



THE MOORS

ISSUE 16



VS



**SPENNYMOOR TOWN FC V
ALFRETON TOWN**

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH

SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2020 / 3PM / ISSUE 16 / £2.50
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Good afternoon and welcome to The Brewery Field for today's National League North fixture against Alfreton Town. It's been a good few days at the club with progress to the Durham Challenge Cup final being accompanied by some great results in the league. Last weekend's fixture at Southport was one of many which was lost to Storm Dennis, so we will now head to The Pure Stadium in late March as the season enters its final months. Today's game is against an Alfreton side who have outside hopes of making a late push for the play-off spots. After a 1-0 win over Leamington on Tuesday evening, Alfreton are now eight points away from Gateshead in seventh with a game in hand. It's a season which has seen twists, turns and unpredictable results, and I expect plenty more from now till the end of April!

I previously alluded to the Durham Challenge Cup progress which was secured courtesy of a 4-1 win over Stockton Town at The Brewery Field on Tuesday evening. On a chilly evening (it was no Altrincham mind!) it was our second half display which saw us progress to the final against Sunderland Under 23's at The Stadium of Light. Max Craggs headed The Anchors ahead, but we responded well with Adam Boyes popping up with an equaliser. Stockton probably shaded a well fought first half, but we emerged from the interval with intent from the first whistle. Boyes, Stephen Brogan and James Roberts added the rest of the goals in front of a crowd of almost 800, a superb turnout under the lights.

In today's edition of 'The Moors', we hear from our new goalkeeper Dale Eve after he made his debut for the club in the 4-1 Durham Challenge Cup win. Eve, who was born in Bermuda, has an interesting tale to tell about footballing culture in his home country, adapting to life in England and his eagerness to settle at one club after spells with a host of teams across the country. Ben McKenna chats to Chris Brookes at nonleaguedaily.com to get his views on his season so far and life at the club, and there's all the usual content with our dedicated match day centre and away team profile, so plenty to get stuck into ahead of kick off!

Enjoy the game!

Jack

A big thanks to today's match ball sponsor, enjoy the game!



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AINSLIE

FROM THE DUGOUT



Spennymoor Town's manager looks back at the win over Altrincham and seeing the side progress to the final of the Durham Challenge Cup.

Good afternoon and welcome to The Brewery Field as we return to National League North action after last weekend's postponement at Southport. February has been a good month so far after a tough start to 2020, so we will be aiming to keep up that run today as we welcome Alfreton Town, who themselves are in a bit of a purple patch. The aim is to continue where we left off and keep the good run of form going. The business end of the season is fast approaching so now is the time to gather momentum ahead of the final push.

The cancellation of the Southport game means we haven't been in league action since the stunning 3-2 win over Altrincham in the middle of last week. What a night it was! It was a great advert for the league and was played at a brilliant pace and intensity despite the terrible weather conditions. I think someone must have turned the snow machine on during the first half because it came out of nowhere. We knew that Altrincham would want to dictate possession and have the ball because that's the way they play, but we felt that we could really cause them problems on the break. That is what happened time and time again when it would be two versus two on the counter. The likes of Roberts and Ramshaw caused them issues all night, and, in the end, we dug deep to get a crucial three points.

Tuesday night saw us take on Stockton Town in

the Durham Challenge Cup semi-final. We always want to do well in every competition we play, and this night was no different. Stockton have been brilliant this season and are flying high at the top of the Northern League Division One. Having managed a lot of their players when they had spells at Spennymoor, I was well aware of the talent and quality they possessed as individuals and a squad. We were expecting a tough game, and that was proved when Stockton took the lead after 20 minutes through Max Craggs. We were level shortly after through Adam Boyes when he turned in from close range.

The second half was much better, with an increased tempo and intensity proving too strong for Stockton in the end. We scored four in the end, but we could have got a few more as we missed some gilt-edge chances. I was delighted with the lads overall and over the moon to reach a final, and it was also crucial for players who needed game time to get some minutes under their belts. Everyone is going to need to play their part for the rest of the season.

I would also like to congratulate Andy, Lewis and Mark who have managed the team during the Durham Challenge Cup run. We look forward to the final at The Stadium of Light!

The aim is to continue where we left off and keep the good run of form going

Enjoy the game!

Jay



THE BIG INTERVIEW



Spennymoor's new goalkeeper guides us through his roots in Bermuda, his eagerness to settle with Moors and receiving praise from Shaun Goater.

In 2019, Bermuda made history by making their first ever appearance at the CONCACAF Gold Cup, the confederation's premier event for national teams, crowning a champion every two years. Initially involving eight teams, the Gold Cup has developed into a competition of 12 nations, which qualify from each of CONCACAF's three sub-regions: North America, Central America and the Caribbean, and has reached exceptional levels of popularity as evidenced by capacity crowds and a global TV audience of millions. As well as being a ground-breaking moment for football in Bermuda, it was also a huge summer for Dale Eve, Moors' new goalkeeper who joined the club before the 3-2 win over Altrincham.

Eve, now 25, has played for ten clubs in England after being spotted as youngster playing in his homeland for The Dandy Down Hornets F.C. He has had his fair share of highs and lows, peaking with impressive performances against Haiti, Costa Rica and Nicaragua at the previously mentioned Gold Cup last year. However, he had to battle back from the low of being released from Stoke City after a spell of fruitless loan spells in the lower realms of the English football pyramid, ultimately concluding with him returning to Bermuda for two years. After returning to England at the end of 2019 in search of a final chance to impress with a club, Eve was suddenly in the right place at the right time.

"When things didn't go right after lots of trials going from club to club to club, it was a case of wondering where I was going to go next. Hartlepool came into the picture at one point, but nothing came of that situation. I connected with John Willow who has helped two Bermudian players sign for Darlington (Osagi Bascome and Justin Donawa) and is looking to help out Bermudian national players to get clubs and play

professional in the UK. John must have had some knowledge that Spennymoor were on the lookout for a goalkeeper, so sometimes it's just about luck in life. My agent has been working day in, day out to try and get me settled somewhere, get some games and get going as a footballer again.

"It's been two and a half years since I have played in England. At this stage of my career it's now about finding a club to settle at and get some consistency. After spending time at Robin Hood in Bermuda we wanted to come back last December and give it another go. This was the last chance and it was time to build my profile again. Luckily Spennymoor came in!"

Eve has played in the Bermudian Premier Division for two clubs based in his home parish of Pembroke, the highest level of football in Bermuda. After spending his younger years at Dandy Town Hornets, he joined Robin Hood in 2017 upon his return to the country. After moving to England to join Derby, Eve's potential had the likes of Manchester City sniffing around, but Stoke City was his next destination: "I've been playing football all my life since my days growing up in Bermuda. The standard of football in terms of the league in my country is nowhere near any of the top leagues, however, the individual talent of players is good. You always get two or three who manage to make it, get spotted and have a chance at making it pro, and I was lucky enough to move to the UK when I was just 15. I didn't even know how the professional game worked over here. It was more of a case of that I enjoyed playing football, I managed to impress and then I signed the contract at Derby County.

"That's when I actually had to learn about how a professional footballer lived and operated. In all honesty that took

me a while to get used to, and I had to go way down the ladder to try and get games and learn more about the game and myself. At one point it was a case of how to get back into the game and get spotted again after my release from Stoke. I struggled for a few years to manage that, but I have got myself and my head right over the last two years. I am now fully focused on my goal and it's now a case of going for it."

After confirmation of Eve's transfer went through hours before the game against Altrincham in early February, social media was alive with praise for the shot stopper, but there was one name in particular which caught the eye. Shaun Goater, the all-time leading scorer for Bermuda and a Manchester City legend, managed Eve for a short period of time at Ilkeston, and was complimentary towards the goalkeeper: "I was at Ilkeston around three years ago right before I went back to Bermuda, and the club brought Goater in to manage the team. He gave me a lot of feedback, insight and what it takes to make it. He looked at what I was not getting right, and his guidance helped me further down the line when I managed to make the squad for the 2019 Gold Cup. That

platform allowed me to get game time and recognition as the tournament was broadcast and seen by millions. It was the perfect time to showcase what I was capable of. Everywhere else I had been at was all about how I did in training, but this was a proper game situation where I could show my ability. I did well and played all our group games against Haiti, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, and I felt like I marshalled our defence well and gave myself a platform again."

Tuesday night saw Eve make his full debut for the club in the 4-1 Durham Challenge Cup semi-final win over Stockton Town, but he feels it is just the start of his journey back in England: "It felt good to be back on the pitch in England! It was a bit cold, but it was great to be back in a match situation. I'm obviously still getting used to the lads and how each player will play, but it just felt right to be back playing football here. The aim is to keep the number one shirt for as long as I can and take the club as far as I can."

"It was a bit cold, but it was great to be back in a match situation."





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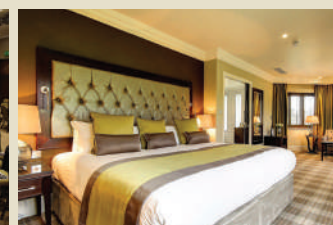
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AWAY END



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CURRENT ENGLAND GOALKEEPER JORDAN PICKFORD PLAYED 12 TIMES
FOR ALFRETON IN 2013 ON LOAN FROM SUNDERLAND.



A BRIEF HISTORY

The club was formed in 1959 following the merger of Alfreton Miners Welfare and Alfreton United, taking the name of a previous club that had played in the Midland League in the 1920s. A ground on North Street was provided by the council and the new club spent two seasons in the Central Alliance before switching to the Midland League in 1961. Although they finished bottom of the league in their first season, they were league champions in 1969-70 and reached the first round of the FA Cup for the first time, taking Third Division Barrow to three replays before losing 2-0 at Deepdale. After finishing as runners-up in 1971-72 they won the league again in 1973-74, a season in which they reached the FA Cup first round for a second time, losing to Blyth Spartans in a replay. Between 1972 and 1974 the club also won three League Cups in succession, resulting in them being awarded the trophy permanently by the league. A third league title was won in 1976-77, and the club finished as runners-up again in 1980-81 and 1981-82.

In 1982 the Midland League merged with the Yorkshire League to form the Northern Counties East League, with Alfreton placed in the Premier Division. In 1986-87 they won the Premier Division, earning promotion to the new Division One of the Northern Premier League. The club remained in Division One until 1995-96, when they finished second and were promoted to the Premier Division. The 1997-98 season Alfreton finished bottom of the Premier Division, and were relegated to Division One. The following season they finished last in Division One and were relegated back to the Northern Counties East League.

After finishing fifth in 1999-2000 and third in 2000-01, Alfreton won the Premier Division of the Northern Counties East League in 2001-02 to earn promotion back to Division One of the Northern Premier League. The following season saw them win their division again, gaining promotion to the Premier Division. After finishing fourth in 2003-04 the club were placed in the new Conference North.

Alfreton's first few seasons in the Conference North saw them in lower mid-table, with 2004-05 marking

their first appearance in the FA Cup first round since the 1970s, losing 2-0 to Macclesfield Town in a replay. In 2008-09 they finished third in the Conference North, qualifying for the promotion play-offs, in which they were defeated 5-4 on aggregate in the semi-finals by AFC Telford United, losing 2-0 away and winning 4-3 at home. The season also saw them reach the second round of the FA Cup for the first time; having defeated Bury Town 4-2 in the first round, they lost 4-0 at Scunthorpe United in the second. Another third-place finish in the following season led to another play-off campaign; after beating Workington 4-1 in the semi-finals, they lost 2-1 to Fleetwood Town in the final. In 2010-11 they won the Conference North, earning promotion to the Conference National.

The following three seasons saw Alfreton finish in mid-table in the top division of the Conference, reach the FA Cup first round in 2011-12, the second round in 2012-13 and the first round again in 2013-14. In 2014-15 they were relegated back to the renamed National League North.

THE GAFFER | BILLY HEATH

Appointed at the start of the 2018/19 season, Heath arrived with a super reputation having led his previous two clubs, North Ferriby United and Halifax Town, to promotion from The National League North.

LAST SEASON | 15TH THE PLAYERS

Inconsistency plagued Alfreton's 2018/19 campaign as they were unable to put together a series of wins to take them into the top ten of the division. A four-match winning streak in March sparked the possibility of a late push up the league, but no wins in their final eight league games called signalled a mid-table finish.

Jack Atkinson
Jordan Wright
Teddy Unwin-Marris
Nyle Blake
Conor Branson
Morgan Brough
Joshua Clackstone
Danny Clarke
Daniel East
Danny Elliott
Michael Freiter
Harvey Grice
Kieron Hinchley
Bobby Johnson
Shane Killock
David Lynch
Amari Morgan-Smith
Jude Oyibo
Ryan Qualter
Dominic Smith
Ben Tomlinson
Shaun Turton
Josh Wilde
Dale Witham

ONE TO WATCH

DANNY ELLIOTT

The 24-year-old summer signing was unable to nail down a regular place in the Chester squad under Bernard Morley and Anthony Johnson, so was loaned out to Alfreton Town at the end of January. He has been a revelation at North Street, scoring five times in three games, and has already spoke of helping Chester's promotion push upon his return.





T.I.G.E.R.S

THE INDEPENDENT GROUP FOR ENGAGEMENT AND REPRESENTATION AT SPENNYMOOR

TIGERS is a non-for-profit group aiming to engage fans and represent their views at Board Level, all membership fees raised go directly to the operating of the group including web costs and running of operations to gather supporter opinion.

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Stated aims:

- To provide a place for supporter opinion and sentiment to be shared away from public social media platforms, to promote positive communication and open discussion.
- Make a concerted effort to communicate and encourage a dialogue with all groups of supporters.
- Be a collective and independent voice, empowering supporters as a group rather than individuals.

- Provide supporter representation at the football club by putting collective views to the club's board.
- Work with and communicate effectively and quickly between supporters and the football club using technological means

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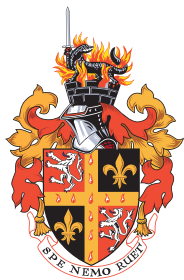
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FORM (LAST 5)



W 3-2
NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
12/2/20



D 0-0
NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
8/2/20 HOME



W 2-1
NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
1/2/20 AWAY



W 2-0
NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
25/1/20 HOME

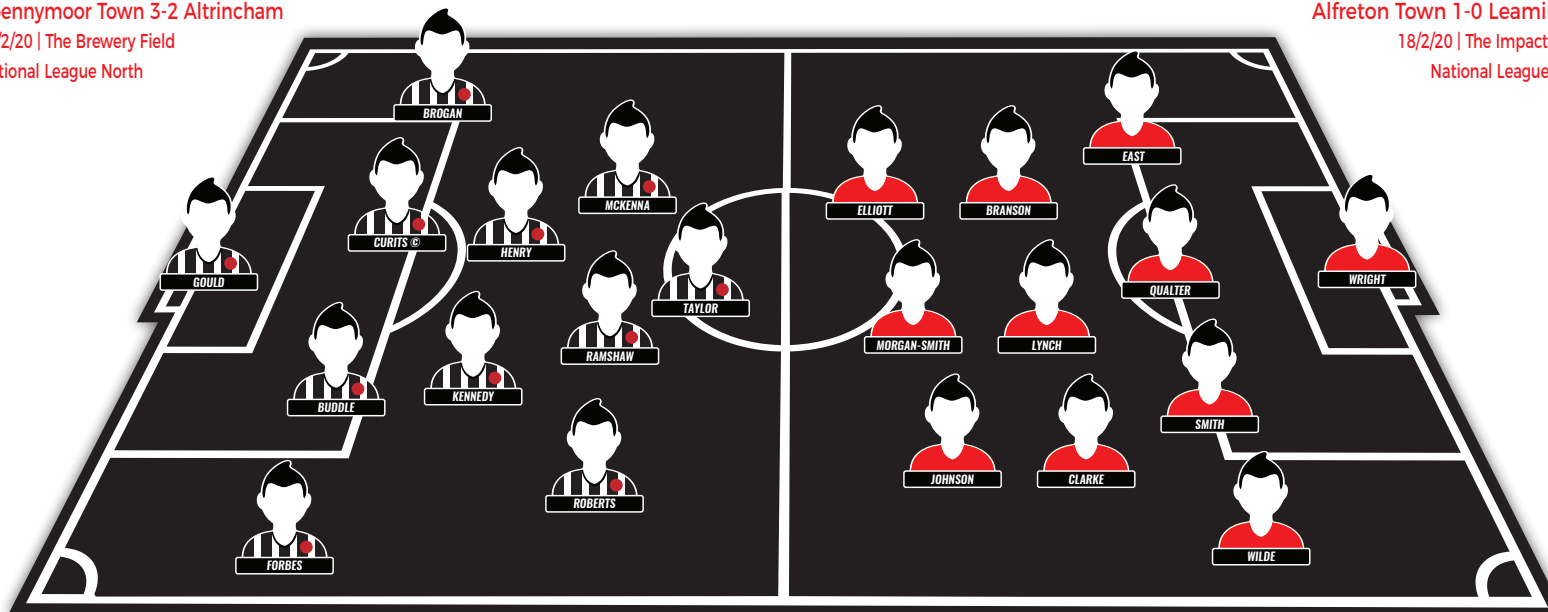


D 1-1
NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
18/1/20 AWAY

MATCHDAY CENTRE

LAST TIME OUT

Spennymoor Town 3-2 Altrincham
12/2/20 | The Brewery Field
National League North



LAST TIME OUT

Alfreton Town 1-0 Leamington
18/2/20 | The Impact Arena
National League North



FORM (LAST 5)



W 1-0
NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
18/2/20 HOME



D 1-1
NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
8/2/20 AWAY



W 2-0
NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
1/2/20 HOME



W 6-1
NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
28/1/20 HOME



L 0-3
NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
18/1/20 - HOME

LAST TIME WE MET

SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2019 | THE IMPACT ARENA

ALFRETON TOWN 0-2 SPENNYMOOR TOWN

A goal in either half from Rob Ramshaw secured a fourth successive victory for Moors as they eased past Alfreton Town in tough conditions at The Impact Arena.

Ramshaw, operating in the number ten role, headed in from close range before driving through the legs of goalkeeper Charlie Andrew on the hour mark.



STATS CENTRE

- In the five meetings between the sides since Moors gained promotion to the National League North in 2017, there have been 20 goals shared. Moors have scored 16 of those, with Glen Taylor netting seven.
- Six of those seven goals were scored in the calendar year of 2018, with the striker scoring hat-tricks at The Impact Arena in April and December.
- Alfreton have won four of their previous six games having previously gone eight games without a win in all competitions.
- The Reds have only drawn once away from home this season, a league joint low with Hereford, and that came in their previous fixture on the road at Farsley.
- Glen Taylor (13) and Amari Morgan-Smith (16) have scored 29 goals between them in 2019/20.

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2019/20

THE MOORS

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Following promotion in 2017, Spennymoor Town are now in their third consecutive campaign in the National League North. After a 4th place finish and play-off final defeat in the 2018/19 season, hopes are high following an influx of new faces who have joined the core of the squad.




MATT GOULD
Gould joined Moors in the summer of 2018, filling the number one spot following the exit of Dan Lawson and Jordan Porter. He is the son of former Celtic and Scotland shot stopper Jonathan Gould and the grandson of FA Cup winning manager Bobby Gould.

POSITION: GK | @MATTGKGOULD
19/20 APPS: 15
19/20 GOALS: 0

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JAMES CURTIS
An integral part of Spennymoor's defence, Curtis joined from Gateshead in the summer of 2016 after making 596 appearances for Gateshead. Now the captain for the side, Curtis remains a vital member of the side on and off the pitch.

POSITION: DF | @JCURTISHEEDS
19/20 APPS: 15
19/20 GOALS: 0


SPONSOR: LEE & HELEN HALBERT



CARL MAGNAY
Magnay joined Spennymoor this summer after leaving Hartlepool United where made 120 appearances for Pools after joining in 2015 from Grimsby Town. The experienced defender, who can play at centre back or right back, secured a professional contract with Premier League club Chelsea in 2007.

POSITION: DF | @BROCS11
19/20 APPS: 15
19/20 GOALS: 0

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STEPHEN BROGAN
Brogan was brought in from Jason Ainsley from fellow National League North club Boston United. He spent the early stages of his career at his hometown club, Rotherham, where his impressive performances saw the likes of Tottenham Hotspur take an interest.

POSITION: DF | @BROCS11
19/20 APPS: 11
19/20 GOALS: 0

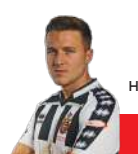
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SHANE HENRY
Henry, known as 'The Bull', is now in his sixth season with club after joining from Whitley Town in July 2014. The 26-year-old is renowned for his powerful midfield displays and tireless work ethic on the pitch. He has twice won Managers' Player of the Year and become an essential cog in the Moors midfield.

POSITION: MF | @SHANEHENRY
19/20 APPS: 6
19/20 GOALS: 0


SPONSOR: JOE BANNISTER



NATHAN BUDDLE
Buddle joined Spennymoor from Blyth Spartans shortly after the conclusion of the 2018/19 season. The 25-year-old centre back began his career with Hartlepool United before moving to Croft Park for the first of his three spells with the club.

POSITION: DF | @NATHANBUDDLE
19/20 APPS: 14
19/20 GOALS: 1

SPONSOR: CONSETT GOLDBAR



CHRISTOPHER MASON
Club Captain and stalwart, Chris has completed over 300 appearances for the Moors. Mason holds legendary status in Spennymoor for his role in the 2013 FA Vase victory, and he has continued to put in dominant displays since. He suffered a long term injury in April 2018 which saw him miss the entire 2018/19 season.

POSITION: DF | @CMASON123
19/20 APPS: 3
19/20 GOALS: 0

SPONSOR: JACANA CROSSFIT



JAMIE CHANDLER
After starting his career with Sunderland and being capped by England at youth level, Jamie joined The Moors in the summer of 2016 from Gateshead, where he made 168 appearances in the Conference and scored 20 goals. Chandler is a vital part of the Moors dressing room and is known for his committed performances.

POSITION: MF | @JAMIE_CHANDLER4
19/20 APPS: 15
19/20 GOALS: 0


SPONSOR: FRANK SMITH



MARK ANDERSON
Another player to have played professionally in the USA with Carolina Railhawks, 'Sparky' joined in January 2016. Mark quickly became a firm favourite with the fans, scoring significant goals in the promotion into the Northern Premier League Premier Division. Technically gifted, he won National League North Player of the Month for February in 2018/19.

POSITION: MF | @MARKSPARKY10
19/20 APPS: 12
19/20 GOALS: 2

SPONSOR: PAUL GILLHAM



ROBERT RAMSHAW
Robert 'Ramma' Ramshaw joined in the summer of 2016 from Gateshead, where he made more than 100 appearances in the Conference. His goal against Stourbridge in the 2017 Play-Off Final clinched Moors' spot in the National League North, and his performances earned him a call-up to the England C team in March 2018.

POSITION: MF | @ROB_RAMSHAW
19/20 APPS: 12
19/20 GOALS: 2

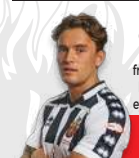
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ANDREW JOHNSON
Johnson is now heading into his fourth season with Spennymoor after joining from Northern League Ashington in 2016. His wonderful FA Cup First Round strike against MK Dons in 2016 will go down in Spennymoor folklore, then he scored another a carbon copy again in the playoffs in April to sink Nantwich. A man for the big occasion, Johnson pops up with goals at vital times.

POSITION: MF | @AJ07JAY
19/20 APPS: 12
19/20 GOALS: 5


SPONSOR: GARY SWINBURN



BEN MCKENNA
One of Spennymoor's summer acquisitions, the tricky 26-year-old is comfortable on either wing and signed for the Moors amid interest from several clubs. Lively, unpredictable and speedy, McKenna spent last season with Bradford (Park Avenue) and Chester, catching their eye when he scored the winner for BPA against the Moors in August.

POSITION: MF | @SUPERMAC_27
19/20 APPS: 15
19/20 GOALS: 1

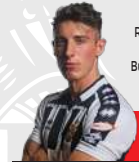
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ADAM BOYES
Boyes, 27, became Jason Ainsley's seventh signing during the summer of 2018. The forward joined York City in 2008 and after making a quick impact in the first team, he won an England 'C' cap as a substitute in a 4-0 win over Malta in February 2009. Boyes showed his natural ability in front of goal and netted several crucial goals in his first season at The Brewery Field.

POSITION: SKR | @BOSHER1990
19/20 APPS: 12
19/20 GOALS: 3

SPONSOR: BMW WINDOWS



JAMES ROBERTS
Roberts has spent the majority of his career playing in the South, but after speaking to manager Jason Ainsley, decided to relocate from his native Buckinghamshire. After spending his youth career at Wycombe Wanderers, Roberts moved to Oxford United where he signed his first professional contract before breaking into the first team, both at the age of 18.

POSITION: SKR | @JAMES_ROBERTS39
19/20 APPS: 15
19/20 GOALS: 4

SPONSOR: TREVOR BEAUMONT



TOMMY MILLER
Appointed in Summer 2016 after leaving FA Trophy winners Halifax Town, County Durham born Tommy Miller started his career with Hartlepool United and scored 44 goals in 160 appearances from midfield, before moving to Ipswich Town for £750,000.

POSITION: ASSISTANT MANAGER | @MILLSK18
19/20 APPS: 15
19/20 GOALS: 0

SPONSOR: MILLERS PHARMACY



ANDY OATES
Andrew joined with manager Jason Ainsley way back in 2007 and is now in his 12th season with the club. He is a highly-rated and well-qualified physio, holding BSc (Hons) MCSP Chartered Musculoskeletal Physiotherapist status.

POSITION: PHYSIOTHERAPIST | @OATES1981
19/20 APPS: 15
19/20 GOALS: 0

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STUART PARNABY - TEAM COACH



JASON KENNEDY - MIDFIELDER



TYLER FORBES - DEFENDER



DALE EVE - GOALKEEPER



BARRY FARR



JASON AINSLEY



TOMMY MILLER



JAKE HIBBS
Hibbs won the FA Trophy with Halifax Town in 2016, playing the full 90 minutes in a 1-0 victory over Grimsby Town, as well as being part of the squad who defeated Salford City in the 2016/17 National League North Play-Off Final. Despite being a midfielder, Hibbs was an ever-present at right back in his debut season with the club. He is currently on a three month loan at Buxton.

POSITION: MF | @RHALL1994
19/20 APPS: 2
19/20 GOALS: 0

ON LOAN



RYAN HALL
Ryan was Moors' first summer signing in 2017, joining on a two-year contract from National League North side Curzon Ashton, where many were sorry to see him leave. Hall has had standout moments during his time at the club, scoring twice at Bootham Crescent against York in front of the away fans, as well as crucial goals against Brackley and Kidderminster in 2018/19.

POSITION: MF | @RHALL1994
19/20 APPS: 2
19/20 GOALS: 0

ON LOAN



GAVIN COGDON
Powerful striker Cogdon re-joined Moors this summer. Regarded as a club legend after a thrilling first spell with the club, Cogdon, 36, scored 132 goals in 289 appearances for Spennymoor during a trophy-laden stint from 2009 to 2016. As well as scoring an iconic goal in Moors' FA Vase success in 2013, he also won

POSITION: SKR | @GAVC83
19/20 APPS: 11
19/20 GOALS: 0

SPONSOR: SUPPORTERS CLUB



GLEN TAYLOR
Taylor is a big, strong, and technically adept goal scorer who is a former FA Vase winner with Whitley Bay, and scored more than 100 goals for Ashington. He went on to find the net over 20 times in the 2017/18 season and caught the attention of clubs across the league and beyond. Taylor won a number of accolades at the club's end of season awards, winning 'Player of the Year', 'Player's Player of the Year' and 'Top Goalscorer', as well as being crowned 'Player of the Year' in the National League North.

POSITION: SKR | @GLENTAYLOR23
19/20 APPS: 12
19/20 GOALS: 12

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JASON AINSLEY
Jason was appointed manager in the summer of 2007 and has now managed the club in over 600 games, winning four promotions, five league titles, two domestic cups and the FA Vase in 2013. The 2019/20 signals Ainsley's 13th season in charge of the club, making him one of the longest serving managers in the country.

POSITION: MANAGER | @JAVAINSLEY7
19/20 APPS: 15
19/20 GOALS: 0

SPONSOR: SOLAN CONOR FAWCETT



BARRY FARR
Barry returned to the club in March 2015 following a short spell with West Auckland Town. The former Northern League Goalkeeper and Durham City coach became very popular in his previous five seasons at the club, ensuring The Moors' keepers were prepared in the best possible way for every game.

POSITION: GOALKEEPING COACH
19/20 APPS: 15
19/20 GOALS: 0

SPONSOR: MIKE & CHERYL ROWCROFT

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SPENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS — IN DEPTH WITH MOORS MAN BEN MCKENNA

Nonleaguedaily writer Chris Brookes spoke to Moors winger Ben McKenna on life at the club, long hours in the car and watching the chaos of the dressing room unfold.

It took a meeting with stark reality, but an about-turn has set Spennymoor Town winger Ben McKenna into his stride. The one-time Burnley and Carlisle United youngster is finally feeling fully invested in himself, while his first season as a Moors player has also seen him welcomed into the fold with unashamed authenticity.

Sometime before securing his signature, Ben McKenna was a player Jason Ainsley was more than familiar with, having seen his Spennymoor side at the sharp end of the wideman's capabilities at the beginning of last season. He was in the green of Bradford (Park Avenue) when he drifted in off the right and into a crowded penalty area to sweep home a match-winning, first-time left-footer from the edge of the six-yard box.

Before that 2018/19 campaign was finished, Ainsley had tried to sign him, and though Chester was his chosen destination at the time, the County Durham outfit belatedly got their man in the summer. With Spennymoor again in the National League North promotion conversation as this season gets set to enter its final reckoning, the one-time Northern Ireland Under-19 has been a significant contributor.

It might have taken that little bit longer for their association to come to fruition, but from Ben's side, it has been worth the wait.

"Well I'll be honest with you, I've been at a lot of clubs in non-league, especially Conference North, and so-called bigger teams, but Spennymoor, I'm not just saying it, it's the best club I've been at. The way it's run and the direction that they want to go in, I was at Bradford Park Avenue last season, and even though we were towards the top end of the league, they didn't want to go up, because I don't think the club could sustain National League football.

"Spennymoor want National League football, they wanna get there, so I'm loving it. It's a very close club, everyone's connected; the players, the fans, the people who work there.



"I've been there seven months now and I've loved every single minute of it."

It has been the environment to help the 27-year-old thrive, though as he describes, a soft and gentle setting it could never quite be classed as!

"Well it's a harsh dressing room! As soon as you sign for the club, you get put in the group chat, and you've got to take a bit of stick for a while; I think it took me two or three months to get used to it!

"Big characters, you've got Ramma (Rob Ramshaw), James Curtis; a lot of the North East lads and lads that have been there for a while. Sparky, Mark Anderson, Ste Brogan, and you've got me who sits on the perimeter and likes to observe!

"I don't get too involved now; I just sit back and watch the chaos unfolding!"

With 30 of their 42 league games gone, Spenny are in touch with the play-off pack, level on points with Gateshead in the last of those coveted places, albeit having played two games more. They are, however, just three behind 5th-placed Altrincham, and with a game in hand on an Alty side they ran out 3-2 winners against at home last Tuesday.

Going one better is the season's objective at the Brewery Field, with the club agonisingly close to clinching fifth-tier football last May. Having overcome Ben's old side Bradford (Park Avenue) in the play-off quarter-final, they beat Brackley Town on penalties in the semi, before suffering shootout agony to Chorley in the final.

Also captain and assistant during his time, Moors' gaffer Jason Ainsley is now 13 seasons in, making it

a tenure that surpasses that of any manager in the EFL or National League. Far from an authority figure presiding from a distance, he has been central to what Ben has found since he arrived.

"I think one thing with the gaffer is he's a man-manager. At some clubs, the manager will pull himself away from the players, whereas here, everyone's connected.

"You get in the dressing room, lads have a laugh with him, you're not worried about saying the wrong thing, he'll ask for your opinion. I've got on with him so well and I think it's because he can man-manage people; he works as a teacher and I think he's taken that role and how he deals with people into the dressing room.

"I think it's probably the best season I've had and I think it's been down to the manager having belief in me. There's been some games where I maybe haven't played that well in them, but he's stuck with me, kept playing me, and I think over the course of the season I've done well.

"I set myself targets at the start of the season, goals and assists-wise, and assists I'm on target with, but goals I'm not. Even though I do base myself on goals and assists, I do a lot of good work off the ball and I help people out, which I think they've noticed."

Although the guidance has been there, in signing the former Southport and Stockport County player, Spenny got themselves somebody who had reached his own turning point before he joined the club. A gambling addiction is a key part of his story up to now, though the crucial detail is that he is set on not allowing it to enjoy a destructive starring role.

As told to Cheshire Live, it had begun in earnest when he was a YTS player at Carlisle United, with a trend for some of the older pros to head to the bookmakers when training was done for the day. By his early-20s, working for his dad and playing in non-league with the likes of Workington and Stalybridge Celtic, the problem had very definitely set in, with Ben pawning his jewellery and turning to payday loan companies.

It is a bleak reality and one that is currently very real for many. Ben found critical help after contacting Gambling with Lives, which aims to support families who have been bereaved by gambling-related suicide, as well as raising awareness of the dangers of gambling.

It all interlinks with how Ben's time away from work and football tends to get spent these days. The ex-Curzon Ashton and Chester man, who works full-time as a machine operator for a materials company in Blackburn, has nine assists to go with his three goals this season, and he has found a way to match that productivity in his spare time.

"People laugh but I'm into walking. I get up in the morning and I go for a walk before work, there's a

river down by my house and it just clears my head; I think it's a really good start to the day.

"At the minute, my life literally is work and then football, and at a weekend, I like to chill out. I enjoy doing stages of sobriety, which is obviously not drinking, so I got into that.

"I had a gambling addiction, and one day, 5th September 2018, I decided to stop gambling, but just before that, to clear off my gambling debts, I decided to stop drinking for six months. When I say that, people might think stopping drinking means because you're an alcoholic and you've got a problem with it, and it's far from it.

"I'd only probably drink on a Saturday or every two Saturdays, just like any other lad, so what I decided to do was not gamble and not go out for six months, and not drink. In that six-month period of not drinking, I couldn't believe the benefits I saw from doing stages of sobriety.

"Now I'm on my fourth stage, which I'm doing until the end of the football season, and I started it at the end of December. Honestly, it's been life-changing for me, and I'd recommend it to anyone.

"One thing I found was my productivity level is so much higher. I'd play a game on a Saturday and I might go out and have a few drinks, I'd have a bit of a groggy head on a Sunday, but then I'd never look forward to a Monday.

"Now I feel like I'm doing things right, whereas before, deep down I knew I wasn't helping myself. Now because I know I'm doing all I can, if I have a bad game or something doesn't work out with football, I don't beat myself up."

Gambling with Lives is his chosen charity for a challenge he has planned at the end of the season. Walking from his house in Burnley, he intends to head over the Yorkshire Dales and then complete the Yorkshire Three Peaks, with the aim to finish the approximately 55 miles in 24 hours.

As well as being with Burnley up until 16, he is a Clarets fan, and was at Turf Moor for the Premier League draw with Arsenal at the start of this month. He does, though, come from a family filled with Liverpool fandom, owing to his Irish granddad following the Reds after immigrating to England.

Ben's North West-to-North East journey to link up with Spennymoor each week is not a brisk trip by any means, but again, he does his level best to glean something valuable from it.

"On a Tuesday and Thursday I cut my hours short, work 9 'til 3 and I get in my car and drive to Billingham near Middlesbrough, where we train. I finish work at 3, go home, make a bit of food, and then I set off to training about 5 o'clock, and get there for half 7.

"It's a big commitment, doing five-hour round trips to train for an-hour-and-fifteen, but that's a decision I made at the beginning of the season. I've enjoyed

it, but it's a long way for me, I'm not gonna lie.

"They do understand that, so they help me out as best they can; if we win on Saturday they might give us a Tuesday off. It's a long way but I'm into podcasts, so football podcasts, and also things like law of attraction, positive thinking, and one podcast I've really enjoyed is called The School of Greatness with a guy called Lewis Howes.

"I listen to all sorts, I'm into all sorts of music, positive thinking, 80s music, anything. We've just had a lad sign called Tyler Forbes and he lives near Blackburn's training ground, so I've been meeting him in Skipton.

"It breaks up the journey a bit because we meet there, it's half an hour for us both, then we can drive up."

During the conversation, he talks of having his listening already sorted for the journey home that evening - the part two appearance of his old Bradford (Park Avenue) and Stalybridge teammate Liam Dickinson on Gareth Seddon and Jordan Hulme's I Had Trials Once podcast. He puts the former Championship striker in the same bracket as another North West lad and not-so-shy-and-retiring character - Chester midfielder Gary Stopforth.

"Yeah, I'm good mates with Gaz and he's a proper character. If you've never met him before, and you hear these stories with Gaz, you might think he's an idiot, but honestly, he's got a heart of gold and I'm really good mates with him."

He first played alongside his fellow Burnley native at Stockport County, before joining Stopforth's current club Chester for the latter part of last season following his impressive form at Bradford. Ben says Chester's 6-0 home loss to title-bound Stockport in April stands out as the most gutted a game has left him.

Those two clubs are also where he feels he has had his toughest spells as a player.

"I think the second half of last season with Chester, and also a period at Stockport under Jim Gannon. It was nothing personal against the managers or anything, but I wasn't playing as much as I'd like and I maybe wasn't getting as much of the confidence as I'd like, or the words I'd like to hear.

"I just wasn't feeling confident, basically. It's the best way I can put it."

He arrived at Chester off the back of contributing five goals for BPA, with his time working under ex-Bradford City stalwart Mark Bower a definite highlight of his playing days so far.

"It wasn't just the football, with my personal life I was really happy, the lads in the dressing room were really good, Mark Bower was fantastic with me, so I think it was an accumulation of everything. In terms of going to training, looking forward to it, looking forward to games, I'd say that was the happiest time I've had before Spennymoor."



In amongst the ranks at Spenny are two coaches who have seen life at the highest level of English football - ex-Middlesbrough defender Stuart Parnaby and former Sunderland midfielder Tommy Miller (Moors assistant). For Ben, who got a brief taste of League One action with Carlisle against Miller's old club Sheffield Wednesday almost exactly nine years ago, he still harbours ambitions of fulfilling an assertion he once made.

"I made my debut in League One when I was 18, and I remember when I got released from Carlisle at 19, I said to the manager Greg Abbott, 'I'm gonna play League football.' That's still what I wanna do.

"Don't get me wrong, I enjoy playing part-time football and my work life, but I'd love to get back into League football. I do believe I'm good enough, given an opportunity."

In terms of the managerial style to help him unlock his full potential, Ben believes the 'arm around the shoulder' approach will win out every time over a dressing-down. He highlights his former Stalybridge player-manager Keith Briggs, a Football League midfielder with the likes of Norwich City and Stockport County, as another who seemed to grasp that well. So too John Flanagan at Curzon Ashton.

Off the pitch, he has encountered some harsher lessons than most, which he fully intends to never forget the value of. Alongside that, football itself has had a unique hand in helping this exuberant attacking talent become a yard or two wiser.

"It's definitely made me a better person, and this isn't to sound selfish, but in football, I think you really have got to look after yourself. I think there's a lot of people in football who can try and dictate things for you.

"You've just got to be your own person and make your own decisions and stay true to what you want."

Interview/article by @chris_brookes

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CURRENT LEAGUE TABLE										
		P	W	D	L	D	L	GD	PTS	Form
1	King's Lynn Town	28	18	6	4	61	36	25	60	LLWWW
2	York City	30	17	8	5	46	22	24	59	LWWLW
3	Chester	30	15	9	6	55	33	22	54	WWLLW
4	Boston United	28	16	5	7	44	28	16	53	WWWWW
5	Altrincham	31	14	9	8	56	39	17	51	WLDWD
6	Brackley Town	29	13	10	6	48	18	30	49	DDL DL
7	Gateshead	28	13	9	6	41	27	14	48	DWWWD
8	Spennymoor Town	30	13	9	8	50	38	12	48	WDWWD
9	Guissey	30	12	7	11	46	39	7	43	LWDLW
10	Southport	30	12	7	11	39	38	1	43	DDD WL
11	Darlington	29	13	4	12	36	42	-6	43	DLLWW
12	Farsley Celtic	30	12	6	12	42	39	3	42	LDWDL
13	Alfreton Town	29	12	4	13	45	43	2	40	WDWWL
14	AFC Telford United	30	10	8	12	44	49	-5	38	WLDWD
15	Kidderminster Harriers	31	9	8	14	37	41	-4	35	DWDWL
16	Leamington	29	8	7	14	38	48	-10	31	LLLDD
17	Hereford	29	7	10	12	31	46	-15	31	DLDDL
18	Kettering Town	28	7	9	12	34	42	-8	30	DDL LW
19	Curzon Ashton	30	7	8	15	30	40	-10	29	LDDWL
20	Gloucester City	28	8	5	15	36	55	-19	29	WLLLL
21	Blyth Spartans	31	6	5	20	30	71	-41	23	LLLLL
22	Bradford (Park Avenue)	30	3	5	22	22	77	-55	14	LDLDD

TOP SCORERS			
Name	Team	Goals	
1	Marriott A.	King's Lynn	28
2	Asante A.	Chester	18
3	March J.	Leamington	16
3	Martin A.	Guissey	16
3	Morgan Smith A.	Alfreton	16
3	Ndlovu L.	Brackley	16
7	Burrow J.	York	14
7	Hancock J.	Altrincham	14
9	Taylor G.	Spennymoor	13

TODAY'S FIXTURES			
15:00	Altrincham	vs	King's Lynn
15:00	Boston United	vs	AFC Telford
15:00	Bradford PA	vs	Kettering
15:00	Chester	vs	Brackley Town
15:00	Curzon Ashton	vs	Gloucester
15:00	Farsley	vs	Blyth
15:00	Guissey	vs	Gateshead
15:00	Hereford	vs	Darlington
15:00	Kidderminster	vs	York
15:00	Leamington	vs	Southport
15:00	Spennymoor	vs	Alfreton



Chester scored in injury time to defeat leaders King's Lynn on .



Altrincham put three past relegation threatened Blyth Spartans.



Southport scored in injury time to earn a point a Brackley.



Gateshead and Kidderminster played out a goalless draw.

LATEST RESULTS			
18-Feb	Alfreton	1-0	Leamington
18-Feb	Brackley	1-1	Southport
18-Feb	Chester	3-2	King's Lynn
15-Feb	Blyth	0-3	Altrincham
15-Feb	Gateshead	0-0	Kidderminster
11-Feb	Farsley	0-1	Kidderminster
11-Feb	Spennymoor	3-2	Altrincham



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FIXTURES & RESULTS

Date	Opponents	H/A	Comp	Score	Att	W	D	L	Cards Y R	Fouls C O	Pts
Sat Aug 3	HEREFORD	A	National League North	2-2	2,707	●	●	●	● ●		●
Tue Aug 13	GUISELEY	A	National League North	1-3	774	●	●	●	● ●		●
Sat Aug 17	FARSLEY CELTIC	A	National League North	0-1	428	●	●	●	● ●		●
Sat Aug 24	YORK CITY	H	National League North	1-4	1563	●	●	●	● ●		●
Mon Aug 26	CURZON ASHTON	A	National League North	1-1		●		●	● ●		●
Sat Aug 31	CHESTER	H	National League North	2-1	1,049	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Tue Sep 3	GATESHEAD	A	National League North	0-1	1337	●		●	● ●	● ●	
Sat Sep 7	KING'S LYNN TOWN	H	National League North	2-2	1063	●	●	●	● ●	● ●	
Tue Sep 10	BLYTH SPARTANS	H	National League North	5-0	1217	●	●	●	● ●	1 ●	
Sat Sep 14	BRADFORD (PARK AVENUE)	A	National League North	1-1	402	●	●	●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Sep 21	LANCASTER CITY	A	Emirates FA Cup 2QR	5-0	294	●	●	●	● ●		1
Sat Sep 28	KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS	H	National League North	2-1	1036	●	●	●	● ●		●
Sat Oct 5	ASHTON UNITED	A	Emirates FA Cup 3QR	6-2	284	●	●	●	● ●	● ●	1
Sat Oct 12	KETTERING TOWN	A	National League North	2-0	752	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Oct 19	CHORLEY	A	Emirates FA Cup 4QR	0-2	859	●	●	●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Oct 26	GLOUCESTER CITY	H	National League North	5-1	928	●	●	●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Nov 2	ALFRETON TOWN	A	National League North	2-0	412	●	●	●	● ●	● ●	●
Tue Nov 5	BRACKLEY TOWN	A	National League North	0-0	330	●		●	● ●	● ●	
Sat Nov 9	SOUTHPORT	H	National League North	1-0	1333	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Tue Nov 12	BOSTON UNITED	H	National League North	2-1	930	●		●	● ●	● ●	
Sat Nov 16	AFC TELFORD UNITED	A	National League North	2-2	1190	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Nov 23	LEAMINGTON	A	Buildbase FA Trophy 3QR	1-2		●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Dec 7	LEAMINGTON	A	National League North	2-2		●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Dec 21	BRADFORD (PARK AVENUE)	H	National League North	3-0	1097	●		●	● ●	● ●	2
Thu Dec 26	DARLINGTON	A	National League North	1-2	2,204	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Dec 28	GATESHEAD	H	National League North	1-3	1504	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Wed Jan 1	DARLINGTON	H	National League North	3-1	2260	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Jan 4	KING'S LYNN TOWN	A	National League North	0-3	1,429	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Jan 11	KETTERING TOWN	H	National League North	1-2	1,072	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Jan 18	KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS	A	National League North	1-1	1,259	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Jan 25	LEAMINGTON	H	National League North	2-0	1,003	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Feb 1	GLOUCESTER CITY	A	National League North	2-1		●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Feb 8	BRACKLEY TOWN	H	National League North	0-0	1,035	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Tue Feb 11	ALTRINCHAM	H	National League North	3-2	869	●		●	● ●	● ●	●
Sat Feb 22	ALFRETON TOWN	H	National League North								
Sat Feb 29	AFC TELFORD UNITED	H	National League North								
Sat Mar 7	ALTRINCHAM	A	National League North								
Sat Mar 14	HEREFORD	H	National League North								
Sat Mar 21	BLYTH SPARTANS	A	National League North								
Sat Mar 24	SOUTHPORT	A	National League North								
Sat Mar 28	GUISELEY	H	National League North								
Sat Apr 4	BOSTON UNITED	A	National League North								
Fri Apr 10	CURZON ASHTON	H	National League North								
Mon Apr 13	YORK CITY	A	National League North								
Sat Apr 18	FARSLEY CELTIC	H	National League North								
Sat Apr 25	CHESTER	A	National League North								

[illegible]

KEY:
 STARTED GAME = ●
 CAME ON AS SUB = ●
 UNUSED SUB = ●
 GOAL = ❶ (NUMBER OF GOALS IN CIRCLE)
 RED CARD = ■



SQUAD STATS

	Appearances (as sub)	Goals/Clean Sheets	Assists	Yellow Cards	Red Cards
Goalkeepers					
Matthew Gould	34	6	2	0	0
Joe Atkinson	0	0	0	0	0
Defenders					
Carl Magnay	24	0	0	3	1
Christopher Mason	13	0	0	0	0
James Curtis	34	0	0	6	0
Nathan Buddle	30	1	1	1	0
Tyler Forbes	4	0	1	0	0
Stephen Brogan	15 (1)	1	4	1	1
Midfielders					
Shane Henry	21 (1)	1	0	2	0
Jamie Chandler	32	1	2	0	0
Ben McKenna	31 (2)	1	8	5	0
Andrew Johnson	10 (6)	5	0	1	0
Mark Anderson	6 (19)	4	2	0	0
Rob Ramshaw	29	9	7	0	0
Ryan Hall	3 (6)	2	0	0	0
Jason Kennedy	2 (1)	0	0	0	0
Billy Whitehouse	0 (1)	0	0	0	0
Jake Hibbs	6 (2)	0	0	0	0
Strikers					
Gavin Cogdon	1 (15)	0	1	0	0
Glen Taylor	30 (1)	20	6	2	0
Adam Boyes	5 (21)	4	4	0	0
James Roberts	28 (5)	8	4	0	0

Goal Conversion		Goal Method		Goal Location	
Right foot	34	Open play	56	Inside the box	48
Left foot	18	Corner	0	Outside the box	13
Header	9	Free-kick	2		
Own goal	1	Penalty	2		
Other	1	Own goal	1		



Since the early nineties, we have grown from being a small operation into a major supplier of both standard and bespoke fabrications within the cladding, roofing and rainwater goods industry.



TOGETHER FOR FOOTBALL

GAME CHANGER...

Together for Football is more than a motto. It's a mission. A mission to improve the quality of grassroots facilities across the country.

The Football Foundation is funded by the Premier League, The FA and Government.

To find out more about the Football Foundation visit footballfoundation.org.uk

SPENNYMOOR TOWN FC



1	Matt Gould	
2	Dale Eve	
3	James Curtis	
4	Nathan Buddle	
5	Carl Magnay	
6	Stephen Brogan	
7	Chris Mason	
8	Mark Anderson	
9	Rob Ramshaw	
10	Jake Hibbs	
11	Jamie Chandler	
12	Andrew Johnson	

13	Jack Earing	
14	Shane Henry	
15	Ryan Hall	
16	Ben McKenna	
17	Adam Boyes	
18	Glen Taylor	
19	James Roberts	
20	Gavin Cogdon	
21	David Webb	
22	Tyler Forbes	
23	Jason Kennedy	
24	Billy Whitehouse	

ALFRETON TOWN FC



1	Jack Atkinson	
2	Jordan Wright	
3	Teddy Unwin-Marris	
4	Nyle Blake	
5	Conor Branson	
6	Morgan Brough	
7	Joshua Clackstone	
8	Danny Clarke	
9	Daniel East	
10	Danny Elliott	
11	Michael Freiter	
12	Harvey Grice	

13	Kieron Hinchley	
14	Bobby Johnson	
15	Shane Killock	
16	David Lynch	
17	Amari Morgan-Smith	
18	Jude Oyibo	
19	Ryan Qualter	
20	Dominic Smith	
21	Ben Tomlinson	
22	Shaun Turton	
23	Josh Wilde	
24	Dale Witham	

**Match
Officials**

Referee: Jacob Miles
Assistant Referee: Paul Cooper
Assistant Referee: Craig Chatten



Programme Designed and Produced by Aztec Colour Print

NEXT HOME GAME - AFC TELFORD UNITED - SATURDAY 29TH FEBRUARY - 3PM - NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
BUY YOUR MATCHDAY TICKET ONLINE VIA OUR WEBSITE WWW.SPENNYMOORTOWNFC.CO.UK/CLUB-SHOP/TICKETS/