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vs. Stalybridge Celtic | NPL West | 29.10.2024 | 7:45PM



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UP THE BEARS

KEN MEAD | CLUB SECRETARY



A very warm welcome is extended to everyone at the Cleric Stadium today and particularly to the players, officials and supporters of Stalybridge Celtic who have made the trip for this evening's Pitching In Northern Premier League Division One West match.

Our mixed season continued over the past week. After the trauma of the 5-2 away defeat at Witton Albion, the Bears returned to winning ways in the league with a 2-1 win here against Avro. Kieran Knapper opened the scoring for the Bears and after a first half equaliser, Danny Needham produced the winner. Our adventures in the Isuzu FA Trophy came to an end at Halesowen Town last Saturday. After an interesting and close first half where the Bears traded attacks and both goalkeepers shone, three goals in 6 early second half minutes pretty much ended the contest. Even though Darren Chadwick pulled one back, a last minute penalty gave a somewhat flattering 4-1 look to the scoreline. Despite that, the Bears won 4 matches in the competition, including a fine 1-0 win here against Premier Division side Hyde United before losing to the Southern League Central Premier Division side. That means the last cup competition for the Bears this season will be the Cheshire Senior Cup where we are drawn away at Crewe Alexandra with the date not yet fixed.

Going in to tonight's match, Stalybridge Celtic have worked their way into 4th in the table. They have had a mixed set of results too showing what many believe, that in this league any side can beat another on the day and league table position and current form often counts for little. Just look at 2nd bottom placed Atherton Collieries and much fancied Hednesford Town meeting last Saturday, result a 2-1 away win for the Colls. We play both those sides in the next 2 matches. Stalybridge have a good home record winning their last two 1-0 against Avro and 1-0 against a strong looking Clitheroe side. Added to that a 2-2 draw at Wythenshawe last Saturday shows how they have recently shown improved form.

Continued....

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UP THE BEARS



KEN MEAD | CLUB SECRETARY

Our league position may look more precarious, but we must consider that of the 12 league games played, 7 have been away and of the top 12 sides in the division, we have played 10 of them. We last met Stalybridge Celtic in season 2022/23 in the Cheshire Senior Cup 3rd Round and Ethan Hartshorn's goal proved the winner. That season we went on to beat Crewe Alexandra in the semi final before lifting the trophy at Altrincham 4-2 on penalties. It was the same season that Stalybridge Celtic lost their Northern Premier League Premier Division status, and they now set about challenging for a return under the management of newly appointed Jon Macken who replaced James Kinsey. Until recently, Jon Macken was manager at Witton Albion. So, it can be safely assumed that the players will be wanting to impress their new manager, and a tough encounter can be expected tonight.

Looking forward to upcoming games on Saturday 2nd November ko 3pm, we travel to Atherton Collieries. We then play at home in a week's time on Tuesday 5th November against Hednesford Town ko 7.45pm. Then its away at Mossley on Saturday 9th November ko 3pm and we return to the Cleric Stadium on Saturday 16th November ko 3pm when Newcastle Town are the visitors.

We hope everyone here enjoys the match and importantly, stays safe and has a safe journey home.

Ken



MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: BILAL MOOSA

ASSISTANT REFEREES:
THOMAS KENNEDY
ASHTON WROE

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TO PLAY**



THE BEARS

GOALKEEPERS:

David Parton
Travis Ziglam
Ayrton Best

DEFENDERS:

Callum Lovatt
Darren Chadwick
Joshua Hall
Joshua Ryder
Marco Fregapane
Owen Morris
Richard Duffy

MIDFIELDERS:

Callum Stringer
Daniel Needham
Dorian Jedrzejczyk
Ethan Hartshorn
George Sankey
Kieran Garner-Knapper
Peter Williams
Thomas Allen
William Arnold

STRIKERS:

Brian Barton
Max McCarthy
Thomas Hampton
Lewis Porter



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PREMIER
LEAGUE



STALYBRIDGE CELTIC

History

Stalybridge Celtic's history has been the subject of many debates for the greater part of the century. Although an outfit calling itself 'Celtic' appears in the archives for 1906, this side seemingly only played friendlies on a ground at North-End. This seed of a club was probably the basis for the club we know today, which was formed in 1909 by Herber Rhodes, a local business man and philanthropist.

Mr Rhodes spent a chunk of his fortune on developing Bower Fold. He also played for the team and designed the strip (basing it on the colours used by his racehorses).

Celtic played for two seasons in the Lancashire & Cheshire Amateur League, before turning professional and joining the Lancashire Combination become second division champions at the first attempt. Due to some local bureaucracy, Celtic's ambition to join the Football League meant that they had to join the Southern League, and travel by train to every away match. Fortunately, finishing runners up (to Stoke) meant promotion.

There followed a short pause most people know as the First World War. In the aftermath (1920-21 to be exact) Celtic rejoined the Central League. At the end of the 1921 season, Celtic became one of the founder members of the Third Division (North).

Our first game in the third division was against Chesterfield, a home game that we won 6-0. However, winning this league was to prove too difficult, finishing 7th and 11th in the first two years. Lacking the support of local people, the funds were not available to press for a third campaign, forcing Celtic to voluntarily resign from the football league. Celtic rejoined the Cheshire County League (replacing the reserve squad) and stayed there for sixty years until the formation of the Bass NW Counties League. Peter Wragg took the helm and steered Celtic to Championship victory in 1980, eventually winning the Bass NW Championship in 1984 and 1987, and runners up in the NPL First division. During this time of league progress, there was a lot of work at Bower Fold, culminating in the ground gaining League grading.

Phil Wilson took over the reins in 1989 when relegation threatened, eventually finishing second in the NPL. He followed this escaping act with promotion into the Conference in 1992. Our first season was a success, finishing 12th, but it was followed by disaster and relegation loomed again. Peter Wragg returned and saved the sinking ship by winning 9 of the last 12 games. Peter Wragg resigned at the start of the 1996/97 season, replaced by Brian Kettle, but it was not enough, and Celtic were relegated in 1998 back to the NPL after finishing bottom.

It was troubling times for the club, and there was a succession of managers including Stirling and Keelan before Phil Wilson came back. Phil Wilson was to prove an inspirational manager. Firstly in 1999 he brought us the League Cup, then, in 2001, we won the Cheshire Senior Cup (something we'd not won for nearly 50 years). Demolishing a strong Stockport County team 5-1 at Ewen Fields. In the same season, we went on to beat Blyth Spartans in the President's Cup, before going on to win the league title after an impressive victory against closest rivals Emley at their ground.



STALYBRIDGE CELTIC

History

The title was won away at local side Droylsden thanks to an injury time Stuart Locke penalty. We finished up with over 100 points and scored nearly 100 goals. The foray into the Conference was short lived though. Phil Wilson joined Southport, taking several of the squad with him, and the assistant coach. With scant time before the start of the new season, Paul Futcher took over the reigns. With a series of disastrous runs, Celtic replaced Paul with Dave Miller. He almost, but not quite, kept us in the Conference before sensationally sacking nearly the entire team. Miller won the President's Cup at the first attempt, and we finished 4th in the NPL.

During this time, a new stand was built, upping the seated capacity to over 1200. With the formation of the Conference North in 2004/05, Celtic had to finish 2003/04 in 13th or higher - we only just did it. A sensational win at champions Hucknall Town saw us finish 13th. Our first season in the Conference North was almost our last, and with half the season gone, Miller was sacked and replaced by John Reed. John pulled off the great escape, clawing back an 18 point deficit to finish a place above the relegation zone, following it up by missing out on the play offs on the last day of the 2005/06 season. A poor couple of seasons saw John Reed replaced with Steve Burr, who took Celtic to the play off final at his first attempt in the 2007/08 season, losing by one goal to Barrow. Steve Burr's second season saw him come within a whisker of the play offs, and after a storming start to his third season in charge, he left to join Kidderminster in the Conference National, and was replaced first by Benny Phillips and then by Jim Harvey. With the finances at Celtic unable to allow them to compete with the top finances sides in the division, Celtic took the brave option of going full time with a youth set up to allow them to compete in a different way. After a good first season, finishing 6th just outside the play offs, Harvey's second full season was less successful, finishing midtable. A bad start to season 13/14 saw Harvey replaced by former player Keith Briggs.

Keith continued the full time experiment, but resigned in December 2015 with Celtic looking doomed to relegation. Liam Watson came in and oversaw a turn around in Celtic's form that saw them safe on the last day of the season with a thrilling 4-4 draw with Gainsborough Trinity. 2016 was to prove a disasterous season, Liam Watson was replaced by co-managers Steve Halford and Paul Phillips, but Celtic looked certain relegation candidates, so the club replaced them with Steve Burr who was unable to save Celtic from relegation, sending one of the last remaining founders of the Conference North into the Northern Premier League. 2017 was also a poor season, with Celtic finishing in the bottom four, though due to a league restructuring, with only one going down, Celtic remained in the division for the 2018 season. Simon Haworth came in after another poor season, in his first full season, Celtic finished in the bottom five, but then the season after Covid hit, curtailing both that season and the next. When football finally came home, Celtic finished bottom three and Chris Wilcock stepped into the manager hotseat ahead of the 2022/23 season.

Celtic were demoted in 2023 into the Northern Premier League First Division West. To halt the slide, Rob Gorski sold the club to Nigel Jones who brought in James Kinsey. A lot of teams suffered a double demotion in the Northwen Premier League, but James Kinsey kept Celtic mid-table whilst off the field the ground got a make-over, reclaiming the old Greys Nightclub building, creating three support bars, with a fourth planned.

Celtic have made numerous appearances in the FA cup beyond the qualifying stages, starting in 1922, when we forced a replay from West Brom, at West Brom. Since then, there have been 12 other appearances. We have even been to the second round twice: 1993, when Carlisle beat us 3-1 at Brunton Park, and again in 1999, when Chester got the rub of the referee and beat us 2-1 at home.

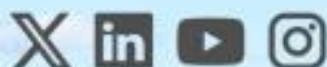
Our best FA Trophy performance was in 2001, when we lost to Stevenage Borough.



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STALYBRIDGE CELTIC

The Squad

Prince Anuniru

Position: Midfielder | Joined: Mar 2024 | Last App: 9th Oct 2024

Jordan Boon

Jordan began his career at Bolton Wanderers, he made his professional debut in August 2019 in an EFL Cup game vs Rochdale, making his league debut just four days later against Tranmere Rovers. Jordan has had two spells with Atherton Collieries and played for Wythenshawe Town. He has also featured for IFK Ostersund in Sweden, Banyu City in Australia.

Kyle Brownhill

Position: Defender | Joined: 27th May 2024 | Last App: 26th Oct 2024

Matty Bryan

Matty joins after scoring 56 goals over the last two seasons with both Wythenshawe Town and Cheadle Town. Known to both James Kinsey and Dan Whiteside, Matty has been with Wythenshawe Town since 2019 and has scored 67 goals in 98 games for the club. A short stint at Cheadle Town saw the forward score seven goals in 10 games. Matty is from Tameside and would often watch Celtic from the terraces when he was younger.

Jordan Burton

Jordan is a winger who joins the Celtic squad after spending three years at Wythenshawe Town where he was James Kinsey's player of the year in the 2021-22 season. In his first appearance for Wythenshawe, he scored a wonder goal against Irlam that went viral on Social Media.

Jordan Butterworth

Former Manchester United academy player, Jordan, joins Celtic from Bury, following in his father's footsteps, Gary Butterworth, who played 148 games for Stalybridge Celtic. Jordan spent the last three seasons with Mossley where he excelled and earned a move to Bamber Bridge.

Aaron Chalmers

Aaron came through the ranks at Oldham Athletic, making it through to the first team to make two appearances. After unsuccessful stints at Macclesfield Town and Hibernian, he came back down the leagues to play for Mossley in 2010, going onto make 44 appearances (and scoring once).





ANDYSMANCLUB



#ITSOKAYTOTALK

WHAT IS ANDYSMANCLUB?

ANDYSMANCLUB is a free peer-to-peer group that provides a place for men to come together in a safe and open environment to talk about the issues or problems that they have faced or are currently facing.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The process is about bringing men together who have been in similar situations, to help each other on a peer to peer basis, sharing how they have dealt with various situations through lived experiences. No matter how big or small your problem feels, we are here to support each other. The 5 questions that are asked each week are designed not only to encourage men to talk, but to start to focus on the positives and on strategies to keep moving forward. There is no pressure to answer any of the questions and it is not uncommon for men to just listen for the first few sessions.

The clubs all run on the same format and adhere to the same guidelines. A key principle of ANDYSMANCLUB is anything that is said in the club, stays within the club.

WHO IS IT FOR?

The club is open to any man 18 or over, who is going through a storm, been through a storm or just wants to meet a good group of people with the aim of improving one another.

WHEN IS IT?

ANDYSMANCLUBs meet every Monday at 7pm (excluding Bank Holiday Mondays).


WHERE IS IT?


ANDYSMANCLUB has over 100 locations across the UK. Check our website below for a full list.


HOW DO I JOIN?


Just turn up on the night. No registration or referral is required, all we ask is that you arrive before 7pm. The full list of our locations available on our website.

CONTACT US

 @andysmanclub

 @andysmanclubuk

 info@andysmanclub.co.uk

 @andysmanclubuk

 andysmanclub.co.uk

 andysmanclub

STALYBRIDGE CELTIC

The Squad

Joe Duckworth

Position: Striker | Joined: 6th Sep 2024 | Last App: 26th Oct 2024

Tommy Duffy

Tommy has progressed through Celtic's Academy to sign first team forms for the 2024/25 season. Having gained a full season's experience at Maine Road, Tommy joined Droylsden on dual registration in July 2024.

Jack Irlam

Jack joins Celtic after making 113 appearances for 1874 Northwich, becoming a key part of their squad. Last season he scored six goals and has started this season with two goals in six games. Jack has featured at Bower Fold already this season, in the Clubs 0-0 draw with his former side.

Milan Lalkovic

Milan is a Slovakian attacking midfielder that can play both out wide or centrally. Milan has gained vast experience throughout his career. From starting off in the youth academy at Chelsea, he has played for clubs including Walsall, Barnsley and Portsmouth whilst featuring abroad for teams such as ADO Den Haag, Vitoria Guimaraes and Banik Ostrava and Sigma Olomouc in the Czech Republic.

Ash Leather

Ash joins Stalybridge Celtic in August 2024 from Alsager Town, where he'd started the 2024/25 season on fire, scoring four goals in six games and picking up four player of the match awards. Ash has previously featured for Wythenshawe Town and Winsford United, having starred against Celtic in 2023 in a Cheshire Senior Cup tie.

Max Leonard

Max started his career at Huddersfield Town before spells in non-league with Frickley Athletic, Glossop North End, Curzon Ashton, Telford United, Mossley and Wythenshawe Town.

Moses Masaba

Position: Midfielder | Joined: 9th Jul 2024 | Last App: 12th Oct 2024



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STALYBRIDGE CELTIC

The Squad

Kamoy McNair

Position: Striker | Joined: 26th Sep 2024 | Last App: 26th Oct 2024 (On loan from Salford)

Isaac Modi

Position: Midfielder | Joined: 25th Oct 2024 | Last App: 26th Oct 2024

Charlie Monks

Position: Goalkeeper | Joined: 16th Jul 2024 | Last App: 26th Oct 2024

Navid Nasseri

Position: Midfielder || Joined: 4th Oct 2024 | Last App: 26th Oct 2024

Luke Partington

Position: Defender | Joined: 4th Oct 2024 | Last App: 26th Oct 2024 (On loan from Radcliffe)

Javid Swaby-Neavin

Position: Defender | Joined: 12th Jul 2024 | Last App: 26th Oct 2024

Danny Taberner

Danny joins from Macclesfield and brings a wealth of experience. He kept the most clean sheets in the 2022-23 NPL West season whilst at Runcorn Linnets as they reached the play-off final and picked up a hat-trick of awards being named Manager's Player, Young Supporters' Player and Players' Player of the season.

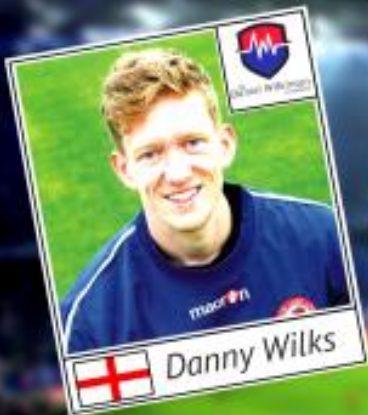
Jack Tinning

Jack arrived at Celtic from Bury FC, where he was a key figure at Gigg Lane, having made 47 appearances for the club since October 2022, with 10 of those coming this season.

Liam Tongue

Liam re-joined Celtic in May 2024 after leaving Guiseley, where he stepped into the role of caretaker manager, after being club captain. Spells with Stockport Georgians, Cheadle Town and Mossley saw Liam first join Celtic in 2017.





The
Daniel Wilkinson
Foundation

*Providing Screening and Defibrillators to
prevent Sudden Cardiac Death in the young*



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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 thedanielwilkinsonfoundation.org

To donate: mydonate.bt.com/charities/thedanielwilkinsonfoundation

STALYBRIDGE CELTIC

The Squad

Sean Tse

Hong Kong international defender Sean Tse joins Celtic from Radcliffe where he helped them secure the Northern Premier League title last season. Salford born Sean made eight appearances for Hong Kong in 2022. He started his career at Manchester City academy where he won academy player of the month in November 2009. After graduating the academy, he joined Hong Kong first division side South China in 2012 where he made 57 appearances and scored five goals in a five year spell there, before having spells at Tai Po, R&F and Kitchee before returning to England in 2023 to join Hyde United.

Freddie Walker

Freddie is an 18-year-old full-back and has featured prominently during pre-season. He is well known to James Kinsey from their time working together at Stockport County. After making his signing official, Freddie told us: "I'm delighted to sign for such a big Club and really looking forward to the season ahead." James Kinsey added: "Freddie is somebody who I have worked closely with over these last 12 months on a daily basis. Technically, he is one of the best players we have in our group. He is still young though and there are areas of his game that we'll work on. He's keen to learn and has really impressed in pre-season. He needs minutes and will probably go on a dual-reg, whilst topping up minutes with our U21's but he gives us a different type of option at full-back and he will play his part for us this season."

Greg Wilkinson

Greg started out at East Manchester, but came to Celtic at the start of the 2008 season aged just 19. He made his debut coming on as a substitute in a 4-0 win over Moor Green. In December 2013, after a good start to the season, he joined Cheshire neighbours, Altrincham, where he spent two seasons and scored the goal that put them in the Vanarama National League. He had a spell at Stockport on loan in 2015 and has also featured for FC United of Manchester and Telford. Greg returned to Celtic at the start of the 17/18 season. After two more seasons, in which he brought his total up to 237, he left again, but joins up with James Kinsey at the start of the 23/24 season as player/coach.





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CLUB INFORMATION

Club Officials

Chairman:	Charles Porter
Senior Football:	Chris Rowley
Secretary:	Ken Mead
Media:	Adam Gosling

First Team

Manager:	Richard Duffy
Asst Manager:	Anthony Griffith
Club Physio:	Abi Blythe

Reserve Team

Manager:	Martin Cornes
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Under 18's

Manager:	Paul Heler
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Groundsman:	Paul Minshall
Clubhouse:	Rebecca Young
Photographer:	Elliot Treanor
Kit Provider:	Fused Sport

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