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Gregory's Greeting

We've had a slower start to the season than any of us would have liked but things are starting to come together and we go into today's match as only one of only three teams that haven't a home loss this season - the others are Albion Sports and Silsden so we are in good company.

Today we extend a warm welcome to Champion - who are hovering just below us in the NCEL Premier Division - and hope their players, officials and supporters have had a safe and speedy journey from their Bradford home. I'm hoping we'll have an enjoyable match this afternoon and continue our home success in the league.

The First team have a run of three away NCEL fixtures before coming back at home for the Lincolnshire Senior Trophy Quarter Final - we play Lincoln United - on Tuesday 19th November. However, next Saturday, if you aren't taking the trip to Rossington Main, you'll find the Reserves here at the EasyBuy Stadium in the Balcan Lighting Supplies Lincolnshire League when we welcome Skegness Town Reserves.



The following two weeks the First team are playing on Friday evenings at Tadcaster Albion - Nov 8th - and Albion Sports on Nov 15th. On both occasions the Reserves are at home the following Saturday; on Nov 9th against Wyberton First and Nov 16th they play Louth Town Reserves.

Before moving on, the Reserves are playing this afternoon at Louth in the Lincolnshire County Junior Cup with a 2:30pm kick-off. We wish them success in this competition, and are hoping for some updates about their match today during this match.

As mentioned previously, and you'll see some posters around the ground, we are looking for volunteers to join the "backroom" team here on match-days. We have a hard-working core team that are always busy around the ground and are a friendly team and always welcome newcomers.

Finally thank you to today's match sponsors Hits Radio (nee Viking FM). They have been long time supporters of the club and we are pleased to be involved in their various charity events; in particular the Mission Christmas - Cash For Kids campaign. Find out more by clicking their logo on the programme first page.

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A Shot Across The...

Today we welcome Champion to our home... we hope everyone that has made the trip from Bradford has had a good journey. It is one of the longer trips we have to undertake in the NCEL Premier Division - I think only Silsden is further away for us.

Champion are just one point behind us in the table but... have quite a few games in hand over us so it's important for us to not only continue our unbeaten home record but also repeat our recent home results. They will be as tough a challenge as any team we will meet at the EasyBuy Stadium this season and have put together a string of wins in the NCEL recently but we'll be looking to give them some problems today.

You will have noticed some new faces at the last match - Joe Smith, Finn Abraham and James Burgess all making their debuts for the club. This players as we have a few players now out with, or recovering from, injuries - Fraser Papprell and Jack Bulless among others that were all suffering with knocks after the Wednesday night match at Penistone Church. That meant that on Thursday we were looking at a possible problem for the Pickering Town match.





A Shot Across The...

Initially we were looking to get more of the Reserves squad signed up to be eligible but I also looked at getting an additional defender but actually managed to get three players in and signed up. They all have experience at both this level and above of course. These are just short term signings, at least at the time being, with dual signings although I'm hoping we may be able to retain them for a longer period. However, there is always the chance that they may be recalled to their "parent" club at short notice, so we'll have to "play it by ear" for the time being.

Cameron Gray's time with the club has come to an end and we thank Hull City for allowing him to join us on a work experience loan period; we wish him well for the future. We have been able to extent the loan arrangement for Charlie Clements until December; a period in which we have eight matches.

After today we have three away NCEL matches; two of these on Friday evenings which does affect our training plans a bit but it is what it is. Then back at home in the Lincolnshire Senior Trophy against Lincoln United; a team that has a few familiar faces... there's a lot of football ahead!

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YOU may have caught our recent programme column on former Non-League players excelling as coaches at the elite level of the game.

The current poster boy is, of course, Anthony Barry. In case you didn't seem, the former Conference title winner landed a new job last week.



England assistant manager!

It's only been seven years since he was in Wrexham's midfield. Since taking the coaching path, he's been on the staff at Chelsea, Bayern Munich, Belgium and Portugal – now he will be Thomas Tuchel's right-hand man.





“Pretty incredible,” he said when asked how it felt for England’s YouTube channel. “Quite surreal. The process since it started has been fantastic. Thomas and I have loved every minute of it. As soon as I’ve seen this project capture the imagination of Thomas in the way that it did, we were back and forward sharing so much energy towards it, the imagination of the team and what we can do with these players.

“And then, of course, there is the extra layer for me. I am an Englishman. I’ve worked at other federations around the world. It was always a privilege to work on the highest level.

“But to come home now and represent The FA, England and the Three Lions is something that is the proudest day of my career so far.”

Liverpool-born Barry, 38, progressed through the Everton youth ranks but was released at 18 and went on to play for Coventry City, Accrington Stanley, Yeovil Town and Chester City.

Barry joined Fleetwood Town to help them win promotion to the Football League before joining Step 1 Forest Green Rovers for the 2013-14.

Finishing his career after a second stint at Wrexham, Barry joined Paul Cook’s backroom





staff at Wigan in 2017 and after a chance meeting with Frank Lampard while studying for his UEFA Pro-Licence.

His detailed analysis of 16,380 throw-ins made a mark on Lampard and Barry was drafted in to work under the Blues legend as a set-piece coach – a role which he has since gone on to make his name.

Lampard departed in January 2021, but Barry stayed on at Stamford Bridge to work under his successor Tuchel.

The pair developed a strong friendship, helping Chelsea win the Champions League, and when Tuchel was sacked by Chelsea in September 2022, he returned for Barry when he was appointed at Bayern Munich the following year. England will be their third job together.





This, however, will not be Barry's first foray into international football having worked with the Republic of Ireland and also under Roberto Martinez with both Belgium and Portugal.

But while the 2026 World Cup may now be in his sights, the humble Three Lions assistant says he still looks back today on his very first taste of coaching at the age of 29, working with Accrington Stanley's U16 side with injury now stalling his playing career.

"I remember that first session so clearly," Barry told the Essential Euros podcast last summer. It was on a Tuesday night. It was with around 10 players. I had a third of a pitch, not enough balls, not enough bibs.

"But I simply fell in love with coaching and on that night I knew it was absolutely everything I wanted to do. I felt a passion from that session with those kids that I hadn't felt in playing games - even at Wembley. I knew right there and then, I wanted to be a young coach."

A lot has been written about the opportunities English managers and coaches since Tuchel's appointment. And there is a debate to be had. But it's good to see one of Non-League's own flying the flag.



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In Town Today



Based at the Manningham Mills Sports Association on Scotchman Road in the shadow of the iconic Lister's Manningham Mills, Campion F.C. are perhaps the most successful amateur team over recent years to hail from Bradford. Since the turn of the decade the club has won various cups with the 2006/7 victory in the WRCFA Challenge Cup final undoubtedly being the highlight.

Formed in 1963 by Michael Mahoney, taking its players from the members of St Edmund Campion Youth club, in 1976 through Peter Kennelly the club was renamed Campion F.C.

The club moved into open age football in 1975 entering the Bradford Sunday League 4th division and gained promotion over five years to the 1st Division. In 1976 the club entered the Red Triangle League a local Bradford Saturday League and after steady years of progress moved up to the Premier Division in 1979. The following season saw Campion lift the Premier Division league cup as well as finish runners up in the league.

1981 saw the clubs policy change to concentrate on Saturday football only as they entered the West Riding County Amateur League and in 1983 both its open age teams were in the W.R.C.A.F.L.



In Town Today



Due to financial difficulties and the resignation of both the 1st and 2nd team managers along with the club secretary the club withdrew from the W.R.C.A.F.L. in 1985. Under new secretary Andy Shepherd the club re-formed and entered the premier division of the Red Triangle League for the 1985/86 season.

The club were accepted again back into W.R.C.A.F.L. in 1986. Steady progress was made during the next few seasons and by 1989 they were established in Division 2. At the start of the 1989/90 season former player Delroy Dacres was appointed manager in his first season in charge the Division 2 League and cup was won. This was followed by the Division 1 league and cup in 1992/93 bringing premier Division football to the club. The 1993/94 season saw the club's reserve side win the Division 4 championship under the guidance of Dave Simpson and Andy Smith.

Since then the club has maintained steady progress and seen improvement both on and off the field of play. 2006 saw the club enter a new era with the opening of a £1.5 million club house and community centre under the banner of Manningham Mills Sports Association of which Campion F.C. is a partner along with Manningham Mills Cricket Club (now sadly defunct) and Heaton Juniors F.C.



In Town Today



In 2007 Heaton Juniors changed their name to Campion Juniors in partnership which hopefully see more home grown players progress through the ranks.

Since the year 2000 the club have won numerous cups missing out on the League title by 1 point in 2005/06 despite winning 20 league matches on the trot.

The following season saw the club bounce back to lift the biggest prize in the clubs history when after going a goal down to League rivals and former County cup winners Golcar United goals by former Bradford City and Newcastle United player Des Hamilton and a last minute winner by Micky Burke saw Campion Lift the County Cup.

Season 2007-08 saw Campion retain the W.R.C.A.F.L. Premier Division League Cup for the third year on the trot making it a total of four wins in last five years.

Campion have lifted the Bradford & District FA Cup four times in 2001, 2010, 2012 and 2016, with the reserve side winning the trophy in 2017.

In 2011-12 the Reserves under the leadership of Howard Gordon won the W.R.C.A.F.L. Division Two championship following a run of 5 wins in the last 6 games saw them clinch the title by 3 points.



In Town Today



In 2013 Delroy Dacres announced that he was to retire as first team manager after 25 years in charge.

Without doubt a larger than life character Delroy's booming voice could

be heard from a long distance and many a player and referee will no doubt be glad not to be on the receiving end of Del's advice anymore at not only at Campion but other grounds throughout the league.

James Bicknell took over as manager for the 2013-14 season which saw Campion lose their first game 5-0 to bitter rivals Tyersal, however progress was made during the season and the club finished third and also reached the League Cup final losing to League winners Ovenden West Riding.

Following steady progress over the next season Campion again reached the District and League cup finals however both games were lost against Fields FC and Ovenden West Riding FC.

In 2016 both the First team and Reserves made to the District FA Cup semi-final and were drawn against each other. Following a hard fought 90 minutes which saw the reserves leading at half time the game went to penalties.

It was the First team that held their nerve to win a place in the final.



In Town Today



Once again Fields FC were the opponents for the second year running with Campion keen to avenge a County Cup defeat earlier in the season. Again after 90 minutes the scores were level however Campion won the penalty shoot out to see Bicknell lift his first trophy as Campion Manager.

The club also formed an Under 21 team after a merger with Wibsey Lions under 18s which took part in the WRCFA floodlight league for the first time in the 2015/16 season.

In December 2015 the Club committee made the decision to apply for Membership of the Toolstation NCEL. Following a lot of hard work the ground passed an inspection in March 2016 and was proposed for promotion by The FA in May 2016, and was duly elected in June at The Toolstation NCEL AGM.

In August 2016 floodlights were erected at Manningham Mills as the club embarked on their debut season in the Toolstation NCEL.

Under James Bicknell and his Assistant Hayden Lobley the club took many by surprise and were in contention for a play-off place all season however it proved to be a step too far and Campion ended the season in a highly creditable 8th place.



In Town Today



The season also saw the U21's enter the Premier Division of the WRCFA Floodlight league and under the guidance of new Manager Louis Etienne aided by Chris Kay ended in third place, in a league which included teams from further up the non-league ladder such as Halifax Town, Harrogate Town and Tadcaster Albion amongst others.

Season 2017-18 saw the club enter The FA Vase for the very first time in which they lost to a last minute goal to Bedlington Terriers.

The 2018-19 season saw the club finish in the highest league position ever when they were runners up to Division One league champions Grimsby Borough. However due to the strange decision made by the FA only one promotion spot was available and Campion were denied promotion.

What was perhaps more heart-breaking was the fact that only one point was required in the final game of season away to Grimsby Borough which ended in a 4-2 defeat which meant Grimsby won the league. A result of finishing second in the league means Campion would now enter The FA Cup for the first time in the clubs history.

However the reserve team were able to bring some silverware home under the management of Louis Etienne and Damo Latif and gain promotion



In Town Today



as League champions of Division Two in their debut season in the West Yorkshire Association Football League

During the close season the club was delighted to announce that former Colne manager and vastly experienced Lee Ashforth was appointed as joint manager along with Bicknell. It was hoped that along with first team coach Marcus Mitchell this appointment will take the club that one step further and gain promotion that was so cruelly denied.

The 2019/20 was as everyone knows declared "null & void" with results expunged at the time Campion were sitting just outside one of the four promotion spots with games in hand and poised to make a charge but it was never to be.

The start of the 20/21 season saw the club bring in coach Lee Burgess to assist the Management team. The season kicked off with a Local Derby against Albion Sports in the FA Cup and on a wet night at the Players Cars Stadium the visitor's returned home with a narrow 1-0 win, further disappointment (again) in the FA Vase followed. after receiving a bye, Sunderland Ryhope won 4-0 in Bradford.

The league however was proving rather more successful and when the season finished again



due to COVID the club sat second in the league behind Emley.

So we moved on to the 21/22 season and a new era, new league, new challenge. Following the restructure of the Leagues by the FA, a lateral movement meant the club would be playing in the NWCFL. This somewhat surprising move for a club 2 miles from Bradford city centre in the heart of West Yorkshire, saw the club playing in a mainly Lancashire, Manchester, Cheshire and Merseyside based league!

The first (and only season hopefully) in the NWCFL can only be described as hugely disappointing. The club experienced its worst season since moving to Step 6 football in 2016 and finished 4th from bottom in the First Division North. However there was a couple of bright spots as Campion won their first game in a FA competition in the 150th FA Cup away at Athersley Recreation and also saw a record crowd of 551 at "The Mills" for the visit of Bury AFC in a replayed league game following the abandonment of the first game due to fog.

The club was successful in an appeal to The FA for lateral movement back to the NCEL and prior to the start of the season were the winners of the 2022 Yorkshire Trophy defeating Garforth Town in the final after winning all 3 group games.





The 2022/23 will go down as the club's most successful season to date. After a draw away at Brigg Town in the first game of the season, this was followed by a winning run of 17 games on the bounce before ironically Brigg Town ended the run by winning at Manningham Mills thus being the only team Campion didn't beat at least once in the league season.

The First Division title was clinched after an 8-1 away victory at Armthorpe Welfare with three games to go. In 38 games Campion gained 98 points after only four defeats all season with a goal difference of +102 and had three players in the top 10 league goal scorers - Marcus Day (29), Paddy Sykes (27) & Aidan Day (17).

In the WRCFA Senior Cup the club progressed to the final after defeating Pontefract Collieries (2-1), Ilkley Town (4-0), Brighouse Town (4-2) & Albion Sports (3-1) to face the previous winners Liversedge.

After going one goal down in the game played at Liversedge's own ground, goals from Paddy Sykes and a wonder strike from Aidan Day saw the Cup return to Manningham Mills for the first time in the club's history.

A truly remarkable season



end to a remarkable

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19 Oct 24	NCELP	Pickering Town	Howarth Timber
26 Oct 24	NCELP	Campion	Hits Radio Viking FM
23 Nov 24	NCELP	Thackley	The One Point
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The Barton Blog

Our previous home game against Pickering was very similar to our home game prior to that against Parkgate. By Darren Stockdale



Barton took an early lead with a brilliantly worked, and taken goal by Tom Waudby on seven minutes. Barton were on top and playing some really good football, so it was a bit of a surprise when Pickering equalised around the 13 minute mark. This got Pickering more into the game but Barton plugged away and got a second goal about five minutes before the break from Andy Norfolk.

The second half was very even, with chances for both sides and some great saves from both keepers. However, with about ten minutes left Pickering carved out a chance and equalised. A






The Barton Blog



few minutes later Tom Waudby showed how the team can really play with his never-give-up attitude. He won the ball out wide, took it into the box whilst beating numerous Pickering players,





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stopped to pick out Ali Spencer Aydemir at the far post with a perfect cross which was put away for Barton's third of the game.

A goal as good as that took the wind out of Pickering for a short while, long enough for some more good play from Barton ending in a fourth goal, this time from Charlie Clements.



All in all it was an impressive performance from Barton, with three players making their debuts on the day and all showing that they fit into the team well.

Trivia

Ghost Words – Should this article be used around Halloween? Probably not as the ghost words I am referring to are ones that appear in the Dictionary but are not real words. However, weather





permitting I will try to get it as close to Halloween as I can.

The Oxford Dictionary defines a ghost word as “a word recorded in a dictionary or other reference work which is not actually used”. So, what are some examples of ghost words that have appeared in dictionaries, and how many do we still use today?

Cherry – The original spelling of “cherry” was “cherise”, and old French word. However, when it was noted down it was presumed to be the plural form (s or se in English can signify plural) so ended up as “cherry” to be singular.

Dord – This one appeared due to misreading of a few letters. This is an abbreviation of “density” in physics or chemistry, well actually D or d is. The spacing between D or d was very small so someone read it as Dord. So, the definition of Dord was density until around 1947.

Foupe – Foupe was a word that meant “to drive with sudden impetuosity”. It was first spotted in a 1605 text which read “We pronounce, by the confession of strangers, as smoothly and moderately as any of the northern nations who foupe their words of the throat with fat and full spirits.” However, foupe wasn’t a real word but used the long s which was common at the time.





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So, the actual word should have been soupe, or swoop.

Gravy – In the 14th century it was common for English cookbooks to change the N in French words to a U or V when translating them. They made a mistake when translating the French word “grane” and this has transformed into our word gravy over time.

Momblishness – this was described as “muttering talk” in the dictionary. This is actually a scribal-error of the plural of ne-moubliemie, which is French for the Forget-me-not flower.

Morse – This is odd as “morse” is a real word, used for the code using dots and dashes, but also has another definition which is a ghost. In the book *The Monastery*, written by Sir Walter Scott in 1821, there is a line that reads “Dost thou so soon morse thoughts of slaughter?” The word morse was a spelling error of the word nurse but resulted in “morse” being used for “nurse” for a time.

Syllabus – The original and correct spelling here is “sittybas”, which appeared in *Letters to Atticus*, written by the roman philosopher Cicero. However, a later printing of this book had this word incorrectly spelt as syllabus which became the accepted form of the word, even obtaining a





The Barton Blog

fake plural form of "syllabi".

There are many more ghost words for you to discover, should you be interested, but I think we have covered enough for now and should return to football talk.

Match History

Our home game against Champion last season didn't go so well for Barton. Champion took the lead through a penalty on 15 minutes, and Tom Waudby equalised on 26 minutes. Champion took the lead again on 34 minutes and added their third on 41 minutes. It remained that way to the break. Barton came out fighting and were awarded their own penalty on 68 minutes, which Tom Waudby scored. Tom completed his hat-trick through another penalty on 87 minutes to equalise. Just as we thought we had rescued a point Champion scored the winner straight after. It ended 4-3 to Champion. Our away game in March was all over in the first half. Champion scored three goals within around ten minutes which Barton never recovered from. It ended 3-0 to Champion.

Let's hope for a good game today and up the Swans.





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The Napkin

Josep Maria Minguella is a name not known to many outside the city of his birth. But almost every football fan knows his work. A lawyer, with limited English, he was approached right at the end of the 1960s to provide translation services to then Barcelona manager Vic Buckingham, with the Englishman's side languishing toward the foot of La Liga. An avid fan of the team since childhood visits with his father, he did what we would all do, and accepted. It was the beginning of a journey that culminated in the signing of a contract, on a napkin, at a tennis club, for the greatest player of all time.

After joining the club, despite some communication issues (the translator had lied about his ability, after all), Barcelona slowly lifted themselves away from danger. In his second season, they finished second to a strong Valencia side, only losing out on the title due to their head to head record. Triumph in the Copa del Generalissimo was enough for the board of



The Untold Game



directors, but not enough for Buckingham, who resigned at the end of the 1970/71 season. He was replaced by Rinus Michels, who would oversee a process that would create the megaclub we know today.

Minguella's translation services were not so necessary to the Dutchman, but he was impressed enough at the former lawyer to give him a place on the coaching staff. In four years, he claims he learned everything he needed to know about football. In 1974, Michels won Barca the title for the first time in 14 years, before leaving to take charge of the Netherlands side and then returning to Ajax in 1975 to secure a legacy that has echoed through the history of football. Minguella also left in 1975 for a year at Hercules, but the Alicante climate didn't suit him. He left, and rather than returning to Catalunya, tried his hand at becoming an agent.



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Josep Lluís Núñez had won the Barça Presidency in 1978 with a plan to turn the club into an international brand. This included expanding the Camp Nou, and attracting people to fill it with the signing of exciting global superstars. Minguella would be pivotal in that task, despite no longer having an official affiliation with the club. He started by bringing in Carles Rexach to support Núñez in his campaign, and then turned to the task at hand, finding the next big thing. He began his search in Latin America and, not for the last time, found what he was looking for in Argentina.



Diego Maradona was setting the world alight at Argentinos Juniors when Minguella first convinced Núñez to sign him. But Argentina were under the military junta, and not about to let such a prodigious talent leave the country easily. Minguella flew out to ESMA, the regime's concentration camp, to negotiate with Admiral Carlos Lacoste. Whether the regime hid their atrocities from the agent, or whether the



The Untold Game

agent chose not to notice, is unclear. But he negotiated a loan move for Maradona to Boca, where he could keep a closer eye on him. At the end of that loan spell, with the Falklands War lost and the economy in meltdown, the junta approved the sale of their prized asset to Barcelona, with countless officials taking sizeable cuts of a world record fee.

It kicked off an era of galactico signings. Despite Maradona's short stay in Spain, Minguella oversaw the signings of Guillermo Amor, Miguel Angel Nadal, Romario, and in 1990 went to negotiate with more military figures to secure Hristo Stoichkov's signature from CSKA Sofia. The tempestuous Bulgarian was a risk, but would end up being crucial in Johan Cruyff's legendary side.

In 1999, Minguella began his most famous deal. Alerted to a prodigious talent in Rosario, he once again travelled to Argentina. After Maradona quit in acrimonious circumstances, Barcelona had made some unsuccessful attempts to find his replacement. Short-sighted focus on immediate success meant that they were more concerned with signing more superstars. The result was scepticism when Minguella proposed the signing of a 12 year old. So the lawyer flew that child, and his father, to Barcelona at his own expense. He called Carles Rexach once again, and his old friend arranged a friendly to look at the diminutive player.



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The second Rexach laid eyes on Lionel Messi, he knew his club had to sign him. The next day, Minguella invited the Messis to Pompeia Tennis Club to shore up the deal. Over a cold beer, the lawyer drafted the first ever contract for the greatest player in the world.



On a napkin.

Enjoy the game.

Martyn Green The Untold Game

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Referee : Harry Atkin
Assistant Referee : Chris Hodgkinson
Assistant Referee : Neil Birkitt