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FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the PSD Stadium at Ruskin Drive for today's match against Moore United, our first meeting of the season. Welcome to all making the short journey from Warrington, and fingers crossed for a good afternoon of football.

Last Saturday we won at Maine Road (Reserves), in south Manchester, and for the first time this season I travelled to an away game on public transport: half an hour on the train from St. Helens Junction, a quick scooch to Piccadilly Gardens, then 15 minutes on the No. 85 bus to Brantingham Road. It was easy and pleasant.

The public option isn't so straightforward for most away trips in our current division (derbies against Haydock and Newton-le-Willows aside), even though none of the clubs are very far away in the grand scheme of things. Though I'm keen to be kind to the environment, four hours, four buses and two hours isn't the kind of 4-4-2 I'm looking for at Sandbach away.

Football grounds are better next to train stations, as a general rule. Away visitors to our old home at Hoghton Road fared well in that regard, as it was probably the closest ground to the Liverpool-Manchester line – I well recall energetic clearances soaring over the fence and onto that historic piece of railway infrastructure, inspiring youngsters to clamber through a gap in pursuit. Had they not seen what happened to poor old 'Robbie', star of the public information film? A well-worn Mitre Multiplex isn't worth risking a double amputation for, even if it was last kicked by Andy Johnson or Tommy O'Neill.

The nineteenth century railway boom made regional then national leagues possible, and trains have been an integral part of the away day experience for many of us. I'm chuffed, therefore, to have a (very) minor role in helping plan the commemorations of the 200th anniversary of the Rainhill Trials and the opening

of the Liverpool-Manchester line in 2029/30. I hope that Town can play our part in the events, along with (no doubt) other clubs based along the line.

A lot can happen in the years before then, starting this afternoon. Even the most ambitious plans can only be achieved in instalments, in our case of 90 minutes at a time.

Come on the Town!

Ste Lingard



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A WORD WITH THE MANAGER

Myself and the club would like to welcome everyone from Moore United to Ruskin Drive this afternoon.

No matter what the score is, we hope you'll join us after the game for refreshments in The Wicket bar.

Firstly I'd like to speak about the Stretford Paddock game. What a performance! A game where we played like a complete team, best compliment I can give the lads is the scoreline didn't justify our performance.

After a win like that, there is always a chance of complacency setting in as we travelled to Maine Road Reserves, who were on the back of 3 wins on the bounce.

Yet again this group of lads showed another side to themselves. Completely controlling a game, and never getting out of 2nd gear. Yet again, the scoreline didn't reflect the performance, but their goalkeeper was player of the match, so that speaks for itself.

I wish both teams the best for their remaining games.

It's another tough test today in Moore United, who despite their league position have shown they are capable of beating anyone one their day, as results against the likes of Stretford Paddock earlier in the season proved. They have also played the least games in the league, with a cup semi final to look forward to as well.

On to ourselves. We head into the final stretch of the season with a real spring in our step, a fantastic bunch of lads showing true commitment - unbelievable numbers available each week.

Every single player, committee member, and supporter is pulling in the same direction. Things at Town are looking Blue and White!!!

Lastly, now that he's spoken, I want to say a massive thank you to Matt who has decided to step away from the club at the end of the season. I personally want to

thank him for all his efforts and commitment he has put in since he came into the club. As a manager, to have someone who runs the U23's but understands the importance of the first team is really difficult to do.

Matt has been fantastic at this, creating a great atmosphere in his squad and developing some great young lads.

Not only am I losing a great manager, but I'm also gonna miss him as a friend. But he knows I'm just at the end of the phone.

Let's enjoy the remaining games and good luck in whatever you do.

#tellinstown #mertz

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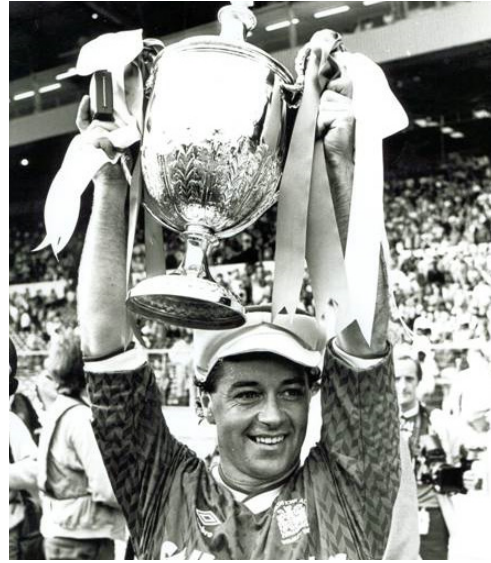
A BRIEF HISTORY OF TOWN

The original St. Helens Town club was formed in 1901 and played at Park Road, behind the Primrose Vaults public house. Although it was known as the Primrose Ground, the players changed further down Park Road at the Black Horse pub. Playing in the Lancashire League and Lancashire Combination, the team enjoyed some early success, but struggled after the Great War and appears to have folded midway through the 1928/29 season.

The club was re-formed by George Fryer and a group of local businessmen in 1946. They took out a lease of the former cricket ground at Hoghton Road, Sutton, adjacent to the St. Helens Junction railway station and, although it entered in the FA Cup in the 1946/47 season, a team could not be raised in time to fulfil its tie with Prescot Cables.

Friendly games were played, then local team Derbyshire Hill Rovers were taken over in April 1947, those players forming the nucleus of the team which entered the Liverpool County Combination at the start of the 1947/48 season. St. Helens Town soon began to prosper and early results included a sensational 10-4 win over Everton "A" on 6th December 1947. Former German prisoner-of-war Bert Trautmann joined the club in the Summer of 1948, the strapping goalkeeper helping the team to win its first trophy, the George Mahon Cup, which was secured with a 2-1 win over Runcorn at Prescot on 7th May 1949. Crowds averaged over 2000 that season, peaking with a league record attendance of 3012 against Burscough in October 1948.

The following season, 1949/50, Town entered the Lancashire Combination and, despite losing Trautmann to Manchester City in October 1949, they won the Second Division title in some style the



following season, three players, Albert Leadbetter (36), Harry McCann (32) and Terry Garner (31) all netting over 30 goals apiece. An all-time club record attendance of "between 8000 and 9000" witnessed a friendly game against Manchester City, arranged as part of the Trautmann transfer deal, in April 1950 and another 4000 witnessed a second match with City the following season.

Although relegated by a slender margin from the First Division in 1951/52, the club continued to look forward, even contemplating Football League status and, in order to further its ambitions, moved to the former St. Helens Recs. rugby league ground at City Road. Initial crowds were encouraging but, despite success, the club decided to move back to Hoghton Road in October 1953, where they remained until April 2000.

Town produced a number of fine players who joined Football League clubs, including Bill Foulkes (Manchester United), John Quinn (Sheffield Wednesday) and John Connelly who joined Burnley, later transferring to Manchester United and who played in the England 1966 World Cup winning squad. More recently, Dave Bamber scored goals in all four divisions of the league with a host of different clubs, starting and ending

his league career at Blackpool and in more recent times, Karl Ledsham, who had a productive career at conference level with Southport, Lincoln City, Barrow and Stockport County before moving to the USA.

Following a second relegation in 1956, St. Helens Town continued to play in the Lancashire Combination, winning the Championship in 1971/72, by nine points ahead of Accrington Stanley.

However, the formation of the Northern Premier League in 1968 led to a gradual drain of stronger clubs from the Combination and St. Helens joined the Cheshire League in 1975, becoming founder members of the North West Counties League seven years later. They held the proud record of being the only club



to play in the NW Counties' top flight every season until they were relegated in April 2015, conceding an injury-time equaliser to Silsden in the last game of the season, a match they had to win to stay up.

Town enjoyed a golden era in the late 1980s, just missing out on an appearance in the First Round proper of the FA Cup in 1985/86, losing to Morecambe in a Fourth Qualifying Round Replay, but they obtained ample compensation by winning the FA Vase at Wembley in 1987, beating near neighbours Warrington Town 3-2, with two goals from Phil Layhe and one from Brian Rigby.

They were regular promotion candidates for many years, largely due to the scoring exploits of Steve "Pellet" Pennington, who grabbed 216 goals in 351 games, his season's best hauls of 45 in 1993/94 and 46 in 1997/98 just failing to beat the club record of 47 scored by Phil Stainton in 1963/64. Former club captain Andy Gillespie won the NW Counties' golden boot with 34 goals in the 2015/16 season and netted another 24 times the following season.

Town moved from Hoghton Road in 2000 to ground share with St. Helens RFC, as part of the merger into the new Sporting Club St. Helens. Developing the new Saints stadium took years longer than anticipated, and when Knowsley Road closed in 2010 Town became nomads, plaig variously at Ashton Town, Ashton Athletic, Prescot Cables and Atherton Collieries. Town returned to St. Helens Borough in August 2017, playing on a 3G surface at Ruskin Drive, after St. Helens Council redeveloped the facilities.

The 2021-22 season saw Town in the NW CFL First Division North. It was a disastrous campaign, with only four wins and four draws from 36 league games. The club finished bottom of the table, 21 points adrift, and was relegated to the Liverpool County Premier League.

A consortium of Town fans bought the club from St. Helens RFC in Summer 2022. They took the decision to move it to the Cheshire League, believing it offered the most constructive environment in which to rebuild the club. It was a difficult decision, however, as it involved having to start at the bottom of that league system, a further two divisions down. The 2023/24 season was the first in the Cheshire League.

The rebuild is ongoing.

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TIME flies when you're having fun and that's certainly the case here at The NLP.

On Wednesday, March 26 we celebrated our 25th anniversary since the paper hit the newsstands.

In the years since, we've been lucky enough to have a front row seat to the heartbeat of English football.

We've seen an increased profile of this level of the game, a jump in professionalism, more than one restructure of the Pyramid and written about countless teams, players, managers, clubs, grounds – and results!

Stuart Pearce implored top clubs to unearth Non-League treasures on the front cover of The NLP's first ever edition – and what good advice it has proved!

The England legend famously took that path himself, beginning at Wealdstone before going onto have a decorated career at the very top of the English game.

Pearce joined the Essex Senior League's Non-League Day groundhop last weekend to see the impact of the Premier League's Stadium Fund, which has distributed more than £207 million in grants to over 1,000 men's and women's clubs throughout the English Football League, National League and football pyramid.

The fund, like The NLP, is celebrating its 25th anniversary and Pearce smiled when looking back at issue one of The Non-League Paper.

"It's incredible – and 25 years later Dan Burn walks out in an England shirt," Pearce told The NLP. "That's a great point in case. A lot of players get released from academies and it can diminish their spirit but it shouldn't necessarily do that.

"In fact – and I got released from QPR as a 13-year-old – it should

inspire you to prove people wrong.

"I think all of football was delighted to see Dan Burn arrive in an England shirt. For what he's doing for his club, a hometown boy if you like, and his pathway, it sends a great message out to youngsters that you don't have to be a superstar to start with. If you're determined, dogged, then you've got every opportunity."

Kevin Ellison was on target the weekend The Non-League Paper was launched... and he's still doing the business for Step 4 Vauxhall Motors now at the age of 46!

The then-winger was on target for the Robins in a 1-1 draw with Kettering Town, one of the final points they picked up that season.

Ellison excelled, earning a move to Premier League Leicester City a year later, but a late slump saw Alty relegated after a season back in the Nationwide Conference.

"I'd have rather not had a good season and we stayed up," Ellison told The NLP.

"Getting back into the English pyramid was a big thing for me then, I'd been playing in the League of Wales.

"Altrincham gave me that great opportunity to go pro. I owe them a lot. You dream of it as a little boy.

"It didn't happen for me when I was younger because clubs were telling me I wasn't good enough, then five or six years ago they were bidding for me when they could have had me for free!"

Ellison recalls how keeping track of his career was a bit different at the turn of the century.

"I used to get the Manchester Pink and the Liverpool Echo, my regional North West papers," he said. "My mum used to cut out write-ups on me.

"It was probably harder then for your ability to get recognised.

"Look at how many lads are uploading YouTube clips now? We didn't have that then, but that's not a negative.

"I'm fortunate to have played in old school football and the fast paced tempo game now.

"People will say the game was a bit slower then but it felt like it was more 'proper' football.

"Has the game changed for the better? Who knows.

"You should never forget your roots, even when I was in League Two I was still picking up my copy of The Non-League Paper."

Thanks Kev and to everyone else who has supported us through the years. Here's to the next 25 years!

Matt Badcock
Editor at large
The Non-League Paper



Stuart Pearce in his Wealdstone days

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Town in the Town

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CULTURE VULTURE

ST HELENS COMMUNITY CUP RETURNS FOR ITS SECOND YEAR

The St Helens Community Cup is back for its second year. The 7-a-side football tournament will take place on Thursday, 24 April 2025, at the PSD Stadium, Ruskin Sports Village, St Helens. The competition will feature 8 teams, each representing local organisations that play a key role in supporting the community. Teams representing Hope United, Change Grow Live, Come Together Hub, Café Laziz, Enjoy Football, Liverpool Homeless League, OK To Ask and Town in the Town.

The event isn't just about football – it will also provide a fantastic opportunity for voluntary organisations, community groups, and local businesses to come together, network, and showcase the incredible work they do. This year the focus is on Ok To Ask, a local suicide prevention campaign which encourages everyone in St Helens to NOT be afraid to talk about suicide prevention.

If your organisation would like to have a stall at the St Helens Community Cup, please email towninthetown@gmail.com to register your interest.

I know the lads from Hope United are excited for the tournament, and it's sure to be a fantastic event full of football fun and community inclusivity. Remember, together we are stronger. As Chuck D once said, "Don't believe the hype."

Our community arm, 'Town in the Town,' has been busier than ever. Gill and I were invited by The Coalfields Regeneration Trust to speak at the Lancashire leg of their 25th-anniversary celebrations for the coalfields.

We stood in front of other member organisations of the CRT to discuss all things Town and TiT's. Yes, we pointed out our acronym, which got a few laughs. After enjoying some free butties and brews, we both grabbed as many free promotional pens as our hands could snatch, jumped back into the TiT's Mobile (my Dacia Stepway), and headed back down the East Lincs.

As always, stay cultured and C'mon The Town!

Mike Bagshaw

Culture Vulture



The Famous Four, Hope United coaches and players celebrate after beating a side of 7 by 1-0



Me and Gill at the CRT 25 anniversary at Spinners Mill, Leigh

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ALEX PETTERSEN

Age: 26

Position: Right Back, but anywhere where I'll get a game or needed. Like the James Milner of Town, where there's a gap I'll plug it.

Who do you support? The greatest and most successful English club, Liverpool. Up the reds!

Where you from? Thatto Heath. St Helens.

What clubs did you play for as a kid? I played for Haydock, St Helens Town, and Rainford Rangers as a kid.

Best player of all time? Andres Iniesta, that man could find space in a single bed with Gemma Collins.

Best goal ever? There are too many to choose from, that Suarez Goal against Newcastle in 2012, or any of his goals vs Norwich hahaha. I'm a Liverpool fan and can't stand them Manes, but that Van Persie volley against Aston Villa, some strike that was.

Best kit ever? Liverpool Away Black and Silver 2002/3.

Favourite other sport? I do enjoy playing a bit of darts at the moment, but I have always enjoyed Badminton it's a quality sport.

Any pre-match ritual or superstitions? I'll have a bowl of Coca Pops, followed by Scrambled eggs on toast with a brew and orange juice. I will then have an Oaty Bar with Pepperami and a couple of yogurts and a banana. I always make sure to put some Gorilla Glue on my boots as well so that they don't fall apart.

Which famous player do you compare your playing style to? Cafu, because I'm the ginger Cafu. No one wanted to grow up and be a Gary Neville did they.

Best moment in a Town shirt so far? This season being top of the league and unbeaten and long may that continue and we will lift that trophy at the end of the season.

One best thing about Tellins? I do enjoy Ice Bar, but probably Carr Mill Dam lovely bit of Water. Mr Pizza on Thatto Heath road isn't too bad either for a Kebab, and I love the recycling centre gives me a buzz when I throw my rubbish away.

What are you watching (or best TV show or film of all time)?

Currently watching Severance, but not a Scooby Doo what's going on in it at the moment. Favourite film probably Four Lions, it's a classic. Rubber Dingy rapids bro.

What are you listening to or fave song / album ever? I am currently listening to Favourite by Fontaines DC quality song, do love singing Uncle Kracker Follow Me in Ice Bar though on a Saturday. Best album is The Stone Roses by The Stone Rose with Elephant Stone being my favourite from that one.

Biggest moaner? Quite a few moaners to be honest, but probably Cookie biggest one though. He'd argue with his own shadow that kid, and he loves a moan during a Rondo too.

Who's the cleverest? Scott Williams, always abroad working so must be doing something right. Danny Hughes close second, got a good head on him he has.

Who is the "least cleverest"? I would probably say Gibbo, he is always asking what colour kit we are in when we are playing at home.

Town's Record Holder? Scott Williams for the most high fives in a season, the lad is always itching to give someone a high five. He also does not care if we lose as long as he gets that Man of the Match award at the end of the game.

Worst haircut? Sorry Dale mate, but one gust of wind away from a nightmare.

St Helen's Town Goal of the Season So far? I am torn between Dale's

freekick against Newton Athletic or Chris Foster's against Haydock. I'll let them both bicker over that. Can't forget that goal from Foz against Sanbach, lovely clearance.

Missed Silter of the Season? Definitely Cookie's miss against Streford Paddock, but watching the video footage from Semi Final against Clay Brow he did well to have had a shot then blocks it on the

line. Shooting and blocking your own shot, no one else can say they've done that before. Either way he loves to miss a sitter that lad, couldn't buy a goal.

Who would you least like to be stuck in a lift with? Dale now after that previous comment about his hair, probably fill me in. Probably Max though, that lad always needs a poo, I will need a bottle of Febreeze.

Who would you prefer to be stranded on a desert island with? Kenny Dixon, the guy is a master of all trades. There would never be a dull moment with him, top man he is!

Who you would you go on a dinner date with? Chris Foster, he's a top lad and would probably pay for the whole bill.

Who's the lightest with money? Probably myself, like Houdini when it comes to my round. Gotta keep an eye on this fine committee though, they run a tight ship like the SS these guys.

Laziest? Don't think anyone is lazy to be fair, think everyone has put a solid shift in throughout the season to get us to where we are now. I love all the lads, and I cannot wait to lift that trophy unbeaten at the end of the season (*Large fine incoming - Ed*).



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TOWN IN ACTION

Town 2 - 1 Stretford Paddock - March 15th

Photos by Mary Castrogiovanni



Ryan Cook



Charlie Middlemore



Charlie Simpson



Marc Gibson

Town returned to league action in front of 151 fans at PSD Vehicle Rentals Stadium against fellow promotion chasers Stretford Paddock. Paddock had inflicted Town's first loss of the season in a 4-0 cup quarter final defeat a little over a month ago and Paul Pier's men knew they would need to be at their best ahead of kick off in this top of the table clash.

The game was just three minutes old when Town striker Ryan Cook rounded the Paddock keeper but could not finish. Chances would be at a premium and Town would be undone on 35 minutes when Paddock's number 11 Damani Hall slalomed past three Town defenders and shifted the ball to his left before firing past Lewis Jenkinson in the Town goal. The reaction of the Paddock bench and travelling fans highlighted how important this game may turn out to be in this season's promotion chase.

But that man Ryan Cook would help haul Town back into the game on the stroke of half time. After chasing down a seemingly lost cause, Cook and a Paddock defender went for the same ball with Cook appearing to get the last touch as the ball was

poked past excellent Paddock keeper Florian Salceanu.

As the second half started Charlie Leech was starting to cause Paddock problems with his pace but was denied by Salceanu as Town pushed for a second goal. It was not all one way traffic though and Jenkinson would be called upon more than once showing a continuation of the great form he has been in this season.

On 66 minutes though the second half deadlock was broken when a Leech corner was met by Jake Sant. The young towering centre backs glancing header beat Salceanu and Town were ahead. There would be further nervous moments but Town's midfield trio of Filson, Gibson and Middlemore were excellent throughout as Town took the three points in an important 2-1 win.

It was Charlie Middlemore who was named St. Helens Borough Food Pantry player of the match but all three were in the running along with Town right back Alex Pettersen.

MaineRoad Reserves 0 - 1 Town - March 22nd



Maine Road keeper Sami Bennossaid denies another attack



Elliot Morris



Charlie Simpson



Charlie Leech

Town visited Maine Road FC's iconic Brantingham Road ground that is usually high on the list of groundhopper guides knowing that this could be a potential banana skin of a fixture against a team who had won their last three games.

Town were nearly ahead inside five minutes, although the calm goalkeeping of Maine Road's Sami Bennossaid would deny Charlie Simpson. Simpson's work rate was a theme of the opening quarter and Town's other winger Charlie Leech would also go close before the Marksmen would open their account with what many amongst the travelling support of over 40 Town fans would agree was the best team goal scored by Town this season.

In the 24th minute Simpson's cross field ball to Max Buckley Benbow saw the left back advance into the opposition half and

play a fantastic through ball to find Marc Gibson in an inside right position. Gibson was able to square the ball to Liam Diggle who calmly finished for an excellent combination goal.

Town were one up and dominating the game. But frustratingly the scoring would end there and the game remained in the balance. The second half was in truth much more even but Town were always in control. Maine Road's major threat would come from the excellent Mo Sarr who was lively throughout but the Town back four did a sterling job and Jenkinson in the Town goal was rarely threatened.

Town's number 10, Marc Gibson was named the St. Helens Borough Food Pantry player of the match and he seemed to cover every blade of grass on an afternoon that finished with a one nil win and kept Town in pursuit of a first league title since 1972.

TOWN BACK IN TIME

Key facts about the first St Helens Town Team

Formed: June 1901 - Dissolved: 1915

Played at the Primrose Ground on Park Road

Charman: Peter Phythian

Played in the Lancashire League.

Original colours: Blue and white halves, then changed to red and white halves.

Famous players: Bob Kelly who played for Burnley, Sunderland, Huddersfield, Preston and Carlisle, and was also an England international.



This old article, reprinted below, shows a match set up to raise funds for the local hospital. There was a massive crowd of 2,500 at Town's Primrose Ground, where they took on local rivals Earlestown. In the Town Team on the day was Hoy in Goal, Wainwright and Stirrup fullbacks, half backs were Leigh, Brown, McGuffie, Walker and Roberts. Forwards, Green, Limond & Houghton.

The match played at a fast pace, despite the heavy pitch finished 2-1 to the Townites.

The article shows how St Helens Town were massive advocates of charity events and helping the local community, a tradition that proudly is being continued today.

Michael O'Connor



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BEAT THE YICKER

Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. Which Premiership clubs training ground is Bodymoor Heath?
2. Who are the current leaders of Cymru League North?
3. Newcastle United signed Alexander Isak from which Spanish club?
4. Which Scottish club play home games at Cappielow Park?
5. Today's opponents previously played at which well known Warrington venue?
6. Which striker was the first to score more than 20 goals in 5 consecutive Premier League seasons?
7. Which former London stadium had a pub on all 4 corners?
8. Who is the oldest player to play in the Premiership? Clue : he was a goalkeeper.
9. Lokomotiv Plovdiv are from which European country?
10. Mousehole FC are from which English county?



ST. HELENS TOWN v EARLESTOWN.

HOSPITAL CHARITY MATCH

Some time ago a St. Helens District Charity Competition was arranged on League lines between the St. Helens Town, Earlestown, Prescot and Haydock clubs, under which a percentage of the gate receipts of each match were to be devoted towards the funds of local hospitals and charitable institutions. Unfortunately, however, through various causes it has been found impossible for the whole of the clubs to arrange suitable fixtures up to the present. This has mainly arisen through the postponement of Lancashire League matches, but the St. Helens Town AFC., who were the original movers in the scheme, arranged a hospital's charity match against their rivals and neighbours, Earlestown, which was played on Primrose Ground on Saturday last. Considerable interest was manifested in the meeting inasmuch as Earlestown on Saturday were joint-leaders with Darwen of the Lancashire League, and also on account of the keen rivalry which exists between the teams. Prior to Saturday the teams had met on three occasions, of which the Town had won two matches and Earlestown the remaining one. Unfortunately on Saturday there was a steady downfall of rain, mingled with snow, and matters were none too comfortable for players and spectators alike. In spite of this, however, there was a fairly good attendance, about 2,500 spectators lining the rails. The following players represented their respective sides:-

ST. HELENS Tows.-Hoy, goal: Wainwright and Stirrup, full-backs: Green, Limond and Houghton, half-backs; Leigh, Brown, McGuffie, Walker and Roberts, forwards.

EARLESTOWN.-Grime, goal: T. Leigh and Cottam, full-backs; Pennington, Whitehouse and Clibborn, half-backs: Bartley, Barlow, Dawson, Leach and Settle, forwards.

McGuffie started play on behalf of the Town, but the visitors at once became aggressive. Green, however, soon made his presence felt and nipping in at the right moment, caused matters to be carried to the other end, where Brown and, McGuffie took up the movement. A beautifully combined effort by the Town front rank was now witnessed, which resulted in Grime having a somewhat dangerous shot to clear. Leach and Settle advanced down the left wing and the ball was transferred to the opposite wing to Bartley, who shot high over the bar. The home forwards were again to the fore and J. Leigh was in a splendid position for opening the scoring, when he was smartly checked by Cottam. Roberts from the other wing shot hard for goal, but missed by inches. The home team kept up the pressure and J. Leigh put the ball through just as Brown was penalised for handling.

Despite the heavy state of the ground play continued to be very fast, and Brown was prominent on the Town side. Dawson then raced away to the other end with one of his characteristic runs and sent over to Bartley, who was about

to shoot, when Houghton came up and cleverly ran the ball out of danger. Green and Limond, by smart strategic movements, put Earlestown on the defensive, but nothing of a tangible character came of their efforts. Barlow on the one end and Limond at the other each had shots at goal, and after Earlestown had paid a visit to the Town end, Brown and Leigh commenced a passing movement which gained considerable ground, but resulted in no score, as McGuffie's shot was cleverly cleared by Grime. The home team now got into their stride, and although Earlestown had the best of the argument at the commencement they by no means held any advantage now.

Brown and Leigh worked hard, but the latter was shooting up to form, and the Earlestown men set up a sturdy defence. Dawson made repeated efforts to break through, but although he was displaying some very tricky tactics, he was well watched by Houghton and Wainwright, who were in great form. The game was keenly contested, and every inch of ground was stubbornly fought for. Settle tested Hoy with a swift ground shot which the custodian capably got rid of. The St. Helens forwards then came away in fine style and McGuffie passed over to Roberts who shot straight for goal, but Grime fisted away. Shots were now sent in in rapid succession, but Grime was equal to all emergencies and cleared all that came in his way. At the other end Settle put another low shot in, but Hoy, too, was not to be easily beaten, and when the interval arrived there had been no score. When the game was resumed after the usual breather it was at

once evident that the pace of the first half had told its tale on the Earlestown players, as for the greater portion of this half they were acting on the defensive. A number of shots were sent in by Brown and McGuffie, but Grime prevented them from scoring. Roberts also had a good opening, but Grime again cleared. Several corners fell to the Town, but although the Earlestown defence was severely taxed the ball could not be driven through the allotted space. By a quick run down Bartley got beyond the half-way line, but Stirrup pulled him up and sent the ball back again. Brown passed out to Leigh who drove straight for goal, but Grime cleared.

Brown was going through nicely when he was badly fouled, and from the ensuing free kick the ball was sent across the goal mouth to Walker, who was waiting nicely for the opportunity, and Grime had no earthly chance to stop his shot from entering the net. Five minutes later Walker was rushing through when Leigh deliberately tripped him within the twelve yards line, a penalty kick being awarded. McGuffie, who took the shot, put the ball through, but the kick had to be repeated for over-stepping the mark. He, however, safely put the ball in the net on the second attempt. The game became a little rough, and was less interesting to witness, but just before the call of time Bartley centred the ball and Leach rushed up and bungled Hoy into the net. The end came with the result:-

ST. HELENS TOWN.....2 Goals. EARLESTOWN 1 Goal



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CLUB INFO

Honorary Life President: Alan Wellens

Vice Presidents: Jim Barrett, Steve Ball and John McKiernan

Chair: Ste Lingard

Vice-Chair: Neil Hitchen

Vice-Chair: Gavin Scott

Secretary: Paul Styles

Treasurer: Ste Lingard

Commercial Manager: Gavin Scott

Media Manager: Michael Bagshaw

Committee

Michael Bagshaw, Steve Ball, Daniel Castrogiovanni, Kenny Dixon, Gill Ellison, Michael Featherstone, Neil Hitchen, Annmarie Houghton, Ste Lingard, David O'Keefe, Gavin Scott, Paul Styles.

Management Staff

1st Team Manager: Paul 'Peo' Piert

Assistant Manager: Martin Seddon

1st Team Coach: Danny Hughes

U23s Manager: Matt Birchall

U23s Assistant Manager: Joe Bone

U18s Manager: Carlos Rodrigues

U18s Assistant Manager: Dave Pallett

U18s Secretary: Fiona Sharrock

Platinum Club Sponsor: CBS - Critical Business Solutions

Gold Club Sponsor: MCR Building Solutions

Silver Club Sponsor: AE Holland Memorials

Bronze Club Sponsor: Revive Cleaning

Player of The Match Sponsor: St Helens Borough

Mobile Pantry

Player of The Month Sponsor: The Griffin Inn

Legal

St Helens Town Limited

Private Limited Company

Company No. 04392840

Date of Incorporation 12.03.2002

Ground

PSD Stadium, Ruskin Drive, Denton's

Green, St Helens WA10 6RP

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ST HELENS TOWN HONOURS

- 1949 George Mahon Trophy Winners
- 1951 Lancashire Comb Division 2 Champions
- 1972 Lancashire Combination Champions
- 1973 Bass Charrington Cup Winners
- 1974 Watson Trophy Winners
- 1978 St Helens Hospital Cup Winners
- 1979 St Helens Combination Div 1 Runners Up
- 1979 St Helens Hospital Cup Runners Up
- 1980 St Helens Combination Div 1 Champions
- 1985 NWCFL Reserve Division 2 Runners Up
- 1986 NWCFL Reserve Division 1 Runners Up
- 1987 FA Vase Winners (Wembley)
- 1994 League Challenge Cup Finalists
- 1994 NWCFL Reserve Division Runners Up
- 1995 NWCFL Reserve Division Champions
- 1996 NWCFL Reserve Division Runners Up
- 1998 Floodlit Trophy Finalists
- 1999 REALCO Fair Play Award Winners
- 2009 Bert Trautmann Trophy Winners
- 2014-15 South Lancs League U17s Cup Finalists
- 2014-15 Cheshire FA U21 League Champions
- 2015-16 Cheshire FA U21 Premier Cup Finalists
- 2016-17 Cheshire FA U21 League Cup Finalists
- 2016-17 Cheshire FA U21 Premier Div Runners Up
- 2017-18 NWYA U18s President's Cup Winners
- 2020-21 NWYA U18s President's Cup Winners

Record Attendances:

- 9000 at Prescott Cables v Runcorn (1949)
- 8000 at Houghton Road v Man City (1950)
- 3012 at Houghton Road v Burscough (1948)
- 2096 at Langtree Park v Wigan Town (2023)
- 1723 at Knowsley Road v FC United of Man (2006)

Programme Awards:

- NWCFL Programme of the Year
1993-94, 1995-96, 1997-98, 1998-99,
1999-00, 2000-01
- NWCFL Premier Division
2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15
- NWCFL First Division / First Division North
2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20
- Wirral Programme Club National Survey
NWCFL Programme of the Year
1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99
- Programme Monthly
NWCFL Programme of the Year 2007-08
- Soccer Club Swap Shop
National Programme Awards
2010-11 28th, 2011-12 8th,
2012-13 7th, 2013-14 8th,
2014-15 5th, 2015-16 8th,
2016-17 2nd, 2017-18 5th,
2018-19 6th, 2019-20 5th
- M60 Programmes
NWCFL Division One North
Programme of the Year 2019-20

St Helens Town AFC - Player Records 1946-2021

Goals in a Career	Goals in a Season	Career Appearances (250+ games)
216 Steve Pennington	47 Phil Stainton 1963/64	448 Alan Wellens (inc. 207 estimated)
118 Terry Garner	46 Steve Pennington 1997/98	359 John Critchley (16 estimated)
108 Gary Laird	45 Jackie Kendrick 1973/74	352 Steve Pennington
105 Lee Cooper	45 Steve Pennington 1993/94	346 Gary Lowe (1 estimated)
101 Glenn Walker	40 Bob Potter 1952/53	345 Glenn Walker
94 Iain Dyson	38 Terry Fearn 2000/01	327 Jackie Atherton (122 estimated)
84 Andy Gillespie	36 Albert Leadbetter 1950/51	300 Jackie Cooke (1 estimated)
83 Harry McCann	35 Arthur Tyrer 1957/58	287 Gary Laird
81 Ray Fairweather	34 Lee Cooper 2001/02	280 Kevin Grice (147 estimated)
72 Arthur Tyrer	34 Andy Gillespie 2015/16	278 Jimmy Woodyer (67 estimated)
68 Phil Stainton	33 Ronnie Rigby 1952/53	276 Iain Dyson
63 Mervyn Bull	32 Harry McCann 1950/51	272 Ray Fairweather (3 estimated)
63 Liam Diggle	31 Terry Garner 1950/51	265 Larry Redmond (134 estimated)

