatory' on 104-106 Winchcombe St if Bus A then reverse the journey of Bus E to Prestbury Road and Winchcombe St with both pubs are five minutes away from the ground.

#### **Driving Directions**



#### From the North

Leave the M5 at Junction 10, (follow road A4019) towards Cheltenham, keep going straight through traffic lights until you reach a roundabout, PC World will be on your left and McDonalds on your right. Turn left here, after 500 yards you will then come to a double

roundabout, go straight over, keep going for another 300 yards then turn right into Swindon Lane, follow the road over the level crossing and 2 mini roundabouts until you come to a large roundabout, go straight over, signposted Prestbury, continue past Racecourse and turn right into Albert Road, follow this to the end then turn left at roundabout into Prestbury Road, 200 yards turn into Whaddon Road.



#### **From The South**



Leave the M5 at Junction 11 take the A40 turning right towards Cheltenham. At the second roundabout follow the A40/ Gloucester Road. Follow the road into Lansdown Road past the Texaco Garage at the roundabout take the first left past Barclays then follow the signs for the A46 and follow the Inner Ring Road into North Street then go straight on into North Place past the Parrot Pub then at the junction go right then first left into Portland Street then take the first right into Clarence Road then first left into Prestbury Road, 200yards turn into Whaddon Rd.



#### **Public Transport**





 $\rightarrow$  35 mins

Train to Cheltenham Spa Railway Station is over two miles from the ground, If you are going to walk then walk across the road straight through the sports complex and park this will take you out on Malvern Road turn and at the next junction turn left into Western Road, At the end of the road turn right into St Georges Road till you get to Promenade, turn left/Right into the North Street then right into Fairview and cross the road and left into Portland Street past a beautiful Victorian church on the right and at the next junction turn right into Clarence Road, turn left into Prestbury Road, straight across the next roundabout and then first right into Whaddon Road the ground is on your left. This takes 35 minutes to walk.







 $\rightarrow$  10 mins

From Cheltenham Spa Railway Station walk across from the station and take the Stagecoach West Cheltenham Bus E to the Hotel in the Park walk down and take the first left walk to the end of Wellington Road take the second on the left and walk down Prestbury Road take the first left into Whaddon Road and walk down to the Bowling club and turn left and walk up to the ground.

**Stagecoach West Cheltenham Service D** from the Station Car park to the Town Centre (Clarence Street). On Saturdays Service D runs every 10 minutes. It costs £3.90 for a 'day-rider' ticket with unlimited travel in Cheltenham. From the Town centre it is a short walk to Whaddon Road down Prestbury Road.

#### **Admission**

Hazlewoods Stand: Adults £21, Over 65's £15, Under 18's & Students £7

# Crewe Alexandra

Ground - Gresty Road, Crewe, Cheshire, CW2 6EB

Main Telephone No: 01270 213 014

**Ticket Office:** 01270 252 610 **Fax No:** 01270 216 320 **Capacity:** 10,066 (all seated) **Pitch Size:** 100 x 66 yards

Team Nickname: The Railwaymen

Year Ground Opened: 1906 Undersoil Heating: No Shirt Sponsors: Moonflake Kit Manufacturer: FBT Website: www.crewealex.net

Programme: £3.00



#### **Colours**



#### **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** – 1877

Years at Today's Ground - 114 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1892 Founder Member Division Two (Founder Member Division Three 1920/21 Founder member of Division Three North 1921/22)

First Official Floodlit Match – 1960 Old Gresty Road

**Highest Attendance** – 20,000 v Tottenham Hotspur Fourth Round FA Cup 28/01/1960 **Highest Score for** – 2–13 v Tottenham Hotspur FA Cup 4th Rd Replay 3 February 1960 **Highest Against** – 8–0 v Rotherham United (Division 3 North, 1 October 1932), Hartlepool United Auto Windscreens Shield First Round, 17 October 1995 & Doncaster Rovers LDV Vans Trophy Third Round, 10 November 2002

Highest Scorer in a Season – 35 Terry Hanskin in 1964/65

Highest Scorer Overall - 137 Herbert Swindells from 1927 - 37

Player with most First Team Appearances – 482 Tommy Lowry from 1965 – 77

#### **Former Names**

Crewe FC 1877 - 1892

#### **Former Grounds**

Earl Street Cricket Ground 1877/78 Alexandria Recreation Ground (1878 – 1896) Natwich Road 1896/97 Edieston Road 1896/97 Old Sheds Field 1896/97 Sandbach 1896/97 Old Gresty Road (1897 – 1906)

#### **Ground Guide**

The opening of the £6m pound Main Stand in 1999 changed forever the look of the ground. The stand which backs on to the side of Gresty Road is a single tier cantilever holding just under 7,000 people. It is huge compared to the other stands and is probably three times the size of the old Main Stand. The Stand sits well back from the pitch and has windshields to either side.



The other three stands are roughly of the same height, covered and all seated, but are rather small when compared to the Main Stand. The newest of these smaller stands is the Gresty Road End, which is the home end of the ground. This replaced a former open terrace and seats around 900.

Opposite is the Wulvern Homes Stand, which was previously known as the Railway End. This has some executive boxes at the rear, but the seating area is only opened for the bigger games.

The Whitby Morrison Ice Cream Van Stand at one side of the ground is where the away fans congregate up to 1,800 and has an unusual television/press gantry on its roof. It almost looks as if a portakabin was at some point bolted onto the roof and it looks a bit precarious.



In the corner between the Wulvern Homes and Whitby Morrison Ice Cream Van Stands is a large clock. For away fans Royal Hotel on Nantwich Road Turn left out of the railway station & the pub is 50 yards down this road on the right hand side 5 Bars - ideal to unwind in after a long day of travelling. For those who like their real ale then further down Nantwich Road on the left hand side just past the traffic lights is the British Lion (the Pig) is at 58 Nantwich Road 300 yards from the station with friendly staff.



#### **Driving Directions**



#### North

Exit the M6 at junction 17, and take the A534 signposted Sandbach and Crewe. When approaching the town, when you pass the Crewe and Alsager College on the right, and then continue for 0.25m past this until the next roundabout at which take the second exit onto the

A534 Nantwich Road (Signposted to the station). Take the first left after the station into Gresty Road and the ground is on the left.



#### South

Leave the M6 at Junction 16 and take the A5020 towards Crewe. Follow this road right into Crewe. At the roundabout junction with the A534, Nantwich Road, turn left. Gresty Road is down past the Railway Station on the left. Just before you reach the roundabout on Weston Road, there is a signpost for Away Supporters on Street Parking'. This directs you to an industrial estate on the right of the road. It takes about 15 minutes to walk to the ground from here. Otherwise at the ground behind the Main Stand is a pay and display car park which costs £3.50 for the day or park opposite the Corner Bar on Henley Street



#### **Public Transport**





 $\rightarrow$  5 mins

The ground is only a few minutes' walk from Crewe Railway Station. As you come out of the railway Station on to Nantwich Road, then turn left and walk over the bridge and take the first left just past the corner bar on your right into Gresty Road and the ground is about 200 yards down the road on your left.

#### **Admission**

Adults £20, O.A.P.'s £16.50, Under 16's £9.50, Under 11's £5.50

# **Doncaster Rovers**

Ground - Keepmoat Stadium, Stadium Way, Lakeside, Doncaster, DN4 5JW

Main Telephone No: 01302 764 664

Fax No: 01302 363 525
Ticket Office: 01302 762 576
Capacity: 15,231 (All seated)
Pitch Size: 109 x 76 yards
Club Nickname: Rovers
Year Ground Opened: 2006
Undersoil Heating: No
Shirt Sponsors: LNER
Kit Manufacturer: FBT

Website: www.doncasterroversfc.co.uk

Programme: £3.00



#### **History Facts & Records**

Founded- 1879

First Admitted to the Football League – 1901 for New Brighton from the Midland League First Official Floodlit Match – February 1953 Bell Vue

**Highest Attendance –** 37, 119 v Hull City, Division 3 (North), 2/10/1948 Low Pastures Bell Vue

**Highest Score for –** 10 – 0 v Darlington Division Four 25/01/1964

**Highest Against –** 0 – 12 v Small Heath (Birmingham City) Division Two 11/04/1903

**Highest Scorer in a Season –** 42 Clarence (Clarrie) Jordan in 1946/47 **Highest Scorer Overall –** Thomas Keetley, 186 from 1923 to 1929

Player with most First Team Appearances - Sydney Bycroft, 501 from 1936 - 51

#### **Colours**



#### **Former Grounds**

Intake Ground (1879 – 1916), Bennetthorpe (1919 – 22), Low Pastures Bell Vue (1922 – 2006)

#### **Ground Guide**

After 83 years of playing football at their old Belle Vue ground, the Club moved to the Keepmoat stadium, which was opened on January 2007. The Keepmoat stadium is also home to Doncaster Lakers Rugby League team as well as the famous ladies football team Doncaster Belles. The stadium has a capacity of 15,231 and cost an approximate £20 million to build

The stadium is situated next to a lake and looks smart the stadium is completely enclosed and all the covered stands are of the same height. On one side is the West Stand, which is the Main Stand, containing the teams' dressing rooms and having the player's tunnel and team dugouts at its front. The primary television gantry is also housed on this side, along with press facilities.



East Stand

Opposite is the East Stand (Doncaster Success Stand) which contains a row of executive boxes, outside where people can sit and these run across the back of the stand and where around 3,500 fans can be accommodated in the North End of the ground being allocated.

Unusually the stadium has large access points in three corners of the ground, which can be used if, need be, by emergency services. There are two small electric scoreboards situated in the North East & South West corners of the stadium.

#### **Driving Directions**





Follow the A638 towards Doncaster town centre, past the Doncaster Railway Station (Trafford Way). Go straight over the next two roundabouts and turn left at the third onto the A18, Carr House Road. Follow this road for two miles, and then turn right at the large roundabout onto the A638 Bawtry Road. The ground is on your right.



South Stand





Exit the M18 at junction 3, and follow the A6182 towards Doncaster for approx. 3 miles. At the roundabout with the A18, turn right into Carr House Road. Then follow the above directions.

# **Public Transport**





**→ 28mins** 

Take either Cross Country or East Coast Virgin Rail trains to **Doncaster Railway Station** and then come out of the station on to Trafford Road and keep on the same road through three roundabouts cross over the road and take a left into Middle Back and follow the road

round it soon change to Stadium Way and is a good 28 minute walk.



Main Stand



From Doncaster Interchange bus station, which is adjacent the train station and which is under the Frenchgate Shopping Centre. This is **First Bus 56** and runs every 10 minutes direct to the Stadium and it leaves from Stand A3. This drops you of at Middle Back then it's a straight 8 minute walk to the ground

#### **Admission**

Adults £27, Concessions £20, Under 16's £15, Under 11's £10 Concessions apply to Over 60's & Under 20's.

#### Where to have a Drink

For the Lakeside Pub don't take the left into Middle Back walk straight on down to Next roundabout on White Rose Way and take a left the Lakeside is on the left just past McDonalds there is good food from £8 to £15 and nice selections of wines and beers to satisfy all tastes and is only three minutes to the ground which is first left from the pub.

# Fleetwood Town

Ground - Highbury Stadium, Park Avenue, Fleetwood, Lancashire FY7 6TX

Main Telephone: 01253 770702

**Ticket Office:** 

Capacity: 5,311 (Seats 2,701)

Team Nickname: Cod Army

Year Ground Opened: 1939 (Fleetwood FC)

**Undersoil Heating: No** 

Shirt Sponsors: BES Commercial Gas

Kit Manufacturer: Hummel

Website: www.fleetwoodtownfc.co.uk

Programme: £3.00

# **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** - 1997

Former Names - Fleetwood Wanderers FC, Fleetwood Freeport FC

Years at Today's Ground – 17 years

First Admitted to the Football League - 2011

First Official Floodlit Match - 1997

**Highest Attendance –** 5,194 v York City Football League Two Play-Off 2013–14 16/05/2014

**Highest Score for –** 13–0 v Oldham Town North West Counties League Division Two 5/12/1998

**Highest Against –** 0–7 v Billingham Town FA Cup first qualifying round, 2001–02 15/09/2001

Highest Scorer in a Season - 41 David Michael Ball 2016-17

Highest Scorer Overall - 101 David Barnes

Player with most First Team Appearances - 500 Nathan Pond from 2003 - 2018



#### **Colours**



#### **Ground Guide**

The stadium has been completely re-built over the last five years, matching the teams' meteoric rise up the leagues with six promotions in nine seasons. The latest addition to the ground is the very impressive looking Parkside Stand which was first opened to spectators in March 2011. This 2,000 capacity all seated stand and it has a single tier of seating, whilst above are offices and a top row of executive boxes and hospitality area, all of which have a small tier of seating outside.



Opposite is the Highbury Stand, which is a small all-seated covered stand, which was opened in 2008. It is only six rows high, has a capacity of 550 and runs for only half the length of the pitch, meaning that there is a large open area next to it, although this area does feature some buildings.



Memorial Stand

On the roof of the Highbury Stand is a small television gantry you can see a small roof which is the roof the old Main Stand which is still in existence having had the new stand built in front of it. It just shows how much the stadium has come on, when you consider that at one time there was this stand and another stand beside it plus two small enclosures which had been there since 1946 and not much else at the ground.

Both ends are covered terraces, which are similar in size in terms of height. The Percy Ronson Terrace which is named after a former player who had most appearances with the old Fleetwood Town and which is given to away supporters and runs for around 65% of the width of the pitch where 831 fans can be accommodated. This terrace which was opened in 2007, is covered, free from supporting pillars and affords a good view of the playing action.



Percy Ronson Stand

Away fans are housed in both the Parkside Stand (seating) and the Percy Robson Stand (standing), with the sections of the stands effectively constituting the north-west corner of the ground. The modern terrace is capable accommodating 621 fans, whilst the less popular seating area has room for 210 visitor although it's still good to offer people the choice. There is an away fans ticket office and programme booth situated outside the visiting fans entrance.

The Memorial Stand is used by the home support (is larger extending the full width of the pitch and housing just under 1,500 supporters. In one corner of the stadium between the Parkside and Memorial Stands is a large video screen.

#### **Driving Directions**



Leave the M6 at Junction 32 and take the M55 towards Blackpool. Then leave the M55 at Junction 3 and take the A585 towards Fleetwood. On the outskirts of Fleetwood you will come to a roundabout with Blackpool and Fylde College on your left. Continue straight on towards Fleetwood but after the roundabout take the first left into Copse Road.

After about a mile and as you pass Fleetwood Fire station on your left then branch left and turn left onto to Radcliffe Road (going back on yourself but in parallel with Copse Road). Then take the next right into Stanley Road and the stadium is at the bottom of this road on your left. There is no parking for away supporters at the stadium itself but there is plenty of parking available in the area.

## **Public Transport**









 $\rightarrow$  2 mins

Train to **Blackpool North Railway Station** and walk down to the North Pier on the Promenade and take the **Blackpool Tramways** to Fleetwood to Stanley Park and it's a three minute walk to the ground.



The **Blackpool Transport 14 bus** on Cocker Street near the station or the **Blackpool Transport 1 bus** from the Promenade to Fleetwood its take about 20 minutes to get there and get off at the Fire Station and its two minutes to the ground

#### **Admission**

#### Parkside Stand: Adults

£25, Over 65's/Under 18's £20, Under 16's £17, Under 5's Free\*\*

#### **Percy Ronson Stand:**

Adults £23, Over 65's/Under 18's £18, Under 16's £15, Under 5's Free\*\*

\*\* When accompanied by a paying adult.

#### Where to have a Drink

The Strawberry Gardens on Poulton Road is where we meet for the games and is a 12 minute walk back to the stadium an enormous and ever-changing choice of real ales and ciders. Run with pride by a professional team, the pub offers a selection of no less than twelve beers and six ciders, not to mention most other drinks you'd care to mention. On the real ale front, you'll find familiar favourites alongside new surprises, meaning you're spoilt for choice every time you head to the bar. CAMRA members receive discounts.

# Gillingham

Ground - Priestfield Stadium, Redfern Avenue, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 4DD

Main Telephone No: 01634 300 000

Fax No: 01634 850 986

Ticket Office: 01634 300 000 (choose option 3)

Capacity: 11,582 (all seated)
Pitch Size: 114 x 75 yards
Team Nickname: The Gills
Ground Opened: 1893
Undersoil Heating: No

Shirt Sponsors: Medway Council & Ticket One

Kit Manufacturer: Macron

Website: www.gillinghamfootballclub.com

Programme: £3.00

# History Facts & Records

**Founded** - 1893

Former Names - New Brompton FC

Years at Today's Ground – 123 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1920 Founder member of Division Three

(Founder Member Division Three South 1921/22 & Division Four 1958/59)

First Official Floodlit Match - August 1963

Highest Attendance – 23,002 v Queens Park Rangers, FA Cup Third Round 10/01/1948

Highest Score for - 12-1 v Gloucester City Southern League 9/11/1946

Highest Against – 0–8 against Luton Town in Division Three South, 13 April 1929

**Highest Scorer in a Season –** 42 Hugh Russell in 1946/47 **Highest Scorer Overall –** 149 Brian Yea from 1963 - 75

Player with most First Team Appearances - 655 Ron Hillard from 1974 - 91



#### **Colours**



#### **Ground Guide**

The Stadium has been virtually re-built since 1995. On one side of the ground is the Medway Stand which was opened in 2000, it is two-tiered, with a large lower tier and a small upper tier. In-between these tiers are a row of executive boxes, which also have seating outside.

Opposite is the Gordon Road Stand which was the first end to redeveloped in 1997, this is a much smaller single tiered stand, which is partly covered (to the rear). It contains a number of supporting pillars running across the back of it, plus it also has an unusual TV gantry perched on its roof.



The Rainham End was opened in 1999. It is a single tier cantilevered stand, which replaced a former terrace. Opposite is the Brian Moore Stand is in fact a temporary seated stand that has been situated on top of an existing terrace (considering that it has been there since 2003) the stand can be easily dismantled and re-assembled and where up to 2,000 away fans are housed and the club are generous the even give you rainwear if it raining but the tight alleys getting to the end are un nerving at night..



This is the only open area at the stadium and is named in memory of the legendary TV Sports commentator and lifelong Gills fan, Brian Moore.



#### **Driving Directions**



The ground is located on the east side of Gillingham, so continue on the M2 and exit at junction 4. At the roundabout follow the signs to Gillingham A278, and then continue along the A278, straight over the next two roundabouts, (following signs for town centre). At the third roundabout take the first exit (Signposted Gillingham/Chatham A2). Continue along this road for half a mile, passing 'The Gillingham Business Park' & the 'Right Honourable Pilot' pub.



**BGE** 

Continue straight over the next roundabout and then turn right at the traffic lights into Woodlands Road. Continue along Woodlands Road, straight over the mini roundabout to the traffic lights. Turn left at these lights into Canadian Road, and then first right into Toronto Road. Continue along Toronto Road, and then turn left into Gordon Road (**Note: this is one way**). The away end is at the far end of the ground, so I suggest that you continue to the far end of Gordon Road, and find a car park.

#### **Public Transport**



Take Southern trains to **Gillingham Railway Station**, the ground is about a ten minute walk away from the station, turn left out of the station main entrance and follow Balmoral Road until you come to a crossroads, go straight on into Priestfield Road to the ground.

#### Where to have a Drink

For a quick pint turn down Gillingham Road to the corner of Barnsole Road the Livingstone Arms is friendly and good for neutral and away supporters its only 7 minutes from the ground. This is a very good football pub; footy memorabilia adorns the walls (and ceiling), numerous screens show games on Sky and the bar staff are supremely organised and work well as a team to serve the thirsty hoards that frequent the bar up to kick-off but the plastic pint glasses well I can see their point.

Across the road from the train station is the main high-street of Gillingham, and there are a few pubs less than five minutes away such as the Southern Belle, and the Britannia – both of which are quite small and get crowded on match days with a mixture of fans.

#### **Admission**

#### **Brian Moore Stand:**

Adults £17, Over 65's £15, Under 18's £10, Under 12's £5

# **Ipswich Town**

**Ground** - Portman Road, Ipswich, IP1 2DA **Main Telephone No:** 01473 400 500

Fax No: 01473 400 040
Ticket Office: 0844 80 11 555
Capacity: 30,300 (all seated)
Pitch Size: 112 x 70 yards

Club Nickname: The Tractor Boys or Blues

**Year Ground Opened**: 1884 **Undersoil Heating**: No

Shirt Sponsors: Marcus Evans Kit Manufacturer: Adidas Website: www.itfc.co.uk Programme: £3.00



#### **History Facts & Records**

Founded – 1878 (as Ipswich AFC)

Former Names – Ipswich AFC (merged in 1887 with Ipswich RFC)

Years at Today's Ground - 132 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1938 for Gillingham from the Southern League

First Official Floodlit Match - February 1960

Highest Attendance - 38,010 v Leeds United), FA Cup Sixth round, 08/03/1975

Highest Score for - 11-0 against Cromer, FA Cup Third Qualifying Round, 31/10/1936

**Highest Against –** 1 – 10 v Fulham Division One 26/12/1963

Highest Scorer in a Season - Ted Phillips 46 in 1956/57

Highest Scorer Overall - 218 Ray Crawford from 1958 - 68

Player with most First Team Appearances – 742 Mick (Le Boss) Mills from 1965 – 82

#### **Colours**



Alternative

#### **Former Grounds**

Broom Town (1878-1880) Brooks Hall (1880 – 1884)

#### **Ground Guide**

The Sir Alf Ramsey Stand and the Sir Bobby Robson Stand, are similar in appearance and size, and dwarf the older stands, located on each side of the ground. Unusually, both ends have a larger upper tier which overhangs slightly the smaller lower tier. Both have windshields to either side of the upper tier opened a year apart in 2001 & 2002.

On one side, the West Stand (East of England Co-operative Stand Stand) which is a three tier covered stand, with a row of executive boxes running across its middle. This stand was originally opened in 1957.



Sir Alf Ramsey Stand (South Stand)

The teams emerge onto the field from one corner of the ground between the Sir Alf Ramsey and Britannia Stands. Outside are two statues of two former Ipswich and England managers. One is of World Cup winner Sir Alf Ramsey and is located on the corner between the Cobbold and Sir Bobby Robson Stand, while Sir Bobby Robson's statue is placed behind

the Cobbold stand in Portman Road.

Away fans that make the trip to Ipswich's ground are housed within the revamped Cobbold Stand in respect of the Cobbold family who were former owners of the club and old Suffolk brewers Tolly-Cobbold which runs for the length of the pitch on the eastern side along Portman Road. Consisting of two unevenly split tiers, visiting supporters occupy the larger section of the stand within the second tier which is capable of seating 1,900.

Shared with some sections of the home faithful, the Cobbold Stand's age manifests itself in a number of ways, most notably in the relative lack of leg room within each row of seats compared to some of the newer grounds. The dates would suggest that it was once former terracing and even with support pillars, views for the majority of fans remain unobstructed.

Food on offer inside the ground include: Rollover Hot Dogs (£3.30), Various Pies & Pasties (£3), including the tasty Portman Steak & Ale Pie (£3.50) and Jumbo Sausage Rolls (£3). They also offer a Pie & Pint/Drink deal.'



The East of England Co-operative Stand BGE

#### **Driving Directions**



Exit from the A14 at the A12 Colchester junction. Follow the A1214 into Ipswich. You will go over two roundabouts, and several sets of traffic lights. When you get to the large set of lights, at the end of London Road, then you need to get into the middle lane, and go straight over the lights. At the next set of lights (beware these two sets of lights are only about 100 yards apart), then turn right into West End Road, past the BMW garage. Continue along West End Road for about a mile, and then turn first left into 'Sir Alf Ramsey Way just after the bridge. Continue along 'Sir Alf Ramsey Way' for about 300 yards, and the ground is on your right.



Sir Bobby Robson Stand



#### From the South

For those travelling along the A12, the junction with the A14 is effectively the first roundabout. Then follow the direction as above. As the ground is near to the town centre there is very little free street parking. Along Portman Road there are three Pay & Display car parks which cost £4.60 for a Saturday afternoon. For evening games it is less as the car parks are free after 8pm.

#### **Public Transport**





 $\rightarrow$  6 mins

The ground is only a quarter of a mile away from Ipswich Railway Station come out of the station and walks down Princess Street the grounds on your left after 6 minutes or visits the local pubs.

#### Admission

#### **Away Fans/Neutrals**

Cobbold Stand (Upper Wings): Adults £32.50 Over 60's/Students £23 Under 20's £22, Under 16's £11.50\*\*

Cobbold Stand (Lower Tier): £27.50 Over 60's/Students £19 Under 20's £18, Under 16's £11.50\*\*

\*\* In the Family Areas of these stands Under 16's are admitted for £8.50.



The Two Sirs Alf Ramsey and Bobby Robson

#### Where to have a Drink

The Station Hotel is an away supporter's home from home decent ale and plenty of screens to watch the football Food served from an extensive main menu.

Otherwise alcohol is on sale inside the ground including Adnams Bitter (£3.40), Carlsberg Lager (£3.60), Aspall Suffolk Cyder (£3.90) Spirit Minatures (£3.90) and White & Red Wine (£3.90). Please note that alcohol is not available to away fans at half time.

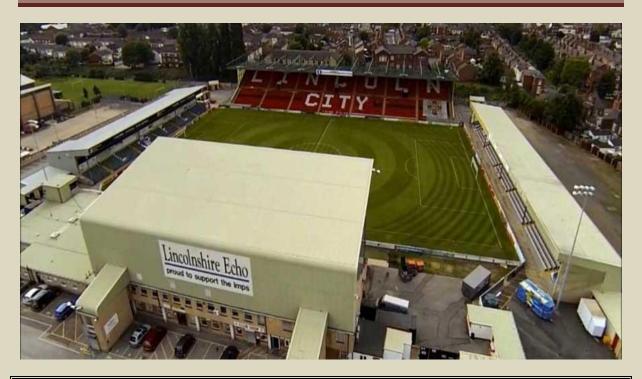
# **Lincoln City**

Ground - Sincil Bank Stadium, Lincoln, LN5 8LD

**Main Telephone No**: 0870 899 2005

Fax No: 01522 880 020
Ticket Office: 0870 899 1976
Capacity: 10,130 (all seated)
Pitch Size: 110 x74 yards
Team Nickname: The Imps
Year Ground Opened: 1895
Undersoil Heating: No
Shirt Sponsors: Peres grind
Kit Manufacturer: ERRA
Website: www.redimps.co.uk

Programme: £3.00



## **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** – 1884

Years at Today's Ground – 117 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1892, Founder Member of Division Two

First Official Floodlit Match – March 1953

**Highest Attendance –** 23,196 v Derby County in the League Cup Fourth Round Replay November 15 1967

**Highest Score for –** 13-0 v Peterborough United FA Cup First Qualifying Round, 12 October 1895

**Highest Against –** 1-9 v Arsenal Division One 28/01/1931

**Highest Scorer in a Season –** Allan Hall – 45 (1931–32)

**Highest Scorer Overall –** Andy Graver – 143 (1950–55, 1958–61)

Player with most First Team Appearances – Grant Brown 469 from 1989 – 2002

#### **Colours**



Alternative

#### **Former Grounds**

John O' Gaunts ground 1884 - 1891

#### **Ground Guide**

The ground is all seater, on one side is the large all seater Co-op Community Stand and this large single tier covered stand which has a capacity of 5,700. Opposite it is the Lincolnshire Echo Stand, a small covered stand it is seated, but only runs half the length of the pitch, straddling the half way line and hence there are gaps at either side. One gap has now been partly filled by a tiny covered Family Stand. Both ends are small covered affairs. The Bridge McFarland Stand is all seated and has a row of executive boxes running across the back and is used for the away support. The other end is the Stacey West all seated, covered stand, and is for home supporters.

#### Where to Drink

In the town centre, the Golden Eagle at 21, 'The Ritz at 143 which is an old cinema' and The Treaty of Commerce at 173 with all these three pubs are located on the High Street and are listed in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide all serve reasonably priced food and ales'. The food is served between 11am and 2pm is these pubs.

## **Driving to the Ground**



#### **North West / East**

From the North West take the M6 to Junction to junction 30 onto the M61 toward Manchester/ Bolton/ Leeds/ Blackburn/ M62/ M65 then keep on the left follow signs for M60/ M66/ M62/ Ring Road N/Ring Road East/ Bury/ Leeds and merge onto M62 and continue to Junction 32 on to the A1.



Lincolnshire Echo Stand

From the East take the A1 (M1) then take the A638/A57 exit toward Lincoln/ East Markham/ Retford then at the roundabout, take the second exit onto Cliff Gate/A57 this will lead you into the centre of Lincoln on Westbourne Grove at the lights turn left at the Horse & Groom

Pub at the lights on to Brayford Way and at the next set of light take a slight right junction into Newland Road (A57) follow the road round past the University and take the second right down Broadgate (A46) drive straight over the railway bridge till you come to the Common then at the lights go straight on then take turn right into South Park.



#### **South East**

From the A1 Take the A46 exit toward A17/Newark/Sleaford/Lincoln follow the A46 into Lincoln (which leads onto the High St) and the ground is indicated from there. If you follow the signs for 'away coaches' then this leads you onto the South Park, where there is plenty of street parking to be found (although it is a five minute walk around to the ground) it cheaper than paying £4.00 at the ground.







Take the M5 and then merge on to the M42 (signs for M1/London/ M40/ Airport) then At junction 7A, exit onto M6 toward London/M1/Coventry then at junction 2, take the M69/A46 exit to M1 North/ Leicester/Coventry (E) keep left at the fork, follow signs for M69/M1(N) and merge onto M69, At junction 3, exit onto M1 toward Nottingham, then take the A46 exit toward Braunstone Frith/ Kirby Muxloe/ B5380 then keep right at the fork, follow signs for A46/Leicester North/Newark and merge onto A46 and follow the signs for Lincoln this will take you into South Park Avenue go to the end turn right into Chadwick road then first right into South Park

# **Public Transport**





 $\rightarrow$  19 mins

The longer way from the **Lincoln Railway Station** is around a 19 minute walking pace to the ground unless you take in the pubs on the High Street. Turn 'left out of the train station and walk up to the traffic lights, turn left at these traffic lights onto the High Street, walking over the railway level at the crossing, keep walking for 10 minutes before turning left into Scorer Street, then walk along Scorer Street until you come to a bridge across the river, then turn right immediately after crossing the bridge onto Sincil Bank, the ground is straight ahead.



The short way is to come out of the station and turn right to go down the road. About 30 yards ahead on your right you will see some steps and a bridge over the railway. Go over the bridge and once on the other side cross the car park walk down by the river, then take the path up to Stencil Bank and follow the road down to the ground which is on the left.



Bridge McFarlane Stand

#### **Admission**

Adults £16, Concessions £12, Under 18's £6

#### Where to drink

For the away fans there is a small fan zone located outside the stadium which is for both home and away supporters. It has a number of food outlets, some with local produce and beer is available too.

Otherwise, there are plenty of good pubs to be found if you head along the High Street towards the town centre. Close to Sincil Bank on the High Street is the Hop and Barley Micropub. The Golden Eagle, The Ritz' serves reasonably priced food and ales'. If arriving by train then not far from the station is the Marina area, which has a number of eating and drinking places, including the Square Sail.

# Milton Keynes Dons

Ground - Stadium: Mk Denbigh, Milton Keynes, MK1 1ST

Main Telephone No: 01908 622 922

Main Fax No: 01908 622 933
Ticket Office: 01908 622 900
Capacity: 30,500 (all seated)
Team Nickname: The Dons
Year Ground Opened: 2007
Pitch Size: 115 x 74 yards
Undersoil Heating: Yes
Shirt Sponsors: Suzuki
Kit Manufacturer: Errea
Website: www.mkdons.com

Programme: £3.00



# **History Facts & Records**

Founded – 1889 (Wimbledon Old Central)

Years at Today's Ground - 11 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1977 for Workington

First Official Floodlit Match - October 1960 Plough Lane

**Highest Attendance –** 30,115 v Manchester United Selhurst Park Premier League 9/05/1993

Highest Score for - 15 - 2 v Polytechnic FC FA Cup Preliminary Round 31/09/1929

**Highest Against –** 0 – 8 v Everton League Cup Second Round 29/08/1978

**Highest Scorer in a Season & Highest Scorer Overall –** 35 Eddie Reynolds in 1957/58 & 340 goals 1957 – 66

Player with most First Team Appearances – 644 Roy Law from 1958 - 72

#### Colours



#### **Former Names**

Wimbledon Old Central, 1889 - 1905 Wimbledon FC 1905 - 2003

# **Former Grounds**

Wimbledon Common (1889 – 1912) Plough Lane (1912 – 1991) Selhurst Park (1991 – 2001) National Hockey Stadium Milton Keynes (2003 - 07)

#### **Ground Guide**



The Club moved to the new stadium in 2007 from the National Hockey Stadium and from the outside it has a modern look, with good use of silver coloured cladding and a large amount of glass on view. The most striking feature of the stadium is its roof, which sits high up above

the football ground with a large gap between in and the back roof of seating. This allows more natural light to reach the pitch. The stadium is totally enclosed and has a bowl like design unlike most modern stadiums.

The overall look of the stadium has recently benefited from the installation of seating into the previously unused upper tier. The stadium has been designed for a higher level. It is two tiered, with on three sides having a large lower tier being over hung by a smaller upper tier.

The West side of the stadium is slightly different, with the seating areas in the upper tier being replaced by the Director's Box and executive and corporate hospitality areas. Unusually the spacious concourse areas at the back of the lower tier see directly into the stadium, so there is what seems a noticeable gap between the lower and upper tiers is where the concourse is located.



North & East Stands

Away supporters are located in the North Stand at one end of the stadium where normally around 3,000 fans can be accommodated. If demand requires it then the corners to either side of this stand can also be allocated increasing the allocation to over 6,000.

Food available on the concourse includes Pukka Pies; Chicken Balti (£3.20), Meat and Potato (£3.20), Cornish Pasties (£3.20), Cheese and Onion Pasties (£3.20), Quarter Pounder Cheeseburger with salad (£3.60), Rollover Hot Dogs (£3.60) and Bacon Rolls (£2.60). In keeping with the infamous concrete cows of Milton Keynes, the Club have a mascot called Mooie, whilst the South Stand is called the 'cowshed'. No wonder that the locals have christened the stadium 'The Moo Camp!'

The food around Bletchley Railway Station is that you can pick up cakes and pies from Tonis Bakery and the Upper Crust at 144 Queensway and 164 Queensway cheaper than the stadium. If you come off at Bletchley then stop at the Enigma Tavern at 2 Princess Street this pub also offers food, has a large beer garden and family friendly with good staff.

If getting off at Fenny Stafford then takes a short walk then use the Swan Hotel is the ideal place to watch football with friends or have a pint with a large car park and beer garden, The Swan Hotel is close to all transport links.

#### **Driving Directions**



#### From the North

There is two ways you can get to the ground the first is to leave the M1 at Junction 15 and take the A508 towards Old Stratford and at the roundabout just before the village and then take the first exit onto the A5. Turn off at the fourth junction (signposted Central Bletchley/ Denbigh/ Granby), then at the lights take the left position and go left the ground is in front of you with plenty of parking.

The second way from the North is to drive a little further and from Junction 14 A1 take the third exit onto the A509 towards Milton Keynes. At the Northfield roundabout take the third exit onto Portaway/ A509, and then keep going straight on at eight roundabouts until the ninth roundabout. Take the first exit onto A5. Turn off at the first junction (signposted A421), Turn off at the fourth junction (signposted Central Bletchley/ Denbigh/Granby), then at the lights take the left position and go left the ground is in front of you with plenty of parking at the ground.



#### South

Leave the M1 at junction 13 and take the second exit (A421) towards Milton Keynes. At the next two roundabouts go straight on and at the fourth roundabout (BP garage on the right); take the second exit onto Groveway. Keep going straight on through four roundabouts and at the fifth roundabout take the second exit at the roundabout (signposted Central Bletchley/ Denbigh/Granby), then at the lights take the left position and go left the ground is in front of you with plenty of parking

# **Public Transport & Walking**





#### $\rightarrow$ 18 mins

For a short pub crawl before the match and good food it is best getting off at Fenny Stratford Railway Station (See where to drink) which is an 18 minute walk to the ground or try Bletchley whatever is best for you. If coming from Fenny Stratford then walk down to Watling Street then turn right into it and walk up to the roundabout then walk straight on Deghbiegh Street till you see the ground when you see the ground on your right take the pedestrian crossing and walk over to moosvill.





#### $\rightarrow$ 7 mins

From **Bletchley Railway Station** take the steps up to Buckingham Road and at the roundabout walk up Saxon Road till the next roundabout the turn left and follow the above details. (There mascots makes me chuckle when I been at the ground).

#### Admission

East Stand (Centre): Adults £27, Over 65's/Under 21's £22,

Under 18's £12

# Morecambe

Ground - Globe Arena, Christie Way, Westgate, Morecambe LA4 4TB

Main Telephone No: 01524 411 797

Fax No: 01524 832 230

Capacity: 6,476 (Seating 2,173)
Pitch Size: 110 x 76 yards
Team Nickname: Shrimps
Year Ground Opened: 2010
Undersoil Heating: No

Shirt Sponsors: Annapuna Group

**Kit Manufacturer:** Macron **Website:** www.morcambefc.net

Programme: £3.00



# **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** – 1920

Years at Today's Ground – 8 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 2007

First Official Floodlit Match – October 1960

**Highest Attendance –** 9,383 v Weymouth FA Cup Third Round 6/01/1962 Christie Park

Highest Score for - 16-0 v Rossendale United Lancashire Combination League, Sept 1967

Highest Against – 0-7 v Darwen, Lancashire Combination League 7th November 1953

Highest Scorer in a Season – 36 Keith Borrowdale in 1958/59

Highest Scorer Overall - 289 Keith Borrowdale from 1956 - 68

Player with most First Team Appearances - 486 Keith Borrowdale 1956 - 68

#### Colours



## Former Grounds

Woodhill Cricket Ground 1920/21 Christie Park (Roseberry Park) (1921 – 2010)

#### **Ground Guide**

The Shrimps after 89 years at Christie Park moved to a new purpose built stadium. At a cost of around £12m in 2010, the Globe Arena which is named after the company Globe Construction that built the stadium.



The stadium is dominated by the Peter McGuigan Stand one side. This stand which is named after the Chairman has a capacity of just under 2,200 seats. This all seated stand, with a corporate glassed area to the rear and has windshields to either side, essential for a football ground located near the coast.

Opposite is the North Terrace, which is a very small open terrace that is only a few steps high. The terrace is split into two separate parts, with a large gap between them located

around the half way line. Behind this gap in the terrace is a service entrance, whilst above is perched a television gantry.

Although looking like of the Car Wash Terrace at Christie Park, it does detract from the overall look and feel of the stadium. Both ends are covered terraces. The West Terrace is for home supporters and houses 2,234 fans, whilst the East Terrace is substantially smaller and is for the away support where just fewer than 1,400 supporters can be accommodated. For the away fans Food inside not only includes the usual fayre of Burgers and Hot Dogs (£3), but also a selection of Pies and Pasties, from local baker Brassingtons, including Meat & Potato (£2.90), Steak & Kidney (£2.70), Cheese & Onion Pasty (£2.70) and Sausage Rolls (£2). Food outside the ground go to Susans Pies at 168 Lancaster Road, Morecambe LA4 5QP it is about 500yars from the station and in the opposite direction to the ground but from there you take the short across the sports ground to the football ground which is around 17 minutes and for drinking well The Eric Bartholomew on Euston Road its 300 yards from the train station as is named after the town favourite son (Eric Morecambe) Like many Weatherspoons, its main draws are the cheap prices and Ale selection 3 guests on my visit (Bryson Hurricane, Archers IPA, Cheeky Pheasant) plus a couple of standards (Pedigree and Abbott). The forthcoming ales are shown on a blackboard by the bar. There is further seating upstairs for supporters.

In the North East corner of the stadium, adjacent to the away terrace is a Police Control Box. Also located in this area, attached to a wall beside the Control Box is a small electronic scoreboard.

#### **Driving Directions**



Exit the M6 at junction 34, then take the A683 towards Lancaster (third exit from the North first junction from the South) and take the A683 towards Morecambe. Go through Lancaster on the one way system and follow the signs for Morecambe/ Heysham then straight on at two roundabouts passing a McDonalds on your left.



At the next roundabout take the first exit into Westgate Road and continue along this road for about one mile and you will reach the stadium on your right across from Westgate Caravan Park. Parking at the stadium is for permit holders only so it is a case of finding street parking. If you continue along Westgate passing the stadium on your right, then on the other side of the railway bridge there is plenty of parking to be had in Buckingham and Osborne Roads.



Press box

It is well worth noting that Lancaster can often be a particular traffic bottleneck, so drivers are advised to allow plenty of time to reach the ground from the motorway.

Away fans driving from the North can follow the directions above. Alternatively, exit the M6 at junction 35, following the signs for Morecambe and follow the A6 as far as Bolton-le-Sands, turning right at the traffic lights, continuing to follow the signs for Morecambe and when you reach the promenade, continue for a further mile and turn left at the Broadway Hotel. Go straight on at the small roundabout and take the fourth exit at the next larger roundabout with the Globe Arena is visible after a further mile

#### **Public Transport & Walking**





 $\rightarrow$  30 mins

From Morecambe railway station is around a 30 minute walk away from the ground. When you come out of the railway station turn left down Central Drive and you will reach the sea front, then turn left along the promenade, then take the 5th left into Regent Road, go straight up Regent Road and continue along into Westgate. You will reach the stadium on your left hand side, just over the railway bridge



Walk from the Station straight down to Marine Drive and take the **Stagecoach in Cumbria** and Lancashire 6 bus to the bus stop located opposite Frankie & Benny's and this drops you right outside the stadium.

#### **Admission**

Main Stand: Adults £21, Concessions £17, Under 19's £6 East Terrace: Adults £17, Concessions £14, Under 18's £5, Under 14's Free\*\*

\*\* When accompanied by a paying adult.

# Oxford United

Ground - Kassam Stadium, Grenoble Road, Oxford, OX4 4XP

**Main Telephone No:** 01865 337 500

**Fax No:** 01865 337501

Ticket Office: 01865 337 533
Capacity: 12,500 (all seated)
Pitch Size: 112 x 78 yards
Team Nickname: The U's
Year Ground Opened: 2001
Undersoil Heating: No
Shirt Sponsors: EB Charging
Kit Manufacturer: Puma
Website: www.oufc.co.uk



# **History Facts & Records**

Founded – 1896 (Headington FC) Years at Today's Ground – 18 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1962 for Accrington Stanley

First Official Floodlit Match – December 1950

Highest Attendance - 22,730 v Preston North End FA Cup Sixth Round 29/02/1964

Highest Score for - 9-1 v Dorchester town FA Cup Round One 11/11/1995

Highest Against - 0-7 v Sunderland Football League Division One 1998

**Highest Scorer in a Season –** 43 Bud Houghton 1961/62 played 1961 – 63 made 106 appearances and 61 goals

**Highest Scorer Overall –** 107 goals Graham Atkinson from 1962 – 74 in 356 Apperances **Player with most First Team Appearances –** 560 Ron (The tank) Atkinson 1959-71 and 14 goals

#### **Colours**



**Alternative** 

#### **Former Names**

Headington FC 1896 - 1911

Headington United FC (Merged with Headington Quarry) 1911 - 1960

#### **Former Grounds**

Quarry Recreation Ground, Wooten's Field, Sandy Lane and Britannia Field (1893 – 1913) Wotton Field (1913 – 20)

# Manor Ground (1920- 2001)

#### **Ground Guide**

The stadium offers a number of conference rooms to host corporate and non-corporate events. The stadium's South Stand is host to 28 private hospitality boxes with each box capable of holding up to 20 people each.



The ground currently consists of three stands and the North Stand (also known as the Manor Hospital Stand) is divided for use by both home and away supporters and or if demand requires it, then the whole of this stand can be allocated providing and has a capacity of 5,026. The East Stand (formerly sponsored by the Oxford Mail newspaper, and still known as the Oxford Mail Stand) is home to the more vocal home supporters and can hold 2,879 spectators.



The South Stand (currently without a sponsor) is the main structure of the stadium, housing the Quadrangle conference centre, the Exhibition Bar, the club offices and changing rooms, and a row of 28 glass-fronted executive boxes. The South Stand is divided into two tiers, with the lower tier including the ground's Family Section. It has a total capacity of 4,495. The West End has not been built yet but may in the future if the club get promoted.



The West End

If you are heading in from Oxford Train Station then you will certainly not be dehydrated with the centre of town having numerous pubs of varying literary pretensions such as The Old Bookbinders Ale House and Jude the Obscure.

Towards the stadium itself The George within Littlemore is popular with supporters as it acts as a go-between the station and the ground which is approximately 10 minutes away. I prefer the Catherine Wheel Henley Rd, Sandford-on-Thames, Oxford which is 18 minutes from the ground with good food and excellent ale.

## **Driving Directions**



#### North:

Take the M40 to Junction 34 take the third exit and follow the A34 down to the Sign for Ring Road A423 and at Spring roundabout take the first exit, from all other directions take the M4 to junction 13 and follow the sign for A34 North up to Oxford and exit at the sign for Oxford A4144 and at the roundabout take the third exit for A423.

The stadium can be found in between the Oxford Science Park & Blackbird Leys Estate. From the A423 Ring Road, go straight on at the first roundabout then take the second exit at the second roundabout onto the A4074 Reading Oxford Science Park & Blackbird Leys Estate. Just after Sleaford on Thames take the left turning sign posted Cowley/ Wallington/ Oxford Science Park and follow Grenoble Road and you eventually come to the ground on your left.



Using the M3, M27 and A34 to just outside Oxford then take the signpost for the A4144 Oxford Ring Road and at the roundabout take the Third exit onto the Southern by Pass and follow the A423 then at Heyford Hill Roundabout get in the lane for the A4074 then take the left turning sign posted Cowley/ Wallington/ Oxford Science Park and follow Grenoble Road and you eventually come to the ground on your left.



Using the M5 and then the M4 then leave at Junction 13 for Oxford & Newbury and then at the roundabout take the first exit onto the A34 and follow it to just outside Oxford then take the signpost for the A4144 Oxford Ring Road and at the roundabout take the Third exit onto the Southern by Pass and follow the A423 then at Heyford Hill Roundabout get in the lane for the A4074 then take the left turning sign posted Cowley/ Wallington/ Oxford Science Park and follow Grenoble Road and you eventually come to the ground on your left.



Take the M40 to Junction 7 onto the A329 and follow through one roundabout and then follow it right just after the BP Garage onto the B490 for Oxford & Abingdon and at the next roundabout take the first exit onto Grenoble Road go straight on at the first roundabout then take second exit at the next roundabout and the ground is 100 yards on the left.

There are 2000 car parking spaces in and around the stadium itself, which are free. However, the main car parks tend to fill up fast, use the additional car parking spaces are now available at the Ozone cinema and bowling alley complex adjacent to the stadium

## **Public Transport & Walking**



Take the train to Oxford Railway Station the from the forecourt take the **Oxford Bus Company Service**, **Number 3**, from stop R2 to Catherine Wheel Pub there it's a 18 minute walk to the ground by walking down the Stanford Road till you get the red house at the end of Stanford on Thames on the left then take the first left into Grenoble Road walk under the bridge to the roundabout and take the first right into Grenoble Road the ground is in front of you in about 200yards



From the Station forecourt Stop R2 take the **Stagecoach in Oxfordshire 1 bus** or **Oxford Bus Company Service, Number 5** to Sandy Lane walk back and do a left right across Blackbird Ley Road into Merlin Road.

At the end of the road take a right into Knights Road and at the bottom take a left up the path to the ground after the game you will get both busses back at the top of Knights Road and Blackbird Ley back to the ground around. These busses are the same for night games buses are around 10 pm.

#### **Admission**

Adults £21, Over 65's £15, Under 22's/Students £14, Under 18's £12, Under 13's £8, U

Under 7's £5 Free if taken in by adult and purchased the day before the game.

# Plymouth Argyle

**Ground** - Home Park, Plymouth, PL2 3DQ **Main Telephone No:** 01752 562 561

Fax No: 01752 606 167
Ticket Office: 0845 338 7232
Capacity: 16,388 (all seated)
Pitch Size: 112 x 73 yards
Team Nickname: The Pilgrims

Year Ground Opened: 1893 (Devonport Albion RFC)

Undersoil Heating: No Shirt Sponsors: Ginsters Kit Manufacturer: Puma Website: www.pafc.co.uk Programme: £3.00



Nick

# **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** – 1886

Years at Today's Ground – 117 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1920 Founder Member Division Three

First Official Floodlit Match – October 1963

Highest Attendance - 43,596 v Aston Villa Second Division, 10 October 1936

**Highest Score for –** 8-1 v Millwall, Second Division, 16 January 1932, v Hartlepool

United Second Division, 7 May 1994 & 7-0 v Chesterfield, Second Division, 3 January 2004

Highest Against - 0-9 v Stoke City, Second Division, 17 December 1960

Highest Scorer in a Season – 33 John Gilbert (Jock) Cock in 1926/27

Highest Scorer Overall - 184 Samuel (Sammy) Black from 1924 - 38

Player with most First Team Appearances – 620 Kevin Hodges 1978 – 1992

#### **Colours**







Former Names

Argyle FC, Argyle Athletic FC

## **Former Grounds**

Marsh Mills (1886 - 1903)

## **Ground Guide**

Home Park was originally used by the now defunct Devonport Albion rugby team from 1893 to 1901 before Argyle moved in and since the 1990's ground has been updated but the Old Main Stand still remains for now.



**New Main Stand** 

The Home Park pitch is surrounded by four covered all-seater stands, officially known as the Mayflower Grandstand to the south, Devonport End to the west, Lyndhurst Stand to the north, and Barn Park End to the east. Each stand has one tier with the exception of the Mayflower Grandstand which has two, an upper tier and a lower tier, known as the Mayflower Terrace, which was converted from terracing in 2007.



**Devonport Stand (Doing the 116)** 

The Mayflower Grandstand is the club's main stand, which can hold roughly 7,000 spectators. It was the oldest part of the ground, before being replaced by a new main stand. It houses the club's main offices, the boardroom, team changing rooms, press rooms and also accommodates executive boxes, which can host functions and are available to supporters during match days. The dugouts; which are made of wood and supplied by the club's sponsors; sit in front of the Mayflower, with the player tunnel slightly off centre going underneath the Mayflower.



Barn Park End (Doing the 116)

To the rear of the stand is the Club Shop, selling official merchandise, and the Pyramid Suite, a top class hospitality area which can cater for up to 170 people. There are two structures overlooking the pitch on each side of the stand. To the east is a building which contains a hospitality area (the Chisholm Lounge), and a press area, and to the west is a disabled enclosure. There have been plans to replace this stand for a number of years. In 2013, planning permission was finally given to revamp and rebuild the Mayflower Grandstand after becoming less popular with supporters and the club's chairman James Brent, although no date has ever been set for the construction to begin.

The other three stands are very similar in design and linked together, having been built in 2001. The Devonport End is the traditional end where the more vocal of the club's supporters gather. It can hold approximately 3,500 spectators.



Lydehurst StandDoing the 116

The Lyndhurst Stand is the largest of the three, holding approximately 6,000 spectators, including the corners. The corner towards the East side of the ground is now the dedicated family area. The Barn Park End is where the away supporters are housed. Similar to the Devonport End, it also holds approximately 3,500 spectators. The standard allocation given to visiting clubs is 1,300 but this can be increased if demand requires it. All three boast good views and standard facilities for a football stadium, concourses, merchandise stands and food and drink outlets.

For away fans The Britannia Inn at 1 Wolseley Road is the one favoured by neutral and away fans because of its vast interior Excellent range of reasonably well kept ales, cheap grub, the staff run a good ship and in my opinion this is one of the best Weatherspoons in the country. To get there just walk down Pennycomequick Hill and instead of walking through the park walk straight on the arms are in front of you from the Britannia to the ground it's just a walk across the road walk up Outland Road and then take the first right into Mayflower Drive the ground is in front of you.

#### **Driving Directions**



Take the M5 to the South West and at the end of the motorway continue onto the A38. On entering Plymouth, take the turning of the Parkway for the City Centre/ Mutley/ Plymouth Argyle turn left onto the Outland Road. After about a mile you will see the ground on your left take the second on the left into the car park after the Esso Garage (on the right)

#### **Public Transport & Walking**





 $\rightarrow$  10 mins

Train to **Plymouth Railway Station** then walk down Pennycomequick Hill under the railway then turn left into Central Park Avenue cross the road and second on the left walk up Holesworth Road into the park and follow the path straight to the ground.

#### Admission

Adults £20, Concessions £14, Under 18's £6

# **Portsmouth**

Ground: Fratton Park, Frogmore Road, Portsmouth, PO4 8RA

**Main Telephone No:** 02392 731204

Main Fax No: 02392 734129
Ticket Office: 0844 847 1898
Ticket Office Fax: 0871 230 1899
Capacity: 20,700 (all seated)
Pitch Size: 115 x 73 yards
Team Nickname: Pompey
Year Ground Opened: 1898
Undersoil Heating: No
Shirt Sponsors: KYXO

Kit Manufacturer: Nike

Website: www.portsmouthfc.co.uk

Programme: £3

# **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** - 1898

Years at Today's Ground - 121 years

First Admitted to the Football League - 1920 Founder Member of Division Three &

Founder Member of Division Three South 1921/22

First Official Floodlit Match – August 1956

Highest Attendance - 51,385 v Derby County, FA Cup, 26 February 1949

Highest Score for - 9-1 v Notts County, Division 2, 9 April 1927

Highest Against - 0-10 v Leicester City, Division 1, 20 October 1928

**Highest Scorer in a Season –** 42 Guy Whittingham, in 1992/93 with 200 appearances and

92 goals

**Highest Scorer Overall –** 211 Peter Harris, from 1946–1960 with 479 Appearances **Player with most First Team Appearances –** 834 Appearances Jimmy Dickinson, from 1946–65 and 9 goals



#### **Colours**



#### **Ground Guide**

The stadium currently has four stands, all seated. The pitch runs from east to west. The largest and most modern stand, at the ground's western end, is the *Fratton End* (commercially never known by its sponsor name as JobSite UK stand). Along either side of the pitch are the *North* and *South* stands, both of which are two-tiered.

At the eastern end is the Milton End by far the smallest stand. Formerly the only roofless stand in the Premier League, a roof was added before the 2007/08 season and this stand is

shared between home and away supporters where the normal allocation is 2,000. If demand requires it, then the whole of this end can be allocated, raising the allocation to 3,200 seats. Although this end now benefits from having cover, the facilities within are pretty basic and the leg room tight, as this stand was a former terrace that has been converted to all seating.



The original entrance to the Fratton End is notable for its mock Tudor façade and following the arrival of former owner Alexandre Gaydamak several renovations were made to Fratton Park, including improved dressing rooms, the above-mentioned roof over the Milton end and a big-screen above the police box between the North Stand and Milton End.



Fratton End

The North Stand was refreshed for the 2010/2011 season with renewed sponsorship by Mercedes-Benz (Ridgeway Group) which replaced the "Fratton Park Portsmouth" and the club crest.

For the away fans the Old House at Home 104 Locksway Road, Milton its beer choice has gone up, always something local on, and it's always in good nick, also does a range of real ciders, and decent grub Turn left along Goldsmith Avenue and walk down to local park walk

across it cross the road into Locksway Road the pub is about 100yards on the right coming back its down the way you came to the local park but take a right up Milton Road and cross over and take the first left into Priory Road and take the third right and walk down to the ground which is at the end of the road and take a right.



Milton End

#### **Driving Directions**



From the North take the A34 and join the M3 at Winchester and follow it down to Southampton then join the M27 and continue on to the A27. At junction 12, exit onto M275 toward Portsmouth (W)/Sea Port and follow it down and join the A3 on Mile End Road then at the roundabout take the first exit into Church Street then go straight on at the next two roundabouts then after crossing the railway bridge and at the next roundabout take the first exit into Winston Churchill Avenue straight through the next two roundabouts then its first left to Fratton Park.



There is a large car park behind the TY Europe Stand, but this is for home supporters only. So it is mostly street parking for away fans. I like to park beside the Old House at Home pub in Locksway Road which is only 6 minute walk to the ground.

#### **Public Transport & Walking**





 $\rightarrow$  8 mins

The nearest local train station is **Fratton**, which is an eight minute walk away from the ground. On arrival at Fratton by train you pass the ground on the left. Fratton station has a footbridge as the only way out. The exit leads into Goldsmith Avenue. Turn left along Goldsmith Avenue and walk about half a mile passing Lidel on the way straight around to a small roundabout. Then go straight on still on Goldsmith Avenue, take the first left into Frogmore and the entrance to the Ty and South stands is 100m ahead. For the Milton End stay on Goldsmith Avenue for another 100m and turn left into Apsley Road. The entrances to the Milton End are 100m ahead.





 $\rightarrow$  22 mins

Train to **Portsmouth & Southsea Railway station** is at least a 22 minute walk away. come out on to Brunel Square then walk between the high rise and the railway this will lead out onto Dugald Drummond Street at the car park take a right and walk up to the church. Then turn left into Greetham Street walk up the road till you have church in front of you cross over then take a sharp right /left into Carlisle Street at the roundabout take a slight left into Victoria Street walk on till the next roundabout. Walk straight on into Goldsmith Avenue walk up to Fratton Railway Station and follow the above directions.

#### **Admission**

Adults £20, Over 60's £15, Under 17's £7

# Rotherham United

Ground - New York Stadium New York Way off Main Street Rotherham S60 1AH

Main Telephone No: 0844 4140733

Main Fax No: 0844 4140744 Ticket Office: 0844 4140737 Capacity: 12,000 (all seated) Pitch Size: 110 x 72 yards Team Nickname: The Millers Year Ground Opened: 2012

Shirt Sponsors: Hodge Clemco, Mears

Kit Manufacturer: Puma Website: www.themillers.co.uk

**Undersoil Heating: No** 

Programme: £3.00



## **History Facts & Records**

Founded – 1870 (Thornhill FC)

**Years at Today's Ground** – 6 years

First Admitted to the Football League - 1919 as Rotherham County FC

First Official Floodlit Match – November 1960 Milmoor

**Highest Attendance –** 25,170 v Sheffield United, Football League Second Division, 13 December 1952 at Millmoor Stadium

Highest Score for - 8 - 0 v Oldham at Millmoor, Division 3 North, 26 May 1947

Highest Against – 1–11 v Bradford City, Division 3 North, 25 August 1928

**Highest Scorer in a Season –** 40 Wally Aldron in 1946/47 with 123 apperances and 100 goals 1938 - 1950

**Highest Scorer Overall –** Gladstone Guest, 130 league goals, between 1946–1956 with 358 Appearances

**Player with most First Team Appearances –** 621 Danny Williams, from 1946 -62 with 21 goals

#### **Former Names**

Thornhill FC 1870 -1890

Thornhill United, 1890 - 1905

Rotherham County 1905 1925 (Merged with Rotherham Town 1925) to become United

#### Former Grounds

Red House Ground – 1870 – 1907 Milmoor (1907 – 2008) Don Valley Stadium (Sheffield) (2008-2012) Milmoor (1907 – 2008)

#### Colours



#### **Ground Guide**

The club moved out of there old ground of 101 years Milmoor and would spend four years at the now demolished at the Don Valley Stadium in Sheffield, before the Club have returned home to Rotherham in 2012. The new stadium, which cost in the region of £20m to build, is 200 yards North East to their old Millmoor Ground and 500 yards from their first ground as County next to Thornhill Primary School in Henley Road.

The area of Rotherham where the ground is located is historically known as New York (hence the stadium name) and is built on the site of the old Guest & Chrimes factory. The stadium from the outside looks far larger than its 12,000 capacity and is quite San Siro in Milan in its design. It is totally enclosed and all seated.

On one side is the Eric Twigg Foods Pukka Pies (West) Stand. This is the largest of the four single tiered stands. The stand has a middle seated area of the stand which is situated at a lower level than either of the wings. There is an executive area above this with seating outside and yet further above is a television gantry, set into the red panelled wall. The other sides of the stadium are much smaller in size. Both ends are virtually identical, except that the Morrison's (South) Stand has a small electric scoreboard situated at the back of it.

The Ben Bennett (East) Stand, which is slightly less tall than both the ends. This stand has two large areas built into the front of the stand for the use of disabled supporters and they get a great view of the game.

Away fans are normally housed in the Morrison Stand at one end of the stadium, where around 2,500 supporters can be accommodated and tickets can be obtained at the Away ticket office in the Morrison Stand. On the roof of the East Stand are two futuristic looking floodlight pylons that are supplemented by a row of lights above the West Stand.



South & West Stands

For the away fans the Bluecoat pub at The Crofts are three hundred yards away from the station having visited before I knew that this is one of the better Weatherspoon where the staff seems to be fairly well clued up. Surprise, surprise, the Real Ale was served at a more ambient temperature and in decent condition, therefore much more acceptable. The only disappointment was that I thought the beers on offer were not as interesting however this obviously depends on personal taste.

The Bridge Inn, in Greasbrough Road, which is located quite close to the railway station turn right out of the station and then cross the bridge and the pub is across the road in front of you. This pub which is listed in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide serves beers from the Old Mill Brewery as well as guest beers and a real cider. This pub has a warm welcome for all fans and it wasn't too bad to get served inside.

Alcohol is also available inside the stadium in the form of: Fosters, John Smiths (Both £3 a pint), Bulmers (£3 a bottle), plus Red, White and Rose wines (£3.90 small bottle).

#### **Driving Directions**



#### From the North

Don't use the postcode for sat nav use Main Street Rotherham. Leave the M1 at Junction 34 and take the fourth exit at the roundabout onto the A6178 towards Rotherham. At the third roundabout (Ickles Roundabout) take the first exit onto Centenary Way (Signposted Doncaster) cross over the bridge, you will see the stadium on your right and at the next roundabout (Masbrough roundabout) turn right onto Main Street and the entrance to the stadium is down on the right down New York Way.



#### From the South:

Leave the M1 at Junction 33 and take the third exit onto the A630 towards Rotherham. After a few yards at the next roundabout take the first exit and at the next take the second exit onto Centenary Way and go straight on at the next roundabout you will reach the stadium on your right and at the next roundabout (Masbrough roundabout) turn right onto Main Street and the entrance to the stadium is down on the right down New York Way. Car parking at

the stadium is for permit holders only. However there are a number of pay & display car parks located around the town centre. Otherwise there is some street parking available around the area of the old Millmoor ground, which is around a 10 minute walk away to the ground.

#### **Public Transport**





 $\rightarrow$  5 mins

Train to **Rotherham Central Railway Station** and a five minute walk to the ground just walk down the canal to Main Street take a right and walk down to the ground.



North Stand

#### **Admission**

#### Morrison's (South) Stand:

Adults £18, Concessions £10, Under 16's £6

# Sheffield Wednesday

Ground - Hillsborough, Leppings Lane Sheffield, S6 1SW

**Main Telephone No:** 0870 999 1867

Main Fax No: 0114 221 2122
Ticket Office: 0871 230 1867
Ticket Office Fax: 0114 221 2401
Capacity: 39,812 (all seated)
Pitch Size: 115 x 75 yards
Club Nickname: The Owls
Year Ground Opened: 1899
Undersoil Heating: Yes
Shirt Sponsors: Macron

Kit Manufacturer: Sondico Website: HTAFC.co.uk

Programme: £3



#### **Colours**



### **History Facts & Records**

Founded - 1867

Former Names – The Wednesday FC

Years at Today's Ground – 119 years

First Admitted to the Football League - 1892 Founder Member of Division Two

First Official Floodlit Match – March 1955

Highest Attendance – 72,841 v Manchester City in the FA Cup Fifth Round 17/02/1934

Highest Score for - 13-0 v Halliwell F.A. Cup Round One 17/01/1891

**Highest Against –** 0 – 10 v Aston Villa Division One 5/10/1912

Highest Scorer in a Season - Derek Dooley 46 in 1951/52 (62 goals 1947 - 53)

**Highest Scorer Overall and Player with most First Team Appearances –** 219 Andrew Wilson 1900 – 20 and 545 Appearances from 1900 – 20

#### **Former Grounds**

Norfolk Park (1867) Highfields 1867 – 69, Myrtle Road (Heeley) (1869 – 77), Sheaf House (1877 – 87), Bramell Lane (1887/88) Olive Grove (1888 – 99)

#### **Ground Guide**

The ground has four large separate stands, all of which are all covered and are roughly the same height, giving a uniform feel to the stadium. On one side is the North Stand. This large single tiered stand was opened in 1961. It was the largest cantilever stand ever built in Britain and only the second such type of stand to have been constructed (the first was at the Old Showground in Scunthorpe).

The two tiered South Stand on one side of the ground is the largest of the stands and is superb looking. It was originally opened in 1914 and was designed by the famous football ground architect Archibald Leitch. A second tier and new roof were added in 1996, to expand capacity for the European Championships, for which Hillsborough was a host venue. In keeping with the original look of the stand, a triangular gable incorporating a clock adorned with a copper football was placed on the new roof. The stand has a large lower tier with a small upper tier above. At the back of the lower tier is a row of executive boxes.



At one end is the Spion Kop (Hallam FM Kop) and this used to be a huge open bank of terrace that was at one time the largest in Britain. It gained a roof in 1986 and was made all seated in 1993. Opposite is the West Stand or Leppings Lane End. This two tiered stand was opened in 1966, in time for the Club to host some World Cup games played that year. Like the Kop, it has a number of large supporting pillars where up to 8,000 away fans can be accommodated.



One corner of the ground is filled with seating between the North & West Stand, this area is uncovered. On the other side of the West Stand is an electric scoreboard, under which is tucked a Police Control Box. Unusually for such an old ground, it doesn't floodlight pylons with the stadium with lights running across the front of the stand roofs.

Outside the ground near the main entrance is a memorial to the 96 fans that died at Hillsborough on the 15 April 1989, at the FA Cup Semi Final Liverpool & Nottingham Forest game which was abandoned after 6 minutes.

#### **Driving Directions**



#### North

Leave the M1 at Junction 36 and take the third exit at the Barnsley Roundabout onto the A61 through to the roundabout take the third exit down Leppings Lane to the ground.







Blue Line

Leave the M1 at Junction 34 and Park at **Meadowhall Railway Station**, near to the Shopping Centre, just by Junction 34 of the M1, which is free, then take the **Supertram Blue Line** to Leppings Lane and then walk to the ground which is about 4 minutes.

There is some street parking to be had if you arrive early, otherwise there are some unofficial car parks along the A61 that charge in the region of £4. There is also a car park directly behind the Kop End and the Wednesday Club shop. It is called the Wednesday Car Park and is open to fans of both teams. It costs £5 for visitors.

#### **Public Transport**



Take the train to **Sheffield Railway Station** then get on the **Blue Line Tram** to Leppings Lane and its four minutes to the ground the alternative is the **53 First Bus** to Hillsborough Park then it's a four minute walk to the ground.

#### Admission

#### West Stand (Leppings Lane End):

Adults £27 (£25)

Over 65's/Under 18's £17 (£15)

#### Where to have a Drink

**The Rutland Arms** is at 86 Brown Street the best place to have a drink and great beer, brilliant range of ciders They now have at least two beers from their own Blue Bee brewery (The Nectar was just right - light and tasty). Great snacks (try the Smutty Rutty Butty). Very busy pub is probably the nearest and best for real ale and "sensible" fans. A 230 yards walk from the station.

# **Shrewsbury Town**

Ground - Greenhouse Meadow (The New Meadow), Oteley Road, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ST

**Main Telephone No:** 01743 289177

Fax No: 01743 246972 Ticket Office: 01743 273943 Capacity: 9,875 (all seated) Pitch Size: 115 x 77 yards

Team Nicknames: Shrews, Salop, Town or Blues

Year Ground Opened: 2007 Undersoil Heating: No

Shirt Sponsors: Tuffins, Shropshire Homes

Kit Manufacturer: Errea

Website: www.shrewsburytown.com

Programme: £3.00

# **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** – 1886

**Years at Today's Ground** – 7 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1950

First Official Floodlit Match - November 1959 Gay Meadow

Highest Attendance - 18,417 v Walsall Third Division 26 April 1961

Highest Score for - 21-0 v Mold Alyn Stars, Welsh FA Cup 1st round, 27 October 1894

Highest Against - 0-13 Small Heath XI, Birmingham League, 25 December 1895

**Highest Scorer in a Season & Highest Scorer Overall –** 38: Arthur Rowley in 1958–59 & 152 goals from 1958–65 in 200 appearances

**Player with most First Team Appearances –** 418: (Sir) Mickey Brown from 1986–91, 1992–94 and 1996–2001 with 36 goals

# **Former Grounds**

Racecourse Ground, Monkmoor 1886–1889 Ambler's Field, Copthorne 1889–1893 Sutton Lane, Sutton Farm 1893–1895 Barrack's Ground, Copthorne 1895–1910 Gay Meadow, Abbey Foregate 1910–2007



#### **Colours**



#### **Ground Guide**

The stadium was constructed by Hall Construction, a construction company who have built several Football League stadia and grandstands. It currently has a capacity of 9,875 seated spectators, accommodated in four stands having played at Gay Meadow in the Town since 1910.



West Stand

In addition, there are several corporate and hospitality suites, which the club uses both on match days and for general community use, therefore assisting the club in gaining revenue. Following consultation with supporters groups, the stadium consists of blue seating, with the club's initials (STFC) spelt out in amber on each side of the ground. This is following considerable outcry when the club initially stated that seating would consist of the club's original blue and white colour scheme. Despite originally being blue and white, the club has adopted a distinctive blue and amber colour scheme since the 1970s, which many supporters feel is a unique and distinctive part of the club.



Pro Vision Stand (North Stand)

Like many modern football grounds, the ground has 'cashless turnstiles', meaning that no payments are accepted on the turnstile itself. To obtain access to the ground, non-season ticket holding spectators must purchase a ticket from the club in advance of the game, or on the day from ticket booths situated at the ground (away fans have their own designated ticket booth).

Town own the New Meadow, using the money raised selling the Gay Meadow to property developers to finance the purchase of the land and construction of the new stadium. The East and West stands face the length of the pitch; the South and North stands face onto the ends of the pitch. All stands are fully seated and covered; each stand also has its own catering (<u>licensed</u>) and at present the stands are detached from one another.



Each of the stands are simple single tiered stands, and each of the stands are 18 rows high, with Roland Wycherley Stand the East stand on one side, being the 'Main Stand', named after the present chairman; includes his stand has a slightly different layout to the others with a press area and eight corporate boxes at its rear, club offices, club shop, etc. and is entered through seating blocks 1-7.

The Salop Leisure Stand which is the South stand behind the goal, named after a local business sponsor entered by seating blocks 8-12 with the Pro-Vision CCTV Stand" - the North Stand which is opposite which is given in whole to the away supporters; also has the media box, resulting in fewer seats than the South stand and accessed by seating blocks 20-24.

An unusual feature of the stadium is that the areas for disabled fans are high up at the very back of the stands and are accessed by lifts and there is also a small electric scoreboard next to the away end.

For Away fans the Brooklands Pub on Mill Road if you're walking to the grounds then use the **Prince of Wales** 30 Bynner Street following the directions above then on Belle Vue Road take a first left down Trinity Street and third left in Bynner Street.

Very friendly community type pub, quite busy for a Saturday afternoon and it was lovely to sit outside on the decking area overlooking the bowling green. We tried the Hobsons Mild which was a bit too cold but the Salopian Golden Thread and the St Austell Tribute were both very good. Great beer, nice atmosphere and seemed to have a good following of regulars

From here to the ground then it walk to the end of the Street turn right walk down Sutton Lane over the railway bridge and at the main roundabout turn right and walk up to the next roundabout Mole Brace take the first left into Oteley Road and at the lights walk across the road then take the road to the ground.

#### **Driving Directions**



At the end of the M54 continue onto the A5. After about seven miles, there is a roundabout take the first exit following the A5. At the next roundabout take the third exit onto Thieves Lane. Continue along Thieves Lane going straight over two roundabouts and this will lead you into Oteley Road. At the lights take the left hand lane up to the ground.

There is a large car park at the stadium, holding almost 700 cars; however, this is for permit holders only although if you are early you may be admitted for £7! Parking is prohibited in the nearby Retail Park and nearby streets, Check though for any parking restrictions detailed on posts, before parking up. The best place to park is at the car park at the Meole Brace Bowling Club, which is at Meole Rise (Off Upper Road, SY3 9JF) which cost £5 per car and has a bar on site too. You just walk up Upper Road to the end and take a left walk down to the roundabout and take the second exit right and at the lights cross the road and walk up to the ground its 15 minute walk.

#### **Public Transport & Walking**





 $\rightarrow$  37 mins

Take Arriva Wales Train to **Shrewsbury Railway Station** is around 1.8 mile away from the stadium. It takes 37 minutes to walk, come out of the station and turn left on to Oteley Road and walk down the road past the castle down to Marks & Sparks then follow the one way system down St Mary's Street down through the Dogpole you will see the Red Lion pub turn left here and walk down the hill in Wyle Cop and at the next junction cross the road and walk down St Julian's Friars at the bottom walk over the footbridge and the walk up to the main road cross over just after spar and do a left into Greyfriars Road then walk up the hill and turn right into Bell Vue Road and walk straight down the narrow road.

At the Grove Pub follow the road over the railway, this leads into Hereford Road go left at the Y junction still walking down Herford Road down past the BP Garage keep to the left this will take you on to Roman Road and take you to the roundabout Mole Brace take the second left into Oteley Road and at the lights walk across the road then take the road to the ground. (Remember Shrewsbury is Hilly).





→ 5 mins





 $\rightarrow$  5 mins

From the train station walk five minutes to the town centre bus station take the **Arriva in the Midlands 27** goes to Meole Brace and its 200 yards past the roundabout to the ground which is on the right at the lights.

#### Admission

#### North Stand:

Adults £22 Over 65's £17 Students £15 under 16's £11 under 11's £5

# Sunderland

Ground - Stadium of Light, Millennium Way, Sunderland, SR5 1SU

Main Telephone Number: 0871 911 1200

Main Fax No: 0191 551 5123 Ticket Office: 0871 911 1973 Capacity: 49,000 (all seated) Pitch Size: 105 x 68 yards Club Nickname: The Black Cats Year Ground Opened: 1997 Undersoil Heating: Yes

Shirt Sponsors: Great Annual Savings

Kit Manufacturer: Nike Website: www.safc.com Programme: £3.00



# **History Facts & Records**

Founded – 1879 (Sunderland and District Teachers A.F.C)

**Years at Today's Ground** – 21 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1890 for Stoke FC First Official Floodlit Match – December 1952 Roker Park

**Highest Attendance** – 75,118 v Derby County at Roker Park FA Cup Sixth Round 08/03/1933

Highest Score for – 23-0 v. Castletown, 20/12/1884 Durham FA Cup

**Highest Against** – 8–0 v. Sheffield Wednesday, 26 /12/1911, v. West Ham United, 19/10/1968 and v. Watford, 25/09/1982

**Highest Scorer in a Season** – 43 David Halliday in 1928/29 with 156 goals in 166 appearances 1925 - 29

**Highest Scorer Overall** – 228 goals Bob Gurney from 1925 – 50 with 350 appearances

Player with most First Team Appearances – 627 Jimmy Montgomery from 1960 – 77

#### **Colours**



#### **Former Names**

Sunderland and District Teachers A.F.C (1879 – 82)

#### **Former Grounds**

Bluehouse Field (1879 – 82), Groves Field (1882/83), Horatio Street Roker (1883/84), Abbs Field (1884 – 86), Newcastle Road 1886 – 1898), Roker Park (1898 – 1997)

#### **Ground Guide**

The Club moved from their former home of Roker Park where they had played for 99 years to the Stadium of Light in 1997, on the site of the former Wearmouth Colliery their club placed behind the West Stand there is a large red wheel, an emblem of the lifts that used to take the miners down to the coal face.

The stadium is of a good size, is totally enclosed and on the whole is quite impressive. It is composed of two three tiered stands at the North end and the West side of the ground, whilst the others are two tiered. The West (Main) Stand on one side also has a row of executive boxes (which you can sit outside if you wish), that are situated just below the top tier. Currently the away section is in the South Stand where 7000 fans can be accommodated.

However, if at some point the Club were to add an additional tier to the two remaining sides, then an even more remarkable stadium would emerge. There is also a large electronic scoreboard perched upon the roof at either end.



Taken from South East Corner

The PA system deafening especially when the classical piece of music is played before the players come on to the pitch at the start of the game and U2's 'Elevation', as the teams come out of the tunnel and outside the stadium behind the South Stand there is a statue of former FA Cup winning manager Bob Stokoe, as well as some reminders of the Colliery, as also outside one corner of the stadium is a large miners lamp.

For away fans The Albion pub on Victor Street is a 17 minutes away from the ground and a 14 minute walk from either St Peters or Stadium of Light metro stops, is a small pub the size of a house They serve food from there set menus the food have had here has been nice and drinks are not bad prices. They have pool tables and darts and show all the football matches on big screens so if you want a quiet drink I would stay away on match days as it gets packed out with supporters.

# **Driving Directions**



#### North

Exit the A1 at Junction 62, at Seaton and follow the signs for Cramlington/ Blyth/ Ashington and at the roundabout, take the 3rd exit onto A19 (Signposted Tyne Tunnel, Newcastle Docks/ Blyth/ Ashington) then follow the A19 through three roundabouts and through the Tyne Tunnel and Jarrow



After about three miles, stay in the left hand lane and take the second slip road towards Sunderland (Signposted Stadium of Light, A1231 Sunderland). This takes you onto a bridge crossing over the River Wear. Turn right onto the A1231 following the signs for Sunderland. Go straight over four roundabouts into Sunderland on Washington Highway, and then follow the signposts to the ground.



South

Take A1 (M) to junction 35 then go along Westway/ A195 then at the first roundabout take the first exit onto Washington Highway and take the second exit off and then take the third exit onto Sunderland Way then at the sixth roundabout on Queens Way take the second exit then the second exit at the next roundabouts into the ground.

# Public Transport $\rightarrow 5 \text{ mins}$

Flight to **Newcastle Airport** then walk over to the Metro link Stop and then take the Metro to the **Stadium of Light Metro Station** and then from the station turn right into Union Street Turn right onto High Street West, and then immediately turn left onto Back Bridge Street, and the road name changes to Pann Lane turn right onto A183 / St Marys Way after 100yards over the bridge, at roundabout, take second exit onto the A1080, and then after 200 yards turn left onto Sheepfolds North, and then the road name changes again to Easington Street 200 yards later and turn left onto Millennium Way follow the road round the ground in front of you.



Take the East coast Rail train to **Newcastle Central Railway Station** then take the Metro link Stop and then take the **Metro to the Stadium of Light Metro Station** and then from the station turn right into Union Street Turn right onto High Street West, and then immediately turn left onto Back Bridge Street, and the road name changes to Pann Lane turn right onto A183 / St Marys Way after 100yards over the bridge, at roundabout, take second exit onto the A1080, and then after 200 yards turn left onto Sheepfolds North, and then the road name changes again to Easington Street 200 yards later and turn left onto Millennium Way follow the road round the ground in front of you.

#### Admission

The price of ticket varies so go on to their web site and buy your tickets on line:

Category A Games: Adults £30 Category B Games: Adults £27 Category C Games: Adults £25 Over 65's £27 (B £21) (C £19), Under 17's £23 (B £17) (C £15), Under 11's £20 (B £14) (C £12)

# Wigan Athletic

Ground - DW Stadium, Loire Drive, Wigan, WN5 0UZ

Main Telephone No: 01942 774 000

Fax No: 01942 770 477
Ticket Office: 0871 663 3552
Capacity: 25,023 (all seated)
Pitch Size: 110 x 60 metres
Team Nickname: The Latics
Year Ground Opened: 1999
Undersoil Heating: Yes
Shirt Sponsors: DW Fitness
Kit Manufacturer: Puma
Website: HTAFC.co.uk

Programme: £3



# **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** – 1932

Years at Today's Ground - 16 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1978 for Southport FC

First Official Floodlit Match – October 1965 Springfield Park

**Highest Attendance –** 27,500 v Hereford United, FA Cup Round 2 12/12/1953 Springfield Park

**Highest Score for –** 12–0 v Stubshaw Cross, Lancashire Combination Cup, 15 September 1954

Highest Against - 1-9 v Tottenham Hotspur, Premier League, 2009

Highest Scorer in a Season - 31, Graeme Jones, 1996-97

Highest Scorer Overall - 70, Andy Liddell, from 1998–2004

**Player with most First Team Appearances –** 317 Kevin Langley from 1981–1986 & 1990–1994

#### **Colours**



**Alternative** 

#### **Former Grounds**

Springfield Park (1932 – 2000)

#### **Ground guide**

The Club moved from its former home of Springfield Park, where it had been in residence since the Club's formation in 1932 to the DW Stadium in 1999. The four separate stands are of roughly the same height and are all single tiered. They are also quite steep meaning that fans sit quite close to the playing action, although the stands themselves are set back a fair distance from the pitch boundary and The Latics share the ground with Wigan Warriors RFC.



both the side stands have large supporting steel frameworks visible above their roofs, with the ground doesn't have the large corporate areas and executive boxes it has less than most modern grounds. There is an electric scoreboard above the Boston (East) Stand, on one side of the ground.

The stadium was originally named the JJB Stadium under a sponsorship deal was lasted for

10 years. This was replaced by a new deal in August 2009, which saw the stadium being renamed the DW Stadium in partnership with DW Sports Fitness.

Outside the ground is Robins Park, where Wigan play their reserve games and athletics meetings are held. There is quite a sizeable stand on one side of the Park, as is used by Wigan Robin Park FC.

#### Wheelchair users:

Each stand at the DW Stadium has two designated disabled platforms with catering and toilet facilities available, along with a lift to each concourse and direct access to the platforms. These platforms are designated for people totally confined to a wheelchair with personal Assistant seats, if required, are allocated at the side of each platform. There are additional facilities for wheelchair supporters at the front of the West Stand and as wheelchair spaces are limited, these will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Supporters using this facility will be charged the relevant price, with their personal assistant being free of charge.

#### **Driving Directions**



Leave the M6 at Junction 26 take the M58 exit to Skelmersdale/ Southport. From the South get in the right hand lane and follow the road markings for the A577 round the roundabout under the M6, from the North take the M58 exit to Skelmersdale/ Southport then at the roundabout, take the 2nd exit onto A577. Follow the road down and then turn right onto Orrell Road and follow the signs for Wigan town centre then at the roundabout take the first turn left into Robin Park Road and continue into Scot Lane with the ground is on the right down Scot Lane.

#### **Public Transport**





→20 mins

Train to either of Wigan's central railway stations **Wigan North Western & Wallgate Railway stations** are a good 20 minute walk from the ground or break up the journey with a few pub stops on the way! On exiting Wigan North Railway Station turns left and go down the road heading under a railway bridge. On leaving Wallgate station turn right and go down the road passing Wigan North station on your left and then proceed under the railway bridge and walk down the Wallgate to the Roundabout then. It is a fairly straight walk along Robin Park Road passing the Jacobs Well Pub, when you reach the Seven Stars Hotel then turn right down the road to the stadium, or take a shortcut along a Leeds and Liverpool canal to the stadium off the Wallgate.

#### **Admission**

Adults £25, Concessions £18 Under 16 £10

#### Where to have a Drink

The Berkeley on Wallgate near the railway station visited this place admittedly after seeing it listed in good beer guide but from outside it looks far too trendy and lively to be the pub, then I walked in and discovered a sixteen barrel beer fest with beers straight from the barrel Otherwise alcohol is available inside the stadium with a dedicated away bar and the Jacobs

Well Pub a good mix of away supporters serves five ever changing real ales

# Wycombe Wanderers

Ground - Adams Park, Hillbottom Road, High Wycombe, HP12 4HJ

**Main Telephone No:** 01494 472 100

Fax No: 01494 527 633 Ticket Office: 01494 441 118

**Capacity: 10,300** 

Pitch Size: 115 x 75 yards Team Nickname: The Chairboys Year Ground Opened: 1990 Undersoil Heating: Yes

Shirt Sponsors: Cherry Red Records and Utilita

Kit Manufacturer: O'Neills

Website: www.wycombewanderers.co.uk

Programme: £4.00



Nick

# **History Facts & Records**

Founded – 1887 Years at Today's Ground – 26 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 2004

First Official Floodlit Match – September 1963

Highest Attendance – 14,000 Loakes Park

Highest Score for – 18-1 v Staines Town Great Western Suburban League 27/12/1909

Highest Against - 1-10 v High Wycombe Rovers 1/12/1887 FA Cup Qualifying Round 1

Highest Scorer in a Season, Highest Scorer Overall & Player with most First Team

Appearances 60 Anthony (Bodger) Horseman in 1966/67 with 450 goals & 749

Appearances 1961 – 78

#### **Former Grounds**

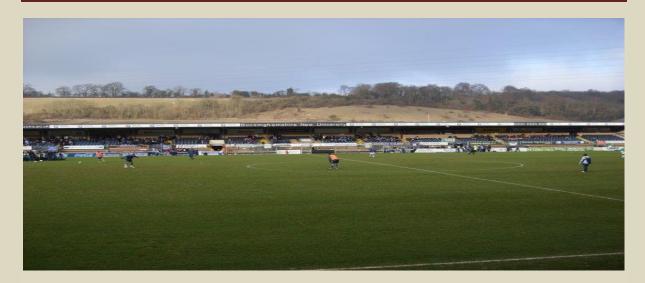
The Rye (1887 – 91) High Wycombe Cricket Ground (1891 – 94) Spring Meadow (1894 – 95) Loakes Park (1895 – 1990)

#### Colours



#### **Ground Guide**

Adams Park built in 1990 which Wanderers shared with London Wasps till they moved to Coventry and is now also used by Reading WFC. Between 2003 and 2006.



The North Stand (Beechdean Stand) has a capacity of 1,267, all seated. There is additional space for 232 standing spectators in the paddock at the front of this stand, for London Wasps matches only. For Wycombe Wanderers matches, spectators may only stand here if they already have a valid seat ticket. The stand also contains the club offices, changing rooms, club shop, and catering facilities. The Vere Suite, located in the Beechdean stand, is named after the Vere family who own and run the Verco Furniture Company based in High Wycombe.



Dreams Stand

The East Stand became all-seater in 1996 before being doubled in size to the current 2,053 all-seated capacity, with a space for 10 wheelchairs. This stand is designated as the away end for football matches. For teams with a larger following then 350 seats are also made available in the Main Stand, increasing the total allocation to 2,403. For away fans take The Hourglass Sands at 144 Chapel Lane Sands on your way walking to the ground this friendly is only 11 minutes from the ground Large, bright open plan pub with largely modern decor and very friendly staff.



Main Stand

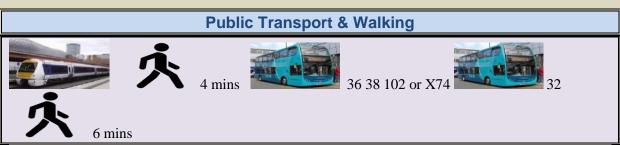
The South Stand originally a single level terrace, this stand was expanded into a two-tier unit in 1996. Now with a capacity of 4,990 (2,842 in the Upper Tier, 1,738 plus 50 wheelchair spaces in the Lower Tier) the South Stand contains boxes for corporate hospitality and is designated as the stadium's Family Stand. The Woodlands Suite is situated on the Executive Box level of the South Stand.

With a capacity of 1,974 the Green King IPA terrace is the home supporters' end for football matches, and the only remaining terrace in the stadium. The ground also contains a bar, called Scores, and since 2006 a club shop in the corner of the ground between the Beechdean and Dreams Stands.

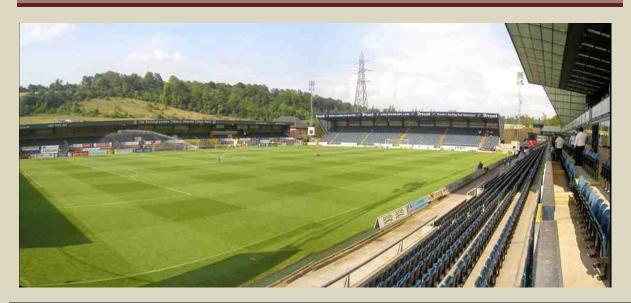
#### **Driving Directions**



Leave the M40 at Junction 4 and take the A4010 towards Aylesbury then turn left at the 4th roundabout into Mill End Road and the end of the road do a left into New Road then a right into Lane End Road at the mini roundabout then at the bend turn right into Hillbottom Road and the ground is at the end of the road.



Train to **High Wycombe Railway Station** then walk down to Easton Place and take the **36 38 102 or X74** buses to the Bus Station and take the **Arriva Shires 32 bus** to Hillbottom Road on Lane End Road and the Hour Glass Pub its six minutes to the ground and they run every fourteen minutes



#### Admission

Adults £20, Concessions £16, Under 26's £14, Under 19's £11 Under 16's £7