

ESSITY PARK PRUDHOE NE42 5EH

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November Kick Off: 15:00

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY AFC

V

ATHERTON LR



EBAC NORTHERN LEAGUE 2<sup>nd</sup> Division



Newcastle University



## AN INTRODUCTION TO NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY AFC

Newcastle University Athletic Football Club, known affectionately as “The Royals”, is a proud sports team of Newcastle University.

Our sports teams have finished in the top 10 out of around 146 Higher Education institutions in the British Universities and Colleges Sports (BUCS) table for seven of the last ten years. Newcastle University Athletic Football Club boast a BUCS and Northern Alliance league title, along with the Northumberland FA Scott’s Les Todd Benevolent Bowl trophy from the 17/18 season.

NUAFC has established itself as one of the biggest, proudest and most successful clubs at Newcastle University. The club has gone from strength to strength in recent years, namely winning AU Club of the Year in 2017 and BUCS Northern 1A league title in the 18/19 season.

However, on top of this we are one of very few university football clubs who compete outside of BUCS on the national scene. Attaining Northern League 2 status was a huge step for the club and a challenge we look forward to taking on, after winning the Northern Alliance Premier in the 17/18 season and gaining promotion. One of the core aims of the club is player development and prides itself on trying to play football the right way. This has led to players going on to represent England Universities.

NUAFC was promoted to the top level of University sport BUCS Premier after promotion in 2020.

Season 2021/21 saw the club have success in this reaching the semifinal of BUCS national championships.

Alongside this they reached the final of the Earnest Armstrong cup losing on penalties achieving a respectable finish in their first completed Northern league season.



# **NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY AFC**

## **Steven Pennington**

23, a centre back from Rome, Italy. Stevo is going into his 5<sup>th</sup> season with the club and has made an outstanding contribution as he plays alongside studying to become a doctor.

## **Jos Veitch**

22, a winger from Halifax going into his 4<sup>th</sup> season with the club. Jos is a clever player who chips in with goals and will be the president taking care of the club this year.

## **Ben Long**

23, a midfielder from south London. Ben previously played for Cartagena FC in Spain and is a strong, skillful player who can operate effectively in multiple positions.

## **Angus Mitchinson**

20, a technically gifted central midfielder from St Andrews. Angus played for Kirkcaldy and Dysart FC and Dunfermline FC prior to time spent playing in the USA.

## **Josh Walton**

21, a defender from Chapel Park, Newcastle. Josh is a physical defender and has been a mainstay at fullback in his 3 seasons at the club so far.

## **Ryan Redford**

29, centre midfielder from Newcastle. Ryan is both an industrious and technical midfielder who works as a teacher away from the pitch.

## **Tolu Osiyemi**

22, a forward from Bishops Stortford. Tolu is a goal scoring forward who can play across the frontline and loves a physical battle with defenders.

## **Dan Gavaghan**

21, a centre back from Salford. Dan joined the club from Altrincham FC in 2021 and is a defender very comfortable on the ball with an eye for a pass.

## **Michael Woods**

20, a right sided defender from Newcastle going into his 4<sup>th</sup> season. Mick is a physical defender who will put his body on the line for the club.

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## **Keith Douglas**

Quality forward who's enjoyed a long spell at the club. Combines playing with coaching and counts North Shields and Gateshead amongst former clubs. Claims to have scored more goals than the rest of the lads have had hot dinners.

## **Joel Burgess**

18, Joins us after captaining Bolton Wanderers u18s last season. Joel is a quality and hardworking centre midfielder.

## **Tom Butler**

20, hardworking centre midfielder going into his 2nd season who can cover a few positions.

## **Jack Butler**

23, forward in his 2<sup>nd</sup> season with the club. Loves taking players on. Previously with Blyth Spartans and England Schoolboys.

## **James Matthews**

21, in his 1<sup>st</sup> season with the club and was previously with Altrincham FC. Bags of energy, James can operate in multiple positions effectively.

## **Ben Miller**

19, Captain and centre midfielder in his 2<sup>nd</sup> season with the club. Ben leads by example with consistently excellent displays in the middle of the park.

## **Kane Morris**

20, athletic forward in his 2<sup>nd</sup> season with the club. Kane enjoys getting in behind defences and chips in with goals.

## **Euan Pollard**

21, versatile forward in his 3<sup>rd</sup> season with the club. Euan is a technical player and finds spaces between defences and has an eye for goal

## **Adam Redford**

25, a versatile defender has been with the club for 6 seasons. Adam is an imposing player who is strong in the air and doesn't lose many challenges.

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## **Max Richardson**

22, Gk in his 4<sup>th</sup> season with the club. Max is a commanding presence behind the defence and well known for his strong shot stopping.

## **Freddie Topel**

19, forward in his 2<sup>nd</sup> season with the club. Freddie is a smart player with a great touch. Joined the club from Southend United.

## **Sam Carr**

19, defender in his 2<sup>nd</sup> season with the club. Sam is a big, commanding centre back who was previously of Manchester United and Salford City.

## **Dominic Griffin**

23, recently graduated from the university as a doctor. Dom is a physical centre forward who leads the line well and scores goals.

## **Matthew Foster**

22, a prolific goal scorer with quality finishing abilities, Matty goes into his 4<sup>th</sup> season with the club.

## **James McNicholas**

23, Left back who has superb dead ball delivery. In his 4<sup>th</sup> season with the club alongside studying to become a dentist.

## **Mbako Chalashika**

19, winger from Yorkshire in his 2<sup>nd</sup> season with the club. Mbako loves running at defenders and causes real problems for teams with his pace.

## **Bankole Claudius Cole**

19, in his 2<sup>nd</sup> season with the club, Banky can operate in multiple positions on the left flank. He is a pacy player with a notable workrate

## **Miles Wallace**

19, left back in his 2<sup>nd</sup> season with the club. Miles is a solid defender with a good left foot. Previously with Notts County FC.

## **Henry Cooper**

19, midfielder in his 2<sup>nd</sup> season with the club. Henry is a clever midfield player and joined the club after captaining the renowned Repton School.

# **NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY AFC**

## **Richard Birtwhistle**

Gk in his 3<sup>rd</sup> season with the club. Rick is great shotstopper from Bolton who's been a great servant to the club. Previously spent time in goal for England water polo team.

## **Cassiun Langfield**

20, Strong forward from Nottingham in his 1<sup>st</sup> season with the club. Cassiun causes real problems for defences and joins us after leaving Burton Albion at the end of last season.

## **George Riley**

20, defender recently returned from a season spent playing in America. George is a strong player in his first season with the club.

## **Jack Guy**

20, in his 2<sup>nd</sup> season with the club. Jack is a lively winger who enjoys taking on his marker and delivering balls into the box.

## **Jack McKee**

20, Jack is centre back from Northern Ireland who goes into his 3<sup>rd</sup> season with the club. A strong and imposing defender who organises the team well from centre back.

## **Ben Holland**

19, goes into his second season with the club. Ben is a technically gifted player with strong dribbling and shooting ability.

## **Chris Pearson**

23, Pacy and skillful forward with an eye for goal. Chris is into his second season with the club after previously representing the university's futsal team.

# THE HISTORY OF ATHERTON LR

## Club history:

Laburnum Rovers were founded in 1956 by Joe Riley as an under 14s side and after a difficult first season in the local Briarcroft Junior League, they went on to enjoy much success in League and Cup competitions. Joe was persuaded to carry on into Senior football and after a brief spell in the Leigh League the club joined the Bolton Combination.

More success followed, but the ground at Hag Fold prevented further progress so a farmers field was found and despite footpath criss-crossing and duck ponds either side, hard work by everyone at the club turned this unpromising field into a football pitch. In 1966 the club moved into its new ground and were able to take their place in Division One of the Combination.

Jack Crilly succeeded Joe as Chairman and worked tirelessly for the club, supervising the erection of new changing rooms (an improvement on the old air raid shelters they had been using) and a small social club. Jack died suddenly in 1980 and as a tribute to the work he did the ground was renamed from Greendale to Crilly Park.

In the summer of 1980 the club joined the non-league pyramid when their application to join the Cheshire County League was successful. A stipulation of the League was that the towns name had to be in the clubs title, so links with the past were retained with the new name of Atherton Laburnum Rovers.

In 1982 the club became founder members of the North West Counties League, being placed in division two until the league was reorganised in 1987 when ongoing ground improvements saw them placed in division one. 1989 saw floodlights erected and the club enter the FA Cup for the first time, while in 1991 the changing rooms and clubhouse were completely rebuilt.

Towards the end of 1990/91 season Dave Morris took over as team manager and it was the start of the best period in the clubs history. In 1992/93 the club won the League title with 106 points from 42 games and also won the League Championship Trophy. Promotion to the Unibond League was denied them because of grading requirements, but undaunted the club repeated their double the following season as well as reaching the semi-finals of the FA Vase. This time the club was promoted to the Unibond League.

Two good seasons saw steady progress, but then financial troubles struck and the club was relegated for the first time in its history. Three seasons of struggle back in the North West Counties League culminated with the relegation to Division Two. However, the appointment of Alan Lord as manager saw a remarkable turnaround in form and nine successive victories helped the club win back promotion to Division One at the first attempt. In November 2002 Tom Foster and Dennis Haslem took over as

managers after having to rebuild the team from scratch, they secured Division One football for another season. Dennis moved on in the summer and Ian Street joined the club.

A period of stability and success followed but at the end of 2004/05 season Foster and Street left the club to be replaced by Mike Lester and Darren Ford, They set about building a new squad but, in February 2006, Lester and Ford resigned sparking a difficult time for the club on the pitch with no less than six managers at the helm over the next two years. The most successful period came in spring 2007 under Roy Sweeney when the club moved away from the relegation zone after doubling its points total from 21 to 42 in the final two months of the season, finishing in 16th place and having a record league attendance of 1,325 for the visit of FC United of Manchester.

Sweeney resigned in December 2007, with Malcolm Anderton taking temporary charge for four months until ex-LR player and Leigh RMI manager Stuart Humphreys was brought in to ensure the club retained its top division status and it was fortunate that 21st place was enough. With changes elsewhere in the pyramid system, LR avoided relegation from Division 1 by finishing 19th at the end of 07/08 season.

The club then brought in Dave Hughes as the new manager with a brief to keep the team in the now rebranded Premier Division while the club was reorganised behind the scenes. Hughes brought in a very experienced coaching team and set about building a squad which has proved very successful. The season ended with one of the highest league placings for several years, victory in the Goldline Trophy and another Reebok appearance in the Hospital Cup final. This season the side had a promising opening to the campaign recording another FA Cup giant-killing before injuries took a severe toll, with the team battling in the relegation dogfight. Victory once again in the Goldline Trophy Final gave the team enough belief to collect the points they needed to stay in the Premier Division.

Dave Hughes resigned as manager at the beginning of September 2010 and the position was immediately offered to the Head Coach Glenn Moses to ensure stability within the team. Moses led the club to its third Goldline Final in three years and our highest mid-season points tally for the past few seasons. Phil Priestley was appointed as manager at the start of the 2011-12 season and remained in charge until he resigned in the summer of 2013.

One week before the start of the 2013-14 season the club appointed Michael Clegg as manager who took the team to a 7th place finish, but resigned as manager at the end of the same season to take up his the managers position at Atherton Collieries. The next four seasons saw new management teams each season with Ross McNair taking charge for the 2014-15 season, the management duo of Craig and Adam Jones for the 2015-16 season and Shaun Lynch took over for the 2016-17 season.



The 2018-19 season proved to be one to forget, with a number of managers taking charge of the team and the team being reprieved from relegation from Division 1 North. However off field issues were being brought to a head towards the end of the season that resulted in significant positive changes in how the club was to be taken forward. Shaun Lynch was appointed Chairman and together with new committee members set about regenerating the club.

After a difficult few seasons, at the beginning of the new season 23/24 Atherton LR appointed David Jones as the first team manager and he brought along an experience back-room team with him. Pre season results has proven that he has built a strong squad who are raring to go with the new season.



# THE PLAYERS OF ATHERTON LR

## Atherton LR First Team Squad 23/24

### Goalkeepers –

Joe Bickerstaff

William Blake

David Jones

### Defenders –

Owen Houten

Connor Ikin

George Chadwick

Lewis Adams

Beni Wilkinson

### Midfielders-

Jack Leigh

James Flight

Kyle Robinson-Murray

Dave Moore

Owen Green

Jack Lever

Jordan Dainty

Niall Holmes

### Wingers –

Dan Lenehan

Brandon Dawson

Jack Flight

### Strikers –

Lewis Rawsthorn

Luke Nicholls

Cal Hunter

### Management

Manger – Dave Jones

Ast manager – Gareth Flitcroft

First Team Coach – Mick Moran

Goal keeper coach – David Billington

Date	Opponent	F	A	Game	Venue	Att	Scorers
29-07-23	<b>Brandon United</b>	1	0	<b>DIV 2</b>	H	42	Miller
02-08-23	Blyth Town	1	4	DIV 2	A	148	Pearson
05-08-23	Yarm & Eaglescliffe	P	P	DIV 2	A		
10-08-23	<b>Jarrow</b>	2	3	<b>DIV 2</b>	H	85	Pennington 2
12-08-23	<b>Chester-Le-Street Town</b>	3	4	<b>DIV 2</b>	H	48	Pearson 2, Miller
15-08-23	Billingham Town	2	1	DIV 2	A	208	Miller, McKee
19-08-23	Billingham Synthonia	3	0	DIV 2	A	75	Miller, Holland, Griffin, Burgess
24-08-23	<b>Chester-Le-Street United</b>	2	2	<b>DIV 2</b>	H	60	Griffin, Foster
26-08-23	Horden CW	3	5	DIV 2	A	104	Osiyemi, Miller, Matthews
02-09-23	<b>Boldon CA</b>	1	3	<b>DIV 2</b>	H	38	Foster
07-09-23	<b>Esh Winning</b>	1	1	<b>DIV 2</b>	H	51	OG
09-09-23	Bedlington Terriers	2	4	DIV 2	A	94	Pearson Foster
13-09-23	Thornaby	2	0	DIV 2	A	140	Pearson 2
16-09-23	<b>Newcastle Blue Star</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	H		Foster
23-09-23	Kendal Town	6	4	FAV	A	221	Miller 2, Matthews 2, Pennington, Osiyemi
26-09-23	Ashington	1	5	NSC	A	322	Pearson
30-09-23	Washington	4	5	DIV 2	A		Butler 2, Pearson, Manning
07-10-23	<b>Horden CW</b>	5	0	<b>DIV 2</b>	H	26	Foster 3, Miller, Butler
10-10-23	Yarm & Eaglescliffe	2	0	DIV 2	A	74	
14-10-23	Redcar Town	7	0	DIV 2	A	70	Foster 3, Miller, Griffiths, Iverson, Butler
21-10-23	West Auckland	1	1	FAV	A	143	Manning
11-11-23	<b>Atherton LR</b>			<b>FAV</b>	H		
18-11-23	<b>Blyth Town</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	H		
25-11-23	Jarrow			DIV 2	A		
09-12-23	<b>Billingham Town</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	H		
16-12-23	Chester-Le-Street United			DIV 2	A		
23-12-23	<b>Thornaby</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	H		

26-12-23	Prudhoe YC Seniors			DIV 2	A		
30-12-23	Esh Winning			DIV 2	A		
<b>06-01-24</b>	<b>Ryton &amp; Crawcrook Albion</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	<b>H</b>		
13-01-24	Brandon United			DIV 2	A		
<b>20-01-24</b>	<b>Yarm &amp; Eaglescliffe</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	<b>H</b>		
27-01-24	Chester-Le-Street Town			DIV 2	A		
<b>03-02-24</b>	<b>Billingham Sythonia</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	<b>H</b>		
10-02-24	Boldon CA			DIV 2	A		
<b>17-02-24</b>	<b>Bedlington Terriers</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	<b>H</b>		
24-02-24	Newcastle Blue Star			DIV 2	A		
<b>09-03-24</b>	<b>Washington</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	<b>H</b>		
<b>23-03-24</b>	<b>Redcar Town</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	<b>H</b>		
<b>01-04-23</b>	<b>Prudhoe YC Seniors</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	<b>H</b>		
06-04-23	FC Hartlepool			DIV 2	A		
<b>13-04-24</b>	<b>Easington Colliery</b>			<b>DIV 2</b>	<b>H</b>		
20-04-24	Sunderland West End			DIV 2	A		

# NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB

Chairman: Fraser Kennedy  
Director of Football: Neil Baistow  
President: Jos Veitch  
1<sup>st</sup> team Captain: Ben Miller  
2<sup>nd</sup> Team Captain: Jack McKee  
Treasurer: Jack Butler

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## CLUB COLOURS

HOME

Blue Shirts, Blue Shorts, Blue Socks

AWAY

Red Shirts, Red Shorts, Red Socks

THIRD

White Shirts, White Shorts, White Socks

WEBSITE: [www.nuafc.com](http://www.nuafc.com) | TWITTER: @NewcUniFootball | FACEBOOK: @NewcastleUniFootball

