



CTFC OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

VS HEDNESFORD TOWN | NPL WEST | 05/11/2024 | 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 Hednesford Town who have made the trip for this evening's Pitching In Northern Premier League Division One West match.

Hednesford come here tonight after a dramatic adventure in the Emirates FA Cup last Saturday losing in the First Round Proper at home to Gainsborough Trinity on penalties. They will have mixed feelings one would expect. Against the excitement of reaching an important landmark, they will feel some anxiety at having let a 3-0 lead in the second half slip to 3-3 after 90 minutes. Going ahead again in extra time would have reignited dreams of being in the draw for the Second Round Proper only to see Gainsborough level again at 4-4. Even the penalty shoot-out was a close-run thing with Hednesford eventually bowing out 5-4. They must take great heart from their achievement even if their parting ways with their manager less than 48 hours before the tie was a surprise to those on the outside.

Moving on, Hednesford are viewed by many as favourites to gain promotion this season after some good investment in the club. As they turn their attention to the NPL First Division West, we will find them a tough prospect tonight. They suffered a shock 2-1 defeat at home to Atherton Collieries in their last league game so now we will find out their response to the events of the last 10 days. Will they be fired up determined to put together a series of performances that will push them up the table, or will we find a side dismayed by recent events. We will know at the final whistle tonight.

Continued....

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UP THE BEARS



KEN MEAD | CLUB SECRETARY

From our perspective, the Bears have shown some good reaction to a period of disappointing performances in the league. Sandwiching the defeat against Halesowen Town in the Isuzu FA Trophy, the lads have won the last 3 league games in differing ways. The 2-1 home win against Avro was welcome after Kieran Knapper gave us an early lead and Danny Needham on 57 minutes, put us back in front after Avro scored a first half equaliser. A week ago, Stalybridge dominated the first half and led 1-0 at half time. After the break, the Bears were dominant and McCarthy, Williams and Porter all scored to leave us 3-1 deserved winners. Pete Williams goal was not necessarily something special, but his goal celebration certainly was. Finally, the Bears had to show all their resilience last Saturday at Atherton Collieries as the score swung one way then the next. We trailed 1-0, led 2-1, trailed 3-2 with 3 minutes left and came away with all 3 points after equalising and George Sankey's stoppage time winner saw the Bears 4-3 victors.

Our league position has improved significantly as we have moved up to 7th after those 3 consecutive wins. Hednesford currently lie in 15th but have enough games in hand to get into the top four. As we well know about this division, any team can beat another on the day. Anything we want to get from today's encounter will have to be earned.

Looking forward to upcoming games on Saturday 9th November ko 3pm, we are away to Mossley (Seel Park, Market Street, Mossley, OL5 0ES). 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: MARK BATES
ASSISTANT REFEREES:
DANIEL O'BRIEN
OLIVER MORETON

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**GREAT PLACES
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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HEDNESFORD TOWN



History

Hednesford Town FC: A Concise History

Early Formation and Grounds Hednesford Town FC, formed in 1880 through the amalgamation of Red and Whites (also known as West Hill) and Hill Top, played initially at 'The Tins' before moving to 'The Cross Keys' in 1904. In the 1994/95 season, the club transitioned to the purpose-built 'Keys Park' stadium, which boasts a 6039 capacity and a Football Association Grade B ground grading certificate.

Turning Point in 1990 The club's fortunes changed in January 1990 when former goalkeeper John Baldwin was appointed manager, steering the team clear of relegation from the Beazer Homes Midland Division. The following season, they finished third and secured promotion to the Premier Division in 1991/92, also becoming the first English team to play at the Welsh National Stadium, losing the Welsh Cup final to Cardiff City.

Climbing the Ranks After a strong debut in the Premier Division and subsequent seasons, the Pitmen won the Beazer Homes League Premier Division in 1994/95, earning promotion to the GM Vauxhall Conference. The 1996/97 season was particularly memorable as the team reached the FA Cup fourth round, facing Middlesbrough.

Cup Success and Challenges In the late 90s, Hednesford Town continued their FA Cup success, notably beating Hull City and Barnet in successive seasons. However, league performance fluctuated, and by 2000, the team faced relegation. Despite winning the FA Trophy in 2004 under Barry Powell, the club experienced managerial instability and further relegations.

FA Trophy Triumph The pinnacle of Hednesford Town's cup success came in the 2003/04 season when they triumphed in the FA Trophy. The Pitmen defeated Canvey Island 3-2 in a thrilling final at Villa Park. This victory remains one of the most celebrated moments in the club's history, highlighting their capability to compete and win on the national stage.



HEDNESFORD TOWN



History

Recent History (2010-2023)

- 2010-2015: Appointed in 2010, Rob Smith and Larry Chambers turned the team around, finishing 2nd in the Southern League Premier Division, winning the Southern League Cup, and narrowly missing promotion in the 2010/11 play-offs. The 2012/13 season saw them finish second in the league and secure promotion to the Conference via the play-offs, complemented by winning both the Birmingham and Staffordshire Senior Cups. In 2013/14, they reached the play-offs again and the FA Cup First Round. They ended the 2014/15 season in 8th place in the Conference North.
- 2015-16: Managerial changes led to relegation. Bernard McNally replaced Rob Smith and Larry Chambers, only to be succeeded by Frank Sinclair. Despite efforts, the team was relegated.
- 2016-17: Liam McDonald was appointed but left for Solihull Moors FC. Paul Casey and Gary Birch followed but did not stabilize the club. Neil Tooth was appointed but soon left, leading to the return of Rob Smith and Larry Chambers, who improved results temporarily but finished 16th.
- 2017-18: Mixed results with Smith and Chambers, ending in 16th place.
- 2018-19: Nicky Eaden was appointed, succeeded by Gary Hayward, who left mid-season. The season was disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2020: New ownership under Graham Jones and Hayden Dando. Andy Morrell was appointed manager but was replaced by Keenen Meakin-Richards and Graham Deakin due to poor results.
- 2021-23: Continued managerial changes, with Danny Glover taking over as player-manager but unable to avoid relegation. Hayden Dando returned as Chairman, with Glover and Dan Crane rebuilding the team.
- 2023-24: After struggling, new management appointments included Harry Harris and Steve Hinks, and later Paul Moore.

New Ownership and Management In 2024, Craig and Amanda Gwilt became the new owners, saving the club in the process, appointing Steve King as manager, signaling a new era for the club.



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HEDNESFORD TOWN



The Squad

Junior Lewis – Assistant Manager

Junior Lewis had a fantastic playing career starting at Fulham and then appearing in the Premier League with Leicester City. Junior amassed over 400 appearances throughout the EFL and non-League before moving into coaching roles. He had a short spell at Leeds United and has also been first team coach at Barnet and Dagenham and Redbridge as well as a spell with Steve King at Gloucester City.

Matthew Barnes-Homer – Player/Coach

MBH is an experienced striker who started his career with Wolverhampton Wanderers and has played for a number of top clubs including Kidderminster Harriers, Macclesfield, Luton Town and Forest Green Rovers. He has also played for England C team

Matt has now teamed up with Steve King on the coaching staff after playing for him at Havant and Waterlooville.

Liam Stonely – Goalkeeper Coach

Liam has recently joined the club with extensive experience with Chester FC as first team GK coach and then with Salford City FC as Head of Academy GK. Liam also has experience coaching in the women's game as Head of Goalkeeping with Stoke City Women.

Adam Paget – Sports Therapist

Adam joined the Pitmen as Sports Therapist after a 3 year spell at AFC Telford United, he has previously also worked with AFC Wulfrunians, AFC Bridgnorth and Bilston Town.

Adam works in the private health sector as a neuro therapist specialising in brain and spinal injury rehabilitation and also runs his own sports rehabilitation clinic AP25 SPORTS THERAPY.

Dan Brayson – Sports Therapist

Dan joined the medical team in July 2024, he holds a Sports and Exercise Science BSc and a Sports Therapy MSc. He has previously worked with Boldmere St Michaels FC women and Stourbridge FC.



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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

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 @andysmanclubuk

 info@andysmanclub.co.uk

 @andysmanclubuk

 andysmanclub.co.uk

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HEDNESFORD TOWN



The Squad

Jack Rose - Goalkeeper

Experienced shot-stopper joined the club on a long loan from Sutton United just before the start of the 2024-25 season. Jack started his career at West Bromwich Albion rising through the ranks before making an FA Cup debut for Accrington Stanley in the FA Cup against Notts County. He made a move to Crawley Town before being snapped up by Southampton.

A 3 year spell with League 2 Walsall followed before joining Sutton United where he has been since 2022.

Ryan Brown - Goalkeeper

Ryan joined the Pitmen in February from Kidsgrove Athletic FC after a successful loan spell earlier in the season. The 22 year old stopper, began his career with Port Vale in the Academy before joining Kidsgrove making 19 appearances in his first season in senior football 3 years ago. He signed a 3 year contract with Kidsgrove and with a brief loan spell at Eccleshall has plenty of Step 4 experience already. Known as a tall, athletic goalkeeper with a good command of his box, he will be a great asset for the club.

Blaine Rowe - Defender

An excellent young prospect who has recently joined the Pitmen from Darlington FC. Blaine is a speedy attacking right full back who progressed through Coventry City's academy. He has also had experience in Scotland with Ayr United and Falkirk.

Joel Taylor - Defender

Joel joined the club in late May 2024 from Chester FC. An exciting attacking left back, Joel started his career with Stoke City FC before moving to Kidderminster Harriers. He also has Chesterfield, Notts County and Wealdstone FC on his excellent football CV.

Kory Roberts - Defender

A classy central defender, Kory started his career with Walsall FC and recently signed for the Pitmen after a spell at Rushall Olympic. Kory also played for a number of teams in the South of England, Bromley, Dartford and Hemel Hempstead.

Elliott Johnson - Defender

Elliott joined the club in the close season from Dagenham and Redbridge FC. This hugely talented left sided defender played 235 games for Barnet FC, many of these in League 2 of the EFL before moving to Dagenham and Redbridge where he was a key player for 4 seasons. Has taken on the captain role at Keys Park



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HEDNESFORD TOWN



The Squad

Ollie Harrison – Defender

Ollie is a towering central defender that joined the Pitmen from Leek Town in October 2024 for an undisclosed fee. The powerful defender graduated from Crewe Alexandra Academy and has been at Leek for a few seasons, being nominated for the NPL West Team of the Year for the last 3 seasons. Ollie will be a great acquisition for the club.

Josh Endall – Defender

Josh rejoined the club from Bedworth United in November 2023, 6ft 5" Josh is a physically strong, left footed defender, who is very experienced with spells at Coventry City, Solihull Moors, Stafford Rangers and Stratford Town, as well as here at Keys Park.

Omar Holness – Midfielder

A dynamic midfielder, who joined the Pitmen from FF Jaro in Finland. Omar is a full Jamaica international who played for 5 years in the USA including for Real Salt Lake City in the MLS and has also had successful spells in England with Darlington, Bath City and Gloucester City.

Simeon Maye – Midfielder

Simeon has returned to Keys Park after an 8 year absence, where he played for Solihull Moors, Hereford, Braackley Town, Leamington, Banbury and Rushall Olympic. A phenomenal engine and competitive nature make Simeon a much sought after player and we are delighted that he has returned to Keys Park.

Sion Spence – Midfielder

Another excellent midfielder, Sion came through the Cardiff City academy before joining Crystal Palace in 2020. In the 2021-22 season he went on loan to Joey Barton's Bristol Rovers where he played a part in their promotion to EFL League 1. Sion then joined Gloucester City where he played under current manager Steve King.

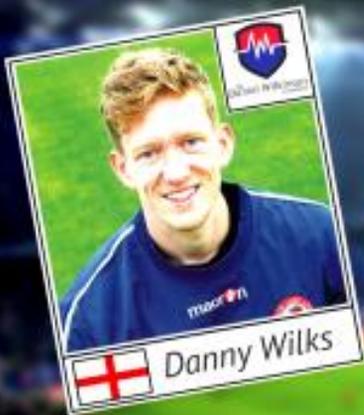
Dan Sparkes - Midfielder

Dan is a cultured and experienced left side midfielder with a great pedigree of over 366 appearances in the National League with Braintree Town, Torquay United, Dagenham and Redbridge and Barnet. A midfielder with a good goal tally of 41 goals at that level, Dan also scored a spectacular FA Cup equaliser for Braintree against Brentford in the FA Cup.

Jack Bearne – Midfielder

Jack joined the club from Greenock Morton in Scotland in late July. An exciting attacking midfielder who started his career at Notts County before then getting a dream move to Liverpool FC. He was given a first team debut there in the EFL League Cup against Aston Villa before then going on a season long loan to Kidderminster Harriers. Jack then made the move north of the border to Greenock Morton FC but has returned to England where he has joined Steve King's Keys Park revolution





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

HEDNESFORD TOWN



The Squad

Abdulrasaq Alamu-Tajudeen – Midfielder

Raz is a speedy and tricky winger, comfortable on either side of the pitch. He started his career in Ireland as part of the Shelbourne Academy before making the move across to England where he joined Chippenham Town. He then went on to play for Bromsgrove Sporting before signing for Steve King's Pitmen for the forthcoming season.

Daniel Trickett-Smith – Midfielder

Steve King moved promptly to sign one of the standout players of the NPL West Division last season, bringing in Daniel Trickett-Smith from Leek Town after being prominent in their League winning season. Dan started his career with Crewe Alexandra before making a £300,000 move to Liverpool FC.

Injuries hampered his progress and he then went to play in USA for Sacramento Republic, before returning to play for Leek Town, Port Vale and then a second spell at Leek Town. A very talented and influential attacking midfielder with an eye for a goal.

Jacob Gwilt- Midfielder

Jacob is a versatile player who has appeared in midfield, out wide and also at left back, Jacob has played for Rio Grande in America where they were ranked 4th in the country. Jacob was most recently at AFC Wulfrunians before joining the Pitmen in the 2023-24 season.

Dom McHale – Midfielder/Forward

Dom was Steve King's first official signing of the summer. The highly skilled attacker started his career in the Manchester City youth set up playing alongside players such as Devante Cole, Tosin Adarabioyo and Marcos Lopes before moving to Barnsley who were then in League 1 of the football Pyramid. Dominic spent time in Cyprus playing for Achyronas Liopetriou before returning to England where he gained further high-level experience playing for teams such as FC United, Oldham, Salford City and AFC Telford Utd where he was a regular starter before moving to Gloucester City being signed by our new Manager Steve King.

Dom was also voted as one of the top players in the Conference North for the year 2023 by Supporters and Peers.

Jake Jervis – Midfielder/Forward

Jake started his career with Birmingham City and enjoyed successful loan spells with Hereford, Notts County and Swindon Town. Following a short spell at Ross County, Jake signed for Plymouth Argyle where he made 108 appearances and scored 27 times. Jake has gone on to play in Turkey, Finland and India before starting this season at Brackley Town FC.



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HEDNESFORD TOWN



The Squad

Manny Duku – Forward

Manny, 31, started his career in The Netherlands before making the move to England where he enjoyed successful spells at Banbury and Kings Lynn however it was at Hayes and Yeading where he really made his name, scoring 33 goals in 39 games earning himself a move to League 2 side Cheltenham Town. During his time at Cheltenham he had successful loan moves to Barnet (where he played with Elliott Johnson and Dan Sparkes) and also Halifax before moving North of the border to Raith Rovers and subsequently Inverness Caledonian Thistle. The powerful forward then made the move back across the border to Havant and Waterlooville where he scored 7 goals in 18 games before earning a move to York City in the National League.

After a short spell in Gibraltar, Manny signed for Maidstone Utd where he was a pivotal figure in their famous FA Cup run and victory at Ipswich Town before finishing the season at Wealdstone Utd.

Rob Stevenson – Forward

This summer the club were delighted to announce the signing of prolific forward and newly crowned NPL West Division Player Of The Season, Fans' Player Of The Season and Golden Boot winner Rob Stevenson from Leek Town. 21 goals in the league (26 in all competitions) gave our new striker the Golden Boot award in Blackpool during the end of the season awards, where he also picked up the prestigious double award of Fans' Player of the Season and League Player Of The Season: a spectacular achievement from our new striker.

Zidan Sutherland – Forward

In July the Pitmen completed the signing of exciting Centre forward Zidan Sutherland from Redditch Utd. The 22 year old striker joins the Pitmen after fishing the season with Redditch having left Dover Athletic of the National League South where he finished the season as their top goalscorer. The forward previously helped Lye Town to promotion in the 2022/23 season.



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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

Under 18's

Manager: Paul Heler

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

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