

FROME TOWN FC – CLUB HISTORY

Frome Town, known as the Robins, was formed in 1904 and played in the Wiltshire Premier League. Early success came in the form of three Somerset Senior League Championships in between 1906 and 1911, whilst in between the Wiltshire League Championship was won in 1909-10.

The Club reached the Fifth Qualifying Round of the FA Cup in 1911-12 under the old format of the competition, which was today's equivalent of the Third Round proper. The team travelled to Southport Central, only to lose 4-1 in front of a crowd of 3,366.

Frome entered the Western League in 1919 and immediately became Division 2 Champions.

The Somerset FA Senior Cup was won in successive seasons 1932-22 & 1933-34 & for a third time in 1950-51.

Frome have always played at Badgers Hill and the ground held its biggest gate in 1954 when 8,000 spectators saw Leyton Orient win 3-0 in the FA Cup First Round Proper. In the same season promotion was won to Division One of the Western League & was beaten finalists in the inaugural Western League Cup.

Promotion was gained back into the Western League after a spell in the Wiltshire League again in 1962-63 where the club remained until last season.

Success was gained in the Somerset Premier Cup in 1966-67 with victory over Yeovil Town in the final and the cup was shared by the same two teams in 1968-69.

Frome's greatest triumph came in 1978-79 when the club won the Western League. The Championship was secured by losing only once in the last 32 matches. The League Cup followed in 1979-80.

Another vintage year followed in 1982-83 with victories in both the Somerset FA Premier Cup and the Western League Cup, plus runners-up in the league. The next trophy to follow was the 1983-84 Western Counties Floodlit Cup & in 1984-85 the Club reached the second round proper of the FA Challenge Trophy.

Following those heady days, Frome flirted all too often with relegation from the Premier Division, and were relegated in 1995-96 and the Club spent several years in the lower reaches of the First Division.

The Club was re-structured off the field in 1999-00 and money was spent on upgrading the old and ramshackle ground. Unfortunately, success on the field did not follow with a re-structure of the league saving the Club from relegation into County football.

Frome improved rapidly and after finishing third continued upwards as they won promotion back to the Western League Premier Division after a six year absence the following year & also reached the final of the league cup.

With Frome struggling to win at home during the 2003/04 season the Club turned to the help of a local "White Witch", Titania Hardie. This move brought huge media interest from all over the World. It worked immediately and they went on a magnificent run that saw them go on to finish 3rd in the league.

The 2004-05 season saw the Club celebrate their centenary & events on the field saw the Robins reach the Quarter-Finals of the FA Vase before eventually losing 3-0 at Jarrow Roofing.

A seventh, third and fourth placed finish before last season saw the club continually improving and then runners-up spot in 2008-09 secured promotion into the Southern League for the first time in the Clubs history. The Somerset Premier Cup was also won with a 3-1 win over local rivals Paulton Rovers.

After a poor start to life in the Southern League and a quick change of manager Frome went on an incredible unbeaten run and finished the season in sixth place and just three points from a play-off place.