

CLUB HISTORY

Hayes & Yeading United Football Club was created in May 2007 when the two clubs respective Chairmen, Derek Goodall and Philip Spurden agreed that the only way either club could continue, long term, at the level they were playing would be to join forces as a single entity.

Hayes FC was founded in 1909, as Botwell Mission, when Eileen Shackle, the teenage daughter of a wealthy land agent, encouraged the local youngsters to form a football team. The team was originally known as Botwell Mission, after the mission church that was built in memory of her grandfather, and that still stands today as part of the Hayes Library in Golden Crescent. Yeading FC was also founded with youth in mind beginning their existence in 1960 as Yeading Youth Club, started by brothers Ray and Carl Gritt.

By the time the two clubs were both in existence, Botwell Mission had changed its name to Hayes FC in June 1929 where having progressed through the Great Western Suburban League and the Spartan League they were then accepted into the Athenian League. In their first season at this level they reached the final of the FA Amateur Cup. This was notable for the fact that the club had started at the 1st qualifying round stage and had played all its nine matches away from home, travelling an estimated 1,500 miles to places as diverse as Wisbech, Trowbridge, Stalybridge (where Northern Nomads played), and York for a semi-final against Bishop Auckland. The final was lost to Wycombe Wanderers by one goal to nil. The Athenian League was won for the only time in season 1956-57 on goal average over Finchley and the semi-final of the Amateur Cup was reached, losing to Bishop Auckland before a crowd of 32,000 at St James Park, Newcastle.

While the sixties were pretty lean for Hayes FC, the newly formed Yeading FC were starting to get noticed at a junior level, having moved to Warren Park in 1965. As Uxbridge League Premier Division Runners up in 1967 Yeading moved into the newly formed West Middlesex Combination Premier Division and having notched a league and couple double that same season joined the South West Middlesex League. That first season (1968/69) Yeading won the West Drayton Charity Cup, and more prestigiously the Middlesex Junior Cup for the first time while also securing the Division One Title. Further promotion led to back-to-back South West Middlesex Premier Division titles and in 1970/71 Yeading also won both the Middlesex Junior and Intermediate Cups. During the 1970s they won the latter five times and the former twice.

In 1971/72 Hayes FC were elected to the Isthmian League while Yeading FC earned promotion to the Middlesex League seeing Championship success in their first season (1971/72), scoring a record 122 goals in the process. Season 1972/73 saw Yeading sweep all four trophies - League and Cup - in the Middlesex League while over at Church Road Hayes FC hit the headlines with an FA Cup first round defeat of Football League side Bristol Rovers before taking Reading to a second round replay.

The eighties saw Hayes FC maintain their Isthmian League status year on year without much danger of movement up or down while Yeading FC had started their climb upwards at no mean rate of knots. The Ding moved from the Middlesex League to the Spartan League going unbeaten through 1986/87 and earning promotion to the Isthmian League Division Two South in the process. The turn of the decade saw Yeading hit the national headlines when they became the first Middlesex side to lift the FA Vase, having drawn at Wembley, they travelled to Leeds' Elland Road where they secured a 1-0 victory over Bridlington Town.

Season 1992/93 saw Yeading's meteoric rise through the leagues reach the Isthmian Premier, the first time neighbours Hayes FC and Yeading FC were to become rivals. This rivalry was to last until 1996 when Hayes FC reached the pinnacle of non-league football by winning the Isthmian League championship by one goal in a nail-biting finale which also involved Enfield, Yeovil Town and Boreham Wood. The club maintained a presence at this level for six seasons, including finishing in 3rd place in 1998-9, before suffering relegation for the first time in 2002 at which time Yeading FC had dropped out of the Isthmian Premier so the renewal of rivalry would have to wait.

Hayes FC were to become one of the founder members of the Conference South League and were soon joined by neighbours Yeading FC, renewing the rivalry for a couple of seasons before the biggest sporting news the area had seen for many years.....

Hayes and Yeading United FC – Merged rivals.

After a season of consolidation, the newly merged side took many people by surprise in 2008/09 when a late season Conference South record equalling run of 10 consecutive victories saw a play-off place earned. Looking dead and buried at 4-0 down after 50 minutes of the semi-final first leg, only a dreamer would have predicted a place in the final. Dreams do come true though and two late first leg goals and a 4-0 extra time victory in the second leg at Eastleigh saw the final reached. A tight final ensued but Hampton & Richmond Borough were seen off by the odd goal in five and promotion was achieved to the pinnacle of non-league football, the Conference Premier. United more than held their own in the top flight for the first two seasons but with a much reduced budget and 5 years of ground sharing due to the late completion of the Club's new stadium, United hit the relegation trap-door in April 2012 and again in April 2016 and April 2017 before beginning its life in a new Stadium in 2017/18, losing the promotion play-off semi-final to Cambridge City at season end before a switch to the Isthmian League for 2018/19 saw United romp to the title and promotion with a 16 point advantage at season end. This was followed by two seasons being cancelled part way through due to the Covid-19 pandemic before a completed 2021/22 season saw United finish as runners-up only to fall at the final hurdle with a play-off final defeat. The 2022/23 season saw the Middlesex Senior Cup won for the first time with United just missing out on the play-offs, finishing in 7th position.

Hayes & Yeading United Football Club – 2023/24

MARK MOLESLEY – Manager

Mark took over as first team Manager at Hayes & Yeading in early October 2023 after Ritchie Hanlon opted to step down to his old position of assistant manager.

Began his career in the FEDO youth system at Hayes FC and became the first graduate of the scheme to sign a first team contract, making his debut against Nuneaton in May 2000. Described at the time as a forward running midfield player who could create something out of nothing, Mark spent four full seasons with the Hayes after his debut before to play for Cambridge City, Aldershot Town, Stevenage Borough and Grays Athletic before being signed by AFC Bournemouth. Made his Cherries League 2 debut in October 2008 before moving to Exeter City and then Aldershot Town and finally Weymouth where he ended his playing career.

Started his coaching career with AFC Bournemouth under 15s before becoming player-coach at Weymouth in 2016 while also being assistant manager to the AFC Bournemouth under 21 side, a position he retained even when being appointed first team manager at Weymouth in 2017. While in charge at Weymouth he achieved back-to-back promotions taking his side to the National League at the end of the 2019/20 season.

His achievements at Weymouth saw him appointed manager of Southend United however with the team struggling financially he departed the club in April 2021 and subsequently returned to former club Aldershot Town, this time as Manager. His tenure with the Shots lasted until October 2022 and after leaving he took over the reins at Gosport Borough and led the relegation threatened team to safety by season end whereby he departed the club.

Comes "home" to United looking to boost the seasons form and push Hayes & Yeading towards the clubs goal of promotion to the National League South.

1 - JACOB ADAMS – Goalkeeper

23 year-old former Fulham under-21 goalkeeper who joined Hayes & Yeading in the summer of 2022. Had successful loan spells the previous season with Walton Casuals, where he was twice victorious against United, and then with Isthmian Premier side Leatherhead. He started out with Hullbridge Sports and then played for Staines Town and East Grinstead Town before being scouted by Fulham while playing for the University of Surrey, signing his first pro deal in the summer of 2021. Started the last campaign in fine form for United only for an injury against Farnborough in the FA Cup to keep him out for several months, upon his return he sustained a further injury that kept him out until season end. A fully fit Jacob now returns for a second season with United looking to reproduce his excellent start to the previous campaign.

2 - COLE BROWN – Defender / Midfielder

25 year-old right sided defender or attacking midfielder who re-joined Hayes & Yeading in January 2022 from National League South side Hampton & Richmond Borough. While progressing through the youth ranks here at United, he made his debut as a 16 year-old in the Middlesex Charity Cup against Harrow Borough before being promoted into the first team squad the next season, making his National League South debut at Bishop's Stortford. Was a regular during season 2016/17 before opting to switch to Uxbridge in the summer of 2017. From Uxbridge he moved to Hendon and then Walton Casuals before settling at Hampton & Richmond in 2019. Has become a key player for United due to his pace and versatility while chipping in with the odd goal as well.

3 - JACK WILLIAMS - Defender

26 year-old left-back who re-joined Hayes & Yeading for a third spell in the summer of 2023 having first signed in August 2019 after coming through the youth system at Queens Park Rangers for whom he first played at age 9 before leaving the R's in January 2019. While at QPR he had a short loan spell in the National League South with Bishop's Stortford from March 2017 and this was followed by a loan spell with Wycombe Wanderers the next season where he made his professional debut in a Football League Cup tie against Fulham before making his league debut shortly after against Notts County. Impressed at United during the two curtailed Covid-19 seasons making the left-back slot his own before moving on to Hemel Hempstead in the summer of 2021. Jack now returns to add stability to the left side of the United defence going into the new season.

4 - SANMI ODELUSI - Midfielder

30 year-old defensive midfielder who joined Hayes & Yeading in February 2020 from Romford. Sanmi started his career in the youth ranks at Queens Park Rangers, Reading and finally Bolton Wanderers for whom he signed professional terms, going on to make 6 league appearances for the Trotters while also having loan spells with MK Dons and Coventry City. In 2015 he signed for Wigan and then had further loan spells with Rochdale and Blackpool before moving on to play for Colchester United and Cheltenham Town. In the summer of 2019 he joined National League side FC Halifax Town and on leaving them he moved to South Shields in October 2019. After initially "retiring" at the end of December 2019 to concentrate on coaching, he returned to playing with Romford before moving to United a short time later to continue his playing career where he impressed in his few appearances before both campaigns were curtailed. Has proved to be the rock that holds the United midfield together in his time at the club and we look forwards to another outstanding season from Sanmi and he has also been appointed club captain for 2023/24.

5 - TARIK MOORE-AZILLE - Defender

27 year-old central defender who joined United in February 2023 shortly after departing fellow Southern Premier South side Hendon. Tarik is a much travelled and experienced defender who started out with Thurrock before moving on to play in short spells for Dover, Hoddesdon, Maldon & Tiptree, Bishop's Stortford and Margate, finally settling down at St Albans City in 2017. From the Saints he moved to Hungerford Town for a short spell before joining Oxford City in 2018. Joined Braintree Town in 2020 before signing for the now defunct Walton Casuals last season, scoring his sides opener as they beat United 3-2. After Casuals demise he joined Hendon at the start of this season before joining United to boost our defensive options. After showing well last season, Tarik now returns for a full season at the SKYex.

6 - JERRY WILTSHIRE - Defender

28 year-old central defender who joined Hayes & Yeading United in the summer of 2022 having been an integral part of the Walton Casuals side that beat United three times the previous season. Jerry's came through the youth system at Queens Park Rangers before moving across the pond to study in the United States, firstly at Bethel University where he played for the Bethel Wildcats whilst also playing club football for Memphis City and Chattanooga. He then moved to the University of West Florida where he played regularly for the West Florida Argonauts followed by club spells with Peachtree City MOBA and the Des Moines Menace. Returning to the UK in 2020, he signed for Maidenhead United before joining Walton Casuals in November 2021. Missed a big part of last season due to injury and returns this season hoping to stay injury free at the heart of the United defence. He is also a current British Virgin Islands International.

7 - TOBIAS BRANEY – Striker

20 year-old striker who joined Hayes & Yeading in January 2024 on loan from Premier League side Luton Town. Tobias joined the Hatters in 2022 from Bowers & Pitsea and is part of their

Development Squad. Last season he had a loan spell with Chesham United which saw him score 8 times for the Generals and in that time he also faced United both home and away. He spent the early part of this season on loan at National League North side Bishop's Stortford and now comes to United looking to push himself and his career on an upward path while helping United to push up the table.

8 – OMAR ROWE - Midfielder

29 year-old attacking midfielder who re-joined Hayes & Yeading in the summer of 2023 from National League South side Farnborough. Spent the first part of his youth career at West Ham United before moving to Southampton at under-16 level where he excelled, signing a professional deal with the Saints on 1 July 2013. Made his Southampton debut in August 2013 as a substitute against Barnsley in the Football League Cup. After the Saints he had short spells with Tower Hamlets, Woodford Town and Bishop's Stortford before moving to play in Cyprus in 2016. His first side was Ethnikos Latsion before he moved up a division to sign for Ayia Napa. In 2018 he signed for first division side Enosis Neon Paralimni before returning to Ayia Napa in January 2019. After a stand out season with United in 2019/20 where he finished joint top scorer with 13 goals, including the fan voted "Goal of the Season". Omar spent three seasons as a regular in the heart of the United midfield despite two of those being curtailed by Covid-19. A full 2021/22 campaign saw United fall to Farnborough in the play-off final whereby Omar was signed by the promoted side in the summer of 2022. With things not quite going to plan he joined Chesham United on loan in January before leaving in the summer and subsequently returned to United looking to pick up his form from when he left.

9 - MO BETTAMER – Striker

Experienced 30 year-old striker who re-joined Hayes & Yeading in the summer of 2022 having had a short spell with the club in 2011/12. Mo came through the Academy ranks at Watford before settling with Spartan League side London Tigers from whom he originally joined United. On departure from United he played for North Greenford and had another spell at London Tigers before joining Hampton. From there he moved to Libya and spent 3 seasons with Al-Ahly Benghazi however due to the civil war football was suspended for the final two seasons of his contract. Upon his release he returned to the UK for a lengthy spell at Staines Town before signing for Braintree in 2018. This was followed by a spell with Barnet before he settled in with Aldershot Town where he spent 3 years, ending with a loan spell at Maidstone United and his subsequent release in the summer. Mo had been capped by Libya at under 17, 18 and 23 levels, before making a goalscoring senior debut against Equatorial Guinea in 2020. Spent the second half of the 2022/23 season on loan to Concord Rangers, and started the current season playing in the National League South while on loan at Chelmsford City, returned to United at the end of January 2024.

10 - LUKE GAMBIN – Midfielder

Experienced 30 year-old winger who joined Hayes & Yeading in November 2023 having departed from League 2 side Sutton United in the summer. Started in the youth system at Barnet before spending more than five years in the Bees first team set up including loan spells at both Hemel Hempstead Town and Hendon. In January 2017 he signed for Luton Town and subsequently spent the 2018/19 season on loan with Crawley Town. In the summer of 2019 he signed a two year deal with Colchester United and in January 2021 he went out on loan to Newport County until the end of the season. In July 2021 he signed for Maltese Premier side Hamrun Spartans, spending a season there before returning to England the following summer whereby he signed for League 2 side Sutton United. Luke has in excess of 35 International caps for Malta, scoring his first goal for them against Slovakia in a 2-2 World Cup Qualifier draw in March 2021.

11 - FERDINAND OKOH – Midfielder

19 year-old midfielder who joined Hayes & Yeading in January 2024 on a season long loan from Premier League side AFC Bournemouth where he features in their Under 21 side. Started out in the Academy systems at Tottenham and West Ham before moving to the Cherries in 2020. While in the Cherries under 18 side he helped them to the fifth round of the 2020/21 FA Youth Cup and to the EFL Youth Alliance title. Last season he spent time in our division during loan spells with both Truro City and Dorchester Town.

12 – AYO FANIYAN - Striker

23 year-old Nigeria born striker or winger who joined Hayes & Yeading in the summer of 2022 after showing well during pre-season. Ayo was a product of the youth system at Reading where he was consistently top scorer for his age group and he even played for the under 23

side aged just 15. After his departure from Reading he had a lengthy but sadly unsuccessful trial with Premier League side West Ham United. Following his trial with the Hammers he moved into the non-league game by joining Hertford Town however his time there was disrupted by the pandemic and he then left to join Tooting & Mitcham United in January 2022. In just his third substitute appearance for United last season he sustained a season ending injury at Hythe Town in the FA Cup. Many months of rehab and recuperation along with his own determination to get back on the pitch has seen him return for United during pre-season looking fit and sharp. Currently on dual registration with Southall to regain full match fitness.

13 – LINDRIT BEQIRI – Goalkeeper

20 year-old goalkeeper who joined United in December 2023 from Tooting & Mitcham United however he is no stranger to the United set up as he was with us throughout pre-season. Signed to back-up regular starter Jacob Adams and will be looking to advance his learning under the tuition of goalkeeping coach Delroy Preddie.

14 - PAUL FIELD - Defender

23 year-old defender who joined United late in August 2022 having ended the previous campaign with Southern Premier Central side Stratford Town. Started out at Stevenage and while there had a short loan spell with Aylesbury. Showed his versatility last season literally playing all four positions across the United defence while throwing in a couple as a holding midfielder as well. An exciting prospect who is looking to push ahead with his career at United this coming season.

15 – WILL SALMON – Defender

Vastly experienced central defender who joined United in January 2024 from Lewes. Started as a teenager with Aldershot Town before joining AFC Wimbledon in the summer of 2007. From there he had spells with Ebbsfleet, Telford, Bath, Woking, Basingstoke and a couple of spells with Met Police before joining Leatherhead in the summer of 2018. After a successful three seasons with the Tanners he signed for Lewes in the summer of 2021 where he was a popular member of the side and at the time of his departure to United he was their vice-captain.

16 - RONAN SILVA – Midfielder

23 year-old central midfielder who joined Hayes & Yeading in September 2023 having left National League South side Farnborough in the summer. Started out with Fleet Town before moving to Biggleswade Town from where he was snapped up by Crawley Town in February 2022. While with Crawley he had loan spells with both Lewes and Eastleigh and then upon his release in February 2023 he signed for Farnborough.

17 - AMOS NASHA - Midfielder

28 year-old midfielder who signed for Hayes & Yeading in October 2020 having spent time the previous season with Dartford, Dulwich Hamlet and Salisbury before ending that campaign at East Thurrock United. Started out in the youth system at West Ham United, making one first team appearance for the Hammers in the Europa League against FC Lusitanos before moving on briefly to Dover Athletic from whom he joined Concord Rangers. After two seasons with Concord he signed for Chelmsford City before moving on again after one season whereby he joined Dartford. Scored his first United goal in November 2020 against Carlisle United in the FA Cup which was to be United's last game of the pandemic curtailed 2020/21 season. Proved to be an integral part of United's push to the play-offs in season 2021/22 with his non-stop energy and commitment endearing him to the United faithful although he struggled to hold down a regular starting place last season he returns looking to force his way to a regular starting position in the United midfield.

18 – LOUIS DUNNE – Midfielder

25 year-old midfielder who joined United on New Years Day 2024 on a short loan from National League South side Chelmsford City that was later extended until the end of the season. Started out in the Academy system at Colchester United, making his professional debut for them in March 2016 as a substitute against Wigan Athletic. Subsequently had loan spells with Concord Rangers and Farnborough before joining the latter permanently ready for the 2020/21 season. From there he joined Chelmsford City in April 2021 becoming a regular before being sidelined by a serious injury in December 2022. Working his way back to full fitness, he has spent some time with Coggeshall Town and now comes to United looking to help both Hayes & Yeading and to raise his own match fitness ready for a return with City. Louis has also represented the Republic of Ireland at youth levels under 15, 16 and 18.

19 – STEVE NGUNGA – Midfielder

Talented 20 year-old defender who joined Hayes & Yeading in July 2022 from Combined Counties side Kensington & Ealing Borough after showing well during pre-season here at United. Steve is a left sided defender who has reportedly drawn attention from a number of professional clubs over the past year or so, he comes to United looking to push his career forwards by moving up a couple of levels. Made a brace of appearances early on before going out on dual registration to get some regular football under his belt. Returned to United at the very end of the last campaign and showed well enough to be retained by manager Ritchie Hanlon for the new campaign.

20 - MICHAEL FERNANDES - Midfielder

24 year-old winger who joined United in September 2023 following his departure from fellow Southern Premier South side Hungerford Town whom he had joined in the summer from Farnborough. Proved to be a thorn in United's side in both the play-off final in May 2022 and in the FA Cup last season where his attacking runs and trickery on the ball continually caused problems for the United defence. Came through the Conquest Academy to join Hampton & Richmond Borough prior to signing for Farnborough in 2017/18, scoring twice on his debut against Hitchin Town. After a productive season at Farnborough, he signed for Colchester United in the summer of 2019 but having failed to make a breakthrough he was loaned to Dartford and then Farnborough whom he rejoined upon his release ready for the 2021/22 campaign and there he remained, apart from brief spells at Leatherhead and Salisbury on dual registration. He joined Hungerford Town on dual registration in March 2023 before signing permanently in the summer.

MARVEL EKPITETA – Defender

28 year-old central defender who joined Hayes & Yeading in October 2023 from Isthmian Premier side Dulwich Hamlet. Started in the youth systems at both Oxford United and Stevenage before making his senior debut for North Greenford United. He then played for AFC Hayes before being snapped up by Chelmsford City. Subsequent spells with Heybridge, East Thurrock and Bishop's Stortford twice followed before he signed for Hungerford Town for the 2018/19 season. From there he moved to Newport County, making his debut in the EFL Trophy against West Ham U23s. Spent much of the season on loan at Ebbsfleet and then joined Macclesfield Town just days before the club was wound up. Moved to Dover thereafter before a successful two seasons with Billericay. Signed for Dulwich at the start of September 2023 but switched to United a few weeks later.

CHARLES HAGAN – Striker

22 year-old striker who joined Hayes & Yeading in October 2023 having spent the previous campaign with League One side Wycombe Wanderers. Started as a youngster with Chelsea before moving into the Sheffield Wednesday youth system and subsequently signing his first professional contract with them in July 2020. His Wednesday debut came against Fulham in the Carabao Cup and in September 2021 he was loaned to National League South side Hampton & Richmond Borough with his return to the Owls coming at the end of January 2022. Following his release by Wednesday he returned south and signed for Wycombe Wanderers in August 2022 and after a season with the Chairboys he was released and has now signed for United looking for regular games to push his career onwards once more.

NORMAN WABO – Striker

25 year-old striker who joined Hayes & Yeading in September 2023 having started the campaign in the National League South with Weymouth. Started his career in the youth system at Southend United and following an impressive loan spell with Cambridge City, scoring four in five games, he progressed to the Shrimpers under 23 side before making his first team debut as a substitute at Scunthorpe United. Subsequent loans followed in the National League set-up with Ebbsfleet United, Maidstone United and Braintree Town. Upon his release he signed for Dartford and from there had a loan spell at Cheshunt before joining Margate in October 2020 however his time there was cut short by the Covid pandemic and he signed for Billericay Town for the following campaign. From Billericay he had loan spells with Bowers & Pitsea and Potters Bar Town before joining Eastbourne Borough and subsequently Weymouth in recent times.

BEN HEATH – Striker

18 year-old striker who joined Hayes & Yeading in November 2023 having been with Essex Senior League side Halstead Town last season. Made three appearances for them last season scoring 3 times.

ELLIS LAWSON – Defender / Midfielder

18 year-old left sided defender or midfielder who signed on with Hayes & Yeading in December 2023 having been with Coggeshall Town earlier in the campaign. He initially came through the youth ranks at Dagenham & Redbridge from age 16 and spent a large part of last season on loan with Hullbridge Sports. Joined Maldon & Tiptree at the start of the current season before moving to Coggeshall from whom he joined United.