

THE SPORTS REPORT

THE OFFICIAL MICKLEOVER FC
MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



VS **RADCLIFFE
FC**



SATURDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2020
KO 15:00

MICKLEOVER FC COVID-19 NOTICE

With infection rates rising in the Derby area we are taking extra precautions to protect you, the spectator and our own staff and volunteers.

- If you are showing any symptoms of COVID 19 – High temperature, Loss of sense of taste or smell, a new continuous cough. Please do not attend the game. Stay at home get a test booked.
- Social distance rules must be followed at all times. Where possible for your own safety WEAR A MASK.
- MASKS ARE COMPULSORY IN THE MAIN STAND. Seating will be limited so please arrive early to ensure seating. Priority will be given elderly spectators when possible.
- Arrive in good time to go through all of the necessary entry procedures. QR scanning or track and trace details are compulsory. Failure to leave details for track and trace will lead to entry being refused.
- Maintain good hygiene: use the sanitiser dispensers provided and avoid touching your face or other commonly-touched surfaces such as handles and railings whenever possible.
- A One way system will be in place around the ground please listen to the Stewards and match day staff.
- Bar service will be to tables only. Once served you cannot take drinks away from your table.
- There are queuing systems in place for the toilets and single occupancy only in the toilets, please allow time... Don't wait until half time.
- The ladies toilet is accessed through the front of the clubhouse again this is single occupancy and a queue system is in place.

If you refuse to comply to the instructions given by the stewards you may be asked to leave the ground.

TODAY'S LINEUPS



MICKLEOVER FC

Joe **Slinn** GK
Jake **Bennett**
Alex **Morris**
Pablo **Mills**
Phil **Watt**
James **Butler**
Aman **Verma**
Mason **Warren (c)**
Andrew **Wright**
George **Milner**
Ben **Gowing**
Declan **Bacon**
Stuart **Beavon**
Paddy **Webb**
Will **Monteiro**
Josh **Satchwell**
Darius **Smith**
Marcus **Calderone**
Bobby **Battison**
Louis **Pennington**
Kemy **Agustien**
Callum **Hawkins** GK

Management

John McGrath (Manager)
Ricky Ravenhill (Assistant Manager)
Steve Taylor (Coach)
Jonah Jones (GK Coach)
Jake Shaw (Physio)
Emily Brett (Team Analyst)
Richard Wood (Kitman)

Referee: Richard Eley **Assistants:** Stephen Davies, Jack Carter

RADCLIFFE FC

Cameron **Belford** GK
Joey **Oldham**
Curtis **Obeng**
Raheem **Hanley**
Jack **Shiels**
Luis **Morrison**
Jo **Cummings**
Louis **White**
Rhian **Hellawell**
Matty **Crothers**
Luca **Navarro**
Jonathan **Royle**
Darren **McKnight**
Simon **Lenighan**
Leon **Donnelly**
Kole **Hall**
Jean **Louis Akpa-Akpro**
Andy **Owens**
Khius **Metz**

Management

Lee Fowler (Manager)
David Thompson (Assistant Manager)
Andrew Dooley (First Team Coach)
Jess Bradley (Physio)
Paul Welsby (Kitman)



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GLAD 2020 IS OVER

DON AMOTT CHAIRMAN



Hello, it's good to be back, although welcome 2020. What a terrible and horrible year, which has seen us postpone our last eight matches.

Of course everyone is in the same boat, but that is of little consolation. And of course for us it was more painful as the latest interruption came with us in red hot form and sitting top of the ladder.

But of course that's nothing in the big scheme of things, I know lives have been lost, livelihoods have been affected, we battle through. It's my fervent wish you all keep safe, be careful, and enjoy your Christmas. And while I say I have known a year like it, we should remember our parents and grandparents battled through two world wide wars to give us the freedom we enjoy today. A few months of boredom is a smaller price than they paid.

As I say, there are no perfect times, well not yet, we can live in hope. But 234 years ago, in the United States (as they had just become), the American Revolution was in its early days and people were suffering through a bitter winter. Now famous American writer Thomas Paine penned his famous essay "American Crisis" with the line "these are the times that try men's souls". It seems there have been lots more such times since. And just seventy years ago today the Chinese invaded Tibet, forcing the Dalai Lama to flee into exile.

But back to today and welcome to today's match and a warm Christmas welcome to our opponents Radcliffe. It's good to have the football back, it really is a part of Christmas in this country. And to our lads in red and black, I hope you can produce a good game and hopefully keep us top of the league.

To you, the supporters of our club, I shall raise a glass also as I thank you for your continued support. We say it a lot, but so many supporters never realise just how much their support means to the club.

And in conclusion this week I have some more good news. After hard work by the committee we have given the green light for our new 3 G pitch, and work will commence in May.

So enjoy your day and the game, and please remember our take away bar and food remains open and we will deliver to your home!

God bless you all, Merry Christmas!

Don Amott

TOP OF THE LEAGUE AFTER NANTWICH MAULING



NANTWICH TOWN 0
THE SPORTS 4

by Peter Scherer

Mickleover extended their unbeaten run to seven as they tore the previously unbeaten Nantwich Town apart for a dominant 4-0 victory.

Hot of the back of the 5-0 FA Trophy win against Dereham, Mickleover made the short trip up the M6 to Nantwich Town.

Manager John McGrath went for his trusted line-up of 1-Callum Hawkins 2-Jake Bennett 3-Alex Morris 4-Kemy Agustien 5-James Butler 6-Phil Watt 7-Goerge Milner 8-Andrew Wright 9-Paddy Webb 10-Stuart Beavon 11-Mason Warren. Subs: Anam Verma, Josh Satchwell, Ben Gowing, Pablo Mills, Joe Slinn.

Nantwich kicked off and strangely lobbed the ball straight towards goal and safely into Hawkins hands, before a more logical attack was intercepted by Milner.

The hosts could easily have gone one up in the third minute when Hawkins called for the ball, but Wright's back pass fell short, was collected by Scott McGowan whose shot was just wide.

Webb had a half chance a couple of minutes later, when Morris put a dangerous cross into the box. The Nantwich defence had trouble clearing it and Sports fired it back in from the right, before it was eventually punched away by keeper Greg Hall.

McGowan then got a break for the home side, but his shot was saved by Hawkins, close to his left hand post.

But Sports were straight back into attack themselves, firstly with a Morris cross finding Beavon, whose shot from just outside the area was saved, and then Wright put Webb through, only to be flagged offside.

There was a weak appeal for a Nantwich penalty after Sean Cooke went down, then a Caspar Hughes free kick was chipped to Matty Devine, whose cross was easily taken by Hawkins.

On the 15 minute mark Bennett intercepted as Nantwich pushed forward, then Webb picked out Beavon on the left. His shot passed the face of the goal, before being pushed out for a corner.

But Sports only had to wait another minute, as following a well saved header from Beavon, sustained attacking and a crowded box combined for the ball to break left to Watt, who slid the ball passed Hall into the right hand corner 1-0.

Nantwich continued to try and push forward, after another attack was blocked, Webb got clear and Warren found space, but the striker tried himself to no avail.

Although the Dabbers had a number of free kicks, they created little from them, Watt and Morris had to join forces in the 23rd minute though to clear the danger.

Milner, Wright and Warren were continuing



Photo: Peter Scherer

to find runs from midfield, with Agustien the calming influence of experience and skill.

28 minutes in and one of Milner charges upfield picked out Beavon, whose shot was deflected onto the left hand post by Hall. Two minutes later Webb lobbed over, one on one with the keeper.

There could easily have been a second goal for Mickleover when Milner's shot in the 32nd whistled across the front of the goal and out just wide of the right hand post.

With Nantwich pushing for an equaliser before half time, they left themselves wide open at the back and Beavon found space again on the left and had his shot saved, after a longer spell of Nantwich pressure.

Cooke then tried a shot from well out, which cleared the stadium wall and just before half time Mickleover skipper Warren had picked up an interception and had a go himself, which was well wide. So 1-0 at half time but could easily have been 4.

There were no changes for Sports at half-time, but within a minute of the restart Webb had a great chance in front of goal, but barely connected, as Hall picked the ball up.

But the second goal soon arrived with

Milner again the creator. His strong run put Bennett through, who placed a firmly shot into the back of the net from the right. 2-0.

Only a minute later Wright spied an opening in the Dabbers defence, fired in one of his signature rockets, which was partially blocked on its way over the bar.

Milner was then booked for bringing down Mwasile, but the free kick was wasted yet again, with Cooke's effort well wide.

Nantwich were in the game more, but still unable to create much, as Watt and Butler stayed solid in the centre of defence, with Bennett and Morris covering the wings.

Just after the hour mark another good run from Wright found Beavon, and his cross from the right found Webb unmarked and with time, before firing passed Hall 3-0.

Wright fired another opportune shot over from well out, just before Mickleover made their first substitution, Verma for Agustien.

Sports attack was firing on all cylinders and after 74 minutes a Warren chip was easily saved, before Webb broke, with Milner and Morris waiting in the box, but put in a weak shot himself, easily saved.

MATCH REPORT: THE NPL PREMIER



Photo Peter Scherer

Even with chances Nantwich were off target, with shots both wide and over.

Cooke was in the referee's book after hacking down Morris and the following free kick had Hall at full stretch again.

Ben Harrison then had to clear another attempt off the line, before Gowing came on for Wright.

Then came number four, Milner had placed another telling through ball to Verma on the left, who made no mistake for 4-0. "I had to put that one in," he said.

Satchwell was a late sub for Milner, but after two minutes add on, the whistle blew for a totally convincing win, which takes Mickleover to the top of the NPL before Lockdown but leaves us with an uncertain future.

So what did the gaffer think of the nights performance?

"SUPERB, FROM THE FIRST MINUTE TO THE 92ND. FOUR GREAT GOALS AND THE WORK RATE WAS PHENOMENAL.

REAL QUALITY FOOTBALL AND WITH THAT AMOUNT OF WORK RATE, YOU HAVE TO BE IN WITH A CHANCE EVERY TIME.

GEORGE MILNER WAS MY STAND OUT PLAYER, JUST EXCEPTIONAL TONIGHT, BUT REALLY GOOD TEAM PERFORMANCE."

John McGrath

CUP TIE DISAPPOINTMENT



**HITCHIN TOWN
THE SPORTS**

**3
0**

by Peter Scherer

Sitting top of the NPL but a month without a game, Mickleover FC headed to Hitchin Town for last night's FA Trophy, with high hopes of further progression in the competition.

With Paddy Webb unavailable the line-up was 1-Callum Hawkins 2-Jake Bennett 3-Alex Morris 4-Kemy Agustien 5-James Butler 6-Phil Watt 7-George Milner 8-Andrew Wright 9-Aman Verma 10-Stuart Beavon 11-Mason Warren. Subs-Joe Slinn, Bobby Battisson, Josh Satchwell, Pablo Mills, Ben Gowing.

Mickleover started brightly and won a corner in the opening minute, before an Agustien cross found Beavon in the box five minutes later.

Agustien and Wright then worked together, which ended with the ball crossing the face of the Hitchin goal with no one to connect.

Although Hitchin won an 11th minute corner, it was still Mickleover on top and when Verma was fouled in the centre circle, Warren almost found his way through the hosts defence.

Hitchin were awarded a free kick after 16 minutes, but wasn't clear what for, but it was easily dealt with by the Mickleover defence.

Although Hitchin were starting to get into

the game more, Mickleover were still on top and on the 20 minute mark Beavon's attempt was just wide from a Verma cross.

Agustien followed up with a shot that earned another corner and seven minutes later Beavon shot just wide of the left hand post, after Wright had crossed from the left.

Just after Hitchin's Luke Brown had a point blank shot saved by Hawkins, he was on hand to open the scoring against the run of play, in the 25th minute, after a free kick from Ben Walster on the halfway, found captain Dan Webb, whose flick was headed home by Brown 0-1.

Hitchin went close again a couple of minutes later, firing just wide, before Wright made a customary charge upfield and earned another corner for Mickleover.

Now pushing for an equaliser, Butler sent Bennett on an overlapping run and his cross earned another corner, before Wright picked up a Beavon cross on 38 minutes, only for his attempt to be blocked.

Although Mickleover had fought their way back into the game, Hitchin's Callum Stead continued to threaten on his runs on the defence and beat Butler on his right, before his shot was saved.

As half time approached Beavon got a cross in from the left to Milner, but again his shot was blocked, but Agustien then went close with a blistering shot through a crowded goal area, well saved by Hitchin keeper Charlie Horlock.



Photo: Peter Scherer

Hawkins had to make another save from Stead and Verma's attempt at the other end was easily taken by Horlock.

But with time added on an attempt from Layne Eadie was cleared off the line, but when Stead had the legs of Butler again on the left, Brown was in the middle to make it 0-2 with his second goal of the game.

It was a disappointing second 20 minutes for Mickleover, who lost their flow and desperately seemed to be missing a target man up front.

The defence were allowing Stead and Brown to outrun them and going in two goals down had paid the consequences.

There had oddly been early signs of time wasting by the hosts, which the referee failed to pick up on, keeper Horlock being particularly guilty, re-siting free-kicks etc on a number of occasions.

Mickleover again started the second half on the attack, with Wright crossing the face of the goal again, with no one there to receive, as both Verma and Beavon failed to connect.

Beavon then showed some of his trickery until his legs were taken beneath him, his word in the referee's ear then earned him a yellow card in another strange decision.

With temperatures already very low the rain got heavier too, but the natural flow of the Mickleover side just wasn't happening despite the efforts of all concerned.

Agustien had a curling free kick saved and just after the hour Morris put a cross in which Butler headed just wide.

The time wasting was worsening as Hitchin were taking an average of 40-50 seconds to take a free-kick, with no action from the referee except to reprimand Mickleover players who brought it to his attention.

Brown went close again after 68 minutes, but only had to wait another four minutes for his hattrick. Stead was again free to run at the defence, who stood off him, before Brown was able to pick his spot giving Hawkins no chance 0-3.

Milner and Wright had both run themselves into the ground but to no avail and despite bringing on Gowing, Mills and Battison for Agustien, Milner and Warren, it remained 0-3 with Mickleover going out of their second cup competition with visits to Hertfordshire.

TODAY'S OPPONENTS



The club was formed on the 24th May 1949 at the Owd Tower Inn in Radcliffe by Jack Pickford and a committee of seventeen and became a member of the South East Lancashire Football League

In 1974 it was accepted into the Cheshire League, which subsequently became the North West Counties League.

The first season in the North West Counties brought success when Radcliffe secured the Second Division championship in front of a record Stainton Park crowd of 1,468. After one season in the First Division, Radcliffe lifted the First Division championship in 1985 and made the step up into the newly formed Northern Premier League First Division in 1987. After many years in the division the 90s saw an upturn in fortunes on the pitch.

In 1996 the club reached the last 16 of the FA Trophy and in 1997 won the league. The stay lasted for one season as having to invest in the stadium to be allowed to compete at that level, meant that matters on the pitch suffered and so the club was relegated back to the NPL First Division.

Radcliffe reached the First round of the FA Cup in 2000 losing 4-1 at home to Division Three side York City at Gigg Lane, Bury in front of 2,495 supporters.

The club was promoted again in 2002/03 via the Play-offs beating Chorley 4-2 on penalties after a thrilling 2-2 draw at

Stainton Park. Jody Banim scored 46 goals in a fantastic season for him.

Radcliffe was back in the NPL Premier Division again and a place in the newly formed Conference North was up for grabs. Sitting in 6th position in the league by November the club was looking good to play at its highest ever level. Jody Banim set the English record for scoring in consecutive games and received national recognition and bigger clubs came calling. He was sold to Shrewsbury Town in December for £20,000. On the field the club suffered and slid to 19th in the table and into the Play-offs, subsequently losing to Burscough in the Semi-Finals.

The club continued to be near the Play-offs and solid midtable finishes followed but after four seasons were relegated back to the First Division in 2006/07, where the club have remained until 2019.

Midtable finishes and the occasional battle against relegation was the order of that period after a decade of success and a few cup runs.

In 2016 the club management changed, as a new chairman and manager took the reins. Off the field investment was given to the



stadium, much needed after many years, including a new stand at the Pilkington Road end of the stadium, and a new press area and director's area after being destroyed by fire. In addition, a new covered turnstile block was added, as well as a TV Gantry, Boardroom, club shop, Sponsors Lounge and Social Club. The club also changed name dropping the "Borough" suffix officially in 2018.

Reaching the Lancashire Cup Final in 2017 nearly brought silverware to the new era. League finishes for the first two seasons were roughly the same as before. However, with new manager Jon Macken in charge with Frank Sinclair as his assistant, positive results were earned towards the end of 2017/18.

The future looked bright and the hard work and investment on and off the pitch paid off as the club was promoted via the Play-offs, beating Leek Town 2-1, back to the NPL Premier Division for the 2019/20 season.

SELECTED PEN PICS

CAMERON BELFORD GOALKEEPER

Cam is an experienced shot stopper who joined the Boro this season. Equally as good with his feet as he is with his hands, Cam is sure to be a fans favorite at the Neuven. Cam has played for the likes of FC United, Bury and Wrexham, his level of experience will lend well to Lee Fowler's youthful side.

RAHEEM HANLEY DEFENDER

Another darting full back, Raheem has impressed since joining the club late in the 2019/20 season. Hanley grabbed his first goal against Bamber Bridge last campaign and he will be looking to add plenty more this year with those pacey runs forward.

MATTY CROTHERS MIDFIELDER

A fans favourite at the Neuven, Matty is the longest serving Boro player at the club. An integral part of the Boro's promotion to the Northern Premier back in 2018/19 campaign. Crothers, now club captain will be looking to take the Boro to the next level this time around. Another classy centre midfielder with a dangerous set piece in his locker.

SIMON LENIGHAN MIDFIELDER

Simon signs for the Boro from fellow Northern Premier side Buxton. Lenighan is a dominant force in the midfield who rarely loses the ball. A powerful midfielder who isn't afraid of a challenge or a pop at goal.

KOLE HALL FORWARD

Kole is going to be a massive handful for defenders up and down the league this season. A Pacey and powerful forward who never stops running he has already got his Boro account up and running in front of goal. An exciting addition to Lee Fowler's side for the upcoming season.

LEAGUE & SCORERS



**NORTHERN
PREMIER
LEAGUE**

#	Team	PI	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1.	Mickleover FC	9	4	0	1	2	1	1	6	1	2	19	10	9	19
2.	Basford United	9	3	0	1	3	1	1	6	1	2	15	9	6	19
3.	Buxton	8	3	2	0	2	0	1	5	2	1	22	11	11	17
4.	Warrington Town	9	4	1	0	1	0	3	5	1	3	16	11	5	16
5.	Witton Albion	7	3	0	1	2	0	1	5	0	2	13	7	6	15
6.	South Shields	9	2	1	2	2	2	0	4	3	2	12	8	4	15
7.	Whitby Town	9	3	0	0	1	2	3	4	2	3	15	14	1	14
8.	Matlock Town	6	2	1	0	2	0	1	4	1	1	10	4	6	13
9.	Atherton Collieries	8	2	1	1	2	0	2	4	1	3	13	8	5	13
10.	Gainsborough Trinity	8	3	0	2	1	0	2	4	0	4	13	12	1	12
11.	Scarborough Athletic	8	1	1	0	2	1	3	3	2	3	10	11	-1	11
12.	Lancaster City	7	1	1	1	1	3	0	2	4	1	12	10	2	10
13.	FC United of Manchester	7	2	3	0	0	1	1	2	4	1	9	7	2	10
14.	Radcliffe FC	8	2	1	2	1	0	2	3	1	4	14	19	-5	10
15.	Nantwich Town	6	2	0	1	0	3	0	2	3	1	9	9	0	9
16.	Morpeth Town	7	1	1	0	1	2	2	2	3	2	9	10	-1	9
17.	Hyde United	6	0	3	0	1	0	2	1	3	2	5	6	-1	6
18.	Stalybridge Celtic	9	1	1	3	0	2	2	1	3	5	7	17	-10	6
19.	Ashton United	7	0	2	1	1	0	3	1	2	4	5	13	-8	5
20.	Bamber Bridge	9	1	0	3	0	1	4	1	1	7	6	17	-11	4
21.	Grantham Town	8	0	2	3	0	1	2	0	3	5	5	14	-9	3
22.	Stafford Rangers	8	0	0	3	0	1	4	0	1	7	3	15	-12	1

Top Scorers	Goals	Team	Breakdown
De Girolamo, Diego Raymond	8	Buxton	Goal (3) Penalty (5)
Gilchrist, Jason Lee	6	South Shields	Goal (6) Penalty (0)
Cartman, Nathan	6	Scarborough Athletic	Goal (5) Penalty (1)
Orlando-Young, Rod	5	Gainsborough Trinity	Goal (5) Penalty (0)
Hazel, Jacob Louis	5	Whitby Town	Goal (4) Penalty (1)

LEAGUE RESULTS & FIXTURES

TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2020

Atherton Collieries P - P Matlock Town
Buxton 3 1 Stafford Rangers
FC United of Manchester 3 1 Warrington Town
Gainsborough Trinity 0 1 South Shields
Grantham Town 0 0 Stalybridge Celtic
Hyde United 1 1 Lancaster City
Morpeth Town 2 1 Bamber Bridge
Nantwich Town 0 4 Mickleover FC
Whitby Town 2 0 Ashton United

SATURDAY 19 DECEMBER 2020

Mickleover FC vs Radcliffe FC

TUESDAY 22 DECEMBER 2020

Radcliffe FC vs Lancaster City

SATURDAY 26 DECEMBER 2020

Atherton Collieries vs Radcliffe FC
Bamber Bridge vs Lancaster City
Basford United vs Mickleover FC
Buxton vs Matlock Town
FC United of Manchester vs Ashton United
Gainsborough Trinity vs Grantham Town
Morpeth Town vs Scarborough Athletic
South Shields vs Whitby Town
Stafford Rangers vs Nantwich Town
Stalybridge Celtic vs Hyde United
Witton Albion vs Warrington Town

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JAKE BENNETT	 SPONSORED BY: Colin Hunt	PABLO MILLS	 SPONSORED BY: Anna & Eleanor Shakespeare	MARCUS CALDERONE	 SPONSORED BY: Roger Lee
D		D		D	
PHIL WATT	 SPONSORED BY: Lucy Hadfield	AMAN VERMA	 SPONSORED BY: Arabella Heap	MASON WARREN	 SPONSORED BY: Celia Ford
D		M		M	

ANDREW WRIGHT



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C

AM

MA

PLAYER PROFILES

JOE SLINN GOALKEEPER

December 27th 1998

Joe is a 21 year old from Stoke on Trent, who started his goalkeeping career at Port Vale. During his spell at Vale Park he also had a four month loan spell at Stalybridge Celtic. He signed professional in February 2017 having captained the Youth team, before moving to Walsall in 2018. He went out on loan again to Rushall Olympic for most of the 2018/19 season before leaving Walsall in August 2019. After a few months with Atherton Collieries, he had another four months with Alvechurch, before moving on again to Newcastle Town in February of this year. He is one of the new summer signings for Sports.

CALLUM HAWKINS GOALKEEPER

December 12th 1999

Currently on loan from Burton Albion for a second time, Callum has proved to be a reliable goalkeeper. Born in Rotherham he has learned his trade with Burton's Academy, and signed professional for the Brewers in May 2018. He was with Mickleover for a six week spell between December 2018 and February 2019, having previously been out on loan at Gresley in 2017. His plans suffered a major blow last season, when he damaged knee ligaments in August and sat out the rest of the season. Having recently returned to the Don Amott Arena, he made his seasonal debut in the friendly match at Frickley and has played in the all of the early season NPL matches, including making a double penalty save against Morpeth.

JAMES BUTLER DEFENDER

February 11th 2000

A Stoke City Academy player for three years, James was a regular in the Potters Under 18 and Under 21 Premier League teams, a solid

dependable centre back. But it was during a loan at Kidsgrove Athletic, that Butler impressed their opponents in an FA Cup tie and he was offered a work experience stay at Hartlepool. He spent two months in the North East, but didn't manage to break into the first team squad and returned to Kidsgrove. Stoke City retained an option on him as he became a regular at the Grove, but during the summer both he and team mate Alex Morris made the move to the Don Amott Arena for the 20/21 season.

ALEX MORRIS DEFENDER

May 26th 1998

Stoke on Trent born school PE teacher Alex began his career as a Port Vale Junior, playing regularly in their reserve team before moving on to Leek Town. He had spells at both Nantwich and Newcastle Town, before finding a home at Kidsgrove Athletic in 2018, where he stayed until the end of last season. Mainly playing at left back, over the last two years he played every minute of every competitive game for Kidsgrove, before joining Mickleover this summer with Kidsgrove team mate James Butler.

MARCUS CALDERONE DEFENDER

After starting his career in the Chesterfield Academy, Marcus came to Mickleover and has gradually worked his way from the Sports Academy through the Reserve to become a regular member of the first team squad. He made his first time debut in the Derbyshire FA Senior Cup Final against Alfreton Town in 2019 and was on the bench a few times last season, as well as playing in the successful reserves team. 2020/21 hasn't started well for Marcus as he was carried off in the early minutes of the recent friendly against Guseley.



PABLO MILLS DEFENDER

Mills had joined Derby County as a 14 year old and graduated to make his first team debut under John Gregory's management in 2002. Primarily a defender, his versatility over the years has seen him play both midfield and striker too. He stayed at Derby until the summer of 2006, having played 64 games in the Derby colours, as well as loans at Milton Keynes and Walsall, scoring his first league goal during the MK stay.

League Two Rotherham was his next stop, spending four years with them. For a while he was team captain, making 138 appearances and scoring three goals. He had another loan spell during that time, playing 14 games for Crawley Town in 2007. He played for Rotherham in the 2010 League Two play-off final, but was then released and joined Crawley on a full time basis. Two years at Crawley saw him make 53 appearances and score five goals, before moving to Macclesfield Town for a season.

The following year he returned to Rotherham, for a short stay before joining Bury for the 2014/15 season. After 39 games for the Shakers, plus a loan at Cheltenham, he made a couple of appearances for Conference North side Brackley Town, before beginning his long association at Mickleover from 2016.

JAKE BENNETT DEFENDER

February 22nd 1996

Like so many others, Jake started playing for his hometown club Telford AFC as a 15 year

old, making two first team starts before going out on loan to Market Drayton. He was initially spotted by Mickleover management during a friendly match against Market Drayton, and with Sports then pushing for promotion back to the Premier Division of the NPL, he was made an offer which he readily accepted to become a Sports player in December 2014. After being part of the squad for his first half season, he became a first choice defender over his two year stay and began to receive offers of trials from League Clubs. Sheffield Utd offered him a contract in 2016 and he made his first team debut in the EFL Cup in 2017, plus other first appearances in some friendly matches.

He was due to go on loan to Chesterfield, but played against them in a friendly and collected a cruciate ligament injury, putting him out for 10 months. A further thigh injury meant he never got to play for Chesterfield, and following his release by Sheffield Utd in October 2019, he had a brief at Alfreton Town, before joining Coalville Town last December in the Southern League Premier Division Central. He opted to return to Mickleover during the summer, as he is still looking to rebuild his career and looked back fondly at his previous two years with the club.

"My lasting memory was winning the title here, the first medal I had ever won in football."

PHIL WATT DEFENDER

January 10th 1988

Phil was another who started his football path with his home town club of Rotherham Utd. He moved on to Lincoln City in 2004 and spent four years at Sincil Bank, where he made his first team debut in the opening match of the 2007/8 season, and played again in an FA Cup tie against Nottingham Forest. There had been a couple of loan spells at Grantham during his time at Lincoln, but for the next three years he was at Corby Town. After another loan spell at Grantham, the dependable centre back made it a permanent move, but after one-season moved on to Boston Utd.

His next move was to Coalville Town where he scored two goals in his 12 games, before starting a long association with Belper Town. In three different spells he reached the 150 appearance milestone for the Nailers, as well as scoring a winning play-off goal to gain them promotion and was twice voted into the team of the division during his stays. He also had a spell at Lincoln Utd and Frickley Athletic in between his Belper experiences, from where he joined the Sports line-up during the summer.

ELLIOTT MURRAY DEFENDER

Another Academy product, Elliott's defence skills have grown through his experience in the Academy and Reserve teams, after making a first team debut in the Derbyshire Senior Cup last season.

He is yet to make his full league debut, but has played a part in most of the pre-season friendlies.

AMAN VERMA MIDFIELDER

January 3rd 1987

Aman was another player who started his career with his home town club Leicester City. He came through their Youth Academy, but was originally released in 2008 and joined Bedworth Utd. After 27 games and eight goals for Bedworth he went to Conference North team Redditch Utd for 2008/9, where his impressive performances brought him back onto Leicester City's books.

During this stay he also had loans at Crewe Alexandra where he gained football league

experience, Histon, Kidderminster Harriers and Darlington over the next two years. With seven league appearances under his belt at Crewe he was on the bench for Leicester City first team and made his debut in the League Cup against Macclesfield in August 2010.

But in June 2011 his contract at Leicester ended and he joined Kettering Town, for the following season, which also included a loan to Mansfield Town. Having spent 2012/13 with Floriana in Malta, he returned to the UK and played for Hinckley, Kettering again, Stockport County, Corby Town, Torquay Utd, Tamworth and Nuneaton Borough, before joining Sports in November 2019. An attacking midfielder he made his debut against Nantwich on January 4th and was ever present to the end of the season, scoring two goals.

MASON WARREN MIDFIELDER

March 28th 1997

Born in Doncaster, Mason came through the junior ranks at Rotherham Utd, signing professional in May 2015. He had a number of loan spells during his time at Rotherham, including Sheffield, Harrogate Town, Grantham, Matlock, Boston Utd, North Ferriby and Gainsborough Trinity and made one start for the Rotherham first team in the EFL Cup in 2016. He was released at the end of the 2017/18 from where he joined the Mickleover squad, debuting against Gainsborough in August in 2018. A strong playmaking midfielder, but Mason can also play in defence and assist in the attack, becoming a regular goalscorer and fans favourite. He was second highest scorer last season.

ANDREW WRIGHT MIDFIELDER

September 17th 1996

A Lincoln City youth scheme product, he spent two years at Sincil Bank, before having the first of his two spells at Grantham. After one year he moved on again to Coalville for a year, preceding a three-month stay with Matlock Town in July 2019. A fast attacking midfielder primarily, Andrew is a regular goal seeker. He went back to Grantham in September last year, but after a couple of months he came to the Don Amott Arena and made his debut in the home game against Radcliffe last November, scoring his first goal against Grantham in January.

LOUIS PENNINGTON MIDFIELDER

January 9th 2004

Louis is Mickleover through and through having been through the under 16's before becoming part of the Academy this September.

A tenacious young central midfielder he has already been on the bench for some of the pre-season games and seen some second half action, as well as having useful experience playing with the reserves too.

He is hoping to make football his career.

BEN GOWING MIDFIELDER

Ben started last year playing with Paddy Webb at Eastwood and by the end of the season had scored 13 goals in his 32 appearances. The midfielder has played for a number of teams in the locality, in 2018/19 he was with Belper Utd and before that he had spells with Long Eaton Utd and Dunkirk. He joined the Sports squad during the summer.

KEMY AGUSTIEN MIDFIELDER

August 20th 1986

His career started with his home town team of Willem II in the Netherlands Antilles.

After two years as a junior he signed professional in 2004 and played 55 games in the Dutch Eredivisie where his midfield skills flourished, before moving to AZ Alkmaar.

Although he was with AZ for four years, scoring two goals in his 25 games, he also had loans at Roda JC and played 20 games for Birmingham City in the Championship.

A further loan at RKC Waalwijk preceded a permanent move to the UK with Swansea City. He played 47 times for the Welsh side in both the Championship and Premiership, winning the League Cup with them in 2012/13. He had a loan spell at Crystal Palace, before joining Brighton, playing 17 games between 2013-2015, before moving to Denmark with Vendsyssel. The next stop was the Scottish Premiership with Hamilton Academicals, then back to the Netherlands with Dordrecht and SV Tec, with a spell in the Philippines at Global Cebu in between.

His first non league team in the UK were Nuneaton, but moves to Halesowen, Barrow, Wrexham and Bradford Park Avenue were followed by his move to Mickleover at the end

of last season. He also gained International honours with the Netherlands at Under 19, 20 and 21 levels and played 13 times for Curacao, winning the 1017 Caribbean Cup.

Kemy trained with Mickleover in pre-season and scored a classy goal in the friendly against Clipstone, and has now re-signed for the club.

GEORGE MILNER FORWARD

Having started at Chesterfield's Academy as a 15 year old, George was given a two year youth team contract after only his second month. He trained with the first team squad, after graduating into a regular reserve team player, but went out on loan to Clipstone in the second half of 2015/16 scoring two goals from his six games. After being released by Chesterfield he had a dual registration for 2016/17 with both Buxton and Clipstone. He scored six goals for Clipstone in 16 games and two for Buxton in seven games, before leaving Clipstone for AFC Mansfield, where he saw out the season with another three goals from 10 games. It was then he had the offer to play in Norway, a first full professional contract for Valdres. He spent a season in Norway, but instead of his striker role, he started to play in midfield, but still scored 12 goals in his 26 appearances.

On his return to the UK he trained with Salford City, until international clearance allowed him to join Frickley Athletic for the rest of 2017/18. He then moved to Belper Town where he was regular for the next two years, until bringing his attacking flare to Mickleover during pre-season.

PADDY WEBB FORWARD

A junior at both Derby County and Mansfield Town, Paddy stepped back into local football when Mansfield disbanded their youth set-up. The ex Pelican Colts, Hucknall Town striker really began to find his feet during his 3 years with Eastwood Community, scoring 121 goals.

It was his goal scoring prowess that brought him the Sports attention, signing in the new year he scored on his debut at home to Nantwich on January 4th and scored five more before the season ended prematurely.

STUART BEAVON FORWARD

May 5th 1984

Stuart Beavon is one of Mickleover's most experienced players, following in the footsteps of his Father Stuart and Grandfather Cyril. His career started for in the Hellenic League with Ardley United, before swiftly moving on to Combined Counties side Wallingford. He scored 13 goals in 36 games between those clubs, before being snapped up by Didcot Town. Despite stepping up to the Southern League South & West Division, he quickly found his goal scoring touch and had two seasons with the club. He played 139 games and scored an amazing 107 goals and was a winner in the 2004/5 FA Vase too.

His next step was to the Conference with Weymouth, spending three seasons on the South Coast, and adding 27 more goals to his tally from 90 appearances. For 2008/09 he had his first spell in the Football League with League 2 Wycombe Wanderers. He scored on his debut and his initial loan became permanent. He was a prolific scorer again but the team were promoted and relegated twice during his stay. After 125 games and 34 goals he moved to Preston North End in League 1 again.

There was debut goal again and having settled at Deepdale he stayed for two years, before an initial loan at Burton Albion became permanent for the 2014/15 season. He gained promotion again with the Brewers to League 1, but part way into his third season he left in January 2017 with 15 goals and 102 games under his belt, destined for Coventry City. A strange end of season saw the Sky Blues win the EFL Trophy, but were also relegated to League 2. Although he was a Coventry player for the next two seasons, his final one was spent on a years loan at Wrexham. Early into the 2019/20 season he joined Nuneaton, but it was when he began his current connection at Mickleover that he regained his scoring touch, with a goal scoring debut at Atherton Collieries in September and scoring 10 before the season was curtailed.

WILL MONTEIRO FORWARD

June 19th 2002

Born in Harlow, Will's football skills first took him to the Rotherham Utd Academy, where he played between the ages of 12-16. He was then given a scholarship to attend Queen Ethelburga's Collegiate, an independent boarding and Day School in North Yorkshire on a sports scholarship, representing them in football.

He was spotted by Sports manager John McGrath and invited to come to Mickleover, where he is now a part of the first team squad. Although now a striker, he has played a range of positions. At Rotherham he was striker, left or right winger, midfield and right back, which he feels has helped him develop his knowledge and understanding of all positions on the pitch. It was during his time at Queen Ethelburga's that he developed into a central striker. He debuted for Sports in the recent friendly at Clipstone and scored too.

DECLAN BACON FORWARD

One of Sports latest signings, but it's a return to the Don Amott Arena for the striker, having been a Mickleover player a few seasons ago.

He finished last season with Gainsborough Trinity, after just over a year at Alfreton Town. It was his goal scoring record of 45 in a season at Bottesford Town that brought him to the attention of Alfreton, but he has also played at Sheffield and Scarborough among other teams. At present he is a temporary signing until January, with a further option.

JOSH SATCHWELL FORWARD

A product of Sports own Academy, Josh mainly plays as a striker, but has shown his adaptability to play elsewhere when he has been used as a substitute. He made one start in the Integro Cup last year, but came off the bench five times. A regular member of the successful reserve team, he also had a trial with Coventry City earlier this year.

JOHN MCGRATH MANAGER

March 27th 1980

As a young 16 year old McGrath was a star of Irish youth side Belvedere, who won the FAI Youth Cup, Leinster Youth Cup and Under 18 Premier League. The success brought him to the attention of Premiership club Aston Villa, who he joined in 1999.

He made three Premiership starts against Liverpool, Chelsea and Bradford City before going out on loan to Conference side Dagenham & Redbridge in November 2002. 31 games and two goals were accumulated as he saw out the rest of the season, before joining newly returned to the Football League, Doncaster Rovers. As part of the squad that won the squad that won the Third Division title, he made 14 appearances.

A loan spell at League 2 Shrewsbury then preceded a permanent move to fellow League 2 club Kidderminster Harriers. It was only a short stay and after 19 games he was released and returned to Ireland to see out the season with Limerick in the League of Ireland First Division. He scored against Athlone Town but returned to England in 2006 with Conference South club Weymouth Town. His 13 games and 3 goals helped the club take the league title, but McGrath was on the move again to Conference National's Tamworth.

It was a one season stay with five goals in his 48 games, before his long association with Burton Albion began. He was player of the year in his first season as a Brewers player and won the Conference Premier title in the second. Continuing as a regular first choice in midfield, he totalled 247 appearances and scored 20 goals as Burton became established Football League members.

After six years at Burton he had a short loan spell at York City and then joined Alfreton Town for 2013/14. He had one season there before joining Mickleover as a player initially, taking over the reins a year later to remain as player/manager.

He also gained International honours with the Republic of Ireland Under 21's, making five appearances.

RICKY RAVENHILL ASSISTANT MANAGER

January 16th 1981

Mickleover assistant manager Ricky Ravenhill has been at the Don Amott Arena for almost two years. He started as a youth player at Barnsley in 1998, but got his break when he joined then Conference side Doncaster Rovers in 2002. His forceful midfield role played a part in Doncaster's play-off win in 2003, which took them back into the Football League, only to celebrate a double promotion success as Division 3 Champions a year later.

He had five season with Doncaster, making 159 appearances and scoring 10 goals, before a loan spell at Chester preceded a permanent move to Grimsby for the 2006/7 season. They lost out in the League 2 play-off final and after a change in management, Ravenhill had another loan at Darlington, which after 15 games and a goal was made permanent. His stay at League 2 Darlington lasted a couple of seasons, making another 84 appearances with five goals.

The next stop was with Notts County, joining in the summer of 2009, he was League 2 title winner. But in his second year it was considerably tougher in League 1, although the Magpies avoided relegation, another loan spell beckoned at Bradford City. He had made 97 appearances at Meadow Lane and hit three goals, before his move to Bradford City became permanent again in 2012. They were League Cup runners up and League two play-off winners by the end of the season.

But 68 games and two goals under his belt and the next stop was Northampton Town. An initial loan again became permanent, before a brief spell in the League with Mansfield Town in 2015. He then moved into the Northern Premier League with Buxton, before joining Mickleover in September 2018.



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RESERVES BACK TO WINNING WAYS



SPORTS RESERVES **2**
HILTON HARRIERS **0**

by Peter Scherer

Mickleover Reserves came out on top of a local Derby with a home victory against Hilton Harriers, after two first half goals gave them three more points in their Central Midlands League South Division campaign.

Mickleover's starting line was 1-Tom Smith 2-Larrel King 3-Ben Lewin 4-Marcus Calderone 5-Gus Williamson 6-Tom Eccleshall 7-Lopes Massampo 18-Will Monteiro 9-Jude Ayetine 10-Surafel Tefera 11-Mathew Feurtado. Subs: Clinton Morrison, Cameron Anthony, Aaron Hayer.

The opening 10 minutes were end to end with neither side having any clear cut chances. But on 11 minutes Tefera was tripped just inside the box and after receiving treatment, took the penalty himself which was well saved by Hilton keeper Harry Wood.

Jim Rushby then weighed in for Hilton with a long shot just over the bar, before Eccleshall scored for Mickleover in the 18th minute, only for the referee to change his mind and give a free kick, after a very delayed offside decision, when the players had already lined up for the restart.

Ayetine had a good shot from outside the area four minutes later earning a corner, before a Rushby header for Hilton was just over after connecting with a cross from the left.

Wing backs King and Lewin were both

working well on the overlaps and providing plenty of service into the area for Mickleover, but goalkeeper Wood had most of it covered.

Karl Chadwick tried his luck for Hilton and wasn't far off target, followed a few minutes later by another good effort from Rushby, as Hilton continued to favour the long shot from outside the area.

After 37 minutes Monteiro found himself one on one with keeper Wood, successfully rounding him to open the scoring 1-0.

Hilton came straight back with a wide shot from Chris Smith, before King had a shot blocked for Mickleover from Feurtado's cross.

Massampo found himself in the referee's book after halting a 40th minute break for Hilton, but a minute later Mickleover were awarded a second penalty, when Chris Martin tripped Monteiro from behind as he headed for goal. This time Tefera made no mistake, 2-0.

Mickleover earned another corner before half time when a King run found Monteiro again, but his shot was blocked. Then Fuertado put a dangerous ball into the Hilton box, with Calderone's header going out for a corner.

So it was 2-0 officially, but could have been four, although Hilton had continued to show some danger on the breaks too, making sure that Williamson and Calderone were kept busy in central defence.

Mickleover started to push hard again as soon as the second half kicked off, with



Photo: Peter Scherer

Monteiro holding a long ball well from King after five minutes, but his attempts to shoot were blocked.

But Smith quickly responded for Hilton again and after jinking his way through the early defence, his shot was just over.

As in the first half it continued end to end and after 54 minutes, Monteiro's charge was halted by Wood advancing from his line to snatch the ball from the Mickleover striker's foot.

The ball then bounced around the area for a while before Ayetine was blocked and lost possession.

55 minutes gone and Morrison was on for Calderone, just before Fuertado managed to get a good shot in through a crowded area.

Hilton had their own penalty claims waved away after a challenge from Sports keeper Smith, but it was so nearly a third goal when Tefera's shot hit Jake Atkinson very hard at point blank range as he stood on the line, after another strong run down the left from Fuertado.

Rushby again threatened for Hilton, with a 66th minute shot after a free kick.

Anthony then came on for Fuertado, before another King run down the right provided a telling cross, which Monteiro put against the right hand post.

Goals could still come from either side, despite changes in tactics from both sides. Ayetine was hauled back by his shirt after chasing a long ball from Williamson and then King had a wild shot himself.

Then Hilton's Tom Rushby managed to find some space to fire in as hot, just wide of Smith's left hand post.

Assistant coach Hayer was the next sub as he came on for Lewin, but shortly afterwards skipper Williamson found himself yellow carded.

Hayer had a shot which landed on the roof of the net after 84 minutes and a later Hilton header went straight into Smith's arms.

As the full time whistle beckoned, Ayetine had a shot deflected out for a corner, but Hayer's ball into the area had no one on the receiving end.

So it remained a hard fought 2-0 victory, against a tough Hilton side, who despite going behind, continued to push forward right to the end of the game.

ACADEMY FIRST YEARS GO DOWN TO LEADERS



STAFFORD RANGERS ACADEMY 2
SPORTS ACADEMY BLACKS 0

by Peter Scherer

Mickleover FC Academy first year students travelled to league leaders Stafford Rangers for their final ESPFA Midlands Division game of the year.

Stafford had only dropped one point so far and had previously been 3-1 winners at the Don Amott Arena.

Once again it was Stafford with the upperhand throughout, taking a 2-0 victory.



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- At all times and in all parts of the ground, please observe social distancing and avoid close contact with those not in your bubble.
- Arrive in good time to go through all of the necessary entry procedures. QR scanning or track and trace details are compulsory. Failure to leave details for track and trace will lead to entry being refused.
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- Remain in your seat or viewing position at all times where it is possible.
- If you need to leave your viewing position, wait for a time when the gangway is clear and always follow any signage indicating which way to go.
- If you are seated, when moving past spectators to and from your seat, please avoid face to face contact with other spectators. Wearing a mask or face covering is compulsory in the seated areas.
- If you are standing please stay within your social bubble and remain aware of the movements of others at all times.
- Maintain good hygiene: use the sanitiser dispensers provided and avoid touching your face or other commonly-touched surfaces such as handles and railings whenever possible.
- Please observe respiratory etiquette: always cover your mouth if needing to cough or sneeze.
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- Minimise shouting, singing or celebrating where possible, and if you do sing or shout please wear a mask or face covering.
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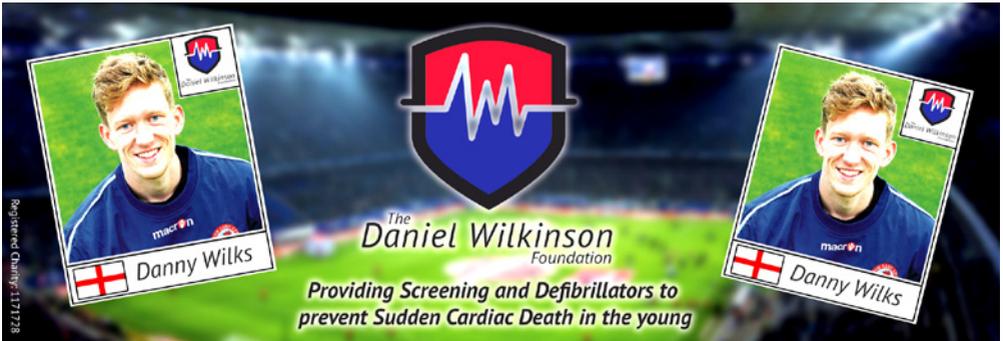
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#ITSOKAYTOTALK



The Daniel Wilkinson Foundation is a charity set up in memory of Daniel Wilkinson who died in 2016 aged 24, while playing the game he loved, from an underlying heart condition called Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy (ARVC).



Dan played football from an early age and joined Hull City AFC when he was 10, earning a professional contract aged 18. Loughborough University followed where he completed a degree in Accounting and Financial Management while playing non-league football. He was an athlete who enjoyed the gym and took his health and nutrition very seriously. He lived life to the full and had so much ahead of him.

Other than feeling light-headed on a few occasions in the month before he died, he had no symptoms!

SUDDEN CARDIAC DEATH IN THE YOUNG (SCD)

- SCD is the leading cause of death in young athletes during sport and the majority of deaths occur with NO SYMPTOMS or family history.
- ARVC can be found in one in every 1,000 to 5,000 young adults - IF IT IS LOOKED FOR.
- Warning signs may include light-headedness, fainting, palpitations, swollen legs, breathlessness.
- Every week in the UK, 12 apparently fit and healthy young people (aged 35 and under) die from previously undiagnosed heart conditions.
- In Italy, where screening is mandatory for all young people engaged in organised sport, they have reduced the incidence of young sudden cardiac death by 89%.

OUR MISSION

The Daniel Wilkinson Foundation has been set up to raise awareness of SCD and to provide funding towards heart screening, defibrillators and CPR/defibrillator training primarily for grass-roots sporting teams.

Tragedies can be prevented through cardiac screening. It is vital that young people are identified and treated.

Find out more

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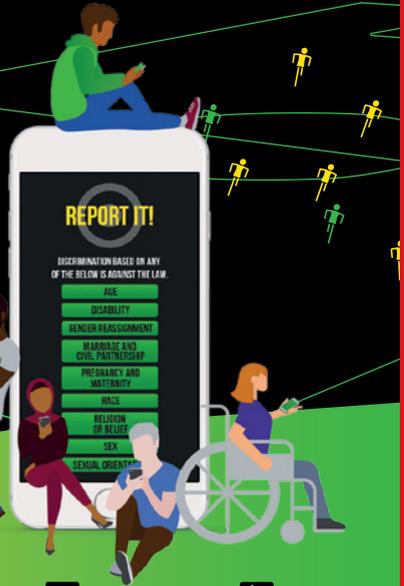
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