



The Highwaymen

Official Match Programme of Morpeth Town AFC
Season 2015/16 - Issue 2 - Price £1



Durham City FC

EBAC Northern League Division One
Wednesday 19th August 2015 – 7.30pm KO



Welcome to Craik Park



V



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Next Fixture at Craik Park
Morpeth Town A.F.C.

V

Padiham F.C.

Saturday 5th September – 3.00pm KO
FA Vase First Qualifying Round





Chairman: Ken Beattie

Good evening and welcome back to Craik Park for tonight's EBAC Northern League Division One match against Durham City.

Durham City are led by my old friend Olivier Bernard, and superbly managed by former FA Vase winner Ian Chandler, so I am sure they will provide Town with a stern test this evening.

I was delighted with our performance on Saturday at Garforth in the FA Cup when we were great value for our 4-1 win. I thought some of the football we played was a joy to behold and the comments we received from Garforth after the match were source of great pride for myself and will give confidence to Nick and the players.

I'd like to thank every single supporter who made the two hour trip to Yorkshire on Saturday who gave our lads such great encouragement.

Our league form has also been good, I thought we comprehensively beat Bishops on the opening day here at Craik Park, and I thought we were unlucky not to beat Washington in midweek. I'd like to thank the management team Nick Gray, Dave Malone, Steven Anderson, Miles Callum and the players for the work they have put in to get us off to such a good start this season.

I think we are making great strides both on and off the field, and I know Nick, Dave and all the lads appreciate your support as we continue to improve. I hope you enjoy what should be a good game this evening.

Morpeth Town AFC Chairman
Ken Beattie

Town too much for Bishops

Morpeth Town 3-0 Bishop Auckland



Morpeth Town opened their season with a comprehensive 3-0 defeat of Bishop Auckland at Craik Park on Saturday afternoon.

Daniel Taggart opened the scoring after 21 minutes with a left foot thunderbolt, before Jordan Fry netted once in each half to secure the three points for the Highwaymen.

Bishop's created the first opportunity of the game in the 2nd minute, Adam Nicholls picked up the ball on the left side of midfield, playing striker Andrew Johnson in down the left wing. Johnson cut inside on his right foot and into the penalty area, but his effort was saved by Karl Dryden at his near post.

Morpeth also showed their intent in the first 5 minutes, Lee McAndrew picking out Keith Graydon on the edge of the area, who hit a vicious right footed strike wide of Mark Bell's left upright.

Graydon tried his luck again on the quarterball hour mark as he attempted a long range volley from the edge of the area, again his effort went narrowly wide.

The frantic opening to the game continued at the other end as winger Glen Lane broke down the right wing for the Two Blues, cutting onto his left foot before hitting a 25 yard effort wide of goal.

A stunning team move from the Highwaymen culminated in another chance for the home side, Keith Graydon found Sean Taylor on the left after some good work by Luke Carr and Dan Taggart. Taylor took the ball goal wards before playing a one-two with Lee McAndrew who lofted the ball over the defence for Taylor to fire a volley wide.



Two minutes late Morpeth took the lead through striker Taggart. Another long winded move saw Taylor with the ball on the right, he found Graydon infield who in turn found Jordan Fry. Fry slid the ball to Carr whose one touch pass found Taggart 20 yards out who hit a thunderous left footed strike into the left hand corner of Bell's goal.

Within five minutes Bishop Auckland thought they'd equalised, but a goalmouth scramble protected the Highwaymen's 1-0 lead, first Ian Ward, then Arjun Purewell and finally Graham Irving all denied by the sturdy Morpeth defence.

Morpeth then took control of the game and had a number of chances to double their lead. James Novak's cross field ball to Taylor was volleyed over by the forward before a McAndrew run down the left wing led to a curled right footed shot going wide of the post.

The lead was finally extended in the 36th minute, a quick Graydon free-kick from the centre circle found McAndrew on the left, he cut the ball back to Novak who fizzed a low cross through the penalty area which Fry ran onto and finished past Bell.

The game settled down in the second half, with only a handful of chances for either side. The visitors did go close to reducing the deficit early on in the second period, Stuart Thompson picking up the ball in his own half and making a powerful run up the centre of the field before finding Ward who hit a power right footed effort off the outside of the right hand upright from 20 yards out.

Another free-flowing move led to Morpeth's third. Stephen Forster, Keith Graydon, Sean Taylor and Jordan Fry combined down the right wing to play in Taylor behind the Bishop Auckland backline, he held the ball up before finding an onrushing Fry at the edge of the area who curled a first time right footed effort into the top left hand corner, an exceptional finish from the midfielder.



The last chance of the game fell to Steven Anderson as he broke the offside trap and rushed goal wards, but his right footed effort was always curling away from goal.

Report by Stuart Dick

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Northern League Round-Up – Saturday 8th August

(By Ray Simpson)



Newton Aycliffe manager Peter Dixon says that his team caught the champions on the right day when they beat Marske United 2-1 at Moore Lane on Saturday.

Marske were perhaps below their best, but Dixon has considerably improved Aycliffe's team during the summer with signings such as midfielder Brian Close and striker Matty Moffat, and they deserved their win.

The teams were fairly even in the first half, the closest either team coming to scoring was when Scott McCarthy's shot was deflected over Aycliffe keeper James Winter and the ball was cleared off the line.

But Aycliffe were better in the second half. Zak Boagey had a left foot shot well saved by Robbie Deane in the Marske goal, but the keeper was at fault when he punched an in swinging corner from Dennis Knight into his own net. Knight then scored a peach of a second, when Matty Moffat back heeled the ball into his path for him to drive left footed into the bottom corner from 30 yards. Marske pulled a goal back when Liam O'Sullivan was left unmarked to score from six yards out.

Dunston UTS had the best score of the day, running riot by 8-0 at Bedlington. They took a two goal lead at half time through Adam Wilkinson and Dan Halliday from Alex Francis corners, and in the second half the floodgates opened.



Andy Bulford and Mattie Briggs scored within minutes, then Steve Richardson fired under the keeper. Dunston sub Malky Morien then came on and scored a hat trick in 15 minutes to complete Bedlington's misery.



Shildon didn't make any mistake at Newcastle Benfield, winning 5-0. There wasn't much in the game in the first half with Benfield's Paul Brayson hitting the crossbar, but the introduction of sub Sam Hodgson changed the game in Shildon's favour in the second half.

Summer signing Lewis Wing fired Shildon into the lead from 25 yards, then another new signing, Gary Brown, headed the second from a Wing corner.

Mark Doninger made it 3-0 from another Wing pass, scored another from a Ben Wood assist, and completed his hat trick from a corner.

Guisborough beat Vase winners North Shields 2-1 at the King George. Guisborough had the edge in the first half, and took the lead when Shields lost possession, allowing Luke Bythway to run past two defenders and score from 20 yards.



Curtis Round scored a second at the second attempt as the Shields defence failed to clear deep inside their own area, and with nine minutes left Shields scored a consolation when a mistake by a defender allowed Gary Day to run through and score.



Bishop Auckland got off to a bad start, going down 3-0 at Morpeth. Dan Taggart put Morpeth into the lead with a good shot from the edge of the box, then Jordan Fry added the second from close range.

Bishops improved in the second half, and Ian Ward hit the post, but Fry scored the best goal of the game with a curler from the edge of the area.

West Auckland went down by the same scoreline at Whitley Bay. The Seahorses took the lead when Sam Norris crossed from the right for Peter Watling to score, and Watling, who has now left the club to work in Dubai, was in the right place again to score the second after Adam Shanks hit the post.



Callum Anderson scored a third for Whitley from a Steve Gibson free kick in the second half.



Durham City beat West Allotment 4-1 at New Ferens Park. Chris Wallace put them into the lead from a corner, then Jake Fowler made it 2-0 with a powerful 25 yarder.

James Fairley scored the third after Conor Okus and Callum Patton opened up the defence, and after Scott Pocklington pulled one back for Allotment with a delicate 20 yard chip, David Pounder completed the scoring when he finished off a five man move.

Despite having a man sent off, Consett won 2-0 at Sunderland RCA. New signing Michael Sweet scored on his debut for Consett from a Luke Sullivan assist, then Sullivan headed in a David Brown corner.



Both keepers made some good saves, while Consett had defender Dan Madden red carded for allegedly stamping.



Second Division champions Seaham Red Star recovered to draw 1-1 at Penrith. The Cumbrians took the lead when Richard Faustino crossed for Steven Logan to head in, but Seaham regained their composure in the second half and Paul Gardiner equalised.

Washington couldn't have asked for a better start, beating Ashington 3-1. Michael Coghlan put them into the lead from a James Cassidy pass after 8 minutes, and in the second half Joe Walton and Mark Davison scored twice inside the space of three minutes. Jonathyn Quinn scored a late consolation for Ashington.



Promoted Norton had a good result, drawing 2-2 with Jarrow Roofing at Station Road. Dale Mulligan put Norton into the lead midway through the first half, and they held on to the lead until Roofing were awarded a hotly-disputed penalty and John Campbell, on his return to the club, scored.



Norton regained the lead with a free kick by Mattie Lovegreen, but Paul Chow levelled from a Paul Marshall pass.

In the second division, the surprise result was the defeat of the promotion favourites, South Shields by 3-2 at home to Northallerton.

The visitors took the lead when Kyle Swankie dispossessed the keeper and tapped in, then Andy Ramsbottom was gifted a second after he intercepted a poor back pass. Ramsbottom fired the third then Lee Scroggins also missed a penalty for Shields before half time. Lee Scott pulled one back midway through the second half, and in stoppage time David Foley scored a second.



Ryhope CW had the best away win in the division, winning 6-1 at Esh Winning, scoring three goals in each half. Nathan O'Neill (2), Stephen Oakley, Simon Ord, Conor Winter and Mattie Weirs scored, with Anthony Phillipson replying for Esh.

Relegated Crook gained a morale boost by beating fancied Heaton Stannington 2-1 at the Millfield.

Peter Brown scored a good individual goal, then Callum Smith made it 2-0 with a superb strike from the edge of the area. Jonny Wright, on his fourth return to Heaton, pulled a goal back for the visitors, then Crook keeper Ryan Graham pulled off three good saves to preserve the point.



Tow Law started well, beating Billingham Synthonia 3-1 at Ironworks Road. Kai Hewitson gave them an early lead with a good chip, and after Synners' Josh Rowbotham was sent off, Scott Brassell scored the Lawyers' second from the spot midway through the second half. Hewitson got another with a few minutes left with a header, while Jamie Clarke scored a consolation.

Darlington RA had a good start, beating Alnwick 2-0 at Brinkburn Road. Christian Holliday rounded the keeper to put the RA into the lead, then new signing Kerry Hedley scored a great goal, when he chested the ball down 35 yards out and volleyed home.



Thornaby just edged past Willington by a single goal at Teesdale Park, Danny Lofts scoring from a Gary Mitchell pass after 55 minutes.

New manager Barry Oliver got off to a good start with Billingham Town, beating Birtley by the only goal of the game through Craig Lines from the spot with three minutes left.

Chester-le-Street had a comfortable win, by 5-1 over Stokesley.

The visitors missed a good early chance, and then faded badly. John Honour, Andrew Grant-Soulsby and Michael Hepplewhite scored before half time, with Hepplewhite and Jake Stafford scoring more in the second half. Stokesley player-manager Craig Winter scored his team's consolation.

Newcomers Easington, starting their third spell in the league, lost 2-0 at home to Whickham for whom Steven Aiston and Jack Moulding scored.

Brandon lost 4-1 at Team Northumbria, even though they took the lead through Vincent Gash. Team North hit back through Matthew Tumilty (2), David Dormand and Ben Dibb-Fuller.

The Northern Echo



History

Morpeth Town Football Club was established in 1894, and through more than a century of football have continued the tradition of carrying Amber and Black as their team colours.

The club was formed after an amalgamation between Morpeth United and Morpeth FC, playing at Stobhill Cricket Field.

In 1954 the club moved to Storey Park, and in the 1980's enjoyed a successful time in the Northern Alliance, winning the title and finishing runners-up on two other occasions, as well as lifting both the Challenge Cup and Benevolent Bowl in 1986.

The club moved to a purpose built stadium in 1994, which coincided with a League and Cup double, and with it, promotion to the Northern League. Craik Park was named after the father and son W and R Craik who had served as secretary between 1920 and 1985. Current President Ken Beattie was the man behind the stadium and since 1992 he has revived the club's fortunes.

Membership of the Northern League followed in 1994/95 and the following year saw the Second Division Championship being presented to Morpeth. The club finished 6th in the First Division at the first time of asking, as well as reaching the final of the Northumberland Senior Cup.

The club spent half a century in the Northern Football Alliance before stepping up to the Northern League on their one hundredth anniversary. In 1998-99 they made it to the final qualifying round of the FA Cup, losing 1-0 at home to Nigel Clough's Burton Albion.

After sitting comfortably mid-table between 1996/7 and 1999/2000, Morpeth narrowly avoided relegation on goal difference in the 2000/01 season, and finished once again one spot above the relegation zone in 2001/02. The next few years saw Morpeth Town move back into the middle of the table before a 6th place finish in 2005/06, Morpeth's equal top performance in the Northern League.

In 2006/07 Morpeth won the Northumberland Senior Cup for the first time since 1886 (as Morpeth Harriers) with a 3-2 victory over Blyth Spartans.

Disaster struck in 2009/10 as Morpeth Town were relegated to the second division and things got even worse a season later as Morpeth Town finished bottom of the Northern League's second tier.

The club was in dire straits with President Ken Beattie and Chairman Jim Smith trying their best to keep the club running by bringing the ground up to Northern League standards whilst being forced to ground share with local rivals Bedlington Terriers. The club was within weeks of folding at one point.

The Highwaymen began their revival in 2011/12 under the stewardship of Nick

Gray who moved to the club from Seaton Delaval and brought a number of players. In his first season Morpeth narrowly missed out on promotion back to the top tier finishing fourth and a one point won fourteen consecutive home games.

2012/13 saw the side improve once more, finishing one place higher in third position, beating out Jarrow Roofing on goal difference to earn promotion.

After earning promotion Morpeth Town managed to avoid the drop quite comfortably finishing in 17th place. During the season they also went on a historic FA Vase run to the Quarter-Final stage.

In 2014/15 saw further improvement, with the Highwaymen finishing 8th in the table and reaching the Northumberland Senior Cup Final.

Honours

League

Northern League Division Two Champions: 1995/96

Northern Alliance Champions: 1983/84, 1993/94

Northern Alliance Runners-up: 1937/38, 1965/66, 1973/74, 1981/82, 1984/85

Cup

Northern Alliance Challenge Cup Winners: 1938/39, 1985/86, 1993/94

Northern Alliance Challenge Cup Runners-Up: 1936/37, 1962/63, 1973/74, 1985/86

Northumberland Benevolent Bowl Winners: 1978/79, 1985/86

Northumberland Senior Cup Winners: 1886 (shared with Shankhouse), 2006/07

Northumberland Senior Cup Runners-up: 1996/97, 2014/15

Aged Miners Cup Winners: 1935/36, 1936/37, 1937/38, 1987/88



Morpeth Town Squad

Karl Dryden joined the club from local rivals Ashington at the start of the 2014/15 season. An excellent all-round goalkeeper who commands the area well.



Niall Harrison joined the club mid-way through last season having played for Blyth Spartans earlier in the season. Another excellent 'keeper who can hoof a ball.

David Hiftle has plenty of experience at the Northern League level and has previously captained the Highwaymen. Comfortable playing both in centre defence and at full-back.



Shaun Henderson a long time servant at Morpeth, Shaun is an attacking full back who has previously played for Newcastle United and Ashington.

James Novak signed from Ashington mid-way through last season and shone at left-back for the Highwaymen. Has had previous spells at Bedlington Terriers and Whitley Bay.



Club Captain Christopher Jewels is a tall and powerful centre-half who previously played for Hebburn Town, West Allotment Celtic and Washington.

Michael Hall is a centre-half who can also play in centre midfield. Powerful but also skilful on the ball, he previously played for West Allotment Celtic and Seaton Delaval.



Chris Swailes signs for the club as he heads into his 45-year. His unrivalled experience will be a massive boost for the young squad.

Johnny Wilson is a summer signing who plays down the left. Good going forward as well as in defence, he adds depth and talent to a strong defensive unit.





Team Captain Keith Graydon aka Rasher is an experienced midfielder signed mid-season last year from Spennymoor Town. Scored the winner for Spennymoor in the FA Vase Final. Former Sunderland and Gateshead.

Ben Sayer started his career with Newcastle United before he joined Team Northumbria. Ben is a creative central midfielder with a superb range of passing. Former Blyth Spartans and Spennymoor Town player



Jordan Fry is a midfielder with a great engine, Jordan makes intelligent runs and is a threat in and around the penalty box. Signed from Seaton Delaval Amateurs.

Luke Carr signed toward the end of last season from Durham City. A skilful and pacey central midfielder Luke will look to have a big impact on the 2015/16 season.



Shaun Bell is another hard-working midfielder who will always put a shift in. Pops up with the occasional goal from the centre of the park.

Team Vice Captain Sean Taylor a pacey winger/striker who notched up 23 goals last season. A product of the Sunderland Academy and has had spells at Blackpool and Ashington.



Michael Chilton a fantastic striker for the club who scored 31 goals in the last campaign and is always there or thereabouts at the top of the Northern League goal scoring charts. Ex-Newcastle Benfield and Dunston UTS.

Daniel Taggart is a powerful centre forward who likes to get amongst opposing defences. Will only improve with another season of Northern League football under his belt.



Stephen Forster a flying winger who is equally adept at defending as well as going forward. Ex Carlisle United, Birmingham City, West Allotment Celtic, Hebburn Town & Jarrow Roofing.

Steven Anderson is a very strong young player who has the ability to score great goals. Can play up front or on the flank. Ex-Clubs include Whitley Bay, Walker Central, West Denton, and Newcastle East End.





Lee McAndrew is another signing with a wealth of experience in the Northern League making a 175 appearances for Dunston UTS. Has spent time at Spennymoor Town and West Allotment Celtic.

Jordan Nellis a summer signing from Bedlington Terriers, Jordan is a pacey and powerful forward who can anywhere across the front three.



Jack Betts joined the club this summer, a young striker with lots of power and potential, he will add to the clubs talented strikerforce.



Management



Nick Gray took Morpeth to a fourth place finish in his first season at Craik Park after the club narrowly avoided relegation the season before he joined and has led the club to an improved finish every year.



Dave Malone was brought in by Nick at the start of the 2014/15 season and has been a big hit on and off the field.



Steven Anderson Snr is an excellent club man who is more than happy to help in a variety of roles. His influence and enthusiasm in the dressing room is infectious.



Miles Callum is the clubs qualified physio who has previously worked at Seaton Delaval Amateurs



Chris Swailes, as well as playing, joins the club as First Team Coach

Novak saves Town's blushes

Washington 2-2 Morpeth Town



It's a cliché, but never has a 'game of two halves' been more appropriate than to describe Morpeth Town's 2-2 draw with Washington on Tuesday Evening at Nissan Sport and Leisure Complex.

The Highwaymen dominated their opponents in the opening period, Luke Carr putting his side up within four minutes of the kick-off. The hosts equalised against the run of play through striker Mark Davison.

The second half saw Washington create a number of chances as Town struggled to get a strangle hold on the game. Michael Coghlan dispatched a 50 yard free-kick to put the home side ahead before a James Novak free-kick 10 minutes from time rescued a point.

The visitors had the lead within four minutes thanks to the energetic Carr. Sean Taylor picked up the ball on halfway and lofted a pass over the Washington defence into the path of Carr. The midfielder took aim left footed, forcing a fantastic save from Johnathan Carmichael, but latched on to the rebound, guiding the ball past defender Anthony Callaghan into the net.

The Highwaymen went close to doubling their lead three minutes later. Novak lifted a ball down the left wing, hitting Lee McAndrew in stride. The winger pulled the ball back to an onrushing Ben Sayer whose right footed strike curled just wide of the Washington right-hand upright with the outside of his foot.

Carr had a golden opportunity to double his tally and the lead on the quarter hour mark. Taylor played in Novak down the Morpeth left, the full-back picking out Carr at the back post who guided his free header wide of the target.

Carr was causing a nuisance for the home side and went close again from a 25 yard set piece. Just to the right of centre, Carr curled his left footed effort towards the top right hand corner, only to see Carmichael get his finger tips to it, and push the attempt wide. The resulting corner saw Sayer's header tipped over the bar by the Washington stopper.



The next chance fell to Taylor with a back post volley after an excellent cross from the left from McAndrew, Taylor's effort sailing over the bar.

Skipper Keith Graydon was next to try his luck, a left wing cross from Novak was picked up by McAndrew on the right who rolled the ball into the path of Graydon on the edge of the area who hit a right footed effort just wide of the left upright.

The sucker-punch came after 32 minutes for Washington. A throw-in down the left made its way to the right foot of Aaron Croft who crossed with pinpoint precision onto the head of Mark Davison who guided a header into the back of the net at the back post from all of two yards.

Morpeth continued to create chances up until half time, the best falling to Taylor. After a long diagonal ball from Graydon, the forward cut into the penalty area from the left and fired a right footed shot just wide of the Washington net.

The second half saw the home side start to take control of the game, and a Morpeth mistake nearly gifted them the lead. Michael Hall's clearance was blocked by substitute James Cassidy who played in Davison. His right footed strike from the angle was tipped over by Karl Dryden.

Morpeth struggled to muster any attacking threat, but one rare occasion they did almost result in a goal. Ben Sayer played a slide-rule pass into the feet of Taylor in the penalty area. The striker, however, was denied by a sharp Carmichael save. The resulting corner was cleared to Graydon 30 yards out, who cannoned a right footed effort off the post.

Despite dominating the play, Washington struggled to test Dryden. That was until the home side won a free kick in the centre circle on 63 minutes. Michael Coghlan surprising everyone when he shot from 50 yards out, catching Dryden off his line, the ball sailed over his head and into the back of the net.

Morpeth were handed a lifeline on 83 minutes when Joseph Walton was adjudged to have handled the ball on the edge of the penalty area. Novak stepped up to take the free-kick, which was just right of centre, and curled a left footed effort over the wall and into the top right hand corner, via the goalkeeper's back.

The home side kicked into life in the remaining minutes, the home side unlucky not to re-take the lead on 85 minutes. Coghlan's right wing cross was met by John Butler in the six yard box, his touch forced a wonderful diving save from Dryden who tipped the ball round the post.

Report by Stuart Dick

Mid-Week Round-Up

(by Ray Simpson)

Tuesday

West Auckland scored one of the fastest goals so far this season at home to Guisborough last night, but it didn't do them much good as they finally lost 7-2. They opened the scoring after just 30 seconds, when Guisborough keeper Nick Liversedge failed to gather a right wing cross, allowing Liam Hodgson to tap in.



Danny Earl equalised after 5 minutes with a low shot, but another blunder in the Guisborough defence by Danny McWilliams let in Anthony Hume to score.

Guisborough equalised straight from the restart with a header by Steven Snaith, then Earl ran through and put them in the lead.

Earl completed his hat trick on 58 minutes with a neat finish, then Peter Bulmer took advantage of some hesitant defending to make it 5-2. West keeper David Knight blocked an Earl penalty, but Luke Bythway scored from the rebound. Bythway then scored the goal of the game, with a turn and shot into the top corner.

Dunston are already past double figures in terms of goals for the season after beating Sunderland RCA 4-0.



Steve Richardson put Dunston ahead after 11 minutes, then Dan Smith finished well for the second. Malky Morien lobbed the keeper for the third before half time. Richardson grabbed the fourth at the second attempt after half time.



Consett and Marske drew 2-2 at Belle View. Consett took the lead after 20 minutes when Luke Sullivan crossed for Michael Sweet to score with a diving header, but Marske equalised through Sam Garvie off a good move before half time.

Marske keeper Robbie Deane pulled off several good saves in the second half, but he was finally beaten when a mistake by Thomas Bott allowed Sweet to set up Michael Mackay who tucked the ball into the bottom corner. However, Nathan Mulligan headed the equaliser with just two minutes left.



Durham City let a two goal lead slip at home to Whitley Bay, and had to settle for a 2-2 draw. Callum Patton scored twice for Durham in the first half, but Michael Laws pulled a goal back for Whitley soon after half time. Peter Watling curled the equaliser into the top corner.

Washington and Morpeth drew 2-2 at Nissan. Luke Carr put Morpeth into a third minute lead, but Mark Davison and Michael Coghlan put Washington into the lead. However, James Novak levelled late on for Morpeth.

Penrith took home the spoils with a 3-1 win over Ashington. The hosts took the lead through James Harmison, but Martyn Coleman chipped the equaliser soon after the restart. Nathan Waterston and Jamie Hope gave Penrith the points.



In the second division, South Shields came back from 2-0 down to beat Billingham Town 3-2. Town took the lead after 10 minutes with a lob by Dan Maloney, then Craig Lines scored the second from a rebound. Lee Paul Scroggins pulled a goal back for Shields after 78 minutes, then in the closing stages Warren Byrne and David Foley were on target.

Darlington RA won their second game of the season, by 2-1 at Tow Law. James Wilson and Kerry Hedley scored for the RA, with Kai Hewitson replying.

Whickham beat Chester-le-Street 1-0 with a goal by Gareth Jelley.

Ryhope CW came from 3-2 down with goals by Nathan O'Neill and Conor Winter to beat Stokesley 4-3.

Esh Winning lost 4-1 at Alnwick for whom Doug McLelland scored a hat trick.

Wednesday



Shildon went top of the ENL table on goal difference with an 8-0 thrashing of Norton at Dean Street tonight. The Railwaymen took the lead when Marc Doninger chipped the keeper, then Micky Rae added two more when he finished off good moves.

It was 4-0 when Lewis Wing curled the ball into the top corner, and just before half time Carl Jones headed the fifth from a free kick.

Midway through the second half it was 6-0 courtesy of a Dale Mulligan own goal, then Doninger got the seventh. Sub Mark Hudson finished off the scoring with a powerful strike.

Bishop Auckland gave themselves a morale boost with a 4-2 home win over Jarrow Roofing. Bishops missed four good chances in the first half hour, and Roofing scored with their first. Jack Errington headed against the bar, and the ball came out to John Campbell, who drove the ball from an angle into the bottom corner.



But Bishops levelled on 35 minutes, when new signing Dean Zambra found Stuart Thompson who fired a low left foot shot just inside the post.

Bishops took the lead on 54 minutes when Adam Nicholls neatly sidefooted home a right wing cross by Thompson, and they paid the penalty for missed chances when Lewis Teasdale managed to squeeze the ball home from a tight angle.

But Bishops sub Andrew Johnson finished off some head tennis inside the Roofing six yard box to put them back into the lead, then with a minute left Johnson ran through and slotted home the fourth.



Newton Aycliffe had a good 4-0 away win at West Allotment. They took the lead on 41 minutes when summer signing Matty Moffat burst through and beat the Allotment keeper, and just after half time Stuart Banks beat two defenders and curled the ball home.

Moffat headed his second of the game, and late on Jordan Laidler scored the fourth.

Seaham Red Star had a good 2-2 draw at North Shields. Sonny Andrews put them in the lead from the spot on 17 minutes, but Gareth Bainbridge and James Luccock put Shields in the lead by the half hour. However, Paul Gardiner equalised for Seaham early in the second half.



Newcastle Benfield drew 1-1 with Bedlington. The visitors took the lead through Adam Harvey on 70 minutes, but Paul Brayson levelled nine minutes later. Bedlington also hit the woodwork twice.

In the second division, Billingham Synthonia beat Ryton and Crawcrook 2-0, with goals by Colin Iley and Jamie Magowan.



Willington beat Brandon 2-1, both their goals scored by Dean Thexton, either side of a goal by Jack Marley of Brandon.



Birtley and Hebburn drew 0-0, Hebburn finishing with nine men because of injuries.

Northallerton lost 3-1 at home to Team Northumbria Heaton Stannington drew 1-1 with Thornaby. Jon Wright put Heaton into the lead, but Kieron Edwards equalised.

Player Spotlight



Ben Sayer

Ben joined Newcastle United - the club he supported as a boy - as an eight-year-old and scored a memorable lobbed winner in the FA Youth Cup fourth round win over Grimsby at St. James' Park in January 2011.

A creative central midfielder with a superb range of passing, as well as a determined and hard-working nature, Sayer attended Walbottle Campus Technology College and first started playing football for Grainger Park Boys' Club.

His football idol is Paul Scholes. Made his Newcastle United Reserve team debut against Everton in November 2011.

After leaving Newcastle United, Ben had a spell at Northern League side Team Northumbria before moving on to play for Blyth Spartans and Spennymoor Town, whilst also receiving a call up to the England 'C' squad.

Ben joined the Highwaymen mid-way through last season and was an instant hit on and off the field, netting seven goals including a hat-trick against Billingham Synthonia.

He continued to show his talent throughout preseason, scoring five goals in as many appearances and is a pivotal player for Morpeth this season.



View from the Terraces



By Media Manager Stuart Dick

So the season has been back 10 days and I already feel 10 years older.

Well for me it started slightly earlier as the Tuesday before the start of the season I made the trip to Craik Park to get all the programme and video graphics for the season. You'll have noticed in the last programme that one player was missing, so now he's on the cover.

Anyway, let's talk football, a comprehensive 3-0 win over Bishop Auckland to start the season. Dan Taggart opening the scoring with a thunderous right foot effort.

Jordan Fry then netted twice, the second a fantastic first time finish to give us an opening day three points, what more can you ask for.

Moving into the mid-week match at newly promoted Washington it seemed to be more of the same in the first half, we played the newcomers off the park for the first 45 minutes and should have been 3 or 4 goals to the good.

As it happened, it was 1-1 at half time and the second half saw us struggle to muster any attacking intent.

Then comes a second sucker-punch, this time a 50 yard free-kick from inside the centre circle, you'll not see many of them this season.

And thus comes the second reason for today's programme cover, James Novak curling a fabulous free-kick into the top corner to save a point for the Highwaymen.

Well that and I didn't have time to put an FA Cup picture on the cover instead.

Speaking of the FA Cup, last weekend saw the Highwaymen make the trip to Yorkshire to take on Garforth Town.

It was great to see Northern League Chairman Mike Amos in attendance as we represented the league against North Eastern Counties League opposition.

After a difficult first 10 minutes we dominated the game and the lads put in a thoroughly professional performance.

All in all, a very good start to the season with two wins and a draw from three games. We have Durham at home today before trips to West Auckland Town and Newcastle Benfield and Shildon before our next game at Craik Park.

Hopefully the results will be equally as fruitful.

Column Sponsored by:

NORTHUMBERLAND LIGHTNING AMERICAN FOOTBALL



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2015/16 Fixtures

July 2015

Friday 10 th July	Dalbeattie Star (A)	7.30pm	4-1
Saturday 11 th July	Stranraer (A)	2.30pm	3-5
Saturday 18 th July	Whitley Bay A (A)	3.00pm	3-1
Tuesday 21 st July	Walker Central (A)	7.30pm	2-0
Friday 24 th July	West Allotment Celtic (A)	3.00pm	4-1
Wednesday 29 th July	Jarrow (A)	3.00pm	2-0

August 2015

Saturday 1 st August	Ryton & Crawcrook Albion (A)	2.30pm	5-1
Saturday 8th August	Bishop Auckland (H)	3.00pm	3-0
Tuesday 11 th August	Washington (A)	7.30pm	2-2
Saturday 15 th August	Garforth Town (A)	3.00pm	4-1
Wednesday 19th August	Durham City (H)	7.30pm	ENL D1
Saturday 22 nd August	West Auckland Town (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Wednesday 26 th August	Newcastle Benfield (A)	7.30pm	ENL D1
Saturday 29 th August	Newton Aycliffe (A)	3.00pm	FA Cup Prelim
Monday 31 st August	Shildon (A)	7.30pm	ENL D1

September 2015

Saturday 5th September	Padiham (H)	3.00pm	FA Vase 1st QR
Wed 9th September	Bedlington Terriers (H)	7.30pm	ENL D1
Saturday 12th September	West Allotment Celtic (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Tuesday 15 th September	Whitley Bay (A)	7.30pm	ENL D1
Saturday 19 th September	Ashington (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Wed 23rd September	Bishop Auckland (H)	7.30pm	League Cup R1
Saturday 26th September	North Shields (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1

October 2015

Saturday 3 rd October	Consett (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 10th October	Jarrow Roofing (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 17 th October	Marske United (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 24th October	Seaham Red Star (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 31 st October	Penrith (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1

November 2015

Saturday 7th November	Newton Aycliffe (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 14 th November	Norton & Stockton Ancients (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 21st November	Sunderland RCA (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 28 th November	Guisborough Town (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1

December 2015

Saturday 5th December	Washington (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 12 th December	Durham City (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 19th December	Newcastle Benfield (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 26th December	Shildon (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1

January 2015

Saturday 2 nd January	West Allotment Celtic (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 9 th January	Bishop Auckland (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 16th January	West Auckland Town (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 23 rd January	Dunston UTS (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 30 th January	Bedlington Terriers (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1

February 2015

Saturday 6th February	Whitley Bay (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 13th February	Ashington (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 20 th February	North Shields (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 27th February	Consett (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1

March 2015

Saturday 5 th March	Jarrow Roofing (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 12th March	Marske United (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 19 th March	Seaham Red Star (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 26th March	Penrith (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1

April 2015

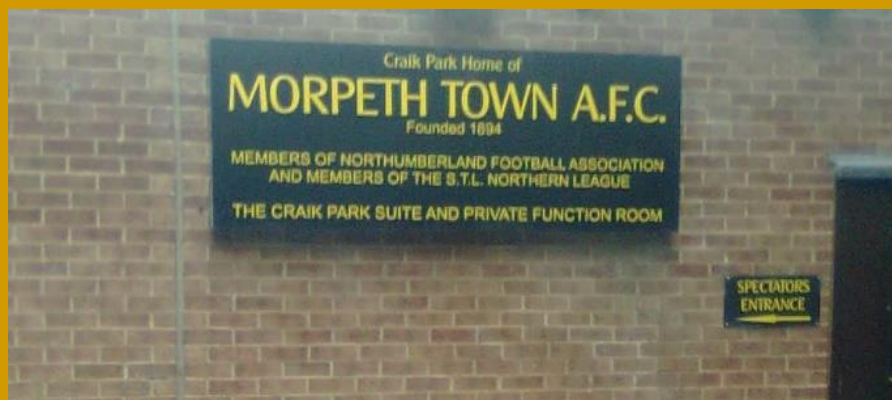
Saturday 2 nd April	Newton Aycliffe (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 9th April	Norton & Stockton Ancients (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 16 th April	Sunderland RCA (A)	3.00pm	ENL D1
Saturday 23rd April	Guisborough Town (H)	3.00pm	ENL D1

TBA	Dunston UTS (H)	TBA	ENL D1
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2015/16 Player Stats

	App	Goals	Assist	Yel	Red
Karl Dryden	3	0	0	0	0
Niall Harrison	0	0	0	0	0
David Hiftle	3	0	0	0	0
Shaun Henderson	1	0	0	0	0
James Novak	3	1	1	0	0
Johnny Wilson	0	0	0	0	0
Christopher Jewels	0	0	0	0	0
Michael Hall	3	0	0	0	0
Keith Graydon	3	0	0	2	0
Ben Sayer	2	0	2	0	0
Jordan Fry	1	2	0	0	0
Luke Carr	3	2	2	0	0
Shaun Bell	0	0	0	0	0
Sean Taylor	3	1	2	1	0
Michael Chilton	3	2	0	0	0
Daniel Taggart	2	1	0	0	0
Stephen Forster	3	0	0	0	0
Stephen Anderson	3	0	1	0	0
Jordan Nellis	3	0	0	0	0
Chris Swailes	0	0	0	0	0
Lee McAndrew	3	0	0	0	0
Jack Betts	0	0	0	0	0

Private Function Room and Bar

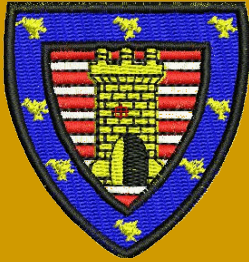


Craik Park, the home of Morpeth Town AFC, has a host of facilities that can accommodate all your needs if you are looking to stage an event.

The Craik Park Suite and Private Function Room is available to hire, whether you are celebrating that special birthday, or your club or society wants to host a fundraising event, or even host a meeting we have got you covered.

If you wish to hold an event at Craik Park, contact John Richardson on (07738 447544) to discuss booking options and prices.

Highwaymen



TV

Highwaymen TV is the Youtube channel of Morpeth Town A.F.C.

Founded in December 2014, the channel produces highlights of Morpeth Town games and relays footage to Made in Tyne and Wear TV, Northern League Football Premiership Passion and other websites.



Managers Message: Nick Gray & Dave Malone



We are a week into the season, and myself and Dave are really pleased with the start we have made, despite the squad not being at full strength or firing on all cylinders.

I still think there is a lot to come from the team, but we are going in the right direction.

The win away to Garforth Town was important for the club, and it'll also bring us confidence. We don't have much to do on the training field the next six weeks as we have mid-week games for the foreseeable future.

Today I think it will be a tough game, they've had a good start to the season, similar to us, we know we are going to have to be at our best to take all three points.

Then on Saturday we've got the difficult trip to West Auckland Town followed by two more away games to Newton Aycliffe in the FA Cup, followed by the bank holiday game against Shildon. Next time I write my thoughts down for the programme we'll have played a number of tough away games which will show the character of the squad.

But the Lads are working really hard, we are getting there, and we just have to take things one game at a time. The new players have settled in well, it's been difficult for Chris with injuries and Jordan is biding his time. Lee McAndrew has started the season well, but he cannot drink (See Garforth Bus Trip). Both Chris and Jordan sang for us on the coach too, Lee still owes us.

Yours in Sport
Nicky Gray

Mid-Week North East Fixtures

(7.30 pm Unless Specified)

League Two

Tuesday

Hartlepool United 7.45pm Newport

Vanarama National League

Tuesday

Southport 7.45pm Gateshead

Evo-Stik Northern Premier

Tuesday

Blyth Spartans 7.45pm Whitby Town
Darlington 7.45pm Frickley Athletic

Evo-Stik Norther Premier Division One

Tuesday

Spennymoor Town 7.45pm Harrogate Railway Athletic

FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round Replay

Tuesday

Consett V Billingham Synthonia
Marske United V Seaham Red Star
Ryhope CW V Whitley Bay
West Auckland Town V Bedlington Terriers

Wednesday

Albion Sports 7.45pm Ashington
Guisborough Town V Sunderland RCA
Shildon V Bishop Auckland

EBAC Norther League Division One

Wednesday

Morpeth Town V Durham City
Norton & Stockton Ancients V West Allotment Celtic
Penrith V North Shields

EBAC Northern League Division Two

Monday

Team Northumbria 6-0 Willington

Tuesday

Billingham Town V Easington Colliery
Chester-Le-Street Town V Northallerton Town
Darlington RA V Birtley Town
South Shields V Heaton Stannington
Thornaby V Alnwick Town

Wednesday

Crook Town V Tow Law Town
Ryton & Crawcrook Albion V Whickham
Stokesley V Hebburn Town

League Sponsors



Ebac are the market leaders in both the European Watercooler manufacture and UK Dehumidifier markets. Founded in the UK in 1972 by current Chairman John Elliott, Ebac has grown from a small one man business to a flourishing organisation which has continuously grown by developing truly innovative products in the Dehumidifier and Watercooler markets.

Ebac remains a true British success story – beating global competition to become the most highly respected name in the Watercooler and Dehumidifier industries. Still based in Chairman John Elliott's home town of Bishop Auckland in County Durham, Ebac's success is down their constant innovation and dedication to creating products of the highest quality possible.

Ebac is a privately owned group of companies mainly focused on manufacturing. The Group also has interests in leisure, bottled water and product design.

The Group has been the market leader in Western Europe for watercoolers since the mid-90s and has held a prominent position in the European dehumidifier market for over 20 years.

For the past three decades Ebac has continued to expand its UK operations when others have moved their production facilities elsewhere.

The Group employs over 200 people in the UK's North East, but retains a strong export focus with 70% of its turnover coming from Continental Europe.

Ebac's success is built on its dedication to quality and innovation in all areas, from manufacturing and design to HR and customer support.

Northern League Stats

(Compiled by Ray Simpson)

Northern League Statistics

Division One

Hat tricks: Mark Doninger (Shildon v Newcastle Benfield, 8th August), Malky Morien (Dunston UTS v Bedlington, 8th August), Danny Earl (Guisborough v West Auckland, 11th August).

Division Two: Dave McLelland (Alnwick v Esh Winning, 11th August).

Highest scorers:

Division One

5 Mark Doninger (Shildon).

4 Malky Morien (Dunston UTS).

3 Luke Bythway (Guisborough), Danny Earl (Guisborough), Steve Richardson (Dunston), Peter Watling (Whitley Bay).

Division Two

4 Nathan O'Neill (Ryhope CW), Dean Thexton (Willington)

3 Warren Byrne (South Shields), David Foley (South Shields), Michael Hepplewhite (Chester-le-Street), Kai Hewitson (Tow Law), Brad McLelland (Alnwick), Aaron Ramsbottom (Northallerton), Andrew Ramsbottom (Northallerton)

Biggest wins:

Home:

Division One

Shildon 8 Norton 0 (12th August)

Division Two

Northallerton 8 Stokesley 2 (15th August)

Easington 7 Tow Law 0 (15th August)

Away

Division One

Bedlington 0 Dunston UTS 8 (8th August), West Auckland 2 Guisborough 7 (11th August)

Division Two

Esh Winning 1 Ryhope CW 6 (8th August)

Clean sheets:

Division One

2 Dunston UTS, Shildon

1 Consett, Morpeth, Newton Aycliffe, Whitley Bay

Division Two

2 Billingham Town, Whickham

1 Billingham Synthonia, Birtley, Chester-le-Street, Darlington RA, Easington, Hebburn, South Shields, Thornaby.

Failed to score:

Division One.

2 Sunderland RCA.

1 Bedlington, Bishop Auckland, Newcastle Benfield, Norton, West Allotment, West Auckland.

Division Two

2 Alnwick, Birtley, Ryton and Crawcrook.

1 Chester-le-Street, Darlington RA, Easington, Esh Winning, Hebburn, Tow Law, Willington.



League Tables

EBAC Northern League Division One

		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1 st	Sildon	2	2	0	0	13	6
2 nd	Dunston UTS	2	2	0	0	12	6
3 rd	Guisborough Town	2	2	0	0	6	6
4 th	Newton Aycliffe	2	2	0	0	5	6
5 th	Durham City	2	1	1	0	3	4
6 th	Morpeth Town	2	1	1	0	3	4
7 th	Whitley Bay	2	1	1	0	3	4
8 th	Washington	2	1	1	0	2	4
9 th	Consett	2	1	1	0	2	4
10 th	Penrith	2	1	1	0	2	4
11 th	Bishop Auckland	2	1	0	1	-1	3
12 th	Seaham Red Star	2	0	2	0	0	2
13 th	Marske United	2	0	1	1	-1	1
14 th	North Shields	2	0	1	1	-1	1
15 th	Jarrow Roofing BCA	2	0	1	1	-2	1
16 th	Newcastle Benfield	2	0	1	1	-5	1
17 th	Norton & Stockton Ancients	2	0	1	1	-8	1
18 th	Bedlington Terriers	2	0	1	1	-8	1
19 th	Ashington	2	0	0	2	-4	0
20 th	Sunderland RCA	2	0	0	2	-6	0
21 st	West Allotment Celtic	2	0	0	2	-7	0
22 nd	West Auckland Town	2	0	0	2	-8	0

Form Guide

		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1 st	Sildon	2	2	0	0	13	6
2 nd	Dunston UTS	2	2	0	0	12	6
3 rd	Guisborough Town	2	2	0	0	6	6
4 th	Newton Aycliffe	2	2	0	0	5	6
5 th	Durham City	2	1	1	0	3	4
6 th	Morpeth Town	2	1	1	0	3	4
7 th	Whitley Bay	2	1	1	0	3	4
8 th	Washington	2	1	1	0	2	4
9 th	Consett	2	1	1	0	2	4
10 th	Penrith	2	1	1	0	2	4
11 th	Bishop Auckland	2	1	0	1	-1	3
12 th	Seaham Red Star	2	0	2	0	0	2
13 th	Marske United	2	0	1	1	-1	1
14 th	North Shields	2	0	1	1	-1	1
15 th	Jarrow Roofing BCA	2	0	1	1	-2	1
16 th	Newcastle Benfield	2	0	1	1	-5	1
17 th	Norton & Stockton Ancients	2	0	1	1	-8	1
18 th	Bedlington Terriers	2	0	1	1	-8	1
19 th	Ashington	2	0	0	2	-4	0
20 th	Sunderland RCA	2	0	0	2	-6	0
21 st	West Allotment Celtic	2	0	0	2	-7	0
22 nd	West Auckland Town	2	0	0	2	-8	0

EBAC Northern League Division Two

		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1 st	South Shields	3	2	0	1	6	6
2 nd	Ryhope CW	2	2	0	0	6	6
3 rd	Northallerton Town	3	2	0	1	5	6
4 th	Chester-Le-Street	3	2	0	1	5	6
5 th	Team Northumbria	2	2	0	0	5	6
6 th	Billingham Town	3	2	0	1	3	6
7 th	Whickham	2	2	0	0	3	6
8 th	Willington	3	2	0	1	1	6
9 th	Darlington RA	3	2	0	1	-3	6
10 th	Hebburn Town	2	1	1	0	3	4
11 th	Thornaby	2	1	1	0	1	4
12 th	Easington Colliery	2	1	0	1	5	3
13 th	Crook Town	1	1	0	0	1	3
14 th	Billingham Synthonia	2	1	0	1	0	3
15 th	Alnwick Town	3	1	0	2	-1	3
16 th	Brandon United	3	1	0	2	-3	3
17 th	Tow Law Town	3	1	0	2	-6	3
18 th	Heaton Stannington	2	0	1	1	-1	1
19 th	Birtley Town	3	0	1	2	-2	1
20 th	Ryton & Crawcrook Albion	3	0	0	3	-6	0
21 st	Stokesley	3	0	0	3	-11	0
22 nd	Esh Winning	3	0	0	3	-11	0

Form Guide

		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1 st	South Shields	3	2	0	1	6	6
2 nd	Ryhope CW	2	2	0	0	6	6
3 rd	Northallerton Town	3	2	0	1	5	6
4 th	Chester-Le-Street	3	2	0	1	5	6
5 th	Team Northumbria	2	2	0	0	5	6
6 th	Billingham Town	3	2	0	1	3	6
7 th	Whickham	2	2	0	0	3	6
8 th	Willington	3	2	0	1	1	6
9 th	Darlington RA	3	2	0	1	-3	6
10 th	Hebburn Town	2	1	1	0	3	4
11 th	Thornaby	2	1	1	0	1	4
12 th	Easington Colliery	2	1	0	1	5	3
13 th	Crook Town	1	1	0	0	1	3
14 th	Billingham Synthonia	2	1	0	1	0	3
15 th	Alnwick Town	3	1	0	2	-1	3
16 th	Brandon United	3	1	0	2	-3	3
17 th	Tow Law Town	3	1	0	2	-6	3
18 th	Heaton Stannington	2	0	1	1	-1	1
19 th	Birtley Town	3	0	1	2	-2	1
20 th	Ryton & Crawcrook Albion	3	0	0	3	-6	0
21 st	Stokesley	3	0	0	3	-11	0
22 nd	Esh Winning	3	0	0	3	-11	0

Dominant display sees Morpeth through

Garforth Town 1-4 Morpeth Town



Morpeth Town advanced to the Preliminary Round of the FA Cup with a 4-1 win over North Eastern Counties League side Garforth Town in Yorkshire on Saturday afternoon.

A brace from experienced striker Michael Chilton, and a goal apiece from Luke Carr and Sean Taylor secured the win for the Highwaymen on a day

Morpeth thoroughly outclassed their opposition. The only blemish on the performance was a late Simni Oyebanji consolation.

Garforth actually started the game on top, within the first three minutes, Luke Mangham tried his luck from the edge of the area, firing a long range effort well wide. It was Mangham again causing problems two minutes later after breaking onto a lofted ball from Mark Simpson, this time firing over from the right edge of the penalty area.

From that point on, it was dominance from the Northern League side. Lee McAndrew the first to test the 'keeper with a header from a Ben Sayer cross. Roles were reversed on the next Morpeth attack, McAndrew the provider, picking out Sayer on the edge of the area, the midfielder hitting a right footed effort goal wards, denied by the diving stop of Ben Hunter.

The Highwaymen were playing some excellent passing football from the back and should probably have taken the lead on 20 minutes. James Novak ventured down the left wing before playing in Sean Taylor. The forward beat one before crossing to Carr who swung a left foot at the ball, his goalbound effort hitting a defender and going behind.

Chance after chance fell to the visitors, but it wasn't until the 36th minute that Morpeth eventually took the lead. An over hit Taylor cross was picked up by Carr

on the right. He played the ball back to right-back Stephen Forster, who in turn found Sayer on the edge of the area. The midfielder picked out Carr's intelligent run into the penalty area, who took a touch before slotting the ball low past the 'keeper into the bottom left hand corner.

Sayer found himself in a similar position three minutes later, this time instead of passing he took aim from 20 yards, hitting a powerful effort narrowly wide of the right hand upright.



The second goal came on the stroke of half time. McAndrew picked up the ball on the left edge of the penalty area. He found Novak who combined with Sayer to play in Carr once more. The midfielder tricked his way past one before crossing to Michael Chilton who was on hand to deflect the ball just over the line.



Coming out for the second half, Morpeth continued to dominate possession without creating too many goal scoring opportunities. The third goal on 56 minutes by Chilton was a thing of beauty. Sayer was again the provider from the edge of the area, his shot was diverted into the net by an incredible back-

heel by Chilton.

Chilton should have completed his hat-trick from the kick-off, sloppy play from Garforth allowed McAndrew to cross, finding Taylor at the back post who laid the ball off to the striker who fired just wide.

It was more like a training exercise for Morpeth at this point, but the home side now and again broke on the counter, the best opportunity falling to Oyebanji who was denied a goal by Morpeth Town 'keeper Karl Dryden with a one on one save.

Town added a fourth on 74 minutes, Steven Anderson beating the offside trap after a Keith Graydon through ball. The striker unselfishly squared for Taylor to tap in from 5 yards out.

One minute later it was 4-1, a right win corner was not dealt with by the Morpeth defence, allowing Ash Preece to prod a ball off the Oyebanji, although it could be argued the Garforth attacker handled the ball into the goal.



FA Cup Round-Up

(by Ray Simpson)



Norton player-manager Adam Rundle became the first managerial casualty of the season after they were beaten 3-1 at Heaton Stannington in the extra preliminary round of the FA Cup on Saturday.

The former Darlington player had only been in charge of the ENL first division team for three matches, but the patience of Chairman Mike Mulligan snapped after the Heaton game, just three days after they were trounced 8-0 at Shildon.

Rundle's assistant, Peter Mulcaster, has also left, so Coach Deano Browne will be in charge of Wednesday night's league game at home to West Allotment.

Heaton, playing in the cup for the first time in nearly 40 years, took the lead through Jonny Wright after three minutes, and took control after Norton's Jamie Poole missed a penalty. Joe Wear and Adam Rowntree made it 3-0, before Nicky Martin pulled a goal back.



Shildon snatched a last minute equaliser at Bishop Auckland in their local derby and forced a Wednesday replay at Dean Street. Bishops had much the better of the first half with Stuart Thompson going close twice, and Andy Johnson had a shot turned over the bar.



Bishops deservedly took the lead with a 20 yarder by Thompson across Shildon keeper Lewis Graham that crept into the net, and after Ian Ward nearly got a second, Shildon went close

through Matty Robson, and a minute from the end Mark Hudson scrambled the equaliser.

Newton Aycliffe had a good away win, by 4-0 at Nelson. They took a half time with a free kick by Dennis Knight, and early in the second half Stuart Banks scored a second. Striker Matty Moffat scored twice in the last ten minutes.





West Auckland have something to be cheerful about after they drew 1-1 at Bedlington. They conceded an early goal though when Liam Hudson scored for Bedlington, and they missed a couple of chances before Anthony Hume equalised on the hour.

Dunston UTS took their goals tally for the season to 18 in just three matches, when they easily won 6-0 at Crook Town.



They never looked back once Andy Bulford put them into the lead, and that was followed by goals from Adam Wilkinson, Dan Smith, Steve Richardson, Dan Halliday and a Jonathan Kemp own goal.



The game of the day was Guisborough's 4-4 draw at Sunderland RCA, who came back from two goals down in the dying minutes. Guisborough took the lead through Danny Earl from a Curtis Round cross, but Jack Proctor equalised with a 25 yarder. Guisborough went 2-1 up with goal by Nathan Steel and then Earl made it 3-1 from a Steven Snaith through ball, but Michael Charlton pulled a goal back. Guisborough looked to have made it safe when Jonathan Helm made it 4-2, but Callum Hope hit a superb 25 yarder to pull a goal back, and then Paul Callan headed a last

minute equaliser.

Ryhope CW had the best result of the day, drawing 1-1 at Whitley Bay. They took an early lead after just three minutes when Conor Winter lobbed the Whitley keeper, and they looked as if they might hold on until Michael Laws headed in nine minutes from the end.



North Shields also had a good day, winning 2-0 at Bridlington Town. They took the lead with a goal by John Parker on 63 minutes, then three minutes later they had Curtis Copen sent off along with Bridlington's Tom Fleming following an off the ball incident. Jack Walker added the second in the last minute.

Washington had a good result, winning 2-1 at Darwen, Michael Tait and Mark Davison scoring their goals.

Morpeth, another of the travelling ENL clubs, won 4-1 at Garforth, netting two in each half. Goals from Michael Chilton (2), Luke Carr and Sean Taylor.



Billingham Synthonia gained a morale boost, drawing 0-0 with Consett at Central Avenue and forcing a Wednesday replay. They nearly caused an upset, but striker Jamie Clarke missed a good chance with a header.

Newcastle Benfield beat Yorkshire Amateurs 4-2, but they had to come back from 2-1 down. Paul Brayson put Benfield into the lead, and after the Yorkshire side went in front, Dan Taylor scored twice and Shane Jones put Benfield into the next round.



Jarrow Roofing won their all ENL tie at Penrith. The home side took the lead through Martyn Coleman, but Roofing levelled through Lewis Teasdale. John Campbell got the winner for Roofing.

Seaham Red Star drew 2-2 with Marske United after leading 2-0 at half time. Seaham took a third minute lead through Robbie Bird, then Liam McBryde broke away and scored the second. Marske keeper Robbie Deane pulled off a couple of good saves, but Marske recovered in the second half. Craig Ruddy found the top corner to pull a goal back, and in the dying seconds Dan Riley fired the equaliser.



Ashington face a tricky midweek replay at Albion Sports, coming back to earn a 2-2 draw. They held the lead through James Harmison, but the visitors hit back with goals by Danny Cunningham and Alex Cusack. However, Dylan Williamson earned a draw deep into stoppage time.

Durham City disappointed, losing 3-1 at home to Thackley, even though they opened the scoring through James Fairley.

Hebburn lost 3-1 at home to Tadcaster Albion with Josh Allen scoring their goal.

West Allotment lost 2-1 at Silsden, Cameron Patrick scoring late in the game.



FA Cup Draw

Preliminary Round Draw



Newton Aycliffe
V
Morpeth Town



Whitley Bay or Sunderland Ryhope CW	V	Heaton Stannington
Bedlington Terriers or West Auckland Town	V	Washington
Ashington or Albion Sports	V	Thackley
Pickering Town or Thornaby	V	Clitheroe
North Shields	V	Kendal Town
Bishop Auckland or Shildon	V	Jarrow Roofing Boldon CA
West Allotment Celtic	V	Padiham
Sunderland RCA or Guisborough Town	V	Newcastle Benfield
Seaham Red Star or Marske United	V	Lancaster City
Holker Old Boys	V	Dunston UTS
Billingham Synthonia or Consett	V	Scarborough Athletic



FA Vase Draw

First Qualifying Round



Morpeth Town
V
Padiham FC

Craik Park
Saturday 5th September
3pm KO



Willington	V	Whitley Bay
Norton & Stockton Ancients	V	Pickering Town
Sunderland Ryhope CW	V	Darlington Railway Athletic
Brandon United	V	Washington
Silsden	V	Thornaby
Crook Town	V	West Auckland Town
Hebburn Town	V	Knaresborough Town
Seaham Red Star	V	Billingham Town
Esh Winning	V	Hall Road Rangers
Durham City	V	Northallerton Town
Billingham Synthonia	V	Alnwick Town
Ryton & Crawcrook Albion	V	Yorkshire Amateur
Ecclehill United	V	Heaton Stannington
Penrith	V	Bridlington Town
Thackley	V	Whickham
Birtley Town	V	Chester-Le-Street Town
Liversedge	V	Team Northumbria



Second Qualifying Round



**Billingham Synthonia
or Alnwick Town**
V
**Morpeth Town or
Padiham FC**



Easington Colliery	V	Ashington
South Shields	V	Brandon United / Washington
Tow Law Town	V	Stokesley
Birtley Town / Chester-Le-Street Town	V	Eccleshill United / Heaton Stannington
Sunderland Ryhope CW / Darlington RA	V	Esh Winning / Hall Road Rangers
Sunderland RCA	V	Penrith / Bridlington Town
Silsden / Thornaby	V	Daisy Hill
Thackley / Whickham	V	Garforth Town/ Albion Sports
Bedlington Terriers	V	Durham City / Northallerton Town
Jarrow Roofing Boldon CA	V	Seaham Red Star / Billingham Town
Hebburn Town / Knaresborough Town	V	Ryton & Crawcrook Albion / Yorkshire Amateur
Bishop Auckland	V	Holker Old Boys
Norton & Stockton Ancients	V	Newcastle Benfield or Pickering Town
AFC Darwen	V	Crook Town or West Auckland Town
Willington or Whitley Bay	V	West Allotment Celtic
Newton Aycliffe	V	Barnoldswick Town
Nelson	V	Liversedge or Team Northumbria





Today's Opposition



Honours

Northern Premier League Division One North

Champions – 2008–09

Northern Football League Division One

Champions – 1993–94, 2007–08

Northern Football League Division Two

Champions – 1998–99

Northern Football League Cup

Winners – 2001–02

Durham Challenge Cup

Winners – 1971–72

Durham FA Benevolent Bowl

Winners – 1955–56

J.R. Cleator Cup

Winners – 1994–95, 2008–09



Opposition Pen Pics

Adam Crathorne

A member of last years under 23s squad who has now moved on into the Reserve team and plays in the centre back position.

Aidan Haley

A recent signing after impressing manager Ian Chandler

Callum Munro

Young striker who in his first season at the club after joining City straight from Sunday football where he was a prolific scorer with East Rainton FC.

Callum Patten

Callum, a hard working forward with pace who is strong and direct, joined the club in September 2014 from Swedish Club Ostavalls IF, a former Gateshead player his other previous clubs include Sunderland RCA, West Auckland, and Chester-le-Street.

Christopher Wallace

A strong tackling no nonsense midfielder who joined City in 2014 from Crook Town where he was highly rated by fans and fellow players alike, Chris adds some bite to the Durham midfield unit.

Conor Okus

Midfielder formerly of West Ham Academy, Dagenham and Redbridge, Ebbsfleet United.

Craig Lynch

Craig started his playing career at Sunderland going through the academy from the age of 6 to scholarship at 16. He signed as a professional between the ages of 18 to 22 and played a few games in the Premier League. Following a loan spell at Hartlepool he then became part of the Rochdale team that were promoted to league one in 2013/14. He can play in any positions from midfield to forward although is a mostly attacking player.

Daniel Dillon

Born in London, Daniel attended the Blackburn Rovers Centre of Excellence before joining the Carlisle United Academy. He progressed through the Reserves and became the Club's youngest ever first team debutant whilst still a teenager. While studying at Bath University he played for Team Bath and in 2010 captained the England University side.

David Pounder

David started his playing career as a number 10. The highlights of his career are when he made his debut in the Conference at 18 for Scarborough away at Stevenage and playing and Winning at Wembley for Whitley Bay under Ian Chandler in the FA Vase Final in 2011 as well as being part of a team that made history by winning the Vase 3 times in a row.

Gary Shaw

Gary is a midfielder who has previously played for Sunderland RCA.

Jake Fowler

Jake is a forward who has previously played for Middlesbrough, Gateshead, Stockport.

James Fairley

Forward James Fairley was voted Northern League Young Player of the Year 2012/13.

Johnathan Ball

Goalkeeper Johnathan Ball has previously played for Whitley Bay, South Shields and Sunderland RCA.

Nathan Lawrence

Currently at Gateshead College has played for Durham County Youth team recently. Can play anywhere across the defence or as a holding midfielder.

Nicholas Allen

Highly rated local youngster who has come on leaps and bounds since joining the Club. Very comfortable on the ball and competitive off it he has played both in defence and wide midfield.

Rhys Gray

Midfielder Rhys Gray played in last year's successful U23s squad.

Rhys Williams

Defender Rhys Williams has previously played for Easington Colliery and Darlington.

Thomas Flynn

Goalkeeper Thomas Flynn has made one appearance so far this season for the Citizens.



Opposition History

The club was first inaugurated in the 1918-1919 season and for that season only, operated in the old Victory league, which was formed in celebration of the end of the First World War. Subsequently the team was admitted to the North Eastern League where they played for two seasons before being admitted to Division 3 North in 1921.

The club operated in that league until 1928, when they failed to gain re-election. The club immediately re-joined the North Eastern League where they stayed until 1938 when, due to financial constraints, the club was forced to disband. They then became members of the Wearside League but again disbanded in November 1938.

The club reformed in 1950 and gained admission to the Wearside League, where they operated until 1952 before joining the Northern League where they remained until 2008. At the end of the 2007/08 season, their second Championship winning season the club finally achieved promotion to the UniBond First Division North.

The club has occupied five different grounds since its formation. In their first season the club played at Garden House Park (almost where County Hall now stands) before moving to Kepier Heughs, near to the old Ferens Park ground where they stayed for four seasons.

The club then moved on to Holliday Park (named after the late Alderman T.W. Holliday), on Framwellgate Waterside, where they stayed until they disbanded in 1938.

The club's fourth ground, named after the late Alderman H.C. Ferens, was acquired when the club reformed in 1950. Alderman Ferens was for many years, prior to his death in 1975, President of the club and a generous benefactor in connection with the purchase of the land for that ground.

Ferens Park was at that time probably one of the most attractive grounds in the Northern League. Set in rural surroundings its facilities included a comfortable clubhouse, a covered stand and floodlights.

This ground also hosted the club's largest attendance, which stands at 7,000, for an F.A. Cup Second Round tie against Tranmere Rovers on 7 November 1957 which City lost 0-3.

City left Ferens Park at the end of their first Championship winning season in 1993-94 but because their ground wasn't completed on time they were unable to join the Northern Premier League. After ground-sharing with Chester-le-Street Town for a season the club moved to its fifth and current ground - New Ferens Park. Situated in Belmont on the outskirts of the city the purpose built stadium is easily accessible from all major roads, boasts a two storey clubhouse, a 300-seater stand, which also provides covered accommodation for 600 standing spectators, and excellent floodlights.

In the 2007-08 season, City were crowned Northern league Champions for only the second time in their history. This was rewarded with promotion and they duly took their rightful place in the Northern Premier League.

In 2008-09, and at the first time of asking they became Unibond League 1st Division North Champions.

The squad was strengthened during the summer months and yet another successful season looked to be on the cards when the Club's major sponsor pulled out after only the second game in the Premier League. With no funds to cover expenses etc. there followed an exodus of players. This left the Club only one option in its fight for survival.

Players, most of whom were aged between 16-18, from the local academy stepped in and although the Club finished bottom of the league with zero points (even though two victories were notched up) this ensured not only the completion of the fixture list but more importantly, the survival of the Club.

The following season was one of consolidation as the club slowly started to rebuild and a lot of hard work and dedication, both on and off the pitch, saw the club gradually re-establish itself. The team management put together a young side and were rewarded with a creditable 9th position finish to the 2011/12 season.

However the constant travelling to away games up and down the A1 and the costs involved began to take its toll and a difficult decision had to be made to once again ensure the survival of the Club. At the end of the season it was announced that Durham City AFC had resigned from the Northern Premier League. The Northern Premier League, the FA and the Northern League were all sympathetic and the Club was once again accepted as a member of the Northern League for the 2012/13 season.

In December 2013 former Newcastle United defender Olivier Bernard took over Durham City AFC with a vision of it becoming a community club comprising youth teams from age 6 upwards as well as a reserves team. The intention being to bring success back to the Club which he believes is long overdue.



Match Preview - Morpeth Town v Durham City

After an excellent start to the season that has seen Morpeth Town pick up four points in the league and advance in the FA Cup, the Highwaymen welcome Durham City to Craik Park for a Wednesday night game.

Nick Gray's side will look to continue their good home form, Morpeth having not lost at home in seven games stretching back to last season. In that run includes a 6-0 victory over today's opposition.



The Opposition

Durham City, much like ourselves, have had a solid start to the season. The Citizens currently sit one place above Town in the early EBAC Northern League Division One table, with four points from two games so far.

Durham started the season with a comprehensive 4-1 victory over West Allotment Celtic, and followed that up with a 2-2 draw against Whitley Bay, but will have been disappointed to let a two goal lead slip in that game.

However, their FA Cup campaign is already over, losing 3-1 to North Eastern Counties League side Thackley at the weekend. They will be looking to bounce back with a strong performance in today's game.

Key Player

Callum Patton is the man to watch for the visitors, the young striker is well travelled in his young career having spells at West Auckland, Sunderland RCA, Gateshead, Chester le Street, Ostavalls IF.

Patton has already netted twice this season, both coming in the 2-2 draw with Whitley Bay last mid-week.



Last Meeting

Morpeth Town 6-0 Durham City – Saturday 28th March 2015



In the ascendancy from the first whistle The Highwaymen hit Durham City for six as they completed a comfortable victory.

Daniel Taggart opened the scoring on five minutes, Sean Taylor made it 2-0 and a Luke Carr free kick put Morpeth 3-0 up at the break.

Two close range finishes from Michael Chilton and one from Jordan Fry completed the scoring to give Morpeth a comprehensive victory.

Upcoming Fixtures



EBAC Northern
League Division 1



Saturday 22nd
August



EBAC Northern
League Division 1



Wednesday 26th
August



FA Cup
Preliminary Round



Saturday 29th
August



EBAC Northern
League Division 1



Monday 31st
August



Captains Message:



At the weekend we made the trip to Garforth Town in the FA Cup. I think we started off slowly in the first ten minutes, then after that we controlled the game.

Some of the attacking play was fantastic at times. I think the scoreline flattered them in the end, we could have scored a lot more but the main thing is we are in the next round and face a tough trip to Newton Aycliffe.

Today I think this will be our toughest test to date. We gave them a hammering last season at Craik Park and I am sure they will be out for revenge, but if we keep playing the way we are I am confident we take all three points

Team Captain
Keith Graydon

Photo Gallery

Morpeth Town v Bishop Auckland



Final Score
Morpeth Town 3-0 Bishop Auckland

Washington v Morpeth Town



Final Score
Washington 2-2 Morpeth Town

Garforth Town v Morpeth Town



FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round
Garforth Town 1-4 Morpeth Town



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Today's Squads



No.

Goal

Sub

No.

Goal

Sub

	Karl Dryden				Nicholas Allen		
	Niall Harrison				Johnathan Ball		
	David Hiftle				Yasanama Bodri		
	Shaun Henderson				Andrew Brown		
	James Novak				Jack Carr		
	Johnny Wilson				Adam Crathorne		
	Chris Jewels				Daniel Dillon		
	Chris Swailes				James Fairley		
	Michael Hall				Thomas Flynn		
	Matthew Grieve				Jake Fowler		
	Keith Graydon				Rhys Gray		
	Ben Sayer				Aiden Haley		
	Luke Carr				Jamie Kelly		
	Shaun Bell				Nathan Lawrence		
	Jordan Fry				Craig Lynch		
	Sean Taylor				Steven Malloy		
	Michael Chilton				Craig Mountain		
	Daniel Taggart				Callum Munro		
	Stephen Forster				Conor Okus		
	Steven Anderson				Callum Patton		
	Jordan Nellis				David Pounder		
	Lee McAndrew				Gary Shaw		
	Jack Betts				Ross Simpson		
					Josh Thompson		
					Chris Wallace		
					Ross Wilkinson		
					Rhys Williams		

Match Officials

Referee

Assistant

Assistant