

ROBINS REVIEW

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

TUESDAY 8TH AUGUST 2026





CLUB INFORMATION

The New Manor Ground, Awsworth Road
DE7 8JF, Ilkeston, Derbyshire

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Club Officials:

Chairman: Andrew Nally
Shareholder: Andrew Nally 100%

Staff:

Manager: Tris Whitman
First team coaches: Aaron Large, Louis Minney
Rich Allen, Marcus Verney, Owen Farmer

Club Secretary: Mark Frost
Club Photographer: Dave Morley
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Supporters Group Chairman: Alex Middleton
Supporters Group Secretary: Kevin Cross
Supporters Group Treasurer: Liam Attwood
Supporters Group Membership: Tim Broadbent
Supporters Group Travel: Rich France, Shaun Bell
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WHITMAN'S THOUGHTS

"A warm welcome to everyone from Warrington Town. They've started the season strongly and arrive at the NMG unbeaten, so we know tonight will be a tough test.

As for us, we've also made a relatively solid start, but we feel we haven't quite hit the levels we expect yet in terms of performance and we're focused on building as the season goes on.

In terms of team news, we're pleased to have Sam Wilson back after his strong start to the campaign. Jevon misses out through injury picked up on Saturday which allows an opportunity for others in the squad to step up.

After Saturday's defeat at Whitby, we need a positive response and to show real character.

Finally, the supporters have been fantastic, home and away. That backing really lifts us, and we want to reward you again tonight with a strong performance and hopefully three points.

Enjoy the game and thanks, as always, for your support."

 Microlise



MATCH PREVIEW · WARRINGTON

Returning to the Microlise New Manor Ground, The Robins are looking to get back to winning ways against Warrington Town in their fourth game of the season.

Ilkeston's curtain raiser ended dramatically at home when Lynden Joyce's late heroics snatched all three points, and their next contest looks to be another tough test to secure the same outcome.

After hanging on stoutly, Ilkeston emerged victorious on the road at Emley to register successive wins under Tris Whitman.

They were unable to withstand Whitby in their latest outing, conceding twice in the second half and ultimately lacking the final product to mount a response.

Travelling down from Cheshire on Tuesday evening, Warrington rallied to come back after trailing by one goal to win on the opening day, and harnessed that confidence when they then brushed aside Hyde United at home with a resounding 3-0 victory.

The Yellows were on the cusp of taking maximum points from their first three games, until Cleethorpes Town equalised in stoppage time on Saturday to ensure they shared the spoils, still leaving Warrington in second place before proceedings at Ilkeston begin.

Ilkeston last met Warrington on home soil in April as the sides cancelled each other out in a 1-1 draw, and The Robins finished four points above them in mid-table last term.

Following their relegation from the National League North in 2024/25, Warrington are setting their sights on challenging higher up the table in Step 3 this time around.

By Sam Bunce

THANK YOU · ROBINS

Tonight, we are back at the Microlise New Manor Stadium as we host Warrington Town, as we look to continue our strong start to the season at home, and we need every single one of you Robins behind the team.

It was brilliant to see so many of you on the opening day getting behind the team, and we hope to see out in your numbers again as the Robins look to bounce back from their defeat to Whitby Town.

The coaching staff and players have been thankful for your support so far, and they have been keen to show their appreciation and the role you can play. Anthony Dwyer post Emley: "They are like our twelfth man on the pitch, when they are loud and when they are noisy, telling us to go on and press.

"It really helps us out. I just want to give credit to the fans for Saturday [vs Stockton Town], and credit to them coming out in their numbers tonight [vs Emley]."

Aaron Large pre Stockton Town: "It's really important that we can make this place a fortress [The Microlise New Manor Ground], get the supporters on side, play the way we can and win at home." Bring the noise tonight, and make yourselves hard, up the Robins!

Coming up on the 10th of October, is the race night, which will be held here, at the New Manor Stadium in support of the fantastic Ilkeston Town FC supporters' group. Doors will open at 6pm, with the first race commencing at 6.30pm. Race Sponsorship is priced at £50, whilst Horse Sponsorship is priced at £5. We look forward to welcoming you for what will be a very exciting evening!

By Nathan Waller

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SPORTS & LEISURE



THE FIRST GAME FOR ITFC . 2017

On the 22nd April 2017 Ilkeston FC lost 1-0 to Ashton United. It proved to be the clubs last ever game as their financial troubles mounted. A month later an Australian company called Hire Intelligence issued the club with a winding up order. This news came against a background of rumours about a takeover, which gave the fans hope of the club being saved.

In June however the club were ejected from the Northern Premier League but there was good news when there was talk of a Supporters Group takeover with the new club being called Ilkeston United Community Football Club. Within a matter of weeks Ilkeston were allocated a place in the Midland Football League Second Division and Steve Chettle was appointed manager of a fourth Ilkeston team.

On August 5th 2017 Ilkeston Town travelled to Uttoxeter Town to play their first game. It was the fourth version of a club with the Town name. The first in 1885 folded after two years but Ilkeston Wanderers adopted their name two years later. The club folded in 1902 but was reformed in 1945 only to disappear again in 2011.

The Ilkeston team on that historic day was:

Ilkeston Town – Bodkin, White, Walker, Lench ©, Jemson, Hodgett-Young (Shaw 55), Robinson, Edwards, Gibson, Hopkinson and Bennett (Marshall A 66). Subs not used Stredder Gk, Simmons P, Simmons G.

A record crowd of 267 was swollen by a large contingent from Ilkeston who had travelled down the A50 hoping to see the Robins start their new life with an emphatic win. Uttoxeter however had not read the script and despite escaping after Bill Bennett had hit the bar, broke away to take the lead against the run of play through Matthew Redshaw after fifteen minutes. Ilkeston continued still to have the majority of the possession but were finding it difficult to break through an extremely well organized Uttoxeter defence. On 55 minutes things seemed be getting worse when Elliott Hodgett-Young pulled up and had to be replaced by Chris Shaw. Ilkeston's players and fans were starting to become frustrated as it looked like the Robins efforts were going to prove fruitless as Uttoxeter grew in confidence.

With minutes remaining Ilkeston gained yet another free kick outside the box and Shaw stepped up to power an excellent drive into the top corner past the outstretched hand of Jake Avery. The relief for the travelling fans almost turned to unbridled joy as they nearly snatched all three points in the dying seconds. In the end Ilkeston had to settle for one point and the knowledge that the new era was not going to be the walk in the park as some people may have expected.

The club did however get promoted when they finished as runners up to Walsall Wood before gaining a second promotion the year later this time at the expense of Walsall Wood.

By John Shiels

Warrington Town



Nickname – The Wire

Year Formed - 1949

Ground – Cantilever Park, Common Lane, Warrington, WA4 2RS

Club Colours – Yellow/Blue **Change colours** – Purple/Purple

Website – www.warringtontownfc.co.uk

Facebook - <https://facebook.com/WarringtonTownFC>

X/Twitter - <https://twitter.com/theyellows>

Contact Ground – 07854 123199

Contact Secretary – Chris Lemaire – info@warringtontownfc.co.uk

Football Staff – Manager: Paul Carden Assistant Manager: Craig Noone

Eleven Year Record

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Pos	
2025-26	40	12	12	16	43	63	48	14th	Northern Premier League – Premier Division
2024-25	46	6	13	27	34	70	31	23rd	National League - North
2023-24	46	17	13	16	64	60	64	13th	National League - North
2022-23	42	21	14	7	70	39	77	2nd	Northern Premier League – Premier Division
2021-22	42	20	11	11	67	47	71	5th	Northern Premier League – Premier Division
2020-21	9	5	1	3	16	11	16	A	Northern Premier League – Premier Division
2019-20	32	14	13	5	57	44	55	A	Northern Premier League – Premier Division
2018-19	40	25	9	6	69	33	84	3rd	Northern Premier League – Premier Division
2017-18	46	23	13	10	72	49	82	3rd	Northern Premier League – Premier Division
2016-17	46	22	8	16	65	57	74	10th	Northern Premier League – Premier Division
2015-16	42	34	4	4	121	36	106	1st	Northern Premier League – Division One North

Recent Form -

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Sequence
Last 10	10	2	3	5	10	13	9	DLDDL-L-WWD
Last 5	5	2	1	2	8	7	7	

History

Present Club Formation – The club was formed in 1949 by Jimmy Drinkwater as Stockton Heath Albion

Leagues – Warrington & District League 1949-1953, Mid Cheshire League 1953-1978, Cheshire County League 1978-1982, North West Counties League 1982-1990, Northern Premier League 1990-2023, 2025- National League North 2023-2025

Grounds – Stockton Lane 1949-1950, London Road 1950-1953, Loushers Lane 1953-1955, Stockton Lane, Grappenhall 1955-1956, Cantilever Park 1956-

Names – Stockton Heath Albion 1949-1961, Warrington Town 1961-

Famous Past Players – Roger Hunt, John Green

Famous Managers – Paul Carden

Best FA Cup – R2 2014-15

Best FA Trophy - QF 1992-93 **FA Vase** – FIN 1986-87

Honours – **League** – Mid-Cheshire League 1960-61, North West Counties League Division One 1989-1990, North West Counties League Division Two 2000-01, Northern Premier League Division One North 2015-16 **Cup** – Altrincham Cup 1954-55, Mid-Cheshire League Cup 1953-54, 1954-55, 1955-56, Runcorn Challenge Cup 1965-66, 1966-67, 1968-69, Warrington Guardian Charity Cup 1980-81, 1994-95, Raab Karcher Cup 1987-88, Northern Combination Cup 1989-90, North West Counties League Shield 1985-86, North West Counties League Cup 1989-90, North West Counties Division Two Trophy 1999-00, Northern Premier League Challenge Cup 2014-15

Reference – Wikipedia, Football Club History Database, Football Web Pages, British Newspaper Archive



WARRINGTON TOWN HISTORY

Founded in 1949 as Stockton Heath, the club began life playing at London Road in Appleton before moving into the Mid Cheshire League in 1953. Under manager Freddie Worrall, Heath became one of Cheshire's leading sides, winning the Mid Cheshire League Championship in 1960 and three League Cups.

The club has produced several players who went on to play in the Football League, most famously Roger Hunt, who enjoyed a legendary career with Liverpool and won the 1966 World Cup with England. In 1961, the club was renamed Warrington Town, before moving to its present home in Latchford in 1965.

The formation of the North West Counties League in 1982 provided the platform for Town to progress up the football pyramid. Promotion to the Northern Premier League followed in *989, and the club enjoyed a number of memorable cup runs, including reaching the FA Vase Final at Wembley in 1987, where they narrowly lost to St Helens Town.

The 1990s brought further success, including an FA Trophy quarter-final run in 1992/93 and several notable cup victories. Financial and off-field difficulties later saw the club suffer relegation and ground-grading issues, but Warrington rebuilt and eventually returned to the Northern Premier League.

The club's fortunes changed dramatically during the 2010s. In 2014/15, Town reached the FA Cup First Round Proper for the first time, defeating Football League side Exeter City 1-0 in a memorable televised tie before facing Gateshead in Round Two.

In 2015/16, Warrington produced one of the greatest seasons in its history. Town won the Northern Premier League Division One North championship with a club-record 106 points, scoring in every league game and registering the most wins and goals in a season.

Further high finishes followed. Town finished third in 2017/18, their highest league position at the time, before another remarkable campaign in 2018/19 saw them reach the Super Play-off Final after victories over Nantwich Town and South Shields.

After two seasons curtailed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Warrington continued to challenge at the top end of the division. In 2022/23, Town finished second, their highest-ever league finish, and finally secured promotion after defeating Matlock Town in the play-off semi-final before a dramatic 1-0 victory over Bamber Bridge in the final.

Promotion took Warrington into the National League North for the first time in 2023. Town adapted well and finished 12th in their first season at the level, alongside significant improvements to the ground, including a new stand, terracing and away facilities.

The 2025/26 season was one of transition following major changes to the playing squad, with Town eventually finishing in mid-table.

BEHIND ENEMY LINES

Harry Roper — Warrington youth product who has already made several first-team appearances.

Mateusz Hewelt — Joined in 2026 after 140+ appearances for Radcliffe, having previously been with Everton.

Evan Gumbs — Long-serving Town defender who made 30+ appearances before joining permanently from Tranmere.

Scott Butler — Swansea and Wrexham academy product who joined Town in 2025 after spells across the NPL.

Chris Doyle — Joined from Marine in 2025 after helping them win promotion to National League North.

Jayden Lloyd — Versatile young defender who impressed in pre-season before joining Town in 2025.

Alex McNally — Returned to Town in 2026 after establishing himself at Prescott Cables.

Luke Burke — Joined from Ashton United in 2026 after coming through Wigan Athletic's academy.

Josh Doherty — Experienced defender with Football League experience and an NPL title with South Shields.

Zayn Sadiq — Former Port Vale scholar who joined Town ahead of the 2026/27 season.

David Morgan — Experienced midfielder with 189 appearances for Southport and spells at Nottingham Forest, Dundee and Accrington Stanley.

Josh Vela — Former Bolton midfielder with 150+ Football League appearances, joining Town in 2025.

Reece Daly — Chester academy product who joined Town from Chester FC in 2025.

Jack Goodwin — Joined in 2026 after 150+ appearances for Prescott Cables.

Lewis Earl — Joined from Bootle in 2026 after spells with Preston, Burnley U23s and Stockport County.

Bobby Bjork — Joined from Lancaster City in 2026 after starting his career at Blackpool.

Harris Mackintosh — Warrington Town U21 graduate who stepped up to the first team in 2026.

Rio Hawkins — Joined Town in 2026 after featuring for the Steven Gerrard Academy.

Josh Amis — Town player since 2018 with 200+ appearances and previous Football League experience.

Ewan Bange — Joined from Bamber Bridge in 2025 after scoring 15 goals the previous season.

Ben Elliott — Joined in 2026 after finishing as top scorer for Prescott Cables and West Didsbury.

Joe Rodwell-Grant — Former Wigan Athletic forward who returned to Town in 2026.

Ruben Denton — Warrington Town U21 graduate who featured during 2026/27 pre-season.

PITCHING IN

Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Northern Premier League football clubs need your help with them.

The Trident Leagues and Pitching In's online Volunteer Hub is the place where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

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ANDYSMANCLUB

WHAT IS ANDYSMANCLUB?



#ITSOKAYTOTALK

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

HOW DOES IT WORK?

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

WHO IS IT FOR?

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

WHEN IS IT?

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

WHERE IS IT?

ANDYSMANCLUB has clubs in many locations across the UK. Check our website below for a full list.

HOW DO I JOIN?

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

CONTACT US

 @andysmanclub

 @andysmanclubuk

 @andysmanclubuk

 andysmanclub.co.uk

 info@andysmanclub.co.uk

 andysmanclub



Manager: Tris Whitman

Manager: Paul Carden

- Sam Wilson
- Theo Avery
- Lynden Joyce
- Cashmere Rowe
- Elwalid Elhaghany
- Pharrell Johnson
- Noah Simmons
- Colin Daniel
- Theo Robinson
- Logan Green
- Lewis Belgrave
- Daniel Adiefeh
- Luis Parkes
- Sam Newell
- Jordan Stevens
- Fedel Ross-Lang
- Ashley Hunter
- Harry Wakefield
- Jevin Seaton
- Anthony Dwyer
- Dylan Reason
- Mckeeal Abdullah

- Mateusz Hewelt (GK)
- Evan Gumbs
- Jack Goodwin
- Lewis Earl
- Scott Butler
- Craig Noone
- Josh Vela
- Reece Daly
- David Morgan
- Alex McNally
- Bobby Bjork
- Josh Amis
- Ewan Bange
- Ben Elliott
- Jayden Lloyd
- Chris Doyle
- Luke Burke
- Joe Rodwell-Grant
- Ruben Denton
- Josh Doherty
- Rio Hawkins

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: CALLUM TIMPERLEY

ASSISTANT: ALI CERA - SAMUEL MATTHEWS

NEXT AT HOME

SATURDAY 22ND AUGUST • CLEETHORPES TOWN • 15:00 KICK-OFF