

## MOSS ROSE – THE GRAND OLD LADY

Mark Bettany, who provides superb assistance for the archive web site ascertaining changes of clubs for former players and from his research also provides information to enhance both present and past player profiles, has researched when the Premier League and English Football League clubs first played at their current grounds. Following the narrative is a table in date order covering all 92 clubs.

Over the years many opposing / visiting supporters (and a fair few Macc fans ☺) have taken great delight in disparaging the Moss Rose, but what some of these 'new kids on the (breeze) block' won't appreciate is that, with Bury's promotion to EFL1 at the end of the 2018-19 season, the Moss Rose became the Grand Old Lady of EFL2.

After brief flirtations with the likes of Rostrons Field, Coare Street and Victoria Road, the Silkmen pledged their troth to the girl who hung out behind the Moss Rose pub on London Road in 1891.

Now, 128 years later, the relationship between the Silkmen and the Moss Rose is the longest in EFL2, and the 9<sup>th</sup> longest in The '92.

1878	Deepdale	Preston North End	EFLC
1882	Ewood Park	Blackburn Rovers	EFLC
1883	Turf Moor	Burnley	Premier
1884	Portman Road	Ipswich Town	EFL1
1885	Gigg Lane	Bury	EFL1
1888	Oakwell	Barnsley	EFLC
1889	Bramall Lane	Sheffield United	Premier
1889	Molineux Stadium	Wolverhampton Wanderers	Premier
1891	<a href="#">Moss Rose</a>	<a href="#">Macclesfield Town</a>	<a href="#">EFL2</a>
1892	Goodison Park	Everton	Premier
1892	Anfield	Liverpool	Premier
1892	St James' Park	Newcastle United	Premier
1892	County Ground	Swindon Town	EFL2

To qualify this observation, Field Mill at Mansfield (pre-1860s) and Valley Parade, Bradford (opened 1886) have been around longer than the Moss Rose, but The Stags and The Bantams didn't hook up with them until 1919 and 1903 respectively.

Similarly, in the top flight, whilst Anfield was opened in September 1884 (hosting Everton), it has *only* been home Liverpool since their 1892.

As the original Football League was comprised mainly of teams from the North West and the Midlands, it is probably no great surprise that, with the exception of Ipswich Town's Portman Road (1884) and Swindon Town's County Ground (1892), the longest *relationships* are in the North and Midlands:

Of the 92 EPL / EFL grounds:

- 22 have been hosting their Club since the 1800s;
- 48 since the 1900s, and;
- 22 have been established this century.

Again this needs to be qualified as St Andrew's, Birmingham is included in the 1900s (1906 Birmingham City) and the 2000s (2019 Coventry City).

On the latter, not that we hold a grudge, but it is amazing to see how boundary changes continue in the Country, with St Andrew's now being in the *conurbation* of Coventry, just as the Priestfield Stadium, Gillingham was somehow in the conurbation of Brighton back in 1997-98!

Back in Macclesfield, though some plans for the wider Moss area were put forward some years ago, it doesn't seem as though any moves are in the pipelines in the short term, so the relationship – finances permitting - will continue for some time to come.

First Year	Date Opened	Ground Name	Club	Division	Notes
1878	1875	Deepdale	Preston North End	EFLC	1875: local cricket and rugby <b>1878: Preston North End</b>
1882	Apr 1882	Ewood Park	Blackburn Rovers	EFLC	
1883		Turf Moor	Burnley	Premier	
1884		Portman Road	Ipswich Town	EFL1	
1885		Gigg Lane	Bury	EFL1	
1888		Oakwell	Barnsley	EFLC	
1889	30 Apr 1855	Bramhall Lane	Sheffield United	Premier	1855-1893: Yorkshire CCC <b>1889: Sheffield United</b>
1889		Molineux Stadium	Wolverhampton W	Premier	
<b>1891</b>		<b>Moss Rose</b>	<b>Macclesfield Town</b>	<b>EFL2</b>	
1892	24 Aug 1892	Goodison Park	Everton	Premier	
1892	1884	Anfield	Liverpool	Premier	1884-1892: Everton <b>1892: Liverpool</b>
1892	1880	St James' Park	Newcastle United	Premier	1880-1882 & 1884: Newcastle Rangers 1886-1892: Newcastle West End 1892: Newcastle East End <b>1892: Newcastle United</b>
1892		County Ground	Swindon Town	EFL2	
1893		Priestfield Stadium	Gillingham	EFL1	
1893		Home Park	Plymouth Argyle	EFL2	
1895		Sincil Bank	Lincoln City	EFL1	
1896		Craven Cottage	Fulham	EFLC	
1897		Villa Park	Aston Villa	Premier	
1898		City Ground	Nottingham Forrest	EFLC	
1899	02 Sep 1899	Hillsborough Stadium	Sheffield Wednesday	EFLC	
1899	14 Aug 1899	Fratton Park	Portsmouth	EFL1	
1899	02 Sep 1899	Blundell Park	Grimsby Town	EFL2	
1900	Sep 1900	The Hawthorns	West Bromwich A	EFLC	
1900	28 Oct 1899	Bloomfield Road	Blackpool	EFL1	28 Oct 1899: Opened 1899: South Shore <b>1900: Blackpool</b>
1903	1886	Valley Parade	Bradford City	EFL2	1886-1903: Manningham RFC <b>1903: Bradford City</b>
1904	Sep 1904	Griffin Park	Brentford	EFLC	
1904	1887	Ashton Gate	Bristol City	EFLC	1887-1900: Bedminster FC <b>1904: Bristol City</b>
1904		Loftus Road	Queens Park Rangers	EFLC	
1904	10 Sep 1904	St James Park	Exeter City	EFL2	
1904	01 Aug 1904	Boundary Park	Oldham Athletic	EFL2	
1905	28 Apr 1877	Stamford Bridge	Chelsea	Premier	1877-1904: London Athletic Club <b>1905: Chelsea</b>
1905		Kenilworth Road	Luton Town	EFLC	

1906	26 Dec 1906	St Andrew's	Birmingham City	EFLC	
1906		Gresty Road	Crewe Alexandra	EFL2	
1909	02 Sep 1909	Brunton Park	Carlisle United	EFL2	
1910		Dean Court	Bournemouth	Premier	
1910	19 Feb 1910	Old Trafford	Manchester United	Premier	
1912	09 Mar 1912	Prenton Park	Tranmere Rovers	EFL1	
1919		The Valley	Charlton Athletic	EFLC	
1919	1897	Elland Road	Leeds United	EFLC	1897: Built 1898-1904: Holbeck RLFC 1904-1919: Leeds City 1919-1920: Yorkshire Amateur <b>1919: Leeds United</b>
1919	Before 1861	Field Mill	Mansfield Town	EFL2	Originally a recreational area (incl cricket, athletics & cycling) for employees of the Greenhalgh & Sons Works
1920		Spotland	Rochdale	EFL1	1878-1897: St Clement's Rugby Club 1900-1901: Rochdale AFC (1896) 1902-1903: Rochdale Town <b>1920: Rochdale AFC</b>
1922	30 Aug 1922	Vicarage Road	Watford	Premier	
1924	Aug 1924	Selhurst Park	Crystal Palace	Premier	
1932	31 Aug 1932	Abbey Stadium	Cambridge United	EFL2	
1932	1927	Whadden Road	Cheltenham Town	EFL2	1927: Built 1927-1932: Cheltenham Original Brewery <b>1932: Cheltenham Town</b>
1934		London Road	Peterborough United	EFL1	1890s: Built by Peterborough City Council 1923-1932: Peterborough & Fletton United <b>1934: Peterborough United</b>
1935		Carrow Road	Norwich City	Premier	
1937		Brisbane Road	Leyton Orient	EFL2	
1939		Highbury Stadium	Fleetwood Town	EFL1	
1950	24 Aug 1950	Vale Park	Port Vale	EFL2	
1955		Roots Hall	Southend United	EFL1	1952-1955: Built <b>1955: Southend United</b>
1961		Broadhall Way	Stevenage	EFL2	
1968		Crown Ground	Accrington Stanley	EFL1	
1978		Moor Lane	Salford City	EFL2	
1988	14 Aug 1988	Glanford Park	Scunthorpe United	EFL2	
1990		Adams Park	Wycombe Wanderers	EFL1	
1990	18 Aug 1990	Bescot Stadium	Walsall	EFL2	
1993	04 Aug 1993	The Den	Millwall	EFLC	
1994		Kirklees Stadium	Huddersfield Town	EFLC	
1994	15 Oct 1994	Sixfields Stadium	Northampton Town	EFL2	
1995	26 Aug 1995	Riverside Stadium	Middlesbrough	EFLC	
1996	24 Sep 1921	Memorial Stadium	Bristol Rovers	EFL1	1921-2014: Bristol Rugby Club <b>1996: Bristol Rovers</b>
1997	18 Jul 1997	Pride Park Stadium	Derby County	EFLC	
1997	30 Aug 1997	Bet365 Stadium	Stoke City	EFLC	
1997		University of Bolton Stadium	Bolton Wanderers	EFL1	
1997		Stadium of Light	Sunderland	EFL1	
1997		Broadfield Stadium	Crawley Town	EFL2	
1998	22 Aug 1998	Madejski Stadium	Reading	EFLC	
1999	07 Aug 1999	DW Stadium	Wigan Athletic	EFLC	
2001	Aug 2001	St Mary's Stadium	Southampton	Premier	

2001		Kassam Stadium	Oxford United	EFL1	
2002	23 Jul 2002	Leicester City Stadium	Leicester City	Premier	
2002	Oct 2002	Hull City Stadium	Hull City	EFLC	
2002	1989	Kingsmeadow	AFC Wimbledon	EFL1	1989-2017: Kingstonian <b>2002: AFC Wimbledon</b>
2003	25 Jul 2002	City of Manchester Stadium	Manchester City	Premier	25 July 2002: Commonwealth Games Athletics Stadium <b>10 Aug 2003: Manchester City</b>
2005	10 Jul 2005	Liberty Stadium	Swansea City	EFLC	
2005	16 Jul 2005	Pirelli Stadium	Burton Albion	EFL1	
2006	22 Jul 2006	Emirates	Arsenal	Premier	
2006		The New Lawn	Forest Green Rovers	EFL2	
2007	03 Aug 2007	Keepmoat Stadium	Doncaster Rovers	EFL1	
2007	18 Jul 2007	Stadium MK	MK Dons	EFL1	
2007	Jul 2007	New Meadow	Shrewsbury Town		
2008	Aug 2008	Colchester Community Stadium	Colchester United	EFL2	
2009	22 Jul 2009	Cardiff City Stadium	Cardiff City	EFLC	
2010	Aug 2010	Globe Arena	Morecambe	EFL2	
2011	16 July 2011	Falmer Stadium	Brighton & Hove Albion	Premier	
2012	19 Jul 2012	New York Stadium	Rotherham United	EFL1	
2012	1877	Rodney Parade	Newport County	EFL2	1877: Local Sports 1879: Newport Rugby Club 1901-1934: Monmouthshire CCC 2012- : Newport County
2016	06 May 2012	London Stadium	West Ham United	Premier	2012: Olympic Games Athletics Stadium <b>2016: West Ham United</b>
2019	03 Apr 2019	Tottenham Hotspur Stadium	Tottenham Hotspur	Premier	
2019		St Andrew's	Coventry City	EFL1	Ground sharing with Birmingham City

