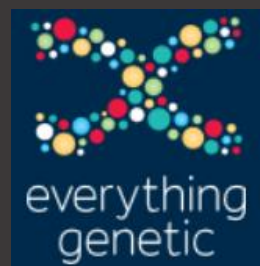


THE DABBER



NANTWICH TOWN
VS
SOUTH SHIELDS
Saturday 27th August 2022
KICK OFF 15:00

Official matchday programme of Nantwich Town FC

CLUB DETAILS & HONOURS

Nantwich Town Football Club Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Company No: 0732 8670

The Swansway Stadium,

Waterlode, Nantwich, CW5 5BS

Telephone: 01270 621771

County Affiliation: Cheshire FA

Year Formed: 1884

At the Top

President: Frank Blunstone

Chairman: Jon Gold

Vice-Chairman: John Dunning

Directors: Mark Hawkins, John Dunning,
Clive Jackson, Dave Clapp, Dan
Dunning-Cole, Tim Crighton, Gordon
McKinnon

Company Secretary: John Dunning

Football Officials

Manager: Dave Cooke

Assistant Manager: Ritchie Sutton

First Team Coach: Jay Bateman

First Team Coach Mentor: Nigel Deeley

Head Physio: Callum Carey

Physio: Brandon Webster

Kit Manager: Jason Clarke

Behind the Scenes

Club Secretary: Carl Thorpe

Match Day Secretary: Gary Richardson

General Manager: Laura Ellison

Press Officers: Jack Beresford, Liam
Price, Adam Bateman, Dan Jackson

Club Photographer: Jonathan White

Groundsman: Richard Bourne

Stadium & Safety Officer: Bob Melling

Social Networks:

Twitter: @TheDabbers

Facebook: /nantwichtownfc

YouTube: Nantwich Town FC

Instagram: officialnantwichtownfc

CLUB HONOURS

LEAGUE COMPETITION:

Cheshire County League:

Champions – 1980/81

Mid-Cheshire League:

Champions – 1963/64

Runners-Up – 1950/51, 1961/62, 1964/65

Crewe Amateur Combination League:

Champions – 1946/47

Cheshire League:

Division One Runners Up – 1900/01

Shropshire & District League:

Runners-Up – 1891/92

Manchester League:

Runners-Up – 1966/67

Northern Premier League:

Div 1 South – Play-Off Winners – 2007/08

Premier Division Play-Off Final – 2008/09

CUP COMPETITION:

Cheshire Senior Cup Winners – 1932/33,

1975/76, 2007/08, 2011/12, 2017/18,

2018/19

FA Vase Winners – 2005/06

FA Trophy Semi Finalist – 2015/16

FA Cup First Round – 2011/12, 2017/18,
2019/20

North West Counties League Cup
Winners – 1994/95

Mid Cheshire League Cup Winners –
1961/62, 1963/64

WELCOME TO NANTWICH TOWN

A very warm welcome to everyone to The Swansway Stadium this afternoon, including the supporters, players, management and Directors of our visitors, South Shields.

To say August is a tough month is an understatement, we've probably had the hardest first month of fixtures out of everyone. We've already played 4 of the arguable tougher opponents we can face, and for a gut wrenching goal in injury time against Guiseley we could easily have had four draws to start with.

The 2 games we have this weekend are probably the toughest of the lot, South Shields and Warrington Town in my eyes are favourites to be in the top 2 or 3 this year. They always say whoever finishes above South Shields wins the league.

I've got to say the performance we put in on Tuesday at FC United was incredible, due to injuries, illness and suspension we had to cobble together some form of a back four. However they stood resolute to ensure we got a well deserved draw.

Today the gaffer takes charge of his 338th match as the Nantwich Town manager putting him second in the all time and only 10 to go before he takes the top spot ahead of Colin Hutchinson.



The Dabbers will be hoping for another solid performance this afternoon and hopefully a result to match.

Enjoy the programme and the match this afternoon and Up The Dabbers!

Carl Thorpe
Club Secretary



Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Northern Premier League football clubs need your help with them.

The Trident Leagues and Pitching In have recently launched a new online Volunteer Hub where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

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SOUTH SHIELDS FC - MATCH PREVIEW

After securing a good point and clean sheet on the road at FC United in the week, the Dabbers will need to be on similar form this weekend as Kevin Phillips brings his South Shields side to South Cheshire.

THE BEAUTIFUL SOUTH

South Shields have gone unbeaten in their first four games, but the last three have been draws. After beating Stalybridge on opening day, they have drawn 1-1 with Ashton, 2-2 with Marine, and 1-1 with Gainsborough. The last two of those have taken late equalisers just to secure a point, so the Dabbers will have to be aware that this is a team that never gives up.

LAST TIME OUT

It was an action packed encounter in the North East in February. The Dabbers got into a 2-1 lead thanks to a Sean Cooke penalty and a wonderful individual goal from Jake Bickerstaff. But Shields responded in style, JJ Hooper having one of those dream games and netting all 4 in an eventual 4-2 win for the home side that day. Highlights of that one are available below:

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Hooper is still a South Shields player, but has not been in any of the first 4 matchday squads through injury. But with the resources that they have, they aren't exactly short of options. The most eye-catching of their signings is in attack, with the experienced Lewis Alessandra coming in from League Two Carlisle. A long EFL career has seen him at clubs like Plymouth, Rochdale and Oldham. He's yet to score for Shields but will be a danger.

Also look out for Michael Woods, another experienced recruit from higher in the pyramid who has 3 goals in 3 appearances from midfield so far.

MATCH DETAILS

VENUE: The Swansway Stadium, Waterlode, CW5 5BS

KICK OFF 15:00

RADIO COVERAGE: <https://thisisthecat.com/cat-sport/>

MATCHDAY UPDATES: <https://twitter.com/TheDabbers>



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FC UNITED OF MANCHESTER – MATCH REPORT

Nantwich Town played out an entertaining but ultimately goalless draw with FC United of Manchester at Broadhurst Park to secure their first clean sheet of the season.

The home side, coming in off back-to-back wins, nearly opened the scoring in the very first minute, Regan Linney getting a shot away that was well saved by Louis Grey. A quarter of an hour in, a clever 1-2 between Sean Cooke and Connor Heath allowed Heath the space to cross but it was too close to Dan Lavercombe in the FC goal. Joe Robbins had a shot that sliced well wide, before Edy Maieco broke the organised Dabbers lines with a cheeky nutmeg on Robbins, the move ending with a miscued effort from Linney.

Caspar Hughes, filling in at right back in a patchwork defence that was missing Joel Stair, Ritchie Sutton and Jon Moran, made an excellent tackle to stop Maieco later on in the half.

The half ended on a sour note as Matt Bell had to be subbed off with an uncomfortable looking neck injury, Dave Cooke confirming after the game that Bell had been taken to hospital as a precaution. On Wednesday morning, it was confirmed he was out of hospital and had suffered some hyper extended ligaments in his neck.

In the second half, Luke Griffiths and Joel Grant traded wayward efforts as both teams struggled to really grab a hold of the match.

But Nantwich did begin to grow into it, the best chance yet falling to Joe Robbins who smashed over the bar from the edge of the box, anything under the bar would have surely been the opener.

A reprieve for the Dabbers came 15 minutes from time, FC United substitute Jack Anderton tucked the ball away but was flagged offside, video footage showing later that that was the correct call from the assistant ref.

AJ Leitch-Smith came on to try and force things back the Dabbers' way, and very nearly did so immediately, forcing a good save from Lavercombe at his near post with a rasping drive that would have caught a lot of keepers out.

Perry Bircumshaw, who had only made his first appearance for the Dabbers on Saturday, suddenly found himself starting at centre-back and barely put a foot wrong, one turn and long pass in particular while being pressed hard towards his own goal was a standout moment.

There was almost a Dabbers winner on 87 minutes, a low cross from Hughes was deflected and forced Lavercombe into an awkward adjustment and save to just prevent what would have been an own goal.

A frantic ending from both sides was fruitless in the end, a draw the right result in front of a typically boisterous home crowd and a good midweek following of Dabbers fans too.



FC UNITED OF MANCHESTER – MATCH REPORT

FC UNITED: Lavercome, Smith, Hall ('59 McCarthy), Griffiths, Halls, Askew ('51 Anderton), Murray ('64 Smith), Linney, Maieco

Subs not used: Taylor, Palinkas

NANTWICH TOWN: Gray, Hughes, Edwards ('79 Castellano), Bircumshaw, Bourne, Bell ('45+2 Sherratt), Heath ('76 Leitch-Smith), Robbins, Cockerline

Subs not used: Mwasile, Sutton

Attendance: 1,607

Highlights: <https://t.co/oDkfUTXW2D>





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RITCHIE SUTTON

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CONNOR HEATH

Bob Antrobus



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JOE MWASILE

****AVAILABLE****



MATT BELL

Grant Richards



JOEL GRANT

Rupert Dyke



DAN COCKERLINE

NTISA



SEAN COOKE

***Cheshire Money Group
(Samantha & Andy)***



SHAUN MILLER

****AVAILABLE****



AJ LEITCH-SMITH

****AVAILABLE****



ALFONSO CASTELLANO

****AVAILABLE****



DAVE COOKE

****AVAILABLE****



JAY BATEMAN

****AVAILABLE****



NIGEL DEELEY

****AVAILABLE****

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A business of Marsh McLennan

GUISELEY AFC – MATCH REPORT

The Dabbers succumbed to a late sucker punch as Guiseley claimed a dramatic 1-0 win on Saturday at the Swansway Stadium.

The starting line-up saw manager Dave Cooke make two changes to the team that started the previous two matches. Joe Robbins was a forced omission following his red card from the opening game of the season away at Lancaster City, and Jack Sherratt replaced Caspar Hughes.

As Nantwich kicked off the wind kicked up too. With the ball hanging in the air and goal kicks often being stopped in their tracks along the half-way line, it was clear the weather was going to be an adversary for both teams all game.

Guiseley looked the most lively in the opening stages with two chances in the first five minutes. The Swansway Stadium let out a sigh of relief in the second minute as a dangerous low cross was played across the face of the goal only for it to be just behind Guiseley's Andy Kellet, preventing a clear tap in.

The familiar John Johnston also had a low shot saved by Louis Gray in the fifth. Early signs of a lively game soon petered out though as the game became scrappy and the two sides began to cancel each other out.

Ritchie Sutton was forced off through injury just before the thirty-minute mark, which led to a reshuffle at the back. Troy Bourne moved inside to centre-half and Perry Bircumshaw came on to make his debut at left back. It was almost a nightmare start for him though as his back pass looked to be short, encouraging the on-rushing Johnston, but Gray was quick off his line to clear.

An early substitution in the second half saw Bell come on for Connor Heath which provided more stability on the ball, but the game continued to offer up little in the way of chances. It wasn't until the final twenty minutes that we saw some real opportunities materialise, the first being a goal mouth scramble in the Nantwich box following a corner swung in from the left which led to Ible, Johnston and Greaves taking shots. Fortunately, a double save from Gray and some desperate defending meant that The Dabbers goal remained intact and Bourne could clear the ball to safety.

Cockerline had a couple of missed chances before Grant ran at the Guiseley left-back and fired a promising cross across the box only for Joe Mwasile to fire wide in what should have been an 85th minute winner.

Nantwich were left to rue that chance when in added time Guiseley substitute Lewis Hey curled his effort into the bottom left corner, sparking wild scenes from the West Yorkshire team and bench.



GUISELEY AFC – MATCH REPORT

NANTWICH TOWN: Gray, Stair, Bourne, Moran, Sutton ('27 Bircumshaw), Sherratt, Leith-Smith ('73 Mwasile), Heath ('55 Bell), Cockerline, Cooke, Grant

Subs not used: Castellano, Edwards

GUISELEY AFC: Trennery, Vaughan, Smith, Dean, Ible, Harris, Johnston, Wood, Cassidy ('73 Greaves) Haw ('60 Chimalilo), Kellet ('79 Hey)

Subs not used: Cartwright, Maloney

Attendance: 364

Highlights: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B_iJvQ_g0PE



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SOUTH SHIELDS FC – A BRIEF HISTORY IN TIME



CLUB INFO

Club Name:

South Shields Football Club

Year Founded:

1888

Club Nickname:

The Mariners

Current Ground:

1st Cloud Arena

Current Manager:

Kevin Phillips



CUP HISTORY

Northern League Cup :

Winners – 2009/10, 2016/17

Durham Challenge Cup:

Winners – 1976/77, 2016/17

FA Vase:

Winners – 2016/17

Wearside League Cup:

Winners – 1992/93



LEAGUE HISTORY

Northern Premier Division:

Champions – 2017/18

Premier League Division One:

Champions – 2016/17

Premier League Division Two:

Champions – 2015/16

Wearside League

Champions – 1976/77, 1992/93, 1994/95

LAST 5 LEAGUE SEASONS:

Season	League	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	Position
2021/22	NPL	42	23	9	10	71	40	78	2
2020/21	NPL	9	4	3	2	12	8	15	
2019/20	NPL	33	21	6	6	64	34	69	
2018/19	NPL	40	27	6	7	86	41	87	2
2017/18	NPL-1N	42	32	7	3	112	37	103	1

** 2019-20 & 2020-21 Season both curtailed due to COVID-19*

SOUTH SHIELDS FC - HISTORY

It has now been over 130 years since the first recorded appearance of a named South Shields Football Club.

A team from the town began playing friendly matches in 1888, and from those early times, the town club has been subject to much fortune and misfortune. The club, in all of its incarnations, has had many twists and turns, and is now more than five years into another exciting new era.

South Shields Athletic AFC was a member of the Northern Alliance League and enjoyed moderate success in its short career of five years before being disbanded in 1902 due to financial problems.

The name of Jack Inskip features prominently in the early annals of South Shields FC, and he is credited with the formation of a junior club in 1899 of local schoolboys from the Adelaide Street area of Laygate, that progressed beyond all measure to be ultimately elected into membership of the Football League in 1919.

This team was known as South Shields Adelaide Athletic, and after much success, it re-organised two years later as a limited company in 1910, and now changed its official title to that of South Shields Football Club and was victorious in the Durham Challenge Cup the following season.

Numerous records were made and smashed, plus two consecutive North Eastern League championship titles won, in which seasons only four games were lost.

The 1913-14 and 1914-15 campaigns turned out to be most remarkable for Shields as they were winners of six trophies, champions of the North Eastern League in the first season by a margin of 15 points, winners of the Durham Football Association Challenge Cup, the Ingham Infirmary Cup and retained the Black Cup (Tynemouth Infirmary Cup).

Shields were champions of the league for 1915-16, and in 1919, the years of effort behind the drive for the Football League came to fruition with its election to the Second Division, or the second league as it was then titled.

However, the impetus was not maintained, form suffered, and the club finished in sixth place, only 10 points behind champions Nottingham Forest. Indeed only seven more points would have seen Shields promoted as runners-up, and only the bitter pill of crushing disappointment was their reward. How very different club history could have been if promotion had been realised.

Famous players in this period included Warney Cresswell – the only player ever to gain a full international cap with Shields – and Alf Maitland.

Shields reached the FA Cup Fifth Round in 1925-26 and again in 1926-27, and the ground attendance record for Horsley Hill was achieved, 24,348, but the visitors Swansea Town denied Shields further progress.

The club sold its best players, though, and was relegated to the Third Division North before, facing impending bankruptcy, the only viable alternative from closure was to move, and this regrettable point was reached in 1930

SOUTH SHIELDS FC - HISTORY

Despite a final league table position of seventh, the club left the town and moved to Gateshead.

A new club was eventually established and won the 1938-39 North Eastern League championship and the Durham Challenge Cup.

In 1950, Shields moved to Simonside Hall and for a few years from the mid-1950s, it was widely acknowledged as one of the better non-league clubs in the country.

The development of Simonside Hall, backed by the endeavours of a supporters club with a recorded membership of over 13,000, produced positive dividends.

Shields played in five different leagues during the 1950s and 60s, and many will recall with great pleasure the appearance of the great Stanley Matthews in a game at Simonside Hall in 1966.

A major change in the national non-league set-up came in 1968 with the formation of the Northern Premier League, part of the new football pyramid, with South Shields invited as a founder member.

The club advanced to the FA Cup Third Round in 1970 and was drawn away to Queens Park Rangers. The final result of a 4-1 defeat also told a story of missed chances by Shields and numerous injuries sustained, against a side that included Terry Venables and Rodney Marsh. Also in 1974, the club reached the FA Trophy Semi-Final, but financial problems culminated in 1974 with the total loss of the club, the ground of Simonside Hill and all effects.

The club went to Gateshead for the second time in 44 years, re-emerged as Gateshead United and took the place of South Shields in the Northern Premier League, and the rest is history.

A new club, the South Shields Mariners FC, was born, and started with nothing.

Initial progress was quite remarkable and only the lack of a ground with adequate facilities to satisfy the required criteria of the Northern League for promotion prevented this being maintained.

After the winning of two consecutive Northern Alliance League championship titles, and an appearance in the FA Vase Quarter-Final, the club joined the Wearside League. Further success followed with the winning of the Durham Challenge Cup at Roker Park in 1977.

A ground to develop became a long-running issue and over the course of the next long 18 years, so the club remained a member of the Wearside League, seemingly unable to leave the council-owned Jack Clark Park.

In 1992, the redundant sports club and ground of Filtrona FC became available for purchase, and following protracted negotiations was bought by the club.

Gradual upgrading and development of Filtrona Park and promotion to the First Division of the Northern League was achieved in the years that followed.

The club won silverware in 2009-10 in the Northern League Cup and followed it up with victory in the JR Cleator Cup, but it faced a major challenge to stay at Filtrona Park after its former owner put it up for sale, and eventually Shields were forced to leave the ground in 2013.

They also suffered relegation to Northern League Division Two in 2012-13 and kicked off the following season 20 miles away from home, in Peterlee.

SOUTH SHIELDS FC - HISTORY

The club played home matches there for two years until new chairman Geoff Thompson bought Filtrona Park – which he renamed Mariners Park and has since become 1st Cloud Arena as part of a sponsorship deal – in the summer of 2015 to start a new era at the club.

In his first season at the helm, Shields won the Northern League Division Two title with 107 points, and in the off-season, Mr Thompson pressed ahead with his plans for the club.

Ground improvements – which began in his first summer at the club – continued, with three new stands erected and a new 3G facility installed adjacent to the main grass pitch.

Shields followed up that superb campaign with the most successful season in the club's history, winning the Northern League, Northern League Cup and Durham Challenge Cup before adding the icing to the cake by lifting the FA Vase at Wembley - the first national trophy in the Mariners' history.

The following season, a third consecutive league title and promotion was achieved as Shields won the Northern Premier League North Division, before they missed out on a fourth consecutive promotion with a defeat in the following season's Play-off Final.

The club switched to a hybrid model during the summer of 2019, with much of the first-team squad training on a full-time basis at the Harton and Westoe Miners' Welfare Ground. The Mariners were 12 points clear at the top of the NPL Premier Division when the 2019-20 season was curtailed, and declared null and void by The FA, as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

The 2020-21 campaign would go on to suffer the same fate but did provide a highlight for Shields, who reached the First Round of the FA Cup for the first time since reforming in 1974, beating National League side FC Halifax Town and National League North outfit Southport along the way before losing to eventual League Two title winners Cheltenham Town.

Although their progress on the pitch was thwarted by the pandemic, off it the Mariners continued to strive forwards.

As part of the club's bid to become increasingly community-owned, a share scheme was launched in October 2020 which went on to raise almost £380,000 as 1,000 people invested to become shareholders. Among them was Little Mix star Jade Thirlwall, who is proudly from South Shields and became the club's honorary president in August 2020.

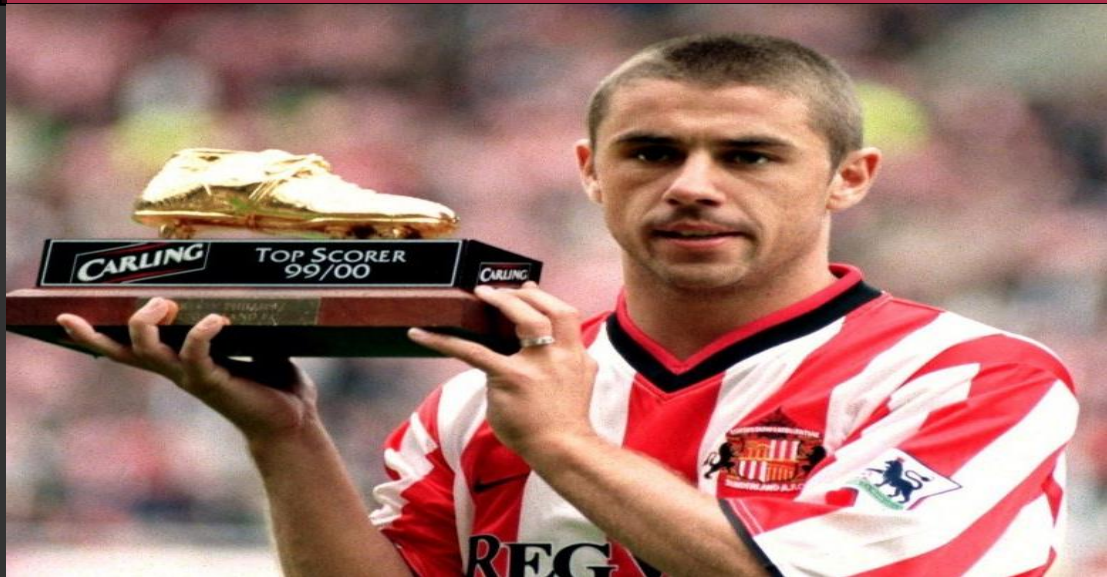
The club's progress continued in the summer of 2021 as work began on a transformative new main stand at 1st Cloud Arena which will seat more than 900 supporters and include executive boxes, a new club shop, a bar, boardroom and more. Further work at the ground included the introduction of new terraced areas behind each goal, the relaying of the surface around the pitch, extensive improvements to the pitch itself and the installation of a new pitchside perimeter fence.

The playing squad also completed its transition to a full-time training model in the summer of 2021 under the management of Graham Fenton, with Lee Picton – who presided over a period of success alongside Fenton as joint managers – having been promoted to the position of chief executive.

Fenton was replaced as manager by former Sunderland, Aston Villa and England striker Kevin Phillips in January 2022.

Phillips led the club to a second-placed finish before the Mariners were beaten on penalties in the Semi-Final of the play-offs. He will be aiming to go one better in 2022-23.

SOUTH SHIELDS FC - MANAGER



Today we welcome a true legend of English football to the Swansway Stadium, Kevin Phillips. The former European Golden Boot winner has taken the leap into football management, joining South Shields as first team manager in January of this year.

Phillips had an illustrious career as a player, scoring 246 goals in 580 professional appearances. Almost half of those goals came during his spell at Sunderland where he made 208 appearances alone, making him a true club legend.

Phillips went on to command over £5m in transfer fee's and played 8 games for England.

Whilst this is his first role as Manager, he has also held coaching positions at Leicester City, Derby County and Stoke City.

Photo credits: Planet Football,.com; worldfootball.net; southshieldsfc.com



SOUTH SHIELDS FC – SQUAD

Myles Boney	16/02/1998
Goalkeeper - In his fourth season with the club, Boney continues to grow in stature between the sticks. He initially joined on loan from hometown club Blackpool before the move was made permanent and he made South Shields his home. Commanding and confident.	
Callum Dobson	02/03/2004
Goalkeeper - Young goalkeeper who has made huge strides since progressing through the club's Academy. He will be hoping 2022-23 proves to be his breakthrough season as he serves as Boney's understudy and gains senior experience with Boldon CA.	
Blair Adams	08/09/1991
Left-Back - Club captain with a wealth of experience in the professional game from spells with the likes of Sunderland, Coventry City and Notts County. The left-back joined his hometown club in the summer of 2018 and is a dynamic presence on the pitch.	
Jack Bodenham	29/09/1999
Centre-Back - Welsh defender who was an almost ever-present in 2021-22. The centre-back was with Cardiff City from the age of 14 to 21 and captained the Bluebirds throughout the age levels. An important figure in both penalty boxes.	
Tom Broadbent	15/02/1992
Centre-Back - An imposing centre-back with significant experience at various levels of the game, he made 68 Football League experiences across popular spells with Bristol Rovers and Swindon Town. He also spent six years in the Army. A summer 2022 signing.	
Josh Doherty	15/03/1996
Left-Back Deadly crosser who can play at left-back, left midfield or in the centre of midfield, and joined Shields in summer 2022. The Watford Academy graduate had his best spell with Crawley Town between 2017 and 202, playing almost 100 times in League Two.	
Jordan Hunter	06/12/1999
Right-Back - After an eye-catching loan spell, the right-back signed for Shields permanently in 2020. Electric going forward and strong defensively, he was coached by his hero Steven Gerrard in Liverpool's Academy before a stint with Sunderland	
Gary Liddle	15/06/1986
Centre-Back Vastly experienced centre-back who put pen to paper in the summer of 2022 after opting not to extend his stay with Hartlepool United. The ball-playing defender has more than 700 senior appearances, most of which were in the Football League.	
Dillon Morse	12/09/1994
Centre-Back One of the longest-serving members of the squad, the cultured defender joined from Blyth Spartans in 2016. Morse provides a threat at both ends of the pitch and has been part of five trophy wins and two promotions with the Mariners.	

SOUTH SHIELDS FC – SQUAD

Robert Briggs

29/12/1991

Midfield - The longest-serving current Shields player with over 300 appearances to his name, Briggs is hugely experienced and remains a vital figure. He has been part of three promotion campaigns with the club and catches the eye with his technical qualities and accuracy from dead ball situations.

Mackenzie Heaney

02/01/1999

Midfield - Attacking midfielder who kicked off a summer of transfer activity in 2022 by becoming the club's first signing. He helped Buxton win the title last season and has previously played for York City, Whitby Town and Newcastle United.

Will Jenkins

24/02/2002

Midfield - SSFC Academy graduate who has progressed impressively since helping the young Mariners reach the Third Round of the FA Youth Cup in the 2019-20 season. Strong in the tackle and with an eye for goal, midfielder Jenkins has a bright future.

Will McGowan

31/08/2002

A diminutive attacking midfielder, McGowan was a real bright spark in 2021-22 and displayed many qualities, particularly an ability to arrive in the box late and score goals. He was previously part of Doncaster Rovers' set-up.

Dylan Mottley-Henry

02/08/1997

Midfield - Exciting wide midfielder or attacker with pace to burn. He was one of the club's summer 2022 arrivals after making the switch from Bradford Park Avenue. His other former clubs include Bradford City, Barnsley and Tranmere Rovers.

Callum Ross

15/09/1994

Midfield - A commanding and energetic presence in midfield, Ross signed for the Mariners in January 2020 and has developed at a rapid rate. He had spells in America with Oklahoma City Energy, Charlotte Independence and Wingate University.

Martin Smith

02/10/1995

Midfield - A former Sunderland, Kilmarnock, Salford City and Hartlepool United midfielder, Smith signed for Shields in the summer of 2022. An all-rounder in the middle, he also played at the highest level in Northern Ireland with Coleraine.

Michael Woods

Midfield - Midfielder who joined the Mariners fresh from helping York City to promotion in the summer of 2022. The former Leeds United and Chelsea Academy player has lots of experience and is perhaps best known for a spell with Hartlepool United.

Lewis Alessandra

08/02/1989

Striker - Another player with vast experience, Alessandra signed for Shields a week ahead of the 2022-23 season after his departure from Carlisle United. He made over 400 appearances in the Football League for clubs including Plymouth Argyle and Oldham Athletic.

SOUTH SHIELDS FC – SQUAD

Joao Gomes

30/10/2002

Striker - An exciting graduate of the club's Academy, Gomes is a tricky wide man or Number 10 who is ready for increased senior experience in 2022-23. He is another who shone in the run to the third round of the FA Youth Cup in 2019-20.

Sam Hodgson

17/10/2001

Striker - Striker who made his mark at first-team level in 2021-22 after progressing through the Academy. A deadly finisher, Hodgson is a firm fans' favourite who is strong, calm under pressure and possesses a huge drive to succeed at SSFC.

JJ Hooper –

09/10/1993

Striker - Former Barnet, Northampton Town, Wrexham and Port Vale frontman who has a huge pedigree in the game, particularly in the upper echelons of non-league. He signed for the Mariners in November 2021 and hit double figures that season.

Cedric Main

15/07/1997

Striker - A tricky and pacy wide attacker, Main signed for Shields in October 2021, shortly after leaving divisional rivals FC United of Manchester. He previously played for clubs including Dutch side FC Groningen and Spain's CF La Nucia.

Ntumba Massanka

30/11/1996

Striker - Strong striker who is capable of playing through the middle or as a wide forward. He was a summer 2021 arrival, having earlier had spells with clubs including Wrexham, Chorley, Morecambe and Italy's ASD Angelana.

Darius Osei

02/06/1996

Striker - Former Oldham Athletic and Stalybridge Celtic attacker who can play through the middle or advance from wide areas. His strength and pace are huge assets, but he also possesses a deadly finish and can cause problems for any defence.



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AUGUST FIXTURES



LEEK TOWN
PRE-SEASON FREINDLY
HARRISON PARK
SATURDAY 6TH AUGUST



LANCASTER CITY
NPL PREMIER DIVISION
GIANT AXE
SATURDAY 13TH AUGUST



WARRINGTON RYLANDS
NPL PREMIER DIVISION
SWANSWAY STADIUM
TUESDAY 16TH AUGUST



GUISELEY
NPL PREMIER DIVISION
SWANSWAY STADIUM
SATURDAY 20TH AUGUST



FC UNITED OF MANCHESTER
NPL PREMIER DIVISION
BROADHURST PARK
TUESDAY 23RD AUGUST



SOUTH SHIELDS
NPL PREMIER DIVISION
SWANSWAY STADIUM
SATURDAY 27TH AUGUST



WARRINGTON TOWN
NPL PREMIER DIVISION
CANTILEVER PARK
MONDAY 29TH AUGUST



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NANTWICH TOWN – PLAYER PROFILES

LOUIS GRAY

Goalkeeper

11 AUGUST 1995

Louis joined the Dabbers in the summer from Chester where he made 49 appearances in all competitions. He began his career before joining Everton in 2015 where he spent 3 years at the Premier League side before joining Carlisle United where he made his senior debut in 2019

OLLIE HAWKINS

Goalkeeper

(DUAL REG WITH STONE OLD ALLEINIANS)

28 JULY 2002

Ollie is a product of the Dabbers academy and he played a pivotal role in the clubs 2019/20 FA Youth Cup run where the got into first round proper. Since then Ollie has been on-loan to Crewe FC where he gained some valuable first team experience.

TROY BOURNE

Defender

13 JANUARY 1998

Troy is a graduate from the Dabbers' youth team, having impressed former manager Phil Parkinson in 2015/16 pre-season training. He spent much of the 16/17 campaign on a dual registration at Alsager Town but did make a couple of first-team appearances for the Dabbers. Troy is currently a regular at centre back position or at right back when required. He won the Manager's Player of the Season in 2017-18 and has excelled since Dave Cooke's has been manager.

JOEL STAIR

Defender

(CLUB CAPTAIN)

12 JUNE 1992

Joel joined the Dabbers in 2016 after impressing at North-West Counties Football League side Hanley Town. A warrior in defence, Joel is highly regarded at the Weaver Stadium, after winning the club's Player of the Season in 2017-18 and captaining the club on several occasions. Joel can play across the back four, with his main strength being at centre-half, but can also adequately fill in at right-back and can even offer a threat in the box from set-pieces, having netted several times from corners during his time at the Weaver Stadium. Joel is the current Club Captain

RITCHIE SUTTON

Defender

(PLAYER/ASSITANT MANAGER)

29 APRIL 1986

Ritchie joined the Dabbers in the summer as Player/Coach from Altrincham. Sutton has made over 430 professional appearances. He has also gained promotion from the National League twice with Tranmere Rovers and Mansfield Town. Ritchie has also played for Port Vale, Barrow and Morecambe.

JON MORAN

Defender

20 JUNE 1997

Jon first joined The Dabbers in 2015 and enjoyed a successful period with the club which eventually saw him sign for Forest Green Rovers in 2016. Since then, Jon has had spells at Weston Super-Mare, Chester and Stafford Rangers before re-joining the Dabbers in March 2022.

NANTWICH TOWN – PLAYER PROFILES

JACOB EDWARDS

Defender

29 AUGUST 2003

Young full back arrived in pre-season, after being released from Swansea City. Impressed during the pre-season friendlies and has managed to appear a few times during the season at both left back and right back. Jacob has also played a few games at Alsager Town on dual registration.

CASPAR HUGHES

Midfielder

09 JUNE 1993

Caspar re-joined the Dabbers from AFC Fylde at the start of the 2017-18 season, before being named captain in January 2018 after the departure of Sam Hall. While Caspar is an excellent ball-winner in midfield, and can also play at full-back. The midfielder was a highly rated prospect in the famed Crewe Alexandra youth academy before joining Nantwich, where he spent two solid seasons before moving on to Fylde. The midfielder helped Fylde gain promotion from both the Northern Premier League and the National League North and is regarded one of the better midfielders in the league.

SEAN COOKE

Midfielder

03 SEPTEMBER 1992

A productive attacking midfielder, Sean is the son of manager Dave and is a dynamic threat from his number ten role. A danger from set-pieces – especially free-kicks – Sean has a keen eye for goal and has proved that not only with Nantwich but at other clubs higher up the non-league pyramid. Sean, along with captain Caspar Hughes, was part of the AFC Fylde side that won promotion from the Northern Premier Division and has also played for FC United of Manchester. Cooke broke through into the Nantwich side at a young age and is the only player to start in all 3 Dabbers' FA Cup First Round appearances. He has also won the Northern Premier League's Young Player of the Season as well as making three Team of the Season appearances.

JOE ROBBINS

Midfielder

20 FEBRUARY 2002

Joe signed on a month's loan from Crewe Alexandra for Nantwich in time for the Boxing Day game at Stafford, a technically gifted midfielder who is excellent on the ball. Joe has made a couple of appearance for the first team and had a spell with Altrincham in the National League last season. Joe will be looking to impress and follow the likes of Ollie Finney, Will Jaaskelainen and Luke Offord in coming to Nantwich on loan and going into back into the first team at Crewe.

JACK SHERRATT

Midfielder

29 JULY 1993

Jack began his career at Kidsgrove before winning Samsung's "Win a Pro Contract" competition which saw him join Leyton Orient. Since then he played for Northwich Vics, Stafford Rangers and Hyde United, before joining The Dabbers in 2022

NANTWICH TOWN – PLAYER PROFILES

MATT BELL

Midfielder

03 JANUARY 1992

Matt began his career at Port Vale before joining Mansfield Town in 2011. Bell has since played for Stafford Rangers, and Leek Town before joining The Dabbers for his second stint in December 2021. Matt is also a former international having represented British Virgin Islands twice in 2018.

JOEL GRANT

Forward

26 AUGUST 1987

Joel began his career at Watford where he made 6 first team appearances in 2005. He then joined Aldershot in 2008 before moving to Crewe Alex where he made 96 appearances for the Railwaymen before leaving in 2011. Since then, he has played for Wycombe Wanderers, Plymouth Argyle & Swindon Town before joining The Dabbers in 2022. Joel has also made 14 appearances for Jamaica.

AJ LEITCH-SMITH

Forward

06 MARCH 1990

AJ began his career at Crewe Alexandra where he made 103 appearances before leaving in 2014 to go to Yeovil Town. He then joined Port Vale where he was their top scorer in the 2015/16 season. Since then he played for Shrewsbury Town, Dundee United & Morecambe before joining The Dabbers in 2022.

JOE MWASILE

Forward

07 JUNE 1993

A powerful winger with pace to match anyone in the league, Joe joined the club in 2016-17 originally after starting the campaign with Marine. He left at the end of the season to join fellow Cheshire outfit Warrington Town but re-joined the Dabbers in October 2017 after featuring in limited minutes for the Wire. Joe can not only beat his man for pace and strength but can put in a decent cross and has an eye for goal, having scored a few lovely efforts during his time with the club.

SHAUN MILLER

Forward

25 SEPTEMBER 1987

Miller started his career with Crewe Alexandra's youth system, and he signed a professional contract with the club in July 2006. He made his first-team debut in November 2006 in a 4-0 FA Cup loss to Bradford City at Valley Parade.

Shaun has recently been with Bolton Wanderers recently scoring his 100th career goal and achieved promotion with the Trotters last season. He signs for Nantwich Town with a vast amount of league experience and a scoring threat.

NANTWICH TOWN – PLAYER PROFILES

DAN COCKERLINE

Forward

15 NOVEMBER 1996

Dan is a signing from AFC Liverpool. At 6 foot 4 there will be few players that are taller than him in the game. Dan brings a big threat in the air, but is a solid footballer too. Dan has played at this level and higher before previously playing for the likes of Barrow, Southport and FC United of Manchester.

CONNOR HEATH

Forward

11 DECEMBER 2000

Connor signed in the summer of 2000 after being released from Crewe Alexandra, after impressing during his 2-year scholarship period with a number of goals he signed a professional contract in the summer of 2019. Connor impressed during the curtailed 2020-21 season period with a few goals and will be looking to kick on again with Nantwich this season.

SEAN LAWTON

Defender

(ON LOAN FROM CREWE ALEXANDRA)

12 SEPTEMBER 2003

Sean Lawton is a product of the Crewe Alexandra academy, he signed scholarship deal with them in 2020. He made his first team debut in March 2022 when he was a late substitute against Sunderland at the Stadium of Light. He signed a Pro contract with Crewe at the end of the 2021/22 season. He joined The Dabbers on loan at the start of the 2022/23 campaign.





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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PITCHING IN NPL RESULTS & FIXTURES

Tuesday 23rd August 2022

FC United of Manchester (0) 0 0 (0) Nantwich Town

Guiseley (2) 2 1 (0) Whitby Town

Hyde United (0) 2 0 (0) Belper Town

Lancaster City (0) 0 0 (0) Radcliffe

Liversedge (1) 1 4 (2) Morpeth Town

Marske United (0) 2 1 (1) Ashton United

Matlock Town (0) 1 1 (1) Stalybridge Celtic

South Shields (0) 1 1 (0) Gainsborough Trinity

Stafford Rangers (0) 2 1 (0) Marine

Warrington Rylands (0) 2 0 (0) Bamber Bridge

Warrington Town (1) 1 1 (0) Atherton Collieries

Saturday 27th August 2022

Ashton United v Warrington Town

Atherton Collieries v Matlock Town

Bamber Bridge v FC United of Manchester

Belper Town v Warrington Rylands

Gainsborough Trinity v Lancaster City

Marine v Marske United

Morpeth Town v Hyde United

Nantwich Town v South Shields

Radcliffe v Liversedge

Stalybridge Celtic v Guiseley

Whitby Town v Stafford Rangers

PITCHING IN NPL STANDINGS

Northern Premier League - Premier Division

		P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
	1 Marske United	4	3	1	0	11	6	+5	10
	2 Stafford Rangers	4	3	1	0	8	4	+4	10
	3 Guiseley	4	3	0	1	6	5	+1	9
	4 Hyde United	4	2	2	0	5	2	+3	8
	5 Warrington Town	4	2	2	0	5	2	+3	8
	6 FC United of Manchester	4	2	1	1	7	3	+4	7
	7 Ashton United	4	2	1	1	6	4	+2	7
	8 Gainsborough Trinity	4	1	3	0	5	2	+3	6
	9 South Shields	4	1	3	0	6	4	+2	6
	10 Morpeth Town	4	2	0	2	7	6	+1	6
	11 Marine	4	1	2	1	6	4	+2	5
	12 Radcliffe	4	1	2	1	4	5	-1	5
	13 Atherton Collieries	4	1	1	2	4	5	-1	4
	14 Matlock Town	4	1	1	2	2	4	-2	4
	15 Stalybridge Celtic	4	1	1	2	2	4	-2	4
	16 Liversedge	4	1	1	2	6	9	-3	4
	17 Warrington Rylands	4	1	1	2	5	8	-3	4
	18 Nantwich Town	4	0	3	1	3	4	-1	3
	19 Lancaster City	4	0	3	1	1	2	-1	3
	20 Bamber Bridge	4	0	2	2	6	10	-4	2
	21 Belper Town	4	0	1	3	3	10	-7	1
	22 Whitby Town	4	0	0	4	3	8	-5	0



NANTWICH TOWN

MANAGER

DAVE COOKE

1	Louis GRAY
2	Caspar HUGHES
3	Perry BIRCUMSHAW
4	Joel STAIR (C)
5	Troy BOURNE
6	Jack SHERRATT
7	AJ LEITCH-SMITH
8	Joe ROBBINS
9	Dan COCKERLINE
10	Sean COOKE
11	Joel GRANT
12	Jon MORAN
14	Alfonso CASTELLANO
15	Jacob EDWARDS
16	Joe MWASILE
17	Connor HEATH

SOUTH SHIELDS

MANAGER

KEVIN PHILLIPS

1	Myles BONEY
2	Josh DOHERTY
3	Blair ADAMS (C)
4	Gary LIDDLE
5	Dillon MORSE
6	Conor NEWTON
7	Dylan MOTTLEY-HENRY
8	Michael WOODS
9	Lewis ALESSANDRA
10	Martin SMITH
11	Joao GOMEZ-CARRINGTON
12	Mackenzie HEANEY
14	Robert BRIGGS
15	Will McGOWAN
16	Sam HODGSON
17	Jack BODENHAM

REFEREE: DANIEL BRUCE

ASSISTANT REFEREES: IAN MCGUINNESS, NIGEL FREELOVE