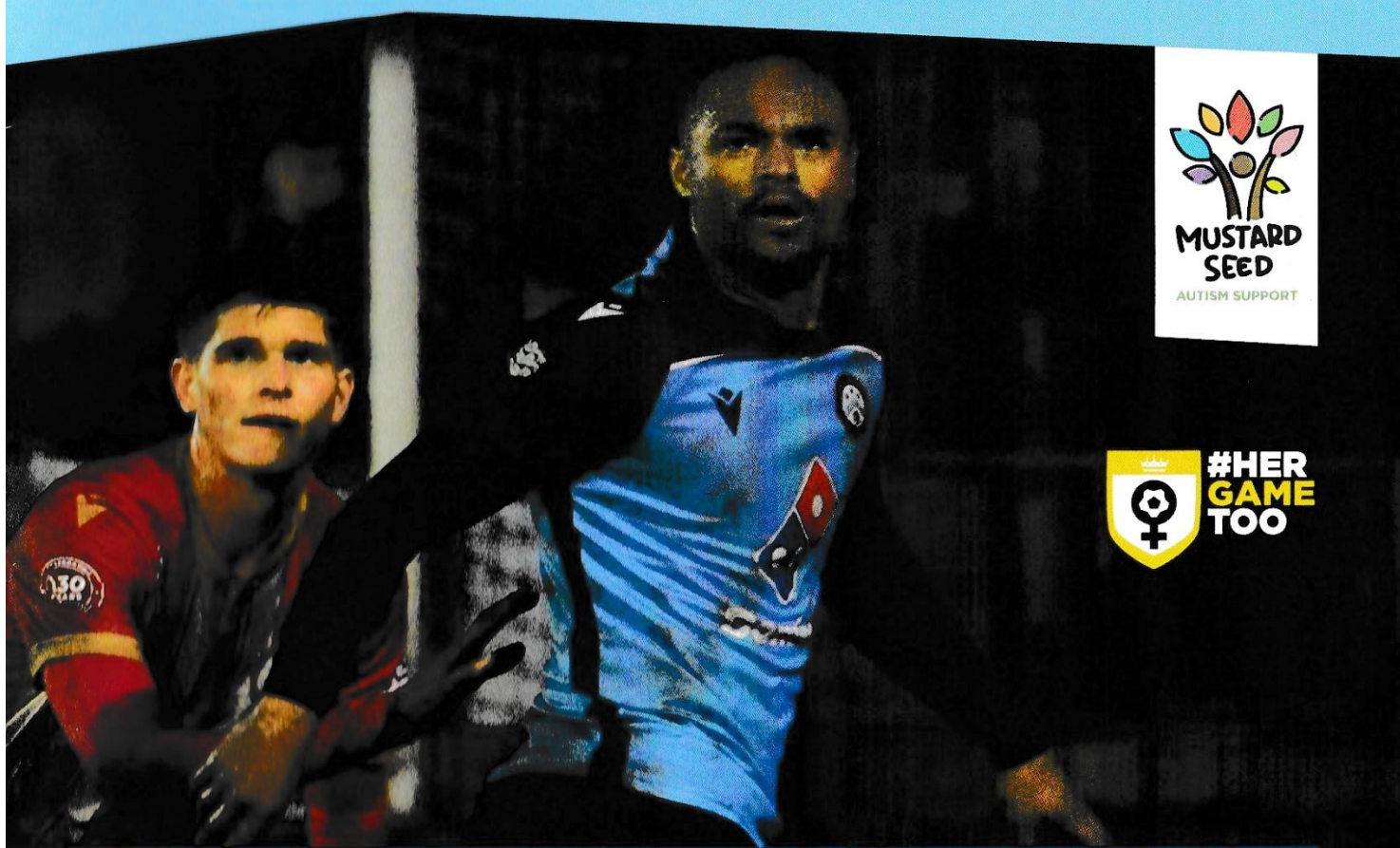


Talk of the TOWN



Fleet Town FC Official Matchday Magazine



Fleet Town FC

Versus



**Epsom &
Ewell FC**

**Combined Counties
Premier League
Southern Division**

**Saturday 30th
November 2024
Kick Off : 3.00pm**

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Notes from the chair...



A welcome message from **Caroline Bone**

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to the Easy as HGV stadium and an extended welcome to our opponent's Epsom & Ewell, along with their committee, management team, and fans.

Today, the boys look to consolidate their place in the playoff places after last Saturday's win against top of the league Redhill. With both teams being steadfast for most of the game, it had a draw written all over it, but with one mistake, the game took a turn, and the boys stepped it up a gear and went for a strong win.

In what were quite horrendous conditions, the ground was rocking, and like me, I'm sure the cold and wet weather didn't dampen your spirits.

We drew 2-2 last time out against Epsom, but we have made The Easy as HGV stadium a fortress, and let's hope the boys continue their great home record this afternoon.

Our Women's team continue their successful start to the season and keep their 100% unbeaten record intact, with another away

win last weekend against Bursledon. This win has taken the girls to the top of the league with games in hand on all in the league.

Tomorrow sees them take on Abbey Rangers away with a 2pm KO. Good luck, girls.

U18s had their league cup game against Guildford City postponed on Monday night, but this has been rescheduled for Monday 2nd Dec. Away at Guildford with a 7.30pm KO. Hope that some of you can join us.

Our **Pre Christmas party is tonight**, DJ is booked, and I'm ready to put my dancing shoes on and party the night away. Joining me?

So as ever I ask for you to **shout loud and proud** and be our 12th man.

Caroline

Chair: Caroline Bone

Vice Chairman: Darren McGrath

Club Secretary: John Lowe

Treasurer: Simon Beardmore

Club House Manager: Caroline Gray

Club Health & Safety Officer: Caroline Bone

PR, Marketing & Media: Dan Campling

Events Manager: Andrew Miller

Men's First Team Manager: Darryl Evans

Men's First Team Asst. Manager: Ben Murray

Director of Football: Tommy Taylor

Men's first Team Coach: Kavi Luchowa

Men's first Team Coach: Luke Barron

Men's first team Coach: Charlie Clapham

Men's First Team Physio: Gaz Lewis

Women's Manager: Craig Hayman

Under 18s Joint Managers:

Zac Chillery & Mark McGowan

Under U18's Coach: Nathan Cookson

Fleet Town Football Club, Crookham Road, Fleet, Hants GU51 5FA

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Gaffer's gasps

Pre-match thoughts from our manager...



Darryl Evans

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After a fantastic result on Saturday against Redhill, we need to keep the momentum going as we aim to stay in the chase with the league leaders.

It's been great to see the team stepping up in recent weeks, but consistency will be key as we look to build on our strong performances.

Epsom come into this game full of confidence after a great away win against Alton. We know how tough they can be - our last encounter ended in a hard-fought 2-2 draw at their place. Today is an opportunity for us to put things right from that game and ensure we keep pushing forward.

The key for us will be to maintain our strong starts, which have been a real positive lately, and ensure we carry that intensity through the full 90 minutes. This is another important test for us, and the lads are ready to rise to the challenge.

Finally, a massive thank you to our fans for your continued support., especially in all weathers like last Saturday! Your energy and backing make a huge difference, and we'll do everything we can to give you another performance to be proud of.

Thank you for being here and enjoy the game!

Darryl

Christmas Party TONIGHT!

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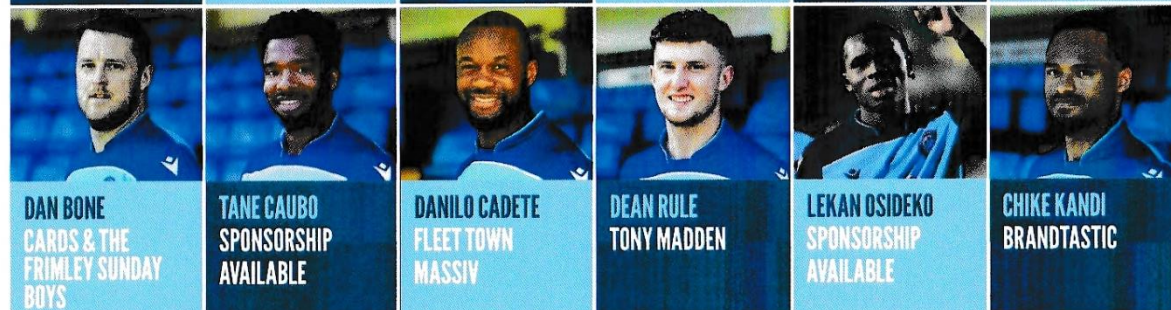
STAFF



DEFENDERS



MIDFIELDERS

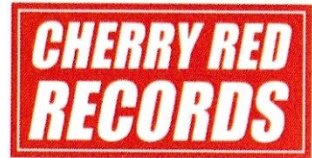


FORWARDS

Join the Blue Army on our WhatsApp channel | 5



League table & fixtures



Cherry Red Records Combined Counties Premier Division South

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Redhill	20	16	2	2	28	50
2	AFC Whyteleafe	20	15	2	3	33	47
3	Jersey Bulls	17	13	4	0	35	43
4	Cobham	22	10	7	5	21	37
5	Fleet Town	16	10	5	1	17	35
6	Corinthian-Casuals	23	10	3	10	-2	33
7	Knaphill	20	9	5	6	-2	32
8	Tadley Calleva	16	9	2	5	5	29
9	Abbey Rangers	18	8	4	6	-1	28
10	Tooting & Mitcham United	18	8	3	7	12	27
11	Camberley Town	17	6	3	8	-3	21
12	Horley Town	18	5	5	8	-4	20
13	Sheerwater	22	5	5	12	-15	20
14	Epsom & Ewell	18	5	4	9	-15	19
15	Sandhurst Town	19	6	1	12	-18	19
16	Chipstead	18	6	1	11	-25	19
17	Guildford City	19	4	4	11	-5	16
18	Alton	19	3	6	10	-13	15
19	Spelthorne Sports	17	1	5	11	-22	8
20	Balham	19	1	5	13	-26	8

Today's other Matches

Sandhurst Town **V** Jersey Bulls
 Abbey Rangers **V** Horley Town
 Alton **V** Corinthian-Casuals
 Camberley Town **V** Cobham
 Chipstead **V** Spelthorne Sports
 Epsom & Ewell **V** Tadley Calleva
 Guildford City **V** AFC Whyteleafe
 Sheerwater **V** Balham
 Tooting & Mitcham United **V** Knaphill

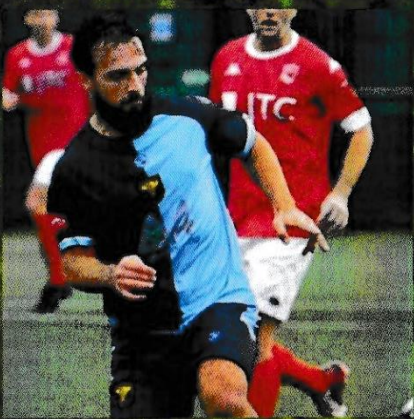
Results: Tuesday 26/11/24

AFC Whyteleafe **5-3** Balham
 Alton **1-2** Epsom & Ewell
 Camberley Town **4-0** Tadley Calleva
 Cobham **7-1** Sandhurst Town
 Corinthian-Casuals **3-4** Jersey Bulls
 Spelthorne Sports **2-1** Sheerwater
 Leatherhead **1-2** Abbey Rangers
 Virginia Water **1-4** Guildford City





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Who've we got today?



A potted history of today's opposition...

Epsom & Ewell Football Club traces its origins back to March 1918, when it was first established as Epsom Juniors Cricket Club. During the summer months, cricket was the main focus, but as autumn arrived, football took center stage with the creation of Epsom Juniors F.C.

Initially, the team played informal matches at Alexandra Recreation Ground. A year later, in 1919, competitive football began with the club joining the Surrey Junior League. The following year, the club became a founding member of the Sutton & District League.

In July 1922, a new chapter began with the club rebranding as Epsom Town F.C.. Playing at the Horton Hospital Sports Ground, the team quickly found success. In the 1922/23 season, they reached the Surrey Junior Cup Final but were narrowly defeated by Caterham Mental Hospital after extra time. Nevertheless, it was a season of remarkable achievements, as the club secured the Sutton & District League title, along with trophies such as the Leatherhead Hospital Shield, Sutton Hospital Cup, and Epsom Hospital Cup. With visionary leadership from Chairman Hugh Bradley, Epsom Town transitioned to Intermediate Football and won the Southern Suburban League undefeated. In 1924, the club was unanimously accepted into the Surrey Senior League, finishing third in its inaugural senior season.

By 1925, the club relocated to West Street, the former ground of Ewell F.C., purchased thanks to the generosity of future President Robert Bradshaw. The move marked the beginning of a golden era, highlighted by winning the Surrey Senior League Championship in 1925/26. The following season saw a league and cup double, capped by victory in the League Charity Cup. Success continued with election to the London

League, where Epsom Town claimed the title at their first attempt in 1927/28. Although they couldn't replicate this triumph, the team remained competitive, finishing runners-up multiple times in the following years.

The 1930s solidified Epsom Town's reputation as a formidable team. In 1933, the club won the Surrey Charity (Senior) Shield with a resounding 5-0 victory over Woking. That same year, they made their most significant pre-war achievement: an appearance in the First Round Proper of the FA Cup. After overcoming tough opponents like Woking and Leytonstone, Epsom Town faced Clapton Orient in front of 9,485 fans, ultimately losing 4-2. Shortly after, the club adopted a new name, Epsom F.C.

World War II brought challenges, as the club ceased operations temporarily. However, football in the town continued under Epsom Town, a wartime team that competed successfully. After the war, Epsom F.C. resumed activities, reclaiming West Street and entering the Corinthian League in 1949. The club enjoyed strong performances, highlighted by a League Memorial Shield Final appearance in 1952 and the signing of Pat Lynch, a former English Amateur International, who helped the team achieve consistent top-tier finishes.

In 1955, Epsom F.C. appointed Doug Whitehead as their first-ever manager. Under his guidance, the team came close to a Corinthian League double in 1956/57, finishing fourth





and narrowly missing out on the Cup title. By 1960, the club rebranded again to Epsom & Ewell F.C., a strategic move to represent the broader borough. However, the 1960s proved challenging, with poor results and eventual relegation. Despite efforts by notable managers like Jimmy Smith and Tony Williams, the team struggled to regain its former glory.

The tide began to turn in the 1970s. After being relegated to the Surrey Senior League in 1973, Epsom & Ewell rebuilt quickly. In 1974/75, the club achieved a league and cup double and reached the FA Vase Final, where 9,500 spectators at Wembley witnessed a narrow 2-1 defeat to Hoddesdon Town. This resurgence earned the team promotion back to the Athenian League, followed by an invitation to join the Isthmian League in 1977/78, where they clinched the Division Two title in their first season.

The 1980s brought mixed fortunes. In 1981, the club won the Surrey Senior Cup for the first time, defeating Woking. However, subsequent seasons saw managerial changes and relegations. A significant blow came in 1993 when Epsom & Ewell left their historic West Street ground, beginning a long period

of ground-sharing arrangements with clubs like Banstead Athletic, Merstham F.C., and Chipstead F.C.

The 2000s were a period of rebuilding. Under Lyndon Buckwell, the club achieved top-ten finishes in the Combined Counties League Premier Division, reaching the last 32 of the FA Vase in 2009/10. In 2012/13, the team won the Combined Counties League Cup, marking their first silverware since 1981. Despite successes, challenges remained, including another ground move in 2020 to Leatherhead's Fetcham Grove.

Recent years have been marked by resilience and determination. In 2021, under interim leadership, the club enjoyed a strong run of form before appointing Darren Anslow as manager. Although Anslow's tenure was brief, the team continued to show promise under various managerial setups. A significant milestone came in 2023, when promotion back to the Combined Counties League was secured after five years.

Looking ahead, Epsom & Ewell F.C. remains committed to its community roots. Efforts are underway to secure a new ground within the borough, promising a return to the club's historic heartland.



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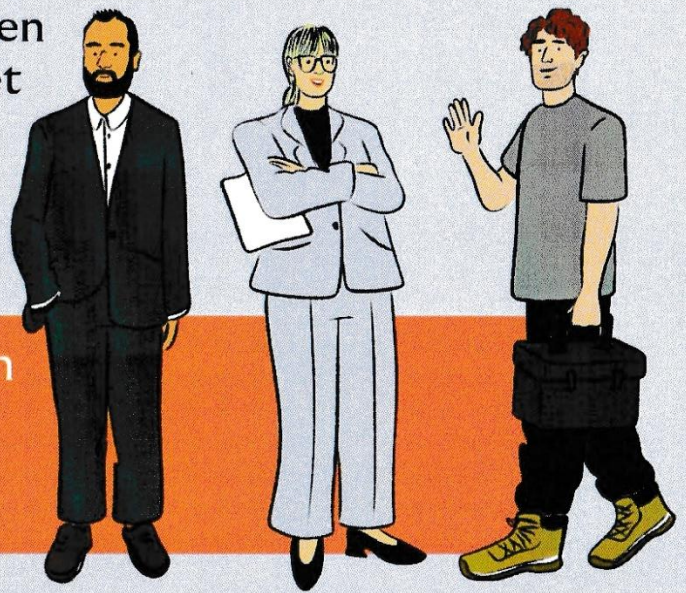
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Match Report

Fleet Town FC: 2

Redhill FC: 0

Combined Counties Premier Division South

Saturday 23rd November 2024

This close encounter was only settled in the last ten minutes on a wet Saturday afternoon at the East As HGV Stadium. A bumper crowd of 312 braved the elements to be entertained as Fleet Town hosted the league leaders Redhill.

The early exchanges saw Fleet take the game to Redhill, firstly a super ball from Chike Kandi in midfield played in Adam Liddle on his debut, he crossed the ball from the right, which brought the visitors keeper into action Luke Wynne-Roberts having to drop down on the ball to stop its progress across the box. Fleet were soon back on the attack, Chike Kandi again providing the ball forward to Danilo Cadete on the right, his quick movement gave him the space to pass to Fareed Hakeem-Habeeb, who danced round a defender and fired in a dangerous cross, which passed all the way through the box without anyone getting a vital touch to it. The next attack came up the left with Dean Rule crossing the ball into the box, this was blocked and cleared by Redhill defender Joe Dyett. Several more attacks from Fleet saw Adam Liddle and Fareed Hakeem-Habeeb causing problems in and around the box for the visitors back line to try and deal with. Fleet tried one move right up the middle, a long ball over the top which Danilo Cadete ran onto, but only managed to blast the ball over the bar. Eventually Redhill were able to settle into the game and started to be able to handle the Fleet front players, although often with the help of a little push of nudge in the back by the tall Callum McAllister as he went in to head the ball away. Redhill then set up some more

dangerous attacks of their own, with the runs of Ethan Ford down the left, but his first couple of crosses were only giving Finlay Purcell catching practise in the Fleet goal. Late in the first half Redhill were given a free kick close to the box, curled in by Nathan Hogan, it got touched by another Redhill player and went behind for a goal kick to Fleet. There was still time for Fleet to mount one more attack before the break, Dean Rule brought the ball up the left and cut into the box and got his shot away forcing Luke Wynne-Roberts into making a save at his near post. So half time was reached and the game still 0-0, with all to play for in the second half.

Redhill made two changes at the break including replacing Ethan Ford who had looked one of their more dangerous players and two further changes early in the half. One of the first chances in the half came when Redhill were given a free kick just outside the D, but they blasted the ball harmlessly well over the bar. Fleet continued to press forward, but as they got close the Redhill defenders were able to knock the ball away for a throw or corner.

From one corner the ball reached Robert Sheridan, who headed the ball towards the goal and the keeper scrambled across to clear the ball off the line. Although the referee had let the



Little pushes go in the first half, as Redhill players were going in harder in their attempts to contain Fleet, out came the Yellow cards and Redhill picked up a string of cards in quick succession. A quick break by Fleet saw Fareed Hakeem-Habeeb run from his own half with the ball, as he closed in on the box, he was unceremoniously brought down, the resulting free kick was taken by Danilo Cadete, the ball was headed out wide by collected by Nick Medcraft, he crossed the ball back in and Luke Wynne-Roberts was able to just reach it to palm the ball away to safety.

After Seventy Eight minutes Fleet made their first and as it ended their only change of the match, bringing on Dan Bone to add some extra pressure up front. Just as it looked as if game would finish goalless, a dangerous ball from a Fleet throw in, is headed back by a Redhill player and before Dan Bone can reach it, another Redhill player Joe Dyett gets his head on the ball and directs it past his keeper into the net for an own goal to give Fleet the lead on Eighty Five minutes.

Redhill then made their final change to help them now chase the game as they needed to look for an equaliser. As a Redhill attack is snuffed out and Robert Sheridan in possession and about to clear, the attacker fouls Sheridan giving Fleet a free kick. Finlay Purcell takes the free kick and picks out Chike Kandi on halfway, Chike runs forward and to the right and from twenty yards out strikes the ball into the net to double Fleet's advantage after Eighty Nine minutes.

With little time left Redhill still pushed forward but could not find any way past Finlay Purcell and Fleet held out for the win, three points and another clean sheet. This lifts Fleet Town up one place to fourth in the table as Cobham dropped points, though the side happiest with Redhill dropping points would be Jersey Bulls as they continue their unbeaten run and close in on the top sides.



Adam Liddle impressed the big home crowd on his debut



A view from behind the goal

A fans insight into the ups and downs of following the mighty Blue Army!

A lot has happened since I last wrote in here, not least the victory last Saturday against Redhill, the league leaders.

It was a testament to the ground staff at the club that the fixture even went ahead at all on a wet and stormy day that saw many fixtures elsewhere called off. Both sides, evenly matched, appeared to want to make a game of it and it was difficult behind the goal to see who might come out on top with chances at either end.

Just as it seemed the spoils would be shared there was another moment of pressure that had us catching our breath followed by an eruption of joy as the ball was glanced past his own keeper by an unfortunate defender. 1-0 up with minutes to go we would have been happy to hang on for the win but the team had other ideas - pressing forward once again Chike Kandi slid a delightful finish into the bottom corner from the edge of the area to confirm the win. Every win is important but this one particularly so, not many teams will take points off a very good Redhill side this year and as fans if we are honest we probably would have taken a draw before the game.

I have to just also give a mention to the visiting Redhill fans who stood behind the goal with us for the second half, they were good company and we had a friendly chat and a bit of a laugh. Good luck to them.

More league action today and welcome to the visiting fans from Epsom & Ewell, let's hope we can keep our run of good form this season going. The massive fixture away at Tring in the Vase is looming and it would be nice to go into that game with confidence on a high. It must be a nice for the management at the club to see everyone playing their part this year, combinations on the pitch flux as the weeks progress but it seems whoever is called upon is going out there and doing a job. We seem to be able to alter our style or gameplan seamlessly with everyone knowing what they have to do.

Let's get behind the team again today and play our part.

BLUE ARMY!!



Women's league table & fixtures



Southern Region Women's Football League Division 1 South

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Fleet Town	7	7	0	0	26	21
2	AFC Stoneham	9	7	0	2	21	21
3	Havant & Waterlooville	9	6	1	2	25	19
4	Wimborne Town	8	4	2	2	8	14
5	Bournemouth Sports Reserves	10	4	2	4	1	14
6	Bursledon	8	2	4	2	1	10
7	AFC Varsity	7	2	1	4	-18	7
8	Woking	9	1	3	5	-9	6
9	Abbey Rangers	6	1	1	4	-14	4
10	QK Southampton	9	0	0	9	-41	0

Results

Sun 24 Nov 2024

Bursledon 2 - 3 Fleet Town

Division One South

Sun 17 Nov 2024

Fleet Town 3 - 1 Havant & Waterlooville

Division One South

Sun 10 Nov 2024

Badshot Lea 3 - 5 Fleet Town

League Cup

Sun 03 Nov 2024

AFC Varsity 1 - 6 Fleet Town

Division One South

Sun 27 Oct 2024

B'mouth Sports Res 0 - 4 Fleet Town

Division One South

Sun 13 Oct 2024

Fleet Town 0 - 7 Dulwich Hamlet

Adobe Women's FA Cup

Sun 06 Oct 2024

AFC Stoneham 3 - 7 Fleet Town

Division One South

Sun 29 Sep 2024

Fleet Town 5 - 0 Woking

Division One South

Sun 22 Sep 2024

Fleet Town 8 - 2 Badshot Lea

Adobe Women's FA Cup

Sun 08 Sep 2024

QK Southampton 0 - 5 Fleet Town

Division One South

Sun 01 Sep 2024

Fleet Town 4 - 0 Rushmoor Community

Adobe Women's FA Cup

Fixtures

Sun 01 Dec 2024

Abbey Rangers **V** Fleet Town

Division One South

Sun 08 Dec 2024

Fleet Town **V** Milton United

League Cup

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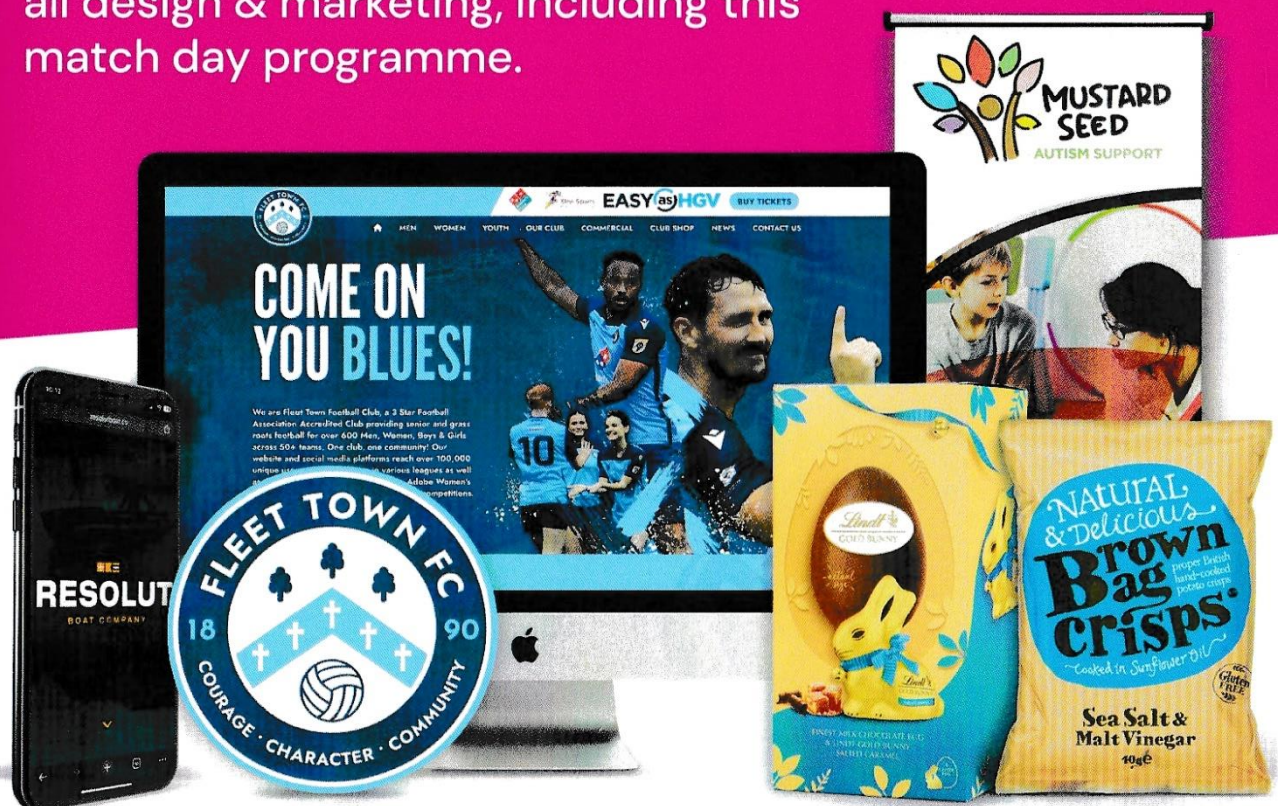
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