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VS **CHASETOWN**
22/08/23 - 7.45PM
NPL WEST
OFFICIAL MATHDAY PROGRAMME

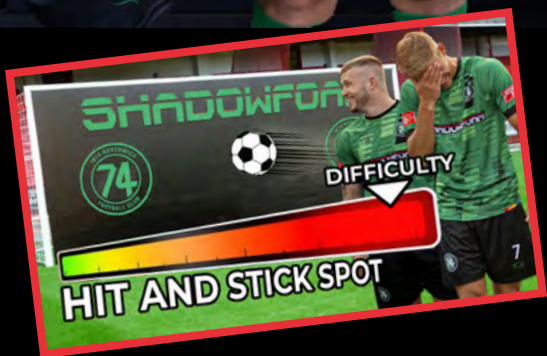
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1874 NORTHWICH FC



Northwich Community Football Club,
trading as 1874 Northwich Football Club.
Registration no.: 32017R

20 Greenside Drive, Lostock Green,
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STADIUM: The Offside Trust Stadium,
Townfield Lane, Barnton, Northwich,
Cheshire, CW8 4LJ

Visit

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PROGRAMME: programme@1874northwich.com

MEDIA: media@1874northwich.com

WEBSITE: www.1874northwich.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/1874Northwich

TWITTER: www.twitter.com/1874Northwich

COLOURS:

HOME: Green shirts, black shorts, green socks

AWAY: Orange shirts, grey shorts, grey socks

THIRD: Blue shirts, blue shorts, blue socks

HONOURS:

NWCFL CHALLENGE CUP 2019, 2020

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SUPPORTERS DIRECT SHIELD 2013

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WELCOME TO TOWNFIELD

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE - WEST

vs **CHASETOWN**

TUESDAY 22ND AUG 2023 | K.O. 7.45PM



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT: Brian Edge

CHAIRMAN & COMMUNITY: Stephen Richardson

FINANCE: John Coats

FOOTBALL: Vicki England

COMPANY: Maggie Coats

SOCIAL & FUNDRAISING: Richard Stockton

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT: Alex Dickinson

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT: Peter Foherty

ENGAGEMENT: Mark Kelly

ENGAGEMENT: Luke Bushnell-Wye

OTHER CONTACTS:

TREASURER: John Coats

FOOTBALL SECRETARY: Vicki England

WELFARE OFFICER: Maggie Coats

PROGRAMME EDITOR: Luke Bushnell-Wye

PROOF READERS: Richard Webb/Richard Bush

MEDIA: Ashley Dobell/Jade Kelly/Xenia Simpson/
Ben Davies

MATCHDAY PHOTOGRAPHY: Daniel Blunt/Daniel
Neilson/Frank Oakes/Xenia Simpson

MATCH REPORTS: Jack Owen

WEBSITE: Mark Edgeley

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF:

FIRST TEAM MANAGERS:

Paul Bowyer & Wayne Goodison

PHYSIOTHERAPIST: Katy Bagshaw

KIT MANAGER: Andy Williams

UNDER 21s MANAGER: Kyle Murray

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

STEVE RICHARDSON



Good evening everyone and a special welcome to all associated with tonight's visitors to Townfield, the players, management, officials and supporters of Chasetown FC.

Chasetown join the NPL West division following lateral movement from the NPL Midland division during this years non league restructuring cycle. I am sure that they will relish the new challenge and I look forward to following their progress throughout the season.

Formed in 1954 as Chase Terrace Old Scholars, the club were renamed as Chasetown FC in 1972 and have been stalwarts of Staffordshire non league football ever since.

Chasetown suffered defeat to Boldmere St Michaels FC last Saturday in the FA cup, however they have started their tenure in the NPL West impressively and successive wins against Runcorn Linnets and Leek Town sees them currently sitting second in the table.

Last Tuesday evening 1874 visited another of our new members of the league in the form of Stalybridge Celtic FC, coming away with a well deserved point from a club who will be aiming to return to the Premier division as soon as possible.

The performance of the team on Tuesday night was a heartening display following the disappointment of defeat to Kidsgrove on the opening day of the season, and whilst it will undoubtedly take a while for some of our new players to fully gel into the team, the performance at Stalybridge bodes well for the future. Hopefully tonight we can continue to build on that performance and collect our first 3 points of the season.

1874 Northwich were extremely happy to announce our new First team Shirt sponsors for this and next season in the shape of local company Shadowfoam.

Shadowfoam produce DIY kits that enable professional and home users to manufacture quality foam liners for toolboxes, flight cases and much more. I would encourage all our supporters to take a look at the company's website, Youtube channel and Twitter/X feed to see the full range of innovative storage solution ideas that their customers have come up with.

The applications are truly endless and until you see the possibilities for Shadowfoam, you won't have realised how much you need it.

Please enjoy tonight's game.

As always, Be Loud and Proud.

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All the best,

Steve.

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FROM THE DUGOUT

PAUL & WAYNE



Co-manager Paul Bowyer gives his thoughts ahead of the midweek visit of Chasetown to Townfield and reviews a positive performance away to Stalybridge a week earlier:

1874 gave managers Wayne Goodison and Paul Bowyer a positive reaction they were looking for last Tuesday at Bower Fold against promotion favourites Stalybridge Celtic.

“I thought we were much more like us on Tuesday. Good on the ball and more importantly we were solid defensively. We really should have scored but the pleasing thing is we created chances and kept a clean sheet. Although we dominated large parts of the game we also had to hold firm towards the end and we did so.”

“The result at Stalybridge gave everyone confidence and shows that on our day we’re capable of competing with every club in the league.” Bowyer added.

Moving on to the visit of Chasetown, Bowyer expects a physical battle with a side who should be challenging for promotion:

“We’ve done our homework on Chasetown as usual and I’d expect them to be right up there at the end of the season. They’re a physical side who like to get the ball forward and play on the front foot. It’s important we deal with their aerial threat and take our chances when they come our way.”

1874 will be without Gabriel Mooney Munoz and Sam Adetiloye who are both unavailable for the game.

Giving a chance to other members of the squad to impress, including Jamal Crawford who returned to the club on Monday, here’s what Paul had to say about the forwards return:

“We’re pleased to have Jamal back. He’s trained well on Thursday and Saturday, he looks good. Obviously he’s not had as much game time as he’d like this season but he’ll boost our attacking options and the good thing is he knows how we play and we know Jamal’s strengths. We didn’t want Jamal to leave last season so it’s great to have him back.”

Finally, Bowyer stressed how the size of the task ahead for the Greens in the next week:

“We’re going into an important week now with three games in the space of 6 days against some very good teams. We’ll know more about the squad of players and it’s important we perform in our home games and pick up some points. The support as always will help to spur the lads on so we need you to be loud from the first whistle on Tuesday”

Enjoy the game

Up the '74!

Bows and Goody

SECRETARIAL MUSINGS

VICKI ENGLAND



Good evening everyone and welcome to our second home League game of the season, our first home night match and the very first game against Chasetown, who are new to the Division.

For those of you like me, who have watched football for quite a few years, you may have visited Chasetown in the old days, however tonight is another first for '74.

I would like to bid a warm welcome to everyone connected with Chasetown who have travelled north tonight. They've had a great start to life in the NPL West, beating Linnets away and Leek at home; two of the fancied teams of the league again so they couldn't have asked for more. We'll have to be on our mettle for this!

Football can lift or drop your spirits so much, can't it!! After the first home game against Kidsgrove, who fully deserved their victory, I felt so much for the lads. It was a difficult one to take, the effort was there but we just switched off at times and they punished us. They followed up with another bag full of goals in their next game, so we met a strong side who could well ruffle a few feathers this season.

Tough games come thick and fast in this league and none more so than visiting Stalybridge last Tuesday, touted to be a club vying to bounce straight back up. Bow and Goodie made some changes and got the boys geared up ready, and what a performance! The lads were terrific from the first minute, playing some cracking football but they also defended strongly when Celtic turned up the pressure a little in the second half. A draw was a fair outcome, but we could have nicked it!

What I was also so pleased to see was the support over there. A really good following got behind the team all the game and I was really proud of this. I understand that not everyone can make away games, some weren't able to get to that game and perhaps some decided not to travel on the back of the previous Saturday's defeat.

Whatever the reason, you missed an absolute cracker and one of the best nil nil games! I travelled back home feeling so pleased and buoyed by the performance and I was so proud of the lads for bouncing back so quickly.

Football emotions, eh?!

After this evening, we head to Prescot on Saturday and then entertain our Cheshire neighbours Nantwich Town next Monday, 3pm for a Bank Holiday fixture.

Despite starting with a loss at Avro, Nantwich have followed up with two very good victories and are another expected to be up there at the end of the season. So, we'll need everyone getting behind the lads and if the 74 boys can take their undoubted talent and effort into these games, we'll make it interesting!

I want to send out a thank you to everyone who has supported the initiatives we have in place to help the club. Whether you have bought your season ticket, taken numbers in the 300+ club, renewed your membership or contributed to the Boost the Budget scheme, it is all so important and appreciated. We also have opportunities to sponsor players, and a list will be placed in the programme and on the website. If you would like to help and give a boost to one of our players, please let us know!



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Finally, there's something I feel quite strongly about...

We're all here and wearing green as we want our club, and our team, to do well. By nature, we get disappointed if we don't do so well, and then feel 10 feet tall when we do. But I was so disappointed to hear and be told of some (an exceptionally small minority) comments during and after the Kidsgrove game.

It's easy to support a team when they are winning a cup or beating Macc away etc. but when the chips are down, the team needs support more than ever to pick them back up. We have good, honest lads who want to put smiles on faces and many of them are young players wanting to develop and do well for 1874.

Whilst I am not saying that supporters should not have an opinion or shouldn't be disappointed when we get beaten, I believe that there are ways to express those feelings and ultimately it comes down to respect and perspective.

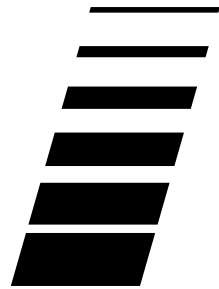
At our level, players hear what comes from the terraces and I'm not sure that some comments are helpful. Perhaps a more positive approach from some, would have a better impact?

That's it for now, enjoy the game and thanks for your support. And for the first time this season...

"Come on you Green Boys!"

NEW SEASON - NEW KIT

AND NEW PRIMARY SPONSOR, SHADOWFOAM



1874 Northwich FC are delighted to announce our new 2-year first-team kit sponsorship agreement with local business Shadow Foam Ltd.

Shadow Foam, based locally in Anderton supplies innovative and customisable foam for organising tools, tech and much more.

Shadow Foam are a hugely ambitious business with whom we are looking at building a strong relationship with over the next few years.

The newly designed first-team home shirt will also feature back-of-shirt sponsorship provided by Fundmypitch.com, an innovative business funding organisation.

1874 Chairman Stephen Richardson said "The club is immensely grateful to both Shadow Foam and Fundmypitch.com for the support and confidence that they have shown in 1874 Northwich FC and we look forward to working closely with both organisations in promoting their businesses to a wider audience within the North West footballing community".

Shadow Foam owner Jonathan Shone said of the partnership, "There seems to be a great synergy between ourselves and 1874. We're less than half a mile away from one another, and both celebrated our ten-year anniversaries back in November last year. I'm a big football fan, as are most of my staff, with most of us living locally too. Just like our own business, the club are vibrant and ambitious and are just the sort of community club we want to be aligned with".

This new sponsorship arrangement will see the closure of our excellent partnership with Chemiteq Ltd who have been our first-team shirt sponsors since 2020 and we would like to thank them for their support over the years.

However, the Chemiteq Ltd name will continue to be used on our away shirt for the upcoming season before its renewal in season 2024/25.

Designed internally and supplied once again by SK Kits, our new kit is now available.

An initial stock order has been placed and will be available at the club shop on a matchday.

The online shop is also ready for taking orders.

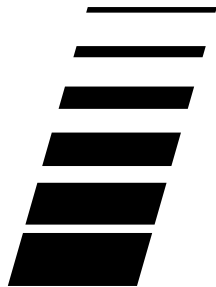


Kit Store



BIG GAME PREVIEW

BY GARRY CLARKE



1874 NORTHWICH vs CHASETOWN NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE - WEST

1874 Northwich welcome Chasetown to Townfield for tonight's NPL West Division game.

Chasetown ended the 2022/23 season in 6th place in the NPL Midlands Division with a record of:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Pos
Chasetown	38	20	8	10	58	27	31	68	

Having been switched from the Midlands Division to the West during the summer re-shuffle they have opened their league season with two wins to stand 2nd in the NPL West table.

Opening with a 2-1 away win at Runcorn Linnets, in which both of last season's top goal scorers Jack Langston and Luke Yates got on the scoresheet, they followed that with a 2-1 home win over Leek Town with Langston again on target after Levi Rowley had opened the scoring.

How the two stand on the league ladder leading into tonight's match:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Pos
Chasetown	2	2	0	0	4	2	2	6	2
1874	2	0	1	1	2	6	-4	1	16

CHASETOWN FACT FILE

<i>Formed</i>	1954
<i>Ground</i>	The Scholars Ground
<i>Colours</i>	Blue & White
<i>Change Colours</i>	Red & White
<i>Nickname</i>	The Scholars, The Chase
<i>Manager</i>	Mark Swann
<i>2022/23</i>	6th NPL Midlands

The two teams have never played each other before.



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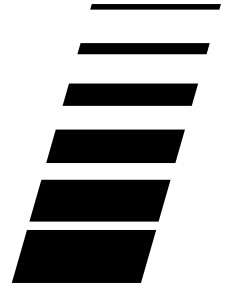
Tel. 07949 678399

Find us on



RESPECT INITIATIVE

SETTING STANDARDS AT 1874 NORTHWICH



1874 Northwich is supporting The FA's Respect programme to ensure football can be enjoyed in a safe, positive environment. As such, everyone at the Club, including managers, officials, players and spectators, have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game, both on and off the pitch.

As Club Welfare Officer, I have a responsibility to communicate our safeguarding arrangements and expected standards of behaviour. This is becoming more relevant, as we are seeing more and more of our junior players watching the senior team and also some of our first team squad are under the age of 18. This means that as adults we need to be conscious of the example we are setting.

We rightly pride ourselves on being a family club and all have a part to play in making the matchday experience safe and enjoyable for our younger fans / players.

We would hope that you respect ALL players and officials. No one sets out to make mistakes, but they happen. So please play your part and observe The Football Association's Respect Code of Conduct in everything you do.

The following are extracts from the Club's spectator code of conduct as it applies to young people:

- Remember that young players are doing the best they can
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success
- Lead by example, always respect the match official's decision
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake – mistakes are part of learning
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour.

It is great to see so many youngsters at matches, both on and off the pitch, let's make them feel welcome.

Thanks,
Maggie Coats
Club Welfare Officer
cwo@1874northwich.com



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Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Northern Premier League football clubs need your help with them.

The Trident Leagues and Pitching In's online Volunteer Hub is the place where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

Please visit
Pitchinginvolunteers.co.uk
to find out more



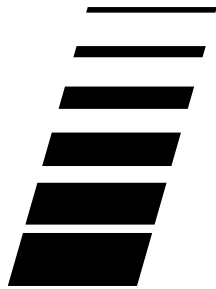
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NORTHERN
PREMIER
LEAGUE

MATCH CENTRE 23/24

BY PETE GRIMES



DATE	OPPOSITION	FT	HT	Att	Goals					REFEREE
Aug 5	Ossett United (FAC ExP)	0-2	0-2	392						Everard C
12	KIDSGROVE ATHLETIC	2-6	1-4	252	Nicholson	Irlam				
15	Stalybridge Celtic	0-0	0-0	627						
22	CHASETOWN	-								
26	Prescot Cables	-								
28	NANTWICH TOWN	-								
Sep 2	Newcastle Town	-								
10	City of Liverpool (FAT 1P)	-								
16	MOSSLEY	-								
30	City of Liverpool	-								
Oct 7	VAUXHALL MOTORS	-								
14	Hanley Town	-								
21	WIDNES	-								
28	Leek Town	-								
Nov 4	Clitheroe	-								
11	BOOTLE	-								
18	Runcorn Linnets	-								
25	AVRO	-								
Dec 2	TRAFFORD	-								
9	Hednesford Town	-								
16	STALYBRIDGE CELTIC	-								
23	Kidsgrove	-								
26	WITTON ALBION	-								
Jan 1	Nantwich Town	-								
6	PRESCOT CABLES	-								
13	Chasetown	-								
20	LEEK TOWN	-								
27	Widnes	-								
Feb 3	Mossley	-								
17	CITY OF LIVERPOOL	-								
24	Vauxhall Motors	-								
Mar 2	HANLEY TOWN	-								
16	HEDNESFORD TOWN	-								
23	Trafford	-								
30	NEWCASTLE TOWN	-								
Apr 1	Witton Albion	-								
6	Bootle	-								
13	CLITHEROE	-								
20	Avro	-								
27	RUNCORN LINNETS	-								

LEAGUE FIXTURES 2023/24

2023 AUGUST

SAT 12 v KIDSGROVE ATHLETIC
TUE 15 @ STALYBRIDGE CELTIC
TUE 22 v CHASETOWN
SAT 26 @ PRESCOT CABLES
MON 28 v NANTWICH TOWN

SEPTEMBER

SAT 02 @ NEWCASTLE TOWN
SAT 16 v MOSSLEY
SAT 30 @ CITY OF LIVERPOOL

OCTOBER

SAT 07 v VAUXHALL MOTORS
SAT 14 @ HANLEY TOWN
SAT 21 v WIDNES
SAT 28 @ LEEK TOWN

NOVEMBER

SAT 04 @ CLITHEROE
SAT 11 v BOOTLE
SAT 18 @ RUNCORN LINNETS
SAT 25 v AVRO

DECEMBER

SAT 02 v TRAFFORD
SAT 09 @ HEDNESFORD TOWN
SAT 16 v STALYBRIDGE CELTIC
SAT 23 @ KIDSGROVE ATHLETIC
MON 26 v WITTON ALBION

2024 JANUARY

MON 01 @ NANTWICH TOWN
SAT 06 v PRESCOT CABLES
SAT 13 @ CHASETOWN
SAT 20 v LEEK TOWN
SAT 27 @ WIDNES

FEBRUARY

SAT 03 @ MOSSLEY
SAT 17 v CITY OF LIVERPOOL
SAT 24 @ VAUXHALL MOTORS

MARCH

SAT 02 v HANLEY TOWN
SAT 16 v HEDNESFORD TOWN
SAT 23 @ TRAFFORD
SAT 30 v NEWCASTLE TOWN

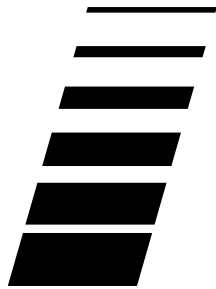
APRIL

MON 01 @ WITTON ALBION
SAT 06 @ BOOTLE
SAT 13 v CLITHEROE
SAT 20 @ AVRO
SAT 27 v RUNCORN LINNETS



BECOME AN OWNER

NEW MEMBERSHIP SCHEME LAUNCHED



New membership plans are ACTIVE!

At our last AGM, the membership voted through changes to the clubs membership structure on the back of a lengthy review and consultation process.

It was confirmed that we would introduce two membership options that will supersede all existing membership options.

1874 Northwich F.C. operate under a cooperative model as an Industrial and Provident Society.

This means we are truly a members owned football club. We use a 'one member one share' principle giving everybody an equal voting right.

The **Owner** package gets you one share and one vote, access to the weekly newsletter, and a digital membership pack, and is priced at £20/year.

The **Owner+** package grants you all of the above, plus an additional exclusive scarf, an annual 'thank you' gift, and includes the match highlights to your inbox every week.

This is available at £180/year or £15/month. Owner packages are also available to be bought as gifts for the 1874 fan in your life.

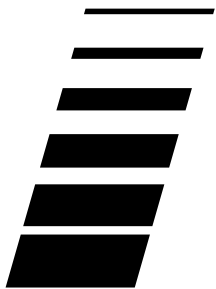
Buying a share in 1874 Northwich is not an investment and there is no return on or of the money you put in. Please note that owner benefits, beyond voting, may vary from year to year.

You can access the page to purchase your membership on the link below, or talk to a board member today!

[Become an Owner](#)

SEASON TICKETS

STILL AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE



Our season tickets are now available to purchase. The tickets are valid for all 19 home league games for the price of 15 matches, so there's still time to act now and get free games for your money!

Adult & Concession (65+) tickets also include two "Bring a Mate" tokens.

Juniors are 12-16 year olds with under 12s gaining free admission.

Click below to purchase, or ask at today's game.

[Season Tickets](#)

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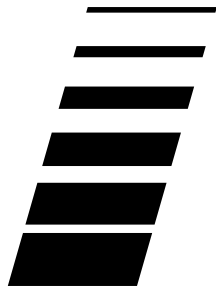
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BOOST THE BUDGET

SUPPORT THE PLAYING BUDGET DIRECTLY



Thank you to everyone who has pledged donations to our Boost the Budget scheme.

As we hit the start of the new season we will shortly be able to let our management team of Wayne and Paul know the final figure that has been pledged and ring fenced to be added to the playing budget available to them.

We will also begin collating and starting to distribute the range of rewards available to the scheme's contributors.

The Boost the Budget scheme will directly influence the ability of our managers to offer competitive terms to players in what is an ever increasingly competitive marketplace.

It's not too late to join in if you feel able to, and whilst a donation of £5 per month over the next 10 months may seem insignificant they will all add up. In fact a pledge of just £5 a month from each of our members during the season would add around £10,000 to the playing budget available.

With rewards on offer ranging from entry into the Budget Booster prize draw through to an exclusive evening meal with the managers hopefully there is something for everyone and your support for the club will be truly appreciated.

How does it work?

We are looking for supporters to either make a one off donation of £25 or to make a monthly contribution of £5, £10, £15, £20, £25, £30 or £50 by standing order over a 10 month period from July 2023 to April 2024.

In return for your support we are offering a range of rewards, depending upon the amount pledged.

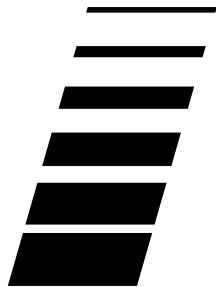
So what are the rewards? Depending on the amount pledged, they range from being listed in future programmes as part of a Roll of Honour, entry to the 'Booster Draw', a limited edition shirt, matchball sponsorship package, a signed home shirt, a mascot or kit man package, pre-match and half-time hospitality, or an evening meal with the board and management.

For further details on the rewards available and how to sign up please use the button below!

[Boost the Budget](#)

SPONSOR A PLAYER

PLAYER SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE NOW

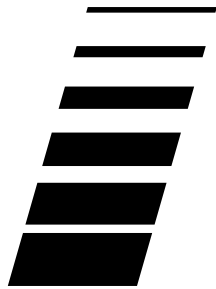


We are once again offering fans the opportunity to sponsor our squad and see their names in the programme every single week!

With other perks as well, details will be finalised in the coming week so get in touch with a board member today to find out who's still available and get ahead of the curve!

TODDY'S GOALS SCHEME

MONEY FOR GOALS, CLEAN SHEETS, & MORE



Once again, we will be operating the scheme that Toddy set up, which brings in very welcome funds for the club.

Our thanks go to Richard Webb, who has agreed to administer the scheme for us.

He will be supported by Guy and Vicki, who are not averse to twisting a few arms. All with a smile of course!

We hope those of you who have supported the scheme in the past, will do so again. Richard will make a note of your sponsorship choice and the amount you wish to pledge. He will also keep the record when you have paid.

If you haven't joined in before, then please consider this fantastic scheme, set up by the wonderful Toddy Barlow, as it really does help the club. You can sponsor goals, clean sheets, penalty saves... Whatever takes your fancy!

Unusual sponsorships are especially welcome! We do appreciate that the cost of living is increasing, so we would be grateful for any amount that is pledged.

For more information, or to join in, then please see Richard (he can usually be found behind the microphone), Guy or Vicki.

Thank you.

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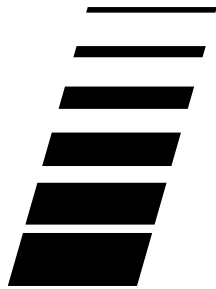
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HISTORIES AND PROFILES

1874 NORTHWICH



Each and every year has its notable events and occurrences that become part of history and in this respect 1874 is no different from any other.

For instance, not only did this 12-month period see the publication of Hardy's masterpiece 'Far From the Madding Crowd' but it also witnessed the birth of the literary giants GK Chesterton and Somerset Maugham, whilst a certain Winston Churchill also came into the world that year!

At a more prosaic level, the game of Lawn Tennis was patented by the wonderfully named Walter Clopton Wingfield and the nation's post-boxes were re-painted from their original Bronze-Green colour to the familiar red ones we see today. Meanwhile, in the game of football Aston Villa, Bolton Wanderers and Heart of Midlothian were all formed.

So, if you are an opposition fan reading this piece for the first time or simply someone who isn't aware of the history of 1874 Northwich, you may be under the impression that our club was created at the same time as 'The Villains', 'The Trotters' and 'The Jam Tarts'. But actually nothing could be further than the truth!

You see, 1874 was formed as recently as November 2012 when disaffected members of the Northwich Victoria Supporters Trust voted to create a new club.

Well, if you wish to fully acquaint yourself with the events that led up to the historic vote, you can do no better than turn to Mark Bevan's book 'Twenty Years of Madness' that was published in 2013. This excellent tome sets out the history of the Vics from 1992 – which is where Ken Edwards's earlier history of the Vics 'A Team For All Seasons' ended - to mid-2013, six months or so after the date that '74 was formed.

Suffice to say that by late 2012, the state of affairs at the club were such, that many Vics fans were utterly heartbroken, sick and tired of the manner in which their club had been 'managed' over the previous decade or more by successive regimes. In short, supporters had been belittled, demeaned and lied to by

those who had chosen to take on the task of running the oldest football club in Cheshire.

So the fans decided to take things into their own hands and create a truly democratic, open, inclusive fan's run club in which they had a direct say in. The name they chose for the new club – 1874 Northwich - was a nod to the distinguished history of the club that they had supported, followed and loved.

Following the vote a massive amount of hard work was put in by the fans to ensure that the club could commence playing at the start of the 2013/14 season. This included:

- Applying to join the North West Counties Football League
- Appointing our first 'Gaffer', Ian Street
- Signing our first ground sharing agreement with Winsford United

The level of support shown for the new club wasn't a flash in the pan either as during our first season 1874's average home league attendance was 320 – which put the club in the top 100 best supported clubs in non-league football.

That first season ended with the club being promoted to the Premier Division and the second proved to be equally successful with the club finishing in third place.

The 2015/16 season proved to be a steady campaign in the league with an eventual finishing spot of 4th, but it ended in a truly memorable manner when Ian Street's side outclassed local rivals and Step 3 outfit Witton Albion by a 3-0 score-line on their own turf to lift the Mid Cheshire District Cup for the first time.

This trophy was retained the following campaign with a 1-0 win over rivals Northwich Vics, but by this time the management of the club had passed into the hands of Paul Bowyer and Wayne Goodison – both of whom had been part of Ian Street's back-room team.

The impact of the new management team was truly remarkable, as the 2017/18 season proved to be an

exciting and memorable one, during which the 'Bo-Go' Green Army.

- Defeated National League North and former FA Trophy winners North Ferriby in the FA Cup
- Finally exited the competition on penalties in a 3rd Qualifying Round replay
- Reached the semi-finals of the FA Vase, only for eventual winners Thatcham Town to deny '74 a trip to Wembley by triumphing 4-2 on aggregate.
- Took hundreds of fans to away ties at Leighton and Thatcham
- Recorded a record home attendance of 1674 in the second leg of the semi-final against the Wiltshire outfit
- Ended the season by playing a mammoth 26 games in just 57 days and 69 games overall

Given the successes of the 17/18 campaign, it would have been astonishing if '74 had been able to equal the achievements of the previous season. After all, even the top clubs in the country struggle to repeat their immediate past triumphs – so why should this not be true for '74?

So, a final position of 10th – the lowest that the club had finished in since being promoted to the Premier Division – did seem to suggest a decline in the clubs' fortunes. But that would be completely wrong, as 1874's final standing was hugely influenced by a difficult start to the season in which the loss of key players from the 17/18 campaign - allied to a cruel run of injuries to many of the clubs' key creative and attacking players - resulted in a somewhat disjointed first few months of the season and early exits in both the FA Cup and Vase.

Another factor that we probably didn't fully appreciate at the time was the impact that the untimely death in December 2017 of our inspirational and dearly loved Chairman Paul Stockton had on the club. It was therefore perhaps a fitting tribute to this wonderful man when, on the afternoon of Saturday 4 May 2019, his name was chanted aloud by the 500 or so '74 fans who had just witnessed their side lift its first major piece of silverware, an 88th minute goal by the Greens gave a deserved 1-0 victory over league champions City of Liverpool FC in the final of the NWCFL Macron League Cup.

This cup win proved to be a springboard for the club as from the very outset of the 2019/20 season it was clear that '74 would be one of the main contenders for the NWCFL title. Another good FA Cup run – which was halted at the 2nd Qualifying Round by an admittedly fortunate Whitby Town side – was the precursor to an astonishing league campaign that included a 15-game unbeaten league run – another club record.

But it wasn't just the results that were impressive, it was the swash-buckling, stylish passing and pressing style of play in which '74 played the game that brought them so many plaudits and admiration from other clubs and commentators from all quarters. But in addition to their verve and panache, the side also possessed a steely, never-say-die, attitude that that gained them several precious points from seemingly difficult positions. This left '74 in the box seat at the head of the league with 9 games left and 8 points ahead of second placed Warrington Rylands with a game in hand.

So, if there was ever a bunch of players and back-room staff that deserved to end a season celebrating a league title, then it ought to have been those fantastic bunch of players. But as you will know, the Covid 19 outbreak resulted in a sudden cessation to grassroots football and, heartbreakingly, players, officials and fans alike were denied seeing the league trophy being paraded around Townfield.

Although we didn't know it at the time, '74's elevation to Step 4 was only to be delayed by 12 months as due to the re-organisation of the National League Pyramid, '74 became eligible for promotion to the newly created Northern Premier League West. And to celebrate this elevation, on 24 July 2021 the Greens became the first club in the 40+ year history of the competition to retain the NWCFL League Cup by convincingly defeating Runcorn Town 6-3 in the much delayed 2019/20 final.

Life during our first campaign as a Step 4 club was inevitably challenging at times. As a small fish in a much bigger pool, almost each week we faced by clubs with far greater resources than we have at our disposal. So, a final finishing spot of 12th out of 20 was a highly satisfying end result. It might have been even more impressive had our home form had been a little more consistent!

At one stage in our second season, it seemed as if we'd comfortably better the previous season's showing, but a lacklustre end to the season eventually saw '74 slip to 14th place. The undoubted highlight on the pitch was the deserved 1-0 away win at eventual champions Macclesfield, a game that was witnessed by over 3500 fans.

At the end of the 2022/23 season, The Pitching In Northern Premier League bestowed the Club of the Season award to 1874, for maintaining exceptional standards on and off the pitch. Suffice to say that everyone at the club was hugely proud of this prestigious award and this was more evidence if needed that our club always aims to do things correctly.

But when it comes to '74 it's not all about what happens on the 6000 square metres of turf. You see, as a democratically owned and operated community focussed club, from the get-go, we made it a key priority to forge positive links and partnerships with the local voluntary and business sectors

So, over the past decade not only have we forged beneficial partnerships with many well-respected local companies including Britannia Carpets, OxyL-Pro and our newest sponsors Shadow Foam, but we've also developed excellent relationships with our chosen charity partners, which have included the Mid Cheshire based Neuromuscular Centre, St Luke's Hospice, and the children's hospice 'The Joshua Tree'. In addition, regular collections have also taken place for local food banks, homeless people shelters, The Samaritans, Armed Services veterans, and a myriad of other deserving causes as well as attendance at community events.

The 2014/15 season also saw the club run an U21 side and since then, several of their number have now progressed to the First-team squad and beyond. More recently, 1874 have fielded sides at junior level and the establishment of these teams has acted as a stepping stone towards the creation of other sides covering all age groups, genders, and abilities.

Mention of which reminds us that, along with the Cheshire FA, '74 have also played a major role in establishing local 'walking football' sessions each week which have proved to be hugely popular with the 'more mature' gentlemen of Mid-Cheshire, most of

whom had probably thought that their playing days were well behind them! So successful has this initiative been that we're now operating a popular session for women aged over 40, the majority of whom never had the opportunity to play the game.

2019 was also a landmark year off the field as for the first time the club finally played within the boundary of the town of Northwich following the signing of a 2 year agreement to share Barnton's Townfield Lane stadium. A huge amount of work was undertaken to improve the facilities for players, officials, and supporters alike as well as meeting the ground-grading requirements that were necessary for promotion to Step 4. The agreement was extended for a further 5 years last season and both clubs are now working to develop a longer-term vision for the ground.

So, overall, 1874 is a club that is most definitely on the up!

But any progress that we may make will be achieved in a responsible and sustainable manner. Indeed, one of our main principles is that we will not jeopardise the long-term interests of the club by spending money just in order to ensure success on the pitch. At times, such a policy makes matters difficult and frustrating, but given the memories and experiences we all shared as fans the club we once followed, it is a path that we will not deviate from.



The Daniel Wilkinson Foundation is a charity set up in memory of Daniel Wilkinson who died in 2016 aged 24, while playing the game he loved, from an underlying heart condition called Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy (ARVC).



Dan played football from an early age and joined Hull City AFC when he was 10, earning a professional contract aged 18. Loughborough University followed where he completed a degree in Accounting and Financial Management while playing non-league football. He was an athlete who enjoyed the gym and took his health and nutrition very seriously. He lived life to the full and had so much ahead of him.

Other than feeling light-headed on a few occasions in the month before he died, he had no symptoms!

SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH IN THE YOUNG (SCD)

- SCD is the leading cause of death in young athletes during sport and the majority of deaths occur with NO SYMPTOMS or family history.
- ARVC can be found in one in every 1,000 to 5,000 young adults - IF IT IS LOOKED FOR.
- Warning signs may include light-headedness, fainting, palpitations, swollen legs, breathlessness.
- Every week in the UK, 12 apparently fit and healthy young people (aged 35 and under) die from previously undiagnosed heart conditions.
- In Italy, where screening is mandatory for all young people engaged in organised sport, they have reduced the incidence of young sudden cardiac death by 89%.

OUR MISSION

The Daniel Wilkinson Foundation has been set up to raise awareness of SCD and to provide funding towards heart screening, defibrillators and CPR/defibrillator training primarily for grass-roots sporting teams.

Tragedies can be prevented through cardiac screening. It is vital that young people are identified and treated.

Find out more

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To donate: mydonate.bt.com/charities/thedanielwilkinsonfoundation

1874 NORTHWICH - PROFILES 2023/2024

The Management Team – Since April 2017, 1874 have been guided by the managerial duo of Paul Bowyer and Wayne Goodison. Telford born Paul – who is a teacher by profession – joined '74 at its inception and played in the club's historic first game against Lostock Gralam. After initially playing in the youth teams of West Brom and Shrewsbury, the rest of Paul's playing career was spent in the National game system with Market Drayton and the Cheshire trio of Nantwich, Congleton and Alsager Town but also included a short spell in Wales with The New Saints.

In comparison, Wayne spent the majority of his career in the Football League, firstly with Barnsley – where he served his apprenticeship – and then Crewe and Rochdale, chalking up a total of 209 league games. Since his playing days ended, he's held a number of management posts, including at Buxton, Trafford, Salford City and Chorley. In addition to obtaining a degree in Football Coaching & Management from UCFB, Wakefield born Wayne followed this up by gaining a postgraduate Masters in Football Coaching & Practice.

Sam Adetiloye – Having spent the 22/23 pre-season with '74, Sam returned to Townfield towards the end of the campaign and impressed many '74 fans with his powerful performances in the midfield. Having spent the earlier part of his career with Salford City, Sam has also appeared in the colours of Widnes, Ramsbottom United and Padiham.

Jason Akiota – A former Crystal Palace academy player at U18 and U23 levels, Jason also represented Nigeria at U17 level. More recently he has featured in the Irish League with Portadown as well as having spells at NPL Premier outfits Hyde United and Farsley Celtic and our fellow NPL West clubs Widnes and Clitheroe. A strong and committed full-back, Jason will bring a solid presence to the defence ahead of the new season.

Ellis Allen – Originally a trainee with Oldham Athletic, Ellis left Boundary Park in the summer of 2020 and had spells between the sticks at Cypriot club APEA Akrotiri, Holywell Town in Wales and Whitchurch Alport before joining '74 in the summer of 2022. Unfortunately a freak accident whilst he was on holiday curtailed his season after just 8 appearances.

Happily now fully recovered, Ellis will no doubt be looking to make up for lost time this season.

Ollie Broe – Liverpool born Ollie is a versatile lad who can play on the right or left side of defence or midfield, and made 22 appearances for the club during the 2022/23 campaign. Originally part of the Academy set up at Anfield, the 21 year old has also represented City of Liverpool, Litherland REMYCA, Farsley Celtic, Mossley and Widnes.

Eric Byrne – Aged just 17, Eric made a big impression in his first year in senior football last season whilst playing for Runcorn Town. Merseyside-based and formerly with the Tranmere Rovers youth academy, Eric has demonstrated a great work ethic and maturity in possession during the pre-season build up – which will no doubt go down well with the fans here at 1874.

Sam Cryer – 20-year-old full-back Sam recently returned from the US having played for Frostburg State University. Prior to that Sam had been part of the Runcorn Linnets U21's side

Gabe Ellis – A natural centre forward, 19 year old Gabe came through the youth ranks at Accrington Stanley before moving into senior football with Skelmersdale United, Ashton Athletic and Litherland REMYCA. Gabe has certainly made an impressive start to his '74 career netting in the pre-season games against Rhyl, Bury and Wythenshawe.

Matt Fenton – Originally part of Crewe's youth system and a graduate of '74's well-regarded U21 side, 22 year old Matt was pitched into the First XI towards the end of the 21/22 season and acquitted himself extremely well in his ten outings, which included three bullet-headed goals. Assured, calm and strong in possession, Matt went onto establish himself as a regular last season, chalking up 41 games in which he netted a total of 5 goals – an impressive tally for a central defender!

Fenton Green – A central midfield player who was at Crewe Alexandra's academy, the 20 year old impressed many '74 fans during the 22/23 pre-season build up with his measured, calm performances and went onto play 30 times scoring 3 goals. During his last season with Crewe, Fenton had stints at Hyde United and Stockport Town.

Joe Hurst – The club's first new recruit ahead of the 2023/24 season, the full-back arrived from '74's NPL West rivals Newcastle Town for whom he made 17 appearances last season. As a youth player, Joe progressed through the academies of Manchester United, Rochdale and Morecambe. Described as being calm on the ball and solid defensively, 20 year old Joe also likes to support the attack

Jack Irlam – Having arrived at Townfield during the 2018/19 season, 25 year old Jack is now our third longest serving player having chalked up 106 appearances in '74 colours scoring 11 times. His tally would have been higher, but he missed much of the truncated 2019/20 season with an ankle injury. Signed from Runcorn Town for whom he played over 100 games, Jack has also been on the books of Ashton Town, Barnton and City of Liverpool. Towards the end of last season he demonstrated his versatility by playing as a 'traditional' target man and even claimed the club's 'Goal of the Season' award.

Mark Jones – 1874's Mr Reliable, Mark is an unflappable, cultured player who has played a major role in our success over recent years since arriving in the summer of 2016. Now with over 200 games for the club under his belt, he is versatile operator who can play equally well in midfield or the centre of defence. Now aged 37, Mark counts Witton, Nantwich and Radcliffe amongst his earlier ports of call.

Jerry Le Grand-Akpo – In common teammates Fenton Green and Jack Marrow, Jerry was formerly a member of the Under-18 team at Crewe Alexandra and has also played in goal for our U21s last season

Josh Maris – A summer 2023 recruit, Northwich based Josh joined '74 after spending time with Chester's well-regarded academy. Having tasted senior football with Winsford United last season, 19 year old Josh – who is predominantly a striker - can hopefully mirror the form of other former Chester players who have featured for '74 over the last couple of years.

Jack Marrow – After completing his scholarship with Crewe Alexandra, 20 year old Jack joined '74 in the summer of 2021 but made just 2 appearances before injury put paid to his season. A loan spell at Alsager aided him in his recovery, so much so that he went onto play a total of 35 games for '74 last season, scoring twice.

Gabriel Mooney-Munoz – A pacy, exciting and skilful left sided player, who is one of a number of new faces who have joined the '74 cause this summer, Spanish born Gabriel was snapped up from our near neighbours Winsford United for whom he played 52 times last season. Prior to joining 'The Blues', Gabriel had featured for Madrid-based club CD Canillas - for whom both of Zinedane Zidane sons have played for - before spending a season with Wythenshawe Town where he was voted as Player of the season in 2021/22. He's currently a Sports and Exercise Science Student at Manchester Metropolitan University

Siyam Muhammad – This pacy and skilful 23-year-old winger joined '74 towards the back end of last season from Northwich Victoria. Prior to that had represented Manchester League outfit Gorton.van in the Manchester League.

Benji Mullarkey – A new face to welcome to the club – Warrington-based Benji joins up having fitted in well through pre-season, appearing in both defence and midfield. The 23-year-old had been on the books of Crewe Alexandra as a junior before a period away from the game. He had recently represented the team of Leeds University whilst studying for a Degree in Economics.

Jamie Nicholson – A forward who can play anywhere along the front line, Jamie's game will bring flair to the club and could prove a shrewd signing by the management team. A former youth player with Morecambe, 19 year old Jamie impressed 'The Shrimps' Senior Team management to the point that he was in the match day squad when the Lancashire club played at Tottenham Hotspur in the FA Cup in January 2022.

Last season Jamie played for Ashton Athletic in the NWCFL and prior to that he also had short spells in the NPL West with Clitheroe and his home town club Skelmersdale United.

Isaac Noble – An exciting and pacy left winger of whom much is expected, 20-year old Isaac is one of many young lads who have made the step up from the U21 side to the first team and has so far made 23 appearances for the club, scoring twice.



Sam Oliver - Full-back Sam has teamed up with '74 from Stockport Georgians, having been a teammate of several former 1874 players. Sam's youth team playing days saw him with the academies of Manchester United, Blackburn Rovers and Sheffield Wednesday. Aged 21, Sam had a short spell in senior football with Droylsden. He has also spent time in the US, representing Arizona Western College.

Matt Woolley – The club captain, Matt is also '74's longest serving player having made his debut as a substitute in the 2014 Boxing Day game at Widnes. A Northwich lad, he was signed from Cheshire League side Knutsford FC. Matt has had spells at Congleton Town, Alsager, Witton Albion and FC Halifax Town and he's now chalked up over 350 games for the club, netting approaching 50 goals.

Jonny Sodhi – Just 18, Jonny – who usually operates in midfield - joined us during the summer from Connah's Quay Nomads Academy side. Has shown promise in pre-season games and certainly will be one to keep an eye on.

Lucas Weir – Now aged 23, Lucas first broke in to '74's first-team in 2018, after initially featuring for our U21s side. He quickly became an important part of the side, developing in to an all-round midfielder who also played in defensive positions. After taking a break away from the club to play and study in the US in early 2019, Lucas returned in 2020, and after a spell of real consistency he was snapped up by NPL Premier Division side Marine AFC and went on to feature over 30 times for the Crosby based club. We couldn't be happier to welcome back a player of Lucas's talent and personality to the '74 fold!



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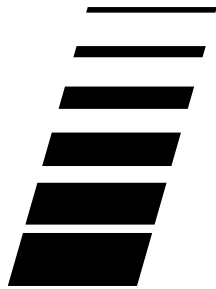
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HISTORIES AND PROFILES

TODAY'S VISITORS: CHASETOWN



Chasetown Football Club was started in 1954 as Chase Terrace Old Scholars Youth Club, when Brian Baker and schoolmaster Ray Derry formed a soccer section from the Chase Terrace Secondary Modern School.

The side played their first competitive games in the Cannock Youth League, remaining there until 1958-59 when they were accepted into the Lichfield and District League. An impressive debut season saw them finish third. During their three-year stay in the League, the Old Scholars were runners-up in the League and Challenge Cup competition.

1961-62 saw them enter the Staffs County League, while a reserve team stayed on in the former League. First-team success followed with the Lichfield and Rugeley Charity Cups before the club were admitted to the West Midlands (Regional) League Division One and changed to their current title of Chasetown FC in 1972-73.

Larry Percival was the first manager of the renamed Chasetown FC and wrote his name permanently in the history of the club as the first manager ever to win a League title.

Under Percival and later Bill Murray, Chasetown established themselves as one of the leading clubs in the division. In eleven seasons they won the title in 1977-78, finished second five times, third twice and fourth twice to earn a much-respected record.

However, despite the club's on the field success, Chasetown were prevented from promotion because they were playing on a park pitch at Burntwood Recreation Centre.

A breakthrough came in 1983 when they re-homed with a move to the current ground, The Scholars Ground, which coincided with a move up into the West Midlands (Regional) League Premier Division. Bryne Scorey was now the manager as Chasetown made Church Street their permanent home.

The club took their time to adapt to life at the top, finishing in the lower reaches of the table in their first three seasons.

Things changed though from 1986. Paul Darby arrived with assistant Mervyn Rowe, who took the helm when Darby joined Wolverhampton Wanderers as a physiotherapist. Rowe brought about an improvement in the playing squad, with mid-table finishes in the late 1980s followed by a trophy in 1989-90 when Chasetown lifted the League Cup with a 5-2 win over Halesowen Harriers in the Final.

This catapulted Chasetown into a successful period during the early 1990s. The Scholars scooped a West Midlands League Cup and Walsall Senior Cup 'double' in 1990-91, with a second Walsall Senior Cup win in 1992-93 at Walsall's Bescot Stadium.

Mervyn Rowe stepped down as manager at the start of the 1993-94 season part way through an astonishing run of 36 league games unbeaten – a complete calendar year without defeat.

However, success progressively slid away, and a succession of managers (Graham Smith, Benny Brown and Cliff Painter) could not recapture any of Rowe's successes, resulting in three seasons in the bottom three or four of the newly formed Midland Football Alliance, of which Chasetown was a founder member.

Rowe returned to the helm in 1997-98 and remained as manager for four years, as Chasetown regained mid-table status with the likes of former Wolverhampton Wanderers striker Shaun Bradbury leading the way in the goal scoring stakes winning two MFA Golden Boot awards in three seasons.

Rowe stepped aside again, but unsuccessful tenures with Kevin Foster and Paul Darby as manager (his second spell) saw the Scholars struggling again, until November 2002 when Michael Rowe, Mervyn's son, took over as boss, with Charlie Blakemore as his assistant.

An excellent end to the 2002-03 season saw the club finish 9th, after languishing near to the relegation zone for most of the campaign.

Rowe Junior left The Scholars Ground in February 2004 due to work commitments but, now under Blakemore's leadership, the Scholars improved again, finishing 6th, and in Blakemore's first full season in charge of the first team, 2004-05, Chasetown lifted the Walsall Senior Cup for the third time beating Tividale 2-1 at Walsall FC and finished second to Rushall Olympic in the Midland Football Alliance.

That disappointment of missing out on promotion spurred Chasetown into an incredible season in 2005-06. The club was thrust into the national spotlight in November 2005 upsetting all the odds by reaching the First Round of the FA Cup for the first time in their history, overcoming famous non-league side Blyth Spartans in front of a then-record Chasetown attendance of 2,134.

The BBC were quick to bring this feat to a Sunday lunch-time audience of 3.2 million on "Match of the Day Live" as they broadcast the First Round Proper tie against Oldham Athletic. In front of 1,997 supporters, Chasetown took the lead through Nicky Harrison, only for the Latics to level the scores a few minutes later and send the game into a replay. Over 2,300 supporters followed Blakemore's men up to Boundary Park – the highest away following at Oldham Athletic all season – but the romance was over as the home side won 4-0.

During that record-breaking season, the Scholars notched a record eight consecutive victories in the League, went 22 games unbeaten in League and Cup, and regularly smashed their record League attendance, ending the season with 839 for the visit of Romulus in the game which clinched Chasetown the League title.

At the time of the FA Cup run, Chasetown lay in 14th place and 20 points adrift of league leaders Malvern Town, before beginning an astonishing run of victories. By April 2006 Chasetown topped the League table for the first time in the season. The final day saw Chasetown in pole position Chasetown lifted the Midland Alliance trophy and gain promotion to the Southern League Division 1 Midlands. The BBC cameras were at the Scholars Ground again, featuring both goals in their FA Cup Final programme.

Season 2006-07 saw the club finish third in the Southern Midland Division One but suffered the heartbreak of losing 1-0 to local rivals Willenhall Town in the Play-off Semi-Finals.

2007-08 saw Chasetown become even more firmly embedded in FA Cup folklore when they defeated Football League Division One side Port Vale in a Second Round Replay to become the lowest ranked side to ever make the Third Round of the World's most famous domestic cup competition.

Their reward was a home tie against Championship side Cardiff City who boasted multi-millionaire players like Robbie Fowler, Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink and Trevor Sinclair amongst their highly rated squad.

In front of a record breaking home attendance of 2,420 the Scholars dared to take the dream one step further as they took the lead against Dave Jones' Bluebirds side via a Kevin McNaughton own goal in the 17th minute.

The class of a team six leagues and some 136 places higher than Chasetown did tell and a first half injury time equaliser from former Aston Villa man Peter Whittingham enabled Cardiff to regroup at the interval and further goals from 17 year old debutant Aaron Ramsey (his stepping stone to a great career at Arsenal) and Paul Parry finally ended Chasetown's marathon ten game cup run.

Season 2008-09 saw Chasetown amongst the front runners and a fourth place finish ensured that they would contest the Play-offs. In the Semi-Final the Scholars demolished third placed Atherstone Town at Sheepy Road 5-0 to take their place in the Play-off Final. A record crowd of 3,111 at Nuneaton Town's Liberty Way stadium witnessed a tight, tense game, but a solitary strike from Ben Foster ended the Scholars dream of promotion for another season at least.

The club again made history on Friday July 10th 2009 when they became the first team to play a match in front of a paying crowd at the Bluebirds' new multi million pound home – the Cardiff City Stadium – in front of 5,270 spectators.

Relocated to the Northern Premier League Division One South for 2009-10, Chasetown's season finished on a high note as the club went on to become

runners-up and, after a 3-2 Play-off Semi-Final win over Sheffield FC, a 1-0 win versus Glapwell at the Scholars Ground in front of 1,265 spectators ensured Chasetown would be playing in Step Seven of the Football League Pyramid for the first time in their history.

For much of the 2010-11 season, Chasetown were in or around the Play-off positions, eventually finishing 10th in their inaugural season. Chasetown's League campaign was distracted though by another incredible cup run. Despite being from the third tier of non-league football, Chasetown upset the odds time and time again in the FA Trophy.

After victories over Sheffield FC and Mickleover Sports, the Scholars disposed of Workington from the Conference North, Kettering Town and Grimsby Town from the Conference National and Eastleigh from the Conference South to set up a Quarter-Final with Conference National side Mansfield Town. An 89th minute own goal earned Blakemore's side a replay at Field Mill, where skipper Richard Teesdale scored a second half equaliser, before the hosts went on to win 3-1, on their way to being losing FA Trophy Finalists (just as Cardiff City had in the FA Cup in 2008).

2011-12 was the 40th season the club has been known as Chasetown FC, but unfortunately, was a historic season for all the wrong reasons, as they were relegated for the first time in their existence. Charlie Blakemore left the managerial role in October 2011 due to work commitments, and the appointment of Chris Brindley started well with 19 points from his first 8 games in charge. However, a run of 13 league games without a win saw The Scholars needing victory on the last day of the season at Burscough. A 4-4 draw was not enough.

Craig Harris replaced Brindley as manager and renewed Chasetown's love affair with the Walsall Senior Cup with an emphatic 4-1 win over Rushall Olympic in the Bescot Final in 2013-14.

Harris' tenure was short lived with the club hovering just above the relegation zone, Former Tamworth FC manager Marcus Law was appointed, giving him the sole aim of keeping Chasetown from getting relegated. An impressive run took Chasetown to 13th in the league and another Walsall Senior Cup Final, narrowly beaten 4-3 by Walsall after extra time.

Law left in the summer, replaced by former Rugby Town boss Dave Stringer. He took Chasetown to the verge of the Play-offs in his first season, finishing 7th, but the following year Chasetown struggled to 17th in the League. Chasetown did reach the Staffordshire Senior Cup Final for only the second time in their history though, losing out to Stoke City on penalties. Stringer resigned in the summer of 2017.

Former Norton United boss Scott Dundas was appointed, on the back of them having a successful FA Cup run of their own. With an almost completely new squad of players, Dundas' men stayed in and around the top half throughout the 2017-18 season and pushed into the Play-offs during the final two months before narrowly losing to Bedworth in the Play-offs.

Expectations were high again but a season and a half of mid-table in the league saw Dundas leave the club by mutual consent.

Former Chasetown Reserves manager Mark Swann would take the reins of the first team in February 2020, only for play to be stopped halfway through March 2020 due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic, with Swann having managed just eight fixtures. A second Coronavirus hit season in 2020-21 saw Swann eventually take charge for his first full campaign in 2021-22.

An impressive season saw Chasetown reach the Play-off positions and a Semi-Final win over Halesowen Town saw a record official attendance in the Scholars Ground of 2,500 for a narrow Play-off Final defeat to Belper Town.

Off the field, Chasetown were also in new hands – long-serving Mick Joiner with over 60 years' service, stood aside as Chasetown were now led by a Board of Directors, headed by long-term sponsor Steve Jones.

The club will enter 2022-23 with a new 400-seater stand in place, with future plans for an extension to the clubhouse and a 4G artificial surface to cater for the 40-plus children's teams that the club now boast.

As the club's 70th birthday approaches in 2024, the club are also embarking on publishing a comprehensive book of the club's history.

Curtis Pond- Goal keeper

The shot-stopper came through the youth set up before breaking through into the first team and making the position his own. He became the favoured number one in the October of the 2016/17 season. Pond has held this position as number one keeper throughout different managerial changes and playing an incredible 190 games for the Scholars.

Alex Melbourne - Defender

Alex signed for Chasetown in July 2019. He is a good defender and has experience of playing in high divisions for teams such as Stafford Rangers and Hednesford Town. He is a pacey defender and is happy to assist in attacking play and isn't afraid to get the tackles in.

Ryan Wynter – Striker/Defender

Wynter re-signed for the Scholars in August 2020 after a brief spell with local rivals Stafford Rangers. Starting out as a striker Wynter has now been moved to the backline and is a powerful and commanding defender. He is a fan favourite and that was clear to see when he picked up Supporter's Player of the Season for the 2018/2019 season.

Jordan Evans – Defender

Jordan joined in the Scholars in July 2020 from neighbours Lichfield City after four years at the club. An athletic, attack minded left back will really add competition in that area for us. With his willingness to get forward Evans has added another dimension to our attacking system.

Joshua Mansell – Defender

A late signing in the 2021/22 season, Josh is an attack minded defender who is an asset at both ends of the pitch. An integral part of our backline we look forward to seeing Josh back in the Scholars team for the next season.

Mitch Clarke – Defender

Mitch joined the club from Rushall Olympic in the summer of 2022. He is a commanding and athletic centre half who has plenty of experience within nonleague to help strength our back line.

Kris Taylor – Defender

Originally brought in predominately to be part of our coaching set up Taylor has found himself as Wynter's defensive partner for the majority of the season. With his vast footballing knowledge 'Tayls' has been solid at

the back and a clear leader within the defensive set up.

Luke Cox – Defender

A new addition to the squad Cox has found himself in the starting line up a handful of times over the last few weeks and has fitted in well within the line up. A strong defender who isn't afraid to get the hard-work done. An exciting young talent for the future.

Luke McGinnell – Defender/ Midfielder

A young defender who has joins Chasetown in August 2021, he has impressed during his spells at right-back during preseason 2021. A defender who can be just as useful in both boxes, whether it is putting in a last ditch tackle in the defensive box or getting a cross in to the attacking players in the other.

Oli Hayward- Midfielder

Hayward is an attacking midfielder that joined Chase in June 2017. Very skilful with great energy levels, the former Lichfield player also has an eye for goal. As well as being an accomplished midfielder he is also a fantastic right back and has made this position his own in the 2017/18 season. After suffering a double leg break during the first game of the 2018/19 season it took a while to see Hayward back on the pitch. But since Swann's arrival we have seen Hayward go from strength to strength reverting back to his midfielder role.

Jack Langston- Midfielder

Jack re-signed in November 2017 after a short spell at local rivals Stafford Rangers. He originally joined the club in March 2014. Jack has been awarded the top goal scorer award twice in the last three seasons in 2016/17 he netted 26 goals and he again picked up the award in the 2017/18 season winning it in the final game of that campaign. Langston is a fan favourite and is an established member of the squad, he commands the midfield and will pop up with a goal or two when the team really need it.

Danny O' Callaghan – Midfielder

In July 2020 O'Callaghan agreed to once again to join the Scholars. Having won everything in sight for our reserve side under Mark Swann, Doca has since gone on to forge a fantastic career in non league. Danny lists Romulus, Sutton Coldfield Town, AFC Telford Utd and Stourbridge FC among his former clubs and joins us from Rushall Olympic.



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Mitchell Botfield – Midfielder

A fantastic all rounder and can play in a number of the midfield positions, Botfield joined The Scholars from Alvechurch in July 2021. His character, mentality and experience will only aid a relatively young Chasetown side.

Jakob Burroughs – Midfielder

Jakob joins from Market Drayton and adds even more competition for places within our midfield. He is a talented young footballer with great energy and tenacity.

Dilano Reid- Midfielder

Reid has been part of the set up since the 2021/22 season, finding himself within the squad throughout. A winger with an abundance of pace Reid is able to beat the opposition defenders to get balls into the box and dance around the defence when part of the attacking set up.

Ben Lund – Midfielder/Striker

Lund joined Chasetown during 2020 and has been an asset so far to the team in both seasons that did not finish due to COVID. He is an intelligent midfielder who knows how to perform his defensive duties but is also confident supporting the attacking play and will get amongst the goals to help the team.

Liam Kirton – Midfielder/Striker

A midfielder who has established himself within our youth set up and has announced himself within the senior squad, over the last few seasons Kirton has grown as a player even inviting interest from locals Walsall FC. He is a pacey, tall and strong attacking player who will pop up with a goal or an assist when the team really need it.

Luke Yates – Midfielder/ Striker

Luke joined from Sporting Khalsa in Summer 2022. He is an athletic, fast paced and creative attacking player, he will add another option to our attacking line up.

Aaron Ashford – Striker

Aaron joins the club after impressing against us in pre-season when he notched four goals. He adds Chasetown to an impressive CV that includes West Bromwich Albion, Birmingham City, Stourbridge, Boldmere St Michaels and Romulus. Ashford hopes to be back on the pitch sometime in the 2022/23 season after suffering an injury during the season prior.

Joey Butlin – Striker

Joey joins for his second spell with the club after a successful few months with Hereford. We originally signed Butlin from Walsall Wood having played at Oak Park under our management team in seasons past. A combative striker whose ex clubs list Hednesford Town and Walsall FC. He is a handful for any defender he comes up against, not afraid to put in a tackle and get stuck in.

Jack Edwards – Striker

Jack joins us from local neighbours Lichfield City after scoring 28 goals in the 2021/22 for them. He is a powerful player who can play anywhere in the attacking set up. We look forward to seeing him score goals in a Scholars shirt in the upcoming season.

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We are once again offering fans the opportunity to receive full match video and highlights. The price has been held at £20 for the season.

Holders of an Owner Plus membership are automatically subscribed to the service. To sign up please click here!

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CLUB OF THE YEAR

1874 WIN PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

1874 Northwich Football Club are proud to announce that at the recent Annual General Meeting of the Northern Premier League, the club was presented with the NPL Club of the Year award by the league management committee.

Chosen from a short list that also included Cambridge City FC and Stocksbridge Park Steels FC this award is not won on the pitch, but is awarded as recognition of the overall standards upheld by the club, both on and off the pitch in terms of respect and compliance.

Commenting upon the award, Chairman Stephen Richardson stated;

"In only our second season playing in the Northern Premier League we are highly honoured and immensely proud to have received this award.

"As a club we have always strived to maintain the highest of standards in professionalism and respect towards others and whilst we may not be the biggest or noisiest football club in Northwich, we do aim to uphold our founding beliefs of openness, integrity and transparency in the manner that we believe a football club should be run.

"I would like to pay personal tribute to our Football Secretary Vicki England, whose energy, enthusiasm and commitment ensures that we continue to maintain the standards to which we adhere.

"This award is also a credit to our joint managers Wayne Goodison and Paul Bowyer, our players and supporters for their conduct both on and off the field, and lastly to my fellow board members for their support in maintaining the standards at 1874 Northwich Football Club."

1874 Northwich FC is wholly owned, funded and run by its supporters, and is only one of a few true community owned football clubs recognised by the Football Supporters Association.



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*Ben LUND				
*Luke MCGINNELL				
*Alex MELBOURNE				
*Joseph MORLEY				
*Ryan NESBITT				
*Levi ROWLEY				
*Matt SARGEANT				
*Ryan SHAW				
*Kris TAYLOR				
*Tom TURTON				
*Thomas UNWIN				
*Sam WILDING				
*Luke YATES				

*Asterisks indicate present in last/predicted matchday squad

Live Information

MATCH OFFICIALS

REF: Abid HUSSAIN
AST 1: Carl TROTT
AST 2: Carl ROONEY

NEXT FIXTURE AT PRESCOT CABLES

26/08/23 - 3.00PM
NPL - WEST

