

**MACCLESFIELD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB  
TIME LINE**

<b>19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY</b>	
<b>1873</b>	*Football first played in Macclesfield on the formation of the 8 <sup>th</sup> Cheshire Rifle Volunteers team.
<b>1874</b>	*The year used as the anniversary of the formation of the football club. *Other than a mention in a book written by John Earles relating 50 years of football in Macclesfield (1875-1925), that Association Rules were adopted in 1874, there is no evidence of a team named 'Macclesfield' being formed at this time. He is very vague about the date of formation of the club, writing that the football team had been established over half a century ago. *The Macclesfield correspondent in the Staffordshire Sentinel newspaper wrote in 1888 that football was first played in Macclesfield in 1873 but that was <b>not</b> Macclesfield FC which was formed some years later. *Graham Phythian, in his book <i>Saga of the Silkmen</i> published in 2001, states in his very first sentence 'the beginnings of Macclesfield Town Football Club can be traced, at least <b>in part</b> , to the endeavours of a group of young men known as the 8 <sup>th</sup> Cheshire Rifle Volunteers.'
<b>1876</b>	*Formation of <b>Macclesfield Football Club</b> following the merger of 8 <sup>th</sup> Cheshire Rifle Volunteers and the Olympic Cricket Club. *First football match as Macclesfield FC played on 28 <sup>th</sup> October 1876 against Stoke who won 1-0.
<b>1878-79</b>	*Macclesfield United merged with Macclesfield Football Club
<b>1879-80</b>	*The first season that Macclesfield FC played all their matches with only 11 players on each side.
<b>1880-81</b>	*Winners of the Macclesfield Association Silver Medal Competition.
<b>1881-82</b>	*Winners of the Macclesfield Association Silver Medal Competition for a second time.
<b>1882</b>	* <b>18 November</b> – First entry into the FA Cup losing 3-4 to Lockwood Brothers.
<b>1886</b>	* <b>6 February</b> – Joint record win 15-0 at home to Chester St Mary's in the third round of the Cheshire Senior Cup.
<b>1887</b>	* <b>12 November</b> – Joint record win 15-0 at home to Barnton Rovers in the first round of the Cheshire Senior Cup.
<b>1890</b>	* <b>22 March</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup defeating Nantwich 4-1.
<b>1890-91</b>	*Became members of The Combination joining a competitive league for the first time. * <b>28 March 1891</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the second time defeating Crewe Hornets 1-0.
<b>1891</b>	* <b>12 September</b> - moved to the Moss Rose ground.
<b>1894</b>	* <b>21 April</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the third time defeating Chester 2-1.
<b>1895</b>	* <b>July</b> – First limited company formed in the name of Macclesfield Football and Athletic Company Limited.
<b>1896</b>	* <b>11 April</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the fourth time defeating Crewe Alexandra 2-0.
<b>1897</b>	*First Macclesfield Football Club folded at the end of the 1896-97 season.
<b>1897-98</b>	*Local amateur side Hallefield moved their fixtures to the Moss Rose competing in the Stockport and District League. *Hallefield were champions of the Stockport and District league without losing a match.

<b>1898-99</b>	*Hallefield became members of the North Staffordshire and District League.
<b>1899-1900</b>	*Played as Hallefield-Macclesfield in the North Staffordshire and District League.
<b>20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY</b>	
<b>1900-01</b>	*Having re-formed, Macclesfield Football Club became members of the Manchester League.
<b>1906</b>	* <b>6 October</b> - New grandstand costing £77 opened.
<b>1908-09</b>	*Champions of the Manchester League.
<b>1910-11</b>	* <b>8 April 1911</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the fifth time defeating Chester 1-0. *Champions of the Manchester League for a second time.
<b>1911-12</b>	*Fielded two senior teams, one in the Manchester League with the second in the Lancashire Combination 2 <sup>nd</sup> Division. *This was the last season Macclesfield played in the Manchester League.
<b>1912-13</b>	*Just one senior team fielded in the Lancashire Combination 2 <sup>nd</sup> Division
<b>1913-14</b>	*Completed the season as runners-up earning promotion to the 1 <sup>st</sup> Division
<b>1914-15</b>	*Last season of competitive football following a decision by the Football Association that it would no longer permit organised football competitions until after World War 1.
<b>1919-1920</b>	*Became inaugural members The Cheshire League. *Subsidiary Competition held which was the precursor to The Cheshire League Challenge Cup.
<b>1921</b>	*First official matchday programmes printed.
<b>1922</b>	* <b>June</b> – Supporters’ Club formed.
<b>1925</b>	* <i>1875-1925 Fifty Years of Football in Macclesfield</i> by John Earles published * <b>3 May</b> – Won Cheshire League Challenge Cup defeating Manchester North End 4-2 AET.
<b>1930</b>	* <b>12 April</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the sixth time defeating Nantwich 5-4.
<b>1931-32</b>	*Cheshire League Champions for the first time. *Winners of the Cheshire League Challenge Cup for the second time defeating Port Vale 1-0.
<b>1932-33</b>	*Cheshire League Champions for a second time.
<b>1933-34</b>	*Albert Valentine sets <b>all-time club record</b> scoring 82 goals in the season.
<b>1935</b>	* <b>13 April</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the seventh time defeating Crewe Alexandra 5-2.
<b>1936-37</b>	*James Stevenson – appointment of first ever manager.
<b>1937-38</b>	*Managerial responsibility for the team reverted to the Committee.
<b>1939-40</b>	*Members of the wartime Cheshire League Series West and then Series East for the second half of the season. *Won the Cheshire Senior Cup under the wartime competition. *With outstanding debts, withdrew from competitive football.
<b>1946-47</b>	*Debts having been cleared, re-joined the Cheshire League. *A new limited company formed – Macclesfield Town Football Club Limited *Team subsequently plays under the name <b>Macclesfield Town</b> . * <b>Summer 1946</b> -Jos Stevenson appointed Player/manager. * <b>January 1947</b> – William Edwards appointed manager.
<b>1948</b>	* <b>14 February</b> - Highest gate involving the Silkmen at the Moss Rose of 9003 against Winsford United in the second round of the Cheshire Senior Cup.

<b>1948 contd</b>	<p>Winsford running out 3-2 winners.</p> <p><b>*19 March</b> – Record attendance at the Moss Rose of 10041. Semi-final of the Cheshire Senior Cup Witton Albion v Northwich Victoria</p> <p><b>*30 April</b> – Winners of the Cheshire League Challenge Cup for the third time beating Altrincham 3-1.</p>
<b>1949</b>	<b>*May</b> – Bert Swindells appointed manager.
<b>1951</b>	<b>*21 April</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the eighth time defeating Northwich Victoria 3-2 AET.
<b>1951-52</b>	<p><b>*October 1951</b> – Jack Smith appointed player/manager.</p> <p><b>*26 April 1952</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the ninth time defeating Witton Albion 2-0.</p>
<b>1952-53</b>	*Cheshire League Champions for the third time.
<b>1953-54</b>	<b>*7 April 1954</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the tenth time defeating Winsford United 1-0.
<b>1954-55</b>	<p><b>*1 November 1954</b> – First occasion Macclesfield played a competitive match under floodlights in the Ashton Floodlight Competition held at Ashton's ground against Stalybridge Celtic, Macclesfield winning 2-0 in a fog affected match.</p> <p><b>*November 1954</b> – Bert Swindells appointed manager for a second time.</p>
<b>1958-59</b>	*Peter Robinson appointed player/manager.
<b>1959</b>	<b>*September</b> – no managerial appointment.
<b>1960</b>	<b>*23 April</b> – winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the 11 <sup>th</sup> time defeating Hyde United 2-1.
<b>1960-61</b>	<p>*Frank Bowyer appointed player/manager.</p> <p><b>*5 November 1960</b> - Reached the first round of the FA Cup for the first time since the introduction of Preliminary Rounds in 1888-89, losing 2-7 to Southport. First occasion Macclesfield Town FC appeared on the Football Pools.</p> <p>*Cheshire League Champions for the fourth time.</p> <p>*Sportsman of the Year Award (later re-named Player of the Year) introduced with winner gaining the Joe Webster Trophy and a medal presented by the Macclesfield Express. First winner was Frank Bowyer.</p>
<b>1963</b>	<b>*15 May</b> – Johnnie Mullington scored all eight goals in the 8-0 home defeat of Witton Albion setting the <b>all-time club record</b> for scoring the most goals in a single match.
<b>1963-64</b>	<p>*Albert Leake appointed player/manager.</p> <p><b>*18 April 1964</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the 12<sup>th</sup> time defeating Northwich Victoria 1-0.</p> <p>*Cheshire League Champions for the fifth time.</p>
<b>1965</b>	<b>*August</b> – completion of the installation of floodlights. First match under the lights played on 1 September against Northwich Victoria, Macclesfield winning 4-1. Malcolm Allison and Sir Stanley Matthews performed the official opening.
<b>1967</b>	<b>*1 May</b> – Winners Cheshire League Challenge Cup for the fourth time beating Runcorn 3-0 on aggregate.
<b>1967-68</b>	<p>*Keith Goalen appointed player/coach.</p> <p><b>*27 January 1968</b> – Reached the third round of the FA Cup for the first time losing 2-4 at Fulham. Keith Goalen received the <i>Evening Standard's</i> 'Footballer of the Month' award – the first non-league player to do so.</p> <p>*Cheshire League Champions for the sixth time.</p> <p>*Promoted to the Northern Premier League.</p>

<b>1968-69</b>	<p><b>*Summer 1968</b> – new main stand constructed at a cost of £14,000 on the London side of the ground.</p> <p>*Frank Beaumont appointed player/manager for the second time.</p> <p><b>*16 April 1969</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the 13<sup>th</sup> time defeating Northwich Victoria 3-1 on aggregate.</p> <p>*Champions of the Northern Premier League at the first attempt</p>
<b>1969-70</b> <b>1969-70</b>	<p>*Champions of the Northern Premier League for the second time.</p> <p>*Winners of the North West Floodlit League.</p>
<b>1970</b>	<b>*2 May</b> – first ever winners of the FA Trophy defeating Telford United 2-0 at Wembley.
<b>1971</b>	<b>*21 April</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the 14 <sup>th</sup> time defeating Northwich Victoria 2-1.
<b>1972</b>	<b>*April</b> – Billy Haydock appointed manager.
<b>1973</b>	<b>*11 May</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the 15 <sup>th</sup> time defeating Winsford United 2-1.
<b>1974</b>	<b>*January</b> – Eddie Brown appointed manager.
<b>1974-75</b>	<p><b>*24 August 1974</b> – first occasion of match sponsorship by local firm Messrs E. Scragg &amp; Sons Ltd.</p> <p><b>*2 September 1974</b> – John Collins appointed temporary manager.</p> <p><b>*14 September 1974</b> – Willie Stevenson appointed player/manager.</p> <p><b>*January 1975</b> – John Collins appointed player/manager.</p>
<b>1975-76</b>	<p><b>*January 1976</b> – Tony Coleman appointed caretaker manager.</p> <p><b>*February 1976</b> – John Barnes appointed manager.</p>
<b>1976-77</b>	<p><b>*October 1976</b> – Brian Taylor appointed manager.</p> <p><b>*November 1976</b> - Dave Connor appointed manager.</p>
<b>1977-78</b>	<p><b>*February</b> – Board of Directors responsible for team management.</p> <p><b>*April</b> – Derek Partridge appointed manager.</p>
<b>1978</b>	<b>*October</b> – Phil Staley appointed manager.
<b>1980</b>	<b>*October</b> – Jimmy Williams appointed manager.
<b>1981</b>	<b>*February</b> – Brian Booth appointed manager.
<b>1983</b>	<b>*23 April</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the 16 <sup>th</sup> time defeating Congleton Town 2-1.
<b>1985-86</b>	<b>*July</b> – Neil Griffiths appointed player/manager.
<b>1986</b>	<p><b>*February</b> – Roy Campbell appointed caretaker manager.</p> <p><b>*March</b> – Peter Wragg appointed manager.</p>
<b>1986-87</b>	<p>*Won the treble.</p> <p>*Champions of the Northern Premier League and promotion to the Conference.</p> <p>*Northern Premier League Challenge Cup defeating Burton Albion 2-0 at Maine Road, Manchester.</p> <p>*Presidents' Cup, winning 2-1 on aggregate against Marine.</p>
<b>1989</b>	<b>*13 May</b> – finalists in FA Trophy beaten 1-0 AET by Telford United at Wembley.
<b>1990-91</b>	<p>*Chester City FC, members of the old Third Division, played their 'home' matches at the Moss Rose whilst their new Deva stadium was being built.</p> <p><b>*6 May 1991</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the 17<sup>th</sup> time defeating Witton Albion 2-0.</p>
<b>1991-92</b>	<p>*Chester City FC played their 'home' matches at the Moss Rose for a second season.</p> <p><b>*15 May 1992</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the 18<sup>th</sup> time defeating Witton Albion 2-0.</p>

<b>1993-94</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Sammy McIlroy appointed manager.</li> <li>*Winners of the Conference League Cup (Bob Lord Challenge Trophy) defeating Yeovil Town 4-1 on aggregate.</li> <li>*Winners of the Staffordshire Senior Cup for the first time defeating Wednesfield 14-1 on aggregate.</li> </ul>
<b>1994-95</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Conference Champions.</li> <li>*Promotion blocked as the required ground grading requirements had not been achieved within the required timescale.</li> </ul>
<b>1995</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*<b>19 September</b> – Won the JC Thomson Shield defeating Woking 3-2 AET at the Moss Rose.</li> </ul>
<b>1996</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*<b>19 May</b> – Winners of the FA Trophy for a second time beating Northwich Victoria 3-1 at Wembley.</li> <li>*<b>Summer</b> – German National team use the Moss Rose ground as their training headquarters in preparation for the Euro '96 competition.</li> </ul>
<b>1996-97</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*<b>September 1996</b> – Death of chairman Arthur Jones in tragic circumstances.</li> <li>*<b>7 October 1996</b> – Winners of the JC Thomson Trophy for the second time defeating Stevenage Borough 2-1 AET</li> <li>*Winners of the Staffordshire Senior Cup for the second time defeating Bilston Town 4-3 on aggregate.</li> <li>*Conference Champions for the second time.</li> <li>*Promoted to the Football League for the first time in the club's history.</li> </ul>
<b>1997-98</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*<b>9 August 1997</b> – first ever Football League match played at the Moss Rose against Torquay United, Macclesfield winning 2-1, with the first Football League goal scored by new signing Efe Sodje.</li> <li>*<b>7 October 1997</b> – Winners of the JC Thomson Shield for the third consecutive season defeating Woking 3-1 at the Moss Rose.</li> <li>*<b>15 May 1998</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the 19<sup>th</sup> time defeating Runcorn 1-0.</li> <li>*Completed the season as runners-up to Notts County gaining promotion to Football League Division Two</li> <li>*Undefeated in all home league matches winning 19 and drawing four.</li> </ul>
<b>1998-99</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*<i>Against all Odds</i> by Graham Atherton, Neil Howarth and David Lafferty published covering the Silkmen's first season as a Football League club.</li> <li>*Ended the season in 24<sup>th</sup> position in Division Two. Relegated for the first time in the history of the club</li> </ul>
<b>1999-2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Members of the Football League Division Three</li> <li>*<b>27 November 1999</b> – Darren Tinson became the first Macclesfield Town player to achieve 100 Football League appearances in the home match against Hartlepool United.</li> <li>*<b>28 December 1999</b> – In the 2-1 win against Carlisle United at the Moss Rose, Chris Priest's second goal scored in time added on, was officially recognised as the last Football League goal scored in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.</li> <li>*<b>January 2000</b> – Peter Davenport appointed manager.</li> <li>*<b>4 May 2000</b> – Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the 20<sup>th</sup> time defeating Altrincham 2-1.</li> </ul>

21 <sup>ST</sup> CENTURY	
<b>2001</b>	<p>*<i>Saga of the Silkmen</i> (the official history of the club) by Graham Phythian published.</p> <p>*<b>January</b> – Gil Prescott appointed manager.</p> <p>*<b>11 March</b> – New stand on the Moss Lane side of the ground initially known as the Alfred McAlpine stand officially opened by former manager Sammy McIlroy.</p>
<b>2001-02</b>	<p>*<b>October 2001</b> – Kevin Keen appointed acting manager.</p> <p>*<b>November 2001</b> – David Moss appointed manager.</p> <p>*<b>28 November</b> – 24 penalties required to settle the first round FA Cup replay at Forest Green Rovers in favour of Macclesfield. At the time a record for the number of penalties required to settle a FA Cup match Macclesfield winning 11-10.</p> <p>*<b>April 2002</b> – club record transfer fee of £300,000 for a player sold when Rickie Lambert moved to Stockport County.</p>
<b>2001-02</b>	<p>*Reserve team Champions of the Avon Insurance League Division Two under the managership of John Askey.</p>
<b>2002-03</b>	<p>*Amar and Bashar Alkadhi, through their company Ramy Limited, invested substantial funds into the club to clear outstanding debts and became owners.</p> <p>*Information Technology Centre – won award ‘UK Online Centre for the North West’ and came third in ‘Best in Britain’ awards.</p> <p>*<b>3 May 2003</b>– John Askey retired as a player having made a total of 678 appearances in all competitions for Macclesfield Town, <b>a club all-time record.</b></p>
<b>2003-04</b>	<p>*<b>October 2003</b> – John Askey appointed manager</p> <p>*<b>April 2004</b> – Brian Horton appointed manager</p>
<b>2004-05</b>	<p>*<b>January 2005</b> – club record fee of £40,000 paid for a player when Danny Swailes was signed from Bury.</p> <p>*<b>May 2005</b> – reached the Play-offs being defeated by Lincoln City in the semi-final</p>
<b>2005-06</b>	<p>*<b>December 2005</b> – Football Association levied fines and repayments totalling £257,000 in respect of the funding of the McAlpine stand.</p> <p>*<b>January 2006</b> – Formation of the Silkmen Supporters’ Trust.</p> <p>*<b>6 October 2005</b> – Ian Brightwell appointed acting manager.</p> <p>*<b>23 October 2005</b>– Paul Ince appointed manager.</p>
<b>2006-07</b>	<p>*<b>6 January 2007</b> – 41434, the highest attendance the Silkmen had ever played in front of in the third round of the FA Cup at Chelsea.</p>
<b>2007-08</b>	<p>*<b>June 2007</b> – Ian Brightwell appointed manager.</p> <p>*<b>February 2008</b> – Keith Alexander appointed manager.</p>
<b>2009-10</b>	<p>*<i>The official Macclesfield Town Quiz Book</i> published</p> <p>*<i>The League Story so far</i> by Geoffrey Knights published covering the first 12 seasons in the Football League. A complimentary copy was presented to each season ticket holder.</p> <p>*<b>March 2010</b> – Gary Simpson appointed manager on the death of Keith Alexander.</p>
<b>2010-11</b>	<p>*<b>January 2011</b> – Player Richard Butcher died at the age of 29.</p> <p>*<b>7 May 2011</b> – Elliot Hewitt became the youngest player at the age of 16 years and 342 days to make a Football League appearance for the club.</p>

<b>2011-12</b>	<p><b>*10 September 2011</b> – In the home league match against Morecambe Ben Tomlinson scored the fastest known goal in the history of the club taking just 6.4 seconds.</p> <p><b>*September 2011</b> – Archive web site <a href="http://www.silkmenarchives.org.uk">www.silkmenarchives.org.uk</a> went live</p> <p><b>*March 2012</b> – Brian Horton appointed manager for a second time.</p> <p><b>*April 2012</b> – Glyn Chamberlain appointed temporary manager.</p> <p><b>*May 2012</b> - After 15 seasons competing in the Football League, completed the season in 24<sup>th</sup> position resulting in relegation (for only the second time in the club's history) to the Conference thereby returning to the non-league scene.</p>
<b>2012-13</b>	<p><b>*May 2012</b> – Steve King appointed manager.</p> <p><b>*26 January 2013</b> – reached the fourth round of the FA Cup for the first time losing 1-0 to Wigan Athletic at the Moss Rose.</p> <p><b>*April</b> – John Askey appointed manager for a second time.</p>
<b>2014-15</b>	<p>*Super Silk Lotto launched.</p> <p><b>*21 April 2015</b>– Winners of the Cheshire Senior Cup for the 21<sup>st</sup> time defeating Northwich Victoria 3-2.</p>
<b>2016-17</b>	<b>*21 May 2017</b> – Runners-up in the Buildbase FA Trophy.
<b>2017-18</b>	*Champions of the Vanarama National League with 92 points, 10 points more than second placed Tranmere Rovers.
<b>2018-19</b>	<p><b>*19 June 2018</b> – Mark Yates appointed manager.</p> <p><b>*26 September 2018</b> – reached the third round of the EFL Cup for the first time in the club's history against West Ham United (away).</p> <p><b>*8 October 2018</b> – Neil Howarth and Danny Whitaker appointed joint caretaker managers.</p> <p><b>*28 November 2018</b> – Sol Campbell appointed manager.</p>
<b>2019-20</b>	<p><b>*19 August 2019</b> – Daryl McMahan appointed manager.</p> <p><b>*2 to 16 January 2020</b> – Tobias Phoenix and Danny Whittaker appointed joint caretaker managers.</p> <p><b>*16 January 2020</b> – Mark Kennedy appointed manager.</p> <p><b>*16 September 2020</b> – Winding-up Order implemented in the High Court resulting in Macclesfield Town Football Club Ltd being liquidated.</p>

#### Sources of information

- \*1875-1925 *Fifty Years of Football in Macclesfield* by John Earles.
- \**Saga of the Silkmen* by Graham Phythian.
- \**The League Story so far* by Geoffrey Knights.
- \*[www.silkmenarchives.org.uk](http://www.silkmenarchives.org.uk)
- \*The author's own notes.