

THE SPORTS REPORT

THE OFFICIAL MICKLEOVER FC
MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



ASHTON UNITED

Saturday 21st August 2021 KO 15:00 | The Don Amott Arena



SPORT AS IT SHOULD BE

DON AMOTT CHAIRMAN



Hello and welcome back to the Don Amott Arena. I've often talked about the football here being like it used to be, a family friendly affair! And our opening day attendance against Gainsborough Trinity seems to have borne that out. 502! Our best ever opening day gate, all thanks to you!

I firmly believe many football fans are being to get fed with these multi-millionaire footballers getting paid silly money. You turn on the telly and there they are, some on £300.000 per WEEK or more. I was watching a game the other day when the commentator, 60 minutes in, said some of the players looked tired! They must have strained themselves lifting their wallets! Meanwhile our players all have a full time job. They then have to train and perhaps play two games a week, of course they aren't on £300K per week, they play football because the love the game! Just like football USED TO BE.

I'm sad for the kids today. I grew up playing football for Derby Co Op and Hilton Athletic and watching the Rams when I could with a small amount of pocket money getting me in to the Baseball Ground. There I watched the likes of Kevin Hector, Roy Mac, Archie Gemmill, Ronnie Webster and Phil Waller. They didn't get rich but they became a part of the fabric of our society and they are still part of the local community. You'll even meet some of them at our home games if you look.

Today we welcome another grand old non league club, Ashton United, who are

143 years young. They once boasted the legendary Dixie Dean up front and have won the Manchester Premier Cup six times, no mean feat. It should be another good game and we welcome them.

August 21st is another interesting day in history. The accountants out there will be celebrating the invention of the adding machine by William Seward Burroughs, patented this day in 1888. The Mona Lisa was stolen from the Louvre on this day in 1911 and fortunately recovered two years later. And in the US, Hawaii became the 50th state in 1959 (hence the TV show being called Hawaii 5 - 0).

Please don't forget Derby County Women have their first home match here tomorrow (two o'clock kick off) against Wolverhampton Wanderers. Please come and support them.

Meanwhile Enjoy today's game and let's hope for another win for John-and the lads.

Thank you for your support, it means so much to everyone at Mickleover FC.

D. Amott

GAME TIME!

TODAY'S LINEUPS

MICKLEOVER FC

Callum Hawkins
Jake Bennett
Alex Morris
James Butler
Phil Watt
Joe Bateman
Mason Warren (c)
Andrew Wright
Paddy Webb
Ben Gowing
Roger Lee
Kemy Agustien
George Milner
Andy Dales
Stuart Beavon
Declan Bacon
Bobby Battisson
George Atwal
Joe Slinn
Jacob Lucas-Edge
Finley Bowen
Josh Satchwell
Ben Lewin
Will Robinson
Ethan Mann
Finn Barker



Management

John McGrath (Manager)
Ricky Ravenhill (Ass. Manager)
Steve Taylor (Coach)
Pablo Mills (Coach)
Jonah Jones (GK Coach)
Jake Shaw (Physio)
Elle McGrath (Ass. Physio)
Lucy Hadfield (Kit Manager)

ASHTON UNITED

Gregory Hartley
Josh Ollerenshaw
Harry Spratt
Harry Coates
Tom Warren
Nathan Ntula
Nathan Whalley
Nicky Hunt
Theo Hudson
Stavros Tserpes
Michael Raynes
Sam Baird
Sam Sheridan
Chris Rowney
Liam Tomsett
Ben Hardcastle
Michael Brewster
Jack Redshaw
Tom Bentham
Harvey Macadam
Panos Katsamagkas



Management

Micheal Clegg (Manager)
Andy Heald (Ass. Manager)
Nicky Hunt (Coach)
James Eachus (Strength & Cond.)
Mark Robinson (General Team Mgr)
Kieran Bentley (GK Coach)
Tom Jones, Liam Whelan (Physios)
Tom Park, Nicola (Analysts)
Dave Nolan (Kit Man)

Referee: Richard Watson **Assistants:** Lewis Mountain, Samuel Clark

DALES HITS TWO AS SPORTS TAKE HOME WIN

BY PETER SCHERER

A goal in each half by new signing Andy Dales, secured all three points for Mickleover, in their first home game of the NPL season against Gainsborough Trinity.

With skipper Mason Warren out injured after last week's defeat at South Shields, there were a few changes to the starting line-up, including a debut at left back for Ben Lewin.

1-Callum Hawkins 2-Jake Bennett 3-Ben Lewin 4-Joe Bateman 5-James Butler 6-Phil Watt 7-Andy Dales 8-George Milner 9-Dec Bacon 10-Stuart Beavon 11-Bobby Battisson. Subs. Paddy Webb, George Atwal, Kemy Agustien, Josh Satchwell, Ben Gowing.

It was strong and fairly robust start from both sides, with Gainsborough making the first serious attack after five minutes, easily dealt with by the home defence.

Only a minute later a good run overlap from Lewin produced a perfect cross, if Battisson had just been three inches taller.

The loose ball fell to Bacon whose miss kick allowed Dales to get the first shot in.

Making his seasonal debut, Milner had a charge after 10 minutes, which almost took him through the visitors defence.

Shortly afterwards another build up involving most of the team, resulted in Bennett shooting just wide.

The Mickleover pace had picked up and was forcing the visitors back and a nice combination move between Dales, Beavon and Bacon, resulted in Gainsborough keeper Matt Yates saving Beavon's final effort.

Gainsborough still showed occasional flair from breaks and Hawkins was called into action when Gainsborough had a long run down the right.

Some excellent build ups were just lacking the final ball for Mickleover, but after Battisson had created space in the middle, his final pass to Dales left the striker in the perfect position for a 25 yard shot into the roof of the net after 22 minutes, 1-0. "I just felt relief when the ball hit the back of the net," said Dales.

Straight from the kick off Gainsborough burst into attack, until Neal Bishop was fouled by Butler on the edge of the box. Sports skipper Butler went into the refs book for the tackle too.

The following free kick was easily saved by Hawkins, but the visitors continued to try and push forward, with Watt heading one attempt clear, before Bishop fired a shot high and wide.

Bateman and Battisson had linked up well with the tenacity of Milner and started to take control again.

Battisson's strong run into the box in the 29th minute, prompted a great interpass with Bennett, before the wing back's shot went just wide again.

Milner then tried his luck, with a deep cross into the box which slightly overshot until Butler headed it back into play.

But after 39 minutes there were shouts for a penalty, after Bennett was through on goal again from a Beavon pass, only to be pushed down, but the appeals were waved away.

Milner then had a shot just over after nice build up from Bennett and Bacon, but



shortly afterwards he was replaced by Gowing after spraining his ankle.

In time added on Dales created his own space and fired a shot on goal, before he then put Bacon through, whose shot went into the side netting.

As the second half got underway Mickleover started much the stronger, with Battisson fouled just outside the box after 48 minutes, with Bacon's shot then saved from Dales' free kick.

Bennett was then fouled in a similar place, before a third wild tackle from the visitors saw Dales hacked down.

Butler hit the bar with a header and then Bacon had a shot just past the post, after the ref played the advantage.

Only a few minutes later Dales got his revenge for the earlier foul in the best possible way. Keeper Yates had made a clearance but it fell right at Dales feet, his shot took a slight deflection, but it was in for 2-0. "I know it took a deflection, but I will happily take that," he said.

Now looking for his hattrick, Dales fired just over only three minutes later, before a rare second half attack from the visitors saw Joe Wilson's cross go across the Mickleover goal, with no one to receive.

Another good long run from Dales ended when he ran out of steam and was intercepted, before Bennett put Beavon through. He was fouled but still got a shot in just wide of the post, but penalty appeals again fell on deaf ears.

While Butler, Watt and Lewin had stayed as the defensive block to any threat, it allowed Bennett to continue his penetrating runs. After 65 minutes he came from his own area, to have a shot blocked on the edge of the visitors box.

Dales was then replaced by Webb a couple of minutes later, but it was then almost three for Mickleover, when a Battisson cross was headed against his own bar by Gainsborough centre back Hayden Cann.

Yates easily saved the resulting corner, but the attacks were coming thick and fast again. Bacon found Bennett whose shot was blocked after 77 minutes and Webb burst through seven minutes later, but his cross for Battisson proved too long.

Gainsborough had a half chance after a mix up in a crowded Mickleover box and then a pass from Butler to Watt fell short, leaving the visitors to intercept, but Hawkins easily held the following shot.

In the closing minutes Bennett was through yet again before his shot was blocked, then Battisson outstripped the Gainsborough defence, but there was no one to receive his cross.

Finally Gowing got clear, passed to Beavon, but his path was finally blocked.

With only seconds to go, Atwal came on for Bacon, which turned out to be 10 second cameo appearance as the whistle blew to end a good all round team performance.

**Mickleover FC 2 0 Gainsborough Trinity
Tuesday 17th August 2021**



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TODAY'S OPPONENTS



Earliest days

Ashton United may be small in stature when compared with some of the other clubs founded in 1878, but they still have a rich history. Founded in the village of Hurst, which already boasted several teams of a good standard in the 1870s, the club began life as Hurst FC - the first recorded game found to date was played in early 1879 against Hurst Red Star; the current Hurst Cross ground was first used by the club on September 27th, 1884, making it one of football's oldest surviving venues.

Hurst entered the FA Cup as early as 1883 (the 13th running of the competition) and reached the second round at the first time of asking, a club best equalled but never bettered since. In 1885 the club landed its first silverware after the Manchester FA started a new competition called the Manchester Cup - Hurst won the inaugural final against Newton Heath, the forerunners of the present-day Manchester United; the ground attendance record was set at Hurst

Cross the same year, with over 9,000 people paying to watch the reigning FA Cup holders, Blackburn Rovers, play a Lancashire Cup tie.

Pre-World War I

The club joined the local Ashton and District League as the 19th century drew towards a close, resigning after one indifferent season to pursue membership of a new competition, the Manchester League - that proved unsuccessful, and it took until 1909 for a revitalised Hurst to be accepted into the competition. Backed by a local cotton industrialist - Alderman Kenworthy - and with James Ingham (captain and goalscorer in the 1885 Manchester Cup triumph) now a committee member, the team became an instant success on the field - only missing out on the league title when losing an end-of-season play-off. The club's first honours of the 20th Century came in 1911 when the Manchester Junior Cup was won; that trophy was retained in 1912 to make a league and cup double as Hurst also won the Manchester League title.

Jim Ferris held the post of club secretary (in the days before managers) - from 1909 until the mid-1920s, around which time the club switched from black and white stripes and the nickname 'The Lambs' to red shirts and being known as 'The Robins'.

Hurst joined the 2nd Division of the Lancashire Combination in 1912 and won promotion to the top tier at the first attempt. In 1915 the club finished runners-up in the 1st Division before standing down from competitive action, only to resume playing in 1916-17 and win the Lancashire Combination title before standing down again until World War I ended.

Between the wars

Hurst returned to playing duties in 1918, setting a club record 13-1 victory over Marple the following year, before joining the stronger Cheshire League in the early 1920s - the next trophy wasn't lifted until 1933, when the Manchester Junior Cup was regained after a gap of 21 years.

Hurst then went on to reach four Manchester Challenge Cup finals between 1935 and 1940, winning the trophy in 1936 and 1939. Just before the outbreak of World War II, the club secured the services of William "Dixie" Dean at the end of his glorious career - but the conflict was to deny the folk of Hurst more than a couple of glimpses of Dean's skills.

Post war struggles

Like many others, Hurst struggled on and off the field in the immediate post-war era - the change of name to Ashton United came about in 1947 but a change in fortunes did not follow. In 1948 the club failed to win re-election to the Cheshire League and re-joined the Lancashire Combination. Ashton's first post-war trophy success again came in the form of the Manchester Challenge Cup, won in 1950 and then held for three seasons from 1953 to 1955. Cup form in general was good in the 1950's as the club twice reached the first-round proper of the FA Cup, losing to Halifax Town in 1953 and in 1956 at Southport.

Floodlights were installed at Hurst Cross in 1953 and inaugurated with a 4-3 win over Wigan Athletic on 29 September of that year; club record scorer Stuart Dimond - 201 strikes in just 251 games - appropriately notched the club's first goal under lights. During the 1954-55 season Hurst Cross staged the first FA-approved floodlit competition, the Lancashire and Cheshire Floodlit Cup - Ashton United invited seven other leading clubs from the Lancashire Combination and the Cheshire County

GREG HARTLEY GOALKEEPER

Former FA Youth Cup winner Hartley spent a large part of his career in America - he only returned to playing in the autumn of 2019, after a spell as Goalkeeper Coach with Oldham Athletic, and switched from Atherton to Hurst Cross along with manager Clegg.

HARRY COATES DEFENDER

Coates' early performances in a red and white shirt showed why Michael Clegg had been keen to land the former York City trainee from league rivals Scarborough; an accomplished central defender, he leads from the back for The Robins.

NICKY HUNT DEFENDER

Twenty years on from his Bolton debut and following a Premiership bow spent marking Cristiano Ronaldo, Nicky Hunt signed for Ashton United and renewed acquaintances with long-time friend Michael Clegg when joining in a player-coach role.

THEO HUDSON MIDFIELDER

Hudson was with Leeds United from the age of nine and now provides Ashton with an exciting option on the flank, having signed from Darlington after one Coronavirus-disrupted season spent playing in the North-East.

SAM SHERIDAN MIDFIELDER

Sheridan comes from a well-known footballing family and has now been a regular member of the Ashton midfield for three seasons, displaying a delightful range of passing skills and an aptitude for free kicks and long-range shooting.

NATHAN NTALU FORWARD

Another youngster looking to develop under Michael Clegg, Ntalu arrived unheralded in the summer of 2021 after previously featuring in North West Counties football - but he soon impressed with his work-rate and ability to get away from defenders.

League to compete for the trophy, with all games being played at Hurst Cross; the competition ran for two seasons

The 1960s started with Ashton as holders of the Manchester Intermediate Cup and later that year the club saw the debut of its youngest ever player - and scorer - a 15-year-old schoolboy called Alan Ball... a World Cup winner just six years later. In 1961 Ashton were demoted from the 1st Division of the Combination despite finishing 12th - they had resigned their membership in the hope of re-joining the Cheshire League but were beaten in a vote by old foes Wigan Athletic.

Under the managership of former Scottish international Hugh Kelly, Ashton subsequently stormed to the 2nd Division title in 1962 - winning every home league game on the way - and taking the League Cup for good measure. 1963 saw the club win the Manchester Intermediate Cup once more, a feat repeated in 1966. The club remained in the Combination until 1964 then, after continually being frustrated in their attempts to re-join the Cheshire League, they embarked on a two-year experiment of playing in the Midland Counties League. During the 1964-65 season, Stuart Dimond - by now manager - was pressed into emergency action after an injury crisis and subsequently became the club's oldest player and goalscorer, just short of his 44th birthday. Midlands football proved a financial disaster, and the club re-joined the Lancashire Combination (2nd division) in 1966; two seasons later they finally got their much sought-after move back to the Cheshire League, where they stayed until the North West Counties League was formed in 1982. The intervening years had seen the club twice win the Manchester Senior Cup, whilst their first season in the NWCL saw Ashton land the recently founded Manchester Premier Cup for the second time in three years.

Fall and rise

In 1984 the club sank to its lowest point as they were relegated to the 2nd Division of the NWCL - it took four years to win promotion back to the top (as champions) but the club - like many others following the Bradford City fire disaster - were still struggling to improve their facilities off the pitch. Local businessman Terry Liversidge came to Hurst Cross in 1990 and helped transform the club and ground; in 1992, under manager Dave Denby, Ashton became the first team to win the NWCL title and the League Cup double in a season where they lifted four trophies, including another Manchester Premier Cup. The club established itself as a force in the Northern Premier League 1st Division as they finished in third place six times over ten

seasons and won the First Division Cup in 1994, 1997 and 1999. The Robins also posted their best-ever FA Trophy run in 1997, with John Coleman's side losing to Dagenham & Redbridge in the Quarter Finals.

A new millennium

Ashton finally won promotion to the Premier Division via the inaugural NPL play-offs under Gerry Quinn's stewardship in 2002 and also retained the Manchester Premier Cup they had won the previous season - they were to win it again in 2003 and become founder members of the Conference North in 2004, but their stay in the new league was ended after just one season.

Danny Johnson was appointed as manager towards the end of the 2006-07 season; a club record six-year tenure as Ashton's manager brought a first ever NPL Challenge Cup victory when The Robins beat Northwich Victoria 1-0 in the 2011 final. When Johnson resigned in 2013, first team keeper Paul Phillips was promoted to joint manager alongside Steve Halford, who joined the club from Mossley, and the pair led Ashton to three successive end-of-season play-offs in 2014, 2015 and 2016, but each time losing to the team that was eventually promoted... twice by the dreaded penalty shoot-out. In 2018, under a new manager in Jody Banim, it proved fourth time lucky as Ashton earned promotion to National League North after a comfortable 2-0 win against Grantham Town in the play-off final to mark the club's 140th anniversary in style; Ashton couldn't retain the higher status and relegation was confirmed in April 2019, meaning a return to the Northern Premier League just as the joint chairmanship of David & Jonathan Burke (son and grandson of Ashton's record appearance holder, Johnny Burke) had been confirmed as replacements for the outgoing Terry Hollis. In November 2019 current manager Michael Clegg was appointed but two frustrating seasons of Covid-disrupted football were soon to follow - although a decent run in the FA Trophy brought some rare highlights to the 2020-21 season. A summer of ground improvements and player recruitment now sees the club take part in its 28th season as a member of the NPL - with hopes that this one is at least played to a conclusion.



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TABLE & SCORERS



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

Top Scorers	Goals	Team	Breakdown
Massanka, Ntumba	3	South Shields	Goal (3) Penalty (0)
Cooke, Sean Gregory	3	Nantwich Town	Goal (1) Penalty (2)
Dales, Andrew	2	Mickleover FC	Goal (2) Penalty (0)
Kenton, Joseph	2	Stafford Rangers	Goal (2) Penalty (0)
Massanka, Ntumba	2	South Shields	Goal (2) Penalty (0)

**SATURDAY 14 AUGUST 2021**

Ashton United 2 0 Matlock Town
 Basford United 0 0 Scarborough Athletic
 Buxton 3 0 Bamber Bridge
 Gainsborough Trinity 1 1 Witton Albion
 Hyde United 0 1 Atherton Collieries
 Lancaster City 0 1 Whitby Town
 Nantwich Town 3 2 Stalybridge Celtic
 Radcliffe 1 2 Grantham Town
South Shields 3 0 Mickleover
 Warrington Town 2 0 FC United of Manchester
 Stafford Rangers 3 1 Morpeth Town

TUESDAY 17 AUGUST 2021

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

SATURDAY 21 AUGUST 2021

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

TUESDAY 24 AUGUST 2021

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

SATURDAY 28 AUGUST 2021

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

MONDAY 30 AUGUST 2021

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

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AM

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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 joined Mickleover in summer 2020 and shared first team duties with Hawkins throughout the aborted season.

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. Back on a season long loan from Burton Albion, after the Brewers extended his contract, the rivalry between Callum and Joe Slinn should keep them both on their toes.

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. He formed a strong central defensive partnership with James Butler early on, which just got stronger, as well as getting himself on the score sheet on a number of occasions too.

“Watty” was also the man who ran the first team squad zoom sessions to keep everyone fit during lockdown.

JAMES BUTLER DEFENDER

February 11th 2000

A Stoke City Schoolboy and Academy player for nine years, James became 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 of 2020 both he and team mate Alex Morris made the move to the Don Amott Arena. His strength, dependability and old school style of no nonsense defending, soon made him a favourite with the Mickleover fans and he soon became established as a kingpin of the defence.

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.

He joined Sheffield Utd in 2016 and making his first team debut in the EFL Cup in 2017, plus other first appearances in some friendly matches. He was then due to go on loan to Chesterfield, but played against them in a friendly and collected a cruciate ligament injury, putting him out of action for 10 months.

A further thigh injury on his comeback 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 in December 2019 in the Southern League Premier Division Central. He opted to return to Mickleover during the summer, of 2020 as he was 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.”

First choice last season at right back, his overlapping runs also meant he was on hand to find the back of the net on occasions too.

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. Alex was first choice left back last season and one of the mainstays of our table topping defence.

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 2020 and was a regular member of the first team squad all season.

MASON WARREN MIDFIELDER

March 28th 1997

Born in Doncaster, Mason came through the junior ranks at Rotherham Utd, signing professional in May 2015 and spent three years with them. 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 captain of last year's side that finished top of the aborted NPL and will be leading us into this seasons campaign too.

ANDREW WRIGHT MIDFIELDER

September 17th 1996

He started at Chesterfield before becoming 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 2019, but after a couple of months he came to the Don Amott Arena and made his debut in the home game against Radcliffe that November, scoring his first goal against Grantham in January 2020. Club vice captain and a motivator both on and off the field, always leading by example. Always looking for that shot on goal but at present he is recovering from a knee operation, but hopes to be back in action in September.

KEMY AGUSTIEN MIDFIELDER

August 20th 1986

Born in the Netherlands Antilles, his career started with Dutch side Willem II. 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 2017 Caribbean Cup. Kemy trained with Mickleover in pre-season and scored a classy goal in the friendly against Clipstone, prompting to resign for this current season. His class on the ball is unquestionable, as is his character, as a valued and talented midfielder.

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. A dynamo of a player who would run all day, creative, dangerous and wears his heart on his sleeve. A true asset to the club in every respect and a regular goal scorer.

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 in 2020, but came off the bench five times. A regular member of the successful reserve team, and kingpin of the Midlands and National Academy Championship winning team last season. He now plays as a wing or centre back as well as his more familiar striking role. He has had trials at Coventry City and Fleetwood Town.

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 ½ 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. His hopes were high last season, but was first to admit that he struggled for form and was just about getting there when the season was abandoned.

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 goalscoring 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. He was a regular scorer for Mickleover last season and has already found the net in a number of pre-season games.

DECLAN BACON FORWARD

Dec returned to the Don Amott Arena last season, having been a Mickleover player a few seasons earlier. He finished 2019/20 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 mong other teams. He came back to us on loan from Gainsborough and quickly found his scoring form, as we hit the top of the table. That prompted Gainsborough to recall him, before a he came back to Mickleover permanently to complete the aborted 20/21 season. If he hits the same vein of form as he did last season, he is one to watch.

ROUGH NIGHT FOR RESERVES BUT STILL TAKE 3 POINTS

Unbeaten in their first three Central Midlands League Premier Division South games, Mickleover Reserves visited Mansfield Hosiery Mills last night.

The starting line-up was 1-Fin Bowen 2-Dan Williams 3-Kyle Sharp 4-George Atwal 5-Ethan Mann 6-Will Robinson 7-Lewis Benjamin 8-Jake Edge-Lucas 9-Devon Smith 10-Josh Satchwell 17-Fin Barker. Subs: Cameron Anthony, Ash Elliott, Ted Stevenson, Zach Robertson.

From the kick off sports were straight into attack mode and when Atwal, Sharp and Smith went on a long run after only two minutes, they were just should of making the first telling shot.

Mansfield had a brief response which Bowen dealt with by a long clearance, which just overshot Barker's run, but gained the first corner of the game.

A mix up in the Mansfield defence left Smith with the ball a couple of minutes later, his pass found Barker, whose first time shot was just over.

A free kick and corner followed in close succession for Mansfield, but the latter was followed up with a weak shot, that failed to trouble Bowen.

Some of the Mansfield tackling was excessively hard, none more so than when Mann was flattened just inside the hosts half after 14 minutes. The resulting free kick was then headed clear for a corner.

From the corner Smith picked the ball up and sent Barker clear through on goal, he was foiled and almost had his shirt ripped off, but the referee gave neither a free kick or more importantly and obvious penalty.

Sports normal flowing game started to become stifled by the raft of free kicks given against for the hosts intimidating tackles, more concerning that so many were from behind.

After 24 minutes a break down the left, saw Barker follow with a shot just wide again, before the battling Edge-Lucas found his way through the melee to earn a corner 28 minutes in. Williams was then brought down, and another penalty appeal after he had another nice interchange with Barker.

Atwal had a free kick but it went straight at the keeper and after 36 minutes Smith's run found Barker again in the middle, but he was forced out wide unable to get a shot in.

The best chance of the first half came three minutes later, when Barker put a low cross in from the right, as Smith slid into connect, it was inches wide.

Sports pushed hard in the closing minutes of the first half and after a corner, Williams crossed and Sharp created space for his own shot just off target.

The hosts keeper then had to pull off a double save as Satchwell's initial shot found Smith, whose effort was pushed away with the keeper at full stretch.

Benjamin was then booked for clash with a dramatic defender, after he had a strong down the left, bringing to an end an ill



disciplined and scrappy first half.

As the second half got under way Mickleover came out with all guns blazing, gone was the apprehension of the strength overcoming skill, and they even learned to overcome some of the poor officialdom too.

Satchwell had a shot saved from a Sharp pass after 47 minutes and a minute later Barker was fouled yet again and a strong run.

With Edge-Lucas, Atwal and Benjamin driving forward, Satchwell, Barker and Smith all began to threaten more.

Barker worked the ball through to Smith, his shot was blocked, similarly Satchwell's rebound and then Smith had an overhead kick over the bar.

But just before the hour was up the deadlock was finally broken. It was a fairly scrappy build up but came down to Smith and the hosts keeper in a fairly hefty clash.

As the keeper made contact, Smith still got his head not only above the keeper, but got enough contact on the ball to find the net, 1-0.

Within the next few minutes Satchwell was through on goal and despite being incorrectly flagged offside, by the refs assistant who was well behind play, it was chance gone. Smith then had another shot just wide a few minutes later before Barker had a try saved following a corner.

Barker then found himself in the refs

book, which was still unusually devoid of Mansfield names.

Mann and Robinson continued rock solid at the back, with the almost redundant Bowen looking on, but the attacks continued with a Williams cross deflected interestingly close to the Mansfield goal.

After a couple more incorrect offside decisions, one following a clear a play on from a Mansfield defender, Satchwell finally got through again without being flagged, but his final shot was blocked.

The push became more intense as they looked for a second goal, and Edge-Lucas went close with a chip into the area, before Robinson blasted well over the bar.

But there was another free kick after 36 minutes. Atwal lined himself up and fired it straight into the Mansfield net 2-0.

Ash Elliott came on for Smith for the last seven minutes and Ted Stevenson competed the last few minutes after Satchwell came off, but the final whistle went and Mickleover returned home 2-0, having overcome a battling, sometimes over the top clash, with officials likened more to the Three Stooges than three wiremen.

**Mansfield Hosierey 0 2 Sports Reserves
Thursday 19th August 2021**

MICKLEOVER FC SPECTATORS' CODE OF CONDUCT

In order to assist our staff and stewards and to help protect you and your fellow spectators, you are kindly requested to follow these guidelines when attending all fixtures at the Don Amott Arena.

- 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.
- 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.
- We advise you to wear a mask or face covering within the ground when you are able to, for example when not consuming food or beverages.
- Be aware that all payments inside the ground should be contactless where possible.
- If you need to access any of the ground's amenities such as toilets and food and drink outlets, check to see if any of them are not in use and plan accordingly.
- 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.
- Avoid hugs, high-fives and any close contact with people who are not in your social bubble.
- Minimise shouting, singing or celebrating where possible, and if you do sing or shout please wear a mask or face covering.
- If you are attending with other members of your social bubble, please make sure they have read and understand these guidelines too.

Thank you for your co-operation: STAY SAFE!

GROUND REGULATIONS

1. Mickleover FC reserves the right to refuse admission to the ground or any part of it to any individual or groups.
2. Refusal to submit to a search will mean no admission or ejection.
3. Alcohol brought into the ground by spectators will be confiscated.
4. Anyone climbing onto or over the pitch perimeter railings at any time, without permission, will be removed from the ground and banned.
5. No ball games are allowed around the perimeter of the pitch.
6. No dogs allowed.
7. No objects are to be thrown onto the pitch.
8. Any racial abuse will result in instant expulsion from the ground.
9. Please listen to and comply with any loud speaker announcements.
10. Stewards are present to ensure crowd safety - please comply with their instructions - failure to do so will lead to you being removed from the ground.
11. Parents/guardians are to make sure that small children are kept under supervision at all times whilst at the ground.
12. **SMOKING is NOT PERMITTED in ANY STAND or other buildings in the ground.**
13. Mickleover F.C. has a legal duty to apply the law.



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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!

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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