HE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF ASHTON SFASON 2013-2014 PRICE - E1







TUESDAY 19TH JULY 2013 KICK OFF - 7:45PM



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NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Good evening and welcome to The Hardwick Group Stadium, for this pre-season friendly against the current FA Cup holders, Wigan Athletic.

Of course tonight will not be the senior side that won that said trophy, however as a club everyone played their part. As a life long Wigan Athletic fan myself I will remember that final as one of the best days of my life. Just last week I sat and watched it again on DVD, and again it brought a tear to my eye. Amazing. Simply amazing, and well done to all involved at the club.

It's Wigan Athletic's drive, passion and belief that drives me on as the Chairman of Ashton Town. As a young boy I started watching the Latic's at Springfield Park, and I went on to literally live all my dreams. For twenty years I was a season ticket holder which gave me the ticket to the greatest roller coaster ride of football ever, there were low's, but there were many more high's. Within them twenty years I watched Wigan Athletic rise from the bottom, to the top, and as daft as it sounds at times, I will do exactly the same here at Ashton Town. Ok, I am not saying we are going to get to the Premier League, nor are we going to win the FA Cup, but we will win things, and we will rise.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Wigan Athletic's young side today, not only to see the amazing talent they have coming through, but also to welcome their management team, two Latic's legends, John Doolan and Joe Parkinson, the latter of course having had a spell in charge at Ashton Town. I am not sure Joe will thank me for that time, however I certainly will, as that was another part of this club's history written which helped springboard to what we have now.

Tonight's game also see's our 2013/14 kit launch, which is kindly sponsored by Cardiff based Duncan Brown and his company, Modelling Network.





The kit once again is sponsored by Scott Sheedy and The Hardwick Group. Scott this year becomes the club's main sponsors, sponsoring the ground, and both first and reserve kits. This partnership is huge and extremely exciting, and from all at the club we thank Scott, and look forward to what promises to be another action packed season.

Enjoy tonight's game, and here's hoping I see you down here again supporting non league football in the very near future.

Mark

CLUB CHAIRMAN

Presentation Night

Sean Robinson takes the top award, but it was a special night all round for everyone at the club

Ashton Town held their prestigious end of season presentation back in May, and befitting the excellent season the club have just endured, it took no less than an International footballer and F.A. Cup winner to present the awards.

Wigan Athletic and Ivory Coast international, Arouna Kone was the surprise guest of honour at Edge Green Street as he was there to also promote his charity the 'Arouna Kone Foundation', for which he now recognises Ashton Town AFC as his official partners for the forthcoming 2013/14 season. The 'Latics' hitman spent his time happily posing for photos and signing numerous autographs for the star struck youngsters and Kevin Pollard. The Town midfield powerhouse couldn't contain his excitement, and was one of the first people to have his picture taken with him.

Club Chairman Mark Hayes has worked tirelessly to try and boost the clubs profile, and this exciting partnership will go a long way to achieving that. Mark was also instrumental in organising a 32-team '5 a side' tournament for the 'Kone Foundation', in which Town fielded two separate sides. The senior of the teams were unfortunately beaten in the final.

The dishing out of the honours followed, with Sean Robinson and Aaron Morris being the biggest two winners on the night.

Young central defender, Morris scooped a couple of awards for the 'Under 18's' team, with Jack Halliwell also picking up an award.

The reserve team announced Andy McNally as their 'players' player of the season, with Danny Boyle being awarded the 'managers' player of the campaign.

The first team turned out in impressive numbers (probably because of the cheap booze) eager to see who was to scoop the recognition of being the star of John Brownrigg's inaugural season. Goalkeeper Nathan Brabin was first up, as he was presented with the 'young' player of the season. It was a fitting reward for Nathan who has just enjoyed a fabulous season. In fact John will have a tough job on his hands just to keep Nathan, as interest from other clubs just won't seem to go away. Nathan's number one fan, Malcolm McGrath, was also there showing his support for his favourite player.

Sam Wilkie was also called on to the stage as he collected his 'supporters' player of the season. Sam, was just one game shy of being an ever-present, and probably played in every position (except in net) throughout the season, so again his award for fully justified.

It was to be Sean Robinson's night though, as he was rewarded for a fantastic season by scooping both the 'players' player and 'managers' player of year awards. As always the elegantly mannered wide man took received his accolades with great dignity and even seemed a little surprised to have won. It was a clear decision apparently, and for the record, my vote went to him, as at times this season, he looked un-playable. A very well done Sean from everybody at the club.

It was a great night as the ale flowed and the lads enjoyed both the Champions League Final and the big Froch/Kessler fight, but the moment of the night for me had to be when Nathan Brabin casually strutted towards the stage, thinking he was to benefit from another trophy, but John Brownrigg had fooled him and the young shot stopper had to turn around much to the amusement of his team mates.





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Fixtures

Pre- Season Friendlies

Tuesday 16th July 2013			20 100
Abbey Hey	v	Stalybridge Celtic	19:45
AFC Darwen	v	St Helens Town	- (
Ashton Athletic	, v	Ramsbottom United	19:45
Ashton Town	v	Wigan Athletic XI	19:45
Atherton Collieries	v	AFC Liverpool	19:45
Atherton L R	v	Runcorn Linnets	19:45
Bootle	0	Vauxhall Motors	
Congleton Town	v	1874 Northwich	19:45
Eagley	,v	Daisy Hill	18:30
Euxton Villa	v	Squires Gate	
Irlam	v	Droylsden	19:45
Kidsgrove Athletic	v	Norton United	19:30
Jimmy Wallace Memorial Cup			
Silsden	v	Glasshoughton Welfare	19:30
West Didsbury & Chorlton	, u	Curzon Ashton	19:30
Wednesday 17th July 2013			*
Cheadle Town	,v	Stockport County XI	19:45
Mossley	v	Glossop N E	19:45
Nelson	v	Barnoldswick Town	19:30
at Accrington & Rossendale College			
West Didsbury & Chorlton	v	Curzon Ashton	19:30
Thursday 18th July 2013			
Oldham Boro	v	FC United	î
at Atherton Collieries			ii ii
Rochdale Town	v	Glossop N E	19:45
Friday 19th July 2013			_8
Silsden	٧	West Riding Amat Lge Rep Side	19:30
Stone Old Alleynians	٧	Alsager Town	19:30

Match Report Last time we met

Thurs 2nd August 2012 - Ashton Town 1 - 5 Wigan Athletic XI

A nice way to end pre season against great opposition.

The scoreline didn't reflect the way Ashton performed on the night, and we are more then proud of the performance all the players put in against an excellent Wigan Athletic side, that consisted mostly of under 18's.

The first half saw a first team contingent take to the field for Ashton and within a 10 minute period Ashton were 3-0 down and it must be said the quality of the Wigan goals had world class written all over them. Wigan showed some excellent football that was pleasing to the eye and Ashton really worked their socks off and despite attempts on goal, failed to hit the back of the net in open play.

Ashton's goal came just before half time when a free kick was issued just outside the box, up stepped Mikey Cummins who curled a beauty into the back of the net to put the scores at 3-1. And that was how the scores remained at the break.

The second half saw John Brownriggs 1st team stand down and Shaun Rae's reserve team introduced. Again a fantastic effort by Town who really put in a determined performance against the premier leagues youth side.

Town, despite efforts, could not find the back of the net, whilst Wigan kicked on and added a further two goals, to end the game at 5-1.

ASHTON TOWN AFC JUNIOR NEWS

Darryl Baines and his squad had their presentation last month at The Hardwick Group Stadium. It was a great turn out for their last visit to Ashton Town AFC as they are moving on to another quest.

I would like to thank Darryl and his lads for representing Ashton Town this year and we wish them all the very best in the future.

If you fancy joining our ever expanding club either as a player, coach or supporter then please get in touch with myself, Adam Rooney at

adamrooney@ashtontownafc.co.uk

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How do you want to be remembered?









Lose Respect Lose the game

Match Report Saturday 13th July 2013

Remyca United 0-1 Ashton Town By Billy Bristow | Saturday 13th July 2013

Town's new season begins in the blistering heat.

Liverpool County Premier League outfit, Remyca United provided the opening opposition of the new season for a new and younger looking Ashton Town.

As it turned out despite the country baking amidst the week-long heat wave, the game turned out to be a rather attractive, easy on the game as both sides used their common sense by applying the age old philosophy of 'letting the ball do the work'.

Town began the game with two new faces at either end of the field. The striking figure of ex Nantwich Town man Lewis Reid stood between the posts as the new goal-keeper, and young striker Liam Rushden (pic-right) was given the nod to partner Bradley Smart in attack.

There was though a noticable freshness about Ashton, with youngsters Thomas Jump and Alex Patterson, repaying the opportunity given too them by John Brownrigg, by both producing creditable performances. The reserves had infact just played (and won) and is was a refreshing sight to see several of the second string stay and give their support to the senior side. It is of course beneficial to them as Brownrigg will always see fit to give some of these young lads their chance to step up if neeeded.

The only goal of the game came on 26 minutes and it was a moment of breathtaking skill from debutant Liam Rushden. He took possesion of the ball just inside the area, but a heavy touch seemed to halt his progress and the chance looked to have passed, but then thanks to a clever flick over the head of a defender, he then connected with a powerful volley, that gave the diving keeper no chance.

Lewis Reid on the whole enjoyed a quieter start to his Ashton Town career, but he was needed two produce two quality saves of note to deny the hard working Remyca a way back into the game. I know for a fact that Lewis is a signing that the 'Gaffer' is delighted about.

It was a really satisfying start to the new season for Town, as there was a real sense of desire and determination amongst the squad, and the standard of football on show perfectly capped a good solid victory, but the highlight for me and many others was the welcome return of Ian Joinson.

Remyca United 0-1 Ashton Town

The talented midfielder's recovery began with a good 30minute run out, as he played his first game since September last year due to ankle surgery. We all hope that 'Joy' will be back fitter than ever for the opening league game on August 3rd.

Ashton Town: Reid, Baker, Summerskill, Boyle, Keenan, Pollard, Robinson, Wilkie (c), Smart, Rushden, Jump.

Subs: (all used) Patterson, Wilkinson, Olsen, Joinson



Liam Rushden -Photo by Billy Bristow



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HISTORY OF ASHTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Ashton Town Football Club was originally formed in 1953 as Makerfield Mill FC. Founder, Derek 'Mick' Mycock worked at the Mill and obtained permission from the owners to use their field and to form a mill-workers team. The team was soon attracting local lads and after a short spell in the Wigan Sunday School League, they played in the St. Helens Combination League with many trophies to show. In 1958 they joined the Warrington & District League and went on to champion Division 1 five times in six seasons. In 1962 the club was forced to move from its Windsor Road home due to land development and it was at this time the club name was changed to Ashton Town AFC. Home games were played on a public park pitch at Whithill Street Recreation Ground in Bryn until 1964, at which point the club purchased a piece of land and found a new home at Edge Green Street previous home of Stubshaw Cross Rovers. In 1969 the clubhouse was completed and was opened by Liverpool & England legend, Roger Hunt and in 1975 the changing rooms were built. During this period the club joined the Lancashire Combination in 1971 and then in 1978 joined the Cheshire County League. The formation of the North West Counties League in 1982 saw Ashton Town join as Founder members. The club has remained in this league since, with the exception of season 1985/6 in the Manchester League whilst essential ground improvements were carried out.





St Helens Combination League

Division 2 Champions - 57/58, Runners Up 56/57,

Tom Worrell Cup Winners - 56/57, Runners Up 57/58,

Hospital Cup Winners - 56/57/, 57/58, Liverpool FA Shield Winners - 56/57,

Rainford Pottery Cup Winners - 56/57, Runners Up - 57/58,

Martin Cup Winners - 57/58, Wigan Cup Winners - 60/61,

Warrington & District League

Division 1 Champions - 59/60, 60/61, 62/63, 63/64, 64/65, Depot Cup Winners 60/61/, 61/62, 63/64, 66/67,

Guardian Cup Winners - 63/64, 70/71, Runners Up - 57/58, Enamel Club badges

Dodds Shield Winners 63/64, Jubilee Cup 70/71,

on sale in Elizabeth Pilling Memoraial Shield Winners 67/68

the clubhouse Lancashire Combination League

> Lancashire Combination Challenge Trophy Runners Up - 70/71, Lancashire Combination League Cup Runners Up - 71/72,

> > North West Counties League

Reserve Division Runners Up 98/99, Division 2 Trophy Runners Up 02/03

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Club News

Kone moves to Town

We are proud to announce a new association between Ashton Town & The Arouna Kone Foundation. Their office is now based full time at our club, and we will make every effort to help promote this worthy cause. The FA Cup winner was a proud guest at the club during the end of season presentation evening, and this deal will see Arouna and his team down at the club on a regular basis.

Town Chairman Mark Hayes commented 'It is an absolute pleasure to link up with Arouna and help him set up base for his foundation in England. It is exciting times both on the field here, and a move like this just speaks volumes as to where this little club is heading.'

Victor Rebeiz, administrator for the Foundation added, 'Mark and the club have welcomed us with open arms, and for that we appreciate. Ashton Town are a team on the up and we will grow together'

Mark also joins the Foundation as a trustee and will heavily be involved in future events including games at the club, school visits and a concert, amongst much more.

Arouna Koné is an Ivory Coast international who has been starring for Wigan Athletic in the Premiership this past season and now of course, Everton FC. Koné represented Côte d'Ivoire, as his country is known, in the 2006 World Cup, as well as three Africa Cup of Nations tournaments. Although he has played in six countries, he has never forgotten his roots and in 2007 he set up the Arouna Kone Foundation, with the aim of building a school and hospital in his home district of Abobo in Abidjan, in the Ivory Coast.

AROUNA KON

(above) July 2013 saw Arouna presenting children in Abobo with educational materials and books.

In a recent interview with the Daily Mirror, Arouna explained the reasons behind his decision to set up the charity. "I set up the foundation in 2007 when I was playing in Belgium", he said. "Up to now it has been limited to things like vaccinations and buying school books. But now I want to develop it further."

"I want to build a school and a hospital, if that is possible. I feel a responsibility to

do what I can. Guilt is perhaps the wrong word to use. But my whole ethos and desire is about giving something back to the lvory Coast. There is a whole underclass where I come from. There are kids in the streets who have to fend for themselves at a very young age. They aren't orphans as such, but their families can't look after them properly and so they basically live on the streets. It's those people I want to help."

"It is too much to think that I can make everyone's life a happy life, but I want to create some kind of framework that just gives these kids a chance to succeed".

Club News

By Billy Bristow | 5th July 2013 F.A. Cup & Vase draw

Town are set to clock up the miles as they head for both Yorkshire & Derbyshire.

With Ashton Town heading into unknown territory for the start of our forthcoming 'roads to Wembley', we have a few details about our opposition.

The first trip in mid-August will see us head to Derbyshire to face Staveley Miners Welfare in the Extra Premliminary Round of the FA Cup. They are a premier division team in the Baris Northern Counties East League. (1 step above us).

They play their games at Inkersall Road which is just outside Chesterfield and last season averaged over 100 fans for their home games.

Last season they finished 13th, but only two seasons ago, they fell agonisingly short of getting to Wembley, when they were narrowly beaten in the F.A. Vase Semi Final, by Dunston UTS, in front of over 1000 supporters.

They play in Blue & White stripes, and are nicknamed "The Welfare".

The winners of this clash have the task of even higher opposition in the next round, as Bamber Bridge will await at their Irongate ground.

In the Vase, we head to just outside Barnsley in South Yorkshire. Worsbrough Bridge Athletic are the team we will face, and they play in the same league as Stavely but in the first division. (same standard as us)

They finished 9th last season and also can boast of decent crowds for our standard. They play at Park Road and have a quaint ground in which ive personally always wanted to visit (so im excited by this one!!)

They play in Red and are nicknamed "The Briggers".

If we were to win this game, then familiar foe's would await in the next round in the shape of Cheadle Town or Daisy Hill.

So John Brownrigg's men will have to be prepared for two difficult games.....

and Chairman Mark Hayes will have to somehow find the cash to cover all of our petrol expenses !!!







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ASHTON TOWN AFC

Lewis Reid Scot Baker Nial Summerskill Kevin Brownrigg Paul Reenan Kevin Pollard Adam Wilkinson Sam Wilkie Liam Ruchton Bradley Smart Thomas Jump Andy Olsen Tom Darkes Aaron Morris Dan Boyle Micheal Boyle Tom Goodwin Alex Paterson lan Joinson Jordan Lorde

MANAGER, JOHN BROWNRIGG COACH, NEIL WARTEN COACH: ADRAW ROONEY COACH: TOWAR KILGALLON PHYSIO, AMON MONKS TEAM ADMINI MIKE CUMMINS COLOURS: RED/WHITE STRIPED SHIRTS, RED SHORTS, RED SOCKS

WIGAN ATHLETIC XI

Marco Marosi Daniel Leigh Liam Lambert Theo Chrisokhou Ellis Gibbons Luke Ainccough Omar Carev Joey Johnson Mathew Hamilton Ryan Jennings Jordan Flores Christian Mather Adrian Purzycki Dieu Le Veut Foukamene Abubakher Dicko Sean Harrrison Sam Cosgrove Lloyd Bannister Adam Anson

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