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vs CHASETOWN
15/08/26 - 3PM
NPL WEST
OFFICIAL MATCH DAY
PROGRAMME



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14 Boundary Lane North, Cuddington, Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 2PL

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

Visit

CONTACT INFORMATION:

TELEPHONE: 07975 679624

GENERAL E-MAIL: trust@1874northwich.com

FOOTBALL: secretary@1874northwich.com

PROGRAMME: programme@1874northwich.com

MEDIA: media@1874northwich.com

WEBSITE: www.1874northwich.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/1874Northwich

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COLOURS:

HOME: Green shirts, black shorts, green socks

AWAY: Violet shirts, violet shorts, violet socks

HONOURS:

MFL PREM. DIVISION PLAY-OFFS 2026

NWCFL CHALLENGE CUP 2019, 2020

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

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WELCOME TO TOWNFIELD

PITCHING IN NPL WEST

vs CHASETOWN

SATURDAY 15TH AUG 2026 | K.O. 3PM



FAN ENGAGEMENT: Mark Davies

COMMERCIAL & MARKETING: Andrew Dignum

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS: Jack Owen

OTHER CONTACTS:

FOOTBALL SECRETARY: Vicki England

COMPANY SECRETARY: Maggie Coats

WELFARE OFFICER: Maggie Coats

COMMUNITY OFFICER: Phil Burgess

PROGRAMME DESIGN: Phil Galloway

PROGRAMME EDITOR: Ben Davies

PROOF READERS: Richard Bush & Richard Webb

MEDIA: Mark Davies, Jack Owen & Callum Waters

WEBSITE: Mark Edgeley

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF:

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

NIALL FALLON

Happy birthday to Niall Fallon, who celebrated his birthday earlier this week.

Best wishes from all at the club!





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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

JACK OWEN



Good afternoon everyone and welcome to Townfield for today's game vs Chasetown.

Firstly, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to everyone connected with Chasetown – their players, management team, officials and supporters. We hope you enjoy your visit to Northwich today and have a safe journey home after the game.

I'd like to also welcome today's match officials and thank them for taking charge of today's game.

We're excited to welcome our supporters back to Townfield for our first home league game at Step 4 since 2024.

Following the incredible achievement of promotion last season, we now find ourselves back in the Pitching In Northern Premier League West division. It's a challenge that everyone at the club is embracing and one that everyone has worked so hard to achieve.

Promotion was a fantastic moment, but it wasn't the end goal. Our ambition now has to be to establish ourselves at this level and continue moving the football club forward in a way that is both ambitious and sustainable.

We know there will be challenges along the way. After all we are competing against established clubs with stronger playing budgets, excellent facilities and

large supporter bases. But 1874 has always been a club who does things differently.

Our strength comes from the people behind our club.

In just a blink of an eye, we have already competed in our first two competitive games of the 2026/27 season.

A dominant victory in the Emirates FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round vs Rossington Main got us underway last Saturday. A very strong crowd of 335 was there to see Kevin Spinelli bag a debut brace and Harry Lynn complete the scoring.

However, it was defeat on Tuesday. Newcastle Town edged it with a first half goal by Luca Whitney. On the balance of it a deserved win for Neil Bakers men on the night, but so many encouraging points to take from the game for Rory Fallon and his management team moving forwards.

It has been an encouraging few weeks for the lads. I think everyone can see the commitment and togetherness within the group. The management team have worked incredibly hard and they deserve enormous credit for the standards they continue to set.

Today presents another difficult test, but these are exactly the games we wanted when we earned promotion. Hopefully we can produce another strong

performance and regardless of the result, give everyone at Townfield today something they can get behind.

While supporters naturally see what happens on the pitch every matchday, a huge amount of effort continues behind the scenes day in, day out.

We want to continue building a football club capable of competing and growing at this level and beyond. But this needs an increased amount of effort from every one of you.

We need to increase attendances, strengthen our commercial partnerships, improve the matchday experience, continue developing the facilities here at Townfield and build stronger relationships with the Northwich community.

None of this happens overnight. Bring a mate to a game. Tell someone you know about 1874 and what makes us special. Go and support the businesses who sponsor and work with us. Wear your badge with

pride. And TOGETHER we can achieve everything we are aiming to do.

To our supporters – keep backing the lads no matter what.

Let's make Townfield somewhere that opposition teams know they're going to face a difficult afternoon. The players hear you from the stands and your support will be the difference this season.

Whatever may happen this season, we will continue to work hard, continue to be ambitious and try to build a football club that our supporters, and the town of Northwich can be proud of.

Thank you for your continued support.

Enjoy the game and come on '74!

Jack

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SECRETARIAL MUSINGS

VICKI ENGLAND



And on to season fourteen.....

I didn't write in last weekend's cup programme, as my laptop decided to play up. However, thanks to the fabulous Nigel at Level One in town, he got me sorted and back up and running in no time. Legend! And now for my first ramble.....

I would like to start by welcoming everyone connected with Chasetown to mid-Cheshire this afternoon. I know many people fancy them to be up there challenging for the league, so today will be a stern test for us. I must say that they started very well last weekend with a fantastic cup victory against Coton Green. I hope everyone has a safe journey back after the game.

So much has happened since my last programme note; a magnificent MFL semi-final play-off win against Winsford United, and that was no mean feat. An historic Play-Off final win against NVFC, a moment of pure quality from Mike Hayes separating the teams and ensuring the play-off trophy returned with 1874. What a night of celebrations that ended up being.

Before anything else, I must offer my thanks to last year's management team – Chris, Steve, Reedy and Corbs along with the players who made history and have subsequently headed to pastures new. We had some momentous times, and I thank them for all their efforts and for wandering around the Midlands area with us. I know they enjoyed their time with us and

1874 will hold good memories for them. While it all felt like it was going pear-shaped, when everyone started to leave, the Board and I fully understood their positions and have wished them all well. They have moved on and so have we.

It was also around that time when Richard Stockton advised that he needed to stand down from the Board, as work and family commitments had to be the priority. Again, completely understandable and I'm glad that Rich will still be helping when he can, he has always been a very hard worker for this football club. A chip off the old block.

So, we moved on.

Despite receiving a number of emails and messages from highly respected and experienced Managers and Coaches about the manager vacancy, we acted extremely swiftly to contact Rory to ask if he was interested in a conversation about taking over. Luckily for us, he was interested and the rest is history.

Rory has subsequently worked extremely hard to assemble his management team and a squad of players. When he first met us, he was left with about half a dozen players from last season's squad. However, at the first training session there must have been 40 players warming up. That was an incredible turnaround. So, alongside Rory, we welcome Assistant Manager Danny Moss, Head Coach James Stokes and

Goalkeeping coach Tom Read. Aply supported by Andy, Phil, Lee and Harris.

I have been so impressed by the standards and behaviours that they have already instilled in the squad. The training sessions have been organised and demanding work for everyone, and they are under no illusions as to what Rory expects. I'm glad how everything has panned out, very pleased indeed!

Of course, it helps if you have a Matt Woolley and a Mark Jones in your ranks, who embody everything good about our club. They worked hard before Rory arrived; to talk to players and to help settle things and I genuinely run out of superlatives to describe these two. Did you know it is 10 years since we signed Jonah? How loyal have he and Matt been.

I'd also like to congratulate Jack Owen on succeeding Rich as Chairman of 1874. Jack has been there from day one, I don't think there are many that love the club more and he has worked so hard over the last few months to help get more things in order for us. I love the fact that we are seeing the 'youngsters' getting more involved!

It has been a mammoth summer, due to the upheaval and changes and of course, no small matter of moving to a new league. I would like to thank many people in the Midland Football League; the management committee and the many friends we made at the clubs for their friendship and hospitality. It has been an adventure over the last couple of seasons, and we have taken in so many new grounds and of course, found our way around unfamiliar territory.

Life in the NPL and Step 4 is vastly different and a lot more demanding. There's a whole load more forms to complete, procedures to learn and software to use. It has been terrific to be back in contact with folks that we built relationships with previously. The thought of just wandering around the north (pretty much) is nice!

I am under no illusions; this season is going to be tough. We are the smallest fish now in a bigger pond

and we must work extremely hard, both on and off the pitch. Luckily for us, we have sensible people like Rory and our Management team working to do the best for the club and we have sensible Board members and volunteers looking how we can improve and also what more we need to do to Townfield, to satisfy the ground graders.

The upshot of all this is that we absolutely need more people to come forward to help. You don't need to be stuck with a job, but after seeing some fantastic supporters quite rightly stand down and 'retire' from their roles at the end of last season, we need to fill the gaps. Board members are trying to be strategic and move key areas forward, but they are needed increasingly to be operational on match day, and it really is challenging work for them. So, if you can help, however small the task is, please shout out.

Today we embark on our home NPL campaign. Of course, we were here 7 days ago in the FA Cup, and we had a very pleasant afternoon in the sun, winning our first opening day FA Cup game for quite a while! What a nice club Rossington Main are, very magnanimous in defeat. We will now meet their fellow Yorkshire rivals Horbury Town in the next round, here in a week's time. It would be great to see another good crowd here.

I would also like to reflect on the midweek visit to Newcastle Town. Despite losing by a solitary goal, I thought there was a great amount of effort and heart displayed by our new squad in what was their first competitive game back at step 4 and with a little luck and our 'shooting boots' on, it could have been a different outcome. The lads deserved the ovation that the supporters gave at full time. Thanks for the terrific support in Staffordshire!

Dates for your diary – we are back here on Tuesday evening for the visit of Prescot Cables and as mentioned, we play the FA Cup game at Townfield next Saturday. Our game against Mossley, which should have taken place that day, is now put back to 22 September. There is also another change to the diary, we will face

Bootle (and a certain Matty Fenton) away on Wednesday 26 August which will be played at Marine's ground. Bootle are currently having a 3G pitch installed so they have moved a few games until things are ready.

Bank Holiday weekend will see a long trip away to Blyth Spartans on the Saturday in the FA Trophy (those of us who are old enough, will remember tussles with Blyth at The Drill Field!). We will be communicating travel details elsewhere in this week's programmes, on social media and on the Forum. We will be looking for expressions of interest to travel and if it is financially viable, the coach will go ahead. It's another new ground and a proper away day, so why not have a day out and support your team.

We will then host Vauxhall Motors here on Bank Holiday Monday, which will be an interesting one with some old favourites now wearing white!

Watch out for information on our fundraising schemes and details of our Beer Festival, with early bird tickets available. This year, it is being held at Rudheath Club so a central location for everyone (and walking distance for me, I can feel that moonshine calling me!)

I would like to send out good luck to all our teams as they start the season, we've got so many fantastic people and players involved with our juniors and walking footballers. They are a huge part of the 1874 family, and we can't wait to watch their development.

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

"Come on you Green Boys!"

MATCH REPORT

NEWCASTLE TOWN VS 1874 NORTHWICH

1874 suffered a defeat in our season opener away at Newcastle Town in front of a healthy midweek crowd of 232 at the GRG Stadium.

Newcastle Town, managed by the evergreen figure of Neil Baker are tipped to have a great season by many, picking up some under the radar signings in the summer.

Oliver Ritchie had the first chance of the contest after evading the tackle of Niall Osborne, his shot however slid wide of the post.

A barrage of set pieces attacked our box. A long throw of Drew Lowe was as good as a corner for the hosts, and one of them lead to the first shot on goal. Former Green Joel Jones guided a header on target, but Beddow read and held comfortably.

1874 settled and began to put attacks together themselves.

Lynn, looking lively, was inches away from getting on the end of a Mark Jones' flicked header on into the six-yard box and then John McGrath's cut inside and shot was blocked by the impressive Tom Thorley at the heart of the Castle' defence.

The game continued to be end-to-end, open and exciting. But it was the hosts who were creating the better chances. Max Beddow again was called upon,

and he made a great save low down to his right to deny a stinging effort from Luca Whitney.

Beddow again denied Castle. His reflexes allowed him to save brilliantly at his near post to stop Ritchie from a half volley at the back post.

Niall Osborne was following suit of his inspired goalkeeper, clearing off the line to deny Joel Jones a goal against his former club.

1874 had to push higher up and respond. They did.

Blake Robinson nodded wide from a Niall Osborne cross and then Elliott Coleman went on a strong run down the left wing, his low cross found the feet of Spinelli who tried to swivel and shoot at goal but was smothered by Lewis Brown.

With 1874 pushed higher up the pitch on the attack, Castle' broke. A wayward pass into the middle of the field surrendered possession. An excellent through ball played by Cameron Doorish found Luca Whitney in behind Tom Mitchell and our backline. His finish was perfect into the top right corner of the goal over Max Beddow.

John McGrath tried to pull us back level moments later, his powerful strike after cutting inside his marker Sean Lawton was unfortunately for us straight at the hosts goalkeeper Jack Sheward.

The last kick of the half saw the best chance of it for 1874. Mwaliteta beat his marker and found himself with a shooting opportunity inside the 18-yard box. Shoot he did. A block on the line denied him and '74 an equaliser. The rebound off the defender hit Blake Robinson around 4 yards from goal and the ball somehow found its way into the gloves of Sheward.

The second half brought instant pressure on our goal. But Max Beddow stood firm.

He produced two incredible stops, minutes apart. He first denied a low strong drive from Ritchie just inside the penalty area. Then Doorish let fly a sweetly hit half-volley but Max at full stretch somehow clawed the ball over his crossbar. Some introduction for the young stopper to life at Step 4.

The game was at a frantic pace.

1874 had the next best chance 15 minutes before the end. Kenny Mwaliteta had the ball land at his feet after floating over the head of Roman Allen, he turned his markers desperate attempt to block what he thought would be an instant shot. His right footed effort somehow slid wide of the goal from around 8 yards out. A huge chance spurned.

Pressure built by 1874 on the Newcastle Town defence. But it stood firm. A flurry of long throws, crosses and long-range strikes couldn't harm the host's lead.

Max Beddow was called in to action one final time in injury time. His smart low stop denied Ritchie a goal.

As the ball was attempted to be flung back into the Newcastle half the referee sounded his full-time whistle and unfortunately it was defeat for 1874 on their first game back at Step 4 since 2024.

1874 will be looking to register their first points of the season when they host Chasetown at Townfield on Saturday 15th August.

BIG GAME PREVIEW

GARRY CLARKE

1874 NORTHWICH vs CHASETOWN

PITCHING IN NPL WEST

On Saturday 1874 Northwich welcome Chasetown to Townfield for their first home NPL West game of the season.

Last Season Chasetown finished 10th (out of 22) in the NPL West, with a record of:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Pos
Chas	42	17	9	16	55	52	60	10

Chasetown started the 2026/27 season with a bang beating Coton Green of the Midland League Premier Division 6-1 in the extra preliminary round of the FA Cup.

CHASETOWN FACT FILE

Formed	1954
Ground	The Scholars Ground
Colours	Blue & White
Change colours	Red & White
Nickname	The Scholars, The Chase
Manager	Carl Dickinson
2025/26	10th NPL West

74V THE SCHOLARS PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1874 have played Chasetown on two previous occasions during the 2023/24 season.

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
Home	1	0	1	0	1	1
Away	1	0	0	1	2	4
Total	2	0	1	1	3	5

DID YOU KNOW

Chasetown Football Club was founded in 1954 as Chase Terrace Old Scholars Youth Club and is nicknamed The Scholars, having been formed by affiliates of nearby Chase Terrace High School in the Chase Terrace area of Burntwood.

A BIT ABOUT THE VILLAGE

Chasetown is a village in the town of Burntwood in Staffordshire.

Chasetown developed in the mid-19th century as a coal mining village. At first the village was simply known as Cannock Chase due to its proximity to the nearby forest; it became known as Chasetown by 1867.



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NEW SIGNINGS

WELCOME ALFIE ATHERTON AND EVRARD YAO

1874 Northwich are delighted to announce the arrival of forward Alfie Atherton!

Alfie joins up with the squad after spending last season with Matlock Town, after joining the Gladiators from Sheffield United.

1874 Northwich are thrilled to announce the signing of forward Evrard Yao!

Evrard joins up with the Greens from Lower Breck. Prior spells with Southport, Bootle & Garswood to name a few.

A powerful forward who can operate anywhere along the front line is in the squad for tomorrow's game vs Chasetown!

Welcome both to '74!



ON THIS DAY...

A LOOK BACK ON THIS DATE OVER THE SEASONS

“Regular scribe James Wood recalls the matches that 1874 have played on today’s date in years gone by....”

This afternoon will mark the third time that '74 have played a competitive fixture on this date and, oddly enough, the previous two occasions they have faced fellow Cheshire clubs.

The first was nine years ago, when the boys in Green made the short hop from the Barton Stadium to Townfield to take on our current landlords. It was actually '74's second visit there in 12 days as they had opened the season there against Vics in the FA Cup.

And it certainly proved to be an exciting encounter!

Chris Smith put the home side ahead with just 60 seconds on the clock with a powerful low drive. But their joy was short lived as Scot McGowan levelled the tie from the spot after 15 minutes and then put '74 ahead 3 minutes later with a well worked corner routine.

A certain Jack Irlam (I wonder what ever happened to him?) made it 2-2 with a fine header with 33 minutes gone. Two minutes after the break that man McGowan claimed his hat-trick with a trademark clinical finish only for that man Irlam to net his second of the game with 17 minutes left to earn 'The Villagers' a well deserved point.

1874: Hall, Lever, Lee Jackson, Pritchard, Meadowcroft, Waite-Jackson (Parker), Whitlock, Matt Woolley, McGowan, Hind, Kennerley
Unused Subs - Riley, Woods, Beadle, Spencer
Att: 264

The second game in this sequence occurred in 2023 and was notable for the fact that it was the first game that '74 had played against Staybridge Celtic.

Given the opposition, on the face of it a 0-0 draw seemed like a good result against a side who were widely tipped to be among the front runners. And as it also marked the side's first point of the campaign then it appeared be a doubly satisfying afternoon's work.

But it actually was a case of 'what ifs' and 'what might have beens' for the boys in Green as not only did they create the best chances and have the bulk of the play - particularly in the first half – but it could have been a far different story had Jack Irlam (I wonder what ever happened to him?!) hadn't had two seemingly fair goals disallowed.

1874: Allen, Marrow, Green, (Mullarkey), Fenton, Mark Jones, Weir, Jamie Nicholson, Matt Woolley (Noble), Adetiloye, Irlam, Mooney Munoz
Unused Subs – Ellis, Siyam, Adekoya
Att: 627

300+ CLUB

JULY 2026 DRAW

The monthly prize draw was carried out on 8th August at half-time of the match against Rossington Main at Townfield, with the winning numbers being drawn out officials from our visitors:

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	310	Mike Redrup
£100	199	Chris Stockton
£50	243	Martin Griffiths
£50	301	Steve Richardson
£50	36	Michelle Walton
£50	332	Tony Fallows

300+ Club

OWNER PLUS

THANK YOU GIFT

The 'Thank You' gift for Owner Plus members is now ready for collection.

A framed photograph of the 2025/2026 Play-Off winning team will be available from Maggie Coats on Saturday 15th August, when we play Chasetown at home. She will be at the Club Gazebo before the match and at half time.

Any Owner Plus members that can not attend home matches, please contact Maggie or Mark Davies and we will put your gift in the post. (Maggie - society@1874northwich.com, Mark - commercial@1874northwich.com)

TARDING CARDS

TOPPS FLAGSHIP PREMIER LEAGUE 2026/27

Available in the all new Club Shop now, the Topps Flagship Premier League 2026/27 collection combines the league's biggest stars, new inserts, sought-after case hits and more.

Topps Flagship Premier League 2026/27 is out now, bringing together the league's biggest stars, rising talents and enduring legends.

The brand-new collection combines the league's biggest stars, exciting new inserts, sought-after case hits and one of the deepest autograph line-ups ever assembled in a Premier League release.

Leading the charge are all-new case hits, including The Rise, Perfect Storm and Home Pitch, alongside the return of Chrome Classics, bringing Topps' premium Chrome technology back to the Premier League with two guaranteed Chrome Classics cards in every Hobby Box.

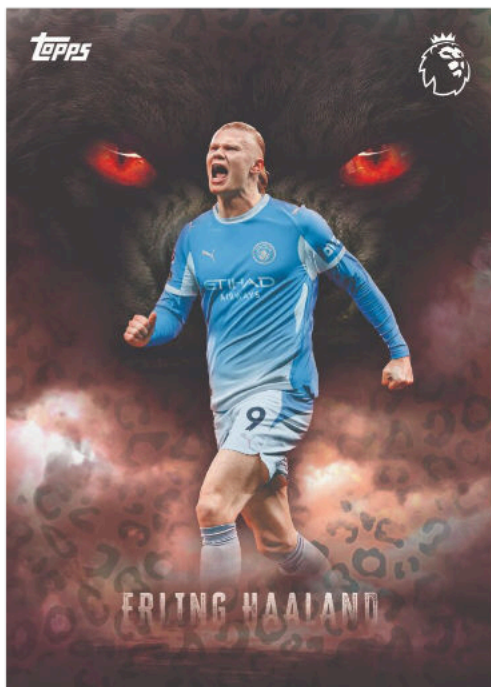
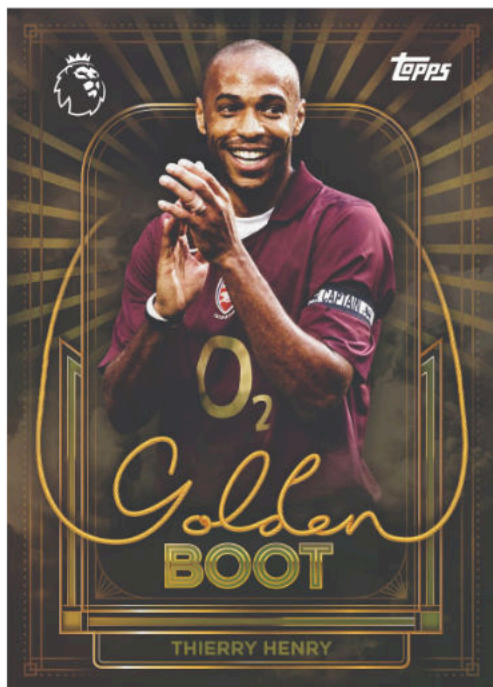
Reflecting another exciting season of Premier League football, the collection features players from all 20 clubs, from established superstars including Erling Haaland, Declan Rice, Cole Palmer and Virgil van Dijk, through to the league's next generation of talent, including JJ Gabriel, Max Dowman, Jeremy Jacquet, Rayan and Junior Kroupi.

For many collectors, the biggest chase in the release comes via the True Gold Lion. The 1-of-1 True Gold Lion cards are made using real 24k gold and available via redemption, spanning Premier League stars including Harry Kane, Alan Shearer and Thierry Henry.

Other key chases include:

- Retail case hits, including Quasar, Billboard Material and Carpe Diem
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- Short prints including All Kings, Ultra Beast Mode and Diamond Rookies
- Base Card Relics, Topps Autograph Relics and Topps Premier Class Autograph Relics
- Hobby Box exclusive case hits, including Home Pitch, The Rise and Perfect Storm
- One-of-one Foilfractors and sequentially numbered parallels

Topps Flagship Premier League 2026/27 from our very own Club Shop, Topps, the Premier League shop and selected retailers, with Hobby Boxes launching on 17th September and the Golden Boot Tin arriving later this autumn. Follow [@toppsfc](#) for updates and visit [Topps Ripped](#) for more information.



SPECIAL VISITOR

A SPECIAL VISIT TO TOWNFIELD

We had a special visit on Thursday, when Jamie Campbell called in accompanied by two Logan's bears. Jamie has set himself the mammoth task of visiting all of the British Football Stadia in aid of two charities, Dementia UK and Logan's Legacy.

Logan's Legacy was set up in memory of a young Scottish lad, Logan Mitchelson, who sadly passed away aged 19 in 2024. Logan lived with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy - a rare life-shortening, degenerative muscle-wasting condition. As a result, he was wheelchair-bound since the age of 10, but that didn't stop him. In 2015, during a para-sport festival in Dundee, he discovered PowerChair Football and was instantly hooked. In a career spanning just 7 seasons, he won every National League and Cup in Great Britain, the only player to do so. Logan's special bears have been commissioned to raise awareness of this talented young man. Money raised helps fund PowerChair Football events in Logan's name, continuing his legacy. His career was amazing, for further details please see this link: [Logan Mitchelson - Scotland's First PowerChair Superstar](#)

Jamie (a Motherwell fan and part owner) is raising funds through sponsorship from work colleagues, family and friends and approached us to see if he could visit Townfield. We were delighted to welcome him to the ground today, and we join an ever growing list of clubs that he has visited across England, Scotland and Wales, ranging from Liverpool and Manchester United to Chester and Runcorn, Celtic and Rangers to

Musselburgh and Falkirk, New Saints to Llandudno Town, to name but a few.

We look forward to following his progress through the British Isles.





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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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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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Phil Knapper
In memory of Roger Oxley and
Tommy Ward

Tom Mitchell
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Niall Osborne
Blake Robinson
Matt Woolley

Wilson Family
Owen Family
Jack Hazeldine
Shadow Society
Sunday Lunch Club

There are still players available to sponsor; for more details please email John Costs
(treasurer@1874northwich.com)

[illegible]

1874 NORTHWICH 2026/27 PLAYER STATS

AS OF 11/08/26

		2026/27 SEASON					ALL-TIME					
		Starts	Subbed	Sub On	Unused	Goals	Starts	Subbed	Sub On	Unused	Goals	Total Apps
ALLEN	Ellis	30	0	0	1	0	30	0	0	3	0	30
AMOS	David	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
BEDDOW	Max	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
BLAKE	Joe	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
CRANE	Ben	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
COLEMAN	Elliott	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
FALLON	Niall	2	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	2
FARMER	Lewis	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
IGOE	Will	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
JONES	Mark	2	1	0	0	0	320	28	6	6	13	326
LYNN	Harry	2	2	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	1	2
MCGRATH	John	2	2	0	0	0	32	17	8	0	7	40
MITCHELL	Tom	2	1	0	0	0	18	2	1	1	1	19
MWALITETA	Kenny	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
OSBORNE	Niall	2	0	0	0	0	79	8	2	0	1	81
ROBINSON	Blake	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
SPINELLI	Kevin	2	2	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	2	2
WOOLLEY	Jack	0	0	2	0	0	19	14	50	28	3	69

NPL-WEST 2026/27 LEAGUE TABLE

AS OF 12/08/26

		HOME				AWAY			GF	GA	Pts
		P	W	D	L	W	D	L			
1	Lower Breck	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	3
2	Hanley Town	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
3	Shifnal Town	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	3
4	Bootle	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	3
5	Newcastle Town	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	3
6	Runcorn Linnets	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	5	4	3
7	Stalybridge Celtic	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	6	3
8	Prescot Cables	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	2
9	Vauxhall Motors	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2
10	Congleton Town	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
11	Padiham	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
12	Atherton Collieries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Chasetown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Clitheroe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Kidsgrove Athletic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Mossley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Nantwich Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Stafford Rangers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Witton Albion	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	3	0
20	1874 Northwich	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
21	Wythenshawe	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0
22	Lichfield City	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	8	0

NPL-WEST 2026/27 RESULTS GRID

AS OF 12/08/26

	1874 Northwich	Atherton Colls	Bootle	Chasetown	Clitheroe	Congleton Town	Hanley Town	Kidsgrove Athletic	Lichfield City	Lower Breck	Mossley	Nantwich Town	Newcastle Town	Padiham	Prescot Cables	Runcorn Linnets	Shifnal Town	Stafford Rangers	Stalybridge Celtic	Vauxhall Motors	Witton Albion	Wythenshawe
1874 Northwich	x																					
Atherton Colls		x																				
Bootle			x																			
Chasetown				x																		
Clitheroe					x																	
Congleton Town						x																
Hanley Town							x															
Kidsgrove Athletic								x														
Lichfield City									x													
Lower Breck										4-1	x											
Mossley												x										
Nantwich Town													x									
Newcastle Town														x								
Padiham															x							
Prescot Cables																1-1	x					
Runcorn Linnets																		x				
Shifnal Town																						
Stafford Rangers																			x			
Stalybridge Celtic																				x		
Vauxhall Motors																					x	
Witton Albion																						x
Wythenshawe																						



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SCHOLARS HISTORY

A HISTORY OF CHASETOWN

Founded in 1954 as Chase Terrace Old Scholars Youth Club, Chasetown Football Club has grown into one of Staffordshire's most respected and well-supported non-league clubs. Formed by Brian Baker and schoolteacher Ray Derry, the club began life in the Cannock Youth League before quickly establishing itself in senior football across the region.

The early decades laid strong foundations, with progression through local leagues and the club's adoption of the Chasetown FC name in 1972. A significant milestone followed in 1983 with the move to The Scholars Ground, providing a permanent home and enabling further advancement within the West Midlands (Regional) League. Success soon followed, particularly under the management of Mervyn Rowe, as Chasetown began to collect trophies including multiple West Midlands League Cups and Walsall Senior Cups, reinforcing the club's growing reputation.

Chasetown earned national recognition in the mid-2000s through unforgettable FA Cup runs. In 2005 the Scholars reached the First Round Proper for the first time, earning a televised tie against Oldham Athletic after defeating Blyth Spartans. Just two seasons later, the club etched its name into FA Cup folklore once again by eliminating Port Vale to become the lowest-ranked side ever to reach the Third Round, eventually hosting Championship outfit Cardiff City at The Scholars Ground.

League success arrived alongside these cup exploits, with Chasetown claiming the Midland Alliance title in 2005–06 and earning promotion to the Southern League. Further play-off campaigns and promotions followed, including a memorable 2009–10 season in which the club secured promotion via the Northern

Premier League Division One South play-offs in front of a record home crowd.

The club's competitive spirit continued into the following decade, highlighted by an extraordinary FA Trophy run in 2010–11 that saw Chasetown defeat several higher-ranked opponents to reach the Quarter-Finals. Silverware continued to arrive, with further Walsall Senior Cup victories and regular appearances in play-off contention under a succession of managers.

Off the pitch, Chasetown has evolved alongside its on-field ambitions. Governance transitioned to a Board of Directors, led by long-term sponsor Steve Jones, while substantial investment culminated in the installation of a modern 4G playing surface, ensuring year-round football for all club teams and strengthening the club's central role within the local community.

Celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2024, Chasetown honoured its heritage while embracing the future, expanding to include a Women's First Team and a Walking Football side. The 2024–25 season brought further success with the club lifting the Staffordshire Senior Cup for the first time, underlining Chasetown's competitive credentials.

The most recent 2025–26 campaign in the Northern Premier League West Division saw Chasetown finish 10th, continuing a proud tradition of consistency, resilience and ambition.

Today, Chasetown Football Club stands as a community-focused, forward-looking club with a rich history, passionate support, and firm aspirations for success on and off the pitch.

PLAYER PROFILES

CHASETOWN PLAYER PROFILES

Nathan Cameron – A commanding centreback Cameron has decided to stay at Chasetown for this season with his calm under pressure attitude and confident nature, he is an asset to the backline and the squad, especially with the influx of younger players.

George Cater – Cater extends his long standing partnership with Chasetown, having worked under a number of managers at the club, it will be exciting to see how Cater continues to develop and sure he will continue to be an asset to the team providing pace and experience down the wings and in the attacking play.

Luke Chapman – Chapman is one who has arrived at Chasetown from the new management team and comes in as a highly rated young midfielder full of promise, having recently played for Stone Old Alleynians. He also has previous experience with Dundela FC (Nothern Ireland) in the NIFL Championship on his CV and is comfortable both centrally and out wide.

Logan Cousins – Logan is a product of the port vale academy and even though he is young has gained a lot of experience in the game having featured in port vales first team. His energy, attacking threat and experience at this level with the likes of Kidsgrove and Stafford means he may be on to watch this season!

Kevin Monteiro – A familiar name across nonleague Monteiro arrives with a wealth of experience and strong reputation built on his years of consistency. He has represented a number of local sides including Boldmere, Walsall Wood and Shifnal Town. His leadership qualities will be an asset with a squad mixed with youth and experience.

Jordan Evans – Another player staying at The Scholars is Evans, a reliable left-back, his work rate, dedication and understanding of the game has meant that Evans has stayed in and around the squad for many years, even grabbing a goal or two in recent seasons!

Zach Findlay – Injury disrupted most of Zac's season last season, but his determination and positivity will see Zac back within the squad for the upcoming campaign. We are all excited to see him back on the football pitch once again.

Matt Funge – It's a welcome back to Funge who returns to the club after proving himself as a goal scorer in other squads since his departure from the Scholars. The 23 year old was nicknamed the machine at Dudley Town due to his goal scoring record. A strong and athletic striker, Funge combines intelligent movement, relentlessness and clinical finishing to make him a threat for any opposition.

Oli Hayward – Another player no stranger to the Chasetown fans in Hayward, after being at the club for a number of years he has won the respect and admiration of the fans as being a bit of a work horse. He will put in a shift every game whether that is in midfield or defence and continues to be on the teamsheet every week helping the team and squad.

Matt Hearsey – Matt spent the latter half of last season at Stafford Rangers, scoring 6 times in 18 appearances. The attacker also scored 66 times in 100 games for Stafford Town and appeared in the Europa league qualifying round with welsh side Newtown.

Joel Kettle – Joel is a recent signing from Rushall Olympic for the new management team, he brings a wealth of experience from non-league teams such as: Solihull Moors, Tamworth and Stourbridge. A commanding presence, Joel is known for his leadership, physical strength and aerial ability.

Jack Langston – A fan favourite who continues to be a goal machine for the club, often popping up with a goal or two whether it is from open play or set pieces, when you need a bit of magic it's Langston who the fans look too. A personality in the team, Langston can offer experience at this club and level, having been named in the NPL team of the year on multiple occasions at this level and helping the club win trophies, we are excited to have him here for another season.

Leo Latter – Latter is a young centreback who has had an impressive rise through the English and Welsh football pyramid, since relocating from Australia. His composed performance, strong defensive qualities and knack for scoring important goals have earned the young player widespread praise.

Kyle Moseley – Kyle is a young player but has quickly secured himself as one of the most exciting young strikers in the area. A powerful and pacy centre forward, Kyle combines physical presence with intelligent link up play and has earned a reputation as a very promising young talent.

Ethan Patterson – Ethan arrives with an impressive footballing pedigree, having developed through the Aston Villa academy. He has gone on to build a strong reputation in non-league through his spells at Alvechurch, Bromsgrove Sporting and Evesham United. Comfortable on the ball and strong defensively, Patterson's experience of competing for ambitious clubs with high standards will further strengthen the squad.

Curtis Pond – Another mainstay of the Chasetown squad having spent most of his career with the Scholars it was only a brief time away at Hereford where Pondy wasn't between the sticks for the Scholars. A commanding keeper with a strong personality, Pondy is

an asset to the team and is as dependable as they come. He also isn't afraid to take a penalty having a very impressive record in penalty shootouts for the club, having never missed one that he has taken.

Tak Sambizi – After attracting interests from other club Tak decided to commit to the Scholars for the upcoming season. He enjoyed an outstanding campaign last time out with Prestwich Heys, finishing as the clubs leading scorer with 19. A former Stoke City academy player, Tak has a keen eye for goal and provides a very exciting attacking option for the side.

Tom Thorley – Thorley has agreed to spend another season at the Scholars, an experienced midfielder with a great understanding of football at this level, he is a significant boost to the squad.

Jensen Tortoiseshell – A product of the Stoke City Academy, Jensen spent much of last season on loan at Newcastle Town. He has impressed during the pre-season campaign, and we can't wait to see him continue to grow and learn more here at the Scholars.

Dan Clarkson – Dan is no stranger to Chasetown having progressed through our youth system, he is a young player with the hunger and drive to improve. He is currently on a dual registration with Stafford Town.

Harley Gray – Harley is one of the many young and upcoming promising goalkeepers at Chasetown having been part of the Reserve double winning team from last season (25-26). Harley progressed from our u18's floodlit side playing a starring role in our FA Youth Cup run of season 24-25. He played his part in the Senior Cup games last season for Chasetown and has featured early on this season in 1st team preseason games.

Owen Morgan – Owen is another player who has progressed thru our YDP system and was part of the Reserve double winning team from last season (25-26). Owen made his first team debut last season, coming on as a substitute against Nantwich Town and is highly rated, featuring early on this season in 1st team preseason games.

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By Jon Couch

LAST week, we received confirmation that new pitch perimeter barrier rules have been introduced by the Football Association for Non-League clubs following its review into ground safety across the National League System.

It means that solid brick, breeze block and concrete barriers around pitches will finally now be a thing of the past at grounds across the country at Steps 1-6.

The FA review was called following the tragic passing of striker Billy Vigar, who died after suffering a significant brain injury following a collision with a perimeter wall while playing for Chichester City against Wingate & Finchley on September 25, 2025. He was just 21 years old.

After Vigar's death, a petition calling for a ban on brick walls around football pitches across the NLS received more than 4,000 signatures.

It came after Bath City's Alex Fletcher suffered a fractured skull after colliding with a concrete advertising hoarding during a match in November 2022.

Six months later, then Sports Minister Stuart Andrew joined forces with the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) in writing to the FA, Premier League, English Football League and National League, calling on them to adopt a more proactive approach to player safety in this area.

Now, almost four years on, it has taken the most tragic of deaths to spark any kind of action. And even then it took 11 months to deliberate and pass! I mean, what on earth was there to discuss?

I've been openly critical of the Football Association and the relevant authorities for letting this fester for so long.

Still, we got there in the end and at least now Billy Vigar's legacy can go to helping protect and preserve player safety in years to come.

Around 160 football clubs affected by the changes have been informed of the updated regulations and will be required to take appropriate action "within a reasonable timeframe".

They have been told that all existing barriers that don't meet the criteria must be removed, or at the very least covered or protected.

Financial support will be available to clubs with the FA and the Premier League providing funding through the Premier League Stadium Fund.

In a statement last week, the FA said: "We have undertaken a review of pitch perimeter walls across the National League System and Women's National League to identify what improvements can be made to our Stadium Accreditation Criteria that will help clubs mitigate potential safety risks at their grounds and stadiums.

"As a result of this ongoing phased review, which has been conducted by independent Health and Safety experts, we have updated our Stadium Accreditation Criteria for the 2026/27 season.

"This includes introducing revised criteria relating to pitch perimeter barriers, which no longer permits solid brick, breeze block or concrete barriers around pitches across the National League System for men [Steps 1-6], and the Women's National League [Tiers 3-4].

"Any existing solid brick, breeze block or concrete barriers must be removed as soon as reasonably practicable or covered with suitable protection if they cannot be removed for structural reasons.

"We have informed the clubs at this level that will be required to take action as a result of these changes."

Following last Friday's announcement, a PFA spokesperson said: "Following the tragic death of Billy Vigar last year, we again highlighted these concerns and made clear our view that the lack of progress and leadership on this issue had been unacceptable.

"As part of working groups set up by the FA following Billy's death, we pushed for the FA's Stadium Accreditation criteria to be amended to ban these types of walls so that there is a clear and centralised policy for clubs to follow.

"Given that, it's a welcome step that the FA's regulations have now been changed to reflect that position.

"However, it will now be important for progress on the removal of such walls - and effective mitigation of risks ahead of their removal - to be properly monitored, and for clubs to be given the support they need so that these changes can happen as soon as possible. Player safety must always come first."

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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.

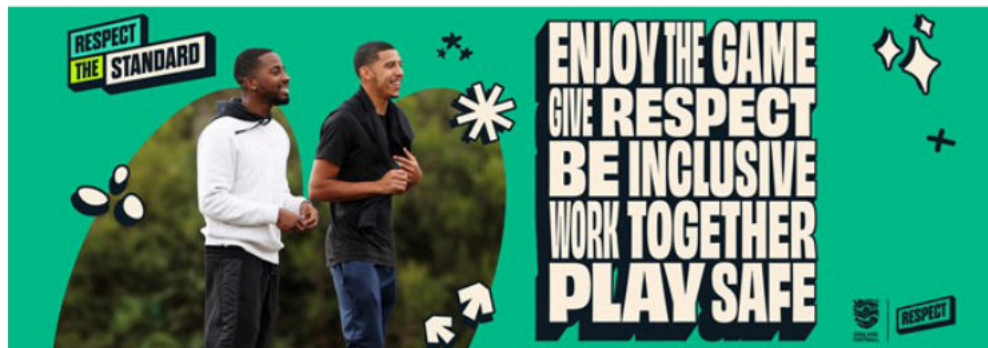
We would hope that you respect ALL players, officials and fans (whether ours or the opposition). We are proud to be a family club and we all have a part to play in ensuring that everyone attending our matches feels welcome and safe, not just the youngsters.

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



@dannywilks5



thedanielwilkinsonfoundation



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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 to 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.

Alfie Atherton – Forward who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Matlock Town. Previous clubs include Oldham Athletic, Sheffield United and Peterborough Sports.

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

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

Cameron Bell – Defender who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Avro. Previous club include Everton, Ranger and Clitheroe. Cameron is also a former Scottish youth international.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Evrard Yao – Forward who joined the club in the summer of 2026 from Lower Breck. Previous clubs include Southport and Bootle.





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