QPR was founded in 1886,[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Queens_Park_Rangers_F.C." \l "cite_note-2) when a team known as St Jude's (founded 1884) merged with Christchurch Rangers (founded 1882). The resulting team was called Queens Park Rangers, because most of the players came from the [Queens Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen%27s_Park_(London)) area of North-West London. QPR became a professional team in 1889 and played their home games in nearly 20 different stadia (a league record), before permanently settling in [Loftus Road](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loftus_Road) in 1917 (although the team briefly played at [White City](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_City_Stadium) between 1931–32 and [1962–63](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1962%E2%80%9363_in_English_football) in the hope of attracting larger crowds).[[3]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Queens_Park_Rangers_F.C.#cite_note-3)

Queens Park Rangers played on two grounds within [Park Royal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Park_Royal). The first was the Horse Ring, the site of the now-demolished Guinness Brewery, on the [Royal Agricultural Society](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Agricultural_Society_of_England)'s show grounds from 1904 to 1907 which had a capacity of 40,000. When the Society sold the grounds in 1907, QPR moved to the Park Royal Ground, 400 yards south, an almost exact replica of [Ayresome Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ayresome_Park), with a capacity of 60,000. The club were forced to move out in February 1915 as the ground was taken over by the [Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Army).[[4]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Queens_Park_Rangers_F.C.#cite_note-4)

QPR were promoted as champions of Division 3 South in the 1947–48 season. [Dave Mangnall](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dave_Mangnall) was the manager as Rangers enjoyed 4 seasons in the Second division, being relegated in 1951–52. [Tony Ingham](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tony_Ingham) was signed from Leeds United and went on to make most ever league appearances for QPR (519).

Prior to the start of the [1959–60](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1959%E2%80%9360_in_English_football) season saw the arrival of arguably the club's greatest ever manager,[[5]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Queens_Park_Rangers_F.C.#cite_note-5) [Alec Stock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alec_Stock). The [1960–61](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1960%E2%80%9361_in_English_football) season saw QPR achieve their biggest win to date – 9–2 vs [Tranmere Rovers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tranmere_Rovers_F.C.) in a Division 3 match. In time, Stock, with the advent as Chairman in the mid-60s of [Jim Gregory](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_Gregory_(football_chairman)) helped to achieve a total transformation of the club and its surroundings.