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03/10/26 - 3PM

NPL WEST

OFFICIAL MATCH DAY

PROGRAMME



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

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

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

Visit

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WEBSITE: www.1874northwich.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/1874Northwich

X/TWITTER: www.x.com/1874Northwich

COLOURS:

HOME: Green shirts, black shorts, green socks

AWAY: Violet shirts, violet shorts, violet socks

HONOURS:

MFL PREMIER DIVISION PLAY-OFFS 2026

NWCFL CHALLENGE CUP 2019, 2020

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

SUPPORTERS DIRECT SHIELD 2013

EUROCOPA WALKING FOOTBALL BOWL TROPHY
2019

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

PRESIDENT: Brian Edge

CHAIR: Jack Owen

VICE-CHAIR & TREASURER: John Coats

SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING: Mick Ward

FOOTBALL PATHWAY: Peter Flaherty

WELCOME TO TOWNFIELD

PITCHING IN NPL WEST

vs PADIHAM

SATURDAY 3RD OCT 2026 | K.O. 3PM



FAN ENGAGEMENT: Mark Davies

COMMERCIAL & MARKETING: Andrew Dignum

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS: Jack Owen

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WEBSITE: Mark Edgeley

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MANAGER: Rory Fallon

ASSISTANT MANAGER: Danny Moss

COACH: James Stokes

COACH: Lee Jones

GOALKEEPING COACH: Tom Reed

HEAD PHYSIO: Phil Lea

PHYSIO: Harris Koon Hang Lee

KIT MANAGER: Andy Williams

BIRTHDAY BOY

RORY FALLON

Happy birthday to our manager Rory Fallon!

Best wishes from all at the club!



SECRETARIAL MUSINGS

VICKI ENGLAND



We're back at Townfield for the visit of Padiham, a team we played only very recently in a rearranged game, and I know we will be hoping for revenge after a two-nil defeat in East Lancs. Padiham arrive today after a thrilling 5-4 win at Wythenshawe on Tuesday evening. I'm sure supporters got their money's worth! Our fellow newly promoted side have done ok in the first few weeks of the NPL and sit around mid-table. I'd like to welcome their officials to Mid-Cheshire; we always enjoyed a good rapport with them in our North West Counties days and travelling up to Padiham was always one of my favourite away days. Best of luck to everyone for the season ahead, after today of course!

We had our own interesting game on Tuesday when we hosted Stalybridge Celtic. As everyone knows, Celtic are one of the biggest clubs in the league and are looking for promotion after narrowly missing out last season. They started well and a certain Mr Irlam put them into the lead, slotting a penalty away (we still love you, Jack!) and when they went two ahead, it felt like it was going to be another game where our effort and endeavour would not be rewarded.

However Rory and the management team altered one or two things, the lads didn't let their heads drop and late in the game, James Simms scored two great goals to earn a smashing point. The match stats back up that we were well in the game, which is very pleasing.

Also, how good was it to watch the game under the brand-new lights? They have made a massive difference

to the ground and experience. Both clubs are committed to working together to make changes and improvements to Townfield and the lights were an amazing start.

We need to take that good feeling and the confidence Tuesday gave us into today and all future matches, however the schedule is relentless and we travel to league leaders Bootle on Tuesday and then make a longer trip to Shifnal next Saturday. I have to say, it's a 'bonkers' league as anyone can beat anyone. If you cannot make the away trips then our next home game is on Tuesday 13 October, when we host Congleton Town in our east/west Cheshire derby.

We've provided an update this week on the squad, we've got lads registered who have then gone out to various clubs on dual registration for valuable game time. We received the awful news this week that John Clarke has suffered another ACL injury, which means he will be out for the rest of the season. This is heartbreaking for him, after recently recovering from the horrific injury that kept him out of the game for a couple of years. He is a really talented player and great lad, and I so hope his recovery is smooth and we all see him back in the game as quickly as possible.

Elliott Coleman has had an operation this week on his broken collar bone, and he'll step up his recovery and training once he gets the nod from his consultant. We've missed Elliott. And finally, I'm hoping Jonah is not

too far away from making a return, we know how immense his contribution is!

In news off the field, this week we launched our new violet away kit. There had been a small delay but it's worth the wait. You'll find details elsewhere on how you can buy the shirt or pop into our newly revamped club shop to take a look and place an order.

At this point, I want to say a huge thanks to Jonathan and everyone at Blue Breaks Sports Cards & Hobby Shop for their fantastic support in sponsoring our lovely new away kit and for revamping our club shop. I'm sure this will be a fruitful partnership going forward. Blue Breaks LLC join our very well respected and valued home shirt sponsor Shadow Foam along with other terrific companies and organisations we are fortunate to be linked with. It is very much appreciated

at 1874 and we thank them all for their support and confidence they place in the club.

Tickets are still on sale for our next Beer Festival. This year, it takes place at Rudheath Social Club so that's a very central venue for everyone. The Beer Festival is an important date on the calendar so please see Mick, Mark Davies or any member of the Board for your tickets.

A big thanks to Richard Webb, who continues to administer the Toddy Money for Goals (TMFG) scheme, a much-valued fundraising scheme for the club - do join if you are not already members, Richard will be happy to answer any questions you may have. I also know Mick is re-launching the Last Man Standing (LMS) competition which brings in fantastic income, let's see whether I'm any better with my choices this season!!!

That's it for now, enjoy the game and thanks for your support.

"Come on you Green Boys!"



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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NORTHERN
PREMIER
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BIG GAME PREVIEW

GARRY CLARKE

1874 NORTHWICH vs STALYBRIDGE CELTIC

PITCHING IN NPL WEST

1874 Northwich host Padiham in an NPL West fixture at Townfield.

Last season Padiham finished 4th in the NWCFL Premier Division, gaining promotion via the play-offs, with a league record of:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Pos
Pad	46	29	4	13	105	62	91	4

After last Tuesday's game, Padiham were 14th in the NPL West table with 12 points from 11 games. They are six places and six points above 1874 in 20th, the two team's records before today's match are:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Pos
1874	10	1	3	6	8	17	6	20
Pad	11	3	3	5	13	24	12	14

FAMILIAR FACE

Familiar faces in the Padiham team will be Jeanny Le Blanc-Akpo, Joe Hurst and Sekouba Camara.

PADIHAM FACT FILE

Formed	1948
Ground	The Arbories Memorial Sports Ground
Colours	Blue
Change colours	Yellow
Nickname	The Storks
Manager	Michael Morrison
2025/26	4th NWCFL Premier (promoted via play offs)

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1874 Northwich have completed matches against Padiham on 13 previous occasions, winning 9 times and losing 3 times including a 2-0 defeat at Padiham earlier in the season. One other game at Padiham was abandoned, because of rain, in the 87th minute with '74 leading 3-2.

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
Home	5	3	0	2	13	10
Away	8	6	0	2	20	8
Total	13	9	0	4	33	18

DID YOU KNOW?

An earlier Padiham FC was formed in 1878 and was dissolved in 1916. The current club being formed in 1948.

A BIT ABOUT PADIHAM

Padiham is a market town and civil parish on the River Calder in the Borough of Burnley.

Early forms of the name include "Padingham", with the last element probably from the old English word hōm, meaning home and ing in this sense meaning "of the".

Padiham's population peaked around 1921 at about 14,000, however, the 2011 census gave a parish population of 10,098, estimated in 2019 at 10,138.



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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....”

I’m sure that you, dear reader, are abundantly aware that life does have tendency of throwing up a few coincidences.

In this respect, football is little different in that there are some events that appear to be pre-ordained or just written in the stars.

Take, for instance, next weekend’s Premier League fixture list which sees Manchester City - fresh from being found guilty of breaching nearly 120 financial regulations between 2009 and 2018 - travel to Liverpool who finished as runners-up to ‘The Citizens’ in this competition on three occasions during this period.

Understandably, there are therefore many on Merseyside who are of the opinion that these title wins were obtained under false pretences and as such City ought to be stripped of these gongs. So, given this, I’m pretty sure that in 8 days’ time the Anfield faithful will be taunting their opposite numbers in sky blue by using words that rhyme with ‘beats’ ‘heats’ ‘meets’ and ‘greet!’

Clearly there is a huge gulf between the mind-bogglingly mega-rich world that is The Premier League and the lower rungs of the English football ‘pyramid’. But This doesn’t mean that our level of football doesn’t produce the odd quirk or two.

Indeed, this afternoon might be judged as being one such example. You see, its exactly 11 years to the day

that ’74 first locked horns with our visitors from Lancashire. And boy did it prove to be some game, with ’74 eventually winning 5-4! And oddly enough, as recently as last Tuesday ‘The Storks’ were involved in another nine-goal thriller, but fortunately for them this time the scoreline was in their favour.

Rewinding back 132 months ago, Padiham arrived at the Barton Stadium just months after suffering relegation back to the Counties, having been promoted as champions in 2014 whilst ’74 had just ended a run of five league matches without a win.

It was the men in Green who drew first blood when Matt Beadle diverted Ryan Jackson’s cross into the net after 15 minutes.

Nine minutes later It was 1-1 when Kieron Pickup rounded Matt Conkie before shooting home, but within 120 seconds ’74 had their noses back in front when Ryan Jackson himself fired home. But the teams were to go in level at the break. Andy Ralph being next on the scoresheet.

It didn’t take long for the scoreline to change once again when Beadle claimed his second four minutes into the second-half and it became three all just before the hour mark when Curtis Jackson netted for Padiham.

Less than five minutes later It was ’74’s Jackson – Ryan – who made it 4-3 with a beautiful curling long-range shot. The match continued apace with both defences seemingly missing in action, but when Stuart Wellstead gave ’74 a two-goal cushion with just 20 minutes left it did, at last, seem as if the tie had finally swung in their favour.

However, Pickup picked up his second of the game with 10 minutes left to set up a grand finale, but thankfully the '74 rearguard held firm and claimed the three points.

It certainly had been the type of game that fans love, but managers undoubtedly less so! But certainly not one of the 254 present that afternoon could say that they hadn't been fully entertained!

1874: Conkie, Connor, Stewart, Thomas, Lomas, McNichol, Wellstead, Matt Woolley, Matt Beadle.

Brandon, Ryan Jackson. **Subs:** Haughton, Ward, Mason, James, Tulloch.

Footnote: The return fixture at The Arbories in early April was also a high scoring affair, as '74 demolished 'The Storks 7-0! The hero of the day was Matt Beadle who netted five times in the 13th, 20th, 37th, 45th and 86th minutes, but not content with his scoring exploits he also tuned provider for Stuart Wellstead, who netted a brace. Unsurprisingly, Beadle's scoring exploits that afternoon remain a club record.

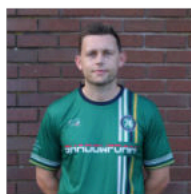
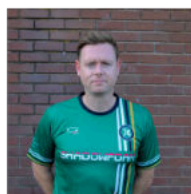
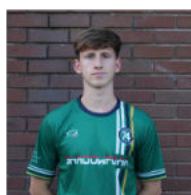
'74 have played two further matches on this date in times gone by.

In 2017 they travelled to West Yorkshire to take on Ossett Town in an FA Cup Third Qualifying Round replay. The initial tie at the Barton Stadium had ended 2-2 and after two hours of the re-match, there was still nothing to separate the sides. Unfortunately, the home side held their nerve to win 5-4 on penalties.

The last game that '74 played on today's date was in 2023 when, despite taking the lead though Matt Woolley, Mossley waltzed to a 3-1 win at Townfield.

FACE MERGE

WHO MAKES UP THIS PLAYER?



The answer to last edition's Face Merge was Blake Robinson's head, Niall Osborne's face, Matt Woolley's mouth and Jack Woolley's body!

SPOT THE BALL

WHERE IS THE BALL HIDING?

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300+ CLUB

AUGUST 2026 DRAW

The monthly prize draw was carried out at Townfield on 31st August at half-time of the match against Vauxhall Motors, with the winning numbers being drawn out by officials from our visitors 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	248	Azariah Goodison
£100	41	Fred Shallcross
£50	138	Gary Bunby
£50	307	Debbie Richardson
£50	86	Richard Webb
£50	371	Paul Gleave

300+ Club

CARD OF THE WEEK

COURTESY OF BLUE BREAKS HOBBY SHOP

The 'Card of the Week' for our NPL West fixture against Padiham is the 2020/21 Panini WCCF Footista Bukayo Saka, Continental Class, graded to 10 by SGC.

The card is from Saka's third season with Arsenal, and first with England, a benchmark season for the now international regular

Priced at £20, it is a perfect entry level card to have for entering the card collecting hobby. Its grade of 10/10 means that it is in perfect, pristine condition, and the most desirable grade for card collectors.

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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.

Let's back Rory. Let's back the lads. Let's back the club.

And most importantly, let's make this our biggest Boost the Budget yet.

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PLAYER SPONSORS

OUR PLAYER AND MANAGEMENT TEAM SPONSORS

A huge thank you to everyone who has sponsored a player or a member of our management team this season:

Rory Fallon	James Wood
Danny Moss	South Devon '74 Fan Club
James Stokes	Easi-Pay
Lee Jones	Frank Kirkham
Phil Lea	Tony Fallows
Harris Lee	1874 Forum
Andy Williams	Farral Cleaners
Max Beddow	Elite Riff Raff
Elliott Coleman	'Ever Glorious' Programme
Ben Crane	Elite Palates Studio, Blakemere Village
Niall Fallon	Howard Leonard, James Leonard and Col Robbins
Mark Jones	Elite Riff Raff In memory of Gary Halvorsen
John McGrath	1874 Walking Footballers In memory of Roger Oxley and Tommy Ward
Henry McNulty	Trusthouze Legal Services
Tom Mitchell	Wilson Family
Brad Mundy	Seymour Construction Ltd t/a Redituff Ltd
Kenny Mwaliteta	Owen Family
Niall Osborne	Jack Hazeldine
Blake Robinson	Shadow Society
Kevin Spinelli	Northwich Mastiff
Matt Woolley	Sunday Lunch Club

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

MATCH CENTRE 26/27

[illegible]

1874 NORTHWICH 2026/27 PLAYER STATS

AS OF 29/09/26

		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	1	1	3	3	0	1	1	3	3	0	4
ATHERTON	Alfie	2	1	2	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	4
BEDDOW	Max	14	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	14
BELL	Cameron	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
BLAKE	Joe	4	0	4	1	0	4	0	4	1	0	8
BRINDLE	Noel	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
CLARKE	John	2	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	2
CRANE	Ben	6	4	5	0	2	6	4	5	0	2	11
COLEMAN	Elliott	5	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
EDWARDS	Lucas	2	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	2
FALLON	Niall	13	4	1	0	0	13	4	1	0	0	14
FARMER	Lewis	5	5	7	0	0	5	5	7	0	0	12
IBETO	Mike	7	0	2	0	0	21	6	7	5	0	28
IBRAHIM	Ola	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
IGOE	Will	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
JONES	Mark	8	3	0	0	1	326	30	6	6	14	332
LYNN	Harry	3	3	4	3	1	3	3	4	3	1	7
MCGRATH	John	7	6	2	1	1	37	21	10	1	8	48
MITCHELL	Tom	8	1	0	0	0	24	2	1	1	1	25
MUNDY	Brad	1	1	5	0	0	1	1	5	0	0	6
MWALITETA	Kenny	12	6	2	0	0	12	6	2	0	0	14
NJARIA	Simon	3	2	3	0	0	3	2	3	0	0	6
OSBORNE	Niall	13	1	0	0	0	90	9	2	0	1	92
ROBINSON	Blake	13	3	0	1	0	13	3	0	1	0	13
SIMMS	Jim	3	0	1	0	4	3	0	1	0	4	4
SPINELLI	Kevin	12	10	2	0	2	12	10	2	0	2	14
WOOLLEY	Jack	0	0	6	0	0	19	14	54	28	3	73
WOOLLEY	Matt	5	5	2	4	0	423	86	50	38	51	473
YAO	Evra	5	4	4	0	1	5	4	4	0	1	9

NPL-WEST 2026/27 LEAGUE TABLE

AS OF 30/09/26

		HOME				AWAY			GF	GA	Pts
		P	W	D	L	W	D	L			
1	Bootle	8	3	0	0	5	0	0	22	4	24
2	Stafford Rangers	8	3	0	1	4	0	0	19	7	21
3	Prescot Cables	9	2	3	0	4	0	0	16	4	21
4	Hanley Town	9	4	0	1	2	1	1	23	11	19
5	Shifnal Town	9	2	0	2	4	0	1	20	15	18
6	Wythenshawe	11	4	0	1	1	3	2	19	17	18
7	Witton Albion	9	3	1	2	2	0	1	21	11	16
8	Clitheroe	8	2	1	1	3	0	1	12	9	16
9	Kidsgrove Athletic	10	3	0	1	2	0	4	13	12	15
10	Mossley	10	2	1	2	2	1	2	15	13	14
11	Chasetown	11	2	1	2	1	3	2	20	20	13
12	Runcorn Linnets	10	2	1	2	1	3	1	14	14	13
13	Stalybridge Celtic	10	1	1	2	2	2	2	17	18	12
14	Padiham	11	1	2	3	2	1	2	13	24	12
15	Newcastle Town	8	1	1	1	2	0	3	19	15	10
16	Nantwich Town	11	1	2	2	1	2	3	19	22	10
17	Atherton Collieries	8	1	1	3	2	0	1	12	15	10
18	Vauxhall Motors	9	1	1	3	1	3	0	12	18	10
19	Lower Breck	7	2	0	2	1	0	2	13	12	9
20	1874 Northwich	10	1	2	2	0	1	4	8	17	6
21	Lichfield City	12	0	0	6	1	0	5	10	46	3
22	Congleton Town	10	0	2	4	0	0	4	4	17	2

NPL-WEST 2026/27 RESULTS GRID

AS OF 30/09/26

	1874 Northwich	Atherton Collieries	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			2-0								0-3			0-1				2-2	1-1		
Atherton Collieries	1-1	x					1-0				2-4			0-1						1-2		
Bootle			x					1-0				2-0	4-2									
Chasetown				x			2-4	1-2	3-2					2-0						2-2		
Clitheroe					3-2	x				0-1						1-1			2-1			
Congleton Town			0-1			x			0-1						0-2		1-2			1-1		0-0
Hanley Town	3-0			2-3		x	2-1						3-2									3-0
Kidsgrove Athletic						2-1		x	2-0					1-0			0-1					
Lichfield City							1-5		x	1-4		1-5						0-3	0-5		1-6	
Lower Breck		6-1	0-4						4-1	x					0-1							
Mossley	3-2				0-1						x	1-1				0-1					1-0	
Nantwich Town				2-2		4-0						x			1-3						0-3	2-2
Newcastle Town	1-0			1-1									x					0-2				
Padiham	2-0										1-1	0-5	x		2-2	1-4	0-4					
Prescot Cables					1-0			5-0						1-1	x	1-1				1-1		
Runcorn Linnets		1-2	0-2	1-1						3-2							x					
Shifnal Town				1-4	1-2				4-2			3-2						x				
Stafford Rangers							2-1					3-1					0-4	x				3-1
Stalybridge Celtic		0-4				1-0	1-1												x			0-1
Vauxhall Motors				0-4				2-4		2-1	3-3							0-2		x		
Witton Albion			2-4			3-1		2-0	2-0										2-3		x	1-1
Wythenshawe										2-0		4-3	4-5		1-0	3-0						x

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PADIHAM HISTORY

A HISTORY OF PADIHAM

It might be hard to imagine today but in the immediate years following the establishment of Padiham Football Club in November 1878 the 'Caldersiders' as they were then known were considered one of Lancashire's soccer pioneers and one of the better Club sides in England.

The Padiham Club were in at the birth of the Lancashire Football Associations Senior Cup competition in 1879, reached the third round proper of the F.A. Cup in season 1883 - 84 and beat Burnley F.C. 6-0, 7-0, 9-1 and 4-2 in their first four encounters.

Gates of over 2,000 were not uncommon for the visits of teams like Blackburn Rovers, Preston North End, Burnley and other local rivals to Padiham F.C.'s ground which was originally situated on the banks of the River Calder at the end of Wyre Street in Padiham and initially leased from the Shuttleworth family of Gawthorpe Hall.

At present the site is derelict after previously being occupied by the Potterton Myson Limited Main Gas factory and nothing remains of the Club's original ground which witnessed many encounters with Clubs that later achieved Football League status. In fact, it was the setting up of the Football League and the ensuing loss of fixtures with the leading Clubs, as well as the legalisation of professionalism within football that ended Padiham's initial decade of success.

Being an ardent stalwart of the fight waged from Lancashire for the legalisation of professionalism in football, Padiham's progressive outlook at the time ironically helped fashion the stranglehold football finance came to have on small town Clubs, in hindsight it condemned Padiham to an ongoing fight for survival.

Unable to secure the services of players able to compete with the bigger surrounding towns and cities, gates dropped and as a result reduced income meant Padiham had to restrict its activities to playing in the Lancashire Combination Football League and at times the local minor leagues.

The outbreak of World War One curtailed Padiham Football Club's involvement in active football altogether at the end of the 1915 - 1916 season, and the loss of their ground during the War meant that Padiham Football Club lay dormant until after the end of World War Two when they were reformed.

The rebirth of Padiham Football Club came about in 1949 with the opening of the 'Arbories' Memorial Sports Ground in Padiham on August 20th, 1949, when 1,777 spectators turned up to see the Club's opening Lancashire Combination fixture of the 1949 - 50 football season. In 1982, Padiham Football Club became founder members of the North West Counties Football League, however in 1990 they left the league and after amalgamating with local club Padiham Wanderers FC joined the West Lancashire Football League where they played their football for ten seasons.

Padiham returned to the North West Counties Football League for the 2000/2001 season, winning the Premier Division Title in 2012/13 to gain promotion to the Northern Premier League, where they spent two seasons before being relegated back to the North West Counties Football League for the 2015/16 season.

Since 1999 the club has spent in the region of £600,000 upgrading their ground.

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By Matt Badock
Editor, The Non-League Paper

FA CUP replays - specifically the lack of them - has been a huge talking point in recent years.

They've been gradually phased out of the proper rounds so that all results are decided on the day.

No more holding on for a draw and a second pay-day for Non-League clubs. It's extra-time and penalties now, all wrapped up before Strictly Come Dancing starts.

Replays, however, do live on in the qualifying rounds and they certainly delivered in the second round qualifying.

No fewer than half a dozen clubs from the National League South were humbled by lower league opposition in replays.

Maidstone United and Farnborough both succumbed to 2-0 home defeats to Step 3 Cray Wanderers and Uxbridge respectively, while Hemel Hempstead Town lost 2-1 away at Wingate & Finchley.

Hampton & Richmond Borough and high-flying Weston-super-Mare were both humbled by Step 4 opposition; the Beavers going down 3-1 at Crowborough Athletic and the Seagulls shot down on penalties by Tim Sills' Wimborne Town after a 1-1 draw.

Crowborough host Wimborne this weekend and boss Sean Muggeridge was excited about another big day.

"Sometimes it's harder because the expectations have gone up a bit," Muggeridge told The NLP. "Wimborne are a good side, I know they are. If they're even drawing with Weston-super-Mare they're going to be a very good side.

"We haven't become Man City overnight! We won that game on Tuesday night with pure determination – and absolutely brilliant goals.

"Let's embrace and enjoy this moment, however long it lasts. We're not going to win the FA Cup – so let's embrace and get some enjoyment out of it because this is what the game is all about.

"I'd said to the chairman it's going to be entertaining this year. There's going to be goals. I just can't tell him at which end!"

And in the biggest shock of the night, Step 5 Cirencester Town, 11th in the Hellenic League Premier, knocked out Farnham Town 2-1 on the road, thanks to Harlie Price's brace and last-minute winner.

Ciren travel to Truro City aiming to cause another upset and reach the fourth round qualifying where the Step 1 clubs enter the fray.

"We've had our highs and lows over the years," manager James Mortimer-Jones told The NLP. "The club took voluntary relegation three years back now and that was obviously a low for people who have stuck around.

"We started a team from scratch. We took a few drubbings. In my first FA Cup game we lost 7-0 to the

local rivals. To have that flip round and go on a great run with the people who were there for those days makes it feel that bit more special."

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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.

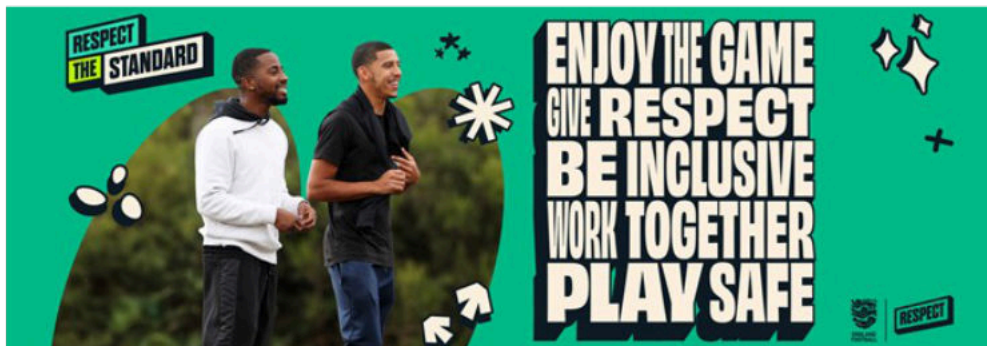
We would hope that you respect ALL players, officials and fans (whether ours or the opposition). We are proud to be a family club and we all have a part to play in ensuring that everyone attending our matches feels welcome and safe, not just the youngsters.

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.

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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.

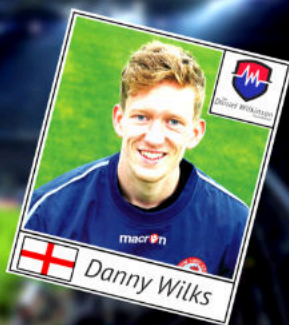
Another factor that we probably didn't fully appreciate at the time was the impact that the untimely death in December 2017 of our inspirational and dearly loved Chairman Paul Stockton had on the club. It was therefore perhaps a fitting tribute to this wonderful man when, on the afternoon of Saturday 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



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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!

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- 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.

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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, 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.

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

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

Noel Brindle – Central midfielder who joined the club in September 2026 on loan from Chorley. Previous clubs include Wythenshawe.

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.

Courtney Duffus – Forward who joined the club in October 2026 from Kidsgrove Athletic. Previous clubs include Cheltenham Town, Everton, Bury, Oldham Athletic, Waterford, Yeovil Town, Bromley, Morecambe, Stockport County, Barrow, Hartlepool United, Macclesfield and Bootle.

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.

Alfie Friars – Central defender who joined the club in October 2026 on loan from derby County. Previous clubs include Derry City, Coleraine and Leek 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.

Ola Ibrahim – Central midfielder who joined the club in September 2026. Previous clubs include Manchester United, Derby County, Hednesford Town, NK Kety Emmi & Impol Bistrica, FC Legnago Salus, Portogruaro Calcio and Bala 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 Prescott 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.

Brad Mundy – Central midfielder who joined the club in September 2026. Previous club include Manchester City, Blackburn Rovers, Fleetwood Town and Salford City.

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.

Simon Njaria – Central midfielder who joined the club in the summer of 2026. Previous clubs include Leeds United, Bradford Park Avenue, Halifax Town, Harrogate Town, Alfreton Town, Frickley Athletic, Rotherham United, Warrington Town, Altrincham, Shaw Lane, Glossop North End, Guiseley, Mossley, Buxton, Radcliffe, Telford United, Matlock Town, Basford United, Cheadle Town, Stafford Rangers and Clitheroe.

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.

Jim Simms – Forward who joined the club in September 2026 on loan from Avro. Previous clubs include Oldham Athletic, Hull City, Buxton, Darlington, Ashton United, Wythenshawe Town, Southport and West Didsbury and Chorlton.

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.

Josh Wood – forward who joined the club in September 2026 from Flixton. Previous clubs include 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.

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





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Rory FALLON



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Max BEDDOW*					
Joe BLAKE					
Noel BRINDLE					
Elliott COLEMAN					
Ben CRANE*					
Courtney DUFFUS					
Niall FALLON*					
Lewis FARMER*					
Alfie FRIARS					
Mike IBETO*					
Ola IBRAHIM*					
Will IGOE					
Mark JONES					
Harry LYNN					
Tom MITCHELL*					
Brad MUNDY*					
Kenny MWALITETA*					
Simon NJARIA*					
Niall OSBORNE*					
Blake ROBINSON*					
Jim SIMMS*					
Kevin SPINELLI*					
Josh WOOD					
Jack WOOLLEY					
Matt WOOLLEY*					
Evra YAO*					

MANAGER

Michael MORRISON



					Isaac ADELAJA
					Jeanney AKPO*
					Alfie BELCHER
					James BOYD
					Joel BROWNHILL*
					Oumar CAMARA
					Sekouba CAMARA*
					George CHMIEL*
					Harli DEWHURST
					Jack DOHERTY*
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					Oliver ROBERTS*
					Kieran SHERLOCK
					Samual UNWIN*
					Reece WEBB-FOSTER*
					Kingsley WILLIAMS*

MATCH OFFICIALS

REF: Thomas SWIFT
AST 1: Harry WINTERS
AST 2: Atticus MILLS

NEXT FIXTURE

@ BOOTLE
06/10/26 - 7:45 PM
PITCHING IN NPL WEST