STFC v Merstham: Wednesday 17th September 2025 Pitching In Isthmian South East Division



THE OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME FOR THE 2025-26 SEASON

SEVENOAKS TOWN

Edition 04: £2

FOOTBALL CLUB





Respect





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Zero Tolerance

The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the FA statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination.

Accordingly, any form of discriminatory abuse whether it by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, sex and sexual orientation or any other form of abuse will be reported to The Football Association for action by that Association.

The Isthmian League and all Member Clubs in the League are committed to promoting equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of the community. You can call the FA on 0800 085 0508 or Kick it Out on 020 7253 0162.

STFC welfare policy

As a 3-Star Accredited Club, child welfare & safequarding is at the heart of what we do. Sevenoaks Town FC Directors and Trustee's are responsible for the Club's compliance with the child protection and welfare issues that are related to running a youth

The Club Welfare Officers are responsible for the welfare and safeguarding of all our club members. Three of the club's codes relate specifically to club welfare issues:

Safeguarding Children Policy

Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure All team managers and coaches must complete the following before taking charge of a team:

- valid Enhanced DBS check
- have or be working towards a minimum FA Introduction to football coaching qual-
- FA Safeguarding Children Training
- FA Introduction to First Aid in Football

Player Welfare

The club has four Welfare Officers: Sean Jarvie, Shannon Hyner Darron Mace and Jennifer Mason The Board Champion is Paul Lansdale who can be contacted on 07876444274. You can also email welfare@sevenoakstownfc co uk

FA Respect

As an FA Charter Standard Community Club, we expect the highest standards of conduct from our players, parents and

We are passionate supporters of the FA Respect campaign.

FA Whistleblowing Policy

Any adult or young person with concerns about an adult in a position of trust with football can 'whistle blow' by contacting The FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 169 1863, by writing to The FA Case Manager at The Football Association, Wembley Stadium, PO Box 1966, London SWIP 9EQ, by emailing safeguardina@thefa.com or alternatively by going direct to the Police, Children's Social Care or the NSPCC.

STFC Club Information



Chairman and Director: Paul Lansdale **Secretary:** As Chairman

Directors: Kevin Marsh, Ray Miles, Frank Le Siberel

Board Champion: (Welfare) Kevin Marsh

Club Welfare Officers: Sean Jarvis, Shannon Hyner, Paul Lansdale, Ben Franks

Committee Members: Shannon Hyner, Dan Thomas, Michael Tapp

Match Secretary: As chairman

Safety Officer: Ray Miles Equality and Diversity Officer: Jahmal

Howlett-Mundle

First Team Manager: Marcel Nimani First Team Coaches: Craig Coles, Ben

Franks, Liam Joyce

Goalkeeper Coach: Julian Leigh **Head of Analysis:** Ben Maci Sports Therapist: Alex Mulrooney **Head of Youth Football:** Ben Franks Press Officer/ PA announcer: Andrew Gidley

Club Photographer/App/Social Media: Matt White

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Registered in England No. 07298016 Registered Charity No. 113763

Sevenoaks Town supports three charities:

Hospice in the Weald. West Kent Mind, Sevenoaks Samaritans

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Editor's Note

Well hello again everyone and welcome to the Bourne Stadium for tonight's Pitching In Isthmian South East Division clash with Merstham - if you will, an M25 derby.

We'd like to welcome their players, officials and supporters and wish them all a safe trip back on the above-mentioned motorway after the game.

Merstham have made a bright start to the season and at the time of writing (before Tuesday's fixtures) they are seventh in the table.

Both matches between these sides ended in a 2-2 draws last year and on both occasions Merstham took the lead and then equalised in the final ten minutes after we'd gone 2-1 in front.

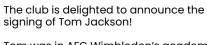
The strength of the league this year was underlined when Faversham went to National South side Maidenhead

United and knocked them out of the FA Cup on Saturday.

Maidenhead were in the National League last season (while Faversham were in the SCEFL) and I'm sure their 1-0 win will have reminded Oaks fans of our equally memorable win at Bath City a couple of years ago.

* Tonight's edition is digital only, due to the tight turnaround between Saturday's fixture with Sheppey and this one, and the absence of a number of officials for work and personal reasons, but normal service will be resumed for the next fixture when we host VCD Athletic on Saturday 27th September.

We also have a rearranged fixture to tell you about - we will now be playing away to AFC Whyteleafe on Tuesday 23rd September, with a 7.45pm kickoff.



Tom was in AFC Wimbledon's academy for 6 years before he unfortunately got Osgood-Schlatter in his knees which saw him unable to play for 18 months. He then joined the Kinetic Academy programme as an U16 and was there from 2019-2021. Tom has gone on to play in Step 3 and 4 for Guernsey, Corinthian-Casuals, Bracknell Town, Carshalton Athletic and most recently Cray Wanderers.

Welcome to Sevenoaks Town Tom!

Oaks on the Radio

West Kent Radio are featuring Sevenoaks Town on their Saturday afternoon sports programme. The show runs from 2pm to 6pm and includes three reports - preview, half-time and full time on all the club's matches, as well as midweek matches in breakfast sports bulletins the following morning. The station is broadcast on 95.5, 106.7 and 107.2 and is available on online, on smart speakers and app, which has been launched recently.



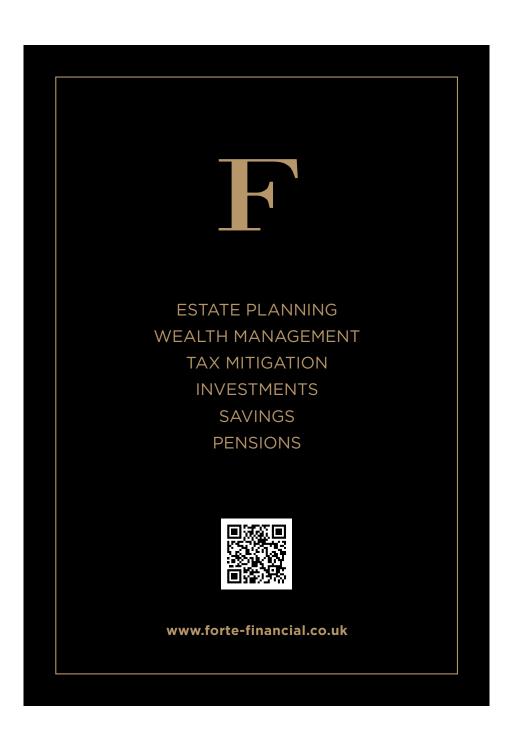


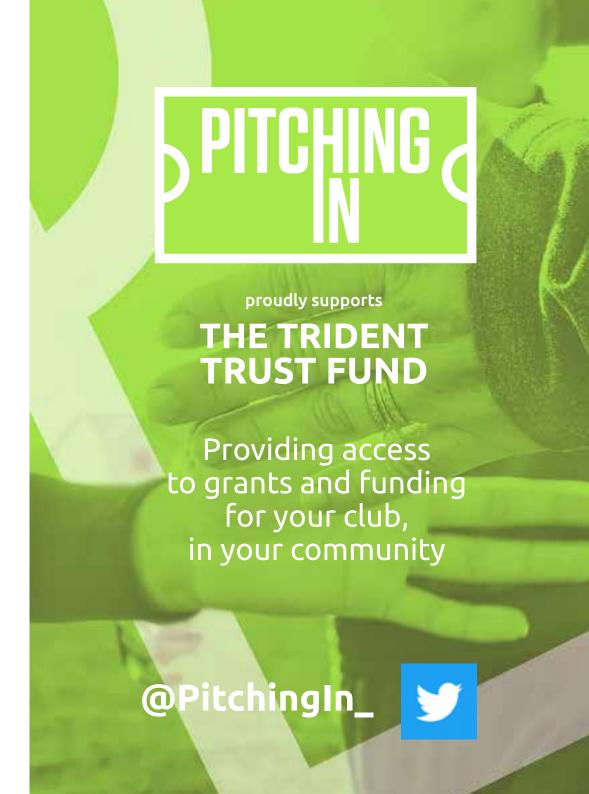
The club is also delighted to announce the signing of Gil Carvalho!

Gil has represented São Tomé and Príncipe on the international stage and previously played for Hastings, Sheppey United, Herne Bay, Haywards Heath and Ramsgate.

Welcome to Sevenoaks Town Gil and welcome back to Ajo Majek, who rejoined us before the Sheppey game!







Sevenoaks Town Fixtures & Results 2025-26

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p = Bognor won 7-8 on pens ISE = Isthmian SE kick off at 3pm FAC = FA Cup Wednesday fixtures at FAT = FA Trophy 7.30pm unless otherwise KSC = Kent Senior Cup TBC = To be confirmed

stated

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Merstham FC

In **1897** Merstham were founder members of the Redhill & District League and playing in Division Two along with our old friends Whyteleafe

The club's first major success was winning the league in 1927. In 1930, the East Surrey Junior Cup was added to the trophy cabinet. In 1935 and 1936, Merstham won the Redhill League Premier Division in consecutive years, a record later repeated in 1950 and 1951. In 1951, the club applied for intermediate status and accepted into the Eastern Section of the Surrey Intermediate League for the 1952–53 season. The move to the new league could hardly have got off to a better start, as the club claimed the title at their first attempt.

Merstham continued to play in the Surrey Intermediate League until they gained senior status in **1964** and joined the Surrey Senior League. In fourteen years in the Surrey Senior League, Merstham managed to win the title just once in 1971-72.

After a spell in the London Spartan League they joined the Combined Counties League in **1984-85** and the 1990-91 season saw the erection of floodlights and an official 'Floodlight Opener' against Crystal Palace, whose side included future England Manager, Gareth Southgate.

The FA Cup of **1996-97** saw Merstham's biggest home defeat when they crashed out in the First Qualifying Round, 1-8 to Aldershot Town.

The **2000-01** season was Merstham's most successful for nearly a decade. They reached the Second Qualifying Round of the FA Cup and finished eighth in the league after being in the top six for most of the season.

Silverware returned to Merstham in the **2004-05** season when they beat AFC Guildford 3-0 in the final of the Premier Challenge Cup and won the East Surrey Hospitals Charity Cup (ESHCC) with a victory over local rivals Redhill.

For the **2006-07** season manager, Mick Sullivan, along with assistants Micky Stratford and Rhys Williams built a team which surpassed expectations as the club enjoyed their best season for 20 years, finishing second in the league and winning the Premier Challenge Cup

by beating North Greenford Utd 4-1 in a hard-fought final.

In the league they notched up a fantastic 100 goals, nearly a quarter of which were scored by striker Kwabena Agyei.

Many thought Merstham had peaked, but the 2007-08 season, Mick Sullivan's seventh year in charge, brought the Club into a new era with a treble winning side, a fantastic run in the FA Vase and promotion to the Isthmian League South Division as they finally finished top of the league after two seasons as runners up.

After losing on the opening day of the season at Cove, Merstham went undefeated in the league for the rest of the season winning 35 times, gaining 111 points and scoring 114 goals with Kevin Lock and Kwabena Agyei scoring 53 between them. The dream of a Wembley final in the FA Vase vanished in the Quarter Final when they lost at home to Needham Market 2-3 in extra time in front of a crowd of 841.

With promotion to the Isthmian League South officially confirmed in May 2008, Merstham left behind them many friends after 24 seasons in the Combined Counties League.

The **2008-09** was Merstham's first season in the Isthmian South, finishing eighth, narrowly missing out the play-offs.

However, in May manager Mick Sullivan announced that, after eight seasons at the helm, he was leaving the club for local rivals Leatherhead. Former Banstead boss Graeme Banyard was appointed as the new manager.

The 2014-15 season was to be the best in the club's history to date, gaining promotion to the Isthmian Premier Division by winning the play-offs in style.

The semi-final went to penalties, which Merstham won 5-4 thanks to keeper Brannon Daly making a match-winning save. In front of a crowd of 1465, Merstham gained promotion at Folkestone beating the home side 3-0 with goals from Taurean Roberts, Tutu Henriques and skipper Fabio Saraiva.

The **2015-16** season was to be yet another record-breaking season for Merstham attaining their highest position in the 'Football Pyramid' finishing a very

A brief history

creditable tenth in their first season in The Isthmian Premier League.

In Merstham's second season in the Isthmian Premier, the Moatsiders reached the First Round Proper of the FA Cup for the first time in their history.

They achieved this with some of the finest football ever seen at the Moatside; They beat East Preston (4-1), Colliers Wood Utd (2-1 in a replay), Thamesmead Town (5-1) and Ebbsfleet Utd (2-1) on the way to a meeting with League One side Oxford United.

This saw a record-breaking crowd of 1,920 at the Moatside. Although Merstham lost 5-0, the scoreline somewhat flattered the League One side.

In 2017–18 saw the club celebrated its 125th anniversary, finish 12th in the league and for the second time in four years, win the Surrey Senior Cup, beating Leatherhead 3–1.

The **2018-19** was Merstham's best-ever season in the topflight. At Christmas, the side were flirting with relegation, but a superb run saw the Moatsiders put themselves in the hunt for the play offs. They finished the season needing to win away to Worthing to get into the play offs. Amazingly the visitors went 3-0 up inside the first ten minutes and held on for a 4-2 win

In the play-off semi-final, another tough away game at Carshalton saw the Moat-siders shock the Robins with a 2-1 win, which set up a play-off final away to Tonbridge Angels in front of a crowd of 2,400. Tonbridge scored on 34' and a penalty in stoppage time sealed a 2-0 defeat.

When football finally returned at the start of the **2021–22** season, the Moatsiders made a decent start in the league and progressed through two rounds of the FA Cup before losing at home to Hereford United. In the FA Trophy, Welwyn Garden City came to the Moatside and caused something of an upset by winning comfortably 3–0.

However, Merstham began to slide down the table. The team lost their final 13 league games and relegation was confirmed on the final day of the season.

Merstham were one of the favourites for

promotion from the Isthmian South Central in **2022-23**. However, Peter Adeniyi's young, new team failed to fire and after ten games, the team were bottom of the table and remained there for much of the season.

As the season drew to a close, Merstham were in deep trouble near the bottom. In the final league game of the season at home to Westfield.

After 45 minutes the Moatsiders were 2-0 down and staring relegation in the face, but a 2-2 draw earned a relegation play off against Egham Town, which they won 3-1, after being a goal down early on.

Adenyi announced he was returning to manage Carshalton and former Moatsider Tony Reid was appointed manager for the 2023-24 season. The FA also decided (without any consultation) to move the team into the South-East Division, thought by many to be a far tougher league.

Reid got off to a poor start and when his side was dumped out of the Velocity Trophy with a 6-1 defeat, the Board replaced him with Jamie Decruz.

His first match in charge saw the team go in at half time 3-0 down at home to Beckenham, only to pull off a dramatic 4-3 win. That game was a microcosm of the season, with the side consistently inconsistent. It wasn't until a 5-0 home win against Sevenoaks at the start of April that the club could finally breathe a sigh of relief.

The 2024-25 season was one to remember for Merstham, in the cups and the league. The Moatsiders began in style with a 7-0 Emirates FA Cup win over Wick, before bowing out against National League South side Tonbridge Angels. In the league the side showed real progress, finishing fifth and booking a place in the play-offs. Their run ended with a 4-2 semi-final defeat to Sittingbourne, but the achievement of reaching that stage marked a significant step forward for the club. Supporters were treated to some fine performances along the way, including home victories over Ramsgate and Sittingbourne, and an unforgettable 9-0 thrashing of East Grinstead Town under the lights at The Hybrid Fitness Stadium.

Jed Would like to shine



By Andrew Gidley

Jed Borders is enjoying life with Oaks catching the eye with some impressive performances in recent weeks. The 18-year old midfielder set-up both goals for Warren Mfula and Josh Wisson to earn a late point at Ashford last month, and then grabbed another assist for fellow-sub Dan Duncanson in the 5-3 FA Cup win at Corinthian Casuals a few days later - the same week he received his A level results - two A's and a B in Biology, PE and Psychology.

He said: "I started playing for my local club Chipstead and always played against Sevenoaks when I was younger. "I had lots of trials at different clubs including Tottenham and Arsenal, then found myself at Bromley - I did one year there and we were promoted into the Football League, and I have been a member of the EFL squad.

"I was doing my exams - and it was a

struggle and tough, but good experience - and very pleased with the results.

"They have sent me out to get experience in mens football on a dual-registration. "It's only five minutes from home and the Corinthian Casuals game was my debut in the FA Cup - what a game - and no better way to top it off with a win. "I loved every minute of it, three assists in

a week.

"Archie Burnett back heeled the ball to me, I saw the space, and was going to go for goal, but the defender came in, so I cut it back for Dan to score.

Borders' loan is expected to be season long but he also looking foward to playing in the Under-21 Premier League Cup with his parent club, due to have faced Sunderland at Hayes Lane last week.

Norwich City and Colchester United are in the same group, with each club playing each other twice.

"We are also in the Kent Senior Cup and play in another friendly league as well."

Doughty Performer

By Andrew Gidley

Mason Doughty says former coach Liam Joyce was the link that led him to signing for Oaks.

He left the club last month to join Southern Combination Lingfield as first team manager, but worked with Doughty's father. He said: "Dad said Liam had watched me a few times, and I mean't to introduce myself when Sevenoaks played against Broadbridge Heath last season, but didn't get the chance."

Marcel called me in the off season and as soon as he did I wanted to move.

"It wasn't a really difficult decision, I think it was the right time to venture out and play with different players under a new management team.

"I loved my time at Broadbridge Heath they have done really well - and that's a credit to the manager Chris Simmons and his coachina staff.

"I wanted to move to a more established Step 4 club - the surface helps and the training routines - Marcel really sold it to

Crawley based Mason started out at Three Bridges Academy breaking into the first team, before loan and permanent spells with Broadbridge Heath, and a stint with Worthing.

He netted his first for the club in the FA Cup at Corinthian Casuals, and doubled his tally to clinch a 2-0 win at East Grinstead on August Bank Holiday Monday. He admitted he was relieved and pleased to get off the mark: "It was a bit of both - in the games before that I had a few chances, and could have scored a couple against Croydon Athletic, but it was nice to get on the scoresheet and win.'



Mason celebrates his first goal for the Oaks at Corinthian Casuals



Bognor Regis 2 Sevenoaks Town 2





Sudden death penalties sealed Oaks early exit from the Usuzu FA Trophy- beaten 8-7 by Bognor Regis Town.

The First Qualifying Round tie - was switched to Chichester City's Oaklands Park - Oaks' poor record there continuing - and delayed 24 hours as Bognor's Nyewood Lane ground was unavailable due to the installation of a new 3G pitch.

The first seven kicks were all converted – Jordan Perrin saving the eighth.

Debutant substitute Nahum Green saw his next effort suffer the same fate, before Bognor's Ethan Robb converted to extend

the shoot-out.
The next six were all successful before another Oaks sub Wilson Bernal saw his kept out by home keeper Slav Huk - before Billy Alcock sent Bognor through.

Oaks led 2-0 early on through Warren Mfula and Dan Duncanson's deflected effort

before being pegged back in the second half - Jordan Perrin proving a one man barrier in keeping things level. He pulled off four saves in the space of five minutes -two of them outstanding.

Oaks bowed out of the FA Youth Cup at the first hurdle - beaten 2-0 by Whitstable Town.

It was a spirited display against Academy youngsters - the Preliminary Round tie not settled until the visitors got a second on the stroke of stoppagetime.

Keeper Archie Howard was in action early on with three saves the opening 20 minutes, before Whitstable went in front on the half hour.

A report from the Sheppey match will appear in the next edition.



Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Isthmian League football clubs need your help with them.

The Trident Leagues and Pitching In's online Volunteer Hub is the place where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

Please visit

Pitchinginvolunteers.co.uk

to find out more









2025-26 Squad



Sevenoaks Town

Merstham

Jordan Perrin			Rob Tolfrey		
Ayo Majekodunmi			Sam Allen		
Charlie Dickens	\Box		Ollie Khinda		
Thomas Hanfrey			Paris Hamilton-Downes		
Ryan Sawyer	\Box		Matt Drage		
Tolu Jonah			Harry Pointing		
James Stone	\Box		Ben Shroll		
Joshua Wisson	同		Harry Murphy		
Warren Hughes Mfula	同	$\overline{\Box}$	Jude Malloy		
Archie Burnett	同		Charlie Greenwood		
Mason Doughty			Louis Evans		
Jahmal Howlett-Mundle			Lee Lewis		
Archie Howard			Ryan Healy		
Tom Jackson			Billy Oram		
Gil Carvalho			Sam King		
Dan Duncanson			Olu Lawal		
Noah Carney			Aaron Jenkins		
Jed Borders			Korrey Henry		
Jack Tickle			Finlay Johnson		
Ben Morrison			Louis Degand		
			Jamarie Brissett		
Manager: Marcel Nin	Manager: Jamie Decruz				

Manager: Marcel Nimani Colours: Black/blue shirts, black shorts, black socks Manager: Jamie Decruz Colours: Amber shirts, black shorts



Match Officials:
Referee: Simon Cutler
Assistants: Myles Hewson & Matthew Charles
Next home match:
Sevenoaks Town v VCD Athletic
Pitching In Isthmian South East Division
Saturday 27th September 2025, 3pm kick-off







