

MACCLESFIELD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

TRIVIA

Boxing Day	Macclesfield have played Stalybridge Celtic on Boxing Day on more occasions than any other side.
Civic Receptions	The team enjoyed Civic Receptions at Macclesfield Town Hall preceded by an open top bus parade through the town on four consecutive seasons under manager Sammy McIlroy. 1994-95 – Champions of the Vauxhall Conference 1995-96 – Winners of the Umbro FA Trophy 1996-97 – Champions of the Vauxhall Conference and promotion to the Football League. 1997-98 – Promotion from Nationwide League Division 3 to Nationwide League Division 2 as runners-up.
Highest Score 15-0	Has been achieved on two occasions: 6 February 1886 in the third round of the Cheshire Senior Cup match against Chester St Mary's and on 12 November 1887 in the first round of the Cheshire Senior Cup against Barnton Rovers.
Media Reports	In the early days of local football it took several years for the local newspapers to provide a separate 'Football' section. Reports of matches would often be found in the 'General News' section and later all sports were included under the heading 'Past Times', football being the poor relation, the striking feature being that cycling received many more column inches than football.
Record Attendances	The attendance of 41434 at Chelsea in the third round of the FA Cup on 6 January 2007 is the highest crowd the Silkmen have played in front of. The largest attendance for a match involving the Silkmen at the Moss Rose was 9003 on 14 February 1948 in the second round of the Cheshire Senior Cup against Winsford United who won 3-2. The ground record attendance at the Moss Rose was 10041 on 20 March 1948 for the Cheshire Senior Cup Semi-final match between Winsford United and Northwich Victoria
John Askey	Made more appearances (677) than any other player in the history of the club and scored on both his debut, 29 December 1984 Morecambe (Away) and in his last match as a player, 3 May 2003 Rochdale (Home).
Steve Burr	Scored the most number of goals for MTFC (182) and was top season goalscorer for six consecutive seasons from 1984-85 to 1989-90, just one season more than Harold Kelly, second highest scorer for the club (181)
John Cooke	Visits to Ellesmere Port Town were often interesting for goalkeeper Cooke. On one occasion a dagger-type knife with a four inch blade hit him in the right leg. Fortunately after treatment he was declared fit to continue in the match. On another occasion a firework landed at his feet.
GS Foxcroft	Travelling to the match at Buxton on 11 September 1946, Foxcroft failed to make the match as the train he caught in Manchester did not stop at Buxton and took him to Matlock. Defender Burke replaced Foxcroft, Macclesfield losing 5-1. Early in November 1946 Foxcroft moved to Canada with his Canadian born wife and whilst he had known about the move for a month, he only informed the club days before he was due to leave.

Billy Johnston	The only player in the history of the club who was signed from and returned to Manchester United.
Peter Wright	Macclesfield player moved to the United States of America where he formed a club in Paterson FC in New Jersey: he was their captain and was acknowledged as introducing association football to the USA. The team were known as the 'True Blues'. He remained there until 1874 and on his return played for Macclesfield FC and then progressed as a member of the Macclesfield FC committee, a representative on the Cheshire County Association, made a life member of the Cheshire Football Association in 1928 and was also a referee.;
12 January 1884	Sir William Bromley-Davenport KCB, CMG, DSO, TD, JP, DL is Macclesfield's most decorated player, featured in his sole appearance for the club in the second round of the Cheshire Senior Cup, scoring a hat-trick in the 4-0 win.
30 October 1886	Macclesfield arrived late at Goldenhill for the first round FA Cup match to find that Goldenhill had kicked-off and having scored a goal claimed victory. Macclesfield objected but after an agreement with the Goldenhill players the match restarted with Goldenhill winning 4-2. Following the match Macclesfield lodged a complaint on the basis that the pitch was too small to stage a cup tie. Their complaint was upheld with the match replayed at Leek , Goldenhill winning 3-2 after extra time.
23 March 1889	Players Howarth and Hindley were unable to make the match at Leek Town, with their unavailability only known as the team were about to leave. Accredited umpires (linesmen) for Macclesfield, A Bancroft and G Robinson, had gone to the station to see the departure of the players and were recruited to play. Macclesfield lost 5-1.
4 October 1890	Macclesfield travelled to Northern Ireland to play Cliftonville (Belfast) in the first qualifying round of the FA Cup, both teams being in the Midland qualifying division. The score was 3-3 at full time and after discussion the teams agreed to play 30 minutes of extra time, Cliftonville running out winners 4-3.
6 and 11 April 1891	The body governing The Combination League ordered that two additional matches be played at the end of the season on top of the scheduled league matches with no reason given. Macclesfield won against Witton Albion 4-2 on 6 April and 8-1 against Derby St Luke on 11 April, both were home matches
25 January 1896	At Chester, the match commenced as the round two replay of the Cheshire Senior Cup, but the status of the match was changed at half time by the referee to that of a friendly in view of the adverse state of the pitch.
17 April 1897	With nothing to play for in the last match of the season and the club about to go out of business, many of the regular players did not want to play with the result that several second string players were included in the team for the match at Buxton. At half time Macclesfield were losing 10-0 and refused to play the second half, the match being awarded to Buxton.
1 April 1907	Around this time it was the custom for a well-known/respected person to kick-off the match. For the match against Hooley Hill at the Moss Rose Rev Father Byrne started the match

6 April 1907	For the match at Buxton many supporters walked the 12 miles to Buxton on a sunny morning but it started raining at kick-off and as it was raining heavily at full-time resulting only a hardy few walking home meeting 'horrendous conditions' on the Cat and Fiddle Road, the majority, including many of those who had cycled, returned by train.
1911-12	Fielded two senior teams during the 1911-12 season - one in the Manchester and District League and one in the Lancashire Combination.
1919-20 season	A total of 70 different players were used during this first season in the Cheshire League. Only 13 making 10 or more appearances.
21 April 1920	In the Macclesfield team which lost 5-2 to Crighton's Athletic there were five players who had seen active service in World War 1 – Harry Pearson, John Lyons, Jack Rourke, Albert Donvaband and Chester Twemlow. (See Player Profiles for information)
28 March 1921	When the reporters of the two Macclesfield newspapers arrived at the ground for the match against Witton Albion, they found that their normal seats had been sold to supporters with no alternative accommodation provided by the club. They took the decision that they would not provide a match report and other than the score, Macclesfield 3 Witton Albion 1, no further details of this match are known.
9 April 1934	At this time the length of matches were often shortened due to conditions. A good example is the third replay in the second round of the Challenge Cup at Stalybridge which was reduced to 40 minutes each way of regular time and only 5 minutes each way of extra time due to failing light, with Stalybridge winning 4-3.
1939-40	In the war time Cheshire League, despite being situated in East Cheshire, Macclesfield had to play in the West Section for the first half of the season but were allowed to play in the East Section for the second half of the season.
1945-46	The Cheshire League re-started after World War II but without Macclesfield Town who had debts outstanding from the 1939-40 season. The Borough Education Advisory Committee considered buying the Moss Rose as a playing field 'for the young people of the town'. It was also suggested that the land be sold for housing or industrial purposes.
1946-47	With the outstanding debts cleared a limited company was formed – Macclesfield Town Football Club Ltd. The word 'Town' was added to the team's name and has played under the name of Macclesfield Town ever since. Innovations at the start of this season included Adverts inside the ground, use of the front of the Moss Rose stadium as a car park, ambulances converted into mobile snack bars, and the installation of a loudspeaker system which was a gift from the Radio Relay Company.
1949-50 to 1959-60	For 11 consecutive seasons in the Cheshire League, it was the custom for Macclesfield and Buxton to face each other, home and away, for the first two matches of the campaign
1 November 1954	Macclesfield first played under floodlights in the Ashton Floodlight competition against Stalybridge at Ashton United, Macclesfield winning 2-0. The match commenced 100 minutes late due to Macclesfield's coach having been delayed by fog in Stockport, with the final whistle sounded at 22.20 by which time many of those attending had left the ground. It was 1965 before floodlights were installed at the Moss Rose

11 September 1965	In the first round of the Challenge Cup at Ellesmere Port Town, the match was abandoned after 84 minutes when Ellesmere Port Town player Dave Hickson refused to leave the pitch after being dismissed. The match was awarded to Macclesfield as they were leading 2-0.
14 September 1966	Following the 2-2 draw in the second qualifying round of the FA Cup at Matlock Keith Goalen and his family were involved in a head on collision on the Cat and Fiddle Road. Although both cars were extensively damaged, fortunately, after treatment at Buxton hospital, Keith and his family returned home with Keith featuring in the replay.
16 December 1967	Losing to Tranmere Rovers Reserves at the Moss Rose was Macclesfield's first defeat in the 1967-68 season and ended a run of 27 matches without defeat, although adding in the three matches at the end of the 1966-67 season, the unbeaten run had lasted for 30 matches.
29 August 1988	Newport County went out of business during the season with the match played on this day being deleted from official records resulting in Macclesfield being deducted points and the appearances by players and the goals scored by Phil Derbyshire(2) and Steve Burr(1) also deleted.
1990-91 and 1991-92	Football League side Chester City played their 'home' matches at the Moss Rose whilst their Deva Stadium was being built. In total they played 53 matches including entertaining Arsenal in the Rumbelows Cup.
25 November 1992	In the first round replay of the FA Cup at Chesterfield, goalkeeper Steve Farrelly saved three consecutive penalties enabling Macclesfield to win the shoot-out 3-2 against the League side.
18 December 1993	At Merthyr Tydfil goalkeeper Steve Farrelly scored Macclesfield's goal straight from his clearance leaving the forwards 'complaining' that it was a long way to run back to congratulate him. Despite this feat Merthyr won 2-1.
8 February 1994	Macclesfield won the third round tie of the Cheshire Senior Cup 7-1 against Colwyn Bay at the Moss Rose, Darren Lyons scoring four of the goals, but were eliminated from the competition having fielded an ineligible player who was not registered on 18 January 1994, the original date set for the match to be played.
21 January 1996	Chris Byrne scored a hat-trick on his debut in the 9-0 win against Kidsgrove at the Moss Rose in the third round of the Staffordshire Senior Cup.
Summer 1996	The German National Team trained at the Moss Rose prior to the UEFA European Championship competition which they won.
13 December 1997	At Barnet, the Howarth brothers were on opposing sides - Neil for Macclesfield Town and Lee for Barnet – both appointed captain for the match. It was reported that this was the first time a pair had captained sides against each other in the Football League
1997-98	Macclesfield Town were undefeated at home throughout the whole of the season winning 19 matches and drawing four – the only Football League side to do so in the 1997-98 season.
August 1998	Played Stoke City in three consecutive matches at the start of the season, two at the Britannia Stadium and one at the Moss Rose. Macclesfield won the two legged League Cup first round 3-2 with Stoke winning the league match 2-0.

28 December 1999	With the start of the home match against Carlisle delayed due to Carlisle having been delayed on their journey, Chris Priest's second goal of the match in the 90 th minute is recognised officially as the last goal scored in the Millennium in the Football league
18 November 2000	During the first round FA Cup match at the Moss Rose against Oxford United, their fans unhooked the goal net on two occasions, the second in the 89 th minute when they were leading 1-0 and Macclesfield had been awarded a penalty resulting in a five minute delay. Unfortunately Lee Glover missed the penalty.
2 November 2004	Manager Brian Horton's 1000 th match in charge at managerial level saw Macclesfield winning 4-0 against Mansfield Town in the second round of the LDV Vans Trophy.
6 January 2007	For the third round of the FA Cup against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge free transport was provided by the club for everyone who pre-purchased a ticket resulting in 74 coaches making their way to the capital
10 September 2011	In the home match against Morecambe, Ben Tomlinson scored 6.7 seconds after the kick-off, possibly the fastest goal in the club's history.
2011-12 season	In the second half of the season not a single victory was registered in the 23 league games played, with 7 draws and 16 defeats.
12 March 2016	In the home match against Lincoln City the McCombe brothers were on opposing sides – John for Macclesfield and Jamie for Lincoln City, the first time this had happened since 1997 (see above)

