

MATCHDAY PROGRAMME | ISSUE FIFTEEN | 2024/25 SEASON

# BLYTH TOWN FC

WHICKHAM | SATURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY | 3:00PM | GATEWAY PARK | NORTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

## MATCH SPONSOR



## MATCH BALL SPONSOR



# WE ARE BLYTH TOWN FC

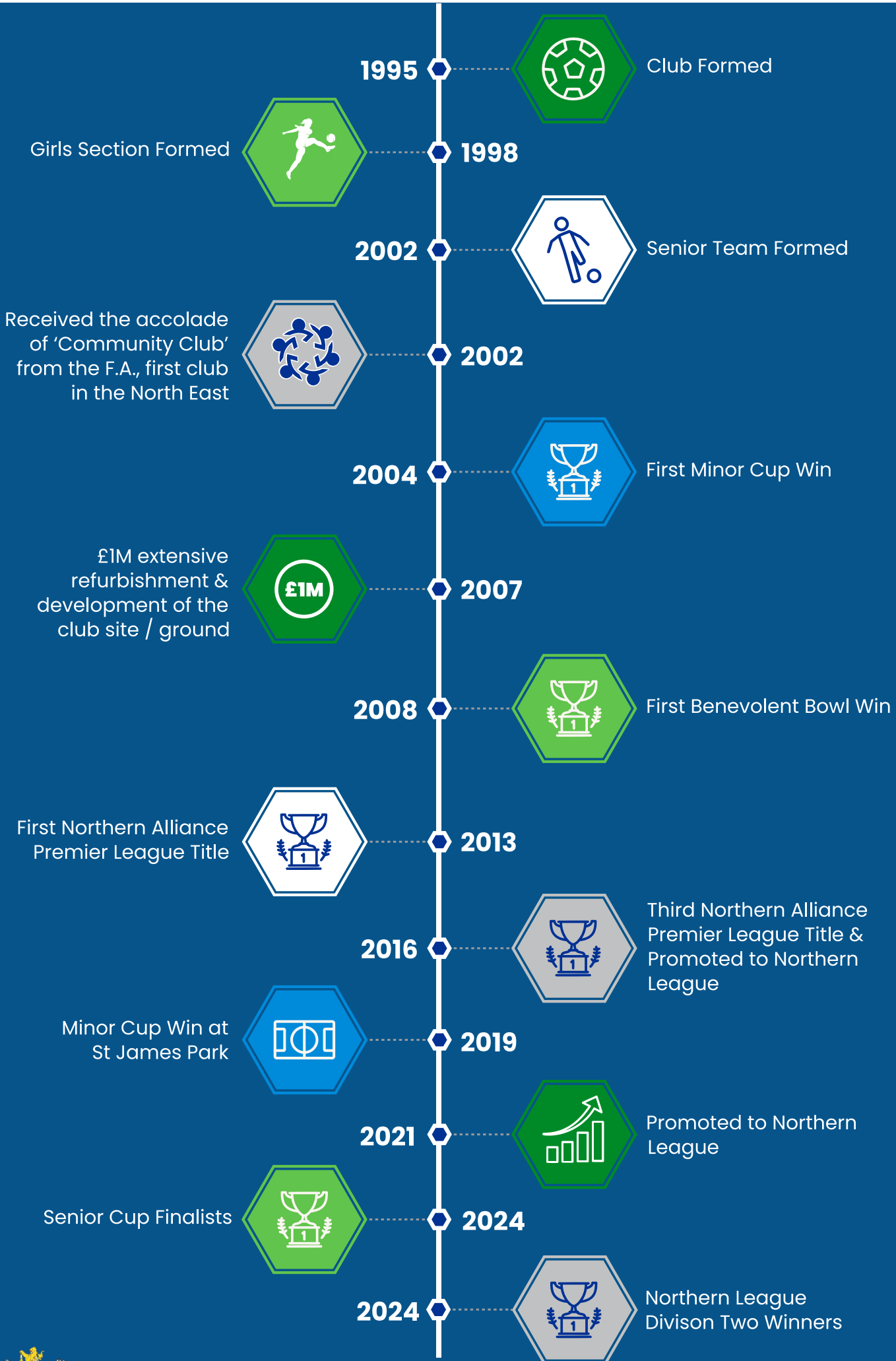
## YOUR COMMUNITY CLUB



✉ [www.blythtownfc.com](http://www.blythtownfc.com)

☎ 07900 687648





[www.blythtownfc.com](http://www.blythtownfc.com)

07900 687648



# MEET THE TEAM

## Goalkeepers

**Lewis Baker** - Former Clubs – Bedlington Terriers & New Hartley Juniors. A young goalkeeper with loads of potential, great shot stopper, good distribution and someone who has a big season ahead of him.

## Neil De Jesus

## Defenders

**Joseph Gibson (Gippa)** - Centre half / Centre midfielder. Former Clubs - Been at Blyth Town since 17 years old. Gippa is a player who gives you 100%, loves a tackle, has a great engine and leads by example on the pitch. Deadly from free kicks, our longest serving player at the club and is still in his early 20s.

**Evan Fogarty** - Centre half. Former Clubs - New Hartley Juniors. Young defender who is quick and strong, loves to get forward, can play central of right of defence, very aggressive in a tackle.

**Harry Sawyer** - Left back. Former Clubs - Burradon & New Fordley and Blyth Town FC. Can play anywhere down the left. Got a wand of a left foot from both open play and dead balls.

**Alex Fil** - Alex is a quick, athletic defender who can play multiple positions, a young player with loads of promise and joins with lots of northern league experience. Alex's previous clubs are Sunderland RCA & Chester Le Street Utd. There was plenty of interest in Alex and we are delighted he has signed for Blyth Town!

**George Hayton** - Former Clubs - Ashington, Blyth Town, Bedlington Terriers. George is a born winner, his second spell at the club, we are delighted George came back, he is a player that never gives less than 100%. Quick over the ground, strong and tenacious in a tackle, and player who always sets high expectations of himself and his fellow teammate's

**Luke Parker** - Young defender with a huge future, quick, tenacious and very comfortable on the ball, loves to get forward and a player so young, he has such mature head on his shoulders, we all are excited to see Luke development over this season

**Stephen Forster** - Former Clubs - Newcastle Blue Star, North Shields, Morpeth Town, Hebburn Town. Fozzie in many people's opinions is one of the best defenders in the northern league, great experience, very confident on the ball and a very fit player.

## Jack Walker

## Joe Richardson



# MEET THE TEAM

## Midfielders

**Charlie Walker** – Midfield. Former Clubs – Boldon CA. Charlie can play left, right or through the middle, very comfortable in possession, super fit and technically very good.

**Ben Sayer** – Midfielder – Former Clubs Wickham and Morpeth Town. A hugely experienced midfielder, cool in possession, great vision and someone who leads by example, Ben has a great passing range, and chips in with some special goals, he is player who is very consistent in his performances.

**Ben Franklin** – Former Clubs – Scunthorpe, Gateshead, Ashington, Bedlington – Ben is a highly rated midfielder for a young lad, he has great energy, very comfortable on the ball and chips in with his fair shares of goals

**Liam Wotherspoon** – Midfield. Former Clubs – Heaton Stan, Blyth Town, Birtley Town, Blyth Town – Liam is a box to box midfielder with a real eye for goal, good on the ball and very combative midfielder with real quality

## Cameron Gascoigne

## Forwards

**Adam Johnson** – Forward. Former Clubs – Ashington. Physically strong, pace to burn and scores goals, AJ is a match winner and someone who will and loves scoring goals, last couple of season has played in promotion winning teams, we are thrilled he is back at Blyth Town

**Brandon Slater** – Winger. Former Clubs – Gateshead, Billingham Synthonia, Ashington. Slats was top goal scorer two seasons ago with 30 plus goals, he has a fabulous attitude towards football, hardworking covering 11k regularly, has pace to burn, he is very direct and can play either on the right or through the middle.

**Dan Wilson** – Striker. Former Clubs – North Shields, Seaham Red Star, Dunston. A goal scoring machine, that thrives on hitting the back of the net, very experienced player, big, strong, comfortable with his back to goal and has a turn of pace for a big man. Top goal scorer in the first division of the northern league three seasons ago and has won promotion with North Shields.

**Ollie Dixon** – Former Clubs – Altrincham FC, Gateshead FC – Ollie is a young player who has a great future, very quick with and without the ball, super fit and with great feet, in the coming seasons he is going to be a real handful, a player who excites you when he is playing and moving in full flow

**Tom Potter** – Former Clubs – Morpeth Town, Hebburn Town, North Shields, Blue Star. A player with great feet, great vision and superb delivery, can take defenders inside or outside, very experienced and someone who will play his fair when it comes to assisting and scoring goals.

**Marcus Giles** – Former Clubs – Morpeth Town, Whitley Bay, Whitby Town, Bishop Auckland. a player that is very quick, direct and aggressive, he is a defenders nightmare, never stops working, always causes problems and scores goals, you will know you have been in a game after 90 minutes.

## Liam Henderson





# BAR & FUNCTION FACILITIES

**Our Bar and Function facilities are open to the public on matchday and weekends and our function rooms are available to hire on a daily or hourly rate.**

**We offer the following:**

Great range of Beers, Wines, Spirits and Soft Drinks

Live sport on TV

Modern Furnishings & Décor

Family friendly atmosphere

Catering by request



✉ [www.blythtownfc.com](http://www.blythtownfc.com)

☎ 07900 687648



2024/25

# MATCHDAY SPONSORS

**MATCHBALL SPONSOR - £50 PER GAME**  
INCLUDING TWO TICKETS FOR MATCH

**MATCH SPONSOR WITHOUT HOSPITALITY (MIDWEEK)**  
**£100 PER GAME**  
INCLUDING TWO TICKETS FOR MATCH

**MATCH SPONSOR WITH HOSPITALITY**  
**£300 PER GAME - 10 PEOPLE**  
FREE ENTRY — LOVELY HOME COOKED FOOD, BEERS, HALF TIME PIES,  
SELECT PLAYER OF MATCH PLUS PHOTO WITH TEAM & PLAYER OF MATCH

**HOSPITALITY HALF TABLE SPECIAL**  
**£175 PER GAME - 5 PEOPLE**  
FREE ENTRY — LOVELY HOME COOKED FOOD, BEERS, HALF TIME PIES

ALL SPONSORS WILL BE ADVERTISED ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS ON THE BUILD UP TO THE GAME & MATCHDAY

2024/25

## PITCHSIDE SPONSORED ADVERTISING BOARD

£75 FEE TO MANUFACTURE BOARD ON FIRST  
SEASON COMES WITH SEASON TICKET



**£225 PER SEASON**

Email [sponsorship@blythtownfc.com](mailto:sponsorship@blythtownfc.com) for more details.



✉ [www.blythtownfc.com](http://www.blythtownfc.com)

☎ 07900 687648



# WHICKHAM HISTORY

It all began back in 1944 when the club was formed under the name of Axwell Park Colliery Welfare, although they were colloquially termed the Home Guard Team. Early on, the side played in the Derwent Valley League, before switching to the Northern Combination and, in 1974, to the Wearside League.

Whickham enjoyed quite a degree of success at this level before joining the Northern League Second Division in 1988. Having reached the Semi Final of the FA Vase in 1978-79 losing to Almondsbury Greenway, it was in 1981 that Whickham had their finest hour. The club went all the way to the Twin Towers in the final of the FA Vase, after a titanic struggle to overcome Windsor Eton in the semi Final. An estimated 5,000 fans followed Whickham to Wembley. Willenhall FC from the Midlands awaited on the big day. In a gripping Final, Whickham came back from 2-0 down to level at 2-2 at full time with goals from Alan Scott and Ronnie Williamson taking the game into Extra-time. Ecstasy followed when Billy Cawthra broke away to win it 3-2 to send the Vase back up to Tyneside.

This success leaves us as the last North East based club to win a National Final at the old Wembley Stadium which is now re-built, the club's little piece of History. Whickham again nearly reached Wembley in 1983-84 falling short in the Semi-final in controversial fashion. The second-leg tie at home to Stansted saw two Whickham players sent off in a bad-tempered affair. After just one season in the Second Division under the management of Billy Hodgson the club gained promotion for the first time into the First Division in 1988-89 and spent three seasons there before being relegated in 1991-92.

Another promotion came in 1994-95 when they won the Second Division. A further two seasons were spent in the First Division before another relegation in 1996-97 back into the Second Division, where we remained until 2018. After Billy's reign the club struggled to find its identity and with funds tight struggled to compete and although three or four managers took over, the club found itself in a perilous position 1999-00 when without the intervention of Tony Ainley the club was in grave danger of going out of business.

Tony's reign started with no players and no money and although his first two seasons were really about survival, the club was once again safely settled in the Northern League. Over the next three or four years the club undertook major changes and the hard work was rewarded when after a fantastic run defeating four First Division sides on the way, the club found itself in the final of the Prestigious Durham Challenge Cup and after being second best for long spells against a very good Billingham Synthonia side, two late goals from Kenny Boyle and Ian Robson snatched Whickham an amazing victory.

The following season followed the capture of the DCC by winning the newly named Ernest Armstrong Memorial Cup (2nd Division Cup) by defeating Penrith in an exciting Penalty Shoot-out. In our defence of the DCC also in that season, we also reached the Semi Final of the DCC in our defence of that Trophy before losing a close game away at Chester le Street. After Tony decided to relinquish the managerial post the club had a lot of chopping and changing but in 2013 Robin Falcus was appointed manager.

The 2012-13 season was a tough learning curve for Robin and Kris Holmes, his assistant, but the club decided to stick with a plan. Anyone that knows Robin can see his passion and hunger to get the best of the players and club and the decision to stick has grown to be a great one. Robin began to build, and things took aim. The Lang Jacks finished 6th (the highest in six years) in 2017 after a rollercoaster season and in the following season, things turned to magic.

The aim was to improve on the previous season and that was well and truly smashed. In a tough competitive league where many other clubs had more resources, Robin managed to build a young and hungry side which defied the odds and were a surprise package, finishing third in the league thanks to a dramatic last day of the season. Third was enough for the club to secure promotion into Division One for the first time in 21 years.

The club's past may be chequered and not without success, but Whickham FC has been on this roller-coaster. There have been plenty of difficulties, but the people behind the club have always come together for the love of the beautiful game.

In their first season back in Northern League Division One, it was a difficult campaign for the Lang Jacks, who finished second-bottom, but they still remained in the league and have built a strong squad ahead of the 2019-20 season. With the likes of former York City 'keeper Adam Bartlett, and former South Shields forward Carl Finnigan, on board, along with a whole host of other talented players, everyone at the club is excited to see what will happen.

A club record finish was recorded in the 2022/23 season after Lee Haldane arrived at the club during the season, guiding the team to a 7th place finish. Striker Scott Robson won club top scorer and also the league Young Player of the Year award.

A year later in the 2023/24 campaign, it was all about cup football. An FA Cup meeting with Macclesfield - where a valiant Lang Jacks side fell to defeat - began the season. Attention then turned to the FA Vase where a memorable 1-0 win against Bury at the First Mortgage Glebe was enjoyed on a run to the Round of 16, where Emley AFC ended the Wembley dream. And then finally it was the Durham Challenge Cup where Whickham found themselves in the final at the Stadium of Light but fell at the final hurdle against West Auckland Town.



[www.blythtownfc.com](mailto:www.blythtownfc.com)

07900 687648



# WHICKHAM PLAYER PROFILES

## **Mark Foden (Goalkeeper):**

Mark joined Whickham in November 2024. The Glaswegian is no stranger to North East non-league football, after spells with the likes of Consett, Hebburn Town, Blyth Spartans and Thornaby, who he left to join the club.

Mark's career highlight was undoubtedly winning the Vase with Hebburn Town in 2021.

## **Jack Halpin (Defender):**

Jack joined from Northumberland league side Lynemouth in September 2023. A quick full-back who loves a tackle.

## **Jack Cooper (Defender/Midfielder):**

Versatile player who joined from Wallington FC. Has had a spell in the Northern League previously at Ryton.

## **Jordan Lavery (Defender):**

Jordan joined halfway through the 2023/24 campaign and went on to make 16 appearances, scoring two goals.

The left-back started with Hartlepool Academy in his youth and then went on to represent England Schoolboys and play for Gateshead Reserves.

More recently he has played for Shildon, Consett, Bishop Auckland and West Auckland.

## **Callum Munro (Defender):**

Callum joined on the first day of the season from title-winning Newton Aycliffe.

Formerly of Darlington and Newcastle Academy, he can play anywhere on the pitch which was showcased across his 48 23/24 appearances in black and white.

## **Scott Lowery (Defender):**

Can play at centre back or right back. Signed on a dual registration with Dunston UTS. Has played for a number of years in the Northern League with Whitley Bay.

## **Max Nelson (Defender):**

Max was welcomed to the First Mortgage Glebe in 2024 after joining from Seaham Red Star.

The ball playing centre-back has also played for Hebburn Town reserves and Sunderland West End.

## **Dom Agnew (Defender):**

Dom joined the club in November 2021 initially on loan from South Shields and has been a regular in the team since.

He played for Hartlepool Town and Fleetwood town in his youth career.

The young defender was a big part of the club's solid defence last season. Dom is not scared to put his body on the line, wins his defensive duels and reads the game well.

He was also nominated for the Ebac Northern League Young Player of the Year in the 2023/24 season and has already racked up over 100 appearances for Whickham.

## **Ross Peareth © (Midfielder):**

Ross is the captain of Whickham and the longest-serving player at the club and had his testimonial at the end of the 2022/23 season.

The defensive-minded midfielder leads by example in the middle of the park. Ross is a tough tackler, brilliantly breaks up play and has the knowledge to turn defence into attack within a matter of seconds.

He enters the 2024/25 campaign having played over 380 times in black and white.

## **Finn Neary (Midfielder):**

Finn joined the club in 2024 from Whitley Bay and has previously played for South Shields academy and then went on to Seaham Red Star.

He has been playing Northern League football since the age of 16.

## **Dom Moan (Midfielder):**

Dom joined the club in 2024 and has had quite a journey up to now.

The 24 year-old started at Hartlepool United and then moved to Manchester United and then onto Wolverhampton Wanderers for four years.

A personal highlight of his was training with the England squad.

## **Shaun Ryder (Midfielder):**

Shaun joined the club in November 2024 from Newcastle Blue Star, who he helped lead to promotion last season. An experienced player who can operate in defence or midfield, he has the likes of Crook Town and Bishop Auckland on his football CV.

## **Harvey Smith (Midfielder):**

Harvey began his second spell with the club in 2024 after spells at Consett and Chester-le-Street Town in between.

He has represented the academies of Gateshead and South Shields and also won the Centenary Shield whilst playing for England Schoolboys.

## **Robbie Little (Midfielder):**

Signed in October 2024 from Northern Alliance side Newbiggin. A box to box midfielder with great energy.

## **Sam Johnson (Forward):**

Sam joined Whickham as a 17-year-old from Chester-Le-Street United and plays across the forward line.

He won the Player of the Tournament award at the 2023 Centenary Shield playing for England Schoolboys.

## **Stephen Hall (Forward):**

Strong, powerful frontman who is his second spell at the club. Joined from Consett, and has also played for Birtley Town.

## **Owen Kingsland (Forward):**

Owen is one of the club's youth graduates who has come through the junior teams and is now with the first team. Still only 16 years old.

## **Kieran Aplin (Forward):**

Kieran joined in November 2024 from Consett AFC. A former Newcastle United academy player, he has also had spells at Gateshead and Hebburn Town. Versatile player who can operate anywhere across the frontline and in defence.

## **Mason Hardy (Forward):**

Mason joined in 2024 having previously been a scholar at Carlisle United and had a spell at Ashington.

He was the top goalscorer in the Youth League during his time in Carlisle.

## **Dan Marriott (Winger):**

Dan joined The Lang Jacks in 2023 from Tow Law Town and plays as a winger.

He started his footballing journey at Middlesbrough for two years and then moved to Sunderland for six years.

He has more recently played for Gateshead and Consett - who he scored the winning goal for promotion in the play-offs.

After being hampered by injury in 2023/24, the winger is looking to make his mark on this campaign.



# PLAYER SPONSORSHIP

EVAN FOGARTY  
HARRY SAWYER  
ALEX FIL  
STEPHEN FORSTER  
GEORGE HAYTON  
MARCUS GILES  
CHARLIE WALKER  
JOE GIBSON  
BEN SAYER  
BEN FRANKLIN  
DAN WILSON  
BRANDON SLATER  
ADAM JOHNSON  
OLI DIXON  
LIAM WOTHERSPOON  
LUKE PARKER  
LEWIS BAKER  
NEIL DE JESUS  
JOE RICHARDSON  
CAMERON GASCOIGNE  
LIAM HENDERSON

SCOTT DOUGLAS























GAVIN FELL  
IAN WATSON  
DAVE PATTERSON  
ALAN RUTHERFORD  
PAUL MILLIGAN

HAYLEY GROUP LTD  
LB SPORTS & FITNESS  
EVIE'S CATERY  
PAUL BERTRAM  
WOR SCRAN  
HAZELWOOD LODGE  
FINE N DANDI  
SUPREMA  
SAFE REMEDIES  
NORTH STAR AV  
GATEWAY ACCOUNTANCY  
RAH BUSINESS SOLUTIONS  
NORTHUMBRIA FLOORING  
NORTHERN VIBES DJ  
GEORGE HAYTON  
NORTHUMBRIA MOBILE CARAVAN SERVICES  
GLOBAL OFFSHORE LOGISTICS  
KSF RECOVERY  
BSLATS ENERGY  
ST MARY'S PREMIUM SPIRITS  
HELP THE AGED

NORTH EAST TIME RECORDERS / SUPREMA /  
BECOMING WHAT YOU BELIEVE (NOVEL)  
BRAND SPIRIT  
PENNY LANE PAWNBROKERS  
PRESTIGE SAFETY SOLUTIONS  
PRESTIGE SAFETY SOLUTIONS  
ST MARY'S WHISKEY



# LEAGUE TABLE

POS	CLUB	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	 Redcar Athletic	29	18	5	6	66	21	45	59
2	 Blyth Town	29	16	8	5	67	37	30	56
3	 Shildon	28	18	2	8	66	37	29	56
4	 Boro Rangers	30	17	4	9	68	47	21	55
5	 Newcastle Blue Star	28	16	6	6	59	34	25	54
6	 Guisborough Town	31	14	9	8	56	39	17	51
7	 Kendal Town	27	15	5	7	59	34	25	50
8	 North Shields	29	15	5	9	53	37	16	50
9	 Newcastle Benfield	30	15	4	11	53	57	-4	49
10	 Crook Town	26	12	7	7	33	21	12	43
11	 Whitley Bay	27	12	7	8	43	33	10	43
12	 West Auckland Town	31	12	7	12	56	53	3	43
13	 Marske United	30	12	5	13	49	50	-1	41
14	 Penrith	28	12	1	15	42	54	-12	37
15	 Easington Colliery	31	10	7	14	44	57	-13	37
16	 Carlisle City	29	10	5	14	40	62	-22	35
17	 Northallerton Town	28	9	3	16	32	50	-18	30
18	 West Allotment Celtic	28	7	5	16	28	58	-30	26
19	 Birtley Town	29	5	10	14	33	56	-23	25
20	 Whickham	30	8	1	21	34	70	-36	25
21	 Seaham Red Star	29	5	3	21	31	67	-36	18
22	 Tow Law Town	29	5	1	23	35	73	-38	16



**BLYTH TOWN  
F.C.**



[www.blythtownfc.com](http://www.blythtownfc.com)

☎ 07900 687648





# TEAMS



**NEIL DE JESUS**  
**LEWIS BAKER**  
**EVAN FOGARTY**  
**HARRY SAWYER**  
**ALEX FIL**  
**STEPHEN FORSTER**  
**GEORGE HAYTON**  
**MARCUS GILES**  
**CHARLIE WALKER**  
**JOE GIBSON**  
**BEN SAYER**  
**BEN FRANKLIN**  
**DAN WILSON**  
**BRANDON SLATER**  
**ADAM JOHNSON**  
**OLI DIXON**  
**LIAM WOTHERSPOON**  
**LUKE PARKER**  
**JACK WALKER**  
**JOE RICHARDSON**  
**CAMERON GASCOIGNE**  
**LIAM HENDERSON**

**MARK FODEN**  
**JACK HALPIN**  
**JACK COOPER**  
**JORDAN LAVERY**  
**CALLUM MUNRO**  
**SCOTT LOWERY**  
**MAX NELSON**  
**DOM AGNEW**  
**ROSS PEARETH**  
**FINN NEARY**  
**DOM MOAN**  
**SHAUN RYDER**  
**HARVEY SMITH**  
**ROBBIE LITTLE**  
**SAM JOHNSON**  
**STEPHEN HALL**  
**OWEN KINGSLAND**  
**KIERAN APLIN**  
**MASON HARDY**  
**DAN MARRIOTT**