

# The QUAKER

The Match Day Programme  
of **Darlington Football Club**

£2.50



**DARLINGTON V BRACKLEY**

Saturday 18th March 2017 | Kick off 3.00pm | Blackwell Meadows



Vanarama National League North



# Feethams

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FROM THE  
*dugout*

*Hello, everyone.*

I was very pleased with the points and our performance at Stalybridge last Saturday. Various things have been very good in our play in previous weeks and one or two hadn't been so good, but last Saturday everything came together and I thought we were well deserving of the three points. I only wish that we had taken more of our chances in the first half and made life a little bit easier for ourselves, because one lucky bounce at our end of the pitch can lead to an equaliser and undo all our good work.

I told the players after the game, and again in training in midweek that I will settle for a similar performance today against Brackley.

These are the standards that I am demanding over the rest of the season, because we all strongly believe that we finish in the play offs at the end of this season.

We have nine games remaining, and I want maximum points from all of those games. It sounds like a tall order, but I believe that we have a squad of players who are more than capable of achieving that, and remember, we set a similar target last season, and look what happened!

We will all work very hard throughout the rest of the season, I can assure you of that.

Enjoy the game.

*Martin*



## V BRACKLEY TOWN

### Club Officials:

Directors: John Tempest, Richard Cook, Jonathan Jowett, Darlington 1883 Supporters Society Limited

### Football

Manager: Martin Gray  
Assistant manager: Brian Atkinson  
Coach: Sean Gregan  
Scout: Harry Dunn  
Psychologist: Darren Sutton  
Kit Manager: Bradley Blythe  
Assistant Kit Manager: Gary Smith  
Physios: Georgios Bellos and Jimmy Nesbitt

### Darlington Football Club Officials

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Club Secretary: Jonathan Jowett  
Matchday secretary: Rob Jones  
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Media/Fans' Radio: Andrew Simpson  
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### Programme Team

Ray Simpson (editor), Craig Stoddart, Simon Weatherill, Lynn Jasper, Anthony McMaster, Chris Sykes, Steve Rees, Kevin Luff, Neil Raper, Wayne Raper, Peter Haygarth, Frank Tweddle, Joanne Cameron, John Tempest, Richard Cook, Simon Hahn, Andrew Alton

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"For Fans, For Football, For Ever"

*Kev Burgess writes for the  
Quaker programme.*

# CAPTAIN Kev

## GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE.

There were several reasons why we were happy about our win at Stalybridge last Saturday.

Not only were we grateful for the three points, and pleased with the way we played, but we were absolutely delighted with a clean sheet, our first for a while.

At half time, Martin emphasised how much he wanted a clean sheet, and we restricted them to just one chance near the end that Ed saved.

Everyone right the way through the side defended well, and stopped Stalybridge from causing us too many problems.

Ed kept us right at the back as well, he's constantly talking to us all on the pitch and telling us if we're slipping out of position or an opponent isn't tightly marked enough, and I was delighted for him when he kept a clean sheet.

Now, we're looking for another clean sheet today. We're unbeaten in our last three matches, and if we can pick up maximum points from our two home games against Brackley today and then Bradford on Wednesday, then we'll be well and truly in the running for the play offs! It is well possible that we can win four promotions in five years, and that's something we'll keep striving for over the rest of the season.

Thank you again for your support, the rest of the players and myself really appreciate it, and you really do make a difference.

*Kev*

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Captain's Notes



**"WE'RE  
LOOKING FOR  
ANOTHER  
CLEAN SHEET  
TODAY"**

**Feethams**  
DARLINGTON

# Coming to town...

## BRACKLEY TOWN



**Brackley Town are visiting Blackwell Meadows today, and Simon Hahn has been doing some research on them.**

### BRACKLEY TOWN - THEIR SEASON SO FAR

Brackley come to Blackwell Meadows needing a win to keep alive their faint play-off hopes. After surviving relegation on the final day last season they have had a brilliant season in comparison this time around.

They started off impressively winning five of their opening nine matches including a 2-1 win away at Kidderminster Harriers. By the end of November they had only lost two league games, against Alfreton Town and Worcester. This coincided with a fantastic FA Cup run in which they beat Gillingham 4-3 in a replay, before falling in the second round to Blackpool.

They continued to have success in the cup competitions, as impressive victories over Fylde, Stockport County and Wealdstone saw them reach the quarter-finals of the FA Trophy, where York City knocked them out at Bootham Crescent, 1-0.

For much of the season they have had games in hand due to the success in cups, but their league form has trailed away since the turn of the year. They have lost five times in the league in 2017, however, these have come against other teams in the promotion mix, Chorley, Stockport County, Tamworth, Fylde and most recently Salford City.

They are five points behind ourselves with a game in hand, six points behind Halifax Town in the final play-off place.

### LAST SIX RESULTS

11/03/2017 Salford City (H) Lost 1-0  
07/03/2017 Telford United (A) Won 6-0  
04/03/2017 Curzon Ashton (A) Drew 0-0  
28/02/2017 Kidderminster Harriers (H) Won 2-0  
25/02/2017 York City (FA Trophy) (A) Lost 1-0  
21/02/2017 Gloucester (A) Won 3-1

### LAST SIX SEASONS

2015/16 National League North - Points 46  
Position 19th  
2014/15 National League North - Points 47  
Position 18th  
2013/14 National League North - Points 69  
Position 7th  
2012/13 National League North - Points 85  
Position 3rd  
2011/12 The Evo-Stik League Southern  
Premier - Points 85 Position 1st  
2010/11 The Evo-Stik League Southern  
Premier - Points 58 Position 9th

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### BRACKLEY TOWN 2016/17 STATS

- Have gained more points away than at home - 28 points
- James Armson is their top scorer this season - 10 goals
- Have the fourth best defensive record in division - 35 goals against
- Scored more goals in the final five minutes than any other period of matches - 6 goals
- Had their best run ever in the FA Trophy - Quarter-finals (lost to York)
- Equalled their best ever FA Cup run - Second Round (lost to Blackpool)

### LAST MATCH

#### Brackley Town 0-1 Salford City

Brackley's play-off hopes suffered a setback at St James Park on Saturday, as promotion chasing Salford City were able to return home with all three points.

Their biggest home league crowd of the season, 738, saw a tight first-half that was full of incident. Both sides had chances to take the lead, Josh Hine was through on goal for Salford with Laurie Walker saving well. At the other end Jordan Hempenstall saw his effort tipped over, while Adam Walker fired a shot over the top for Brackley who shaded the half.

Early in the second period Michael Nottingham headed a corner kick onto the bar and reacted quickly to stab home the loose ball in what turned out to be the crucial moment in the game. Hempenstall's flick set David Moyo away through the middle earning only a corner, but that was the nearest Brackley came to drawing level.

Brackley: L. Walker, Clifton (Myles 77), Gudger, Byrne, Graham (Gough 22), Dean, G.Walker, Armson, Moyo, Hempenstall (Ndlovu 70), A.Walker. Subs not used: Diggin, Cox





# Coming to town...

## BRACKLEY TOWN



### MANAGER – KEVIN WILKIN



Former striker Wilkin played professionally for Northampton Town in the early 90s, also having spells with Cambridge United, Nuneaton, Rushden and

Diamonds and Grantham Town.

His managerial career started at Nuneaton Borough, where after re-joining the club for his second spell this time as player/assistant manager he took over as permanent manager in 2006. After Borough was liquidated he was appointed manager of the new club Nuneaton Town. The club's first season saw Wilkin guide them to promotion through the play-offs after victory over Chasetown in the final. The season after, his side clinched back-to-back promotions, again through the play-offs, this time beating Chippenham Town in the deciding game. However, perhaps his greatest accomplishment at Nuneaton was in 2012 when he guided them back into the Conference Premier after a nine year absence following another play-off triumph, thanks to a 1-0 win over Gainsborough Trinity.

He took over Conference Premier rivals Wrexham, but only lasted a year in the job. Even though they finished midtable in the league they reached the FA Trophy final. However, despite facing part time side North Ferriby United at Wembley they threw away a 2-0 lead to eventually lose on penalties, a result which led to Wilkin being sacked less than 24 hours later.

Wilkin took over at Brackley early in the 2015/16 season and guided them to safety in the National North on the final day of the season.

### GARETH DEAN CAPTAIN DEFENDER



Defender Gareth Dean was signed from Solihull in the close season and is the current Brackley Town captain. At Solihull he was a member of the successful title winning side

of last season. He signed for Solihull from Nuneaton, the club where he had spent the whole of his career up to this point, making his debut for the club as an 18 year old in 2008. He made almost 300 appearances, earning three promotions in his first four seasons at Liberty Way, as the club climbed swiftly to the Conference Premier. A former Player of the Year, Gareth was captain of Nuneaton. He was included in the England "C" squad to play against Latvia Under-23s in September 2013. He was named in the Conference North team of the year for 2015/16 and teams up again with Kevin Wilkin who managed him at Nuneaton.

### JAMES ARMSON – TOP SCORER – MIDFIELDER

Armson was signed last summer, like Gareth Dean, from Solihull. He was another player who gained promotion last season after joining Solihull in the close season 2015 from Nuneaton, James had progressed through Town's youth set-up and gained his England

"C" cap in 2013 against Latvia. In his five year stint with Nuneaton James amassed over 100 games scoring 17 times. He brings valuable experience to the squad. He is the personification of versatility having played for Nuneaton in every position on the pitch, including goalkeeper. However, James favours an attacking midfield role and is a



former Boro Player of the Year.

### SHANE BYRNE – MIDFIELDER

Shane Byrne signed from Nuneaton Town

where he enjoyed a successful spell last season. Shane started his career at Dublin and was part of the youth team that reached the quarter finals of the Irish FA Youth Cup in the 2010-11 season. On the international transfer deadline day in 2011 Byrne withdrew from the Republic of Ireland U19 squad in order to move on loan to Bury F.C.

Byrne made his professional debut for Bury against Sheffield United on 3 September 2011. However, his time at Bury was curtailed after picking up an ankle injury at Colchester United on 10 December 2011. On 23 June 2015, it was confirmed that Byrne had joined Nuneaton Town, from where he joins the Saints. Byrne has represented the Republic of Ireland at U-17 level on two occasions.

### BRACKLEY TOWN - KEY MOMENTS IN THEIR HISTORY

- Founded in 1890 and became prominent side in the local Northamptonshire area
- Moved to current St James Park ground in 1974
- In the early 90s the club's survival was in danger and in 1992/93 finished with the worst playing record of any senior side in the country
- Brackley were forced into voluntary liquidation in February 1999
- The 2003/04 season saw them win the Hellenic League to gain promotion back to the Southern League
- Three seasons later they gained promotion to the Southern Premier division
- They reached the first round of the FA Cup for the first time in 2008/09
- Arguably the club's greatest moment came at the end of the 2011/12 season when they lifted the Southern League Premier Division title to gain a place in the National North
- In 2013/14 they beat Gillingham live on TV in the FA Cup first round, a feat which they repeated this season, again beating Gillingham

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*Last time we met*

STEPHEN THOMPSON  
SCORING AT BRACKLEY

**8TH OCTOBER 2016  
BRACKLEY 2 DARLINGTON 2**

Darlington extended their unbeaten start away from home to seven matches, but they had to be satisfied with just a point at Brackley.

Quakers played some great flowing football, but they couldn't press home their advantage when they took the lead for the second time.

Quakers went close on 13 minutes, when Terry Galbraith curled a free kick over from the left into the middle, where Gary Brown put a looping header just over the top.

Brackley hit the woodwork on 15 minutes when Glenn Walker whipped a free kick in from the right, and Jordan Watson's attempted clearing header went against his own crossbar and out for a corner.

Quakers took the lead on 25 minutes with a superb goal. Terry Galbraith came back on the field after lengthy treatment, won the ball on the halfway line, found Mark Beck who then laid the ball off for Stephen Thompson to hit a blistering right foot shot from 25 yards that flew into the top right corner.

It was nearly 2-0 four minutes later when Josh Falkingham won possession and set up Thompson again, but this time he mishit his right foot shot well wide.

But Brackley levelled just on half time, when Glenn Walker curled a corner into the six yard box for Gareth Dean to stab in with Paul Woolston stranded.

Quakers always looked dangerous with wide men Thompson and Josh Gillies, and they went 2-1 up on 59 minutes when Gillies made another good run and was tripped just outside the box, and he curled the resultant free kick delightfully over the five man wall and into the net.

It was nearly 3-1 when Gillies made another great run from the left and hit a powerful right foot shot just over the angle. Brackley levelled on 74 minutes when James Armson crossed from the left for Shane Byrne to beat Paul Woolston with a looping header that dropped into the corner.

Woolston, Marrs, Watson, Turnbull, Galbraith, Brown, Thompson (sub Mitchell 84), Falkingham, Beck, Hardy (sub Cartman 62), Gillies (sub Davey (90+1))

Subs: Jameson, Smith

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*Craig Stoddart and Ray Simpson have been keeping an eye on the activities of former Darlo players.*



NICK LIVERSEDGE



There were a mammoth 15 former Darlington players involved when Spennymoor Town beat Blyth Spartans 2-1 in their crunch clash on February 28.

**JAMIE CHANDLER** got the winning goal at the Brewery Field in a match which ended Spartans' 12-match winning run and lifted Moors to fourth in the Northern Premier League.

As well as Chandler, also in the Moors starting XI were **DAN LOWSON, CHRIS MASON, JOE TAIT, ROB RAMSHAW** and **NATHAN FISHER**. **DAVID DOWSON** and **ADAM MITCHELL** came off the bench, as did **TOM WHITE**, who was on trial with Darlington in the summer of 2015. **GRAEME ARMSTRONG** was an unused sub.

In the Blyth starting XI was goalkeeper **PAUL WOOLSTON**,

who was on loan to Quakers earlier this season from Newcastle, and **JORDAN WATSON** was with Darlington for the first half this season. Right-back **ANDREW CARTWRIGHT**, a first-half substitute, was on loan to Darlington from Sunderland in 2015.

Meanwhile, **ALAN WHITE** is among the Spennymoor coaching staff, while Blyth are managed by **ALUN ARMSTRONG**.

There were two former Darlington goalkeepers on the pitch when Shildon beat Dunston UTS 4-1 at Dean Street on March 4.

Shildon's No. 1 is **NICK LIVERSEDGE**, while at the other end of the pitch was **JACK NORTON**, who was Quakers' keeper during the first few months of our Northern League season in



2013-13.

There were five other former Quakers in the Shildon squad - **MARC ELLISON, DANIEL GROVES, ANTHONY BELL, LEWIS WING, AMAR PUREWAL** - while **CARL JONES** played for Dunston. Jones played a League Cup game for Quakers against Spennymoor Town in 2012.

**MARK BOWER** won the Vanarama National League North's manager of the month award for February, as his team, Bradford Park Avenue, won all three of their league games to lift themselves out of the bottom three. Of his 20 games in charge since he joined the club, he won nine and drew one. He was previously manager of Guiseley in the National League.

**NEIL ASPIN** won the Vanarama National League's manager of the month award for February.



MARK BOWER

The former Darlington centre half had a great month, as Gateshead won all four of their matches to push them into play off contention. Typically though, he wasn't getting carried away, and said; "I'm really pleased because it means that the team is doing well and we're very hopeful that we can continue. We're not getting carried away. I've known a good friend of mine in football win manager of the month one month and then be sacked at the end of the next month, so you don't take anything for granted."

**LEE GASKELL** is back at Ramsbottom United, the club from which he joined Quakers in 2015, and he has wasted no time in getting on the scoresheet at the Evo-Stik First Division North club.

He scored the only goal of the game in his first match back

at the club, against Tadcaster Albion, and a week later scored twice in a 2-2 draw at Brighouse Town.

He scored 113 goals in 224 appearances for Ramsbottom in two spells, and Rams boss Mark Fell said Gaskell will have a big role to play for the remainder of the season: "At this level he's as good as anyone out there and we're really pleased to add him to our squad. He's a winner and a goalscorer and will complement our existing forwards. We still have a good opportunity to gate crash the play-offs with a dozen big games ahead of us, so when opportunities arise to sign a player of Lee's quality, and you have the ambition we have at the club, then it's a no-brainer".

In between those matches, however, Ramsbottom were stuffed 7-0 by Farsley Celtic for whom two ex-Quakers scored hat-tricks: **LEWIS NIGHTINGALE** and **JAMES WALSHAW**.

Nightingale followed that treble by scoring a last-minute winner on March 11 in a 2-1 win over Ossett Albion.

Nightingale joined Darlington last summer from Farsley, but after a solitary appearance as a substitute the winger

soon returned to the West Yorkshire club.

Two former Darlington players are in the running for the EvoStik NPL supporters player of the year award.

**DALE HOPSON**, who was one of the few successes in the 2011-12 season, left Darlington for Whitby two seasons ago and has been nominated by their supporters.

**JAMES WALSHAW** was also with Quakers that season after arriving from Guiseley, and he has been nominated by the supporters of his current club, Farsley.

They are up against Elliott Rokka of Radcliffe Borough, Anthony Malbon of Kidsgrove and Dan Maguire of Blyth.

**JOSH GRAY** scored for Newton Aycliffe in their 3-0 away win at West Auckland .... **CRAIG GOTT** scored for Marske in their 4-3 home defeat by Penrith .... **JAMIE CHANDLER** scored the winner for Spennymoor at Halesowen after **JOE TAIT** had earlier equalised ... **ANTHONY PEACOCK** scored the winner for Billingham Synthonia against Durham City..... **NATHAN MULLIGAN** scored in Billingham Synthonia's 3-2 away win at Darlington RA.



# FROM THE Boardroom:

RICHARD COOK

Welcome once again to our new home at Blackwell Meadows. It's now our seventh game back in Darlington and since Boxing Day the Board has been continuing to work hard to improve the match day experience. I know a lot has been said on social media over the last few weeks about the football club's relationship with the rugby club, unfortunately most of it is false and baseless, and some of it comes from people who should know better and unfortunately don't know the facts.

What everyone has to remember is both the board of Darlington FC and the committee of the rugby club are all volunteers, so we are all time-precious, arranging meetings whenever we can afford the time to discuss the key issues and build on the relationship. Getting everybody together in one place on a regular basis is not that easy.

Since the first match on Boxing Day both clubs have worked together to try and improve the experience whilst not alienating some people who have called Blackwell Meadows their home for over 25 years. Comparing the first game and where we are now;

- the food and catering pricing issues have been resolved
- the Tom Watson room (the downstairs lounge) is open to all on a match day before and after the match
- the Quaker club are using the lounge area
- improvements have been achieved to the disabled parking
- and for today's match we welcome Quaker Retail and the Supporters Group into the bar area.

Little steps but they are strengthening the trust and relationship. This progression is not any different to those in business and in our personal lives if we think hard about it. We have lots of further ways we will improve the relationship but we need your help to cement it. Please do not snipe, it's not helpful.

Hopefully you will have seen from the club's official website that we are now also planning for next season with the launch of our season tickets. We have launched the season tickets in March in line with many other football clubs so we can estimate the demand and start to set budgets for next season.

We have looked to reward fans who commit early and have frozen the price of standing tickets for the third year running. Once the 15th April deadline passes we will be applying pricing for next season which will be dependant on which league we are playing in. Martin's budget for next season, more than any other budget at the club, will be based upon our season ticket receipts as we look to consolidate our finances after a number of challenging years taking into account our success on the pitch with three promotions and off the pitch with our move back to Darlington.

Finally as a fan owned club we need your help, we continuously need volunteers to run our club both on a match day and through commercial and other off the field activities. If you think you can help the club in anyway then please speak to John or myself at one of the forthcoming games -- anyone with a financial, commercial or sales background is especially needed.

Finally I'd like to welcome the players, directors and fans of Brackley. Enjoy the game and three points to Darlo !



# THANK YOU

*We'd like to thank our sponsors and mascot for their support at the Harrogate game.*



MASCOT JAY BRADLEY LINES UP WITH THE CAPTAINS AND MATCH OFFICIALS.



CHARLIE GREENHALGH FROM GLENWOODS AND MAN OF THE MATCH STEPHEN THOMPSON



CRAIG WATSON FROM HATHAWAY AND COPE AND MAN OF THE MATCH STEPHEN THOMPSON

# Where are they now? ALAN ROBERTS



*Alan Roberts spent three years at Darlington and played a major part in keeping Quakers in the old Third Division at the time. He spoke to Ray Simpson.*



20 year old winger Alan was signed by Darlington manager Cyril Knowles from Middlesbrough in July 1985, the summer after Quakers had won promotion to the old Third Division – a major achievement for Quakers then considering that a thin squad was stretched to the limit on several occasions. Many would argue that it was an

even bigger achievement that in season 1985-86 in the company of clubs such as Derby County, Wolves, Bristol City and Bolton Wanderers, Quakers recovered from being bottom in November, to finish midtable in season 1985-86.

"Willie Maddren was manager of Middlesbrough, and I wasn't getting any games under him,"

he said. "I was a winger, but just like all wingers, if the team was playing badly, then the winger would be the first one to be dropped. That was a fact of football life for a winger because it's a specialised role. If I was a centre midfielder, then maybe I wouldn't have been dropped as much!"

"I knew Cyril from his days at



# Where are they now?

## ALAN ROBERTS

Middlesbrough when he was the reserve team coach there, and he came in for me when I was available for transfer at Boro, and persuaded me to sign for Darlington.

"He'd done really well at Darlington, considering that he didn't have the biggest squad to choose from. I knew a couple of the Darlington lads as well, such as Paul Ward, who was with me at Boro, and Phil Lloyd. There were a lot of lads who had been at bigger clubs, and hadn't quite made it. Steven Bell, for example, had been at Wolves.

"In my first pre-season, we had a few injury problems as we were building up to the start of the season, and it was debatable whether we would get a team out for the first game! The squad was that thin, even counting some of the youngsters that Cyril put in the squad.

"But despite the lack of bodies, we managed to stay up in my first season. I can't remember many games – it's that long ago! – but in my third season when we were back in the Fourth Division I do remember winning 5-2 at Hartlepool. I started the game on the right wing, and Steven Bell started on the left, but in the second half we swapped wings and tore them apart.


"I used to love playing at Feethams though, it had its own special character and charm, and there was a great atmosphere,"

As many players around that time have revealed in memories since, Cyril had a unique management style (murderball anyone?) which didn't go down well with everyone, but Alan got on well with the former Tottenham defender.

**QUAKERS**

PROFILE

### ALAN ROBERTS



<b>Name:</b> ALAN ROBERTS	
<b>Date of Birth:</b> 8.12.64	
<b>Place of Birth:</b> NEWCASTLE	
<b>Height:</b> 5' 8½"	
<b>Weight:</b> 10st 5lbs	
<b>Married/Family:</b> NO	
<b>Schoolboy Football:</b> COUNTY AND DISTRICT HONOURS	
<b>Previous Clubs:</b> MIDDLESBROUGH	
<b>League Debut:</b> AT PORTSMOUTH v BORO 27.8.83. WON 1-0	
<b>Signed for Darlington:</b> 12.9.85	
<b>Darlington Debut:</b> 14.9.85	
<b>Most Memorable Match:</b> 5-2 VICTORY FOR BORO v NEWCASTLE, SEP 83	
<b>Best Goal Scored:</b> FOR BORO v MAN CITY AFTER 15 SECONDS, OCT 83	
<b>Favourite Away Ground:</b> MAINE ROAD	
<b>Influences on Career:</b> FATHER, MICKY BURNS, MIKE THORNTON (TEACHER)	
<b>Dislikes in Soccer:</b> SURREPTITIOUS PEOPLE	
<b>Personal Ambition:</b> TO MEET STEVIE WONDER	
<b>Professional Ambition:</b> TO BE AS GOOD AS STEVE COPPELL	
<b>Players I admire and why:</b> GRAEME SOUNESS – HE'S A WINNER	
<b>Career if not in Soccer:</b> HEALTH INDUSTRY	
<b>Advice to Young Players:</b> GET AN EDUCATION (JUST IN CASE!)	

"I knew Cyril well from his time at Middlesbrough. He ruled with an iron fist, but I respected him. I think because I was brought up in the east end of Newcastle, I was used to industrial language, and people saying it as it is. So I knew what to expect when I joined him at Darlington.

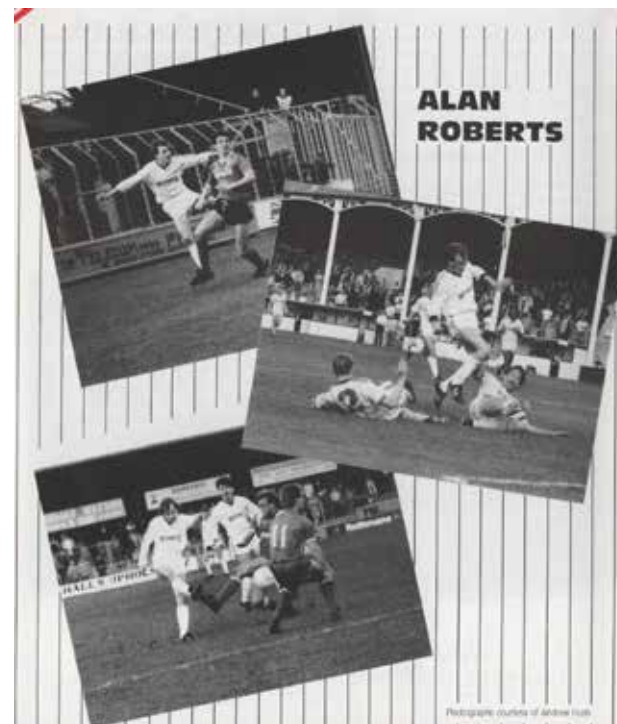
"Cyril's attitude was that players should be as competitive in training as they are in matches, so he used to fly into tackles in training!

"On my first day at Middlesbrough as a 16 year old, he tried to wipe me out in a training session but I got up and went through him in the next tackle, and I think after that we respected each other to a certain extent.

"Cyril ruled through fear sometimes, but I didn't dislike it. That was football in those days."

Alan moved house from Newton Aycliffe to Darlington when he transferred to Feethams. "I was

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one of only a few lads who lived in the town. I didn't mind, I quite liked the town and the fans, and I've still got affection for it now." He now lives in Willington near Bishop Auckland.

After scoring 19 goals in 133 matches over three seasons, Alan moved from Quakers to Sheffield United at the end of the 1987-88 season when we were back in the old Fourth Division, and he won promotion with United from the Third Division to the Second, then he moved on to Lincoln City, where he suffered a bad knee injury.

"I had only played eight or nine games for them, and I picked up a bad knee ligament injury. Unfortunately, I never really

recovered, even though Lincoln were very good and arranged plenty of physiotherapy. The surgeon opened up my knee and actually told me that I would struggle to reach a good level of fitness in order to play again. I actually didn't kick a ball again for eight years when my eldest son asked me to play for his five-a-side team."

Alan's son Jordan, is now making a name for himself in the USA playing for Reno 1868, a team in the state of Nevada.

"He studied a scholarship at Quincy University, and signed for St Louis FC, which was in the league below Major League Soccer. He had two years there as a pro, and he's just been



transferred to Reno. He was at Newcastle Academy for five years before being released, and then he went over to the States."

Alan, who is a financial advisor, has been to see Quakers play. "I've been to a couple of games, I went to the Darlington v Spennymoor play off semi final and it was great to see Darlo win.

"It was sad to see the club relegated to the Northern League. It's hard to comprehend that when I was in my second season at Darlington, Middlesbrough were in the same division – look at the gap now. Hopefully, the club will keep rising and get back into the Football League. At least it's back in the town now and the right people are in charge."

*"I used to love playing at Feethams though, it had its own special character and charm, and there was a great atmosphere,"*



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LIAM HARDY REJOINED  
BUXTON LAST WEEK AFTER A  
YEAR WITH QUAKERS.

AFTER JOINING US IN  
FEBRUARY 2016 LIAM  
SCORED THREE TIMES  
FOR US LAST SEASON ON  
OUR WAY TO WINNING THE  
EVOSTIK LEAGUE TITLE,  
AND ANOTHER NINE FOR US  
IN LEAGUE AND CUP THIS  
SEASON.

HE SCORED IN HIS FIRST  
TWO MATCHES FOR BUXTON.  
HE GOT THE OPENER IN  
A 2-2 DRAW WITH BLYTH  
SPARTANS ON MARCH 11,  
FOUR DAYS AFTER SCORING  
IN A 2-1 DEFEAT TO ASHTON  
UNITED.

LIAM'S MOST IMPORTANT  
GOAL, BY FAR, WAS THAT  
FAMOUS WINNER AGAINST  
SALFORD LAST SEASON.

HE ALSO SCORED AN  
IMPORTANT GOAL FOR US AT  
GRANTHAM LAST SEASON.



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## HOW THE OTHERS ARE DOING



*Chris Sykes rounds up the action in the Vanarama National League North*

A run of five games unbeaten has seen AFC Fylde tighten their grip on the title race, as the season enters its final few games. The Coasters are eleven points clear of their nearest rivals.

Three teams; Salford, Kidderminster and Chorley, head the chasing pack, all level on 62 points.

Salford go into today's games in second place on goal difference, although their momentum has been slowed in recent weeks by defeats against Tamworth and Gloucester.

Kidderminster are third, but with a game in hand on the Ammies. Their 3-0 win over Alfreton last week saw them put a stop to a poor run of form, which had seen them lose three games in four.

After a slip of form in January and early February, Chorley have got their season back on track, after losing just one of their last eight.

Over the last 10 games, FC Halifax are the most in-form side in the division, with just one defeat and seven victories in that spell. The Shaymen occupy the final play-off spot, four points behind Chorley.

They're ahead of Stockport on goal difference, with the Hatters having lost only one of their last 15 league games, a run stretching back to mid-November. The Hatters, who have played a game more than Halifax, are a point ahead of Darlington.

Eighth placed Tamworth have dropped off the pace following indifferent results since the turn of the year. They've lost three of their last four, but did beat Salford a fortnight ago, to sit five points behind the play-offs.

Today's visitors Brackley are a point further back, with a game in hand. Their defeat to Salford last weekend ended a run of four games without defeat.

Harrogate Town have fought their way back into play-off contention after losing just once in the league in 2017. They're unbeaten in six and lie seven points behind the play-offs.

And Gloucester City retain faint hopes of making the top five, despite having won only one of their last five matches, to sit eight points off fifth-placed Halifax.

Twelfth placed FC United of Manchester have consolidated in mid-table after winning their last three games, having failed to win any of the seven games before that.

Two points further back are Curzon Ashton, who saw a three-game unbeaten run ended by Stockport last weekend.

After picking up seven points from their last three games, Nuneaton seem to have extinguished any fears of relegation, which had been brought on by taking just one point from their previous five matches.

Boston United are six points above the drop zone, and have taken only four points from their last six games.

16th-placed AFC Telford had looked to be edging to safety after a run of one defeat in four. But back-to-back losses to Brackley and Chorley mean they're just four points above relegation.

They're above Alfreton on goal difference, who also have a game in hand. Alfreton have lost three of their previous four games.

Back-to-back defeats have stunted Bradford PA's strong recent form. They sit one point and two places above the drop zone.

Consecutive draws against Darlington and Nuneaton have lifted Worcester out of the relegation zone on goal difference. The Blues though haven't won in the league since November, a run of 15 matches.

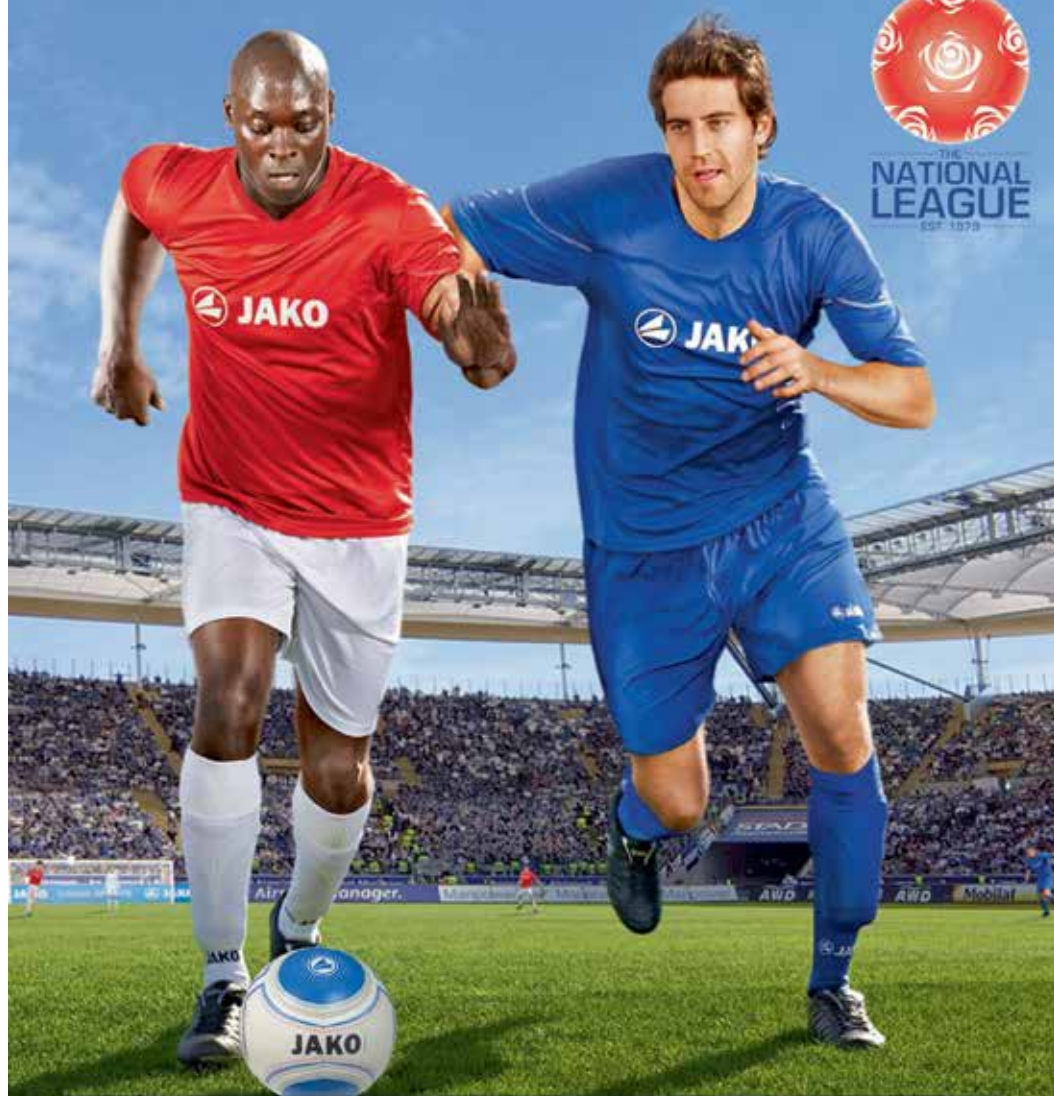
Replacing them in the drop zone are Gainsborough Trinity, who've taken just one point from their last six games.

After two wins in their last four, Altrincham have moved off the bottom of the table, but remain 14 points from safety with nine games left.

Stalybridge dropped to the foot of the division after losing to Darlington last weekend. They're 15 points adrift, but could have moved back above Altrincham if they avoided defeat against Bradford PA on Tuesday.



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## QUAKERS SET UP *Under 6 team!*



Darlington Youth FC recently set up an Under 6 side to compete against other clubs in the north east -- and they're already showing plenty of promise.

Coached by Martin Sowerby, they recently played in a tournament at Redheugh, and of their six matches, won four and drew two.

The youngsters are pictured above, looking the part in their Darlington FC tracksuits!

Training for the Under 6s (who must be born before 31st August 2011) takes place on Thursday nights at Eastbourne between 5pm and 6pm.

### RESERVES

The six game winning run of the reserves came to an end when they were beaten 1-0 by league leaders.

The reserves climbed steadily up the table all the way up to seventh with a great run that included an away win at one of the title challengers, Redcar Athletic.

The team has improved dramatically since it came under the Darlington FC umbrella in October last year when they were in the bottom two.

Mark Fanning, one of the joint managers, said; "When the opposition bench come over to you at the end of the game and say that you deserved something, then you know that you must have done something right and you're not looking at the game through rose-tinted glasses. That's what happened to us against Jarrow.

"All the lads are willing to learn, and they've taken everything on board that we've told them so far."





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## PICTURES FROM THE PAST



THERE CAN BE NO 0-0 DRAW IN DARLINGTON'S HISTORY THAT HAS BEEN CELEBRATED SO ECSTATICALLY AS THE ONE AT GATESHEAD IN 2011 WHICH SAW US REACH THE FA TROPHY FINAL. TOMORROW IT'LL BE SIX YEARS SINCE WE WERE AT THE INTERNATIONAL STADIUM FOR THE SECOND LEG OF THE SEMI-FINALS, A SCORELESS DRAW ENOUGH TO EARN A PLACE AT WEMBLEY HAVING BEATEN THE HEED 3-2 AT THE NORTHERN ECHO ARENA SEVEN DAYS EARLIER.

LIAM HATCH SCORED TWO OF THE GOALS, AND HE IS PICTURED CELEBRATING AFTER THE FINAL WHISTLE AT GATESHEAD WITH TEAM-MATES AARON BROWN, IAN MILLER AND DAN BURN.

IN THE DYING SECONDS AGAINST MANSFIELD TOWN ON MAY 7, IT WAS BROWN WHO TOOK THE THROW THAT WAS HEADED ON BY MILLER, THEN TOMMY WRIGHT AND LED TO CHRIS SENIOR SCORING THAT GOAL.





LIAM HARDY SCORES  
AGAINST HARROGATE TOWN





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# STEVE'S HALF-TIME Quiz

## FIRST HALF – GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

1. What was the name of David Jason's character in the TV sitcom Open All Hours?
2. With which rock group did Joe Walsh find fame?
3. In the mobile phone market what does 3G stand for?
4. Which of the Beatles was the first to be widowed?
5. Who is the patron saint of children?
6. What name was Walt Disney originally going to give to Mickey Mouse?
7. Which is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea?
8. If a dish is served a la florentine, which vegetable would it contain?
9. In which film have Robert Donat, Kenneth More and Robert Powell all played the leading character Richard Hannay?
10. In the game of chess, which pieces can be moved in all directions?
11. Which famous cook was born with the name Isabella Mary Mayson?
12. Near which Yorkshire town is Robin Hood Airport situated?

## HALF-TIME TEASER WHAT A SEASON!

**A question about our championship-winning season in the Evo-Stik Premier League.  
Have you forgotten already?**

Which club from last season is nicknamed The Yeltz?

ANSWERS  
ON  
PAGE 49

## SECOND HALF – SPORTING KNOWLEDGE

13. At which EFL ground can you sit on the Bill Shankly Kop?
14. In which country would you watch a rugby match played at Ellis Park?
15. The first football match attended by the Queen was the 1953 FA Cup Final. To which club did she present the trophy?
16. Which Formula 1 Grand Prix race is held at the Red Bull Ring?
17. Which golfer had the nickname "The Great White Shark"?
18. In which Scottish town do Queen of the South play their home games?
19. Which country topped England's group in the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil?
20. In which northern town was the Rugby League formed?
21. Which two players did Kenny Dalglish buy from Quakers in a £500,000 deal in 1998?
22. At which test venue did Jim Laker achieve record bowling figures of 19 wickets for 90 runs in 1956?
23. Who was the first boxer to win three Lonsdale Belts?
24. At the 2012 Summer Olympics which sport was staged in Horseguard's Parade?

**PLAYER  
STATS**

**24 - 20** Top striker! Excellent points total should bring yet another promotion  
**19 - 13** Creative football brain on the ball, but inconsistent in the penalty area

**12 - 6** A useful squad player, but you lack that vital spark to be first-team  
**5 or less** As for our friends at Victoria Park, things can only get better this season



# Memory Match

by Simon Weatherill

*In the latest in our Memory Match series, Simon Weatherill looks at the home game against Wimbledon on 17th March 1981.*

The 1980/81 season kicked off with Billy Elliott, in his second year at the helm, promising to do things differently. The club had finished the previous season in the bottom four re-election places and Elliott reacted by releasing eleven players and vowing that from now on Darlington would rely on a much smaller, younger playing staff.

He named Donald Ball as club captain who at the age of 18 became the youngest captain in the Football League. Only four new signings were made before the season kicked off. Goalkeeper Pat Cuff was signed from Millwall, full back Alan Kamara from York City, central defender Peter Skipper from Hull City and midfielder David Speedie was brought in from Barnsley. The club kicked off the new campaign with one of the youngest sides in the club's history. A month into the new season Elliott added left back Harry Wilson from Preston, but that still only brought his first team squad up to fourteen players. Youngsters such as Kevin Barry, Kevin Glendinning and Barry Stell would back them up as and when required. His trimmed down squad was a success and the club had their most successful season for more than a decade. They spent virtually all season just out of the promotion race, comfortably in the top half of the table, but

never really threatening the top four.

By the time Wimbledon visited Feethams on Tuesday March 17th, the Quakers were sat in 11th place in Division 4 with 37 points from 36 games. Their visitors were four points better off in sixth place and with games in hand on all the teams above them they were looking for a promotion place. They were on a twelve match unbeaten run and named the same team for the ninth game in a row. Elliott had injury worries with four players carrying knocks after the long trip to Bournemouth (a 3-3 draw) on the previous Saturday. Kevan Smith, John Stalker, Roger Wicks and Ian Hamilton were all under treatment and had to pass fitness tests to play. The original game against Wimbledon had been scheduled for January 17th but had been postponed due to heavy snow.

A disappointing crowd of only 2093 turned out for the rearranged game. They saw the Quakers make a strong start and take the lead as early as the third minute, when David Speedie ran on to John Stalker's flick on and tucked the ball neatly under visiting keeper Dave Beasant. The game continued at breakneck speed with some fine football played by both sides. Prompted by the industrious Steve

Galliers in midfield, Wimbledon carved out and missed two good chances before eventually scoring a deserved equaliser in the 30th minute through centre half Mick Smith, who took advantage of some static home defending to fire home.

They were level for only five minutes though before Ian Hamilton restored Darlington's lead. He latched onto an Alan Walsh chipped pass over the defence and rounded the giant Beasant before slotting home to make the half time score 2-1. The hard fought contest had always been in danger of boiling over. Smith and Stalker were both booked after a touchline tangle, and Tommy Cunningham followed them into the referee's notebook before half time.

After the break Alan Kamara twice went close to increasing the home sides lead, then Roger Wicks produced a superb turn and volley that was well saved by Beasant. Referee Ken Walmsley had to pull players apart in a centre circle free for all, then he booked Galliers and Harry Charlton, as they squared up to each other after a tackle, as both sides refused to take a step backwards with the game in the balance. The deciding moment of the evening came in the 75th minute. A long cross beyond the far post was headed back by Peter Skipper. The ball hit the post



*The programme for the 80/81 season consisted of 16 pages, with minimal advertising and some interesting features.*

and dropped to Stalker whose shot was blocked, but fell to Charlton, who forced the ball into the net from close range to make the score 3-1. Wimbledon were incensed, claiming that the ball had gone out of play before Skipper headed it back. Cunningham sprinted 50 yards to argue with the linesman and received his second booking. Galliers also protested too strongly as tempers flared and he too received his marching orders. Darlington drove home their two man advantage five minutes later when Alan Walsh fired home his 20th goal of the season after being set up by Charlton to make the final score 4-1 to the Quakers.

The fun and games didn't end there though as the players clashed after the final whistle. Wimbledon's Wally Downes had to be restrained by team mates as he squared up to Ian Hamilton and Walmsley booked three more players plus visiting assistant manager Alan Gillette after a mass confrontation in the tunnel.

Wimbledon put their heaviest defeat of the season behind them and went on another good run, only losing two of their last ten games, to finish in fourth place and secure promotion. It was the beginning of an incredibly successful spell for the club under their manager Dave Bassett, who led them on a rise right through the divisions. Six years later they would finish 6th in the top flight and the following year, 1988, they finished 7th in Division 1 and won the FA Cup. The Quakers eventually finished the season in a creditable 8th place with 49 points, 6 points behind fourth place. The much improved season was due in no small part to the potent strike force of Stalker and Walsh, who managed 40 goals between them throughout the season. Walsh finished with 23 goals and Stalker with 17.

The programme for the 80/81 season consisted of 16 pages, with minimal advertising and some interesting features. It was printed by Parkgate Press in

Borough Road and cost 20p for the first half of the season, later rising to 25p. Regular features were Billy Elliott's column, club secretary's notes by Dave Thorne, two pages introducing the visitors, a profile page on a different player each week, numerous photos from previous games, results and statistics for the first and youth teams and the team line-ups. Frank Tweddle also wrote a column about previous encounters with the opponents and a review of what was happening elsewhere in Division Four. He also contributed a very interesting occasional item entitled Looking Back, covering a piece of Darlington history.

## Team v Wimbledon :

1 Pat Cuff 2 Alan Kamara 3 Dave McLean 4 Kevan Smith 5 Peter Skipper 6 David Speedie 7 Harry Charlton 8 Roger Wicks 9 John Stalker 10 Ian Hamilton 11 Alan Walsh 12 Harry Wilson (replaced Stalker)

**DARLINGTON 3**  
**ALTRINCHAM 1**

The game had a few chances after that until the 78th minute, when Ferguson was tripped by Sam Heathcote as he ran into the box and the referee pointed to the spot for Terry Galbraith to send the keeper the wrong way – the first successful Darlo penalty at Blackwell Meadows and Tez's ninth of the season!

## Subs: Patterson, Reeves

**TERRY GALBRAITH  
SCORES FROM THE SPOT V  
ALTRINCHAM**



## MARK BECK SCORES THE FIRST GOAL V ALTRINCHAM

27,994 – the total number of fans who have watched Quakers at home this season



**JOSH FALKINGHAM IN  
ACTION V ALTRINCHAM**

Page 35



**PETER JAMESON**



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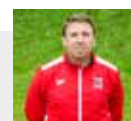
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# Commercially SPEAKING

BY ANTH  
MCMASTER

*Good Afternoon and welcome back to Blackwell Meadows.*

After last week's away win we are still in the mix for a playoff place. We need to all stay positive and get behind the lads and try and make Blackwell Meadows into a fortress. It's still new to us all but we could be in for an exciting run in.

### AWARDS EVENING

At the end of the season (whenever that may be, play offs permitting), we have again secured the Mercure Kings Head Hotel for the Player of the Year awards evening. More information to follow but it will be Saturday 20th May and tickets will cost £40 per person. Last year was a great evening and a real success.

### SPONSORS

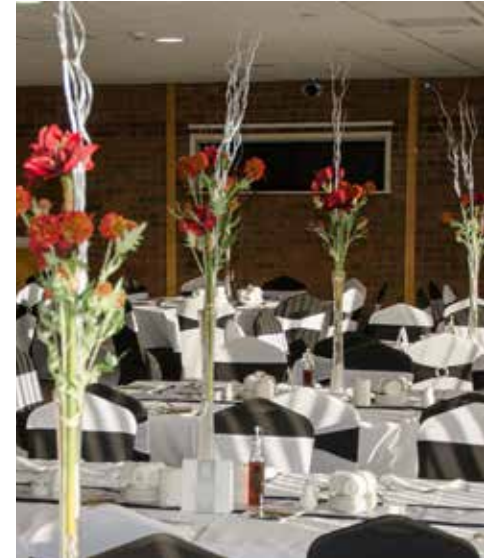
Today's match sponsors are Sherwoods whom we welcome back. The Sherwoods group led by Alasdair MacConachie and son Simon have been sponsors, supporters and backers of the club for a long time, and it's great to host them today, and have them on board for the rest of the year. They are one of the longest established Vauxhall dealers, but also have commercial vehicles for your business, as well as servicing and MOTs on any make of car. You can check them out at [www.sherwoodsgroup.co.uk](http://www.sherwoodsgroup.co.uk).

### MATCH BALL SPONSORS

Today's Match Ball Sponsors are Alan and Bev Murray. Firstly a huge congratulations to them as they both got married yesterday and are celebrating with us today. Both are big Darlo fans who attend all home games together. We wish you all the best and hope you have a great day with us today.

### HOSPITALITY

There are only a couple of games left to be sponsored this season so please enquire now. Match day hospitality is an opportunity for



the club to generate revenue so if you or your business fancy a change or some hospitality for a game, get in touch. We have had some busy games up there in recent weeks and would encourage people to come and give it a try and watch the game from the balcony. Contact us on [hospitality@darlingtonfc.org](mailto:hospitality@darlingtonfc.org)

### ADVERTISING BOARDS

We are looking to do another push on these and it's a good time to get your business seen at Blackwell Meadows as if you buy now you will have the board up for the rest of this season and all of next season. We also aim to give you some exposure on social media and a write up in the programme. Email any enquiries to [commercial@darlingtonfc.org](mailto:commercial@darlingtonfc.org)

Enjoy the game today and all the best to the lads.

**Anthony McMaster // Darlington Football Club // Tel: 07773660123**





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# QUAKERRETAIL

with Lynn Jasper

*A warm welcome to today's opponents Brackley. I'm sure this will be a hard fought game against a team who are fighting for a play - off place. Hopefully, we can add three points to our tally. Come on Darlo!*



### QUAKER RETAIL

We are going to be in the bar at Blackwell Meadows for today's game and for the rest of the season so please come and see us and buy some of our

merchandise. This is great news for us and means we can attend all matches and not be restricted by the weather and suffer our merchandise getting wet! Remember, all proceeds from Quaker Retail go directly to Darlington Football Club so why not come and buy something from us today? We are also open Monday to Friday in the Dolphin Centre from 10 - 1 where we are always pleased to see you. If you need to get in touch with us then please ring 07488 564642 during opening hours or email me on [shop@dfc1883.co.uk](mailto:shop@dfc1883.co.uk)

### SHIRTS REDUCED £25 AND £30



We have this season's children's home and away shirts now reduced to £25. We have all sizes except for LB home which is now sold out. It would

make a great Easter present and it's a good shirt to have as a memento of our return to our Darlington.

We also have this season's adult away shirts priced at £30. This away shirt has been one of the best-selling away shirts we have had in recent years and proved popular with you the fans. We have all sizes in the away shirts so why not treat yourself for the remaining games of the season? Our adult home shirts are sold out - thank you to everyone who bought a shirt this season.

### FOOTBALLS

Our ever popular footballs make a great birthday present or Easter gift for the kids. With the light nights not too far away why not treat your child to one of our DFC footballs? They display the Darlo crest and cost £10.00.

### TIES

Last season we sold quite a lot of ties for the end of season party at the Mercure Hotel. A great night was

had by all - why not buy a tie in good time for this year's end of season bash and be ahead of the game? They cost £10.00 and are very smart indeed.

To continue the theme of introducing you to our Quaker Retail team and band of volunteers it's Linda Armstrong's turn this week. I have known Linda for a lot of years from the time when both of our sons attended the Junior Quakers at the Quaker Centre at Feethams. Both Stuart, Linda's son and my son Peter have been Darlo fans all of their lives just like Linda and I. This is what Linda had to say about herself and her memories as a Darlo fan. Linda's a great asset to our team. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

### LINDA ARMSTRONG

"Darlington born and bred it has been a family tradition to follow our home town team, a tradition that continues today with my son being one of the commentators on Darlo Fans Radio and my grandson attending matches regularly.

Feethams holds lots of memories for me. The one that I am most fond of is the 4th Division Championship winning game against Rochdale at home in 1991. We stood in the open end as David Cork scored the opening goal right in front of us!

After retiring from the Post office in Middleton St George I help out one day a week in Quaker Retail. On match days, I help sell 50/50 tickets outside the ground."

Well that's all from me. See you all again very soon - Wednesday night in fact!

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## REMINDER OF DARLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB'S GROUND REGULATIONS

In home games last season, there were incidents involving a flare, some coin throwing and fans encroaching on to the field of play. Accordingly, we have been requested to remind fans about our ground regulations.

These regrettable incidents are contrary to our ground regulations, as published on our official website on 12th October last year, and again last week.

The pertinent regulations are as follows:

"The following articles must not be brought within the Ground – knives, fireworks or any other pyrotechnics, smoke canisters, air-horns, flares, weapons, dangerous or hazardous items, laser devices, glass bottles, glass vessels, cans, poles, any articles that are prohibited by the Rules and Regulations, and any article that might be used as a weapon and/or compromise public safety. Any person in possession of such items will be refused entry to (or ejected from) the Ground."

And

"Under the Football (Offences) Act 1991 (as amended) the following are offences for which a person can be arrested by a police officer and conviction could result in a Banning Order being made under the Football Spectators Act 1989 (as amended): The list is non-exhaustive.

"The throwing of any object within the Ground without lawful authority or excuse;

"The entry onto the playing area or any adjacent area to which spectators are not generally admitted without lawful authority or excuse."

We should be very clear. Those responsible for such incidents simply do not care about our club, our reputation or the safety of our fans and we do not want them at our matches. The club will work with the stewards and police to ensure that these matters are addressed and the individuals will be banned from future matches.

Ensuring the safety of our supporters and staff is always of paramount importance to Darlington FC 1883. If such behaviour was to continue, the reality is it would only be a matter of time before serious injury is caused and the club in turn would be punished by the league and/or the FA. We will not allow safety to be compromised of the well-behaved and sensible majority by the actions of a tiny minority.

**We would also like to draw attention to the possession of pyrotechnics**

As a member Club participating in The National League we have been directed to take the strongest action available against anyone found in possession of a Flare, Smoke Bomb or any other such pyrotechnic article(s).

Spectators are warned that we and The National League apply a zero tolerance approach to anyone attempting to bring such article(s) into our Ground/Stadium.

Due to their chemical make-up, a Flare, Smoke Bomb and all such pyrotechnic article(s) can be highly toxic for some people. This can lead to serious health consequences for those with pre-existing medical conditions and may in certain circumstances cause life-threatening injury or concern.

In order to protect you, the spectator, we reserve the right to search your person and/or effects and we further reserve the right to pursue legal action, civil or criminal, against any person who contravenes current legislation or our Ground/Stadium regulations.

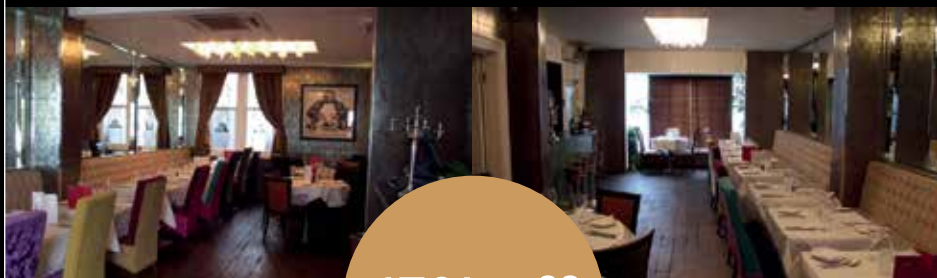
To further safeguard all who attend any event at this Ground/Stadium, we welcome the receipt of any information which will assist us to deter, apprehend/detain and where appropriate prosecute, anyone in possession of; or found discharging or being a party to the discharge of, such an article(s).

**Please e mail this information in confidence to [dave.watson@darlingtonfc.org](mailto:dave.watson@darlingtonfc.org)**



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## DFCSG *Notes*

BY WAYNE RAPER

Good afternoon and welcome to Blackwell Meadows for this afternoon's Vanarama National League North game versus Brackley Town. I'd like to extend my best wishes to all Brackley's players and officials who will have endured a journey in excess of 200 miles up the M1 and A1(M) from Northamptonshire to be here.

### MORE DISCOUNTS FOR DFCSG MEMBERS

We hope very shortly to be announcing another discount deal for DFCSG members. This will be in addition to the significant discounts available with Virgin Trains East Coast, Ginger Village Inns, the Oven Restaurant and at Pizza Express, Darlington. As they say 'watch this space' for further details.

### We have received the following from Supporters Direct about the reform of FA governance.

More women will be appointed to the Football Association's board as part of proposed reforms after criticism over the way it is run.

In December, five ex-FA bosses asked the government to intervene and change an organisation they described as being held back by "elderly white men". In February, MPs with "no confidence" that the FA would reform itself, warned they could legislate to force it to. Only one woman sits on the current 12-member FA board - Heather Rabbatts.

The FA's proposed reforms seek to: Establish three positions on the FA board reserved for female members by 2018; Reduce the size of the board to 10 members; Add 11 new members to the FA Council so it "better reflects the inclusive and diverse nature of English football"; Limit board membership to three periods of three years; Introduce term limits for FA Council membership.

The reforms still have to be approved by the FA Council,

which will debate and vote on the recommendations on Monday, 3 April. If they receive majority approval they will be taken forward to a vote of the shareholders at the FA's Annual General Meeting on 18 May. Sports Minister Tracey Crouch has said the FA could lose £30m-£40m of public funding if it does not modernise. FA chairman Greg Clarke reiterated that he will quit if the plans for reform do not win government support. "This is a transformational leap forward and if the government don't accept this, I'm not sure what else we can do. If government don't want to accept it, who am I to argue but, of course, I will resign." he told BBC Sport

BBC Radio 5 live sports news correspondent Richard Conway asked Clarke why there were no plans for dedicated black, Asian and minority ethnic background representation on the proposed new 10-member board. Clarke replied: "What I would like to see is a path to make sure that not only are we gender diverse but ethnically diverse. What I don't want this to be is empty words. I want to find a way to achieve it and be accountable. I just need a bit more time to get there. It's really important that the FA is representative to society. Throughout the business world, diverse boards make better decisions. I think that's true in football too."

The FA is effectively run by its own parliament, the FA Council, which has 122 members. Just eight are women and only four are

from ethnic minorities. More than 90 of the 122 members are aged over 60.

### VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED AT BLACKWELL MEADOWS

We are pleased to announce that we have had four volunteers step forward to be stewards to work the car park before and after the game. We would be very grateful indeed if 2 or 3 more could step forward to provide some resilience in the event that any of the existing volunteers have any pressing commitments and are unable to attend a match. The role is to guide drivers into their spaces before the match and to help the queues dissipate efficiently after the final whistle. No qualifications are necessary for the role and you will still be able to watch the full game because the car park closes 30 minutes before kick-off and doesn't re-open until 15 minutes afterwards. This is also an ideal opportunity for anyone that needs some volunteer experience on their CV.

As volunteers you wouldn't receive payment. However, you would be able to park your car and have free entry to the match as well as a hot drink. Also, if you don't have access to a car, we could arrange a lift back to your area of the town after the match.

If anyone is interested in any of the roles described above or would like further information, please email me at [wayne.raper@dfcsg.co.uk](mailto:wayne.raper@dfcsg.co.uk).

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# LOOKING *Back*

In every programme, we look back to the efforts of our club historian, Frank Tweddle. This week's Looking Back was originally compiled by Frank Tweddle for the match programme against Chester City on 11th March 2006, a game that Quakers won 1-0 thanks to a goal by Shelton Martis in front of a crowd of 3,593.



## 1995-96

FULHAM 2  
DARLINGTON 2

Division 3 Attendance 2534

It is incredible to think that 21 years ago we travelled to London to face Fulham who were lying second bottom of the third division facing possible relegation into the Conference and watched by a paltry two and a half thousand crowd at Craven Cottage. We were riding high third in the table and still with only one away defeat in sixteen league games played so far and so faced the 'Cottagers' with some confidence especially after our good midweek win at Doncaster three days before. Matt Carmichael made his full debut after signing from Doncaster Rovers, while Sean Gegan replaced Phil Brumwell. We got off to an explosive start with Robbie Blake scoring after only two minutes and then adding a second on twenty-four to see us comfortably ahead at the break. Former Quaker Nick Cusack got one back after sixty-eight minutes and then just three minutes from time Michael Mison equalised for the home side to cruelly deny us our first ever victory at Craven Cottage.

Team: Newall, Shaw, Barnard, Appleby, Crosby, Gegan, Bannister, Olsson, Carmichael (sub Painter) Blake (sub Carss), Gaughan

## 1985-86

DERBY COUNTY 1  
DARLINGTON 1

Division 3 Attendance 11,824

We made a rare visit to Derby County's Baseball Ground thirty one years ago to face the 'Rams' for only the fourth time in the league, but who could forget our epic 4-5 defeat there in the quarter final of the Football League Cup in 1967/8! We had lost only one game in eight since Christmas as we clawed our way up the table to eventual survival in Division Three while the home side lay in third place poised for a return to the league above. Manager Cyril Knowles fielded the same side for the third game running with Paul Ward continuing in midfield, while County included John Gregory who was later to manage them and Aston Villa. Trevor Christie opened the scoring for the 'Rams' on twenty five minutes and we were somewhat under pressure until half time, but after the interval we rallied and were rewarded with an equaliser from Paul Ward who scrambled the ball in from close range on the hour. Despite further heavy Derby pressure we hung on for a deserved point in front of the biggest crowd to watch the Quakers that season.

Team: Barber, Evans, Morgan, Tupling, Green (sub Woodcock), Lloyd, Roberts, Ward, Airey, Macdonald, Robinson.

## 1975-76

EXETER CITY 1  
DARLINGTON 1

Division 4 Attendance 3196

After four straight defeats manager Peter Madden rang the changes for long haul down to South Devon to face Exeter City at 'the other' St James' Park. Out went Colin Blant, Billy Coulson and Paddy Lowery and in came Bobby Noble, Steve Holbrook and Eddie Rowles in an attempt to halt our poor run. New signing Ron Ferguson from Sheffield Wednesday made his Darlington debut as a second-half substitute for Norman Lees. The 'Grecians' (as Exeter are nicknamed) took a first half lead through pint-sized striker Alan Beer but a more determined performance from the Quakers in the second-half saw us equalise through Eric Young with his third goal of a barren season which saw us score more times away from home than at Feethams! We hung on for a draw which made the long Saturday night journey home from the West Country more bearable as the fixtures dictated that we played Torquay United at home on the Monday!

Team: Ogley, Nattress, Cochrane, Lees (sub Ferguson), Craig, Noble, Holbrook, Sinclair, Webb, Rowles, Young.





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*Darlington Community programme*

## DARLINGTON UNDER 9S



**We'd like to welcome our guests today, Darlington Under 9s.**

Darlington under 9s have enjoyed a rewarding season in division 1 of the TJFA. The squad consists of Zach Judson, Ben Snowden, Issac Marr, Charlie Cole, Harry Gunnall, Will Coxon, Max Atkinson, Jack Shaw and Oliver Beacon.

Coached by former youth player Adam Willsher, they have cemented a top half finish, their most recent victory coming at home to Wynyard Town.

As a very promising young, exciting squad, they hope to kick on to greater and bigger things next season.

The lads from Barnard Castle had a great time as our guests at the Harrogate Town home game, and here they are meeting the players in the dressing room before the game.



**IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT ANDREW AND HIS TEAM, CONTACT HIM AT [ANDREW.ALTON@DARLINGTONFC.ORG](mailto:ANDREW.ALTON@DARLINGTONFC.ORG) OR ON 07837816646.**

**Darlington**  
Building Society

### QUIZMASTER ANSWERS (Page 31)

**FIRST HALF - GENERAL KNOWLEDGE** 1. Granville Arkwright 2. The Eagles 3. Third generation 4. Paul McCartney 5. St Nicholas 6. Mortimer 7. Sicily 8. Spinach 9. The 39 Steps 10. The Queen and The King 11. Mrs Beeton 12. Doncaster

### HALF-TIME TEASER Halesowen Town

**SECOND HALF - SPORTING KNOWLEDGE** 13. Preston North End 14. South Africa 15. Blackpool 16. Austrian 17. Greg Norman 18. Dumfries 19. Costa Rica 20. Huddersfield 21. Paul Robinson & Jamie Coppinger 22. Old Trafford, Manchester 23. Henry Cooper 24. Beach volleyball



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## Farewell to three Darlo fans

*The club was sad to learn of the deaths of three Darlington fans in the last fortnight.*



**Russell Jones** – or "Big Russ" as he was fondly known – was a staunch supporter of the club, and travelled to matches home and away from his home in Northallerton. He had many friends, and was a member of

the Darlo Tykes. He supported the club in many other ways, especially in helping to raise funds. His son Geraint said; "He was a MASSIVE Darlington fan, me as well for that matter but I left the area over ten years ago and have been unable to commit as he has. Born in Cardiff he was originally a Cardiff City fan and took me and my two sisters to our first football match, to watch Darlington v Cardiff at Feethams in 1996.

"He has followed Darlington ever since this day, through thick and thin and even cites Chris Senior's Wembley goal as his greatest footballing memory. He is/was still a season ticket holder until this day and a proud member of the Darlo Tykes Supporters Club."

Russ' funeral is on Friday 24th March, at Kirkleatham Memorial Park, beginning at midday.

**The club would like to pass on its sincere condolences to the families and friends of all three Darlington fans.**



In the early hours of 20th February lifelong Darlington FC supporter **Alan Dawson** lost his battle with bowel cancer at the age of 53. He was diagnosed with the disease shortly after his 50th birthday and had been having treatment ever since but was told in August there was no longer anything that could be done to save him.

Alan, a bachelor, worked at the Post Office in the town for 33 years and was well known amongst Darlington fans. He was a regular in the Cricket Club at Feethams after matches and was still going to 'home' matches' at Bishop Auckland's Heritage Park with his friends. Unfortunately he was too ill to attend the club's return to Blackwell Meadows. His funeral took place on 1st March at Darlington Crematorium. He was a much loved and well liked person by all his friends and family and will be sorely missed.

**Dave Pratt** was the driver of the team bus when the club used Abbots. After the contract finished, he remained a regular Darlington fan, and still attended home and away games.



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## Vanarama National League North 2016-17

	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	GD
1	<b>AFC Fylde</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>+44</b>
2	Salford City	33	18	8	7	64	33	62	+31
3	Kidderminster	32	19	5	8	57	29	62	+28
4	Chorley	33	17	11	5	51	32	62	+19
5	FC Halifax Town	32	17	7	8	65	39	58	+26
6	Stockport County	33	16	10	7	50	36	58	+14
7	<b>Darlington</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>+20</b>
8	Tamworth	33	16	5	12	53	54	53	-1
9	Brackley	32	14	10	8	50	35	52	+15
10	Harrogate Town	33	14	9	10	58	46	51	+12
11	Gloucester City	33	15	5	13	55	52	50	+3
12	FC United of Manchester	33	11	10	12	52	52	43	0
13	Curzon Ashton	33	11	8	14	50	59	41	-9
14	Nuneaton	32	10	9	13	44	50	39	-6
15	Boston United	33	9	9	15	43	61	36	-18
16	AFC Telford United	33	8	10	15	30	43	34	-13
17	Alfreton	32	9	7	16	54	75	34	-21
18	Bradford Park Avenue	33	9	4	20	38	65	31	-27
19	Worcester City	33	6	12	15	38	50	30	-12
20	Gainsborough Trinity	33	7	9	17	44	67	30	-23
21	Stalybridge Celtic	30	5	3	22	28	67	18	-39
22	Altrincham	33	3	7	23	29	72	16	-43

League	League start	League sub	Cups start	Cups subs	League goals	Cup goals
Mark Bell		1				
Mark Beck	32		2	1	14	
Gary Brown	28	1	3		3	
Kevin Burgess	27	1			4	
Nathan Cartman	15	15	3		5	1
Tom Davie		3				
Ben Dudzinski	1		2			
Josh Falkingham	15	4	3		1	
David Ferguson	7	1				
Terry Galbraith	27	5	3		9	1
Josh Gillies	24	5	2		9	
Liam Hardy	13	12	2	1	8	1
Chris Hunter	10	3	2	1		
Peter Jameson	22					
Matty Lovegreen						
Liam Marrs	23		3			
Jack McClaren						
Adam Mitchell	5	6			1	
Lewis Nightingale		1				
Adam Nowakowski	2	4				
Tom Portas	8	2	1			
Amar Purewal	1	5		1		1
Harvey Saunders		4			1	
Leon Scott	16	6	2	1		
David Syers	10	9	1	1	7	
Stephen Thompson	29	2	1	2	5	1
Phil Turnbull	30	1	1	1	1	
Lewis Walker	1					
Jordan Watson	7	2	1			
Arran Wearmouth						
Ed Wilczynski	7					
Paul Woolston	3		1			
own goals					1	

Last  
match

**V Stalybridge Celtic  
Won 1-0**

## FIXTURES & RESULTS 2016/17

WIN DRAW LOSE

**"For Fans. For Football. For Ever"**

- Yellow Card
- Red Card

Scorers Names in **BOLD**

Coloured names are players who featured in substitutions. (Players involved have matching colours)

### Season's Stats



2016	VERSUS			R	S	ATT																	
Sat Aug 6th	Altrincham			A	3.00	2-2	1506	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Mitchell	Scott	Purewal	Cartman	Gillies	Now'ski	Portas	Hardy	Bell	Night'le
Sat Aug 13th	Boston United			H	3.00	4-1	1435	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck	Hardy	Gillies	Portas	Cartman	Mitchell	Bell	Now'ski
Mon Aug 15th	Curzon Ashton			A	7.45	2-1	482	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Mitchell	Portas	Beck	Hardy	Gillies	Scott	Purewal	Night'le	Bell	Cartman
Sun Aug 21st	Gloucester City			A	3.00	2-1	665	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Portas	Beck	Hardy	Gillies	Hunter	Cartman	Scott	Bell	Mitchell
Wed Aug 24th	Chorley			H	7.45	2-0	1543	Jameson	Marrs	Galb'ith2	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Scott	Portas	Beck	Hardy	Gillies	Hunter	Thomp'n	Cartman	Bell	Now'ski
Sat Aug 27th	Alfreton			H	3.00	3-4	1349	Jameson	Hunter	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Scott	Gillies2	Thomp'n	Beck	Hardy	Purewal	Mitchell	Cartman	Bell	Now'ski
Mon Aug 29th	FC United of Manchester			A	7.45	3-2	2731	Marrs	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Scott	Gillies	Thomp'n	Beck	Hardy	Cartman	Mitchell	Purewal	Now'ski	Bell
Fri Sep 2nd	Kidderminster Harriers			H	7.45	0-1	1731	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Hunter	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck	Hardy	Portas	Now'ski	Mitchell	Cartman	Bell	Purewal
Wed Sep 7th	Stockport County			H	7.45	2-1	1730	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Watson	Hunter	Thomp'n	Portas	Beck	Hardy	Mitchell	Purewal	Now'ski	Cartman	Bell	Purewal
Sat Sep 10th	Nuneaton Town			A	3.00	1-1	655	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Watson	Hunter	Thomp'n	Portas	Beck	Hardy	Mitchell	Gillies	Now'ski	Brown	Cartman	Bell
Wed Sep 14th	Bradford Park Avenue			A	7.45	2-1	611	Woolston	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Watson	Now'ski	Hunter	Thomp'n	Portas	Beck	Cartman	Mitchell	Hardy	Scott	Purewal	H Scott	Robi'son
Sat Sep 17th	FA Cup 2QR Lancaster City			A	3.00	1-2	580	Woolston	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Watson	Falk'ham	Brown	Scott	Portas	Beck	Hardy	Cartman	Purewal	Thomp'n	Hunter	Mitchell	Now'ski
Sat Sep 24th	Stalybridge Celtic			H	3.00	4-1	1231	Woolston	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Watson	Falk'ham	Now'ski	Thomp'n	Portas	Beck	Hardy2	Gillies	Scott	Cartman	Mitchell	Jameson	Purewal
Sat Oct 8th	Brackley Town			A	3.00	2-2	642	Woolston	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Watson	Brown	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck	Hardy	Gillies	Mitchell	Cartman	Davey	Jameson	Smith
Sat Oct 15th	Gainsborough Trinity			H	3.00	5-2	1424	Jameson	Marrs	Galb'ith2	Turnbull	Watson	Brown	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck	Hardy	Gillies	Burgess	Syers	Cartman	Bell	Davie
Sat Oct 22nd	Worcester City			H	3.00	5-1	1479	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown2	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck2	Cartman	Gillies	Syers	Hardy	Davie	Bell	Watson
Sat Oct 29th	Harrogate Town			A	3.00	4-1	2172	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck	Cartman	Gillies	Watson	Hardy	Syers	Bell	Davie
Sat Nov 5th	Tamworth			A	3.00	1-2	914	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck	Cartman	Gillies	Syers	Hardy	Davie	Bell	Watson
Sat Nov 12th	AFC Fylde			H	3.00	1-1	2001	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Watson	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck	Syers	Gillies	Scott	Cartman	Bell	Hunter	Hardy
Sat Nov 19th	AFC Telford United			A	3.00	0-2	1136	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck	Syers	Gillies	Hardy	Cartman	Bell	Hunter	Scott
Sun Nov 27th	Marine FATrophy 3r			H	3.00	2-2	743	Dudzinski	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Hunter	Brown	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck	Cartman	Gillies	Scott	Hardy	Syers	Bell	Watson
Sat Dec 3rd	Salford City			H	3.00	2-2	1996	Dudzinski	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck2	Cartman	Gillies	Scott	Hardy	Syers	Bell	Hunter
Tues Dec 6th	Marine FA Trophy 3r replay A				7.45	2-3	308	Dudzinski	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Syers	Hunter	Brown	Scott	Falk'ham	Hardy	Cartman	Gillies	Beck	Thomp'n	Turnbull	Bell	Milburn
Sat Dec 17th	Kidderminster Harriers			A	3.00	1-2	1710	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck	Syers	Gillies	Hardy	Bell	Hunter	Cartman	Falk'ham
Mon Dec 26th	FC Halifax Town			H	3.00	3-2	3000	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck2	Cartman	Gillies	Falk'ham	Hardy	Syers	Hunter	Bell
Sun Jan 1st	FC Halifax Town			A	3.00	2-2	2511	Jameson	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck	Cartman	Gillies	Falk'ham	Watson	Hardy	Syers	Bell
Sat Jan 7th	Nuneaton Town			H	3.00	1-2	2313	Jameson	Hunter	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck	Cartman	Gillies	Watson	Sau'ders	Syers	Bell	Falk'ham
Sat Jan 14th	Gloucester City			H	3.00	2-0	1837	Jameson	Hunter	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck	Walker	Gillies	Syers	Cartman	Wil'ski	Falk'ham	Sau'ders
Sat Jan 21st	Stockport County			A	3.00	3-3	3649	Jameson	Hunter	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck	Cartman	Gillies	Ferg'son	Syers	Falk'ham	Walker	Wil'ski
Sat Jan 28th	Curzon Ashton			H	3.00	1-3	1761	Wil'ski	Marrs	Galbr'ith	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck	Ferg'son	Gillies	Falk'ham	Syers	Cartman	Jameson	Sau'ders
Sat Feb 4th	Chorley			A	3.00	1-1	1387	Wil'ski	Falk'ham	Ferg'son	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck	Cartman	Syers	Gillies	Galbr'ith	Sau'ders	Jameson	Blackford
Sat Feb 18th	Boston United			A	3.00	2-1	1243	Wil'ski	Falk'ham	Ferg'son	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck	Cartman	Syers	Galbr'ith	Hardy	Gillies	Bell	Blackford
Sat Feb 25th	Harrogate Town			H	3.00	2-3	1742	Wil'ski	Falk'ham	Ferg'son	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Scott	Beck	Cartman	Syers	Hunter	Galbr'ith	Hardy	Bell	Gillies
Wed Mar 1st	Altrincham			H	7.45	3-1	1423	Wil'ski	Hunter	Ferg'son	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Falk'am	Beck	Cartman	Syers	Galbr'ith	Gillies	Hardy	Bell	Scott
Sat Mar 4th	Worcester City			A	3.00	2-2	589	Wil'ski	Hunter	Ferg'son	Falk'ham	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Syers	Hardy	Beck	Gillies	Turnbull	Cartman	Sau'ders	Bell	Galbr'ith
Sat Mar 11th	Stalybridge Celtic			A	3.00	1-0	712	Wil'ski	Hunter	Ferg'son	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Syers	Cartman	Beck	Falk'ham	Galbr'ith	Sau'ders	Gillies	Jameson	Marrs
Sat Mar 18th	Brackley																						
Wed Mar 22nd	Bradford Park Avenue																						
Sat Mar 25th	Gainsborough Trinity																						
Sat Apr 1st	AFC Fylde																						
Sat Apr 8th	Tamworth																						
Sat Apr 15th	Alfreton																						
Mon Apr 17th	FC United of Manchester																						
Sat Apr 22nd	AFC Telford United																						
Sat Apr 29th	Salford City																						

## AWAY TRAVEL

OUR NEXT SCHEDULED AWAY TRIP IS TO GAINSBOROUGH TRINITY ON SATURDAY 25TH MARCH. THE COACH WILL DEPART AT 10.45AM AND THE FARE WILL BE £20. TO BOOK A SEAT RING GLEN ON 07376 368553. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS GLEN'S NEW NUMBER AND THE OLD ONE HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED, SO DON'T FORGET TO UPDATE YOUR CONTACTS LIST. ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN BOOK YOUR SEAT AT THE DECSG 'FANS TABLE' IN THE CLUBHOUSE AT THE FORTHCOMING HOME MATCHES.

**FOLLOW COVERAGE OF DARLINGTON'S GAMES ON TWITTER, THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE, THE DARLO APP, YOUTUBE AND DARLO FANS RADIO -- ALL SPONSORED BY FEETHAMS LEISURE.**



Feetham  
DARLINGTON

**FOR DAILY AND BREAKING NEWS FROM THE CLUB, GO TO OUR OFFICIAL CLUB WEBSITE  
WWW.DARLINGTONFOOTBALLCLUB.CO.UK.**

# PHOTO *finish*

RYAN VALENTINE HAD TWO SPELLS WITH QUAKERS, THE FIRST BETWEEN AUGUST 2002 AND MAY 2006, AND AGAIN BETWEEN JANUARY 2008 AND MAY 2009 AFTER HE LEFT WREXHAM. IN TOTAL, HE MADE 209 APPEARANCES FOR US, SCORING 4 TIMES. HE WAS ALSO CAPPED FOR WALES UNDER 21S WHEN HE WAS WITH US.

**Ryan Valentine**





# TODAY'S Teams

Thank you for your support



## DARLINGTON

Mark Beck	
Mark Bell	
Jack Blackford	
Gary Brown	
Kevin Burgess	
Nathan Cartman	
Josh Falkingham	
David Ferguson	
Terry Galbraith	
Josh Gillies	
Chris Hunter	
Peter Jameson	
Liam Marrs	
Dale Milburn	
Tom Portas	
Harvey Saunders	
Leon Scott	
David Syers	
Stephen Thompson	
Phil Turnbull	
Ed Wilczynski	



## BRACKLEY TOWN

Dan Farrell	
Laurie Walker	
Luke Graham	
Gareth Dean	
Alex Gudger	
Steve Diggin	
David Moyo	
Matt Lowe	
Lee Ndlovu	
James Armson	
Jack Bowen	
Adam Walker	
Ellis Myles	
Glenn Walker	
Shane Byrne	
David Pitt	
Lee Cox	
Lewis Rankin	
Kynan Isaac	
Jordan Gough	

## Match Sponsor

Sherwoods

## Match Ball

## Sponsor

Beverley and Alan Murray.

Congratulations from everyone at the club on your wedding yesterday!

## Match officials:

Referee: Kelvin Sarsfield

Assistant referees:

Adam Herczeg and Mark Ryan

## Next home games:

Wednesday 22nd March

Bradford Park Avenue, kick off 7.45pm

Saturday 8th April

Tamworth, kick off 3pm

## Next away games:

Saturday 25th March

Gainsborough Trinity, kick off 3pm

Saturday 1st April

AFC Fylde, kick off 3pm

## Today's other fixtures:

Boston United v Altrincham, Brackley

v Salford City, Bradford PA v Halifax

Town, Chorley v Telford United, FC

United of Manchester v Tamworth,

Gainsborough v Fylde, Gloucester City

v Harrogate Town, Kidderminster v

Alfreton, Nuneaton v Worcester City,

Stockport County v Curzon Ashton

## Mascot:

Jacob Throw

is 10 years old

and goes to

St George's

Academy. His

favourite player

is Mark Beck



## Happy Birthday to:

Michael Flemming

Stephen Blewitt

For all official news about Darlington Football Club,  
please go to our official website

[www.darlingtonfootballclub.co.uk](http://www.darlingtonfootballclub.co.uk)



**Don't forget to take advantage of our 25 per cent discount off Virgin Trains fares on the east coast main line.**

For details see our official website [www.darlingtonfootballclub.co.uk](http://www.darlingtonfootballclub.co.uk)

Do you want to be a match sponsor, matchball sponsor or mascot for a Darlington game? Then drop us a line on [commercial@darlingtonfc.org](mailto:commercial@darlingtonfc.org) and we'll give you details

Do you fancy sponsoring a page in our match day programme (like the one on page 3?). Then please contact us on [commercial@darlingtonfc.org](mailto:commercial@darlingtonfc.org)

Do you want to sample our hospitality at Blackwell Meadows? Then drop us a line on [hospitality@darlingtonfc.org](mailto:hospitality@darlingtonfc.org)