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VS HEDNESFORD TOWN
16/03/24 - 3.00PM
NPL WEST
OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

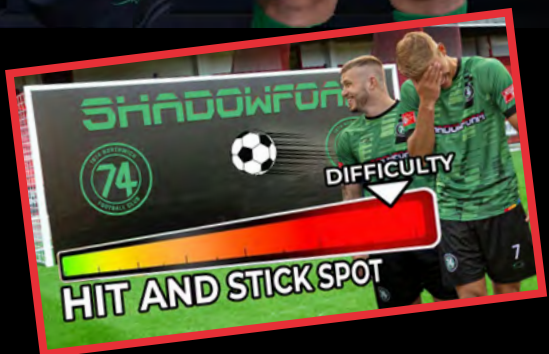
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1874 NORTHWICH FC



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Visit

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PROGRAMME: programme@1874northwich.com

MEDIA: media@1874northwich.com

WEBSITE: www.1874northwich.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/1874Northwich

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COLOURS:

HOME: Green shirts, black shorts, green socks

AWAY: Orange shirts, grey shorts, grey socks

THIRD: Blue shirts, blue shorts, blue socks

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WELCOME TO TOWNFIELD

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE - WEST

vs **HEDNESFORD TOWN**

SATURDAY 16TH MAR 2024 | K.O. 3.00PM



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT: Brian Edge

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ENGAGEMENT: Andrew Dignum

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PROOF READERS: Richard Webb/Richard Bush

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Ben Davies

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

MATCH REPORTS: Jack Owen

WEBSITE: Mark Edgeley

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF:

FIRST TEAM INTERIM MANAGERS:

Mark Jones and Matthew Woolley

PHYSIOTHERAPIST: Katy Bagshaw

KIT MANAGER: Andy Williams

UNDER 21s MANAGER: Kyle Murray

**Commercial
Brochure**

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

STEVE RICHARDSON



Good afternoon all,

This afternoon we welcome the Officials, Players, Management and supporters of Hednesford Town to Townfield. Hopefully they have had a good trip up the M6 from South Staffordshire.

For most of this season both 1874 and Hednesford have found themselves at the wrong end of the table and whilst probably not definitive, the result of today's game could play an important part in the near future of both clubs.

Our interim managers Matt and Mark have been working hard to bring in new faces to the squad and today we welcome the latest new recruit to 1874 Northwich FC.

Anasio Jesus, a forward who can operate on both wings, brings an added dimension to the 1874 front line. Anasio joins us from Cltheroe FC and I'm sure that his experience will be an asset to our young squad.

Matt and Mark have always been upfront about their personal aspirations regarding their longer term intentions around management and their desire to continue playing for as long as possible. As a club we talk regularly with Matt and Mark and you will all be aware that we recently advertised our managerial vacancy as we all felt that bringing a new manager in before the end of the season would give the club the stability to move forward in its preparations for next season.

Once again we have been heartened by the quality of applicants, and interviews for the position are being arranged. Hopefully we will be in a position to give you all some news shortly.

I don't need to tell you how much your support for Matt, Mark and the team is valued. I know that you will be giving them your best support today and for the rest of the season.

As always let's BE LOUD AND PROUD .

WE are 74 and this is our club.

All the best,

Steve.

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SECRETARIAL MUSINGS

VICKI ENGLAND



Here we are back at Townfield this afternoon, home games are certainly coming thick and fast.

I would like to bid a warm welcome to everyone connected with Hednesford Town. We ventured down to Keys Park back in December and we were well looked after by everyone, it's such an impressive set up down there and we met some nice people. On the field, it ended all square after a tough encounter. Hednesford, like ourselves, find themselves at the wrong end of the table and that adds an additional bit of spice to today's game! I know their new gaffer Paul Moore will want to hit the ground running, after taking over a couple of weeks ago, and we will be trying to do the same and pick up some much-needed points. Let's hope it's a good game!

Last Saturday saw us entertain runaway leaders Leek Town. I thought we played out a good first half and were well in it, frustrating the champions-elect to next to no chances. Once they scored after about quarter of an hour into the second half, they showed their class and went on to be comfortable winners. I watched their second goal float in from a corner, ably assisted by the wind. The lad hit it well enough, but that's just what happens when your luck is out. A great free kick sealed it for them. Leek Town is a fantastic club with some terrific supporters, and I wish them well in their quest to be champions.

After today, we will welcome Hanley Town on Tuesday evening. It's quite unusual to have a night match these days, a far cry from when we were in the North West Counties! I know games have come thick and fast at home, but I really hope that you can get here as the lads need the support to try and make up ground on those above them.

I would like to give a big shout out to our fantastic volunteers, who keep working hard behind the scenes. Life can be tough running a club, but these folks keep putting their hands up to try and help and it is especially pleasing when things are not going as well as hoped. Everyone recognises the honest effort that the lads are putting in on the field and that's replicated off the park too. The life of a football club will see ups and downs. We have been fortunate to have continual progression since our inception, so it was bound to catch up with us at some point. We keep plugging away now, although we have one eye on what the future may bring.

Finally, I know that there is great interest over the managerial situation. I can't thank Matt & Mark enough for what they are doing for the club, and I can't support them any more than I do. They have been brilliant for this football club for many years and will go down as two of the best men to ever be involved in 1874. They are keeping it all together until we make an appointment.

We've had an excellent response again and have some strong candidates to consider. It is quite heartening that even though we find ourselves in a tricky situation, people still want to get involved. We're a good way through the process now and I hope that we will be able to announce someone very soon. Their remit will be to take stock now and very much look to the future too. As soon as we have news, we will let you know.

That's it for now, please get behind Matt, Mark and the lads.

"Come on you Green Boys!"



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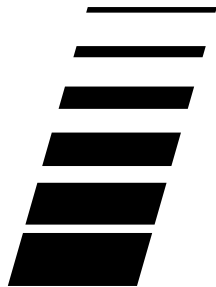


These clubs have chosen Macron



BIG GAME PREVIEW

BY GARRY CLARKE



1874 NORTHWICH vs HEDNESFORD TOWN NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE - WEST

Hednesford Town ended last season 20th in the Southern League Premier Division, with a playing record of:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Pos
Hednesford	42	7	10	25	45	76	-31	31	20

Having been laterally moved from the Southern League to the Northern Premier League last summer, Hednesford Town made a decent start to the current season, occupying 6th place in the table after game 2. However, they subsequently 'slid down' the table, plummeting into the relegation zone after match 11 where they have remained, despite changing managers with Paul Moore replacing Harry Harris in February.

With no game last Saturday Hednesford's last NPL fixture was a 3-0 defeat at Runcorn Linnets on 24th February, although they have since played two local cup ties, a Walsall Cup quarter final game against Tividale which they won 6-3, Then on Friday a Birmingham Senior Cup quarter final tie against a Coventry City team which they lost 3-2 on penalties following a 1-1 draw.

Second from bottom of the table after last Saturday's games, Hednesford Town have won one, drawn one and lost four of their last six games, and as a result sit 18th in the division's current form table while 1874 remain bottom of both tables with 5 defeats and a draw in their last 6 games.

How the two teams stand on the league ladder heading into this weekend's game:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Pos
Hednesford	29	5	8	16	33	54	-21	23	19
1874	29	4	5	20	20	65	-45	17	20

With 2 wins, 3 draws and 10 defeats from their 15 away league games, Hednesford have the joint worst away record in the NPL West alongside 1874 who, with 2 wins, 2 draws and 10 defeats from their 14 home games, have the Division's worst home record.

This will be the 2nd meeting of 1874 and Hednesford Town, the first earlier this season ended in a 1-1 draw.

Hednesford Town left the FA Cup at the first hurdle, losing 3-0 at Darlaston Town 1874 in the preliminary round. They also fell at the first hurdle in the FA Trophy, losing 3-0 at home to Walsall Wood in the first qualifying round.

Of the 54 players who have turned out for Hednesford Town this season, the leading goal scorer is Joe Thompson who has netted 6 goals (5 in cup ties) so far this season, while a further 22 players have also been on target for Hednesford.

Hednesford's 18 home games have attracted an average crowd of 721 this season, the third best in the division. The highest attendance has been 1486 for their derby clash against Chasetown, while the lowest is just 264 for a Staffordshire Senior Cup tie against Leek Town.

HEDNESFORD TOWN FACT FILE

Formed	1880
Ground	Keys Park
Colours	Black and White
Change Colours	Blue or Red
Manager	Paul Moore
2022/23	20th Southern League Premier

DID YOU KNOW?

Hednesford was first recorded as Hedenedford in AD 1153 when King Stephen granted an exemption of pannage dues to the small hamlet. The town has seen progressive name evolution over the last millennium, with the name being variously documented as Ed(e) nesford, Adnesford, Hedg(e)ford, and Hednesford. The etymology of the placename is likely "The ford of Heddin", Heddin being an Old English diminutive form of the given name Headda.

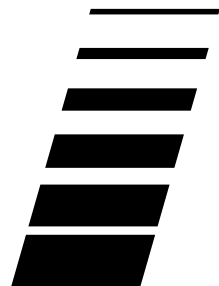
WE'VE MET BEFORE

Only one previous game between the two teams:

2023/24
 9th December 2023 - NPL West
 Away - Drew 1-1 Attendance 512
 1874 - Nicholson
 Hednesford - Kelly

1874 got Damien Crossley's reign off to a flying start taking the lead in the 4th minute, Jamie Nicholson drilling a low strike into the bottom corner. 1874 then went close to adding to their tally before the home side drew level in the 26th minute when Jack Kelly thumped home an unstoppable effort from a tight angle. 1874 thought they had scored a second goal midway through the second half when Lucas Weir whipped in a free kick which landed in the back of the net, but the referee ruled it out having spotted a foul on the goalkeeper. 1874 finished the game with ten men after goalkeeper Ellis Allen was red carded in the 87th minute; captain Matty Fenton donning the gloves for the final few minutes.

MATCHDAY SPONSORS
 WITH THANKS TO THE DAVIES FAMILY



Keep an eye out for today's matchday sponsors of The Davies Family, who you might spot taking advantage of the hospitality before and after the game, or even possibly having their photo with the co-managers in the dugout.

Thanks, everyone!

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

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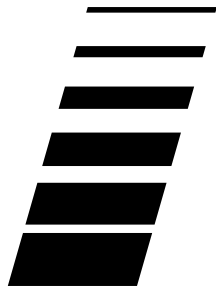
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NORTHERN
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LEAGUE

BUDGET BOOSTERS

ROLL OF HONOUR



A huge thank you also to the follower members for their support in backing the club's Boost the Budget scheme this year:

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Phil Burgess
Richard Bush
Keith Campion
Karl Clarke
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Bob Watkins
Christopher Williams
Richard Webb
Dan Wilkins

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!

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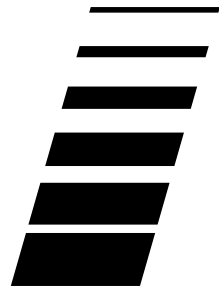
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MATCH CENTRE 23/24

BY PETE GRIMES



DATE	OPPOSITION	FT	HT	Att					Referee
Aug 5	Ossett United (FAC Exp)	0-2	0-2	392					Everard C
12	KIDSGROVE ATHLETIC	2-6	1-4	252	Nicholson Ja	Irlam			Graham J
15	Stalybridge Celtic	0-0	0-0	627					Hanson M
22	CHASETOWN	1-1	0-0	229	Green				Hussain A
26	Prescot Cables	0-1	0-0	501					Scaife B
28	NANTWICH TOWN	0-1	0-0	325					Sibley F
Sep 2	Newcastle Town	1-0	1-0	157	Irlam				Moosa B
10	City of Liverpool (FAT 1P)	1-3	0-1	324	Chimenes				Metcalfe T
30	City of Liverpool	2-1	1-0	288	Weir	Byrne			Hurn K
Oct 3	MOSSLEY	1-3	1-0	198	Woolley				Hitchell D
7	VAUXHALL MOTORS	2-0	0-0	234	Weir	Fenton			Lamb B
10	Altrincham (CSC) (L 2-4 Pens)	1-1	0-1	381	Weir				Philbin A
14	Hanley Town	2-4	2-2	195	Crawford	Green			Rolfe A
21	WIDNES	1-0	0-0	210	Birchall				Hanson M
28	Leek Town	1-4	0-3	493	Green				Hussain A
Nov 4	Clitheroe	0-4	0-3	789					Harland T
11	BOOTLE	0-4	0-2	356					Bates M
18	Runcorn Linnets	0-1	0-0	707					Moosa B
25	AVRO	1-2	0-0	186	Weir				Kearney G
Dec 9	Hednesford Town	1-1	1-1	512	Nicholson Ja				Lunn J
16	STALYBRIDGE CELTIC	0-0	0-0	319					Harland T
23	Kidsgrove Athletic	0-5	0-2	312					Biggin A
26	WITTON ALBION	1-2	0-1	1018	Marrow				Wyatt J
Jan 1	Nantwich Town	0-2	0-1	507					Kearney G
6	PRESCOT CABLES	0-1	0-1	353					Aldred R
6	NORTHWICH VICS (MCSC s/f)	1-3	0-0	315	Jones J				Swift T
13	Chasetown	2-4	1-1	749	Chimenes	Marrow			Pattison D
27	Widnes	0-5	0-1	201					Eaton G
Feb 3	Mossley	1-1	0-1	481	McFadyen				Mustafa Z
10	TRAFFORD	0-4	0-2	248					Roots P
17	CITY OF LIVERPOOL	0-2	0-0	248					Brooks J
24	Vauxhall Motors	1-3	1-1	277	Nicholson Jo				Corrigan L
Mar 9	LEEK TOWN	0-3	0-0	347					Moose B
16	HEDNESFORD TOWN	-							
19	HANLEY TOWN	-							
23	Trafford	-							
30	NEWCASTLE TOWN	-							
Apr 1	Witton Albion	-							
6	Bootle	-							
13	CLITHEROE	-							
20	Avro	-							
27	RUNCORN LINNETS	-							

Online Match Centre

1874 NORTHWICH 2023/24 PLAYER STATS

AS OF 15/03/24

		2023/24 SEASON					ALL-TIME					
		Starts	Subbed	Sub On	Unused	Goals	Starts	Subbed	Sub On	Unused	Goals	Total Apps
ADEKOYA	Daya	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	4	2	0	4
ADETILOYE	Sam	6	4	7	1	0	11	5	18	6	0	29
AKIOTU	Jason	4	3	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	4
ALLEN	Ellis	21	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	2	0	29
BIANGA	Andreas	4	1	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	4
BIRCHALL	Matty	11	2	3	1	1	11	2	3	1	1	14
BOWDEN	Ezikiah	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
BRADLEY	Lewis	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	2	0	1
BROE	Ollie	1	1	0	0	0	15	5	8	10	0	23
BYRNE	Eric	6	3	5	8	1	6	3	5	8	1	11
CHAKWANA	Tinashe	5	4	0	0	0	5	4	0	0	0	5
CHIMENES	Max	17	2	0	0	2	17	2	0	0	2	17
COSTA	Jordao	0	0	2	11	0	0	0	2	11	0	2
CRAWFORD	Jamal	15	8	4	0	1	22	14	15	3	1	37
ELLIS	Gabe	3	1	2	2	0	3	1	2	2	0	5
FAGAN	Tom	6	3	3	1	0	6	3	3	1	0	9
FENTON	Matty	25	1	0	0	1	76	3	0	3	9	76
GREEN	Fenton	14	2	0	0	3	42	8	2	3	6	44
IBETO	Mike	4	3	5	5	0	4	3	5	5	0	9
IRLAM	Jack	8	1	0	0	2	92	28	22	5	13	114
JONES	Joel	5	1	3	1	1	5	1	3	1	1	8
JONES	Mark	27	1	1	0	0	233	15	7	5	9	240
KIRWAN	Jacob	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
LE GRAND-AKPO	Jerry	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
MARROW	Jack	17	3	3	2	2	49	7	8	19	4	57
MCCANN	Chris	7	1	0	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	7
MCFADYEN	Oli	6	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	1	6
MCGEADY	Ewan	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
MCNAIR	Kamoy	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
MIALKOWSKI	Kacper	15	2	3	0	0	15	2	3	0	0	18
MOONEY MUNOZ	Gabriel	4	1	4	1	0	4	1	4	1	0	8
MULLARKEY	Benji	9	4	2	6	0	9	4	2	6	0	11
NICHOLSON	Jamie	17	12	11	0	2	17	12	11	0	2	28
NICHOLSON	Josh	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
NOBLE	Isaac	10	5	9	0	0	18	13	24	17	2	42
OLIVER	Sam	8	3	4	1	0	8	3	4	1	0	12
OLLERENSHAW	Josh	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
PARTINGTON	Ole	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
SHORTHOUSE	Mike	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	8	0	0
SIYAM	Mohammad	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	5	9	0	5
SODHI	Jonny	4	4	3	13	0	4	4	3	13	0	7
WEIR	Lucas	25	1	0	0	4	61	5	12	11	10	73
WILLIAMS	Elliot	1	0	1	3	0	1	0	1	3	0	2
WONNACOTT	Matt	9	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	9
WOOLLEY	Matt	29	5	1	1	1	366	55	31	29	45	397

NPL-WEST 2023/24 LEAGUE TABLE

AS OF 15/03/24

		Pld	HOME			AWAY			GF	GA	Pts
			W	D	L	W	D	L			
1	Leek Town	30	12	1	2	9	3	3	72	33	67
2	Prescot Cables	29	8	3	3	7	4	4	48	30	52
3	Runcorn Linnets	30	9	2	4	7	2	6	48	33	52
4	Bootle	30	6	4	5	9	3	3	46	38	52
5	City of Liverpool FC	30	7	4	4	7	2	6	53	38	48
6	Witton Albion	30	8	2	5	6	3	6	50	52	47
7	Clitheroe	30	6	3	6	6	5	4	51	44	44
8	Stalybridge Celtic	30	7	5	3	4	6	5	46	42	44
9	Widnes	30	8	2	5	4	4	7	42	31	42
10	Nantwich Town	30	8	3	4	4	2	9	45	37	41
11	Avro	29	3	6	6	7	5	2	34	34	41
12	Mossley	30	7	4	4	4	4	7	38	44	41
13	Chasetown	29	8	4	3	3	3	8	39	39	40
14	Newcastle Town	30	5	3	7	6	2	7	38	41	38
15	Kidsgrove Athletic	29	5	4	5	4	4	7	46	51	35
16	Hanley Town	29	4	4	7	4	4	6	26	38	32
17	Trafford	30	3	7	5	3	6	6	31	41	31
18	Vauxhall Motors	29	5	2	8	4	2	8	37	58	31
19	Hednesford Town	29	3	5	6	2	3	10	33	54	23
20	1874 NORTHWICH	29	2	2	10	2	3	10	20	65	17

NPL-WEST 2023/24 RESULTS GRID

AS OF 15/03/24

	1874 Northwich	Avro	Bootle	Chasetown	City of Liverpool	Clitheroe	Hanley Town	Hednesford Town	Kidsgrove Athletic	Leek Town	Mossley	Nantwich Town	Newcastle Town	Prescot Cables	Runcorn Linnets	Stalybridge Celtic	Trafford	Vauxhall Motors	Widnes	Witton Albion	
1874 Northwich		1-2 0-4	1-1		0-2				2-6 0-3	1-3 0-1			0-1		0-0 0-4	2-0 1-0	1-0 1-2				
Avro			1-3	1-2 0-1	0-0	1-1 1-1			0-0 1-0	0-3 2-0	1-2 3-2	1-1			1-1 0-1			1-1 0-1			
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Chasetown	4-2 0-1	3-2		3-3			0-0 2-0	2-1			1-1 1-2	0-1 1-0	4-0 1-0	1-1 3-2							
City of Liverpool	0-0 2-2	1-2 4-1		2-0			1-1 1-4	6-3 0-0	2-1						0-1 0-1	2-0 0-1	0-3 2-0				
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Hanley Town	4-2 0-1	0-2 1-1	2-0 0-0				3-1 0-0	1-3 0-2	1-0 1-3	0-3					1-2 1-1						
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Stalybridge Celtic	0-0 2-2	1-1		2-2 4-2	2-1 3-2		1-5	3-2 2-1	1-1 0-1						1-0 1-2						4-0
Trafford			0-1 1-2	2-2 0-1	0-0 1-0	1-2 0-0	1-1 2-1	2-1							2-2 1-1						0-1 1-1
Vauxhall Motors	3-1 1-3	2-3 0-1	2-1 3-2	0-2 3-2		3-2	3-3 0-3	3-1						0-3 2-4							2-3 2-2
Widnes	5-0 2-0	2-0 1-0	1-0 1-2	1-1 0-1	5-1 2-0	0-1 4-0		0-2						2-0 1-1							1-3
Witton Albion		2-2 2-2		1-2 1-0	2-0 3-2	3-1		2-1 1-4						2-3 1-0	3-0 0-4	1-2 2-1					

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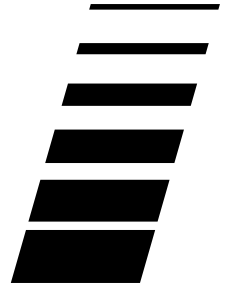
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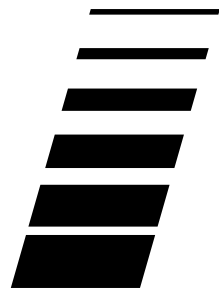
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Matt WOOLLEY	The Sunday Lunch Club

A DATE FOR THE DIARY

REARRANGED FIXTURE - HANLEY TOWN



A reminder that the rearranged game against Hanley Town - postponed a few weekends ago weekend - has been rearranged for THIS TUESDAY 19th March at

Townfield. A Tuesday night under the lights! We hope to see as many of you there as possible.



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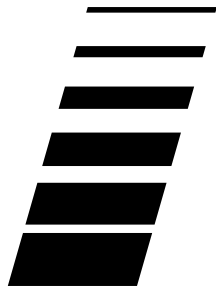
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RESPECT INITIATIVE

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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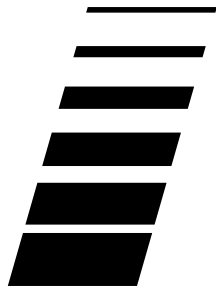
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HISTORIES AND PROFILES

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.
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- 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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 thedanielwilkinsonfoundation.org

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

1874 NORTHWICH - PROFILES 2023/2024

TINASHE CHAKWANA – 25 year old forward, signed in January 2024. Tinashe came through the Burnley academy and represented the clarets up until Under 23 level. He left Burnley in 2017, joining Sunderland for a short spell, then on to City of Liverpool and Stalybridge Celtic in the NPL.

JORDAO COSTA - Born and raised in Portugal, 21 year old Jordao signed for '74 in October 23 and made his debut on the left wing in the Cheshire Senior Cup defeat at Altrincham. His former clubs number Ilkeston Town, Macclesfield and Huddersfield Town.

TOM FAGAN – One of Damian Crossley's first recruits, 24 year old Tom arrived from '74's fellow NPL West rivals City of Liverpool and made his debut in the 2-1 Boxing Day loss to town rivals Witton Albion. A natural right-back, he started out with Southport in 2018 and since then his career has encompassed stops at Workington, Kendal, and Colne

MATT FENTON – Originally part of Crewe's youth system and a graduate of '74's well-regarded U21 side, 23 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!

MICHAEL IBETO - A strong, athletic and quick central defender Michael played over 30 games at Abbey Hey last season and went out on trials at Wycombe Wanderers and Stoke City in the summer before teaming up with '74 in early September. Unfortunately since joining the club a series of injuries have limited his game time.

JOEL JONES – A product of '74's highly successful U21 set up, 19 year old Joel made his debut for the club in the 2-0 defeat at Nantwich on New Year's Day. An out-and-out striker, he's also appeared in the colours Joel 9 of Cheshire League side Helsby and Burscough

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 38, Mark counts Witton, Nantwich and Radcliffe amongst his earlier ports of call.

CHRIS MCCANN - After having a long and extensive football league career during which he made 450 appearances for Burnley, Wigan Athletic, Coventry City, Oldham Athletic and Burton Albion, 36 year old Chris teamed up with '74 in November after more recent spells with DC United in the USA and Shamrock Rovers in his native Ireland. A very calm and gifted footballer, Chris has made an immediate and positive impact at the club.

OLIVER MCFADYEN – exciting forward signed in January 2024, after featuring for Cheadle Town. Oliver started out at Fleetwood Town, moving then to Stockport County where he featured regularly in their youth sides. He made the step in to senior football at Stockport Georgians where his stand out performances saw him make the jump to Runcorn Linnets in the NPL West last season. He quickly became a fan favourite with his performances catching the eye. He has also represented Fiji and is currently an active member of their under 20's squad.

EWAN MCGEADY – Defender, signed on dual registration with Altrincham at the end of February.

KACPER MIALKOWSKI – This left-sided defender joined '74 on dual-registration from Glossop North End. A product of the Rochdale academy, Kacper has also represented Poland at U17 level.

BENJI MULLARKEY - Warrington-based Benji joined up during the summer having fitted in well through pre-season, appearing in both defence and midfield. The 24-year-old had been on the books of Crewe Alexandra as a junior before a period away from the game. He had recently represented 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.

JOSH NICHOLSON – experienced forward Josh, signed on a dual registration agreement with Ashton Athletic in February 2024. Josh started his career with Skelmersdale United

ISAAC NOBLE – An exciting and pacy left winger of whom much is expected, 22 -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 – Recommended to the club by a couple of former 1874 players who were playing with him at Stockport Georgians, full-back Sam was a youth player with the academies of Manchester United, Blackburn Rovers and Sheffield Wednesday, before having a short spell in senior football with Droydsden. He has also spent time in the US, representing Arizona Western College.

OLE PARTINGTON – Midfielder, signed on dual registration with Altrincham at the end of February.

MICHAEL SHORTHOUSE – young Goalkeeper Mike, signed for 1874 in January 2024 after playing for Connahs Quay Nomads. Mike is a real talent and has a bright future in the game.

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

MATTHEW WONNACOTT – highly regarded Goalkeeper signed on loan for the remainder of the season, in early January 2024 from Wigan Athletic. Matty joined The Latics after a very successful spell at Torquay United.

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 having had prior spells at Congleton Town, Alsager, Witton Albion and FC Halifax Town. Unsurprisingly he's now chalked up over 350 games for the club, netting approaching 50 goals in the process.





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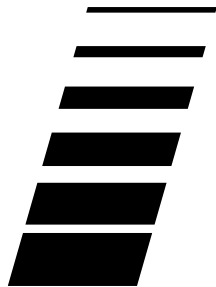
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HISTORIES AND PROFILES

TODAY'S VISITORS: HEDNESFORD TOWN



HISTORY

The Pitmen were formed in 1880 with the amalgamation of two teams, the Red and Whites (who were also known as West Hill) and Hill Top. The newly formed club played their games at 'The Tins', which was at the rear of The Anglesey Hotel in Hednesford and remained there until 1904, when they moved to 'The Cross Keys'.

'The Cross Keys' was home to the Pitmen until the 1994/95 season when the club moved to the new purpose-built 'Keys Park' stadium, which has a 6039 capacity and currently holds a Football Association Grade B ground grading certificate.

Hednesford Town FC may have a long and proud history but it was not until January 1990 that the club's fortunes turned for the better. The 1989/90 season had been a struggle and, at the beginning of the year, the club were in a deep relegation battle and, with gates below 300, relegation from The Beazer Homes Midland Division looked a distinct possibility. In an effort to avoid relegation the club appointed former goalkeeper, John Baldwin, as manager and he gradually began to turn the club around and relegation was avoided.

The following season the team finished third and then gained promotion to the Beazer Homes League Premier Division, after finishing the 91/92 season as runners-up to Solihull Borough. In the same season the club became the first English football team to play at The Welsh National Stadium losing 1-0 to Cardiff City, in the final of the Welsh Cup.

In the first season in the Premier Division the Pitmen finished in a creditable fourth position and reached the Staffordshire Senior Cup Final losing to Stoke City over two legs. The 93/94 season saw the club reach a cup final for the third year running, this time it was The Birmingham Senior Cup Final where at The Bescot Stadium they were beaten 3-0 by a full strength Walsall team.

The following season the club were crowned Beazer Homes League Premier Division champions with the team defeating Leek Town in front of 2776 supporters at The Cross Keys to clinch the title and promotion to the GM Vauxhall Conference.

The Pitmen commenced their first season in The Conference at their new Keys Park home and in the club's first season in the top flight of non-league football they finished in third place behind champions Stevenage Borough and Woking.

The 1996/97 season will go down as the best in the club's history as the Pitmen reached the first round of the FA Cup for the first time in 72 years, eventually losing in the fourth round at Middlesbrough, in front of 27,500 supporters.

The following season saw the club finish in seventh position and further FA Cup success was enjoyed as, in front of millions of Match of the Day viewers, the Pitmen beat Hull City 2-0 at Boothferry Park but in the second round lost to Darlington.

In the 98/99 season the club reached the first round of the FA Cup for the third season running. This time the team beat Barnet 3-1 in the first round but lost by the same scoreline away at Cardiff City in the next round. League success did not follow the fine cup runs and the 1999/2000 season saw the team drop to 17th position then, after John Baldwin had stepped down during December 2000, the club were relegated for the first time in their history.

A succession of managers were appointed to replace John Baldwin including Neil Pointon, Colin Lambert, Paul Raynor, Kenny Hibbitt and Ian Painter.

The club's first season back in the Southern League was a big disappointment and only a last day victory away at Newport (IOW) saved a second consecutive relegation.

The team started the 2002/03 season with Ian Painter in charge but, with the Pitmen hovering around the relegation zone, Ian was replaced during February 2003 by Barry Powell, who returned to the club after a spell at Stafford Rangers. Barry had previously been assistant manager to Kenny Hibbitt.

Despite the club's FA Trophy success in May 2004, when Canvey Island were defeated 3-2 at Villa Park, Barry Powell was replaced as manager by Chris Brindley. The club had failed during the 2003/04 season to finish high enough in

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the league to move into the new Conference set up but promotion came twelve months later, when a place in The Football Conference Northern Division was gained after winning play off games away at Merthyr Tydfil and Chippenham Town.

The 05/06 season saw the Pitmen again reach the first round of the FA Cup but the team were defeated 4-0 away at Histon. The team continued to leak goals and, as a result of a number of poor results, Chris Brindley left the club by mutual consent in early December 2005. Chris' assistant manager, former Wimbledon star, Steve Anthrobus, was appointed Manager but he was unable to save the club from relegation to The Unibond Northern Premier League.

Former Nottingham Forest player, Phil Starbuck, was appointed manager in July 2006 and, despite challenging near the top of the table for the majority of the 06/07 season, a slump in form after Christmas saw the team eventually finish in 7th position. In the 07/08 season, the Pitmen ended a disappointing season in 8th position and Phil Starbuck was replaced during the summer by Dean Edwards who appointed former Scottish international, Matt Elliott, as his Assistant Manager.

The 08/09 season saw the Pitmen in commanding form for the first half of the season once again, but a loss of form in the New Year saw the title challenge fade away, with the team finishing in a disappointing 8th place. One consolation was that the side went on to win the Birmingham Senior Challenge Cup for only a second time after a wait of 73 years, beating Stourbridge 2-0 in the final.

After a disappointing start to the 2009/10 campaign Dean Edwards left the club and Simon Line, formerly of Market Drayton Town FC, was appointed to the vacant team manager position. Simon brought former Kidderminster Harriers player, Delwyn Humphreys, to Keys Park as his number two.

More managerial chaos followed in early January 2010 when Simon Line handed in his resignation for 'personal reasons' and this resulted in the appointment of former Pitman and Northern Ireland star, Bernard McNally into the Keys Park management hot seat.

Delwyn Humphreys agreed to stay on as Bernie's Assistant Manager, after a short spell as caretaker manager, following Line's departure. Under this management team the Pitmen finished the season strongly and ended in a creditable fourth place, earning a play off semi-final tie away at Chippenham Town FC, which the Pitmen lost 2-0.

After a shock early exit from the 2010/11 FA Cup Bernard McNally and his then assistant Stuart Brock left the club to be replaced by the former AFC Telford United management team, Rob Smith and Larry Chambers in late September 2010.

After a very successful season finishing 2nd in the Southern League Premier Division, winning the Southern League Cup and losing on penalties to Salisbury City FC in the Play-off Final the Pitmen were moved laterally into the Evo-Stik Northern Premier League.

After a satisfactory first season back in the Evo-Stik NPL, finishing in 5th place and earning a Play Off place, losing to promoted Bradford Park Avenue, Smith set about rebuilding the team for the new season, making wholesale changes.

The 2012-13 campaign was one of the best in the history of the club, with the club finishing second in the league with 93 points and then gaining promotion through the Play Offs, beating AFC Fylde and then FC United of Manchester, the Final setting a new attendance record at Keys Park of 4412. The promotion to the Conference was complemented by winning both the Birmingham and Staffordshire Senior Cups in a truly historic season.

The success story continued in 2013-14 with Smith and Chambers once more guiding the team to the play-offs, losing narrowly over two legs to Altrincham FC who were eventually promoted. The team also acquitted themselves well in the FA Cup getting to the First Round proper, losing 2-1 to Crawley Town FC and also got to the Final of the Birmingham Senior Cup, losing to Conference Premier side Tamworth FC.

The 2014-15 season was a season of consolidation for the Pitmen who were in play-off contention at Christmas but faded in the run-in, finishing in a creditable 8th place in the Conference North.

Soon after the commencement of the 2015-16 season the club were rocked by the news that Smith and Chambers were leaving to take up the vacant management positions at rivals AFC Telford United. After a flurry of interest in the posts at Keys Park, former manager Bernard McNally was appointed to the manager position to be assisted by club stalwart Chris Brindley, however, after a poor run of results in which the team only picked up 8 pts in 11 league matches McNally was relieved of his duties. In mid December 2015, former Chelsea and Leicester City star Frank Sinclair was appointed to the manager's position, bringing in Chris Millington as his Assistant, a colleague of his at Oldham Athletic FC Academy. Despite their best efforts Frank and Chris were unable to avoid relegation and left the club in April 2016. After much interest in the vacant manager role, the club appointed Liam McDonald fresh from a very successful season with Redditch United FC.

After losing Liam McDonald to Solihull Moors FC in November 2016 there followed another period of management instability with Paul Casey having three months in charge followed by his assistant manager Gary Birch. When Gary Birch resigned at the end of the season the club moved quickly to appoint manager Neil Tooth who had been the preferred external candidate when the

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previous internal appointment had been made, however, in September Neil Tooth left the club and this heralded the return of Rob Smith and Larry Chambers to Keys Park. The new management team heralded a strong mid-season resurgence by the Pitmen but this did not last and the performances dropped off towards the end of the season, finishing in a disappointing 16th position in the League.

The 2018-19 season started with mixed results but took a turn for the worse in late November when Smith and Chambers left the club to take up a position elsewhere, the club decided in late December to appoint Nicky Eaden as Manager who was joined by Gary Hayward as Assistant Manager. After a strong finish to the season Gary Hayward was appointed as team manager and recruited Mark Ward from AFC Mansfield as his Assistant and fans favourite Danny Glover as player/coach. In early December 2019, Gary Hayward and Mark Ward left to take up a management offer at Buxton FC, Danny Glover and Ben Bailey took immediate charge of team affairs and was joined by experienced former Port Vale FC manager, Dean Glover to assist in the dugout. This was the season that coronavirus struck with the season shut down in mid March and all results expunged. Amidst all of the chaos though, 2020 saw Hednesford Town FC move into a new era of ownership as Graham Jones took over the club as Chairman along with his partner Hayden Dando on 1st May.

Shortly afterwards, Andy Morrell was appointed as team manager with Danny Glover as his Assistant Manager and former Stafford Rangers manager, Alex Meechan, joining the coaching staff. With only a few weeks of the new season past and with the Pitmen on the bottom of the league and out of the FA Cup, Andy Morrell and Alex Meechan left the club and were replaced by Keenen Meakin-Richards and Graham Deakin as the interim management team. In another disrupted season due to the pandemic, Keenen Meakin-Richards and Graham Deakin were confirmed as the management team, they were joined by Jemiah Richards as coach and Richard Mills as goalkeeper coach.

After an inauspicious start to the 22-23 season, the management team resigned their positions and, after a brief spell with Leroy Lita and Martin Riley holding the reigns, a new management team of Steve Burr and Neil Tooth were appointed which only lasted for 10 weeks before being replaced with Danny Glover as Player/Manager and the experienced Guy Hadland as his Assistant Manager. The appointments brought an improvement but it was too late and the Pitmen finished in 20th position and were to be relegated.

After some uncertainty over the fate of the club in the early summer due to a failed ownership change, a resolution was found with the return of Hayden Dando as Chairman and for the start of the 2023-24 season Danny Glover brought in the club's former goalkeeper Dan Crane

as Assistant Manager and set about a wholesale rebuild of the team.

With the team sitting bottom of the league in October Danny Glover and his management team were relieved of their duties and Harry Harris and Steve Hinks were appointed bringing in their coaching staff from Walsall Wood FC, with little progress over three months a further change was made in late February with the appointment of Paul Moore as head Coach.

Honours

FA Trophy	
Winners	2003/04
Welsh Cup	
Runners up	1991/92
Northern Premier League Premier Division	
Runners-up	2012/13
Southern League Premier Division	
Champions	1994/95
Runners up	2010/11
Play off winners	2004/05
Southern League Midland Division	
Runners up	1991/92
Southern League Cup	
Winners	2010/11
Runners up	1986/87
West Midlands League	
Champions	1977/78
Runners up	1983/84
West Midlands League Cup	
Winners	1983/84
Birmingham Combination	
Champions	1909/10, 1950/51
Runners up	1912/13, 1952/53
Birmingham County FA Senior Cup	
Winners	1935/36, 2008/09, 2012/13
Runners up	1993/94, 2013-14, 2017/18
Staffordshire County FA Senior Cup	
Winners	1969/70, 1973/74, 2012/13
Runners up	1992/93, 2017/18

PROFILES

Paul Moore – Head Coach

Paul was appointed to the role of Head Coach in late February with the Pitmen still firmly in a relegation position and looking to improve in the remaining games. Paul has a wealth of experience around the leagues with Newcastle Town, Leek Town, Colwyn Bay, Warrington Town, Clitheroe and Congleton Town. He is a UEFA A Licensed coach along with this broad experience.

Ronnie Green - Coach

Ronnie is an experienced football coach, well known to Paul Moore and has joined the Hednesford Town coaching staff.

Seydou Bamba – Coach

A highly qualified sports coach with vast experience as a centre back at these levels of football. Was recently playing at Market Drayton Town FC but is now looking to spend more time coaching football

Adam Paget – Sports Therapist

Adam joined the Pitmen as Sports Therapist after a 3 year spell at AFC Telford United, he has previously also worked with AFC Wulfrunians, AFC Bridgnorth and Bilston Town.

Adam works in the private health sector as a neuro therapist specialising in brain and spinal injury rehabilitation and also runs his own sports rehabilitation clinic AP25 SPORTS THERAPY.

Kieran Boucher - Goalkeeper

Kieran joined the Pitmen in early December from Harry Harris's former club, Walsall Wood FC. Bouch is a very capable 24 year old goalkeeper who is very highly rated by clubs around the Midlands, certainly one of the most talked about at Step 3.

After leaving Aston Villa Academy, he had very good spells with Startford Town, Redditch United and latterly with Solihull Moors before joining Harris at Walsall Wood.

Ryan Brown - Goalkeeper

Ryan joined the Pitmen in Late September on a 3 month loan from Kidsgrove Athletic and recently returned with a permanent move. The 22 year old stopper began his career with Port Vale in the Academy before joining Kidsgrove, making 19 appearances in his first season in senior football 3 years ago. He signed a 3 year contract with Kidsgrove and with a brief loan spell at Eccleshall has plenty of Step 4 experience already. Known as a tall, athletic goalkeeper with a good command of his box, he will be a good asset for the club.

Rhys Williams - Goalkeeper

Rhys has recently re-signed for the Pitmen after leaving to join Shifnal Town FC. Rhys is a product of the Hednesford Town FC Academy and was a key member of the team that won the National League U19 Alliance league, going a full season unbeaten in their division and getting to the Quarter Final stage of the National League Cup, losing narrowly away at Gateshead FC.

Lucas Yeomans - Defender

Lucas Yeomans, 19, began his career at Derby County in the youth academy before moving to Tamworth. He spent time on loan at Mickleover at the beginning of last season before joining ourselves here at Keys Park towards the back end of theseason, impressing Manager Danny Glover prior to picking up an injury. During pre-season he moved to Matt Clarke's Redditch United but has now agreed to join The Pitmen.

Blaine Rowe - Defender

An excellent young prospect who has recently joined the Pitmen from Darlington FC. Blaine is a speedy attacking right full back who progressed through Coventry City's academy. He has also had experience in Scotland with Ayr United and Falkirk.

Sam Paddock - Defender

Sam rejoins The Pitmen after being part of a very successful Hednesford youth team who went unbeaten in the national alliance, Jack then moved into senior football playing for Sikh Hunters and Lye Town, Sam is a promising defender who is comfortable at centre back or left back.

Jack Kelly - Defender

Jack Joins us from Shifnal Town where he was a stand out player last season, Jack came through the ranks at Nottingham Forest before moving into non league representing Hempel, Kettering, Newtown and Shifnal, Jack is an experienced left back who will help mentor the younger players.

Sam Griffiths - Defender

Club Captain Sam is no stranger to Hednesford returning for a 4th time. Sam started his career at Wolverhampton Wanderers then moving to Brentford he then moved into non league playing for Braintree, Halesowen Town and Shifnal. Sam's experience and calm head will be crucial to the squad.

Josh Endall – Defender

Josh rejoined the club from Bedworth United in November 2023, 6ft 5in Josh is a physically strong, left footed defender, who is very experienced with spells at Coventry City, Solihull Moors, Stafford Rangers and Stratford Town, as well as here at Keys Park.

Michael McGrath – Defender

Macca joined the Pitmen after a 13 month spell as player/manager at Bromsgrove Sporting. A very experienced player that can play at Centre Back or as a holding midfielder. McGrath has played at higher levels with clubs including Kettering, Hereford and Evesham United.

Michael Williams- Defender

Michael is an experienced defender who has played for a host of non league clubs such as Coleshill, Chasetown, Stafford Rangers and Gresley Rovers where he won promotion. Michael is also comfortable in midfield, he is a strong combative player who will always give his all.

Tom Thorley – Midfielder

Former club captain Tom was Danny Glover's first signing. Tom is a box-to-box midfielder who began his career at Stoke City. Spells with Stafford Rangers and Worcester City followed before Tom joined the Pitmen. A further stint followed at Stafford before a move to Rushall Olympic and then to Leek Town in the summer before returning to Keys Park.

James McQuilkin – Midfielder

James came through the ranks at West Bromwich Albion before joining FC Trinity Zlin in the Czech Republic, he returned to England in 2009 with Hereford United and then took in spells at Kidderminster, Walsall, Hednesford, Torquay and Telford. He returned to Kidderminster in 2015 where he made 81 appearances before departing back to AFC Telford United in 2018 for a 2-year stay. Following a brief return to Hereford, the Tipton born midfielder signed for Stourbridge in the Southern central premier division. James returned to Keys Park after a spell at AFC Telford United in October 2023

Joe Morley – Midfield

Joe is a product of the excellent Academy team of two years ago that went through the complete season unbeaten in their division of the National League U19 Alliance. Joe is a versatile midfielder equally at home in the middle or on the wing, he rejoins the club after a successful spell with neighbouring Chasetown FC.

Joe Thompson – Midfield

Joe came into the squad from Newcastle Town, having previously been with AFC Telford United and Shifnal Town. Joe is a versatile attacking midfield player and a great character in the dressing room.

James Carvell – Midfield

James is an industrious midfield player that came into the squad from neighbouring Stafford Rangers at the end of last year. A valuable member of the squad.

Jacob Gwilt- Midfield

Jacob is a versatile player who has appeared in midfield, out wide and also at left back, Jacob has played for Rio Grande in America where they were ranked 4th in the country. Jacob was most recently at AFC Wulfrunians.

Danny Thompson-Edwards – Midfield

Danny was new Head Coach, Paul Moore's first signing for the club. The 23 year old 'box to box' midfielder came through the ranks at Salford City FC and has played for a number of clubs in Wales including Airbus UK, Colwyn Bay, Rhyl 1879 and Cefn Druids before joining Paul at Newcastle Town.

Jai Verma – Midfield

After a formal approach to Walsall Wood FC for one of his former players, Harry Harris has brought in 21 year old speedy winger, Jai Verma, to bolster the Pitmen squad.

Jai who was a product of Stoke City FC Academy was a prominent part of Walsall Wood's successful promotion season and scored one of the goals when Walsall Wood beat us at Keys Park in the FA Trophy, earlier this season.

Joe Berks – Midfield

A quick and direct midfield player, Joe has also played for Paul at Newcastle Town. He is a product of Port Vale Academy and has also played at Stafford Rangers and Chasetown.

Ahmed Ali – Midfield

Ahmed joined the Pitmen in late December from fellow NPL West Division club, Nantwich Town. The elegant Somalia international midfielder who began his career in Holland but has subsequently played for Bromsgrove Sporting, Redditch United and Halesowen Town before joining Nantwich Town in the summer. Ahmed is a very experienced all round midfielder that will be a great addition to the squad.

Nathan Delfouneso - Striker

Nathan joined the club from Chorley in late February. The big name striker began his career at Aston Villa where he made over 30 appearances during a spell where he also had successful loan periods at Burnley, Leicester City, Blackpool and Coventry City. Nathan eventually made a permanent move to Blackpool where he made over 160 appearances. Nathan represented England up to Under 21 level.

Jake Jarvis - Striker

Jake started his career with Birmingham City and enjoyed successful loan spells with Hereford, Notts County and Swindon Town. Following a short spell at Ross County, Jake signed for Plymouth Argyle where he made 108 appearances and scored 27 times. Jake has gone on to play in Turkey, Finland and India before starting this season at Brackley Town FC

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PLAYER MANAGERS

Mark JONES
Matt WOOLLEY



Tinashe CHAKWANA				
Jordao COSTA *				
Tom FAGAN *				
Matthew FENTON *				
Michael IBETO *				
Anisio JESUS				
Joel JONES *				
Mark JONES *				
Chris MCCANN				
Oliver MCFADYEN *				
Ewan MCGEADY *				
Kacper MIALKOWSKI *				
Benji MULLARKEY				
Jamie NICHOLSON *				
Josh NICHOLSON				
Isaac NOBLE *				
Sam OLIVER *				
Oliver PARTINGTON *				
Jonny SODHI *				
Mike SHORHOUSE				
Matt WONNACOTT *				
Matt WOOLLEY *				

MANAGER

Paul MOORE

*Ahmed ALI
*Eden BAILEY
*Joe BERKS
*Kieran BOUCHER
Ryan BROWN
Kenjy CAMARA
James CARVELL
Nathan DELFOUNESO
*Danny EDWARDS
*Josh ENDALL
*Sam GRIFFITHS
*Jacob GWILT
*Jake JERVIS
Jack KELLY
*Michael MCGRATH
*James MCQUILKIN
*Joe MORLEY
Sam PADDOCK
*Blaine ROWE
Joe THOMPSON
Danny THOMPSON-EDWARDS
*Tom THORLEY
*Jai VERMA
*Michael WILLIAMS
Rhys WILLIAMS

*Asterisks indicate present in last/predicted matchday squad

Live Information

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AST 2: David CHISNALL

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