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Northwich Community Football Club, trading as 1874 Northwich Football Club, operates under the model of a Community Benefit Society. Registration no.: 32017R

20 Greenside Drive, Lostock Green, Northwich, CW9 7SR

STADIUM: The Creative Hut Stadium, Townfield Lane, Barnton, Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 4LJ



CONTACT INFORMATION:

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HOME: Green shirts, black shorts, green socks AWAY: Orange shirts, grey shorts, grey socks THIRD: Blue shirts, blue shorts, blue socks

HONOURS:

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Commercial Brochure

WELCOME**to** Townfiel**d**

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE – WEST VS **NEWCASTLE TOWN** Saturday 30th mar 2024 | K.O. 3.00PM



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT: Brian Edge ACTING CHAIRMAN: Richard Stockton FINANCE: John Coats FOOTBALL: Vicki England COMPANY: Maggie Coats YOUTH DEVELOPMENT: Peter Flaherty ENGAGEMENT: Mark Kelly ENGAGEMENT: Andrew Dignum

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 INTERIM MANAGERS:

Mark Jones and Matthew Woolley PHYSIOTHERAPIST: Katy Bagshaw KIT MANAGER: Andy Williams UNDER 21s MANAGER: Kyle Murray

FROM THE DUGOUT

Joint manager Mark Jones hopes his 74 side will put much needed points on the board this weekend, as the greens face both Newcastle Town and Witton Albion in an Easter weekend double header.

Coming off the back of a hard fought 2-2 draw last weekend against Trafford, Jones praised the attitude of the players in order to come from behind to share the points.

"We were really pleased with the point and on another day maybe could have taken all 3."

"We were really happy with the performance and felt like we controlled the first 35 mins of the first half."

"The lads then did really well to get back into the game 2nd half after falling behind.

First up this weekend is a home fixture against Newcastle Town, before a crucial local derby on Easter Monday.

Jones spoke of the importance of the games, but also admitted himself and co-manager Matt Woolley won't make many changes ahead of kick off on Saturday. "We expect Newcastle to be strong and physical so it will be a tough game.

"To be honest, it is a must win game but we won't change much. The lads have given everything over the last few weeks and so long as they give their all, that's all we can ask for.

"As for Easter Monday, with it being a local derby it always ads that little extra. Personally, I am looking forward to playing in and it would be great to take something from the game for all the supporters after a long tough season.

"Hopefully we can take some points this weekend after the news of the chairman. It would be extra special to get some points for him. All the players and staff want to wish him a speedy recovery and hope to see him on the terraces again soon."

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Good afternoon, it's good to see you back at Townfield over this Easter weekend. I would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone connected with Newcastle Town to Mid-Cheshire.

VICKI ENGLAND

ECRETARIAL MUS

Newcastle had a tricky start to the season, but they've re-grouped and climbed clear of danger whilst progressing off the park too. Positive times for them.

Well, this could be a significant weekend in the history of our club, and another step on the 'learning curve'. Depending on results for us and others, we may officially be relegated, which would be a first. Despite some folks thinking we will be crying in our Bovril; I can honestly say that won't be the case.

Sure, no-one wants their team to have trying times, we have wanted to do as well as we could at the higher level, but it's been a tough ask for most of the season and we have to be realistic. We were never going to compete equally with some of the bigger and more financially strong clubs, I'm afraid, and a few things have caught up with us.

So, disappointing? Yes. But really not a disaster because we live to fight another day as a club and that's the most important thing. New adventures, eh?! You never know, positive results over the next 72 hours will delay things a touch!

If we put the same effort and performance in over the next couple of games, as we did last Saturday away at Trafford, then anything is possible. The lads did well, and a point was the least that they deserved. Well played to 16 year old Mike in goal, he has bode his time, got his opportunity, and he certainly gave a mature performance. Nice to see his lovely family with smiles on their faces after the game! I was also made up to be amongst our supporters again behind the goal, everyone got loudly behind the team and there was great banter, and we left with smiles on our faces. Made my weekend. I know you don't need a reminder, but we head across town on Monday to take on the Albs. They need their own result to keep their play-off place on the burner, so pressure is on them. What do they say? A free hit? Why not!! Same next week too, over at Bootle who have done so well this season. Another play off candidate. Then it's Clitheroe, Avro and Linnets. We might just have a say in the whole play-off situation.

Despite little news coming out of the club, there has been so much going on behind the scenes. The Board have been conscious about this and by now, Members should have received a communication inviting them to a meeting next Thursday. This will give us an opportunity to hopefully set the scene on where we are as a club and what we need to do going forward. I would urge our owners to attend, if you care about 1874 then you will be interested in having an honest discussion. We are planning for what comes next and Members' understanding, feedback and ideas will play an important part in the process.

As much as we love our club and think the world revolves around it, sometimes things happen in life that will put any footy troubles into perspective. Towards the end of last week, we were rocked by the news that our very hardworking Chairman Steve, had suffered a stroke. This left him with weakness down his left side and since then, he has worked hard each day to adapt and improve his situation. It came out of the blue, and was a sign that he was doing too much.

Indeed, I can go back to a week last Tuesday, to give an example of why he was doing more than his fair share. He attended a late afternoon meeting on behalf of the club, before heading to Townfield for the Hanley game. After being on his feet all night, and then helping after the game in the club house, I left him at 11.15pm heading to lock the school car park up. And all that, after a full day at work. This was typical for Steve.



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All Chairmen/women are hardworking but on match day, many act as ambassadors in their shirts and ties. Steve never had that luxury, he's always been a "roll your sleeves up, there's work to be done" sort of Chairman. But we need to learn and address this, because there are a few people like Steve who have taken too much on...

I spent an hour with him on Wednesday and he was doing 'ok'. It's fair to say though that he is struggling to sit and do very little, as that is not Steve. I think daytime TV is leaving him frustrated! I told him to get onto YouTube and watch some 1874 footage back, as that always helps me when I'm fed up! He is under orders from his wife and family and from us too! Steve is a fighter and I know that whilst it will take time, I am sure we will see him back on the terraces when he is more recovered. 1874 now must learn to move on without the hours and hours he put in each week, as he can't commit to his duties in the future. In the interim, Richard Stockton has been appointed as Acting Chairman with John Coats as Acting Vice Chairman. I know you will all give them your support as we navigate some of the issues that we face.

I know you will join me in sending Steve our very best wishes for a full recovery and our grateful thanks for his tremendous effort and support over many years for the club.

That's it for now. Let's get behind the boys today and on Monday and then I hope to see as many Owners as possible at Thursday's meeting.

"Come on you Green Boys!"

Ever Glorious 23/24

CLUB STATEMENT steve reighardson steps down



1874 Northwich wish to announce that due to health reasons, club Chairman Steve Richardson will step down from official duties with immediate effect.

Steve unfortunately suffered a stroke last week, but is now back at home, and under medical advice will be stepping away to focus on his recovery.

Steve joined the board in 2014 and took on the role of Community Development Officer in 2015. He was elected as Chairman in 2020 and has worked tirelessly in the role ever since.

Vice-chairman Richard Stockton has agreed to take over responsibilities as acting Chairman and Treasurer John Coats will take over as acting Vice-chairman. The board would like to thank Steve for his immense commitment and dedication over the last decade of service to the club. We are sure that all at the club wish him a swift and full recovery, and look forward to seeing him back on the terraces very soon.

We have organised an Owners meeting for Thursday the 4th of April at Townfield, starting at 7:30pm. This will give us the opportunity to inform members of the club how we will be moving forward. This will include details of our search for a new first team manager, review of the year and plans for next season. If anyone has any questions, these can be raised at the meeting, or emailed to fanengagement@1874northwich.com.

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BIG GAME PREVIEW BY GARBY CLARKE



1874 NORTHWICH VS NEWCASTLE TOWN Northern Premier League – West

Newcastle Town ended last season 15th in the NPL West Division level on points with 1874 in 14th with a playing record of:

	Ρ	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Pos
Newcastle	38	12	9	17	50	59	-9	45	14

Newcastle Town struggled for any kind of consistency in the first half of the season. Although they spent most of the time in the bottom half of the table, dropping as low as 17th, they have also spent time in the top half reaching 6th on a number of occasions.

Entering the New Year in 17th place they have enjoyed an upturn in fortunes following a change of manager in December, with Neil Baker replacing Paul Moore in the hot seat, and after last Saturday's games were 14th in the table 11 points above the dreaded 'dotted line'.

Last Saturday they lost 0-1 at Prescot Cables, their 4th defeat in their last six games, which with one win and a draw leaves them 17th in the division's current form table, while 1874 remain bottom of both tables.

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

	Р	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Pos
Newcastle	32	П	6	15	39	43	-4	39	14
1874	32	4	6	22	22	69	-47	18	20

This will be the 6th game to be played between 1874 and Newcastle Town, with 1874 yet to taste defeat having won three of the previous five games and drawn twice.

1874 won the first meeting of the two teams this season at the Lyme Valley Stadium 1-0 in September with a 33rd minute penalty converted by Jack Irlam deciding the outcome. Newcastle Town exited the FA Cup in the preliminary round losing 5-1 away at Rugby Town after beating Romulus in the extra preliminary round following a replay. In the FA Trophy they lost 2-0 at Belper Town in the 1st qualifying round.

Leading goal scorer for Newcastle Town is Jack Avery who has netted 8 goals so far this season, while Dan Cockerline (now with Warrington Rylands) is their second highest goal scorer with 7. In addition a further 13 players have been on target for Newcastle Town.

Newcastle Town's 18 home games have attracted an average crowd of 229 this season. The highest attendance has been 412 for their NPL West game against Witton Albion, while the lowest is just 63 for a Staffordshire Senior Cup tie against Stone Old Alleynians.

NEWCASTLE TOWN FACT FILE

Formed	1964
Ground	Lyme Valley Stadium
Colours	Blue
Change Colours	Yellow
Nickname	The Castle, Underlem
Manager	Neil Baker
2022/23	15th NPL West

DID YOU KNOW?

Not recorded in the 1086 Domesday Book, the market town of Newcastle-under-Lyme grew up in the twelfth century, and whose name was derived from the 12th century castle. Subsequently the town received its first charter in 1173. The name "Newcastle" is derived from a mid-12th century motte and bailey which replaced an older fortress two miles away at Chesterton, while "Lyme" might refer to the Lyme Brook or the Forest of Lyme ("lyme" being an old English term for elm trees) that covered an extensive area across the county.

FOOT IN BOTH CAMPS

Only three players have been traced who have played for both 1874 Northwich and Newcastle Town: Maxwell Chimines, Lee Duckworth and Simon Everall.

WE'VE MET BEFORE

Garry Clarke takes a look back at previous meetings between 1874 Northwich and Newcastle Town.

2021/22

14th September 2021 - NPL West Home - Drew I-1 Attendance 193 1874 - M Woolley Newcastle - T Van Der Laan

29th March 2022 - NPL West Away - Won I-0 Attendance 266 1874 - Fenton

2022/23

6th September 2022 - NPL West Away - Drew 2-2 Attendance 120 1874 - O'Neill, Noble Newcastle - Lovatt, T Van Der Laan

7th February 2023 - NPL West Home - Won 2-0 Attendance 221 1874 - J Woolley, Green

2023/24 2nd September 2023 - NPL West Away - Won 0-1 Attendance 157 1874 - Irlam

HEAD TO HEAD

	Ρ	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD
Home	2	Т	Т	0	3	Т	+2
Away	3	2	Т	0	4	2	+2
Total	5	3	2	0	7	3	+4

LAST SEASON AT TOWNFIELD

7th February 2023 Won, 2-0

Attendance 221

Two first half goals saw 1874 overcome Newcastle Town. The first came in the 13th minute when Harry Bower broke down the right before crossing to Fenton Green to tap home; the second nine minutes later when another break down the right ended with Joe Woolley firing home. 1874 went close to adding to their tally in the second half, having the ball in the net just after the hour mark but it did not count as the referee had spotted an infringement in the build-up, and then late on Matt Woolley blazed a penalty over the bar.

BUDGET BOOSTERS

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

Steve Allen-Gurr Ken Bailey Andrew Barclay Emma Brinksman Lee Broughton Phil Burgess **Richard Bush** Keith Campion Karl Clarke John Coats Gavin Coyle Phil Crimes Andy Dickinson Andy Dignum Ashley Dobell David Edgeley Vicki England Stuart Evans Stuart Evans Frank Fallows Tony Fallows Graham Fenton Paul Fletcher Paul Gleave Martin Griffiths Tony Hassall Ion Hegerty Will Hughes Simon Johnson David Jones Phil Knapper Christopher Latham Anthony Marshall Tony McCormick leff Nield Andy Oakes Malcom Plant Paul Plant Michael Redrup Steve Richardson Craig Richmond Fred Shallcross Christopher Shuff Tom Smith

Graham Spencer Nik Stanley John Stiles Richard Stockton Mark Taylor Richard Ward 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 $\pounds 25$ or to make a monthly contribution of $\pounds 5$, $\pounds 10, \pounds 15, \pounds 20, \pounds 25, \pounds 30$ or $\pounds 50$ 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 and 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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Ever Glorious 23/24

MATCH CENTRE 23/24 By Pete Grimes



DATE	OPPOSITION	FT	нт	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-I	0-0	501				Scaife B
28	NANTWICHTOWN	0-I	0-0	325				Sibley F
Sep 2	Newcastle Town	I-0	I -0	157	Irlam			Moosa B
10	City of Liverpool (FAT IP)	I-3	0-I	324	Chimenes			MetcalfT
30	City of Liverpool	2-1	I -0	288	Weir	Byrne		Hurn K
Oct 3	MOSSLEY	1-3	I -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	I-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-I	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 I	Nantwich Town	0-2	0-1	507				Kearney G
6	PRESCOT CABLES	0-1	0-1	353				Aldred R
6	NORTHWICHVICS (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	0-1	0-1	268				MetcalfT
19	HANLEY TOWN	0-1	0-1	170				Moss M
23	Trafford	2-2	1-2	417	Noble	Partington		Kearney G
30	NEWCASTLE TOWN	-						
Apr I	Witton Albion	-						
6	Bootle	-						
13	CLITHEROE	-						
20	Avro	-						
27	RUNCORN LINNETS	-						

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1874 Northwich Matchday Programme

Online Match Centre

1874 NORTHWICH 2023/24 PLAYER STATS

AS OF 29/03/24

			2023/	24 SEA	ISON		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	I	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	I.	0	2	0	1		
BROE	Ollie	1	1	0	0	0	15	5	8	10	0	23		
BYRNE	Eric	6	3	5	8	I.	6	3	5	8	I	11		
CHAKWANA	Tinashe	6	4	2	0	0	6	4	2	0	0	8		
CHIMENES	Max	17	2	0	0	2	17	2	0	0	2	17		
COSTA	Jordao	0	0	2	13	0	0	0	2	13	0	2		
CRAWFORD	Jamal	15	8	4	0	I.	22	14	15	3	I	37		
ELLIS	Gabe	3	I	2	2	0	3	1	2	2	0	5		
FAGAN	Tom	8	3	4	I	0	8	3	4	I	0	12		
FENTON	Matty	28	I.	0	0	I.	79	3	0	3	9	79		
GREEN	Fenton	14	2	0	0	3	42	8	2	3	6	44		
IBETO	Mike	7	3	5	5	0	7	3	5	5	0	12		
IRLAM	Jack	8	1	0	0	2	92	28	22	5	13	114		
JESUS	Anisio	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2		
JONES	Joel	8	2	3	Ι	I	8	2	3	I	I	П		
JONES	Mark	29	2	1	1	0	235	16	7	6	9	242		
KIRWAN	Jacob	1	0	0	I	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	9	2	0	2	0	9	2	0	2	0	9		
MCFADYEN	Oli	7	1	0	0	1	7	1	0	0	1	7		
MCGEADY MCNAIR	Ewan	4	0	0 0	0 0	0	4	0 0	0	0 0	0	4 I		
MIALKOWSKI	Kamoy	1		3	0			2	3	0				
MOONEY MUNOZ	Kacper Gabriel	15 4	2	4	I	0	15 4	2	4	I	0	18 8		
MULLARKEY	Benji	7 9	4	2	6	0	9	4	2	6	0	•		
NICHOLSON	Jamie	18	13	13	0	2	18	13	13	0	2	31		
NICHOLSON	Josh	I	0	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	1	1		
NOBLE	Isaac	13	8	9	0	1	21	16	24	17	3	45		
OLIVER	Sam	8	3	4	2	0	8	3	4	2	0	12		
OLLERENSHAW	Josh	Ĩ	0	0	0	0	I I	0	0	0	0	1		
PARTINGTON	Ole	4	0	0	0	Ĩ	4	0	0	0	Ĩ	4		
SHORTHOUSE	Mike	i	0	0	8	0	i	0	0	8	0	i		
SIYAM	Mohammad	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	5	9	0	5		
SODHI	Jonny	5	4	4	14	0	5	4	4	14	0	9		
WEIR	Lucas	25	- I	0	0	4	61	5	12	П	10	73		
WILLIAMS	Elliot	1	0	1	3	0	1	0	1	3	0	2		
WONNACOTT	Matt	- H	0	0	0	0	H	0	0	0	0	- 11		
WOOLLEY	Matt	31	5	1	2	1	368	55	31	30	45	399		

NPL-WEST 2023/24 LEAGUE TABLE

AS OF 29/03/24

			HOME				AWAY				
		Pld	W	D	L	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	Leek Town	33	14	I	2	9	4	3	79	34	74
2	Prescot Cables	32	10	3	3	7	4	5	50	33	58
3	Runcorn Linnets	33	10	3	4	7	3	6	51	35	57
4	Bootle	33	6	5	6	10	3	3	50	41	56
5	City of Liverpool FC	32	7	5	4	7	3	6	54	39	50
6	Witton Albion	32	9	2	5	6	3	7	53	54	50
7	Nantwich Town	33	9	3	4	5	3	9	50	38	48
8	Clitheroe	32	6	4	6	7	5	4	54	46	48
9	Stalybridge Celtic	33	8	5	3	4	6	7	51	51	47
10	Widnes	32	9	2	5	4	4	8	47	35	45
П	Avro	32	4	6	6	7	6	3	38	38	45
12	Mossley	32	8	4	4	4	4	8	42	48	44
13	Chasetown	32	8	4	4	3	3	10	39	45	40
14	Newcastle Town	32	5	4	7	6	2	8	39	43	39
15	Hanley Town	32	5	4	7	5	5	6	29	39	39
16	Vauxhall Motors	33	7	2	8	4	3	9	44	63	38
17	Kidsgrove Athletic	33	5	5	6	4	4	9	52	61	36
18	Trafford	33	3	8	5	3	7	7	34	46	33
19	Hednesford Town	32	3	7	6	3	3	10	36	56	28
20	1874 NORTHWICH	32	2	2	12	2	4	10	22	69	18

NPL-WEST 2023/24 RESULTS GRID

AS OF 29/03/24

	1874 Northwich	Avro	Bootle	Chasetown	City of Liverpoo	Clitheroe	Hanley Town	Hednesford Town	(idsgrove Athletic	Leek Town	Mossley	Nantwich Town	Newcastle Town	Prescot Cables	Runcorn Linnets	Stalybridge Celtic	Trafford	Vauxhall Motors	Widnes	Witton Albion
1874 Northwich	7	-	o 0 - 4	-	⊆		-	-	n 2 - 6	⊐ 0-3	≪ I-3	-	3	کت ۱-0	S		_	•.	کن ۱-0	-
Avro		1-2	1-3	1 - 1	1 - 2	0 - 1	• •	• •		0-3			0 - 3		I - 2			1-0	1-1	
Bootle		1-0	1-5	3 - 1		0 - 2	0-0		1-1	2 - 0			2 - 1			0 - 4			2 - 1	• •
Chasetown	4 - 2	0 - 1	3 - 2	5 - 1	3 - 3	0 - 2			2 - 0			0-3			0 - 1	• .			1 - 1	
City of Liverpool			1 - 2	4 - 1	5 5	2 - 0					6 - 3			• =	1-1		0 - 1		0 - 1	
Clitheroe	1 - 2			1-0	2 - 1		0-0	2 - 1						1 - 4	2 - 3	1 - 1	2 - 2			
Hanley Town	4 - 2	0 - 1	0 - 2	1 - 1	2 - 0	0 - 0		3 - 1	0 - 0	1 - 3	0 - 2	I - 0	I - 3	0 - 3		1 - 2	1 - 1			2-1
Hednesford Town	1 - 1			1 - 1	0 - 4	1 - 5	1 - 2		2 - 3	1-1	0 - 1	3 - 2	3 - 0	0 - 2	1 - 1	1 - 1	1 - 1	1-1	3 - 0	
Kidsgrove Athletic	5 - 0	2-2	0-2	2 - 1		0 - 3	4 - 1	1 - 1		0 - 5	1 - 1	I - 4	I - 2	1-1	3 - 0	2 - 2		2 - 1		I - 3
Leek Town	4 - 1	3 - 4		4 - I		I - 0	2 - 1	3 - 0	2 - 4		I - 0	2 - 0	3 - 0	3-0	3 - 0	3-0	3 - 0	2 - 2	I - 0	4 - 1
Mossley	1 - 1		I - 2	2 - 1	1 - 1		2-1	I - 0	3-2	I - 3		0 - 0	I - 2	2 - 1	0 - 3	2 - 0	I - 0		I - 0	1 - 1
Nantwich Town	2 - 0	1 - 1	2 - 2	I - 0	I - 2		3 - 0		3 - I	I - 3	2-I		0 - I	1 - 1	3 - 1		4 - 0	3 - 0	0 - 2	I - 0
Newcastle Town	0 - I	0 - I	0 - 2		1 - 1	1-1	0 - 0	0 - I	3 - I		2 - I			3 - 0	I - 0	3 - 4	2 - 2	I - 0	I - 3	I - 2
Prescot Cables	I - 0	0 - I	2 - 0	I-0	0 - 2	2 - I	1 - 1		2 - I	0 - I	5 - 3	I - 0	I-0				5 - I	1 - 1	1 - 1	4 - 1
Runcorn Linnets	I - 0	2-I	0- I	I - 2	5 - I	I - 2	0 - I	3 - 0	I - 0	5 - 0		0-0	1 - 1	2 - 1		I - 0	0 - 0	2 - 0		4 - 2
Stalybridge Celtic	0 - 0	2 - 2	1 - 1		2 - 2	4 - 2	2 - 1	3 - 2		I - 5		3 - 2	2-I	1 - 1	0 - I		I - 0	I - 2	4-3	4 - 0
Trafford	2-2		0 - I	I - 2	2 - 2	0 - I	0 - 0	I - 0	I - 2	0 - 0	1 - 1	2 - 1	2 - 1		2 - 2	1 - 1		0 - I	1 - 1	
Vauxhall Motors	3 - I	I - 3	2 - 3	0 - I	2 - 1	3 - 2	0 - 2	3 - 2	3-2	3 - 3	0 - 3	3 - I		0 - 3	2 - 4	3-1			2 - 3	2 - 2
Widnes	5 - 0	2 - 0	2 - 0	I - 0	I - 2	1 - 1	0 - I	5 - I	2 - 0	0 - I	4 - 0		0 - 2		2 - 0	1 - 1	2-0			I - 3
Witton Albion		2 - 2	2 - 2	2-0	I - 2	I - 0	2 - 0	3 - 2	3 - I		2 - 1	I - 4		2 - 3	I - 0	3 - 0	0 - 4	I - 2	2 - 1	

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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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HISTORIES AND PROFILES

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 Maughan, 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,' lan 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 lan 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 lan Street's back-room team.

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

Ever Glorious 23/24

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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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.

27

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 Droylsden. 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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HISTORIES AND PROFILES

HISTORY

Newcastle Town FC emerged in its current format from a merger with Parkway Clayton in 1986.

The Stadium, deep in the Lyme Valley Parkway in Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire has a capacity of 4,000, covered accommodation for 1000, seating for 300, a clubhouse and £85,000 floodlighting system. The playing surface is surrounded by one of the few recognised cycling tracks in the north of the country which hosts many competitions and previously used by the Great British Cycling Team.

In the season immediately after the merger, Newcastle Town enjoyed much success ending runners up in the Mid Cheshire League and moving into the North West Counties League as a limited company in 1987.

After promotion from Division Two in the early 1990's the club enjoyed a lot of success in Division One winning the Tennants Floodlit Trophy, the Walsall Senior Cup and the NWCL Floodlit Trophy although constantly just missing out on promotion at the death.

In the 96/97 season the club enjoyed a tremendous run in the FA Cup defeating Winsford United, Frickley and Bamber Town from the Unibond League on their way to the first round proper where they narrowly lost to Notts County, the oldest league club in the world, at what was to be one of the last cup ties at Stoke City's famous Victoria Ground.

Following the turn of the century promotion continued to escape the clutches of Newcastle although playing extremely entertaining football under the likes of managers Ray Walker before his move to Crewe Alexandria and Nigel Gleghorn formerly with Stoke City. In the season 2006/07, Town form fell away after a very promising start and management duo Greg Clowes and Dorian Garner took over the reins after a successful period with Unibond side Alsager Town. Results picked up and new players arrived with Castle only losing 4 of their last 18 games in the new duos first season in charge. Paul Ratcliffe also took over as Chairman of the club at this time.

The next couple of years saw the management continue to build a side that would challenge for promotion although

both proved disappointing with Castle again narrowly missing out mainly due to key players injuries. Despite the disappointment of no promotion Newcastle players Simon Eldershaw (Player of the Month) Jon Ritchie (Safe Hands) and Richard Minor (Division I Player of the Season) brought success with their awards.

Finally, in Season 2009/10 Newcastle Town achieved their dream of promotion. They led the Vodkat League from day I and by the time they dropped their first points having won the first 28 games, the title was almost secure. Best start, most League wins in a season and most points were three of the records that the club broke. They also lifted the Staffs Senior Cup for the first time with an amazing 6-1 victory over PortVale at Vale Park.

Hardly had the team's success sunk in when Newcastle Town were rocked in the close season with both Manager Greg Clowes and Assistant Dorian Garner leaving for Stafford Rangers taking the whole squad with them.

Undaunted the club followed current policy and appointed from within with John Diskin, Dave Sutton and Ivan Lodge being promoted from their respective roles with both the second Team and the Youth Team. Their brief was to rebuild a First Team squad capable of confirming their position within the Evo Stik First Division. Castle achieved their immediate goal sitting mid table with notable results against teams challenging for promotion this season as well as winning performances in competitions against teams from higher divisions.

Castle ended the 2011-12 season in a respectable position but with higher hopes as there was a great deal of success from the younger players coming through at the club. Town's Under 16s secured a Sentinel Shield win after a gap of 25 years since they last won the trophy in 1987.

Town continued to build for the future in 2012-13 in a season which saw an influx of their successful Youth Team into the First Team Squad as the season progressed. The Sentinel Cup was won for the first time since 1995 beating Alsager Town by a record 8-1 victory. During and after the season, many of Towns talented players eventually went onto play professional football with Tom Conlon signing for Peterborough United, Josh Gordon eventually going to Leicester City and Rai Simons going to Chesterfield FC.



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Ever Glorious 23/24

Season 2013-14 saw Castle's young side improve throughout the season and finish a very respectable eighth in the League. With the Young Reserve side reaching the final of the Leek Cup and the Youth Team winning the County Youth Floodlit Cup, it was good season for Town. Jeff Harrall took over as Chairman as Paul Ratcliffe stepped down.

Further improvement came in 2014-15 with Castle reaching the play-offs where they were defeated by Sutton Coldfield Town, who were promoted to the Premier Division.Town's policy of developing youngsters looks to be paying dividends as more trophies were forthcoming. Newcastle also won awards for Fair Play and their lack of dissent as they build a reputation of playing the game in the right manner with good football.

A Sentinel Cup win against Meir KA in extra time saw our Under 17s, which included Love Island and Celebrity saw Wes Nelson play, claim the trophy with the Under 16s also claiming the Sentinel Shield, also after extra time.

The season saw Town struggle with injuries culminating with Manager Ivan Lodge suffering a stroke. Ivan decided to step down to concentrate on his recovery and at the end of the season his brother-in-law and former Norton and Witton Manager Scott Dundas was appointed to the role to take the Club forward.

The 2016 Sentinel Cup saw more competition history as Newcastle had both their Under 18s and Under 17s competing in the final, which was held at Vale Park. It was the Under 17s who eventually won the competition with a 3-2 win.

The Under 16s won the Midland Junior Premier League Trophy as well, the first in the clubs history.

A major development for the club happened in July 2016 when the Youth Section moved to a new home. The Roe Lane Playing Fields site is a 20-acre football centre, with 14 well sized changing rooms, a club shop, offices, and community room, located in Newcastle-under-Lyme, just 1 mile away from the 1st Teams Lyme Valley home.

Further developments following in September 2016 when Club Director Gavin Appleby set up the "Newcastle Town Football & Education Academy" allowing 16-19 year olds to study for a BTEC Sports qualification while continuing their football journey under the guidance of ex-professional footballer Robin van der Laan.

The 1st Team had a strong season, being in contention throughout for a play-off position but narrowly missed out on the last day of the season.

The club saw plenty of success in the youth ranks with the Floodlit Under 18s team finishing second place in the Midland Floodlit League and winning the Midweek Staffordshire Floodlit Cup. The Under 17s won the Sentinel Cup and the Under 16s won the Sentinel Shield again.

At the end of the 2017-2018 season, Manager Scott Dundas resigned and was replaced by Bob Askey, and after a promising start Castle dropped down the table towards relegation danger. Striker Jordan Cole was sold to Nantwich Town and Bob Askey was replaced by Robin Van Der Laan, with Town eventually staying up on the last day of the season with a win against Belper Town FC.

The Sentinel Cup and Sentinel Shield was once again secured by the Under 18s and Under 16s, with Castle becoming a formidable force in these historic competitions.

The 2018-2019 season saw big changes behind the scenes with former Chairman Paul Ratcliffe returning to a restructured board, which saw youth stalwart Gavin Appleby become Vice Chairman and former Chair Jeff Harrall move to Finance Director. A major sponsorship deal was agreed, seeing the stadium renamed The Red Industries Stadium and over the course of the season, the home, away and changing rooms were completed refurbished now hosting some of the best changing facilities in the league.

Unfortunately, in March (2019) the club mourned the passing of club legend Colin Spencer, after 44 years' service.

On the pitch, the 1st Team produced a mixed bag of results however secured their place in the league easily, with one of the youngest teams in the Division.Another Town striker, Aaron Bott was sold to neighbours Leek Town FC in September and at the end of the season, popular midfielder James Steele also left, sold to Widnes FC.

There was more success from the youth set up as the Under 18s retained the Sentinel Cup for a record breaking 5th time in a row, the Under 17s won the Staffordshire County Cup and the Under 16s achieved a 3rd in a row Sentinel Shield win.

The 2019-2020 season saw even more improvements at the club, with an extensive pitch renovation supported by local contractor Campeys which saw visitors from across Europe to see the work being undertaken, and the club office was replaced also. The young team had spells of inconsistency and despite being bottom of the table for three consecutive weeks, Town pulled themselves safely away from the from the relegation area.

Town had more success with their continued youth policy with Josh Williams transferring to Crystal Palace. Sadly, the season was cut short due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

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TOGETHER FOR FOOTBALL

Ever Glorious 23/24

The 2020-2021 season saw Town enter the season with restricted attendances due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic, however Castle started the season in excellent form and as the second national lockdown hit in December, we sat 3rd in the table having lost just 1 game away against Chasetown FC.

As the national lockdown proceeded, Ryan Mclean, who had been the clubs star of the season so far, was transferred on loan to Hereford FC until May, with a view to a permanent transfer. In February the news came that the 1st Teams season would not resume.

In better news, the Under 18s won a 6th consecutive Sentinel Cup beating Abbey Hulton United in a re-run of the 2019 final by a score line of 3-1. The record sees Town continue to make history in the historic competition. The redevelopment of the Lyme Valley and Stadium continued with a brand-new café being built, the directors lounge upgraded, and a new club shop located by the away stand installed. Ryan Mclean and James Melhado were transferred from the 1st Team to Hereford FC and Salford City respectively during the 2021-2022 pre season.

The youth side of the club took on a long-term lease in September for the running of The Wammy playing fields, to continue with the expansion of the clubs activities in the community.

On 28th February 2022, Town were dealt the devasting news that Chairman Paul Ratcliffe had passed away after a short illness. The club duly announced that his Wife was to become Life President of the Club in honour of Paul's memory and on Saturday 26th March 2022, we held a Memorial Day on the national Non-League Day. Gavin Appleby stepped up to become Chairman following a board meeting.

Further success followed for the Youth side of the club, when the Under 18s managed to win the Midweek Floodlit County Cup against Haughmond, coming out 5-4 winners on penalties.

The first team's season saw a struggle towards the bottom of the table, a serious long term injury to star player Nathan Morley in December saw the teams form plumate, however a late run towards the end of the season saw Town safe for another season.

In July 2022, the club further honoured former Club Stalwart Colin Spencer by renaming the boardroom, The Colin Spencer Boardroom, which was officially open by his daughter Lynne and her family.

After a fine start to the season Castle started to slide down the table and following three heavy defeats Manager Robin Van Der Laan and his team were replaced by new manager Paul Moore and coach Paul McKeirnon and Reserve coaches Dean Gillick and Chris Broad for the last three games. Impressive victories against Leek Town and Trafford saw Town retain their League status.

Developments off the pitch continued with the opening of the Paul Ratcliffe Suite at the ground and by far the biggest and most important for the Club was the opening of the floodlit 4G pitch at the Roe Lane Playing Facility. With the facility being used for some games, training, the Academy, the Juniors and the Community the club is in the process of over hauling its Staff and the way in which it is run. The future is certainly looking blue.

PROFILES

Joe SLINN : (GOALKEEPER)

Highly rated young keeper who has just returned from Mickleover for his second spell at the club having made a big impression in his last spell. Formally with Port Vale he will be looking to make a big name for himself and has a big future with the club.APPS : 85 GOALS : 0

James McCLENAGHAN: (GOALKEEPER)

Highly rated keeper who has just joined in the close season from Ashton Town. Experienced in the Northern Premier league with Kendal Town and trainee with Rochdale. APPS : 6 GOALS : 0

Joe HURST (DEFENDER)

Joined the club in last season from Rochdale looking to progress up the pyramid. Good on the ball and gets forward well to add to his defensive qualities. Back with the club following a loan at Market Drayton and a short spell at 1874 Northwich Already making a big impression. APPS : 21 GOALS : 0

George LEWIS: (DEFENDER/MIDFIELD)

Young defender who was on loan from Stoke City last season Recently returned to the club from Leek Town. Equally at home in midfield or as a defender. APPS : 2 GOALS : 0.

Jack VAN DER LAAN : (MIDFIELD)

One of Town's newer generation who has already become a regular in the team. A hard-working midfielder who can pull the strings. Son of former Derby player Robin Van Der Laan so comes from a good pedigree. APPS : 176 GOALS : 24

Tommy VAN DER LAAN (MIDFIELD)

Made his debut at Runcorn Linnets three seasons ago and went on to make 6 appearances. Defensive midfielder with good passing ability. Will be looking to establish himself this season. Another of the Manager's sons. APPS : 144 GOALS : 16

Ethan VALE : (MIDFIELD)

Another highly rated youngster signed from Burton Albion following a successful . Now signed full-time on his release from Burton Albion. Midfield player with a good range of passing and good from dead ball situations. Will be looking to develop into one of the top midfield players in the League. APPS : 95 GOALS 8

1874 Northwich Matchday Programme

Oliver RITCHIE (MIDFIELD/DEFENDER)

Joined in the close season from Uttoxeter Town for his second stay at the club having made his debut as a youngster at left back. Equally at home anywhere down the left side. Looking to establish himself back in the side. APPS : 80 GOALS : 5

Max VAN DER LAAN (MIDFIELD)

Has come through the Youth Section and now looking to establish himself in the First Team squad. Following in the footsteps of his father and brothers. APPS: 2 GOALS: 0

Patryk MAZURKIEWICZ : (FORWARD)

Recently broke into the first team squad.Will be looking to establish himself in the coming weeks. Beginning to make an impression as he gains experience.APPS : 21 GOALS : 4

Kyle STUBBS (DEFENDER)

Back at the club for his third spell having recently signed from Hanley Town. Equally at home as a full back or central defender. Dangerous when going forward and at set pieces. APPS : 87 GOALS : 12

Jack DERBYSHIRE (DEFENDER)

Recently joined the club from local rivals Kidsgrove Athletic. He will be looking to establish himself in the team. Equally at home on the left or right. APPS : 45 GOALS 0

Nathan BARRY (FORWARD)

Signed recently from AFC Alsager. A highly rated young player looking to make his mark at the higher level APPS : 0 GOALS : 0

Joshua JORDAN (DEFENDER)

Young defender signed from Altrincham in the close season. Looking to make a name for himself. Strong central defender who is good in the air and with both feet. APPS : 30 GOALS : I

Isaac GRAHAM (MIDFIELD)

Highly rated midfielder who joined the club recently from Wythenshawe. A bi strong midfielder who leads by example. Has already made a big impact in all aspects of midfield. APPS : 19 GOALS : 0

Sam PICKUP (DEFENDER)

Young player who came through the Youth Taam and Reserves after being at Walsall. Already making an impression as he steps up the levels. Will be looking to establish himself in the First Team squad. APPS : 0 GOALS 0

Ugochukwu NWANOSIKE (FORWARD)

University student Ugochuku is a fast tricky winger who is settling in well and beginning to make his mark in the squad. APPS : 1 GOALS : 0

Kingsley ADU GYAMFI (FORWARD)

Recently signed from local rivals Kidsgrove Athletic. Kingsley is a strong fast forward who is equally at home across the forward line. A real handful for defenders he has an eye for goal having moved up to the NPL after scoring 60 goals for Silverdale Athletic.APPS : 16 GOALS : 1

Jack SHERRATT (MIDFIELD)

New signing from Witton Albion Hard working box to box player who also appears on the scoresheet.Will be looking to establish himself in the team. Previous club Nantwich Town.APPS : 11 GOALS : 0

Tom JONES (FORWARD)

Young forward on dual registration from Altrincham to gain experience at this level. Quick striker with an eye for goal. Looking to establish himself at this level. APPS : 13 GOALS : 5

Jake AVERY (FORWARD)

Recently signed from Leek Town Jake is a quick forward who is equally at home in the middle or out wide.Already making a big impression.APPS : 10 GOALS : 8

Jake TWYFORD (MIDFIELD)

Recently signed from Hanley Town Jake is an attacking midfielder who was their top scorer last season. Already making a big impression. APPS : 5 GOALS : 1

Callum HOLLAND (MIDFIELD)

Recently signed after three years in America. A quick wide player who will be looking to establish himself in the squad. Previously with Chelsea U16 Academy and Metropolitan Police. APPS: 4 GOALS: 0

Niall OSBORNE (DEFENDER)

Young defender who has joined on Work Experience from Liverpool. Looking to gain experience in the next stage of his development.APPS : 3 GOALS : 0

Josh SMITH (DEFENDER)

A big, strong central defender recently signed on Work Experience from Accrington Stanley. Equally at home as a centre-half or in a back three. APPS : 1 GOALS : 0

Ben GUEST (MIDFIELD)

A hard working midfield player recently signed from Whitchurch Alport. Looking to make his mark at the higher level. APPS : I GOALS : 0

Eric YAHAYA (FORWARD)

A big strong forward recently signed from Nantwich Town. Previously with Kendal Town APPS : 0 GOALS : 0

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CHING



PLAYER MANAGERS Mark JONES Matt WOOLLEY Tinashe CHAKWANA* 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 SHORTHOUSE' Matt WONNACOTT Matt WOOLLEY' MANAGER Neil Baker

*Jake AVERY *Nathan BARRY **Jack DERBYSHIRE** Isaac GRAHAM *Ben GUEST *Dan HARRISON Callum HOLLAND Joe HURST ***Tom JONES** *Joshua JORDAN *George LEWIS *Patryk MAZURKIEWICZ **James MCCLENAGHAN** *Niall OSBORNE *Oliver RITCHIE *Jack SHERRATT *Joe SLINN *Josh SMITH *Kvle STUBBS **Jake TWYFORD Ethan VALE** TOMMV VAN DER LAAN *Jack VAN DER LAAN Eric YAHAYA

*Asterisks indicate present in last/predicted matchday squad

Live Information

REF: Mark REEVES AST 1: Gennaro CONTURSI AST 2: Sean MCKEEVER NEXT FIXTURE WIIION ALBION 01/04/24 - 3.00PM NPL - WEST