

MACCLESFIELD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB THE LEAGUE STORY SO FAR

CHAPTER 14 WHY?



BY
GEOFFREY KNIGHTS

This Chapter is dedicated to the late Richard Butcher and his family

I thank Peter Hilton, the club's official photographer, for all his help in providing photographs included within this chapter.

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This stand-alone-chapter is a continuation of the book entitled Macclesfield Town Football Club – The League Story so far which was published in August 2009, copies of which can still be obtained from Macclesfield Town Football Club.

Chapter 13 can be accessed as a download from the club's official web site www.mtfc.co.uk

In line with the book, this chapter concentrates on events on the field of play, although a selection of the off-field happenings have also been included, to provide an on-going historical record for the club and supporters.

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CHAPTER 14: 2010-2011

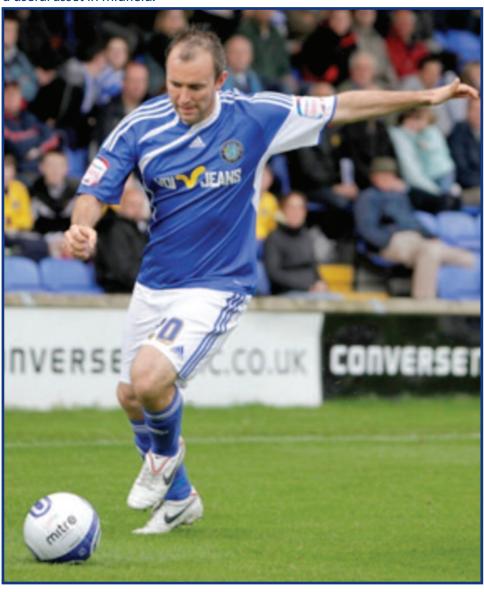
WHY?

Leaving behind a season dominated by the tragic loss of manager Keith Alexander, there was optimism in the air with the view that the club's fourteenth season as a Football League club would be much more successful and enjoyable. But those thoughts were to be destroyed by a single event.

PRE-SEASON

Playing Staff

The close season saw 11 players leave the club. Lee Bell returned to Crewe Alexandra, Sean Hessey and Craig Lindfield moved to Accrington Stanley, Matthew Tipton signed for Irish club Dundalk, Jon Brain moved up a tier to Walsall and Ben Wright headed for New Zealand to play for Richmond Athletics. Others released who signed for non-League clubs were Kris Dennis, Stephen Reed and Kyle Wilson. Francois Kompany and Paul Bolland were also released, however, after a trial at Stockport County, Paul re-signed for the Silkmen and proved to be a useful asset in midfield.



New signing Matty Hamshaw

Four players, Colin Daniel, Ross Draper, Emile Sinclair and Carl Tremarco extended their contracts to June 2012 with Hamza Bencherif, Nat Brown, Shaun Brisley, Jose Veiga and Matt Lowe accepting one-year deals. Youth team players Michael Thomas and Adam Roberts were given their first professional contracts. Vinny Mukendi, Paul Morgan, Izak Reid and Ricky Sappleton were already under contract for the 2010-11 season.

There were seven new signings. Striker Tyrone Barnett joined his former team mate Ross Draper from non-League Hednesford Town, goalkeeper Jack Cudworth signed from Rhyl as second string to Jose Veiga, with defender Jason Beardsley crossing the Atlantic from Tampa Bay. To strengthen the midfield, four players were signed – Richard Butcher, who had successfully spent time on loan during the latter part of the 2009-10 season, came from Lincoln City, Lewis Chalmers signed from Aldershot Town, the experienced and dead ball expert Matty Hamshaw came from Notts County and young Sam Wedgbury moved from Sheffield United.

Two players were side-lined for the start of the season. Ricky Sappleton continued his recovery after an operation after incurring a split knee-cap and ligament damage the previous season, and as part of his on-going rehabilitation attended the National Sports Centre at Lillishall for intensive treatment and training. Dependable captain Paul Morgan was unfortunate to fall awkwardly during pre-season training and broke a wrist which required surgery.

Football Governance

At the Football League Annual General meeting in June 2010 new regulations were introduced to maintain the commitment of Football League clubs to good governance as follows:

- New financial reporting rules were introduced such that clubs failing to lodge accounts with the Football League at the same time as they are required by Companies House will be subject to a transfer embargo.
- A positive change was made that where a club which is part of a group of companies goes into administration, the club will in future be subject to the same penalties as a stand-alone club.
- First team squads restricted to a total of 25 players over the age of 21, of which ten must be 'home grown' (registered in domestic football for three years before their 21st birthday), however, there would be no restriction on the number of players under the age of 21.
- The Football League's Fit and Proper Persons Test was re-titled the 'Director's Test'.

These regulations were expanded at an Extraordinary General meeting in August stemming from the Football League's Solidarity Agreement with the Premier League as follows

Further enhancements to the Owner's and Director's Tests which in future will include

- Creating an Annual Reporting process for all club directors
- Prior disclosure of new directors and a prohibition on persons taking up the role until clearance is received from the Football League.

 The introduction of a restriction on anyone owning an interest in a club where they are prevented from entering the UK or are unable to have funds available in the UK for their own benefit.

In addition, there were addition reporting requirements for Championship clubs, including provision of financial information for the following season, demonstration that there are no outstanding financial payments relating to employees, a change of ownership of more than 30% to trigger fresh reporting requirements, publication of the identity of any individuals owing more than 10% in any club, prohibition of 'third party interests' in players and a new standard player Contract in line with that in use in the Premier League.

Sponsorship

There were sponsorship changes at both Football League and Club level.

The Football League signed a 21 million pound three-year deal with power supplier npower. Benefits from the new sponsorship deal included an incentive for supporters' to transfer their gas and/or electricity supply to npower by way of a £45 voucher to be spent in the supporter's own club shop. Another benefit was the introduction of The Football Community Cup, with annual 6-a-side competitions for mixed Under-11 sides and Girls Under-13 teams.

On the expiry of the sponsorship deal with Cheshire Building Society, Voi Jeans became the club's main and shirt sponsor with fashion retailer BANK becoming a secondary shirt sponsor during the season.

The Cheshire Building Society, however, remained as the club's Community Sponsor and away shirt sponsor. One of the benefits being the designation of the area of the McAlpine stand closest to the Star Lane End as the Family stand.

The Star Lane End was the beneficiary of new sponsors, on this occasion the Audi motor dealers and was re-named the Audi stand. Previous sponsors have been Carling and then A-Line.

Season Tickets

To provide supporters with even better value for money and to attract new season ticket holders, the prices of 'early bird' tickets were reduced as follows. (The previous year's price is shown in brackets)

McAlpine Stand & Silk FM Stand

Adults £299 (£325) Concessions £230 (£250) Match day £18/£14

Star Lane End and London Road Terrace

Adults £230 (£250) Concessions £165(£180) Match day £14/£10

All under 16s £50 (£50) Match day £5
All under 12s Free Match day Free

Vice-presidents £525 (£550)

In addition, 15 discount vouchers were provided for season ticket holders including drinks and match snacks in Keith's bar, a free meal in the McIlroy Suite and two free programmes.

Supporters' Bars

Blues Bar

For some time the Blues Bar had been in a rundown condition and there had been requests for accessibility to a bar before the match and during the half-time interval for the supporters in the Star Lane End. Financed by Andy Scott, Vice-chairman, and his brother, the Blues bar was completely renovated including a new bar and a new carpet with photographs of past players and action shots on the walls providing a first class facility. Following the acceptance of a risk assessment by the club, a pass system was introduced so that supporters from the Star Lane End wishing to use this facility could gain access in addition to those on the London Road side of the ground.

Supporters were given the opportunity to vote for a new name for the bar, the options being – Woody's, Askey's, The Corner Flag, The Maxonian and Blues Bar. 40% of the votes were cast for The Corner Flag and so, democratically, the Blues Bar became The Corner Flag, and has been a success.

There had been a previous supporters' vote on whether vuvuzelas, which were so popular at the World Cup in South Africa in the summer of 2010 and produced such a cacophony of sound, should be banned from the Moss Rose. 80% of those voting agreed that they should be banned.

Presidents Bar

At the beginning of the season it was decided that the Presidents Bar should be re-named Keith's Bar in memory of the late manager, Keith Alexander. The signage was changed and two large photographs of Keith were placed in the bar.

Over the years this facility has been used by different sections of the supporters. It was first opened on Saturday 11 August 2001 as part of corporate facilities in the McIlroy Suite, named after another former manager, Sammy McIlroy as part of the relatively new McAlpine stand. Initially only those supporters who became members paying an annual fee of £60 could have access to the bar before a match.

In the 2003-2004 season, members of both the Supporters' Club and the Silk Alliance enjoyed free membership of the bar. Anyone who was not a member of the supporters' groups could become a bar member for a fee of £6, but there was a regulation that 48 hours notice had to be given for the issue of a membership card. Day members could have access as guests of members for a fee of £1. A further change was made in August 2005 when this facility was no longer made available for the Supporters' Organisations in favour of the Vice Presidents of the club. A further change was also made in that supporters in the McAlpine stand were no longer able to use the McIlroy Suite for a pre-match drink and at half-time due to capacity regulations.

In September 2008 the bar was re-named the Sports Bar, however, it continued to be known as the Presidents Bar. The bar was made available for all supporters, home and away, before the match and at half-time for those supporters in the McAlpine stand. Access before the match is solely from Moss Lane, with access from the concourse of the McAlpine stand at half time. This change has been a

huge success with capacity reached on many occasions. Large screen televisions allow supporters to watch Premier League matches and excellent bar snacks are available at good prices.

Matchball

The Football League introduced a new matchball, the Mitre Tensile, for all 72 Football League clubs with each club using their own individually designed ball which included the club's badge. With just 10 panels and 30% less stitching, the design was described as a revolution in design and technology to optimise power and efficiency, improve airflow and reduce drag on the ball. It retailed at £74.99.

Stadium

The usual summer maintenance work was undertaken including re-painting where necessary, but one major task carried out was the replacement of the pitch border where all the pitch-side advertising boards were removed so that new wooden backing could be installed. The top level of surface was removed from the pitch leaving the old roots to grow through a top covering of sand and seed mixture. However, because the Football Festival was held later, the top surface was not removed as deep as previous seasons in view of the shorter time available to prepare the pitch for the start of the season.

The distance between the edge of the manager's technical area and the touch line was extremely narrow, such that the late Keith Alexander had accidentally bowled over an assistant referee in a match. To provide a greater distance from the technical area, the pitch was re-aligned so that it is now a yard further away from the London Road side.

Friendly Matches

The Silkmen travelled to Buxton for the first ever Alexander Memorial Trophy match. Virtually two different teams were fielded by Macclesfield for the two halves with three triallists involved – midfielders Andy Nichols and Osebi Abadaki and goalkeeper Carl Pentney, none of whom were signed by the club. Goals by Richard Butcher and Nat Brown saw the Silkmen two goals to the good by the interval with newly signed Tyrone Barnett adding a third in the second half although Buxton scored a consolation goal in the closing minutes of the match.

Next a short trip to Northern Ireland. The first match was against Cliftonville at Crumlin United's ground when the Silkmen won 2-1, both goals scored by Emile Sinclair in the first half. The second half belonged to Cliftonville, but whilst they pulled a goal back from a penalty, the Silkmen held out. The second match was played on a wet artificial pitch where the players found it difficult to keep their feet. A youngish side in the first half found themselves two goals down by the interval, but a more experienced side in the second half managed to pull a goal back through Emile Sinclair. A copy of the two page programme was made available for all Macclesfield fans by way of a download.

Back on home soil there followed two away matches against non-League opposition. This was Leek Town's first pre-season friendly match and their

manager was still completing the building of his team. Even the Leek directors were asking each other who the triallists were. They proved no opposition to a free-flowing Macclesfield side who won 7-1 with Emile Sinclair scoring a hat-trick. More goals came at Newcastle Town where Macclesfield won 5-0, with goals from Barnett, Daniel, Mukendi and two from Hamshaw.

Manchester City sent their Elite side for the next match when 1405 supporters saw the Silkmen deservedly win 2 -1 with goals from Tyrone Barnett and Nat Brown.

A visit to old rivals Altrincham saw the new strike force of Barnett and Sinclair proving fruitful with a goal in each half, with the home side pulling a goal back late in the match. Second string goalkeeper, Jack Cudworth was signed from Rhyl after this match and Paul Morgan was re-appointed captain.

At Congleton, Greg Daniels gave Macclesfield a two-goal lead within minutes of the start, and with the Silkmen having the majority of the possession, Vinny Mukendi made it three before the interval. Adam Roberts made it four on 70 minutes when John Askey, manager in charge for the match, took the opportunity to introduce several of his youth team. For a small club, Congleton is well appointed with a newly extended and refurbished club house, two refreshment outlets, a directors/sponsors room and a separate club shop.

The final match saw Welsh Club Rhyl visiting the Moss Rose and provided the Silkmen with a good test, however, following a run down the wing and a cross by Carl Tremarco, Paul Bolland's shot was deflected by a Rhyl defender into the goal for the only strike of the match, to give the Silkmen a 1-0 victory and complete a good pre-season where the side had only lost one match. However, this success had to be tempered considering the side had not been tested against any Football League opposition. Following this match a MAST (Medical & Surgical Trust) appeal event was held on the McAlpine stand side of the ground with several stalls and events including Human Table Football. Canalside Community Radio were present and provided the Public Address for the events.

Mr Chairman concentrating hard playing Human Table Football at the MAST Appeal Event



SEASON REVIEW

August

How appropriate that the first league match of the season should have been against old rivals Stevenage (formerly Stevenage Borough) who had won promotion to the Football League. They were Vauxhall Conference Champions in 1995 but like us were denied promotion due to Football League ground requirements.

Macclesfield's team was Veiga, Brown, Tremarco, Brisley, Bolland, Hamshaw, Butcher, Reid, Wedgbury (Chalmers 80), Sinclair (Daniel 79), Barnett with unused subs, Cudworth, Beardsley, Bencherif, Thomas and Mukendi. Both Tyrone Barnett and Sam Wedgbury made their Football League debuts with Lewis Chalmers and Matty Hamshaw making their debut for the Silkmen.

Stevenage, on their home ground, never gave up the battle and took an early lead but five minutes later Nat Brown converted a Matt Hamshaw cross to equalise. In the second half Emile Sinclair used his pace to put the Silkmen ahead in the 53rd minute but Stevenage grabbed themselves a share of the points with a goal in the 89th minute.

Two defeats were to follow, the first at home to Shrewsbury Town who scored early and held on to their lead although Macclesfield's Hamza Bencherif almost secured a point in added time when his shot was cleared off the line. Macclesfield played with a 4-2-1-3 line-up. Accrington Stanley have become something of a bogey team, especially at the Fraser Eagle stadium, and the early season visit was no exception when they ran out 3-0 winners. This was certainly a match to forget with the Silkmen only mustering a single shot on target.

For the last league match of the month against Chesterfield a 4-2-3-1 starting line-up was used.

Barnett
Daniel Hamshaw Sinclair
Bolland Draper
Tremarco Brown Morgan Reid
Veiga

Tyrone Barnett scores his first Football League goal on his debut at Stevenage

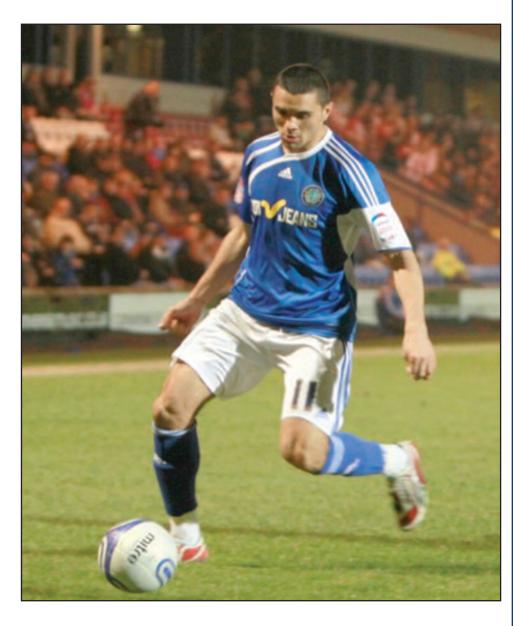


Chesterfield came to the Moss Rose unbeaten, so it was no surprise when they took the lead in the 66th minute, however, Macclesfield were not to be out done, and in the 74th minute overlapping left-back Carl Tremarco produced a pin-point cross for striker Emile Sinclair to clip home from eight yards and so earn a share of the points.

With only a tally of two points for the whole month the Silkmen languished in 22nd position leaving the supporters wondering if this was to be yet another season battling relegation.

September

September started off badly when Stockport were the visitors bringing with them 1685 supporters enhancing the gate to 3683. A 4-4-2 formation did nothing for the Silkmen which saw County score a goal on either side of the break to take all three points. A penalty miss by Emile Sinclair and a string of squandered chances did not help the situation. But there was better news at Wycombe Wanderers when two stunning early goals, a strike by Colin Daniel following a 30-yard free kick which hit the defensive wall, he then twice won the ball back before drilling home a low shot, and Tyrone Barnett's curled shot from 22 yards.



Midfielder Colin Daniel in action who scored a wellworked goal at Wycombe Wycombe pulled a goal back in the second half from a penalty but the Silkmen held out to record their first win of the season.

Port Vale brought 2363 supporters to the Moss Rose where the total gate was 3915 which turned out to be highest home gate of the season. With one upfront, a five-man midfield and four at the back Macclesfield matched the visitors until the 30th minute when Marc Richards gave the visitors the lead. Even the more attacking formation of 4-3-3 for the second half could not deflect the visitors who scored a further two goals to put the seal on a clinical display. Remaining in 22nd place in the early season table, there was some criticism from a section of the fans.

However, at Torquay Macclesfield silenced their critics, at least for the time being, when they secured a 3-1 victory with a 25-yard thunderbolt by Hamza Bencherif, a Ross Draper goal and a solo effort by Emile Sinclair. After the match manager Gary Simpson said "The players came in for a bit of stick for the way we have started the season, and so have I to be fair but today we punched above our weight. It has been a difficult start. We have played the top four teams and have played seven out of the current top eight clubs."

An entertaining midweek match at Crewe saw the Silkmen enjoying the better chances in the first half. Emile Sinclair gave them the lead in the second half but Crewe stuck to their task and seven minutes after his introduction, with three minutes to play, Crewe's Ajay Leitch-Smith equalised for the Railwaymen. Macclesfield could consider themselves unlucky when they had the goal in the net only for it to be disallowed for a tug in the box. Emile's goal was the 700th league goal scored since promotion to the Football League and Paul Morgan made his 350th career appearance. With seven points gained in the month the Silkmen moved up to 19th position.

October

The first home win of the campaign came against a lack-lustre Northampton Town with goals from Hamza Bencherif and Nat Brown. Filming took place at the Moss Rose for the children's BBC Newsround programme which was broadcast on the following Tuesday.

Macclesfield's bad luck continued at Sincil Bank where Lincoln city ran out 2-1 winners at a time when they were in between managers, although Steve Tilson was looking on and was appointed manager only days later. What looked like a good claim for a penalty was turned down and the lack of success continued, the last, and only time a victory has been recorded there was on 20 February 2001 when John Askey scored a late winning goal.

By now injuries were beginning to take their toll, although Bencherif, Tremarco and Mukendi were all playing through their injuries. Emile Sinclair had pulled a hamstring at Lincoln, Shaun Brisley was recovering from a hip operation, Richard Butcher had incurred medial ligament damage, Paul Morgan was out of contention for much of October and Ricky Sappleton continued his long road to recovery. To ease the defensive position Everton defender Aristote Nsiala (known as Toto) was signed on loan and made his Football League debut at Lincoln.

The proverbial match of two halves was played out against Oxford United at the Moss Rose. Oxford cruised into a 2-0 first half lead which could have been a lot more as they squandered chances, but the second half belong to Macclesfield



Man of the Match Paul Bolland celebrates one of his two match-winning goals against Oxford with Lewis Chalmers

and Man of the Match Paul Bolland. However, Vinny Mukendi playing up front on his own, as Barnett and Sinclair were injured, played his part. In the 51st minute Vinny Mukendi's 25-yard bullet shot was parried into the path of midfield Paul Bolland who fired home from 12 yards. 16 minutes later, the battling Ross Draper set up playmaker Matty Hamshaw who scored his first goal for the club from 10 yards. But it was to be the Mukendi/Bolland partnership which won the match for Macclesfield, when Mukendi pulled the ball back from the by-line for the unmarked Bolland to score his second, and the winner for Macclesfield. In this match Nat Brown made his 250th Career League appearance.

The shine was taken off this victory when it was followed by a 1-0 defeat at Barnet leaving manager Gary Simpson bemoaning the fact that the team were starting matches far too slowly. But the Silkmen returned to winning ways when they entertained Burton Albion in an exciting match from start to finish. Hamza Bencherif scored both the Macclesfield goals although Burton pulled a goal back and strove hard to find an equaliser with the Silkmen clearing off the line on more than one occasion in the dying moments.

Having doubled their tally of points to 18, it looked as though the Silkmen's season was taking off especially as they were favourably placed in 12th position.

November

The first match in November saw dependable and capable captain Paul Morgan return to the side. However, it was disappointing that having taken the lead in the 84th minute against Rotherham at the Don Valley Stadium that the Silkmen surrendered the lead only a minute later to take only a share of the points.

The kick-off for the next home match was delayed by 15 minutes to give fans more time to reach the ground after London Road had been closed following an accident. Aldershot were the visitors, a team full of pace and with their goalkeeper in fine form, the Silkmen did well to win with a goal in each half from Colin Daniel and Tyrone Barnett. Emile Sinclair returned from injury on the substitutes' bench and Lewis Chalmers again played just in front of the back four in the following formation

> Barnett Daniel Bencherif Bolland Hamshaw Chalmers Tremarco Morgan Brown Nsiala Veiga

Everyone entering the ground for this match was given a free ticket to give to anyone they so wished for the forthcoming match against Cheltenham to encourage a better attendance at the mid-week match.

What was described as 'a tight affair' at Bradford was settled by a single goal scored by Macclesfield's Ross Draper. The defeat left Bradford manager Peter Taylor asking for patience from the frustrated Valley supporters after a third straight home defeat. Taylor was to walk away from Bradford later in the season. But Macclesfield were on the up being unbeaten in the last six matches, and had reached eighth position in the League Table on goal difference, although manager Gary Simpson was not getting carried away and emphasised that they were only half way to the 50-point mark he felt was required to stay in the league. A view he continued to express throughout the remainder of the season.

Top of League Two Table

	Played	Points	GD
Chesterfield	17	35	16
Port Vale	17	33	12
Bury	17	31	10
Datharham	17	20	0

Bury Rotherham 30 8 17 Shrewsbury 17 29 9 28 8 Wycombe 17 17 25 7 **Torquay** Macclesfield 25 - 1 17

Cheltenham Town brought an end to the Silkmen's good run when they took all three points with two first half goals. There appeared to be yet another change in the starting formation, on this occasion 3-2-3-2, leaving the three centre-backs looking unsure of their responsibilities. The BOGOF ticket offer worked well with the second highest number of home supporters in the ground for the season. The team completed the month in ninth position.

At the end of the month it was announced that defender Carl Tremarco would be out of action for several months as he had undergone the same hip surgery which fellow defender Shaun Brisley was currently recovering from.

December

The weather caused havoc with the Football programme during the month with only two matches played. Snow, freezing conditions and unbelievably cold weather led to postponements over the country as a whole. The inclement weather could not have come at a worse time for the in-form Silkmen who in the previous season had found it difficult to regain momentum after a lay-off due to adverse weather conditions.

The first scheduled match at Southend was called off because Roots Hall was covered in 8/10 inches of snow. In any case because of heavy snow falls in the north it would have been difficult if not impossible for the players to reach Roots Hall.

Prior to the match on 11 December at the Moss Rose, the ground had been cleared of snow by the ground staff, the club's Community Trust Staff, On the Ball project job seekers (a scheme being run at the club as part of its involvement in the community), and other volunteers. By the day of the match a thaw had set in rising the temperature above freezing point. Macclesfield started well Hamza Bencherif scoring in the seventh minute but the visitors, Gillingham, equalised only two minutes later and by the 33rd minute they were leading 4-1 giving the Silkmen little hope of retrieving anything from the match. Tyrone Barnett scored a consolation goal converting a Matty Hamshaw corner with a bullet header.

The next match scheduled for 18 December at Hereford was called off the previous day due to a frozen pitch. With little chance of temperatures increasing sufficiently by Sunday 26 December to thaw out the pitch, the home match against Morecambe was called off on Thursday 23 December, an unprecedented early decision but illustrates how severe the weather conditions were. In an interview on the official website, chairman Mike Rance emphasised that it was not only the financial impact of the club when a match is postponed (a reduction of £10,000 by playing re-arranged matches on a Tuesday night rather than on a Saturday afternoon) but the impact on the backroom staff who work hard to prepare for a match including the catering staff and the ground staff.

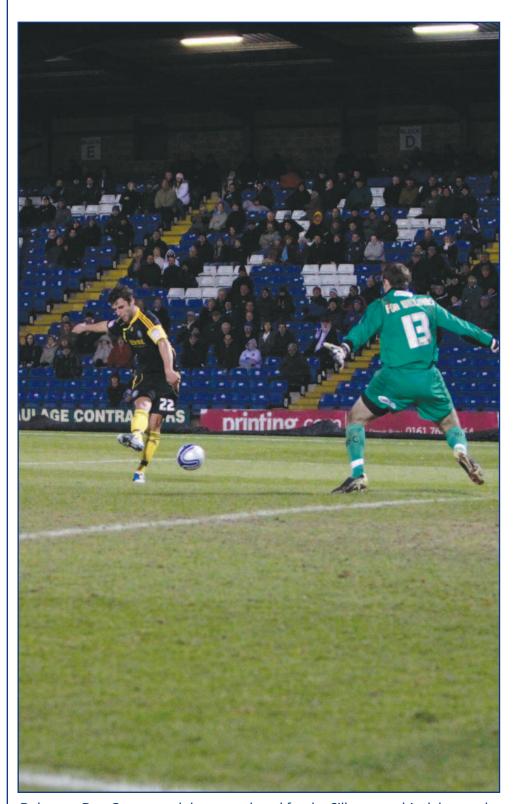
On Boxing Day the temperatures were well below freezing but, ironically, the day after they were above freezing with the snow thawing allowing the league match at Oxford on Tuesday 29 December to go ahead. Although the Silkmen played some good football Oxford scored two goals against the run of play, but Ricky Sappleton scored a consolation goal. Having lost both matches played in December, the Silkmen remained on 25 points and dropped to 12th position.

At the end of the month to bolster the back line, right-back Dan Gray was signed on loan from Chesterfield initially for a month which was later extended to the end of the season

January

New Year's Day saw the Silkmen at Bury where Richard Butcher gave Macclesfield the lead after 29 minutes when he scored a superb goal volleying home Dan Gray's long throw. This was Richard's second goal against Bury, having scored on his debut for the Silkmen in February 2010 whilst on loan from Lincoln City. Richard had impressed in the midfield during his loan spell such that on his release from the Imps he was snatched up by Gary Simpson. Unfortunately, supporters had seen little of him during the current season as he was side-lined after the first three matches having suffered medial ligament damage to one knee, and later incurred the same injury to his other knee only recovering sufficiently to start playing again in December 2010.

Defender Dan Gray scoring on his debut at Bury



Debutant Dan Gray scored the second goal for the Silkmen on his debut, at the time the Silkmen were flying high and well on the way to victory. But two late goals within six minutes of each other meant that the Silkmen had to settle for a share of the points at Gigg Lane. With this result the side slipped a further two places down the league to 14th position.

Macclesfield slipped another two places to 16th against high flying Rotherham United at the Moss Rose. The visitors scored a goal in each half and despite packing the penalty area with ten players, Macclesfield could not stop the Millers scoring their second goal from a corner. In the first half there was disappointment for the home side when the referee turned aside what looked to be a good shout for a penalty.

With FA Cup fixtures taking precedence over League fixtures, the home match against Lincoln City on 8 January was postponed so that Lincoln and Hereford could play their second round replay which had been previously postponed because of the inclement weather. Yet another hit to the finances of the Club and a further fall down the table to 18th position having been in 10th position only a month earlier.

Then came a shock for the second consecutive season, when it was announced that midfielder Richard Butcher had died in his sleep during the night of 9/10 January at the age of 29. 'Butch' was recognised by fans and fellow players as a model professional, a well-liked person, and a role model for younger players. He was an extremely capable central midfielder who scored some spectacular goals. A book of condolence was opened in the McIlroy Suite, just as it had been for manager Keith Alexander. A print out from the on-line book of condolence was placed on the table. Floral tributes including one in the shape of a football, his shirts, a copy of a match day programme opened at the article about Richard and cards altogether provided memories of Richard. Tributes were received from far and wide, the number soon reaching 500 in the Book of Condolence alone.

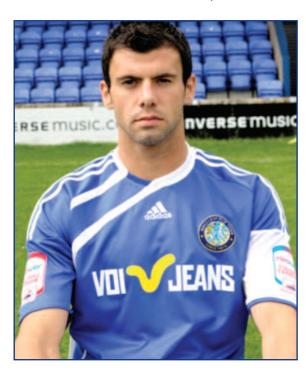
Richard made a total of 337 professional appearances scoring 45 goals at Lincoln City (three spells), Oldham Athletic, Peterborough United and Notts County before signing for Macclesfield. Previously he had played at non-league level for Kettering.

His death at such a young age prompts the question 'Why?'

Why should such a likeable young person and capable footballer have to die so young?

Why should Richard's wife of only eight months and his family have to lose his positive presence?

Why should everyone at Macclesfield Town Football Club suffer this loss, especially everyone connected with the playing side, especially as Richard's passing was the second such loss in consecutive years?



How wonderful it is that Richard's parents and his cousin found the resources to write their own poignant poems as their personal tributes to Richard.

If tears could build a stairway and memories make a lane, we'd walk the path to Heaven and bring him back again. A heart of gold Stopped beating, two shining eyes at rest, God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best. Your family chain is broken and nothing seems the same but as God calls us one by one the chain will link again. Death leaves a heartache No one can heal, Love leaves a memory no one can ever steel. We will miss you so much Richard. We will never get over losing you.

Love you forever, Love *Mum and Dad. xxxx*

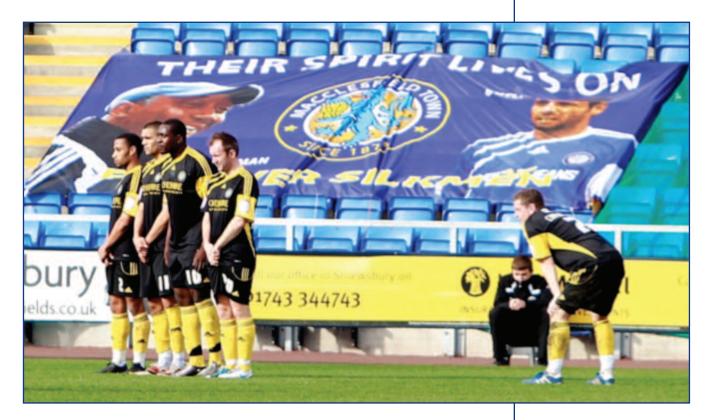
Now God wanted a football match And to play it up in heaven But first he needed players And select his first eleven George Best, big Brian Labone The legend Dixie Dean Alan Ball and Bobby Moore All made it to the team. He needed one more player Someone who would be guick From up above he looked down And saw Richard there in his kit. So Richard was taken up above God took him by the hand To play the game he loved so much Where sponsorship is banned There is no cheating either as God is the referee There are no mega wages And the transfers they are free. The games are live on telly You don't have to subscribe The players all stay on their feet 'Cos no one takes a dive. So Richard plays now so happily To the angels in the crowd And every time he hits the net They roar his name so loud. Have fun my little blue boy You're safe and in God's care 'Till it's time for me to get my boots And join you up there.



Rob Butcher

A Memorial Fund was set up with all donations to be used for his chosen causes and those of his family which will include a permanent memorial for both Richard and Keith Alexander (his former manager at Lincoln City, Peterborough United and Macclesfield Town) at the two grounds which were particularly poignant within their careers – Lincoln City's Sincil Bank Stadium and Macclesfield's Moss Rose Stadium.

The Silkmen squad took part in the annual Lincoln 10K run in aid of the Memorial Fund. Amongst the 500 runners were members of Richard's family, and manager Gary Simpson, players Simon Yeo, Lewis Chalmers and Paul Morgan. A bucket collection was taken at the Moss Rose when Lincoln City were the visitors which raised around £600. And former Silkmen Neil Mackenzie, and one time team mate of Richard, planned, in memory of Richard and another former playing colleague, to run a marathon to raise money for the charity CRY, Cardiac Risk in the Young, whose publicity emphasises the awful statistic that around 12 apparently young and healthy people die every week with this condition, whether it is in their sleep or during activity.



The Supporters' Trust Flag

With donations from supporters and funds from the Supporters' Trust, a huge flag was purchased with the photographs of both Keith Alexander and Richard Butcher, emblazoned with 'Their Spirit lives on' which is displayed at both home and away matches.

At a later date the club announced that Shirt number 21 would be retired and never to be worn by another Macclesfield Town player as a mark of respect to Richard. Richard had actually requested that he be allocated squad number 21.

But after Richard's passing there remained the question as to whether the match due to be played the following Saturday should take place. On the death of Keith Alexander the players agreed to play the next Saturday at Hereford United and they played for Keith. This time the circumstances were completely different. It was the second time within twelve months that the management and players had to deal with these circumstances but, more to the point, they had on this occasion lost one of their colleagues and someone with whom some had played alongside over the years. The impact on manager Gary Simpson was significant in that he had lost a friend in Keith Alexander and now he had lost his 'best' player. The decision was taken that the match at Burton Albion on 15 January should be postponed as the players felt that they could not play this match.

Good news came before the next match when French defender Tony Diagne signed from Parisian side FC Municipal d'Aubervilliers. Tony had played alongside Hamza Bencherif and Emile Sinclair for the second string side when they were all at Nottingham Forest. Captain Paul Morgan extended his contract to the summer of 2012 and Simon Yeo re-signed to assist the manager and backroom staff at this difficult time with his lively personality. When Simon left the Moss Rose it was his intention to train as a security guard in Iraq, however, he (or was it his wife) changed his mind and continued to play for Droylsden, then Harrogate Town and lastly New Mills. He combines his duties at the club with his job as a baggage handler at Manchester Airport.

In some ways it was appropriate that the first competitive match after Richard's passing should be at the Moss Rose. Barnet were the visitors. In the McIlroy Suite before the match Grace was said, there was an address by Andy Scott, the Vice Chairman, and a prayer was said by the Club Chaplain, Rev Howard Stringer.

On a cool, dry and overcast afternoon, before the match both teams lined up around the centre circle as did the match officials. Manager Gary Simpson wore a top emblazoned with the number 21 as his tribute to Richard. Wreaths were laid by representatives of all Richard's previous clubs, including Oldham by former Silkman Tony Philliskirk, Simon Yeo for Lincoln City and Carl Tremarco laid a wreath 'BUTCH' for Macclesfield Town. Then white doves were released, a single one to represent Richard's spirit and then 30 more as 22 January would have been Richard's 30th birthday. The formalities concluded with a minute's applause in recognition of Richard's contribution to football. Jimmy Wagg presented his Saturday afternoon programme for BBC Radio Manchester direct from the Moss Rose.

On this emotionally charged afternoon Macclesfield came out of the blocks the faster and took the game to Barnet but the visitors took the lead in the second half when they were awarded a penalty. However, in the run-up to the penalty incident it looked as though the ball had gone out of play but this was not the interpretation of the officials. However, in the 70th minute in a crowded area Colin Daniel's shot was deflected and looped over the Barnet'keeper to level the score. In the closing seconds of the match, under pressure Emile Sinclair's shot

went wide and the Silkmen had settle for a share of the points At Southend the players were really not in the mood and never having won a

Carl Tremarco lays the wreath on behalf of **Macclesfield Town** Football Club during the ceremony prior to the match against Barnet



change with the home side 4-1 winners. This result left the side in 19th position with 27 points, only two points above the relegation zone.

There was a late postponement of the match at Morecambe due to frozen pitch bringing an end to a difficult month.

February

In the next match at the Moss Rose, Macclesfield looked out for the count when Bury took a three-goal lead in 36 minutes, but goals from Draper and Barnett gave the Silkmen hope at half time. In the second half Macclesfield tried their best, even forcing the Bury 'keeper to make a triple save, but it was the fast flowing Bury side who scored a late goal to win the encounter 4-2.

The next day about 700 people including family members, friends and fans of his former clubs attended a Thanksgiving Service for Richard Butcher at Lincoln's Sincil Bank Stadium. A private funeral was later held at Lincoln Crematorium.

Manager Gary Simpson, Captain Paul Morgan and Simon Yeo undertook pall bearing duties. Former team mates Alan Marriot, Ben Futcher and Paul Morgan all paid their own tributes and clips played included one from former manager and mentor the late Keith Alexander. Richard had been one of the last players to see Keith Alexander after Keith's final match against Notts County. Singer Vie Watson, who sang at Richard's wedding, sang two songs, one of which was a tribute from his wife Sarah.

Chaplain of Lincoln City Football Club Rev Canon Andrew Vaughan said 'We are remembering obviously a young man, but somebody in footballing terms who was a dedicated professional. He had that unique empathy with the fans. I think he understood what Saturday meant to those who were in the crowds and he always had time for them. He would always speak to them.'

Gary Simpson said 'It was a very good sent-off for a true professional and the quality of his life and the contribution to us all was well represented. In the next few days the lads will be champing at the bit to get onto the pitch and get at Bradford [at the Moss Rose] and get that win that we need and dedicate it to Butch.' But that wish was not to be granted, as a waterlogged pitch caused the postponement of the match.

At Hereford the score was level at 1-1 at half time. Hereford were reduced to ten men but still managed to take the lead. With less than 30 seconds of regular time to play Tyrone Barnet headed home for the Silkmen to earn a 2-2 draw. Another draw ensued at Aldershot but this time it was 0-0 and Emile Sinclair had a shot which was labelled 'the miss of the season'.

Struggling Stockport took the lead at Edgeley Park but Izak Reid equalised before half time to score his first goal since his goal at Morecambe on Boxing Day in 2008. Goals from Tyrone Barnett, Hamza Bencherif and an own goal gave the Silkmen a much needed 4-1 win, their first victory since November.

Another victory came, this time 2-0 when Morecambe were Tuesday night visitors to the Moss Rose. An initiative by the club to attract more support to a mid-week match saw admission prices at 1997 levels. £8 for standing and £9 for seats with the McIlroy Suite open to all before the match.

A single first half goal gave Wycombe Wanderers victory at the Moss Rose but the Silkmen could consider themselves unlucky when they hit the woodwork more than once. Overall they faced a very physical Chairboy's side, however, from the Silkmen's perspective, it seemed that rooky referee Mr Adcock did not give their players sufficient protection. Frustration overflowed when Ricky Sappleton completely mistimed his kick of the ball and kicked the shin of a Wycombe player. Surrounded by three Wycombe players, Ricky's team mates came to his 'rescue' but a 20-man brawl ensued. Only the injured Wycombe player and the Macclesfield 'keeper Jose Veiga, did not become involved. The referee stood away from the incident with a red card in his hand continually blowing his whistle. After consultation with his assistant, Sappleton and Sinclair for Macclesfield and Winfield for Wycombe were dismissed. What a match for manager Gary Simpson to notch up his 50th match as a caretaker manager/manager, but the team had slipped to 21st position with all the teams around them earning victories.

Later it was announced that the Directors, Management and players decided that the incident was a group disciplinary matter and that every player involved in the match together with the manager and assistant manager would be fined a percentage. The seriousness of the position was recognised as the incident had received TV coverage and there were a number of children present. The FA fined both clubs £9,000, only £1,000 less than the maximum fine.

March

By now all the postponed league matches had been allocated dates and having played seven matches in February the team were faced with a programme of eight matches in March and a further seven matches in April.

A sluggish Macclesfield lost 2-1 at Port Vale, but a much more determined display at the Moss Rose saw Macclesfield beat Crewe Alexandra 1-0 courtesy of a great solo goal by Ross Draper and several vital saves by goalkeeper Jose Veiga. In this match Nat Brown made his 300th career appearance and Paul Morgan his 350th career appearance. Northampton Town were beaten by a single Colin Daniel goal at Sixfields to give the Silkmen their first double of the season and their first win at Northampton since March 1999.

Lincoln City's Stephen Hunt gave them a first half lead at the Moss Rose with a stunning goal. The second half saw Lincoln's Ben Hutchinson dismissed for a second bookable offence but even though Macclesfield were camped in the Lincoln half they could not convert their chances. All looked to be lost until the second minute of five added minutes when Dan Grays's long throw-in to the penalty area was only cleared as far as Sam Wedgbury who drilled the ball home from 22 yards through a crowd of players, to score his first senior goal to earn a share of the points for the Silkmen.

A disappointing result came against visitors Torquay when goals from Barnett, Daniel and Bencherif gave the Silkmen a 3-1 lead twelve minutes into the second half. The visitors were given a lifeline when the ball appeared to hit the hand of Colin Daniel in the penalty area. Having converted the spot-kick they went on to equalise in the 92nd minute.

Macclesfield's first visit to Morecambe's new Globe Area stadium was successful winning 2-1, securing their second double of the season. Unfortunately, Paul Morgan was injured in this match which resulted in him missing the remainder



Goalkeeper Jose Veiga who made vital saves in the home match against Crewe Alexandra, but still finished on the losing side

of the season, but with 46 points and 16th position there was a feeling of security in the league. Against Stevenage, at the Moss Rose the Silkmen failed to live up to their recent performances when Stevenage went two goals up in the first half and basically sealed victory with a third goal just after the restart and went on to score a fourth without any reply from Macclesfield. The kick-off for this match had been brought forward to 13.00 to avoid a clash with the England International match which kicked off at 15.00.

With an England international match taking place on Tuesday 29 March the rearranged match at Burton Albion was played the following evening. Macclesfield started this match well with Emile Sinclair scoring after 22 seconds when he headed home from six yards to score the club's fastest Football League goal. Just before half time the hosts equalised, but Sinclair scored his second goal in the 81st minute to give the Silkmen a 2-1 lead. Playing well and on a hat-trick Sinclair was substituted a minute later with Macclesfield going on to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory when they conceded two late goals in the 86th and 89th minutes, the second of which was a generous penalty decision.



Striker Emile Sinclair scoring Macclesfield's fastest ever (at the time) league goal at Burton Albion

A haul of 11 points in the month placed the Silkmen in 16th position but having lost the final two matches of the month, the good feeling after the Morecambe victory was somewhat diluted.

April

Unfortunately the month of April did not start well when play-off place challengers Shrewsbury Town ran out 4-1 winners at their Greenhous Meadow Stadium. The re-arranged match from February saw struggling Bradford City take all three points with a single first half goal at the Moss Rose. Macclesfield slipped down the table to 18th position after their fourth consecutive defeat leaving everyone looking over their shoulders. However, the Silkmen considered themselves unlucky when Emile Sinclair had a 'goal' disallowed for off-side which according to Gary Simpson's viewing of the match DVD showed that Sinclair was on-side.

Another side vying for a play-off position was Accrington Stanley who visited the Moss Rose on a Friday evening, the match having been brought forward as an experiment to attract more home support. Certainly there were more home supporters than seen at Tuesday evening matches and, for once, the weather was favourable being a mild evening. The doors of both the McIlroy Suite and Keith's Bar were opened at 17.30 with a 'Happy Hour' in place until 18.30.

Changes were made to the starting line-up with Carl Tremarco and Izak Reid coming in for Tony Diagne and Daniel Gray together with Lewis Chalmers (playing just in front of the back four) for Emile Sinclair. These changes seemed to provide a more solid defence overall. The team played well and matched the opposition. Hamza Bencherif gave the Silkmen a first half lead which they held until the 73rd minute when Andrew Proctor hit an unstoppable ball past Veiga to equalise. Only six minutes later the visitors were awarded a penalty which they converted to take the lead for the first time in the match. Carl Tremarco was cautioned for the foul which led to the penalty decision. Whilst the players were

taking up their positions for the re-start, Carl Tremarco vented his feelings about the penalty decision at the assistant referee who drew the referee's attention to the fact, which resulted in Carl being dismissed for a second caution. Despite being down to 10 men Macclesfield continued to attack and with the introduction of Emile Sinclair and Vinny Mukendi from the substitutes' bench the Silkmen moved to a three-man striking force. Just when it looked as though a fifth consecutive defeat was on the cards, with three of the four minutes of added time having passed, up popped Mukendi in the six yard box to tuck the ball away to earn a share of the points.

Top-of-the-table Chesterfield were the next opponents at their new B2NET stadium. A penalty on the stroke of half time gave Macclesfield the lead. The Silkmen battled hard again but two strikes by the Champions to be gave them another three points.

But the end of the month proved a very fruitful time. Firstly, at Cheltenham, in a scappy game played on a terrible surface, where a run down the right wing by Colin Daniel who fed the ball to Matty Hamshaw, whose pin-point cross saw Tyrone Barnett rise above everyone in the penalty area to head home what turned out to be the winning goal. The three points gave manager Gary Simpson the 50 points which had been his initial target all season.

Secondly, in a dull-affair, Southend United were held to a goalless draw at the Moss Rose when Emile Sinclair was unlucky not to score when his shot hit the crossbar. And thirdly, one of the best victories of the whole season came at Gillingham in front of a crowd of 6841 including 65 faithful Silkmen fans. Three goals up in 17 minutes, one from Ross Draper on two from on-fire Colin Daniel, almost settle the match but that was left to Emile Sinclair who scored in the 48th minute with the home side only able to muster two goals. The good run at the end of the month saw the Silkmen comfortably in 15th position with 54 points.

May

With League football secure for another season, it was nice to be able relax for the final match of the season when Hereford were the visitors. Their supporters were celebrating the end of the season with several of them in fancy dress but they did let themselves down when they let off a smoke bomb. The visitors were quicker out of the blocks taking a deserved lead in the 29th minute. In the second half Matty Hamshaw was brought down in the box by Hereford captain Michael Townsend who was dismissed as the last defender. Having wrestled the ball from his fellow players, Lewis Chalmers, who had become the Silkmen's penalty taker, converted the kick although the 'keeper had dived the right way. This was the Silkmen's 750th Football League goal. Throughout the match the Hereford keeper had been in fine form and the Bulls can thank him for their share the points. Shaun Brisley was the Silkmen captain for the day in celebration of his 21st birthday the day before the match. Elliot Hewitt of the youth team, made the starting line-up playing as an attacking right-back. What an impression he made and it was pleasing to see that he was awarded his first professional contract shortly after. Elliot became Macclesfield Town's youngest player to make a Football League appearance at 16 years and 342 days.

Completing the season in 15th position with 55 points (30 of which were earned on the road), this was the club's best season since reaching the Play-offs in the 2004-05 season, an excellent achievement considering the significant impact on



Elliot Hewitt who made his senior debut against Hereford United in the last match of the season

the management and players with the loss of Richard Butcher.

Having established himself in the side in his first season as a Football League player, as season top-scorer with 13 goals and often playing as a lone striker, the supporters voted Tyrone Barnett as their Player of the Year. The ever hard-working Paul Bolland, whose two goals against Oxford United at the Moss Rose was the highlight of his season, was voted Player of the Year by his fellow players.

CUP COMPETITIONS

For the second consecutive season (and the third time in total) the Silkmen were drawn against Leicester City in the first round of the **Carling League Cup**, on this occasion at the Walker's Stadium. The Championship side were victorious again but the Silkmen came out of this match with flying colours. Level 1-1 at half time, the Silkmen's goal was a conversion of a Matty Hamshaw corner by Nat Brown, but two early second half goals gave the hosts the advantage. Ten minutes after his introduction from the substitutes' bench, Vinny Mukendi converted a Shaun Brisley cross to cut the deficit and give Silkmen hope. Unfortunately, Leicester scored their fourth goal only six minutes later but Macclesfield never gave up with Colin Daniel scoring in the 83rd minute to make the score 4-3 to the hosts. In this match Matty Hamshaw made his 300th career appearance.

Morecambe were the opponents at the Moss Rose for the first round of the **Johnstone's Paint Trophy**. A single goal by striker Vinny Mukendi was sufficient for Macclesfield to progress to the second round. Crewe Alexandra were the opponents for the second round, again at the Moss Rose, having drawn a league match with them only seven days before. The first half can be summed up as three own goals and a penalty. Colin Daniel, playing out of position at left-back scored an own goal in the 4th minute. In the 13th minute Crewe repaid the compliment when Patrick Ada kneed the ball into his own net. A challenge just inside the box by Nat Brown on Crewe's Byron Moore, saw the former Silkmen Lee Bell convert the resultant penalty to give the visitors a 2-1 lead. Only a minute later Patrick Ada scored his second own goal of the evening from close range. The score remained 2-2 at the interval.

In the second half Crewe were the better side passing the ball well, retaining possession and placed nine men behind the ball when defending, although Emile

Vinny Mukendi scoring at Leicester City in the Carling Cup



Sinclair caused them problems with his speedy runs. Their two second half goals gave Crewe a 4-2 victory.

The first round of the **FA Cup** saw Southend travel to the Moss Rose for an exciting match. The Silkmen's starting line-up was

Barnett Daniel
Bencherif Draper Bolland
Chalmers
Tremarco Brown Morgan Nsiala
Veiga

On a cool and overcast November day, Colin Daniel opened the scoring for the Silkmen in the eighth minute, following a Lewis Chalmers long throw which was flicked on by Tyrone Barnett. A penalty in the 33rd minute saw the visitors equalise. At the start of the second half Macclesfield were the fastest out of the starting blocks, taking the lead only two minutes after the re-start when Nat Brown's diving headed converted a well taken free-kick by Lewis Chalmers. Nat Brown had to be substituted as he was still suffering from a knock received in the first half, with striker Vinny Mukendi replacing him from the substitutes' bench, resulting in goal scorer Daniel falling back into midfield and attacking midfielder Hamza Bencherif moving to centre back to give the following formation

Mukendi Barnett Daniel Draper Chalmers Bolland Tremarco Bencherif Morgan Nsiala Veiga

Macclesfield's attacking edge was blunted, Southend took advantage and moved from one end of the pitch to the other equalising in the 76th minute to force a replay.

Having never won a match at Roots Hall, the prospect of progress to the second round did not look good. Even the referee had his say before the match not allowing the Silkmen to play in their usual black away strip as he felt that it clashed too much with Southend's blue strip. Macclesfield played in white shirts with no names on the back.

Just 36 supporters made their way to Southend but they were rewarded with an exciting match. Goalless at half time, Emile Sinclair gave Macclesfield the lead following one of his trade mark runs. With time running out it looked as though the Silkmen had won the tie, but three minutes from normal time Josh Simpson equalised for Southend. In extra time, Aristote Nsiala, on loan from Everton, converted a cross with a volley in the 99th minute to score his first senior goal. Six minutes later the Silkmen's hopes were dashed again when Barry Corr equalised for Southend. So with the score 2-2 after 120 minutes the tie went to penalties. Chalmers converted his penalty as did German for Southend. Barnett converted his but goal scorer Corr missed his to give the Silkmen a 2-1 lead. Bencherif and Reid converted their penalties as did the Southend players. With the score 4-3 to the Silkmen, Nat Brown stepped up and the Southend 'keeper thought he had saved the shot but just as he was celebrating the ball spun over the line to give the Silkmen victory 5-3 on penalties.



The Silkmen were 'rewarded' with a second round tie at Huddersfield Town. On an extremely bitterly cold day the Silkmen were hit for six, the home side scoring three goals in each half without any reply from Macclesfield. Without a shadow of doubt the Huddersfield players were out to prove a point, as they had seen their coach leave the club the day before the match and had held clear-the-air talks with their chairman. Nevertheless this was a disappointing end to the Silkmen's involvement in Cup competitions for the 2010-2011 season.

Nat Brown scores the winning penalty at Southend United

South Macclesfield Development

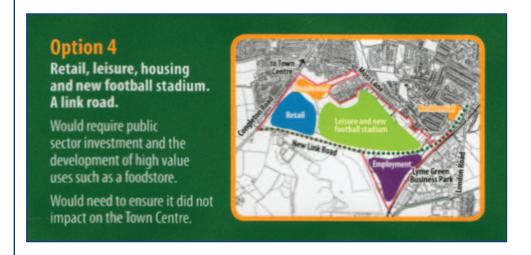
In Chapter 13 a summary of the club's vision for a new stadium was set out. In the summer of 2010 East Cheshire Council held two public consultations relating to the development of the town centre and the South Macclesfield Development Area. The first consultation was of a general nature and took place on 11 and 12 June in the Grosvenor Centre and in the McIlroy Suite at the Moss Rose on 14 June.

A second public consultation took into account the comments made by the 700 people who responded by way of a questionnaire to the first consultation process. These consultations took place in the Grosvenor Centre on 23 and 24 July and at the Moss Rose on 26 July.

As far as the South Macclesfield development Area was concerned, most people in the first consultation were content to see the area developed in some form. The second consultation provided five options

- Option 1 Employment, housing and retailing. A new link road [between Congleton Road and London Road].
- Option 2 Council Depot including recycling with some housing. No link road.
- Option 3 Housing and light industry. No link road.
- · Option 4 Retail, Leisure, Housing and a new football stadium. A link road
- Option 5 Residential development. A link road.

In September it was announced that Option 4 had been supported by 65% of respondents.



But Chairman Mike Rance is on record as saying that the announcement was just the beginning not the end. In addition, following the results of the consultations, the Local Authority required a period of time to incorporate the findings in the overall plan for both the Town Centre and the South Macclesfield Development Area, although they have always maintained that the development of the SMDA must not impact on the re-development of the town centre.



Macclesfield Town Football Club Squad 2010-2011



Back Row

Nicky Reid (Physio), Carl Tremarco, Paul Morgan, Tyrone Barnett, Ricky Sappleton, Paul Bolland, Ross Draper, Sam Wedgbury, Paul Etchells (Kit man)

Middle Row

Jason Beardsley, Nat Brown, Shaun Brisley, Jose Veiga, Vinny Mukendi, Jack Cudworth, Hamza Bencherif, Colin Daniel, Emile Sinclair

Front Row

Glyn Chamberlain (Assistant Manager), Michael Thomas, Matt Lowe, Izak Reid, Gary Simpson (Manager), Richard Butcher, Matty Hamshaw, Lewis Chalmers, Paul Geaney (Masseur)