

LONDON BEES

VS CHATHAM TOWN



v



**SUNDAY //
24TH NOVEMBER //
13:00 KICK-OFF //
THE BEES STADIUM //**



CLUB HISTORY

There are many ancestral spirits behind the London Bees, but its earliest roots date back to a group of ladies working at Transport for London's District Line.

In the 1970s the women, looking for a team to play football, banded together and entered the Hounslow & District League - forming the platform for a remarkable rise.

Named in honour of their workplace, District Line Ladies FC appeared in leagues across Greater London before tasting promotion to the Women's FA National League Southern Division in the early 1990s.

It did not take long afterwards before the squad merged with Wembley FC - becoming Wembley Ladies FC and reaching their zenith in an FA Cup final defeat to Millwall Lionesses in 1997.

Meanwhile Barnet Ladies FC, established by Barnet director Graham Slyper in the mid-80s, had become officially affiliated with the men's club.

It prompted another merger in 1998 after Wembley's FA Cup finalists began to leave the club, including teenager and eventual England legend Kelly Smith.

Barnet FC Ladies have been a virtual mainstay in English football's top tier ever since before London Bees, a brand new franchise, was welcomed into the Women's Super League fold for 2014.

London Bees first ever fixture in WSL2 resulted in a 3-0 victory over Oxford United Ladies, with 16-year old Lucy Loomes scoring their first ever goal.

In 2016, the Bees experienced their best season to date, taking home a record points haul for the season as well as a historic run to the semi-finals of the Continental Cup, knocking out Chelsea en route. The 2017 Spring Series saw the Bees get off to a great start and top the league in the early stages.

A couple of disappointing seasons leaves the Bees in the fourth tier of Women's football but the summer saw a new era begin with Dan McKimm taking charge as head coach. The team sit 6th in the FA WNL Division One South east and are currently unbeaten in 8 games in all competitions.



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LONDON BEES 2024/25



Match Report

ASHFORD TOWN vs. LONDON BEES 0 - 5



The Bees made it eight unbeaten following a convincing win at strugglers Ashford Town on Sunday afternoon.

The game started with McKimm's side on top, a great chance fell to Lanza in the 13th minute when she got on to end of a teasing cross from the right-hand side, but Vigolo made a great stop to deny her.

Just one minute later Lanza made no mistake to give the Bees the lead when another ball in from the right-hand side met the number 10 who slotted the ball home.

The Bees pressure was mounting as the game went on and came so close to a second when Lanza again found herself with space to shoot at goal from inside the box, this time her effort rattled the right-hand post.

Hayley Hoare was next to test the keeper on the 22nd minute when she tried her luck from the edge of the box, forcing Vigolo into another smart stop.

Two minutes later and the Bees had doubled the lead. The ball was swung in from a corner leaving a goal mouth scramble before the ball fell kindly to Campbell who was on hand to place the ball into the net.

Tia Ginn was having a quiet afternoon between the Bees sticks until a free kick shot from distance for the hosts allowed her to use her gloves for the first time in the afternoon.

Lanza on the other hand was seeing plenty of the ball and came close to getting her second when another shot from the forward hit the post for the second time in the first half.

The disappointment was quickly washed away when Isherwood raced into the box with the ball before placing a beautiful left-footed shot into the bottom corner to make it three.

Half Time 0-3

The game could and maybe should have been 5-0 in a matter of minutes in the second half when a goal was disallowed for offside before a corner shortly after which found it's way in was also disallowed for an alleged foul on an Ashford player.

Pressure was building again for the Bees, and it came to nobody's surprise when the fourth was taken. Burrows found herself in the right place, right time to steal the ball before placing it past the keeper.

In the 57th minute, the Bees had wrapped up the scoring when a corner was swung into the path of Hoteit who nodded the ball past Vigolo to make it five.

Ginn was finally called into action on the hour mark when she leapt high to tip the ball over the bar to deny the hosts from a free kick. Shortly after, Ginn was on hand to deny the hosts again but this time from inside the box.

Debutant Whitelock looked to get her name on the scoresheet when she got on the end of a great cross from the right-hand side, but she could only see her shot rise over the bar.

This result sees the Bees climb to 5th in the FA WNL Division One South East table!

Full Time 0-5

Starting line up:

Ginn, Hoteit, Flynn, Lee, Durn, Isherwood, Lanza, Burrows, Wozniak, Hoare, Campbell.

Used substitutes:

Charles (for Campbell 60'), Tambula (for Hoare 67'), Whitelock (for Durn 67'), Bartlett (for Wozniak 80'), McDermott (for Burrows 80').

Goalscorers:

Lanza (14'), Campbell (24'), Isherwood (45'), Burrows (52'), Hoteit (57')



CHATHAM TOWN

In 1995, Gillingham F.C. owner Paul Scally co-opted a local women's football team called Borstal '88.

In June 2014, the team was brought back under the banner of the men's football club, Gillingham F.C., after a period as an independent outfit. Following this takeover, the club became known as Gillingham Ladies and played home games at Priestfield Stadium. Simon Ratcliffe was appointed as manager, but the club was relegated after the 2014–15 season and Ratcliffe subsequently departed.

In June 2020, Gillingham F.C. announced that, because of restructuring necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic, they would no longer operate Gillingham Ladies with immediate effect.[4] The club, sanctioned by the FA Women's National League, simultaneously announced a rebrand as Gillingham Women and would continue competing as an independent entity.

In October 2022 Kevin Hake, the manager-chairman of Chatham Town, was announced as owner-chairman of the side, succeeding Josh Oatham.

The FA has approved a name change to Chatham Town Women from the 2023–24 season.

SQUAD LIST

LONDON BEES



Manager

Dan McKimm

(GK) Tia Ginn
(GK) Molly Baxter
(GK) Mia O'Brien
Mira Hoteit
Sophie Lee
Alice Hughes
Cheyenne Flynn
Aria Heil
Olivia Bartlett
Rebekah Wozniak
Desting Rosier-Welsh
Hailey Hoare
Aimee Durn
Sarah McDermott
Megan Burrows
Frankie Tilbury
Faye Murphy
Portia-Milan Langley Wright
Shamoy Campbell
Millie Isherwood
Millie Constantine
Aaliyah Charles
Chloe Tambula
Lily Whitelock
Inès Affri



CHATHAM TOWN

Manager

Keith Boanas

Simone Eligon (GK)
Grace Cooms
Ellie Jeffkins
Lottie Sharp
Jasmine Auguste
Tyra Poole
Ellie Perkins
Ciara Hynes
Otesha Charles
Darcy Wells
Madison Woodgate
Amelia Woodgate
Magan Maslak
Lucy Jones
Grace Laverick
Jess King
Faith Gilson
Salena Sareen
Liv McGregor
Lacey Hergest
Millie Rayner

Match Officials

Referee: Abigail Freullet

Assistant 1: Rohan Chotai

Assistant 2: Mark Jacob