



Staveley Miners Welfare

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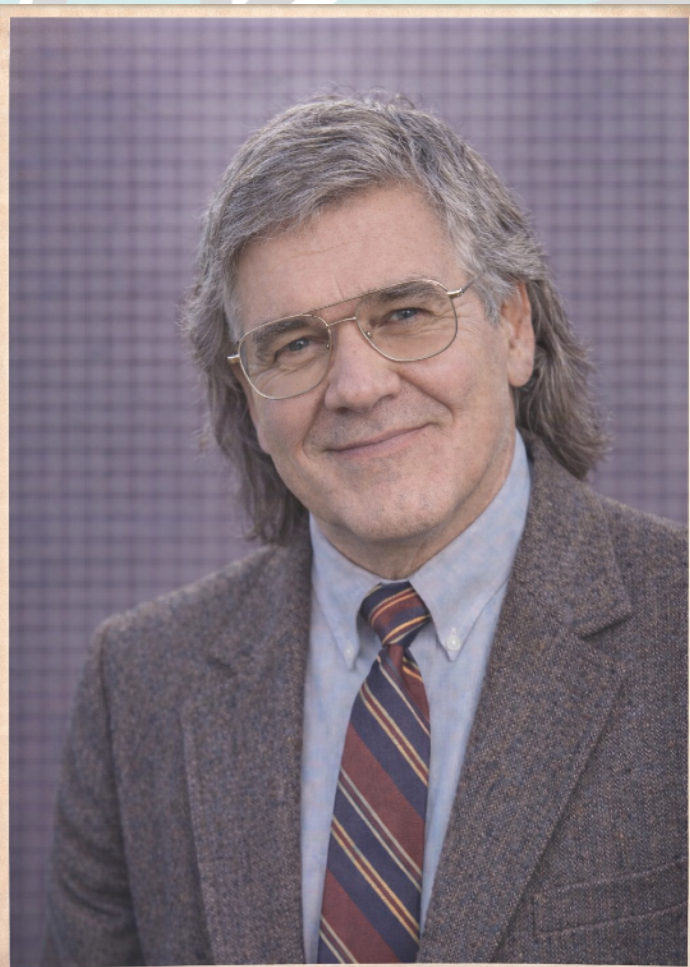
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Good evening everyone,

As Chairman, it gives me enormous pride to welcome you all as we begin another chapter in our veterans football journey.

When we first floated the idea - a simple “let’s get together and have a game” suggestion involving Scunthorpe United - it was during what felt



MARK FEEHAN

like the longest of times. The COVID lockdown, endless Zoom calls, and a shared desire to get back to doing what we love: playing football and enjoying each other’s company. From those virtual chats to standing here tonight at Staveley starting our sixth year of events... it’s been some ride.

In five years, we’ve played 44 matches at 43 different venues. That alone is an incredible statistic. I’m still not entirely sure how many children Chengy has added to the squad over that time - the numbers aren’t tracked as closely as the match stats - but I’m fairly certain shares in KFC, McDonald’s and Premier Inn have risen steadily alongside our fixture list!

Of course, no great organisation is without its controversy. After the now infamous “Partygate”, we somehow managed to invent our own scandal - Skewergate. Proof, if ever it were needed, that when we commit, we do everything properly... even our controversies.

But beyond the laughs, and there have been countless, what truly stands out is the camaraderie. The smiles. The friendships. The fantastic group of players that has assembled year after year. That spirit is what has made this club what it is.



...From The Gaffer...

Looking ahead, we have a packed summer schedule with five games already lined up from April, possibly more to come, and an adventurous first excursion into European football — and yes, for the sake of this speech, we’re not counting Scotland and Wales as “overseas”! At some point in 2026, we’ll surpass the 50-game milestone. For a group that started as a post-lockdown idea, that is a remarkable achievement. My sincere thanks go to every single player for your continued support and commitment to everything we attempt.

I must once again apologise for missing the Christmas game, meal and awards evening in December. By all accounts, it was another tremendous success. I’m told our web guru, Rob, is preparing an awards page for the website, including all achievement certificates — which, I know, are always keenly anticipated. A gentle reminder that the certificate awarding committee will be watching closely over the coming months. Standards must be maintained!



Note: Do not trust illegal programme sellers in the Gatwick region. This programme is available **FREE OF CHARGE**

Congratulations to the following players on hitting their own personal appearance milestones at today's game:

- Terry Rickeard - 40
- Matt Fellows - 40
- Daz Winnard - 30
- Dan Thomas - 20
- Brett Davids - 10
- Ryan Cheeseman - 10

Tonight, I had a choice between watching Wolverhampton Wanderers take on Liverpool in the FA Cup, or being here at Staveley. Having seen most Wolves games this season, I can say with some confidence that the quality, effort and entertainment on display this evening will be far superior to anything happening at Molineux.

So it only remains for me to say thank you — to Jon Dixon for putting us in touch with the club to organise tonight’s fixture, to Dean Thorpe for arranging the match officials, and to all of you for continuing to make this what it is.

Enjoy the game, enjoy the company, and let the sixth year commence.

Let the games begin!

Mark F



THANK YOU
to our club sponsors Three60 Training and The Paul Alan Project for their ongoing support



Update From The Paul Alan Project

Founded after the sudden passing of Clare's father, Paul Alan Parish in January 2022, the Paul Alan Project works to **prevent out-of-hospital cardiac deaths** by offering free life-saving training and installing public defibrillators and bleed-control kits.

In 2024, the charity trained **1,100 people**, delivered sessions to over **20 organisations**, and installed **21 new defibrillators** across local communities raising over **£35,000** in total.

Highlights in the past 12 months included the first Parish Golf Day, a Halloween Family Fun Day at **Sutton United**, and a Heart Month partnership with **Fulham FC** to raise awareness of cardiac arrest and defibrillator access.

Each minute without CPR or defibrillation **cuts survival chances by 10%**. The charity's goal is that no one lives more than two

minutes from a defibrillator and, by training bystanders and installing accessible equipment, they're building truly **"heart-safe" neighbourhoods**.

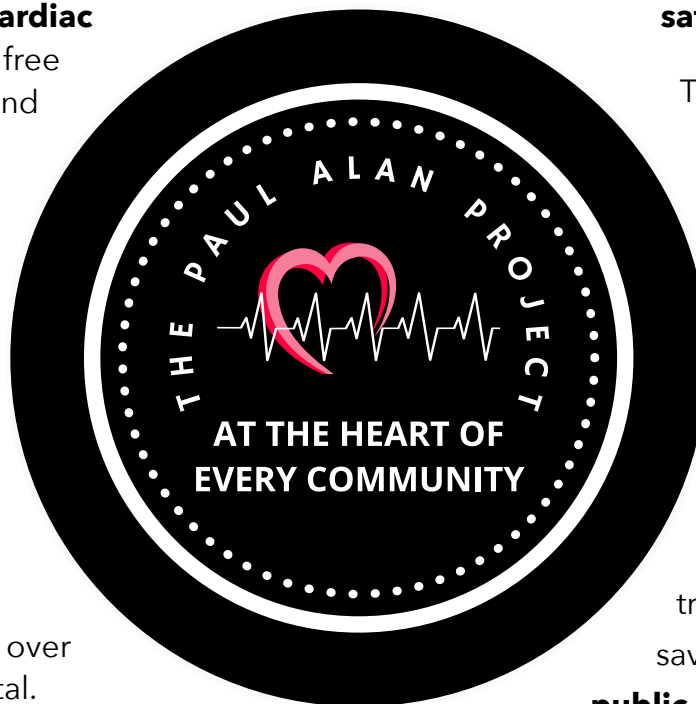
The project aims to expand installations—each costing about £1,600 and welcomes **new partners, donors, and fundraisers** to help spread vital **life-saving skills even further**.

Since April 2023, the **Paul Alan Project** has trained **2,365 people** in life-saving skills and installed **50 public defibrillators and bleed-**

control kits across local communities. In 2024 alone, the charity added **21 new**

installations, trained **1,100 people**, and delivered awareness sessions to more than **20 schools, businesses, and**

community groups. Their impact is evident, with **130 defibrillator activations** recorded



...no one lives more than two minutes away from a defibrillator...

Staveley Miners Welfare FC

Staveley Miners Welfare Football Club stands as one of Derbyshire's enduring non-league institutions, a club whose history mirrors the fortunes, challenges and spirit of the community it represents. From modest beginnings to national cup runs and modern facilities, Staveley MWFC's story is one of persistence and local pride.

Although football has been played in Staveley since the 19th century, most notably when a Staveley side defeated Sheffield Wednesday in the FA Cup in 1883, the present club was founded in 1962.

Originally formed as Nag's Head FC, the team began life as a Sunday side, playing friendlies before entering the Mansfield League and later the Chesterfield League. These early years laid the groundwork for what would become a steady rise through the football pyramid.

A significant milestone came in 1989, when the club established a Saturday team and moved to its current home on Inkersall Road. Competing in the Chesterfield and District Amateur League, Staveley quickly made their mark, finishing runners-up and winning the Byron Cup. That success sparked a rapid ascent, with back-to-back promotions in the early 1990s after joining the Sheffield & Hallamshire County Senior League.

By 1993, Staveley had reached the Central Midlands League Supreme Division, and in 1997 they were accepted into the Northern Counties East League



(NCEL). Their impact was immediate. Finishing runners-up in Division One in their debut NCEL season, they secured promotion to the Premier Division and lifted the Wilkinson Sword Trophy - a sign that the club was capable of competing at a higher level.

However, progress was not without setbacks. After several tough seasons in the NCEL Premier Division, relegation followed in 2001, leading to a challenging period that tested the club's stability. The most serious crisis came in 2007, when the resignation of the football committee left Staveley facing the prospect of closure.

The club's fortunes changed when Terry Damms stepped in as chairman, leading a successful rescue effort. Under his leadership, Staveley refocused on long-term sustainability, placing a strong emphasis on youth development and community engagement. A junior section was launched in 2011, securing the club's future and strengthening its ties with the town.

On the pitch, the 2010–11 season marked a golden chapter. Staveley won the NCEL Division One title, returned to the Premier Division and enjoyed a memorable FA Vase run. The following season saw the club come agonisingly close to Wembley, losing narrowly in the FA Vase semi-final — a high-water mark in its competitive history.

In recent years, Staveley MWFC has continued to evolve. Significant investment, supported by national football bodies, has transformed Inkersall Road with the installation of a 3G pitch, floodlights and improved facilities, benefiting hundreds of local players each week.

Today, Staveley Miners Welfare FC remains a cornerstone of grassroots football in north Derbyshire — a club shaped by mining heritage, sustained by community commitment, and still striving to build on a proud and hard-earned legacy.

Manager: Pat Lindley

Nickname: The Trojans

Stadium: Inkersall Road, Staveley, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, **S43 3JL**

Stadium Capacity: 5,000 (220 seated)

Pitch: Artificial (3G)

Club Colours: Blue/White Striped Shirt, Blue Shorts, Blue Socks

Record Attendance: ~2,000 (approx.) Staveley FC vs. Lockwood Brothers (1883–84)

Record Victory: 19–0 Staveley FC vs. Walkley in the FA Cup 1st qualifying round (1890–91)

Biggest Defeat: 1–9 away to Kingswinford United in November 1972.

Top All-Time Goalscorer: Ryan Damms, 100+ goals.

Top Appearance Maker: Trevor Westwood, 557 appearances.

Most Goals in a Season: Ryan Damms, 38 goals, 2010-11

#ASKANDY



CHATBOT

Our Resident Agony Uncle helps you with all your problems...

Dear Ask Andy. I recently qualified as a referee but the lads keep asking if I know the offside rule. I'm starting to doubt myself (*Whistle While You Work*)
Listen carefully. In vets football, offside is interpreted using three criteria; Volume of appeal. How tired the defence looks. Whether I fancy a rest. Blow early. Blow often. Look stern. You'll be fine.

Dear Ask Andy. It was my birthday and I was accused of being 407. How do I regain authority in the group? (*Chronologically Gifted*)
Lets face it, your authority left this group in 2018. Your best move is to post a childhood photo in black and white and claim you

taught Stanley Matthews everything he knew. Own the narrative.

Dear Ask Andy. My team is "hitting form at just the right time." Should I believe it? (*Optimistic Wanderer*)
Absolutely not. Form is temporary. Banter is permanent. Prepare emotionally for a heroic 1-0 defeat where you "deserved something."

Dear Ask Andy. How do I convincingly explain that an upcoming visit to Seville is in fact, a vital sporting and cultural commitment and not in fact a "Lads" holiday? (*Negotiating in the Kitchen*)
First of all, let's correct the narrative. This is not a "lads" holiday. This is an

international veterans sporting delegation. You are representing the proud badge of FA Veterans FC on foreign soil. Key talking points for home use:

Cultural Enrichment - You'll be immersing yourself in Andalusian history.

Physical Wellbeing - At our age, mobility is everything. Walking between bars - sorry - landmarks, is cross-training.

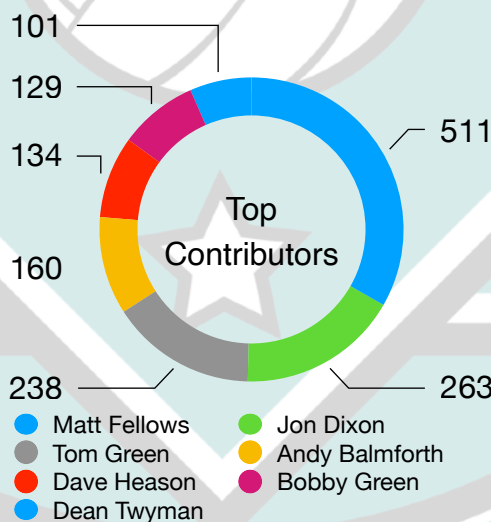
Team Cohesion - Like diamonds, strong teams are made using heat and pressure. In this case, 28-degree heat.

Economic Responsibility - Flights were "too good a deal to ignore." In fact, it would have been financially reckless not to go.

Social Matt-ers

Every club has a heartbeat. Ours just happens to live in the group chat. A quick glance at our feed suggests we're unofficial analysts for Wolverhampton Wanderers, Nottingham Forest and Aston Villa. Match days rarely deviate from the script: "Should have won." "Defensive but dangerous on the counter." "Ref's a disgrace." "Hitting form just in time for your visit." Then there's LMS — our weekly attempt to out-jinx one another. "We're all picking Forest... so Wolves will win." Tactical superstition at its peak.

The Key Performers
Matt Fellows (500+ posts) – The undisputed engine room. Debate starter, chief responder and full-time content provider. If there's a conversation happening, Matt's already three messages deep.



Jon Dixon & Tom Green (200–300 posts) – The banter midfield. Quick to reply, sharp with the humour, and central to most running jokes.

The Regulars (100–200 posts) – Dependable contributors, always present for match days, birthdays and LMS collapses.

The Lurkers – Quiet most of the time... but capable of a world-class



one-liner before disappearing again.

Verdict

40% football analysis.
40% rivalry-fuelled nonsense.
15% superstition.
5% actual planning.

In short: chaotic, tribal and absolutely brilliant - just like the team itself.

2026 Fixtures



Staveley Miners Welfare
"The Trojans"
Friday 6th March
Kick off 18:30
SOLD OUT



Braintree Town
"The Iron"
Sunday 19th April
Kick off 13:00
SOLD OUT



Blackpool
"The Seaside"
Friday 1st May
Kick off 19:00
2 places remaining



Hull City
"The Tigers"
Friday 8th May
Kick off 11:00
2 places remaining



Wycombe Wanderers
"The Chairboys"
Friday 22nd May
Kick off 18:00
2 places remaining

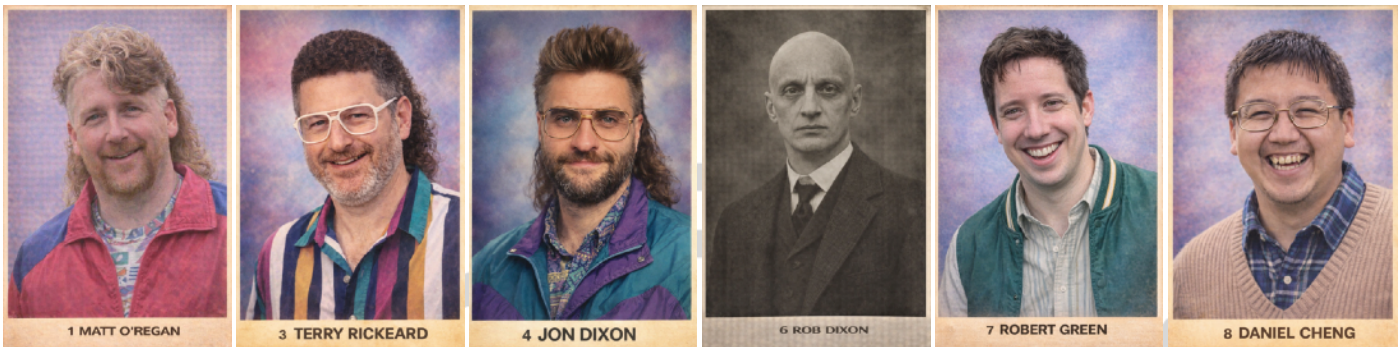


MK Dons
"The Dons"
Sunday 31st May
Kick off 13:00
SOLD OUT





Bottom Corner Save - much easier to reach than working against gravity.	Top Corner Save or Bottom Corner Save	Top Corner Save. It's the show piece for any keeper. I try to get to them but it's definitely harder these days.
Full Stretch Dive ideally mixed in with the next answer!	Full Stretch Dive or Reaction Save	Reaction Saves feel great. Normally a definite goal you've kept out.
Push Around the Post	Tip Over the Bar or Push Around the Post	Tip Over the Bar always looks good for a camera shot!!
Penalty Save - my record is pretty good too (Matt Fellows would disagree).	One-on-One Block or Penalty Save	I do like a one on one block. But a Penalty Save can be a match winner. The last one I saved was great. Unfortunately I looked like a beached whale while trying to get up for the rebound.
Punch Clear (less chance of a howler 😂)	Claim the Cross or Punch Clear	Claiming a Cross is a bread and butter type save for a keeper. Give the team confidence in him controlling the box
Long Kick Upfield but... ideally quickly.	Quick Throw Counter or Long Kick Upfield	Quick Throw Counter isn't as fashionable as it used to be. But still my favourite. It worked out ok for Schmeichel and Giggs!
Far Post Stretch, covering your near post is overrated!	Near Post Cover or Far Post Stretch	Far Post Stretch, if you can't catch it, then stretch for it!!! As long as it goes.
Last-Minute Winner Save, has to be better than a clean sheet.	Clean Sheet or Last-Minute Winner Save	Last-Minute Winner Save for me is as good as a striker scoring. It wins the match, Simple's!
Glued to Stay on the Line	Sweeper Keeper or Stay on the Line	Sweeper Keeper. After losing some timber, I'm enjoying the sweeper keeper role. I'm ok with my feet and love throwing in a Cruyff turn, you have to go with it.
Placement Shot Save, especially if you've clocked what the striker is trying to do	Power Shot Save or Placement Shot Save	Power Shot Save. Love a big strong save. "Is that the best you've got"
Strong Hand or Weak Hand Save Don't have either!	Strong Hand or Weak Hand Save	Strong Hand save preferably, but getting enough to keep it out is just as good.
Instinct Reaction, as long as it's not straight at you - it could be the best type of save.	Eyes on the Ball or Instinct Reaction	Instinct Reaction saves for me.
Close-Range Reflex	Close-Range Reflex or Long-Range Screamer Save	Close-Range Reflex, or screamer. Tough choice, might go screamer for this one.
Stand Tall in 1v1, but it's hard not to go down!	Smother at Feet or Stand Tall in 1v1	Can't beat sliding out and smothering at the feet of a player. I like to leave a leg or arm high and see an attacker go flying over me.
Ooooooo, let's say flat back 4	Flat back 4 or 3 at the back	Flat back 4 or back 3 depends who's playing at the back. I don't mind a back 3, if the wing backs are disciplined. If not, a solid back 4 is better.



App - 27, Gls - 0 App - 39, Gls - 11 App - 41, Gls - 22 App - 30, Gls - 3 App - 41, Goals - 4 App - 38, Gls - 4



App - 20, Gls - 22 App - 38, Gls - 24 App - 39, Gls - 4 App - 18, Gls - 1 App - 31, Gls - 4 App - 27, Gls - 3



App - 12, Gls - 3 App - 8, Gls - 0 App - 21, Gls - 11 App - 11, Gls - 3 App - 13, Gls - 1 App - 26, Gls - 1



App - 9, Gls - 2 App - 18, Gls - 4 App - 9, Gls - 3 App - 11, Gls - 3 App - 14, Gls - 1 App - 8, Gls - 0



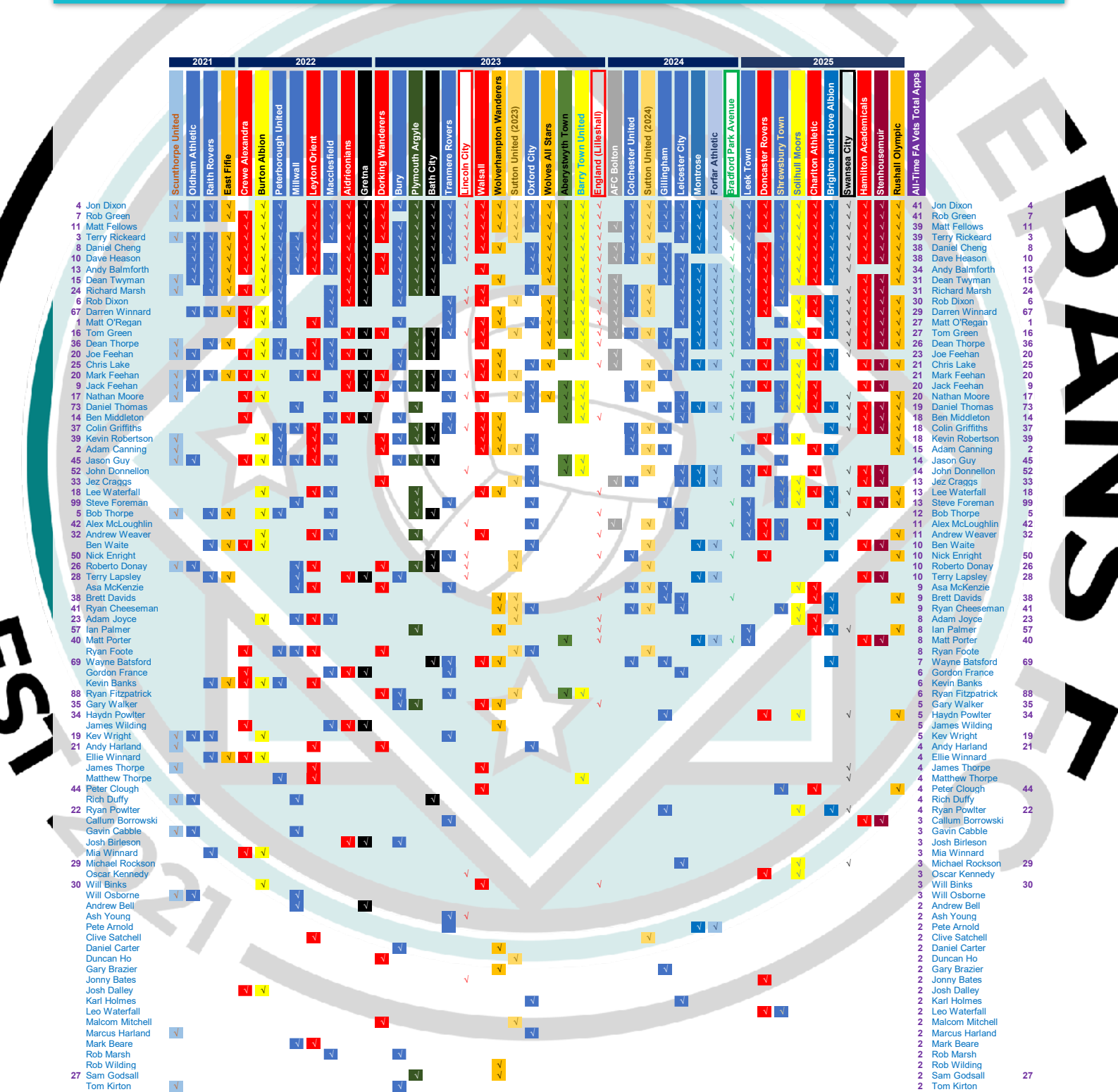
App - 29, Gls - 17 App - 19, Gls - 11 App - 13, Gls - 10 App - 3, Gls - 0

Total Appearances: **613**
 Total Goals: **174**
 Total Own Goals: **3**

Josh
Birleson

Top Goals per Game:
 1. Jack Feehan - **1.2**
 2. Steve Foreman - **0.8**
 3. Dan Thomas - **0.7**

Keeping Up Appearances



Staveley Miners Welfare FC

23	Adam Joyce (c)	Matt O'Regan (c)	1
3	Terry Rickeard	Rob Dixon	6
4	Jon Dixon	Bobby Green	7
8	Danny Cheng	Dave Heason	10
9	Jack Feehan	Matt Fellows	11
15	Dean Twyman	Ben Middleton	14
18	Lee Waterfall	Tom Green	16
32	Andy Weaver	Chris Lake	25
38	Brett Davids	Jez Craggs	33
39	Kev Robertson	Dean Thorpe	36
42	Alex McLoughlin	Ryan Cheeseman	41
57	Ian Palmer	John Donnellon	52
73	Daniel Thomas	Daz Winnard	67
	Josh Birleson	Steve Foreman	99
Officials	Referee David Windsor (Dad) Assistants Ben & Thomas Windsor (Sons)		

Match Day Schedule...

Friday 6th March 2026 - Staveley Miners Welfare FC

5:20pm: Meet at ground, Inkersall Road Stadium, Inkersall Road, Staveley (**S43 3JL**)

5:30pm: Changing Rooms available.

6pm: Warm-up on the pitch

6:15pm: Kick Off

8pm: Vacate the Changing Rooms

Closest McDonalds: Tally's End, Chesterfield Rd, Barlborough (**S43 4WP**) - 3.2miles, 8min

Closest KFC: Lockoford Rd, Chesterfield (**S41 7EW**) - 3.8miles, 11min

