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COLOURS:

HOME: Green shirts, black shorts, green socks

AWAY: Violet shirts, violet shorts, violet socks

HONOURS:

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MID-CHESHIRE DISTRICT FA CUP 2015-16, 2016-17

SUPPORTERS DIRECT SHIELD 2013

EUROCPA WALKING FOOTBALL BOWL TROPHY
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FOOTBALL PATHWAY: Peter Flaherty

WELCOME TO TOWNFIELD

EMIRATES FA CUP EXTRA PRELIMINARY ROUND
vs ROSSINGTON MAIN
SATURDAY 8TH AUG 2026 | K.O. 3PM



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MANAGER: Rory Fallon

ASSISTANT MANAGER: Danny Moss

COACH: James Stokes

COACH: Lee Jones

GOALKEEPING COACH: Thomas Reed

HEAD PHYSIO: Phil Lea

PHYSIO: Harris Koon Hang Lee

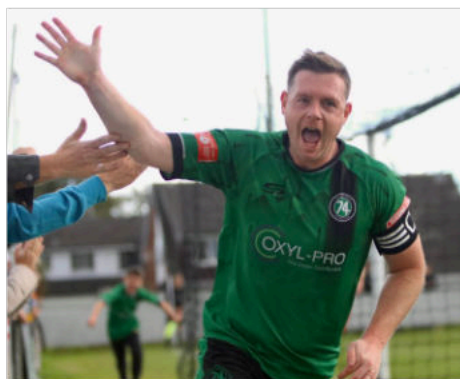
KIT MANAGER: Andy Williams

BIRTHDAY BOY

MATT WOOLLEY

Happy birthday to club legend, Matt Woolley, who celebrated his birthday earlier this week.

Best wishes from all at the club!





Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

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

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

JACK OWEN



Welcome home, '74!

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to Townfield for today's opening fixture of the 2026/27 season.

The summer brought about almost every challenge imaginable. After just being promoted in the most incredible way, Chris Herbert decided his future belonged with Vauxhall Motors. We wish Chris, his coaching staff and players, who also departed to Vauxhall, all the best (apart from against us!).

Then came the task of a replacement. The board were all united on the person they wanted and after Rory Fallon accepted the offer, it was all systems go.

Starting in a new manager position in June is incredibly tough. But the level of effort that Rory and his team of Danny Moss, James Stokes, Tom Reed and the club legends that are Andy Williams, Phil Lea, Mark Jones and Matt Woolley, helped to steady the ship.

A month after his appointment, we had an excellently run training session with enough players to fill three teams down at Hartford High School. Ten pre-season friendlies later and here we are today - ready to start the FA Cup with a great mix of talent set to represent our club.

So on that note, I'd like to formally welcome Rory Fallon, his coaching team and all the players for what,

for most of them, will be their debut at Townfield in our colours during a competitive fixture.

I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to our visitors Rossington Main; their players, coaching staff, committee members and supporters. I hope you all enjoy your time with us and wish you a safe journey home after the game.

I'd also like to welcome today's match officials and thank them for their commitment and professionalism. Without officials, football simply wouldn't happen, and we appreciate the role they play every week.

As always, I want to thank our incredible volunteers. From Mark Taylor spending over 600 hours last season preparing the ground/pitch. John Coates and others running the turnstiles, to operating the cafe and helping behind the scenes, the Club simply couldn't operate without your dedication and support. We are in need of more volunteers, you don't have to help every single game, just when you feel you can, let us know and please get involved.

To our supporters, thank you for your fantastic backing. Last season wouldn't have happened without you; the last few weeks of the season your support pulled the team over the line.

Whether you've followed us home and away for years, or this is your first visit to Townfield, your support means everything to the players, management team

and everyone involved with our football club. The atmosphere you create makes a real difference, today will be no different.

The start of every season brings fresh optimism and new challenges. Football has a habit of producing unforgettable moments, and we know there will be plenty of highs and lows along the way. What remains constant is our commitment to representing this club and our community with pride, passion and togetherness.

Off the pitch, we're continuing to work hard to improve every aspect of the club. From enhancing facilities and growing our commercial partnerships, to expanding our community presence and matchday experience, we're committed to building a sustainable

future that everyone connected with the club can be proud of.

I'd also like to thank our sponsors and partners for their continued support. They allow us to grow both on and off the pitch, and we encourage everyone to support the businesses that support our football club.

Finally, I'd like to wish both teams the very best for today's game. Let's hope for an entertaining, competitive match played in the right spirit, with everyone leaving having enjoyed a great afternoon of football.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Enjoy the game.

Jack Owen
Chairman

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BIG GAME PREVIEW

GARRY CLARKE

1874 NORTHWICH vs ROSSINGTON MAIN

EMIRATES FA CUP EXTRA PRELIMINARY ROUND

1874 Northwich welcome Rossington Main to Townfield for the Emirates FA Cup Extra Preliminary round.

Last Season Rossington Main finished 14th (out of 20) in the Northern Counties East Football League Premier Division, with a record of:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Pos
RM	38	11	9	18	60	64	42	14

By comparison, 1874 finished 4th in the Midland Football League Premier Division, gaining promotion to the NPL West with a record of:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Pos
1874	34	19	9	6	71	40	66	4

Rossington Main are three games into their 2026/27 season, opening up with two 1-0 home defeats against Worsborough Bridge Athletic and Albion Sports, before picking up their first point of the season last Saturday, drawing 0-0 at Golcar United, to stand 17th out of 20 on the Northern Counties East Football League Premier Division table.

ROSSINGTON MAIN FACT FILE

Formed	1919 as Rossington Main Colliery
Ground	Oxford Street, Rossington
Colours	Blue
Managers	Ben Hunter & Greg Young
2025/26	14th (20) NCEL Premier

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

This will be the first meeting between the two clubs, although their manager has a connection to Northwich, having enjoyed two loan spells at Vics between 2004 and 2005, playing six games.

DID YOU KNOW?

Originally formed in 1919 as Rossington Main Colliery, they changed their name to Rossington Miners Welfare in 1948 before becoming Rossington Main in 1983.

A BIT ABOUT ROSSINGTON

Historically part of the West Riding of Yorkshire, Rossington is a civil parish and former mining village in the City of Doncaster.

The name Rossington translates from the old Anglo-Saxon name of 'Farm on the Moor' and until the reign of Henry VII, was in Nottinghamshire as the River Torne was part of the boundary between Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire.

The area known as "Rossington" is made up of a number of villages and hamlets, namely "Hesley", "Littleworth", "Rossington", "New Rossington", "Rossington Bridge" and "Shooters Hill".

FROM THE DUGOUT

RORY FALLON

1874 Northwich manager Rory Fallon says his players and coaching staff are eager to get the new season underway as the Greens host Rossington Main in the Emirates FA Cup on Saturday.

After a busy summer that has seen several new arrivals both on and off the pitch, Fallon believes his side are ready for the challenge.

"It's been a really useful pre-season and we've brought in some quality additions. It's a new-look 1874 Northwich team and everyone is desperate to get started. There's no better way to begin than in the FA Cup."

Fallon knows his side face a difficult test against Rossington Main, who already have competitive matches under their belts.

"They've played competitive games already, which gives them an advantage. We've watched them, we know they'll be a tough opponent and in the FA Cup you can never take anything for granted."

The Greens have faced a variety of opposition throughout pre-season, with Fallon pleased by the preparation despite the number of new faces.

"We've had a good mix of games and some positive results. Nothing quite compares to competitive football though, and we're looking forward to getting going."

The manager also highlighted the importance of the FA Cup for clubs at this level.

"It's a massive competition. A good run brings prize money, interest and the chance to face bigger clubs, so we'll be giving everything to stay in it for as long as we possibly can."

Finally, Fallon called on the Green Army to play their part this season.

"We're going to need the supporters behind us. It's a new group of players and they'll win the fans over through their commitment and performances. The backing from the terraces can make a huge difference, especially in the difficult games."

1874 Northwich begin their Emirates FA Cup campaign against Rossington Main on Saturday, with a place in the next round up for grabs at Townfield.



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300+ CLUB

JUNE 2026 DRAW

The monthly prize draw was carried out on 6th August at the Meet the Manager evening at Townfield, with the winning numbers being drawn out Rory and his team as follows:

The winners will be contacted to provide their bank details should they not already be held by the Treasurer.

Participating in the 300+ Club is a fantastic way of supporting the Club throughout the whole year and you get the chance to win a cash prize each month!

Thanks to all members of the 300+ Club – now more than ever, the money raised helps to keep the Football Club going forward.

Prize	No.	Winner
£200	111	Paul Gleave
£100	148	Frank Kirkham
£50	156	Les Esling
£50	299	Jourdain Stanley
£50	79	Les Esling
£50	292	Phil Knapper

300+ Club



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VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AT 1874

Catering

As we approach the new season, we are looking for people to help out in the Cafe at home matches. There is no requirement for you to commit to every home match, but it would be good to get a few people on a rota to serve food and drinks. Typically this involves being at the ground at least 1.5 hours before kick off to set up, but most of the work is complete just after half time. For more information or to volunteer, please speak to Maggie Coats or any of the Board Members.

Stewards

We hope that playing in the NPL-West Division will see larger away followings and greater crowds at home matches. This brings additional challenges, not least managing parking around the ground. We are looking

for car parking stewards to monitor parking on Townfield and the surrounding streets before and just after kick off. If you don't mind helping out occasionally, that would be a great help. For further information, or to volunteer, please speak to John Coats.

Photographer

We are looking to recruit a voluntary club photographer. Please contact the club at society@1874northwich.com or media@1874northwich.com if you are interested in this position.

If anyone can help or you need further details, please contact Maggie Coats (07808765110), society@1874northwich.com or you can contact us via the website at: [Volunteering at 1874 | 1874 Northwich F.C.](#)

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BUDGET BOOSTERS

ROLL OF HONOUR

The Boost the Budget scheme for the 2026/27 season opened on 1 July 2026, and we are asking as many supporters as possible to get involved. You can make a one-off donation of £10 or more, or you can commit to a monthly contribution of £5, £10, £15, £20, £25 or £50 by standing order over a 10-month period from July 2026 through to April 2027.

Everyone who contributes will be recognised in our Boost the Budget Roll of Honour, featured in the match day programme and weekly newsletter unless anonymity is preferred.

If you would like to get involved, making a contribution is straightforward. One-off donations can be made via online banking using the reference BTB2627. Alternatively, you can set up a standing order for ten

monthly payments (July 2026 to April 2027) to the following account:

**Account Name: Northwich Community
Football Club Limited**

Sort Code: 08-92-99

Account Number: 67298321

If you would prefer to discuss the scheme or find out more, please don't hesitate to contact Andrew Dignum on 07747 872 241 or via email at commercialdirector@1874northwich.com.

We have earned our place back at Step 4. Now it is time to attack it—together.

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ROSSINGTON HISTORY

A HISTORY OF ROSSINGTON MAIN

Rossington Main was established in 1919, and their FA Cup debut took place in 1921. They participated in the FA Cup until the Second World War and reached their best run in 1924, making it to the fourth qualifying Round but ultimately losing 0-3 to Lincoln City. In 1923, the club relocated to their current ground at Oxford Street.

A few years later, they had their most successful FA Cup run against Lincoln City. The club operated as Rossington Colliery for 30 years and experienced their most triumphant season after World War II when they won both the Doncaster Senior League and Cup, earning the nickname "Doncaster Double" in 1944/45.

In 1948, due to nationalisation of the mines, the club underwent a name change to Rossington Miners Welfare and claimed the Doncaster Senior League Premier Division Cup in 1974.

In the 1980s and 90s, they changed their name to Rossington Main and became founding members of the Central Midlands League. They achieved success by winning the Premier Division and Premier Division Cup in their second year. In 1984, floodlights were erected at Oxford Street, which have been upgraded to new LED lights, making them one of the best floodlight installations in the league.

In 1991, new changing rooms were built at Oxford Street, and a crowd of 1,200 attended the inaugural match against Leeds United. That same year, the club earned promotion to the NCEL (Northern Counties East League) and remained in the same division until 2023.

Under the management of local talent Ben Hunter, who took charge in 2019, a promising group of young players was recruited and the team steadily progressed playing attractive football and building on their achievements each season. Season 21/22 saw some success as Rosso finished fifth in the NCEL Division One, finishing 5th in with 81 points from 40 games. However, they lost 2-0 in the play-off semi-final against North Ferriby F.C. For the 2022/23 season, Hunter made changes to his backroom staff, with another local lad Mick Fraser being appointed as assistant manager. The team achieved promotion to Non-League step 5 for the first time in the club's history after winning the Division One play-offs, defeating Horbury Town 3-1 at home in front of a record league competition crowd of 1164 spectators.

The start of the 2023/24 season saw Rosso set a new record attendance of 1,697 in a pre-season friendly against Doncaster Rovers. Shortly into the season Hunter then appointed Zeph Thomas as assistant manager. In what was Rosso's debut season in the NCEL Premier at Non-League step 5, Rosso recorded their highest ever league finish in 4th but later lost in the play-off semi-final against Garforth Town on penalties after a 0-0 draw away from home. Rosso also reached the semi-final of the NCEL Cup for the first time but was knocked out by the league champions Emley AFC.

In August 2024, Fraser returned as assistant manager following Thomas leaving to become the manager of the new NCEL Division One club Dearne & District. The next month in early September Hunter stepped down as manager and club captain Greg Young was assigned as interim manager. After five games in-charge with three wins out of five, Young was given the job on

a permanent basis in early October 2024 of which they consolidated well with a mid-table finish. Young's backroom team includes Ross Hannah as player assistant manager, Nick Limber as first-team coach and Dale Ricketts as scout.

Following a difficult run of results, Hunter returned as joint first-team manager alongside Young to help guide the team through a crucial period, while Fraser also returned as fitness coach. The pair's first match back in charge on 7 March 2026 ended in a 2-1 victory over Pickering.

Having spent three months inside the bottom two, Rosso would eventually secure NCEL Premier safety

with one game to spare. Despite Hannah opening the scoring, Silverware wasn't to be as Rosso were defeated 7-1 at Scunthorpe United's Attis Arena in the NCEL JCP Construction Cup final in May 2026.

Ground: Oxford Street, Rossington, South Yorkshire

Founded: 1919 (as Rossington Main Colliery Athletic)

Highest Ever League Finish: 4th in Northern Counties East League Premier, 2023-24 (level 9)

Best FA Cup Performance: fourth qualifying round, 1924-25

Best FA Vase Performance: third round, 2025-26

Record Attendance: 1,697 vs. Doncaster Rovers, pre-season friendly, 2023-24

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By Matthew Badock, Editor of The NLP

REFRESHED, recharged and ready to go – the full 2026-27 season is, at last, officially set for kick-off.

Of course, Step 5&6 clubs are already on the go – some have even played three or four games – ahead of the, slightly later than usual, FA Cup start this weekend.

But as well as the extra preliminary round beginning – and keep an eye out for Step 4 clubs starting cold against lower tiered opponents whose engines are fully running – the new campaign for Steps 1-4 are also under starter's orders.

At last. The World Cup was good in patches but there's nothing quite like a full fixture list.

All the pre-season talk, the hopes and expectations are about to be fully tested when the first ball gets banged into your penalty area with the sun, no doubt, beating down.

Who will get off to a flyer? Who will thrive in the early months but fall away when the weather gets ugly? Who will stumble out of the blocks but regain their composure?

Whatever league you are most interested in, you will have your favourites and dark horses. But the beauty of Non-League football is, despite the annual budget talk, the unexpected always happens.

Can Boreham Wood, minutes away from promotion last term, shake-off any potential hangover and start

fast? How will the new Step 4 teams get on? Who will make the most of a reprieve?

This year brings another level of interest with the expansion of the play-offs at Steps 3&4 from four teams to six.

It will mirror the format used by the National League and Steps 1 and 2 that has been largely deemed a success.

The champions will go up as usual with second and third receiving byes into the semi-finals where they will face victors from the fourth v seventh game and fifth v sixth eliminator games.

Is it fair? Well, no play-off system is. But they do keep more seasons alive for longer. When clubs are fighting for every pound note they can get, having plenty at stake at the back end of the season can only be a good thing to draw in the punters.

That's for down the line after the long winter months. For now we'll enjoy watching game with the sun on our necks.

Once again, we're relishing covering every kick along the way in The NLP every Sunday. Along with the usual in-depth coverage our readers have come to expect, we've got some new features up our sleeve to. Make sure you grab a copy each week – even better, subscribe!

So here we go! Have fun and enjoy the season.

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RESPECT THE STANDARD

SETTING STANDARDS AT 1874 NORTHWICH

1874 Northwich has supported The FA's Respect programme for a number of years. The programme has had a refresh in 2024, rebranded as "Respect the Standard". The FA have set out five standards of behaviour which aim to ensure that all football can be enjoyed in a safe, positive environment, whether youth, open age or walking. These standards are:

1874 Northwich has supported The FA's Respect programme for a number of years. The programme has had a refresh in 2024, rebranded as "Respect the Standard". The FA have set out five standards of behaviour which aim to ensure that all football can be enjoyed in a safe, positive environment, whether youth, open age or walking. These standards are:

- Enjoy the Game - we're here to enjoy ourselves. win, lose or draw.
- Give Respect - we always treat others as we'd like to be treated.
- Be Inclusive - we embrace differences, football is for everyone
- Work Together - we're a team, on and off the pitch
- Play Safe - we all have a role in safeguarding children

Three grassroots codes have been published, aimed at youth players, adult football (players, coaches, officials) and at adults involved in junior football (including coaches, spectators and parents). These Respect the Standard codes have been adopted by the Midland League.

As supporters of 1874, you too can influence the atmosphere at matches. We have tried to define acceptable behaviour in our Code for Spectators. A copy of this code can be found using this link.

We would hope that you respect ALL players, officials and fans (whether ours or the opposition). We are proud to be a family club and we all have a part to play in ensuring that everyone attending our matches feels welcome and safe, not just the youngsters.

Thanks

Maggie Coats

Club Welfare Officer

cwo@1874northwich.com





ANDYSMANCLUB



#ITSOKAYTOTALK

WHAT IS ANDYSMANCLUB?

ANDYSMANCLUB is a free peer-to-peer group that provides a place for men to come together in a safe and open environment to talk about the issues or problems that they have faced or are currently facing.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The process is about bringing men together who have been in similar situations, to help each other on a peer to peer basis, sharing how they have dealt with various situations through lived experiences. No matter how big or small your problem feels, we are here to support each other. The 5 questions that are asked each week are designed not only to encourage men to talk, but to start to focus on the positives and on strategies to keep moving forward. There is no pressure to answer any of the questions and it is not uncommon for men to just listen for the first few sessions. The clubs all run on the same format and adhere to the same guidelines. A key principle of ANDYSMANCLUB is anything that is said in the club, stays within the club.

WHO IS IT FOR?

The club is open to any man 18 or over, who is going through a storm, been through a storm or just wants to meet a good group of people with the aim of improving one another.

WHEN IS IT?

ANDYSMANCLUB meet every Monday at 7pm (excluding Bank Holiday Mondays).

WHERE IS IT?

ANDYSMANCLUB has clubs in many locations across the UK. Check our website below for a full list.

HOW DO I JOIN?

Just turn up on the night. No registration or referral is required, all we ask is that you arrive before 7pm. The full list of our locations is available on our website.

CONTACT US

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OUR HISTORY

A HISTORY OF 1874 NORTHWICH

Unless a major event in your life occurred on this day – for instance, the birth of a baby, the passing of a family member or very close friend, maybe even you moving house or starting a new job, then I very much suspect you will have little or no recollection of what you were doing on the evening of 15 November 2012.

But for a number of former and current residents of the small Cheshire market town of Northwich - all of whom had been long-standing, ardent and loyal supporters of the town's oldest, most famous and successful football club - Northwich Victoria - that day was a truly significant. For on that dark, cold, and wet autumn night, disaffected members of the Vics Supporters Trust voted 141 to 4 to collectively turn their backs on the Vics and create an entirely new club!

But exactly what had happened to bring people together to even discuss this radical proposal? After all, the vast majority of football fans would never even countenance the thought of ditching their club. Much like your dog, your football club is supposed to be for life: isn't it?

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.

In short, by late 2011 such were the state of affairs within the club that many Vics fans were utterly sick and tired of the manner in which their club had been 'managed' over the previous decade or more by

successive regimes. In short, they 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, but frankly had collectively made a complete and utter pig's ear of things.

The straw that finally broke the camel's back had occurred on Thursday January 19th January 2012 when the club were evicted from club's home of just 7 years, The Victoria Stadium. It transpired that it had been purchased by a neighbouring company and, quite understandably, they now wished to push ahead with the plans they had for the site which oddly didn't include having a football stadium on their newly acquired land!

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. Whilst this might not have been the member's intention, by doing so the fledgling club actually became the only one in Europe whose name starts with wholly numeric characters!

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 by far the most exciting and memorable in the short history of 1874, during which the 'Go-Bo' 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

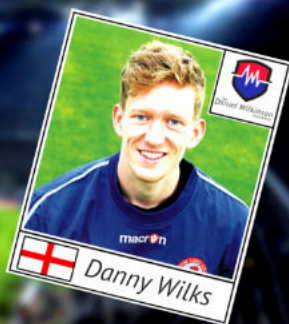
- Recorded a record home attendance of 1674 in the second leg of the semi-final against the Wiltshire outfit
- Ended the season by playing a mammoth 26 games in just 57 days and 69 games overall

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 League Cup.

Having agreed what was initially a 2 year groundshare deal with Barnton, during the summer of 2019 the club moved loc-stock and barrel from Winsford to their new home at Townfield and thereby kicked off the 2019/20 season playing within the boundary of the town that bears the club's name. Both clubs are now



The
Daniel Wilkinson
Foundation

*Providing Screening and Defibrillators to
prevent Sudden Cardiac Death in the young*

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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working to develop a longer-term vision for the ground that will improve facilities for fans, players and officials alike.

The NWCFL Macron Cup win proved to be a springboard for the club as from the very outset of the 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 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 Macron 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 this showing, but a lacklustre end to the season eventually saw '74 slip to 14th place. The undoubted highlight was the deserved 1-0 away win at eventual champions Macclesfield, a game that was witnessed by over 3500 fans – which remains the biggest crowd to have witnessed a game involving '74.

Unfortunately, our third season at Step 4 proved to be a difficult and at many times dispiriting watch with just 4 league wins being recorded – which was double the number of managerial changes!

Towards the end of the season the club appointed former Runcorn Town Runcorn Town, Conwy Borough, Cefn Druids and Flint Town United manager Chris Herbert and he was given the task of almost building a side from scratch which would be capable of competing the Premier Division of the Midland Football League.

And Chris – who was ably assisted in this task by non-league 'legend' Steve Burr – almost got '74 back into Step 4 at the first time of asking as they made it through to the play-off final against Shifnal Town. However, the Shropshire side proved to be the better side on the day and so '74 were consigned to play at Step 5 for another year.

Fast forward exactly 12 months and '74 again found themselves facing the same task – needing to beat the Premier League runners up in the play-off final at their 'home' ground to secure a spot back in Step 4.

But unlike the tussle with Shifnal a year earlier, this game had some real extra spice as '74's opponents were none other than a certain Northwich Victoria!

Well over 1200 fans poured through the turnstiles of Vics' home ground in Runcorn to watch the showdown between the two Northwich clubs.

Unsurprisingly given both intense rivalry between the two and the prizes on offer – a place at Step 4 and local bragging rights - the match was a tight, cagey affair with few goalmouth chances. In fact, it was settled by the only true piece of quality play during the game when '74's Mike Hayes turned the ball into the net from an acute angle having been fed by a delicious through ball from Craig Pritchard.

When the final whistle sounded the players in Green fell to their knees in despair – an emotion that was no doubt shared by the Vics fans present that afternoon. In contrast, those clad in violet started a celebration with the hordes of ecstatic '74 fans that went on well into the night!

But things in life – and particularly football – are never simple and just weeks after this triumph Its architect Chris Herbert announced that he had agreed to join Vauxhall Motors as their new manager and he was quickly followed by the majority of the squad that had secured '74 their spot back at Step 4.

Faced by this huge and unexpected exodus, '74's Board acted quickly to secure the services of Rory Fallon who led Wythenshawe to promotion from the NWCFL in 2025. Having managed to retain several key and experienced members of the promotion winning squad Rory has already started to add to this number by making several astute signings.

So, whilst it's certainly been a summer of unexpected upheaval at Townfield, everyone associated with '74 is anticipating that Rory will be able assemble a squad of sufficient quality that will ensure our 4th season at this level will be significantly more successful than the last one!

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PLAYER PROFILES

1874 NORTHWICH PLAYER PROFILES

Ellis Allen – Goalkeeper who rejoined the club in the summer of 2026 from Flixton. Previous clubs include Oldham Athletic, APEA Akrotiri, Hollywell Town, Whitchurch Alport, Droylsden, Glossop North End, Abbey Hey, Alsager Town and Witton Albion.

Harry Allen – Goalkeeper who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Glossop North End. Previous clubs include Prestwich Heys, Colne, Farsley Celtic and Flint Town.

David Amos – Defensive midfielder who joined the club in the summer of 2026 on loan from Oldham Athletic.

Ebou Badjie – Forward who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Congleton Town. Previous clubs include Hyde United.

Max Beddow – Goalkeeper who joined the club in the summer of 2026 on loan from Altrincham. Previously loaned to our landlords Barnton.

Kenny Mwaliteta – Winger or attacking midfielder who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from West Didsbury and Chorlton. Previous clubs include Atletico Madrid, Witton Albion, Barnton and Helsby.

Jelani Blake – Winger who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from New Mills. Previous clubs include Macclesfield, Cheadle Heath Nomad and Maine Road.

Joe Blake – Right-back who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Preston North End.

Will Booth – Central midfielder who joined the club in the summer of 2026. Previous clubs include Witton Albion and Kidsgrove Athletic, while also captaining Cheshire in the FA County Youth Cup.

Elliott Coleman – Left-back, central defender or forward who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Winsford United. Previous clubs include Alsager Town.

Ben Crane – Forward who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Northwich Victoria. Previous clubs include Witton Albion.

Lucas Edwards – Left-back who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Altrincham.

Niall Fallon – Central defender who joined the club in the summer of 2026 and is the younger brother of manager, Rory Fallon. Previous clubs include Squires Gate, Northwich Victoria, Maine Road and Wythenshawe Town.

Lewis Farmer – Attacking midfielder who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Barnoldswick Town. Previous clubs include Sheffield Wednesday, Workington, Northwich Victoria and Hednesford Town.

Mike Ibeto – Central defender who rejoined the club in the summer of 2026 from FC St Helens. Previous clubs include Abbey Hey, Wythenshawe and Chadderton.

Will Igoe – Forward who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Northwich Victoria. Previous

clubs include Witton Albion, Hanley Town, Wythenshawe and Barnton.

Taylor Kennerley – Left-back or winger who rejoined the club in the summer of 2026, having made 178 appearances and scoring 36 goals across our previous time in the NPL and NWCFL. Previous clubs include Runcorn Linnets and Witton Albion.

Mark Jones – Club captain who plays as a central defender or midfielder and joined the club in the summer of 2016 from Nantwich Town. Previous clubs include Liverpool, Witton Albion and Radcliffe.

Harry Lynn – Forward who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Stockport Georgians. Previous clubs include Radcliffe, Witton Albion, Ossett United and Chadderton.

John McGrath – Winger or attacking midfielder who joined the club in January 2025 from Burscough. Previous clubs include City of Liverpool, Widnes, Clitheroe and Prescot Cables.

Tom Mitchell – Central defender who joined the club in November 2025 from Lower Breck. Previous clubs include Atherton Collieries, Widnes, Skelmersdale United and Vauxhall Motors.

David Ndene – Forward who rejoined the club in the summer of 2026 from Uttoxeter Town.

Niall Osborne – Right-back who joined the club in the summer of 2024 from Liverpool. Previous clubs include Newcastle Town.

Blake Robinson – Central midfielder who joined the club the summer of 2026 from Winsford United. Previous clubs include Colwyn Bay, Airbus UK Broughton, Whitchurch Alport and Eccleshall.

Manu Sholabi – Central defender who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Colne. Previous clubs include Radcliffe and Stalybridge Celtic.

Kevin Spinelli – Forward who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Chasetown. Previous clubs include Ashton United, Avro, Runcorn Linnets, Witton Albion and Trafford.

Kaylan Wilkinson – Winger who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Wythenshawe Town. Previous clubs include Alsager Town and Cheadle Heath Nomads.

Jack Woolley – Forward who rejoined the club in the summer of 2025 from Winsford United and is the younger brother of club legend, Matt Woolley. Previous clubs include Barnton, Stockport Georgians and Alsager Town.

Matt Woolley – Central midfielder, who is capable of playing almost anywhere on the pitch, joined the club in the winter of 2013 from Knutsford and is the club record appearance holder with over 450 appearances. Previous clubs include Witton Albion.





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