

# THE SPORTS REPORT

THE OFFICIAL MICKLEOVER FC  
MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



## HYDE UNITED

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021 KO 15:00 | The Don Amott Arena



# BALANCED START TO THE SEASON



DON AMOTT CHAIRMAN

Hello and welcome back to the Don Amott Arena. As I write these notes, before the Lancaster match, we're four games into the season, with two wins and two defeats.

Could be better and could be worse, but I'm very pleased with the effort I'm seeing from the lads. The never-say-die playing philosophy of the coaches shining through.

The two losses were against South Shields and Buxton, clubs to do well with their playing budget. If you can afford to pay that sort of money you expect to be near the top of the league at the end of the season. However it has to be maintainable. I'm not saying it isn't for these clubs, but I've lost count of the clubs who lost a rich "sugar-daddy" and plunged into relegation or worse.

We are playing some good football and I see many positives from our start of the season. I'm particularly proud of all the young players coming through the ranks at Mickleover FC. John and his coaching staff should be very proud of the work they've done in developing such talent. And the support we are got at our first two home games is amazing, thank you so so much! I'm hoping for another huge crowd today.

Some of you will be aware we had a competition for six free tickets for today's match. All you had to do was to name my favourite ever Derby County Player, which is, as I've said many times in this column, Charlie George I'm proud to have become a good friend of Charlie and delighted

that we're still close. I have many happy memories of him in the white shirt of the Rams, but of course his FA Cup winning goal for Arsenal is still often showed on TV.

Today we welcome Hyde United, a 102 year old non league outfit and founder members of the Northern Premier League. Six times winners of the Manchester Premier Cup, they reached the first round proper of the FA Cup as recently as 2017. I wish them continued success although I hope today is a blip on that record!

August 30th is a date with a rich history. To show you how long man has been trying to end war, this date in 1146 saw an agreement aimed to end war for all time. A predecessor of the "No nukes" policy saw European leaders agree to a ban on cross bows, a move they thought would end war forever. And in 1682 William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, left England for the New World. Finally, in 1835, the city of Melbourne in Australia was founded and named for Lord Melbourne.

That's it folks. Enjoy your afternoon and thank you as always for your support!

*D. Amott*

# TODAY'S LINEUPS

## MICKLEOVER FC

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



### 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)

## HYDE UNITED

Joe Green  
Jordan Fagbola  
Kyle Brownhill  
Bradley Roscoe  
Tom Morris  
Liam Tongue  
Harry Benns  
Theo Bailey-Jones  
Nyle Blake  
Tom Pratt  
Liam Hardy  
Jason Akiotu  
Henry Carne  
Kingsley James  
Seydou Bamba  
Janni Lipka  
Jack Sherratt  
Chinedu Uche  
Finn Rourke  
Cater Waters  
Cameron Fogerty  
Tony Donaldson  
Jonah Mitchell  
Luke Hinsley  
Craig Ellison  
Riccardo Longato



### Management

John McCombe (Caretaker Manager)  
Martin Coyne (Ass. Coach)  
Jake Cunningham (Physio)  
Chris Shaw (GK Coach)  
Paul Rothwell (Kit Manager)  
Dave Gresty (Dressing Room Mgr)

**Referee:** Gareth Davis **Assistants:** Dominic Chambers, Paul Kiely

# GREAT START... BUT SPORTS LOSE OUT

It all started so well at Silverlands, a goal up against second placed Buxton in the opening minutes, but it just wasn't to be.

*Starting line-up: 1-Callum Hawkins 2-Jake Edge-Lucas 3-Ben Lewin 4-Joe Bateman 5-James Butler 6-Phil Watt 7-Andy Dales 8-Ben Gowing 9-Dempsey Arlott-John 10-Stuart Beavon 11-Bobby Battisson. Subs: Dec Bacon, Josh Satchwell. Kemy Agustien, Roger Lee, Alex Morris.*

The game was barely underway when Arlott-John fed the ball back to Dales on the left, he cut inside and fired in the opening goal after only three minutes, 1-0!!

Diego Di Girolamo then burst through the Mickleover defence a minute later, but his effort found the side netting.

Buxton wing back Curley put a good ball into the box, but it was headed away by Edge-Lucas as Buxton started to push forward.

But Mickleover were quick on the break and Arlott-John managed a run to the edge of the hosts box until he was intercepted.

Buxton had another chance after Watt had fouled Di Girolamo, the free kick eventually earning a corner.

Butler and Watt were comfortably soaking up the pressure from the Buxton attack, ably supported by

Edge-Lucas and Lewin, but 15 minutes in and Hawkins was challenged by a De Girolamo shot, after a long run from wing back Curley.

Buxton's Clarke was very late in the tackle as he felled Watt after 16 mins, but it was the hosts continuing to set the pace.

Jamie Ward shot wide on the left for Buxton after 20 minutes, before Beavon collected a long ball for Mickleover and worked well with Dales before a goal kick.

Five minutes later there was a half chance when Arlott-John was one on one in the air with Keeper Richardson, before a Beavon attempt was foiled and Gowing had a shot blocked.

Bateman was able to link defence with the Mickleover midfield and was finding the pacey Battisson, but it was Buxton's persistence to the fore, just lacking that final ball still.

There was a scramble on the edge of the Sports box after 39 mins, which was cleared, but with five mins to go in the first half, Buxton fired a shot just over the bar, followed by an almost repeat move two mins later.

Ward then had a shot blocked by Edge-Lucas and Hawkins had to punch clear from a corner.

With the whistle poised Buxton were on the attack again, but unable to find the space for a shot.

So it remained 1-0 at half time but



the pressure had been mostly from the hosts, as a tough second half lay ahead.

For the second half Morris, back from injury, was on for Lewin, but Sports started brightly, when Battisson intercepted from a Buxton attack, only for Beavon to be pushed down for a free kick.

Dales kick found Butler's head, but it came to nought. But Sports went close again after 48 mins, when a loose ball was collected and the following shot was just wide of the advancing keeper.

Arlott-John had a couple of good runs, before another attempt left the ball on the top of the Buxton net after a mix up.

Dales and Arlott-John worked well together with fast and positive attacks, but their attempts were blocked.

But just before the hour was up, Edge-Lucas had blocked Ward again, but the ball was still on the edge of the box leaving Tom Elliott to make it 1-1.

Buxton's pace suddenly picked up and

only six minutes later it was 1-2 after a cross from the right found Chris Dawson with the Mickleover defence split wide open.

Lee then came on for Edge-Lucas, moving Bateman to right back, as Sports looked to push forward again. But four minutes later a cross from the left found Ward, who took his time to fire in number three, with Hawkins isolated and rooted to the spot. 1-3.

Bacon came on for Dales as Mickleover still tried to push forward. Beavon had a good shot after a Battisson pass and a nice ball from Arlott-John on the right found Beavon and earned a corner.

78 mins and Arlott-John was still running, but tripped on the half way line.

Bacon shot over following a free kick after 85 mins and finally Watt had a header blocked from a Beavon free kick.

**Buxton 3-1 Mickleover**  
**Tuesday 24th August 2021**



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A WARM WELCOME TO: HYDE UNITED

# TODAY'S OPPONENTS



Hyde FC will always be remembered for the record 26-0 FA Cup defeat suffered at the hands of Preston North End in 1887. But the club, founded two years earlier, was anything but a collection of cotton-town bumpkins. It was a highly ambitious outfit which wanted to compete with the best sides in the North.

The 1887-88 season actually proved to be very successful and at the end of it Hyde met Newton Heath (now Manchester United) in a match the local press termed the unofficial championship of Manchester.

Hyde enjoyed a very productive period at the turn of the 20th century when the club won four league titles. It moved to Ewen Fields in 1906 after merging with Hyde St George's and taking over the Saints' place in the Lancashire Combination.

In 1917, Hyde folded because of what was termed war reaction but in 1919 there were

demands for the club to be re-established. United was added to the name because of a match between two groups which used to meet in the market place: the Forty Gang and the Discharged Soldiers and Sailors.

The inter-war years were a purple patch. In the 1920s, Hyde won five Manchester League championships. This record allowed them to win election to the Cheshire County League in 1930, and four years later Hyde beat Stockport County Reserves to lift the league cup.

In 1945-46 Hyde won the Cheshire Senior Cup for the first time and in 1954 reached round one of the FA Cup, losing to a Workington side managed by Bill Shankly. In the following two seasons the club clinched back-to-back Cheshire League titles.

Hyde's nickname, the Tigers, was adopted at the end of the 1960s when they were

founder members of the Northern Premier League. They were expected to struggle but fought like Tigers for two seasons and finished seventh and eleventh. However, the club could not compete financially and returned to the Cheshire League in 1970.

It took ten years for Hyde to re-emerge as a force. In 1981-82 they swept the Cheshire League board and won election back to the NPL. Hyde returned to the first round of the FA Cup in 1983, losing at Burnley, and in 1989 made it to the semi-finals of the FA Trophy.

In 1986, Hyde took the radical step of selling Ewen Fields to Tameside Council so that a synthetic Baspoggrass pitch could be laid. They picked up several trophies, returned to the first round of the FA Cup (1994) and reached two more FA Trophy semi-finals.

Grass was reinstated in 1995 but as the 21st century dawned Hyde began to struggle. They finished second to Leigh in 1999-2000 but were relegated to the NPL first division three years later. They won the championship at the first attempt and immediately followed up with the NPL title in 2004-05.

Fortunes were mixed in National League North. Hyde were badly affected by the banking crisis of 2008 and the following year were actually wound up for a week.

In 2010, Hyde agreed a deal for Manchester City's elite development squad to use Ewen Fields. The money secured the club's immediate future but a decision to revert to the old name of Hyde FC, repainting the ground blue from the traditional red and to stop wearing red shirts, divided the fans. A poor season followed, but under the management of Gary Lowe, the Tigers amazed everyone in 2011-12.

Beginning the campaign with ten consecutive wins, Hyde won the championship and promotion to the national division where they continued to surprise the pundits by finishing 18th and by beating clubs such as Wrexham, Hereford United, Luton Town and Grimsby Town.

Unfortunately, Hyde were unable to continue competing at such a high level and suffered back-to-back relegations which have taken them back to the NPL.

In the spring of 2015 Hyde, back under the management of Gary Lowe, returned to

## JOE GREEN GOALKEEPER

Joe started his playing career in the Sheffield United youth setup, it was whilst at Sheffield he had the opportunity to play for a college in New York. On his return to the UK he had trials at Barnsley and Chesterfield and eventually signed for Newport County as cover for first choice Goalkeeper Joe Day. Joe finally ended up at Guiseley, where he spent a couple of seasons playing in the Conference, he also had a loan spell at Gainsborough Trinity.

## JORDAN FAGBOLA DEFENDER

This will be Jordan's fourth season with Hyde, after signing at the beginning of the '18/19 season, from FC United where he spent a season and half. He was a regular in the centre of defence and had hardly missed a game in the 2018/19 and 2019/20 seasons, making 89 appearances in those two seasons. But suffered a devastating injury prior to the start of the 2020/21 season, when he ruptured his Achilles tendon. He will return as strong as ever due to his commitment levels over the last 12 months. He's put in some serious work, and we all know his abilities. He's one of the best centre halves at this level and we have great competition for places now. He started his career as a Rochdale youngster and has had spells at Stockport, Colwyn and Solihull Moors.

## LIAM TONGUE MIDFIELDER

Another player to re-sign with the Tigers for this season, having signed at the start of the 2019/20 season. He's a crowd favourite scored some huge goals for us in his time here and he's a local lad who's enjoying playing for the football club, and he'll be somebody we'll be looking to get double figures out of this season. He's another one who has attracted interest from a higher level, but he wants to be part of this football club. He started his career at Stockport Georgians, before joining Cheadle Town where he won the Players Player of the year in 2016. He had spells with Mossley, Marine and also our local rivals Stalybridge Celtic.

## TOM PRATT FORWARD

Tom was signed from Trafford at the start of the 2017/18 season and this will be his fifth season at Ewen Fields. The club skipper is a fans' favourite because, of the 100% commitment he gives for every game. Able to play anywhere across the front line and knows where the net is. Finishing the 2017/18 season as top scorer, second in the 2018/19 season and joint top scorer in the 2019/20 season. And in the goals in the previous two seasons until they 2019/20 was null and void and 2020/21 was curtailed. The first player signed for the 2021/22 season, the club having to fend off interest from other clubs.

the name of Hyde United and announced plans to turn the club into a supporters' trust. Hyde United parted company with six games left of the 2015/16 season due to a poor run of results and appointed Darren Kelly as manager for the remaining games. However, Darren wasn't able to prevent the team from their third successive relegation, this time to the Evo-Stik First Division North.

Darren Kelly was appointed first team manager during the close-season for the coming 2016/17 season after applications were invited for the vacant post, which attracted a large number of applicants and some from some notable names in football management.

Hyde United FC secured funding from Tameside Council in March of 2016. The investment was to help fund a programme to transform the ground and its connections with the local community by laying a FIFA 2\* 3G pitch, which was completed in July 2016. It enabled the Hyde United Academy to move to Ewen Fields from its 5 year home at Knutsford. Which will enable the academy players train and gain experience from the first team.

The 2016/17 season did not start as expected with the squad only winning 6 of their first 24 games in the league. The first half of the season saw several players released that had not worked out and new players coming into the squad. The most significant signings were around Dec 16 and Jan 17, the additions of Paddy Miller, Matt Beadle Lawrence Hunter and Chris Sutherland were a turning point in the season. From late December, the team only lost 2 of their remaining 18 games, finally finishing 10th in the table.

The 2017/18 season was one of the best seasons the club has experienced in recent years, with the restructure of the divisions at step 4, a possible 4 teams could be promoted from any of the 6 step 4 divisions. The top 2 from each league would gain automatic promotion with the team with the best points per game average finishing 3rd across the 6 divisions would also gain automatic promotion, then the next 4 highest placed teams in the divisions would compete for the last promotion spot via play-offs. It was Hyde that gained that automatic 3rd place with a last minute winner from skipper Paddy Miller, away to Mossley in the last but one game of the season. Right up to the final games it was very close

between Hyde and Scarborough for 2nd place, and Scarborough told 2nd spot by 3 points in the end.

It was also a season that saw the Tigers progress to the first round of the FA Cup for the first time in 26 years, with a home televised fixture against MK Dons. The Tiger lost 4-0, but it was a fantastic tribute to the work and effort everyone had put in at the club, and it produced some much needed funds into the football club. Funds that enabled the management team to strengthen the squad and make a real attempt at promotion, which eventually paid off. So after 2 seasons of being in the EvoStik North Division, Hyde return to the EvoStik Premier Division.

The 2019/20 season started with a new manager in the then assistant manager, Dave McGurk, taking over the reins as manager of two and half season, Darren Kelly, stepped up to the role of Sporting Director and centre half, John McCombe taking the vacant assistant managers position. There were hopes of a decent finish in the league for the 2019/20 season, after finishing 10th in the previous season, but it looked like a tricky start with games away to the early favourites for the title, FC United and South Sheilds, in the first 3 games. But the Tigers got off to a good start, winning both of those away fixtures. It was an up and down season, but started to improve towards the end of the season, before the COVID-19 pandemic saw the season null and voided with Hyde sitting in 10th place and looking to improve on that position. The sudden end to the season saw the club robbed of two semi finals games in the League Cup and the Cheshire Senior Cup.

The extended gap to the end of the 2019/20 season and the start of the 2020/21 season didn't see the club sit idle, in fact it was chance for the club to reclaim the ground by giving it a full refurb. The 2020/21 season sees the ground returned to its traditional red, all done with the help of the volunteers and supporters. The management team wasn't idle either, quickly securing the services of many of the players from the 2019/20 season, and adding strength and competition to the squad with some new signings.



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## TABLE &amp; SCORERS



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

Top Scorers	Goals	Team	Breakdown
Fishburn, Sam	6	Lancaster City	Goal (6) Penalty (0)
Dales, Andrew	3	Mickleover FC	Goal (3) Penalty (0)
Adams, Blair Vincent	3	South Shields	Goal (3) Penalty (0)
Dawson, Paul	3	Lancaster City	Goal (3) Penalty (0)
De Girolamo, Diego Raymond	3	Buxton	Goal (3) Penalty (0)

**SATURDAY 21 AUGUST 2021**

Atherton Collieries 3 0 Basford United  
 Bamber Bridge 5 1 Gainsborough Trinity  
 FC United of Manchester 1 1 Buxton  
 Grantham Town 2 7 Lancaster City  
 Matlock Town 2 1 Hyde United  
**Mickleover 2 1 Ashton United**

Scarborough Athletic 2 0 Warrington Town  
 Stafford Rangers 2 0 Radcliffe  
 Stalybridge Celtic 2 0 Morpeth Town  
 Whitby Town 2 0 Nantwich Town  
 Witton Albion 0 1 South Shields

**TUESDAY 24 AUGUST 2021**

Ashton United 1 3 Whitby Town  
 Basford United 1 1 Stafford Rangers

**Buxton 3 1 Mickleover**

Gainsborough Trinity 0 2 Scarborough Athletic  
 Hyde United 3 0 Grantham Town  
 Lancaster City 2 0 Stalybridge Celtic  
 Morpeth Town 1 3 Bamber Bridge  
 Nantwich Town 0 1 Matlock Town  
 Radcliffe 2 0 Witton Albion  
 South Shields 1 1 FC United of Manchester  
 Warrington Town 2 0 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

**SATURDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2021**

FA Cup Weekend - Mickleover have Leek Town (A)

**SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2021**

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

**SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2021**

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

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ANDREW WRIGHT



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M

BOBBY BATTISSON



SPONSORED BY

Joey Vaughan

M

DECLAN BACON



SPONSORED BY



F

GEORGE ATWAL



SPONSORED BY

Karen Johnson

M

KEMY AGUSTIEN



SPONSORED BY

Haydn Tyrer

M

BEN GOWING



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M

STUART BEAVON



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F

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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.

## **JOE BATEMAN DEFENDER**

D.O.B December 6th 1998

One of the pre-season signings, Joe impressed in a couple of pre-season friendlies in his familiar roles of centre back. A former Derby County player, he has come through the under 18 and under 23 ranks before being released at the end of last season.

He made one start for the Rams first team in the FA Cup tie at Chorley last season. A strong dependable player, he can also play defensive midfield and has been a key part of the team from the opening NPL game at South Shields.

## **ANDY DALES** MIDFIELDER

D.O.B November 13th 1994

It's been more of a return home for Andy since rejoining Mickleover just before the season started. Derby born he spent 10 years at Derby County and was a first year pro in 2013. He was released in 2014 and was unable to take up offers of trials due to injury, which brought him to Mickleover for the first time. The pacey winger had four years at the Don Amott Arena and was part of the team that won promotion back to the NPL Premier Division, his first senior medal.

In 2017/18 he scored 23 goals and was signed by Scunthorpe United after being spotted at the Jamie Vardy Academy. During his three years there he made 33 appearances and scored one goal, but also had long loan spells in the Scottish Premiership with Dundee and Hamilton Academicals. After a short spell at Altrincham last season, he was released and returned to Mickleover, hitting two goals on his home debut against Gainsborough.

## **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.

## **BOBBY BATTISSON MIDFIELDER**

Having started his footballing career playing for Malaga in Spain, Bobby was spotted by Burton Albion on his return to the UK, while playing for a local side. An energetic hard working midfielder with an eye for a goal, Bobby came to Mickleover after three years with the Brewers, during which time there had been interest from a number of league clubs. He made his debut as a sub at the end of last year and was a key member of the Mickleover Academy side, winning both the Midlands and National title and a regular in the successful reserve side. His preferred position position is attacking midfielder and his footballing hero is Lionel Messi. Now a key member of the first team squad, Bobby made his first start in the opening game of the season at South Shields.

## **ROGER LEE MIDFIELDER**

D.O.B July 1st 1991

After a successful pre-season trial Roger has now become part of the first team squad, making his league debut as a second half sub at Buxton. The Bermudan born midfielder started his career with home clubs Somerset Eagles, Bermuda Hogges and Robin Hood, before coming to the UK in 2014, where he joined Ilkeston Town with fellow Bermudan internationals. He moved on to Weston Super Mare, Clevedon Town, Rugby, Stamford, Basford, Stafford and Loughborough Dynamo, before journeying to Latvia for a couple of seasons with FK Jurniek. In 2019 he moved to JK Talinna Kalev in Estonia and had a year there before returning to the UK. He has been capped by Bermuda as a full international and at under 20 level.

## **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.

## **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 among 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.

## **DEMPSEY ARLOTT-JOHN FORWARD**

D.O.B November 14th 2001

Signed just after the first week of the season Dempsey Arlott-John is a former Leicester City striker, having been a regular in the Under 23 and Under 18 sides in recent years and regular goal scorer, also having had a brief spell at Crystal Palace.

A pacey central striker who can also play on either wing, he made his Mickleover debut as a second half sub against Ashton Utd, before making his first start in the away defeat at Buxton.

# 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 Hosiery 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!**

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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.
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9. Please listen to and comply with any loud speaker announcements.
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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!

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## OUR MISSION

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

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

### Find out more

 @dannywilks5

 thedanielwilkinsonfoundation

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