

The QUAKER

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

£2.50



DARLINGTON V TAMWORTH

Saturday 8th April 2017 | Kick off 3.00pm | Blackwell Meadows



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FROM THE
dugout

Good afternoon, everyone.

I am expecting an immediate response from the players this afternoon following our defeat last week at Fylde.

It was a bad day at the office last Saturday, and I made one or two errors in our preparation that I hold my hands up to, and so I take the responsibility for what happened in terms of the result.

So, we must take the defeat on the chin, and bounce back against Tamworth this afternoon, and keep the pressure on the other teams chasing a play off place.

The lads were very disappointed that our unbeaten run had ended, but there's no reason now why we can't go unbeaten over the last five games of the season. Our aim at the start of the season was to win promotion, and we've still got a very good chance of doing so.

Football is a game of opinions, and that's something I respect. I know that on some occasions people will have a different opinion to me about something to do with the team.

I receive several personal letters a week, many of which are well constructed and respectful, and I enjoy reading them.

However, there are some letters I receive that are less so and unsigned. I'm afraid that I won't dignify any such letters in those circumstances. If a writer doesn't want to put his or her own name and address on the end of a letter, then that lacks value and respect, and I'm afraid that letter will end up in the bin.

The vast majority of our supporters are very good people whose backing has been magnificent and is much appreciated. With your help, we can win a play off place.

Enjoy the game

Martin



V TAMWORTH

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

General Manager and secretary: Dave Watson
Club Secretary: Jonathan Jowett
Matchday secretary: Rob Jones
Communications and Media manager: Ray Simpson
Safety Officer: Graham Reeves
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Boardroom Host: Colin Ward
Match Officials Host: Terry Farley
Groundsman: Gary Ventress
Photographers: Nick Burton/Theresa Clear
Media/Video: Kevin Luff
Media/Mobile App: Simon Hahn
Media/Fans' Radio: Andrew Simpson
To contact the club, send an email to commercial@darlingtonfc.org or media@darlingtonfc.org
Website: darlingtonfootballclub.co.uk

Programme Team

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"For Fans, For Football, For Ever"

Kev Burgess writes for the
Quaker programme.

CAPTAIN Kev

GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE.

We have a massive last five games of the season as we push towards the play offs!

The situation is nothing new to us, we were in the same situation last year when we needed to win games in the EvoStik League, so it's the same again this season with a play off place at stake.

We're all very confident that we can do it, there's even more determination since we lost last Saturday at Fylde.

The Fylde game was one of those days in which we looked vulnerable, but there were several times in the game in which I thought we would get something out of the game, especially at the start of the second half when we put them under a lot more pressure. They were rocking at times, and when Brownly scored for 2-1, I thought that we would go on and get a draw.

Maybe at that point we should have pulled Brownly back into defence for a while, but they scored again almost straight away to make it 3-1.

I was very annoyed with my red card. The assistant briefly raised his flag in the build up and we thought their player was offside, and when their lad went round Adam, I covered the post and slipped. When he played the ball towards goal, I moved towards it and blocked it with my shoulder, but the ref said I handled the ball deliberately and red carded me.

I asked him to check with his assistant because we thought there was an offside, but he wouldn't change his mind.

So it looks like I'll be sat in the stand today, and getting nervous with the rest of you!

Enjoy the game, let's hope for three points !

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Captain's Notes



**"WE'RE
ALL VERY
CONFIDENT
THAT WE
CAN DO IT"**



Coming to town...

TAMWORTH



Former Darlington manager Mark Cooper used to be boss of Tamworth. Simon Hahn has done some research on them.

TAMWORTH - THEIR SEASON SO FAR

After just missing out on the play-offs in the last two seasons, Tamworth have been in and around the play-offs for most of this campaign.

They started the season off impressively winning six of their first ten games including scoring five times on three occasions. At their highest they briefly sat second in the league table.

After a setback of three games without a win including a 6-0 defeat at Kidderminster they went on a fantastic run. From the middle of October they won five games on the spin including wins against four of their other play-off contenders one of which was Darlington. The run moved them up into the top five, but after Christmas, they have struggled.

Between Boxing Day and the end of February they lost six of their ten games including a 6-2 defeat at home to Halifax.

They have still managed to pick up impressive victories, including ones over Brackley and Salford, but they have not been able to get back into the top five.

With five games to go they sit five points behind us and seven off the final play-off place.

LAST SIX RESULTS

01/04/2017 Harrogate Town (H) Won 3-2
25/03/2017 Stockport County (A) Lost 2-1
21/03/2017 Kidderminster Harriers (H) Lost 4-3
18/03/2017 Gainsborough Trinity (H) Won 1-0
11/03/2017 FC United of Manchester (A) Lost 1-0
04/03/2017 Salford City (H) Won 2-0

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LAST SIX SEASONS

2015/16 National League North - Points 63
Position 7th
2014/15 National League North - Points 69
Position 7th
2013/14 National League Premier - Points 39
Position 23rd
2012/13 National League Premier - Points 55
Position 19th
2011/12 National League Premier - Points 48
Position 18th
2010/11 National League Premier - Points 49
Position 19th

TAMWORTH 2016/17 STATS

- Second most wins at home in the division - 13 wins
- Danny Newton is the club's top scorer - 21 goals in the league
- Struggled on the road- 5 wins from 18
- Conceded the most goals of any top half of the table team - 62
- Won 5 matches in a row in October/November - Salford, Fylde, Darlington, Harrogate and Salford

THEIR LAST MATCH

Tamworth 3 Harrogate Town 2

Tamworth moved up to ninth with a victory after leading three times at home to Harrogate last Saturday. The hosts started on top and took the lead after 18 minutes after a long kick from Jezeph in the Tamworth goal was controlled by Newton on the edge of the area, before beating one man and firing low inside the far post.

Chances came at both ends and Harrogate striker Ainge twice came close to levelling through a volley and then a header. Newton nearly doubled Tamworth's lead as he struck the outside of the post with a dipping effort, but it remained 1-0 at half-time.

The second half started slowly, but the visitors levelled on the hour mark through Burrell's header which looped up over Jezeph.

With 12 minutes left the hosts regained the lead after Styche was fouled by goalkeeper Crook in the box and Newton smashed home his 21st of the season from the penalty spot.

Four minutes later and it was all square again, Ainge headed it into the danger area and Day helped it over the line.

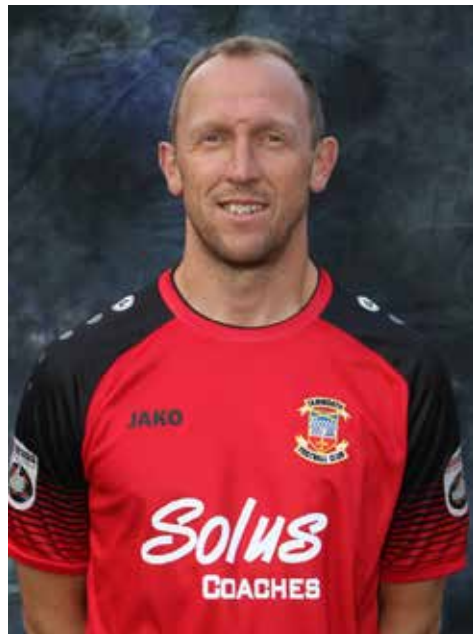
However, there was still time for Ben Fox to find space on the edge of the area and fire into the bottom corner to give Tamworth the three points.

Tamworth- Jezeph, Burns, Morley, Jones(c), Lane, Deeney, Davies(Powell), Ben Fox, Newton, Styche(Taylor), Dyer (Brandon Fox)



Coming to town...

TAMWORTH



MANAGER – ANDY MORRELL

Andy, starting his second full season in charge last summer, was appointed first team boss on 23 September 2014 after enjoying a successful association with Wrexham where he almost, but not quite, helped the Dragons gain promotion to the Football League in three successive seasons, although they did lift the FA Trophy at Wembley in 2013.

Previous to his four season spell in the player-manager role at The Racecourse Ground that ended early in 2014, Andy played at Coventry City, Blackpool and Bury having previously been with the Welsh club a first time between 1998 and 2003 as a

player. He started his career at Northern League club Newcastle Blue Star.

DEFENDER – JOE CLARKE

Joe started his footballing career at Evesham Town, Redditch United and Solihull Moors before a move up to the Conference with

Darlington when Mark Cooper was in charge in 2010 and then to Wrexham. Between 2011 and 2015 Joe was part of the squad at The Racecourse Ground and left for Kidderminster Harriers' 2015-16 campaign. He featured for Brackley at the end of the same season, playing against The Lambs in the final game, before signing for Tamworth last summer.

TOP SCORER – DAN NEWTON

Now in his second season at The Lamb, Andy Morrell quickly netted



the signature of former Leamington striker Danny in May 2015 having previously been with fellow A5 clubs Hinckley United and Nuneaton Town before joining The Brakes in January 2014 where he picked up the top goal scorer trophy as well as winning the Players' Player and Supporters' Player of the Year awards at the New Windmill Ground.

CAPTAIN – LUKE JONES

Luke started his career at Blackburn Rovers at Youth and Reserve level and spent a short spell at Cercle Brugge in the Belgian First Division.

After being released by Rovers he spent consecutive seasons at Shrewsbury Town, Kidderminster Harriers, Mansfield, Forest Green Rovers, back at Harriers, back at Mansfield and then Stevenage before

re-joining The Stags for a third time from where he became a Lamb in September 2016, signing a contract through to 2018 in December.

SQUAD:

Manager: Andy Morrell

Assistant manager: Mike Fowler

Goalkeepers: James Belshaw, Dan Jezeph

Defenders: Andy Burns, Luke Jones, Jack Lane, Stephan Morley, Callum Powell

Midfielders: Louis Briscoe, Joe Clarke, Jed Davies, Ellis Deeney, Paul Green, Connor Taylor

Forwards: Ross Dyer, Dan Newton, Reece Styche, Ben Fox

TAMWORTH - KEY MOMENTS

- Set up in 1933 after demise of Tamworth Castle FC
- Reached FA Cup first round twice in 60's including a 2-1 victory over Torquay to reach round two
- 1984 a consortium of local businessmen took over club and helped them regain place in Southern League
- Won FA Vase in 1989 after a 3-0 win in a replay over Sudbury Town after original game at Wembley was watched by 26,487 people
- Lost in FA Trophy final in 2003 to Burscough 3-0
- Reached FA Cup third round in 05/06, 06/07 (under former Darlington manager Mark Cooper) and in 11/12 when they lost to Everton at Goodison Park
- Returned to the National Premier for latest spell in 2009

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UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

ADAM BARTLETT

*New keeper Adam Bartlett unexpectedly played
at Wembley earlier in his career –
he spoke to Ray Simpson*





the youngsters from Under 9s to Under 16s.

"I have a UEFA licence to coach, I did my badges when I was at Gateshead and then Hartlepool, and I'd been doing part time coaching at Middlesbrough.

"I received a phone call from Middlesbrough offering me a full time job, and I had a choice to make – should I turn the job down and remain a full time pro or should I take it and have more security?

"I knew that when Dave Jones took over as Hartlepool manager my days would be numbered, and I asked myself if I wanted to see my contract out and play second fiddle? I didn't want to do that, because I'm used to playing regular football. The Hartlepool keeper, Trevor Carson, picked up an injury, and I knew that when he was fit again, I had no chance of displacing him – after all he is the first choice for Northern Ireland.

"Ever since I joined Blyth after leaving Newcastle, I've played regular football – over 450 games confirms that. Somehow, Martin Gray knew that my situation was changing and that I was going to leave Hartlepool, and he contacted me and asked if I would like to join Darlington.

"I didn't need much persuasion. Darlington are the biggest non league club by far in the north east, and the success over the last five years has been phenomenal. The fan base is big as well, and so when I signed for Darlington, it topped a great week."

Adam, who has played alongside Phil Turnbull, Gary Brown and Josh Gillies in the past, moved up the football ladder to Kidderminster following his departure from Blyth, and it was at the end of a successful season there when he played at Wembley – but for a different club at 48 hours' notice.

"Kidderminster had just missed out on the play offs, and so I went for training with England C ahead of a game in Belgium.

"Cambridge were in the play off final, and their keeper was injured in a training session just a couple of days before the game. Their back up keeper was only 18 years old, and they got special dispensation from the league to sign an emergency keeper.

"I received a call from Cambridge after I'd been training with England C one morning, asking if I would like to play at Wembley two days later! Of course I agreed, who wouldn't turn the chance down?

"So I played in the final, and unfortunately we lost 2-0 against Torquay in front of 40,000 fans. It was a great experience, and I felt that I did myself justice.

"That appearance put me in the shop window, and I had a lot of offers after that from several Football League clubs, so I decided to join Hereford United when they were in the Football League. It was a step upwards that I wanted to take. Oxford and Torquay were also interested.

"Hereford had just been relegated to League Two, and were being run by owner Graham Turner and manager John Trewick. For a while things looked good, but then Graham sold the club and it went downhill after that. I was an ever present for two seasons.

"I came back north to Gateshead, and played there for three years, and in one season we played 75 per cent of our home games away from home

because our ground wasn't fit. We played a home game at Boston once, which was bizarre so far away from Gateshead.

"In my third season we got to Wembley in the play off final and lost unfortunately."

Adam believes that Quakers can make the play offs at the end of the season.

"I'm impressed at the strength of the team spirit. There's a real never-say-die attitude in the dressing room, as the lads have proved in every game that I've played so far.

"Personally, I didn't get off to the best of starts at Gainsborough, but the lads dug me out of a hole a little bit, and at Fylde last Saturday they never stopped trying to get back into the game. We nearly pulled it back after Gary Brown scored, but then they made it 3-1.

"That never-say-die attitude can only be a big benefit and stand us in good stead over the rest of the season. We all believe that we can get into the play offs, and the three home games we have left will be crucial. Every game is going to be like a cup final."





FROM THE Boardroom:

JOHN TEMPEST

Hello, and welcome to today's match against our visitors from Tamworth.

It's been a busy week, to say the least, with two significant events taking place.

Firstly, we had our match against AFC Fylde last Saturday. With second placed Kidderminster losing to Halifax, it looks as though Fylde's win against us will be their launchpad to the National League.

But it was also a match in which we saw a significant amount of trouble caused by a small group of people in the away section of the ground. I refuse to call them "fans", because bringing the club into disrepute is not the sort of behaviour that we want to be associated with. It would seem that the abuse, fighting, encroachment onto the playing area, and throwing of missiles was fuelled by alcohol, and we have photographs of what look like very young people holding alcoholic drinks on the terraces.

We have made our views on the serving of alcohol during the match known both to the officials at AFC Fylde, and to the police. But we do not think that alcohol being abused during the match was the sole reason for the trouble. There is clearly a core of individuals who seem intent on spoiling

our reputation at away games. I must point out that the vast majority of our fans are great ambassadors for the club.

The biggest challenge that the Board faces in placing banning orders is putting names to faces. Once we have evidence of wrongdoing, we can take steps to prevent individuals from attending home matches. But preventing them from attending away matches is more difficult. However, we are now working with the Supporters Group to find a way to ensure that these people do not get into Darlington matches.

We have had a great response from fans to our plea for information. Lots of photographs, and eye witness statements. We have also been able to name individuals whom we believe were breaking the rules, and at the time of writing this piece we will be talking with our Police Liaison Officer about whether formal police action can be instigated. At the very least, and if we haven't already done so by the time you read this, we hope to have named individuals whom we believe have broken the rules.

All that negative activity at the beginning of the week took the shine off the fantastic news that we received on Monday that the FA Council has approved the change in our playing name back to "Darlington", dropping the "1883". The FA had its

reasons for requiring us to make the change in 2012, and as I have said previously, there is no point in going over that old ground. So I would like to thank the FA for listening to us, and for accepting the case that we made for allowing us to revert to our historic name.

You should note that the company that runs the football club will continue to be called Darlington 1883 Limited for the time being, and our majority shareholder Darlington 1883 Supporters Society Limited. However we will be looking at whether that decision should remain, or whether we should incur the cost of changing the company name too. But the important thing for now is that in 2017/18 season whichever results service you follow will report the scores for DARLINGTON!

All the more reason not to let a small group of individuals tarnish the image that we have waited for five years to regain. So if you have information about any individual who you have seen behaving improperly, please don't hesitate to contact dave.watson@darlingtonfc.org.

Meanwhile, back on the field, we welcome the players, manager and coaching staff, fans, directors and officials from Tamworth, and we wish them a safe journey home this evening.

BENEFIT GAME FOR JOEY HUTCHINSON



He sustained serious spinal injuries in a swimming pool accident in Spain last year, is now wheelchair-bound and requires around-the-clock care.

Now 34 and a father of two, before joining Darlington in 2003, Middlesbrough-born Hutchinson was a youth team player at Birmingham

City, and they are staging a special fixture in aid of the former defender on Saturday, 6th May (3pm).

The Birmingham team that won the play-off final at the Millennium Stadium during Hutchinson's time at the club, 2000-2003, are to reform and take on a Select XI at St Andrew's.

Trevor Francis, who gave Hutchinson his Blues debut, will manage the side that will include a host of former Birmingham players, including: Ian Bennett, Kevin Poole, Nicky Eaden, Jerry Gill, Michael Johnson, David Holdsworth, Darren Purse, Martin Grainger, Jon McCarthy, Martin O'Connor, Curtis Woodhouse, Graham Hyde, Dele Adebola, Paul Devlin, Paul Furlong and Geoff Horsfield. One of his closest friends, Andrew Johnson, who also played for Everton and Fulham, will also be involved in the fixture.

Tickets cost £5 for adults and £3 for under-16s with all monies raised going to help provide care for Hutchinson and his family.

Hutchinson joined Darlington in 2003 and was with the club for three and a half seasons, making most of his 86 Quakers appearances in his first year at the club.

Mick Tait was manager when he signed during the summer that the club moved to The Northern Echo Arena, though David Hodgson then took over and lavished praise on the centre-back.

Soon after being appointed Quakers boss in November 2003, Hodgson said of Hutchinson: "When I first arrived I

A benefit game is to be staged at the end of the season for former Darlington defender Joey Hutchinson, who is paralysed after a fall on holiday (writes Craig Stoddart)

must admit I knew very little about Joey. In my first game at Hornchurch I made the mistake of leaving him on the bench. It was only after getting to know the lads that I realised what Joey was all about.

"He's a fantastic young player with a lot going for him. He's quick, reads the game well and knows exactly what's going on around him."

The following season bigger clubs were known to be keeping tabs on the young defender, with Swindon Town making an enquiry about him, leading then team-mate Craig Liddle to say: "If he continues to play like he has been then I think it is inevitable that he will play at a higher level.

"He's got everything a player needs to be a top class centre-half and I'm sure he will go on to bigger and better things. I would be very surprised if teams weren't watching him now because he has been outstanding in the seven games he has played this season."

However, Hutchinson's time with Quakers was curtailed by cruel luck with injury. He twice sustained a cruciate ligament damage, and after struggling to regain peak fitness he was released by Hodgson in February 2007, joining York City in August that year. After hanging up his boots he became a senior welding inspector.

A JustGiving page has been set up, where it says: "He is continuing the long hard process of further rehabilitation and learning to manage his physical needs each day adapting to life in a wheelchair.

"He is accessing therapies to assist with pain management, muscle strengthening and flexibility. These being fundamental to his physical and mental health. He is actively researching ground breaking spinal cord treatments around the world in the hope he can access a suitable programme of treatment to improve his hand function and or even eventually so he can walk again.

"Joey has amazed his family and friends in the way he has faced this life changing event. His determination has been an inspiration to us all. We are hear to give Joey and his family ongoing support on this difficult and unpredictable road ahead by raising funds on this page. Any donation will be gratefully received."

Go to: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/JoeyJournies>



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



JORDAN PICKFORD faced Germany for England's Under-21s in March, and was on the bench for a game against Denmark a few days later.

The 23-year-old goalkeeper, who was promoted to the senior squad by Gareth Southgate as back-up to Joe Hart last November, played for Quakers on loan from Sunderland in 2012.

AMAR PUREWAL scored a hat-trick in Shildon's 5-1 win over Penrith on March 30.

Also among their scorers at Dean Street was **LEWIS WING**, who has agreed to join Middlesbrough at the end of the season.

The free-scoring midfielder played one game for Darlington in 2014, at home to Curzon Ashton.

Two former Darlington players



are in the Hereford squad that has have taken another step on their intended climb back towards the Football League by winning a second successive promotion in the Southern League.

ROB PURDIE and **CLAYTON FORTUNE** are both with the phoenix club, which was created following the demise of Hereford United in December 2014, who will

play in English football's seventh tier next season.

Purdie, a versatile performer, this season made his 400th appearance for Hereford having returned to the club in 2015, and played for them in the 2016 Vase final against Morpeth.

He had two seasons with Darlington, 2007-09, before following Dave Penney and Martin Gray to Oldham, but he did not play a game due to injury at Boundary Park.

Fortune signed for Hereford in November. He made seven appearances for Quakers in 2008-09.



MARCH 18TH 2017

DARLINGTON 1 BRACKLEY 0

Darlington moved up to fifth place in the table thanks to a Stephen Thompson powerblast against Brackley.

Considering that Quakers were missing their two regular centre halves, they never looked as if they would concede a goal, to record their second successive clean sheet and their fourth game in a row unbeaten.

Quakers nearly scored on 6 minutes, when Thompson crossed from the right, and Brackley defender Alex Gudger turned the ball towards the top corner of his own net, but keeper Laurie Walker just managed to claw the ball away.

Quakers had the ball in the net on 21 minutes when David Syers headed in a Thompson cross, but the ref penalised Terry Galbraith for a foul on the keeper.

Quakers had a chance on 24 minutes when Cartman cut in from the left and struck a low drive that Walker saved, then Syers had a shot blocked ten yards out after a good flowing move.

Quakers' early second half pressure was rewarded when they took the lead on 54 minutes. Beck and Syers both had attempts blocked in a crowded penalty area, but the ball ran on for Thompson to powerfully lash into the roof of the net from an acute angle for his sixth league goal of the season.

Quakers stayed firmly in control after that, and after a five minute stoppage because of a head injury to Brackley's Glenn Walker, they nearly got a second when Walker tipped Mark Beck's header from Galbraith's free kick over the bar.

STATS:

Darlington: Wilczynski, Marrs, Ferguson, Turnbull, Hunter, Galbraith, Syers, Falkingham, Beck, Cartman (sub Gillies 90+1), Thompson (sub Saunders 74)

Subs: Jameson, Wearmouth, Hume

Brackley:

L Walker, Clifton, Gudger, Byrne, Gough, Dean, G Walker, Lowe (Myles 64), Moyo (sub Diggin 80), Hempenstall (sub Ndlovu 64), A Walker

Subs: Pitt, Barnes-Homer

Booking: Gudger

Attendance 1547

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DAVID FERGUSON IN ACTION



**STEPHEN THOMPSON
SCORES V BRACKLEY**



**PHIL TURNBULL
CONCENTRATES ON THE BALL**

THE MAGIC NUMBERS:

5 – Quakers' position in the league after this game

6 – the number of goals that Thommo had scored this season

40 – the number of goals that Quakers have scored at home this season

1642 – the average attendance at Darlington home games this season up to that point

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Commercial Brochure



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The 16 page brochure details all of the packages that will be available to fans and companies, including:-

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HOW THE OTHERS ARE DOING



Chris Sykes reviews last weekend's matches

AFC Fylde's 4-1 defeat of Darlington last week sent them nine points clear at the top of the table. It was a quick recovery from the Coasters who lost by the same scoreline to Nuneaton a week earlier.

Their lead was extended as Kidderminster were beaten 2-1 at home by FC Halifax. It was a first defeat in five matches for Harriers, who do have a game in hand on Fylde.

That win for Halifax helped tighten their grip on a play-off place, and the Shaymen have a game in hand on the sides around them. The win was Halifax's third win in a row.

Fourth placed Salford are behind Halifax on goals scored but have played a game more. They won for the first time in four matches last week, as they came from behind to beat bottom club Altrincham.

Chorley moved into the final play-off spot with an easy 4-0 win over relegation-threatened Gainsborough. The Magpies are two points above Darlington, who are just outside the play-off spots.

Seventh placed Stockport are behind the Quakers on goal difference after drawing four and winning two of their last six.

Brackley Town followed up back-to-back wins against Worcester and AFC Telford with a draw against Boston last week, leaving them seven points behind the play-offs with a game in hand.

Level on points with Brackley are today's visitors Tamworth, who kept their play-off hopes flickering with victory over Harrogate.

However, Gloucester City, who are five games unbeaten, could only draw 0-0 at Curzon Ashton to slip nine points behind the top five.

And that defeat at Brackley all but ended Harrogate Town's play-off hopes. Despite having a game in hand, Town are 12 points off the top five.

12th-placed Curzon Ashton have lost just one of their last four games, as they sit comfortably in mid-table. They're a point ahead of FC United, who've taken four wins from their last seven to sit 16 points clear of the relegation zone.

Nuneaton Town have found good form in recent weeks, having lost just one of their last seven. That included a surprising 4-1 home win over leaders Fylde. The Boro have also taken points off play-off chasing Stockport in recent weeks.

Boston United lie 12 points clear of the drop zone after losing just one of their previous four matches, including a shock 2-0 win over play-off chasing Salford two weeks ago.

Two wins in a row have lifted AFC Telford out of relegation trouble. Their wins over Worcester City and Stalybridge Celtic mean the Bucks are nine points clear of the drop.

Telford are above Alfreton Town on goal difference. Alfreton still haven't fully secured their National League North status for next season after losing their last two.

Having at one stage looked doomed, Bradford Park Avenue are close to ensuring their survival. They've won six out of 10 matches to be level on points with Telford and Alfreton.

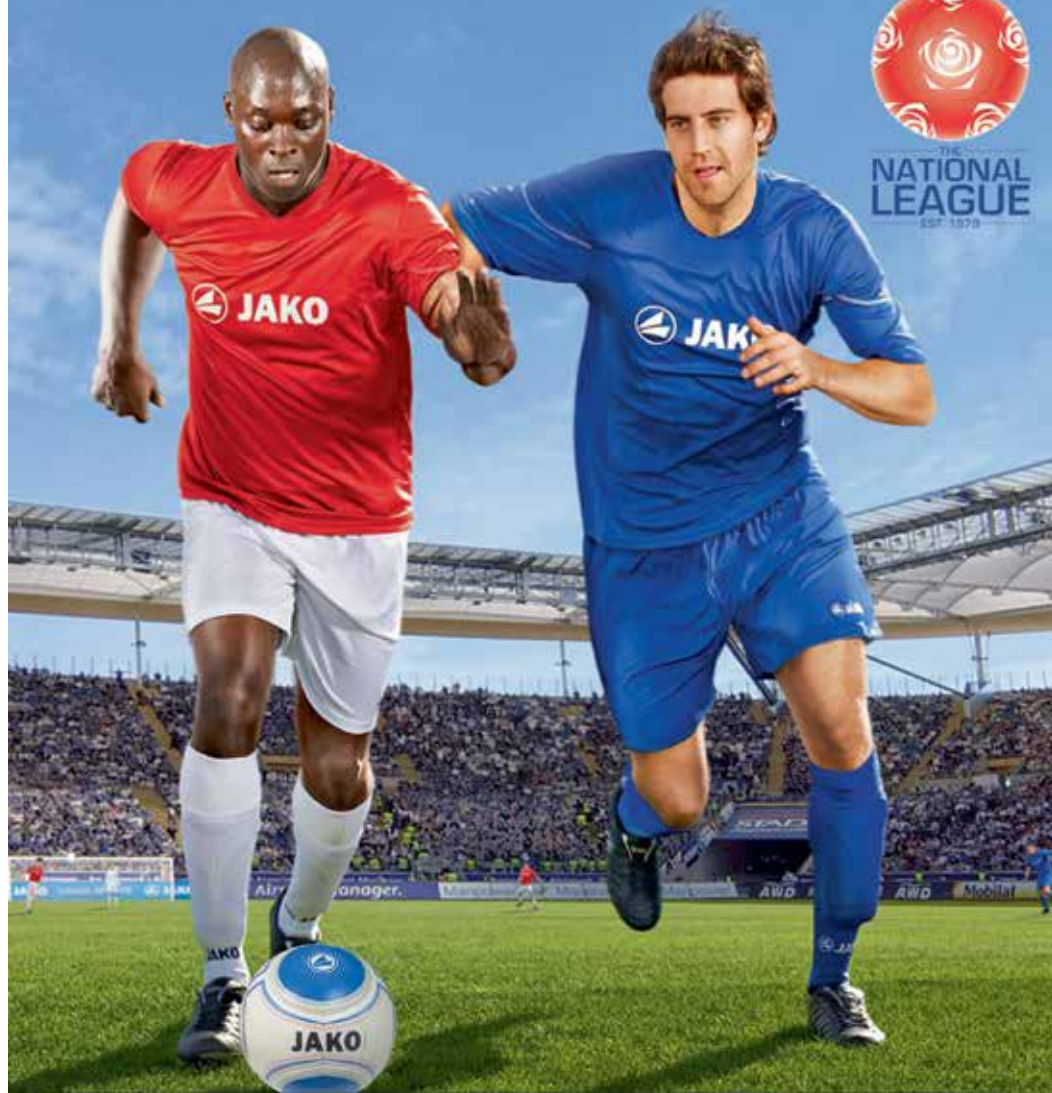
Bottom club Altrincham were relegated last weekend after their defeat to Salford.

Stalybridge look almost certain to join them, lying 13 points from safety with no wins in their previous four.

The final spot is likely to be taken by Worcester or Gainsborough Trinity.

Trinity currently occupy that place, having failed to win any of their last 10 games. They're two points behind Worcester, whose run of form is just as bad, having taken only one victory from their previous 20 league games.

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WITH THE *reserves*

The reserves had a great 4-2 derby win over Hartlepool last Saturday when they finished their home fixtures.

Two goals apiece from Lewis Walton and Nathan Stephenson set the lads up for the win, which put them into seventh place at the time in the Wearside League.

And taking into consideration that they were in the bottom three of the league when Quakers took over Horden's record in October, then to be in that position is a great achievement.

The team was created in order to give the youngsters some much-needed experience of senior football to help them prepare for first team football, and also to give players who are recovering from injury some match time.

The results have been very good, the best of them when they beat promotion chasing Redcar Athletic a few weeks ago, and of course there is nothing better than a derby victory.

Joint manager Mark Fanning said; "We were the better team from start to finish, and it was great to get back to winning ways after last week's defeat.

"There were some very good performances, while Arran Wearmouth played the first hour without any reaction to his injury."

Arran is steadily recovering from a cruciate injury, and as well as playing for the reserves, has played in the National League North at Gainsborough.



ACTION FROM THE WIN
OVER HARTLEPOOL



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PICTURES FROM THE PAST



JIMMY WILLIS RISES HIGH ABOVE TO THE BOLTON WANDERERS DEFENCE TO WIN A HEADER DURING A DARLINGTON WIN AT FEETHAMS IN SEPTEMBER 1991.

THE DEFENDER SCORED IN THE GAME, A 3-2 VICTORY, TO MAKE IT TWO WINS FROM FOUR AT THE START OF THE 1991-92 SEASON IN DIVISION THREE (NOW KNOWN AS LEAGUE ONE) HAVING STARTED THE CAMPAIGN BY BEATING BOURNEMOUTH AWAY FROM HOME BY 2-1, A MATCH IN WHICH WILLIS ALSO SCORED.

IT WAS TO PROVE WILLIS' FINAL SEASON AT FEETHAMS, THE DEFENDER BEING BOUGHT BY BRIAN LITTLE FOR £200,000 IN NOVEMBER, THE FORMER QUAKERS BOSS TAKING HIM TO LEICESTER CITY WHERE THE SCouser PLAYED IN THE PREMIER LEAGUE.

OTHER SCORERS AGAINST BOLTON WERE MITCH COOK AND GARY COATSWORTH.

DARLINGTON: PRUDHOE, COATSWORTH, GRAY, WILLIS, SMITH, TROTTER (MCJANNET), COOK, TOMAN, BORTHWICK, MARDENBOROUGH, TAIT.



GARY BROWN SCORES AT
FYLDE LAST SATURDAY



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STEVE'S HALF-TIME Quiz

FIRST HALF – GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

1. Which creatures served as balls in the mad croquet game in Alice in Wonderland?
2. In Coronation Street, which legendary rock group appeared as themselves in 2005?
3. Which country declared itself independent of Pakistan in 1971?
4. In which English county was Greenham Common peace camp situated?
5. Where is Prime Minister Teresa May's parliamentary constituency?
6. Which is the only number, when written, to have all its letters in correct alphabetical order?
7. In which fictional town is ITV's A Touch of Frost, starring David Jason, set?
8. DAB radios are becoming increasingly popular – what do the initials DAB stand for?
9. On the London Underground map which line is coloured brown?
10. The Mazurka is the traditional dance of which country?
11. In 1825 the Stockton to Darlington railway line was the first company to introduce what?
12. Which 60s model featured briefly in A Hard Day's Night before going on to marry one of the film's stars?

HALF-TIME TEASER WHAT A SEASON!

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

How many Quakers reached double figures in terms of scoring League goals?

ANSWERS
ON
PAGE 49

SECOND HALF – SPORTING KNOWLEDGE

13. Which EFL club plays its home games at Highbury?
14. In F1 motor racing, where was the first British Grand Prix staged?
15. In which sport is the Doggett's Coat and Badge awarded?
16. How many gold medals did Team GB win at London 2012?
17. Which European swimmer was nicknamed The Albatross?
18. Which Man Utd player scored twice in their 4 – 1 defeat of Benfica in the 1968 European Cup Final?
19. Who was the coach of England's successful rugby team in the 2003 World Cup?
20. Who is the last Australian woman to win the Wimbledon Singles title?
21. Which former Test cricketer was known as Whispering Death?
22. How many players make up a beach volleyball team?
23. Which colour flag in Formula 1 indicates a driver disqualification?
24. Who are the only two England footballers to have scored a hat-trick in a World Cup finals tournament?

**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 today's Memory Match, Simon Weatherill looks back to the 3-2 home win over Doncaster Rovers on 11th April 1966.

The Quakers had started the 65/66 season in unspectacular fashion, winning only one of their first six league fixtures, so there was very little hint of the exciting season that lay ahead. Scunthorpe had been beaten in the first round of the League Cup, a victory that set up a home tie against Swindon in round two. The aftermath of that cup tie transformed Darlington's season and set them on the road to promotion. Swindon were beaten 2-1 but they were so impressed with home centre forward Jimmy Lawton that they immediately put a bid in for him. Lawton was transferred to the Wiltshire club for £8,000, with midfielder Alan Sproates moving in the opposite direction as part of the deal. Manager Lol Morgan then went out and spent the bulk of the transfer money on a replacement for Lawton, signing Bobby Cummings from Newcastle. The introduction of Sproates and Cummings to the team had an immediate impact as the club went on a run of only one defeat in their next 15 games, catapulting them to the verge of the promotion race. (Cummings had contributed 13 goals in those 15 games.) Manager Morgan further strengthened his squad in

the February when he signed two experienced players to help with the promotion push, bringing in Don Ratcliffe from Middlesbrough and Barry Hutchinson from Lincoln City.

The battle for promotion featured seven teams and no one ever ran away with things at the top as everyone's form fluctuated. At the beginning of April, one point separated the top six clubs and it had become a question of who could hold their nerve best in the hectic run in. By the time Doncaster Rovers arrived at Feethams on Easter Monday, April 11th, both clubs were well placed in the promotion race. Darlington sat in 6th place with 45 points from 36 games. Rovers were in 4th place, one point better off from the same number of games. Both clubs had games in hand on the teams around them and stood a good chance of claiming one of the four promotion places. The Quakers had no injury worries and manager Lol Morgan named an unchanged side for the fifth game in a row.

A sizeable following from South Yorkshire swelled the crowd as 12181 packed into Feethams for the holiday fixture. They witnessed a tense opening to the game with neither side wanting

to give their opponents an opening. The visitors' midfield controlled the opening stages but it was the Quakers who created and missed the better opportunities. Rovers grabbed the lead after 26 minutes. Inside left Tony Coleman hit a shot that was brilliantly turned around the post by Tony Moor in the home goal. Coleman himself took the resulting flag kick and inside right Alick Jeffrey burst between two defenders to head the inswinging corner into the roof of the net.

Minutes later Jeffrey could have put the visitors in total control but he missed an absolute sitter, shooting wide when faced with an open goal. The Quakers fought back and deservedly equalised in the 36th minute. George McGeachie and John Peverell made progress down the right with good interplay, before Peverell found outside left Les O'Neill with a cross field pass. O'Neill swung the ball into the box first time where it was met by Barry Hutchinson, who headed home. The match was living up to its billing as a promotion showdown and the teams left the pitch at half time with honours even, 1-1. The Quakers began the second half in fine style, with McGeachie especially prominent. In one action



packed spell he had two shots blocked and two crosses turned away by desperate defenders.

Then, on 49 minutes, the Quakers took the lead that their pressure deserved. Brian Keeble hit a fierce drive that was blocked by a defender and ran out wide to O'Neill. He fired in a cross, which again found the head of Hutchinson who made no mistake, past visiting keeper Harry Fearnley. The home side continued to pile forward as they took complete control, playing some of their best football of the season. Hutchinson had two chances to complete his hat trick, missing narrowly on both occasions, before Don Ratcliffe added a brilliant solo goal on the hour. He dispossessed Coleman in midfield before dribbling straight through the centre of the Rovers defence before slipping the ball past the advancing Fearnley. At 3-1



The Quakers had started the 65/66 season in unspectacular fashion, winning only one of their first six league fixtures

the game should have been over but Darlington gave their visitors hope by conceding a needless penalty in the 73rd minute when Ratcliffe brought down Jeffrey. Coleman made no mistake from the spot to set up a nervous last 17 minutes. Rovers threw men forward looking for an equaliser but it was the Quakers who went closer to scoring again. Keeble had a header scrambled off the line, then Bobby Cummings hit a drive inches wide. The large crowd had been brilliantly entertained and Darlington had just held out to claim a 3-2 win.

Quakers eventually clinched promotion with a goalless draw in their last game against Torquay. Doncaster and Darlington both finished on 59 points, but Rovers were champions due to their superior goal average. Torquay finished third with 58 points and in the mad scramble behind them, Colchester grabbed the fourth promotion spot on goal average from Tranmere and Luton. All



three sides had finished on 56 points.

The programme for the 65/66 season consisted of 12 pages and cost 4d. The front cover showed a drawing of two players competing for the ball and was printed in a variety of colours including blue, pink, white or yellow. Inside was Club Jottings (with news of what was happening around the club), an action photo from a previous game, team line-ups, half time scoreboard, fixtures and results from first and reserve teams, and pen pictures of our opponents. Amazingly, considering the exciting and successful season that the club was enjoying, there was no room for a league table!

Team v Doncaster :

1 Tony Moor 2 John Peverell
3 Brian Keeble 4 Ray Yeoman
5 Joe Jacques 6 Don Ratcliffe
7 George McGeachie 8 Barry Hutchinson
9 Bobby Cummings
10 Alan Sproates 11 Les O'Neill
Sub Bill Hopper (not used)

25TH MARCH 2017

GAINSBOROUGH TRINITY 3 DARLINGTON 3

A goal six minutes into stoppage time by David Syers earned Quakers a valuable but heart-stopping point at Northholme.

Quakers were 3-1 down midway through the second half, but once again they showed their character and kept their play off campaign well and truly on track.

They seemed to be on course for a routine win after 11 minutes. Chris Hunter launched the ball forward into the Gainsborough area from inside his own half, and Mark Beck outjumped the defence as the keeper came out, and the ball landed in the net for his 15th league goal of the season.

Beck popped up on his own line when he cleared a shot by Chris Salt following a corner, but Quakers went down the other end and nearly got a second. Beck's shot was parried as far as Thompson who drilled the ball across the face of goal, and David Syers, sliding in at the far post, put the ball wide.

Gainsborough levelled out of the blue on 34 minutes, when a free kick came over from the right from Greg Tempest, and Matt Wilson headed past debutant keeper Adam Bartlett, and a minute later Quakers were stunned when Ashley Worsfold ran clear and poked the ball past the stranded keeper.

It was 3-1 five minutes after half time. A long throw came in from the right, Chab Chilaka headed against the crossbar, and he was first to react to the loose ball and poked the ball in.

Quakers rolled up their sleeves and got back into the game on 75 minutes, when sub Josh Gillies crossed into the box, Beck headed towards goal, and even though the ball was blocked, Syers reacted first and headed in.

Quakers piled forward in the closing stages. Syers had a shot blocked, man of the match Josh Falkingham curled one just wide, and sub Harvey Saunders headed just past the post.

But Quakers' non stop pressure paid off in the sixth minute of stoppage time when Falkingham crossed from the left and the ball bounced off a defender on the six yard line for the alert Syers to knock the ball past the wrong footed keeper.

STATS:

Darlington:

Bartlett, Marrs (sub Wearmouth 69), Ferguson, Turnbull, Hunter, Galbraith, Syers, Falkingham, Beck, Cartman (sub Saunders 55), Thompson (Gillies 55)

Subs: Wilczynski, Burgess

Gainsborough: Willis, Jacklin, Salt, Nyoni, Wilson, Evans, Chippendale, Tempest, Chilaka (Jarman 77), Thewlis (McGovern 65), Worsfold (sub Wiles 80)

Subs: Lacey, Nicholson

Attendance 744

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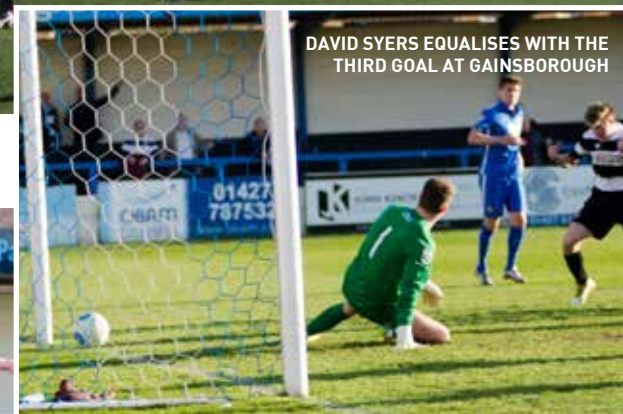


MARK BECK SCORES V
GAINSBOROUGH



DAVID SYERS SCORES THE SECOND
AT GAINSBOROUGH

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DAVID SYERS EQUALISES WITH THE
THIRD GOAL AT GAINSBOROUGH

THE MAGIC NUMBERS:

7 – the number of goals that Quakers have scored in the last five minutes plus stoppage time this season

7 – Quakers' position in the table at this point

9 – the number of goals that David Syers has scored in the league this season

29 – the number of points that Quakers have collected away from home this season up to that point

34 – the number of goals that Quakers have scored away from home this season up to that point.

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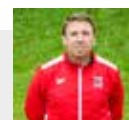
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

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SPEAKING

BY ANTH
MCMASTER

Good afternoon and welcome back to Blackwell Meadows.

The games are coming thick and fast as we are at the business end of the season.

It has been recently announced that General Manager Dave Watson will play a bigger part on the Commercial side of the Club which is great. At this stage of our journey as a Club it's important to have someone actively on the ground and able to commit time to visit local businesses. I will continue to help the Club and Dave wherever I can in terms of representing, promoting the Club and introducing businesses, as well as match day duties.

AWARDS EVENING

No matter what happens, this is a great opportunity to support the Club and celebrate our achievements on and off the pitch together. Every year that goes by so much happens. The name change back to our original is further evidence of success. Come and be part of the end of season awards night at the Kings Head hotel on Saturday 20th May. Tickets are £40.

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.



Today's Match Ball Sponsors are the Doherty Family. Welcome to Mick and guests who are members of the DRAC Darlington Real Ale Crew!

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 days in the Feethams Lounge in recent weeks and would encourage people to come and give it a try and watch the game from the balcony.

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 either at pitchside, on the perimeter fence or in the Tin Shed. 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

The club has produced a commercial brochure, we have copies available for you to pick up today.

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QUAKERRETAIL

with Lynn Jasper

Hi everyone and welcome to today's encounter against Tamworth. Let's hope we can get back to winning ways today and put last Saturday's result well and truly behind us.



2017/18 season so look out for details on our website and on social media. It's a great way to guarantee that you receive your copy of the match day programme. You can order at the shop or the online shop.

DARLINGTON FC

As I started to write these notes news came through that the FA had agreed to our name change back to Darlington FC, losing our 1883 digits. Great news for us! Next season we will back to our rightful name with our full history behind us. As a club we decided not to merchandise anything with 1883 and all of our goods were sold as Darlington FC which will of course continue.

NEW SHIRTS



So far this season we have sold 1,390 shirts which is a great effort by all of our fans.

Our pre order system for this season's shirts, sponsored by Virgin Trains, worked very well. We began pre orders in May and the shirts were delivered to us by Avec at the end of June. We are going to have the same system this season so get ready to put your order in! You can order through the shop or the online shop so look out for details coming very soon.

MATCH DAY PROGRAMME SUBSCRIPTION

Also on pre order during the close season is our Programme subscription offer. We have 12 Darlington fans who subscribe for a whole season's home programmes and 11 who buy a full season's away programmes. As soon as we know which league we will be playing in next season we can begin to calculate the cost for a season's subscription for the



SALE ITEMS

As the season draws to a close, we have added more products into our sale:

Children's home and away shirts £25

Adult away shirts £30

DVD review of season 2015-16 £2.50

Canvas photo of the champions £15

We also have a few children's 2014/2015 season shirts priced at £10 if you want a bargain.

SHOP AT BLACKWELL MEADOWS ON MATCH DAY

If you haven't managed to find us yet we are now situated in the Thomas Watson Bar on Match Day. This enables our stock to keep dry if the weather is rainy. Come and have a look at our merchandise, we are always pleased to see you.

Well that all from me. See you all again soon.

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"For Fans, For Football, For Ever"



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.

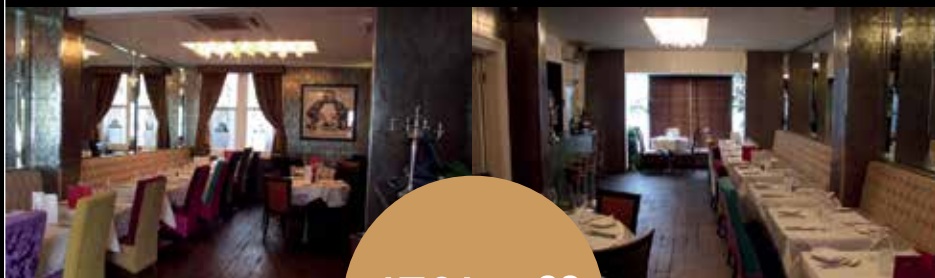
In order to protect you, the spectator, we reserve the right to search your person and/or effects and we further reserve the right to pursue legal action, civil or criminal, against any person who contravenes current legislation or our Ground/Stadium regulations.

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

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To take advantage of this generous offer members must be able to show their valid 2016/17 members card from Tuesday to Saturday inclusive.



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DFCSG Notes

BY WAYNE RAPER

Good afternoon and welcome to Blackwell Meadows for this afternoon's game versus Tamworth in what promises to be a fascinating game as we move towards the end of our campaign.

The undoubted highlight this week has been the announcement that the FA have approved our name change back to Darlington, allowing us to drop the four digits that have been a constant reminder of the treatment which was meted out to the Club in 2012.

To most of our supporters we've always been Darlington FC and always will be, but the FA ruling rubber stamps that from the beginning of next season we will end five full seasons of having to play under the Darlington 1883 tag - constantly battling with league tables showing those pesky digits and mischievous rival teams often including them.

Thanks goes to all DFCSG members who voted in our poll - proving to the FA the level of importance that this decision held -- and also the various supporter organisations such as Supporters Direct who championed our cause.

And a special thanks must of course go to the DFC Directors, in particular Jonathan Jowett who put together the case to the FA for the name change to be considered and ultimately accepted.

The name change following on the back of our return home to Darlington at the turn of the year is the final piece of the jigsaw in returning the club to where we would have been in 2012, all done under volunteer steam with the club in a much more stable state in a ground which is much more. The first five years have been nothing but a huge success and credit should go to everyone involved. But our work is not done.....now more than ever we need everyone to pull together to take us to the next level. The boards of DFC and DFCSG have been working hard in planning what is needed over the next five years to keep the club moving forwards by developing the Blackwell Meadows ground and building a team to

continue to progress up the leagues.

We'll be looking to make this plan public in the coming weeks in readiness for the fundraising launch at the fans forum on 21st April.

For those who helped the Club return home by purchasing Community Shares we recently sent out an update to let you know how that investment has been spent. The update can be read below and contains some more details of the schemes we'll be launching on the 21st:

These improvements included;

- the installation of the Terracing and Cover for the New Tin Shed,
- 294 covered seats in the new South stand,
- 2 turnstile blocks, one at each end of the ground,
- two toilet blocks, one at each end of the ground,
- a new pitch perimeter fence and ground boundary fence,
- extensive areas of paving.

Also as promised, DGCSG have already started to set aside money that will be needed to start repaying your capital, with interest, after the five year minimum investment period.

Thanks to your investment, the foundations are now in place for us to build a football club that is financially stable and playing football at the highest sustainable level. And, even more importantly, to safeguard the future of Darlington Football Club for future generations of Quakers' supporters. However, there is still a long journey and a lot of work to do before we achieve these objectives.

Constant progress for long term results

For those of you who have managed to get to a game at Blackwell Meadows, you will appreciate the improvements that have been made,

and also that there is still much more to be done to improve the Match Day experience for ourselves and visiting fans. Also, we need to bring Blackwell Meadows up to National League Ground Grading Category A which is required to play at National League level.

To that end the boards of DFC and DFCSG are working together and will shortly publish a Strategy and rolling 5 Year Plan for this next phase of Darlington Football Club's development.

Ambition. On and off the pitch

To back up this plan we will also **shortly be launching our second Community Share Offer** to pay for the required improvements to Blackwell Meadows.

Unlike the first offer which had a single target, this second offer will be more ambitious and have at least three milestone targets each linked to a specific set of ground improvements aimed at qualifying DFC to play at National League level and also to improve the Match Day Experience.

We are also going to roll out a new initiative that will allow DFCSG members to donate an additional voluntary subscription each month. Initially every penny of this will go directly to Martin's playing budget. Over time we hope to provide additional options that will enable our members to shape the future of the club by choosing to invest this additional subscription in such things as youth development, infrastructure improvement, community engagement etc.

So once again thanks for your generous investment and we hope we can rely on your continued support as we progress on this exciting and challenging journey.

Wayne Raper
DFCSG Chair

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We wish Darlington every success for the 2016/17 season.

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LOOKING *Back*

This week's Looking Back was originally compiled by Frank Tweddle for the match programme against Lincoln City on 1st April 2006, a game that Quakers won 4-2, with goals by Jermaine Johnson (2), Matt Clarke and Matthew Bates



1995-96

DARLINGTON 3
LINCOLN CITY 2

Division Three Attendance 2146

We entertained Lincoln City at Feehams 21 years ago, lying in fourth place and pushing hard for automatic promotion under the guidance of Jim Platt. Mark Barnard returned at left back after missing a couple of games with his replacement, Anthony Carss dropping to the subs bench. The Quakers opened the scoring on twenty- one minutes when Steve Gaughan lashed in a screamer from twenty five yards out but the 'Imps' were level within three minutes when big Dutchman Gijsbert Bos headed in from a corner. However, Steve Gaughan sidefooted in his second on the half hour to re-establish the Quakers lead which they maintained until ten minutes into the second half when the visitors equalised for the second time through Gareth Ainsworth. Yet within a minute we were back in front after Robbie Painter stormed upfield and set up Robbie Blake for his eighth goal of the season to clinch a hard earned victory.

Team: Newell, Appleby, Crosby, Gegan, Barnard, Shaw (sub Brumwell 15) Bannister, Carmichael, Painter, Blake, Gaughan.

1985-86

DARLINGTON 2
WOLVES 1

Division Three Attendance 3887

We welcomed one of the bigger names in English football to Feehams thirty - one years ago when the once mighty 'Wolves' arrived for a third division game some ninety years since their last visit in division two in the twenties, the proud West Midland side having a torrid time lying bottom of the league facing relegation into the fourth division for the first time. Mike Astbury was making only his third appearance in goal since his move from York City following the transfer of Fred Barber to Everton while young David Woodcock made only his sixth league start of the season. After a goal less first half the beleaguered 'Wolves' took the lead through striker Andy Mutch on fifty three minutes and looked to be heading for a crucial win. However, with less than ten minutes remaining, two goals in the space of three minutes completely turned the game around and gave us our first ever victory over the Wanderers. Firstly Gary Macdonald equalised on eighty three minutes and then Alan Roberts scammed through the defence to slot in the winner.

Team: Astbury, Evans, Morgan, Woodcock (sub Tupling) Green, Lloyd, Roberts, Ward, MacDonald, Robinson, McLean.

1975-76

DARLINGTON 2
BRENTFORD 0

Division Four Attendance 1758

We played our third home game in a week forty one years ago when we entertained West London side Brentford after drawing 2-2 with Bradford City and beating Newport County 4-0. Manager Peter Madden turned out the same side that had hammered County two days earlier with Gordon Cattrell continuing after being out for two months and new signing Ron Ferguson from Sheffield Wednesday at centre forward. After a nervous start the Quakers took the lead midway through the first half when David Crosson hammered in a spectacular twenty-five yard shot. Gordon Cattrell limped off on the hour to be replaced by Steve Holbrook and three minutes later we made the game safe with a second goal when Ron Ferguson crossed for Colin Sinclair to score a diving header for his sixth goal in the last four games. This vital win took us within a point of getting out of the dreaded 'bottom four' re-election places following this trio of good home performances.

Team: Ogley, Nattress, Cochrane, Rowles, Blant, Noble, Cattrell (sub Holbrook) Sinclair, Ferguson, Crosson, Young



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Darlington Community programme

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Today sees the third and final visit from the ranks of our youth teams. Our youngest protégés join us - the U-6s!

As ever they will see behind the scenes and have some time out on the pitch taking in the atmosphere. Hopefully one or more may return in a few years' time having progressed all the way through the ranks and star in the first team.

My right hand man Matty shares his thoughts:

"Business end of the season is almost upon us, the time

of the year where all the teams in play off contention fight it out to get a place in the top five, in what is a very competitive league with so much at stake. After last weeks disappointment at Fylde, today's game is a great opportunity to get back onto winning ways and try to cement our place back in the play offs. With three home games to go, taking maximum points here at Blackwell Meadows will be a great help come the last game of the season. While the drama and scenes of gaining a play off place on the last day with a win at Salford, it would be nice to affirm a spot beforehand, and get us back to where we were, back in the Conference level. With some tough games to come, let's hope today starts off another run and pick up all three points, and the start of the promotion fun bus.

"Finally, I'm sure you'll all agree with me that the news this week of the name change of the club rightly being put back to Darlington FC was met with great relief and positivity.

"Let's make some noise and enjoy the game!"

Do you want to be a mascot? Drop us a line on hospitality@darlingtonfc.org

IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT ANDREW AND HIS TEAM, CONTACT HIM AT ANDREW.ALTON@DARLINGTONFC.ORG OR ON 07837816646.

Darlington
Building Society



QUIZMASTER ANSWERS (Page 31)

FIRST HALF - GENERAL KNOWLEDGE 1. Hedgehogs 2. Status Quo 3. Bangladesh 4. Berkshire 5. Maidenhead 6. Forty 7. Denton 8. Digital Audio Broadcasting 9. Bakerloo 10. Poland 11. Passengers 12. Patti Boyd

HALF-TIME TEASER Six players - Cartman/Gaskell/Armstrong/Burgess/Galbraith/Thompson

SECOND HALF - SPORTING KNOWLEDGE 13. Fleetwood Town 14. Brooklands 15. Rowing 16. Twenty-nine 17. Michael Gross 18. Bobby Charlton 19. Clive Woodward 20. Evonne Goolagong-Cawley 21. Michael Holding 22. Two 23. Black 24. Geoff Hurst & Gary Lineker

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Since 2000 the Football Foundation and its funders have invested in £1 billion worth of grassroots projects. This is providing quality playing surfaces and changing rooms for communities across the country – helping to increase participation and supporting player development.

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COMING SOON TO DARLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB!

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Eastbourne Sports Complex 3G

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GIRLS FOOTBALL FOR 14 TO 18 YEAR OLDS

**Friday April 28th
5pm-6pm**

Eastbourne Sports Complex 3G
The first session is free!

Further details on 07921 334577

VANARAMA LEAGUE

Vanarama National League North 2016-17

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	GD
1 AFC Fylde	37	23	9	5	99	55	78	+44
2 Kidderminster	36	21	6	9	65	36	69	+29
3 FC Halifax Town	37	20	8	9	72	42	68	+30
4 Salford City	37	19	10	8	68	38	67	+30
5 Chorley	37	18	12	7	57	38	66	+19
6 Darlington	37	18	10	9	77	58	64	+19
7 Stockport County	37	17	13	7	54	39	64	+15
8 Brackley	37	16	12	9	54	38	60	+16
9 Tamworth	37	18	5	14	61	62	59	-1
10 Gloucester City	37	17	7	13	61	53	58	+8
11 Harrogate Town	36	15	9	12	62	51	54	+11
12 Curzon Ashton	37	13	9	15	56	62	48	-6
13 Nuneaton	37	12	11	14	54	56	47	-2
14 FC United of Manchester	37	12	11	14	57	60	47	-3
15 Boston United	37	11	10	16	47	62	43	-15
16 AFC Telford United	37	10	10	17	35	48	40	-13
17 Bradford Park Avenue	37	12	4	21	44	68	40	-24
18 Alfreton	37	11	7	19	57	83	40	-26
19 Worcester City	37	7	12	18	40	55	33	-15
20 Gainsborough Trinity	37	7	10	20	48	77	31	-29
21 Stalybridge Celtic	35	6	5	24	32	72	23	-40
22 Altrincham	37	3	8	26	32	79	17	-47

DARLO APPEARANCES & GOALS 2016-17

League	League start	League sub	Cups start	Cups subs	League goals	Cup goals
Adam Bartlett	3					
Mark Bell		1				
Mark Beck	36		2	1	15	
Gary Brown	30	1	3		4	
Kevin Burgess	28	1			4	
Nathan Cartman	17	16	3		5	1
Tom Davie		3				
Ben Dudzinski	1		2			
Josh Falkingham	19	4	3		1	
David Ferguson	11	1				
Terry Galbraith	31	5	3		9	1
Josh Gillies	25	8	2		9	
Liam Hardy	13	12	2	1	8	1
Chris Hunter	12	4	2	1		
Peter Jameson	22					
Matty Lovegreen						
Liam Marrs	27		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	1
Harvey Saunders		8			2	
Leon Scott	16	6	2	1		
David Syers	14	9	1	1	9	
Stephen Thompson	34	2	1	2	7	1
Phil Turnbull	34	1	1	1	1	
Lewis Walker	1					
Jordan Watson	7	2	1			
Arran Wearmouth		1				
Ed Wilczynski	8					
Paul Woolston	3		1			
own goals					1	

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Season's Stats



Last match



V Fylde away
Lost 1-4

Yellow Card
Red Card

Scorers Names in **BOLD**.

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

FIXTURES & RESULTS 2016/17

WIN DRAW LOSE

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	Jameson	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	Brown	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	H	3.00	1-0	1547	Wil'ski	Marrs	Ferg'son	Turnbull	Hunter	Galbr'ith	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck	Cartman	Syers	Gillies	Sau'ders	Jameson	Wear'th	Hume							
Sat	Mar	25th	Gainsborough Trinity	A	3.00	3-3	744	Bartlett	Marrs	Ferg'son	Turnbull	Galbr'ith	Brown	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck	Cartman	Syers2	Wear'th	Sau'ders	Gillies	Wil'ski	Burgess							
Wed	Mar	29th	Bradford Park Avenue	H	7.45	1-0	1333	Bartlett	Marrs	Ferg'son	Turnbull	Galbr'ith	Brown	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck	Gillies	Syers	Sau'ders	Cartman	Wil'ski	Hunter	Scott							
Sat	Apr	1st	AFC Fylde	A	3.00	1-4	2365	Bartlett	Marrs	Ferg'son	Turnbull	Burgess	Brown	Thomp'n	Falk'ham	Beck	Galbr'ith	Syers	Hunter	Sau'ders	Gillies	Cartman	Wil'ski							
Sat	Apr	8th	Tamworth	H																										
Sat	Apr	15th	Alfreton	A																										
Mon	Apr	17th	FC United of Manchester	H																										
Sat	Apr	22nd	AFC Telford United	H																										
Sat	Apr	29th	Salford City	A																										



BARRY CONLON -- NICKNAMED BIG BAZ -- HAD TWO SPELLS WITH QUAKERS. HE JOINED US FROM YORK CITY AT THE START OF THE 2001-02 SEASON, AND REACHED DOUBLE FIGURES IN EACH OF HIS THREE SEASONS WITH US, HELPING US AVOID RELEGATION IN 2004. AFTER A SPELL AT BARNSELY, HE RETURNED IN 2006 AND SCORED A HAT TRICK IN HIS RETURN DEBUT AGAINST MACCLESFIELD.

PHOTO *finish*

Barry Conlon



TODAY'S Teams

Thank you for your support



DARLINGTON

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



TAMWORTH

James Belshaw	
Louis Briscoe	
Andy Burns	
Joe Clarke	
Jed Davies	
Ellis Deeney	
Ross Dyer	
Ben Fox	
Paul Green	
Dan Jezeph	
Luke Jones	
Jack Lane	
Stephan Morley	
Daniel Newton	
Callum Powell	
Reece Styche	
Connor Taylor	

Match Sponsor

Sherwoods

Match Ball

sponsors

Doherty Family from

Manchester, members of the Darlo Real Ale Crew (DRAC)

Match officials:

Referee: Martyn Rawcliffe

Assistant referees: Martin Sowerby and Alex Gray

Next home games:

Easter Monday, 17th April

FC United of Manchester, kick off 3pm

Saturday 22nd April

AFC Telford United, kick off 3pm

Next away games:

Saturday 15th April

Alfreton, kick off 3pm

Saturday 29th April

Salford City, kick off 3pm

Mascots:

Lee Wilson is celebrating his 8th birthday. His favourite player is Nathan Cartman, and he attends the Education Village in Darlington.

Philip Mills is celebrating his birthday

Today's other fixtures:

Altrincham v Brackley, Boston v AFC Telford United, Bradford PA v FC United of Manchester, FC Halifax Town v Alfreton, Gainsborough v Stockport County, Gloucester v Kidderminster, Harrogate Town v Salford City, Nuneaton v Chorley, Stalybridge v AFC Fylde, Worcester v Curzon Ashton



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

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

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 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

Do you want to sample our hospitality at Blackwell Meadows? Then drop us a line on hospitality@darlingtonfc.org