

# BARTON TOWN SWANS REVIEW

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## BARTON TOWN



## FRICKLEY ATHLETIC

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THE EASY BUY STADIUM

# BARTON TOWN SWANS REVIEW



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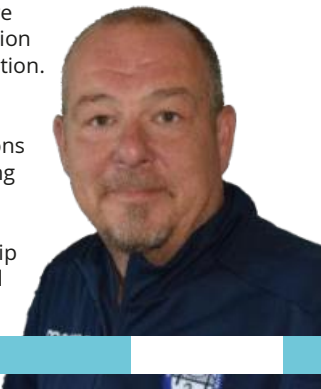
# Gregory's Greeting

Good evening all and welcome to the EasyBuy Stadium for today's match... and on behalf of all those at Barton Town may I extend a very warm welcome to the players, officials and supporters of tonight's opposition - Frickley Athletic; we hope that they have had a safe journey to be with us tonight.

Last Saturday saw us exit the FA Cup after losing to Rugby Town by a single goal; they go on to play Hednesford Town at home in the next round - I wonder what route a win would have taken us?

After Saturday's match I went to the changing room and told our players how proud the club was of them. It was the third round of the qualifying stages and they have done well to get us this far. They have all worked hard to get us that far and they should keep their heads up as we return to NCEFL action as we target promotion.

There are still some other cup competitions we will be competing in this season. The Lincolnshire Senior Trophy starts in a trip to Harrowby United in October. - they



are based in Grantham. Before that we have a trip away to Dearne & District in the NCEFL League Cup next Tuesday. Of course we won that competition in the 2021-22 season and it would be great to lift that trophy again this campaign.

Before that though we do have two important league games; tonight we host Frickley Athletic and then Friday evening our visitors are Goole AFC. The FA Cup and FA Vase have caused us to drop a few games behind in the NCEFL - that was caused as much by teams we were scheduled to play as our own progress. A win tonight would propel us up from our current 18th spot to a strong mid-table position.

Looking forward a bit we host Winterton Rangers at the end of the month. Local derby matches are always a great day for both teams and their supporters so that will be one for your diary.

In other news, we are pleased that so many of our sponsors continue to support us and I urge everyone to use their services if possible. They are an important part of the club.

Finally today's match sponsor is Mick Jordan Construction - thank you for your support. We hope you all enjoy your evening and get to cheer on a Swans Win.



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# A Shot Across

Good evening and welcome to today's match. With recent games seeing the club in FA Cup and FA Vase action in the last couple of weeks - our last Northern Counties East League game was at Bottesford Town three weeks ago - we are back in league action tonight; of course, that is the "bread and butter" of the season and we need to make up those games we have missed and refocus on the real challenge of this season's campaign which is a promotion spot.

The FA Cup match against Rugby Town saw a disappointing loss by just the single goal. There wasn't very much between the teams. To be honest I thought we were the better team, certainly in the first half; and I think we just edged it over the 90 minutes.

After conceding early in the second half we certainly put a lot of pressure on the Rugby goal and we were making opportunities right until the referee's final whistle. It all comes down to fine margins and split second decisions. Slightly over-hitting or under-hitting a pass can be the difference. Should that ball be laid off into the path of another player or do you take your chance for a shot?





Overall the good thing for us is that we played a team from the level above and were disappointed not to have won, and more than matched them which is a good sign going forward in the NCEFL.

If they were clearly better than us then we could have finished the day saying I had no problem at all with the result but I think we did enough to deserve at least a replay - in which case you wouldn't be reading this notes and I'd be sitting in the Away dugout at Rugby Town right now!

This evening we host Frickley Athletic for our third home NCEFL game and I'm looking for the same performance and commitment from our players as I believe that if we can produce the same form we'll be very difficult to stop in the league. If we continue to make chances, or even half chances, the goals, and wins, will come.

We should have no extra injury worries for today's match. With no training session since Saturday we can't assess any knocks or sprains that may have been picked up at that game, and with the Goole AFC match being on Friday evening that limits the recovery time players get.

Anyway that's enough from me - on with the game!



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## In Town Today

Frickley Athletic FC is based in the former coal mining village of South Elmsall. Recent research has shown that the first South Elmsall football team was formed in 1905 but was superseded in 1908 by the newly formed Frickley Colliery Athletic Club and joined the South Yorkshire league which comprised of works, church and village teams. In 1910, the football club moved to the Sheffield Association League and first played in the FA Cup.

The club remained in the Sheffield Association League (except for the war years) until 1922, finishing runners up in 1911/12, and winners in 1920/21, our only ever league title.

In 1922/23 Frickley joined the Yorkshire league and after finishing runners up in 1923/24, the club were elected into the Midland League, Although the club had to apply for re election several times pre war (and didn't play in any league in 1933/34) it was kept going by the support of the mineworkers and the sale of players.

1936/37 was Frickley's worst ever league season when the club finished bottom with only 8 points, but amazingly reached the FA Cup 1st round proper for the first time.

Post war, Frickley remained in the Midland league gaining its best finish, 7th, in 1945/46, but left the







## In Town Today

league on its break up at the end of 1959/60.

From 1960/61 to 1969/70, Frickley Colliery played in the Cheshire County League, However, financial considerations led the club to join the Midland Counties League for 1970/71. They finished runners up in 1972/73, and were eventually elected into the NPL for the 1976/77 season as Frickley Athletic.

After finishing 3rd in 1979/80, the club was promoted into the Alliance Premier League, now the National League. Here they remained for 7 years, the most successful in the club's history, and in 1985/86 reached the FA Cup 3rd round proper, after beating a Football League club, Hartlepool Utd, only to lose 3-1 at home to Rotherham Utd. The club also finished as Gola League runners up. The following season saw a reversal as we were relegated back to the NPL.

From 1987/88 to 1991/92 the club consistently finished around mid-table in the NPL. but did manage to reach the league cup final in 1991/92, losing 1-0 to Marine at Maine Road.

The next few seasons saw Frickley finish in the lower reaches of the table. Then, in 2005/06 The Blues had their best league season for 20 years, finishing 2nd to Blyth Spartans. Unfortunately, the Blues lost on penalties in the playoff semi.





## In Town Today

In the following seasons Frickley returned to the lower half of the table, but 2015/16 saw the club have a great season to finish 7th.

This was not repeated in 2016/17 as most of the players who had brought this success were attracted to join more affluent clubs. The club were relegated from the NPL Premier Division after being members for 30 years.

2017/18 saw the club enter the NPL Division 1 South, finishing 3rd in the league, scoring a record 117 goals. Additionally, Jacob Hazel broke the club record for individual goals in a season with 47 strikes. The season ended disappointingly with playoff semi final defeat at the hands of Stamford.

2018/19, in the new NPL East Division, was less successful, seeing managerial changes and a 12th place finish. However, the season had its highlights, with victory at highflying Morpeth and a 10-1 win over Liversedge in the FA Cup.

More change followed prior to the start of 2019/20. A further league reorganisation which put the Blues into the NPL South East Division was accompanied by a new manager. An inauspicious start led to the appointment of Dave Frecklington in September 2019.

Frecks rapidly turned the side's fortunes around,



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# In Town Today

before lockdown ended the season. 2020/21 ultimately suffered the same fate.

Frecks built what looked like another strong squad for the 2021/22 season, able to compete for promotion from the newly formed NPL East Division. However, things didn't pan out the way that was hoped. Key departures lead to a dismal run of form that saw the club relegated to the Northern Counties East League for the first time in our history.

In the summer of 2022, former Blue, Wayne Benn, was appointed as manager, with ex-Frickley goal scoring legend Andy Hayward as his assistant. There were occasional highs but Benn resigned in early 2023 so Patrick McGuire came in to avoid a second successive relegation.

2023/24 started well, and included an 8-0 win at Goole, but petered out, ending with the release of McGuire.

James Baxendale took over as Blues boss for the start of 2024/25 when he and his squad will be looking to bring back winning ways to Westfield Lane.





## FRICKLEY PEN PICS 2024-2025 SEASON

### **CALLUM BROOK** – defender.

The big centre half started his career in Chesterfield's academy before moving to Pontefract Colls. Has also had spells at Goole and Selby before joining up with Bax at Armthorpe last season.

### **CHARLIE CLEGG** - midfield.

CC is another local boy & a fans favourite, in his 2nd spell with us. Has experience with Ponte Colls youth programme, Emley, Athersley Rec & most recently Armthorpe. Also scores goals for fun in our U23s

### **HARLEY MCCORMACK** - defender.

Harley is a young left back who also follows Bax from Armthorpe, where he was signed from Pontefract Collieries last season. Harley was also part of the Colls U23's squad that went unbeaten last season in the same league as our U23s (we were the only team that they couldn't beat by the way!).

### **JACK HOLDEN** – midfield.

Jack has plenty of experience, having previously had spells with Worksop, Winterton (when they won the league) and Armthorpe along with time in the US, and he adds further quality into Bax's new look midfield





**JACK VARLEY** - midfielder.

Jack follows Bax from Armthorpe after spells in the NCEL with Barton and Winterton (where he won promotion in 22/23), and is certainly a quality addition to the squad

**JOSH HAIGH** – winger.

Josh is a goalscoring winger who has experience with Ossett United, Dearne & District & our very own U23s where he scores for fun. Versatile too – spent a large part of 2023/24 filling in at left back – did a great job there

**KEANAN MANNINGS** – midfielder.

Keanan is our midfield lynchpin. Ex Farsley Celtic U23s captain he also has experience with Kellingley Juniors, Nostell & Yorkshire Ams

**LOUIS THWAITES** – midfielder.

Louis boasts a wide array of NPL and NCEL experience, having previously played for Sheffield FC, Maltby Main, Rossington Main, Goole and Retford FC, and is another exciting addition to Bax's Blues.

**LUKE WILLIAMS** – striker.

Pacey forward, proven goal scorer at this level having previously had spells at Goole, Albion Sports and Winterton.





**MATTY HUGHES** – winger / striker.  
Matt started with our U19s & has played for our U21s & U23s. He made 1 first team appearance in 2016/17 then went to Armthorpe, came back, went to Handsworth, and he's home again. No finer sight than Hughesy in full flight.

**REUBEN BREWIN-HAWKINS** – defender.  
'Ruby' was part of Gainsborough's U21 side last season, including some appearances among the first team subs, whilst also having spells in the NCEL at Rossington and Armthorpe

**ROB GUILFOYLE** – striker.  
The prolific striker, who has played for Hull City, Marske and Bradford Park Avenue amongst other clubs, is James Baxendale's first new summer signing and an exciting addition to our squad.

**ZACH COOPER** – defender.  
Zach has plenty of experience, having previously had spells with Doncaster City and Armthorpe Welfare, and he adds further strength to our defence

**ZAV ELKIN** – defender.  
Local lad, big prospect – Zav featured with Goole previously, Now in his 2nd season with the club. Doesn't score tap ins





**JOEL SPENCE** – midfield.

Was with Bax at Armthorpe last season. He has been on the books of Rotherham United before gaining plenty of non-league experience at Belper Town, Ossett United and Wakefield AFC

**GRACJAN KLIMCZAK** – striker.

A fearsome striker who has been around the block at places like Selby, Glassy Welfare, Dinnington Town, Clay Cross Town and Armthorpe

**BROGAN HORNIMAN** – defender.

A classy defender who has been at Retford FC and has spent some time in the US.

**JACK CAIRNEY** – defender.

Giant defender who counts Eccleshill, Liversedge, Goole and Wakefield amongst his former clubs. His brother Tom plays for Fulham in the Premier League

**CYRUS ROWE** – midfield.

Tricky wideman with immaculate execution who has NCEL experience with Garforth Town and Yorkshire Amateur





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# The Barton Blog

Our FA Cup run came to an end last Saturday when we were beaten by a single goal against Rugby Town in the FA Cup. Rugby came into the game as favourites as they are from a higher league than Barton, but they did not look like that for most of the game.

By Darren Stockdale






# The Barton Blog



The first half was very even, with both teams hitting the post, and both teams playing some really good football. On balance though the first half definitely belonged to Barton.

The second half saw a brief flurry from Rugby, at which point they scored their solitary goal. After that Barton were mainly in charge again, without being able to find the back of the net. There were occasions where Rugby seemed to revert back to the old game of football (or rugby), before their town invented association football, but ultimately Barton could not find a goal. The bright point from the match were how well Barton played against opposition from a higher league.





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# The Barton Blog

So, our FA Vase and Cup adventures are over for this season, which I believe means my Terrace Talk obligations are over too. Barton Blog's from now on (the online version).



Speaking of the Barton Blog, don't forget we play Goole on Friday night, not Saturday, hopefully. Last season we had about ten attempts at getting the game on, and I think it was almost every night of the week we attempted it, so I am half-expecting some sort of "badly-named" storm to appear or a freak snow storm, or something similar to mess up our game plans.

## Trivia

Exclamations of Surprise – I know this might seem an unusual topic, and I am not sure what led me







# The Barton Blog

to it in the first place, but I recently stumbled across a language website teaching people eight British exclamations of surprise. Let's see how many of these on the list we actually use.

The list, in the exact order stated, is:

1. Blimey!
2. My goodness!
3. Goodness gracious!
4. Hells bells!
5. Bloody hell!
6. Well, well, old chap!
7. Gobsmacked!
8. You what mate?
9. Cripes or Crikey!

The first thing I noticed was that there were nine on the list when there were supposed to be eight. Not a good start if the person learning our language isn't comfortable with our numbers yet. However, in reality there may be two or three of those that I personally ever use. The rest, well I think you would be using your own exclamation of surprise if you ever heard anyone use them. Most of my exclamations probably cannot be printed, but I can think of quite a few that I hear people say that are far more popular than those above.

This got me thinking, how reliable are other





exclamations of surprise we learn for other languages?

For example, in Italian number two in the list above would be 'Oddio' (oh God), but do they really say it that often?

In Spanish Oh my God, which is close to number two above, would be '¡Oh por Dios!', but again how often do they really say that in surprise?

In German, number two in the list above would be 'Ach du meine Gute'.

This made me wonder how old this list of exclamations may be. So, I had a search for some old expressions of surprise that went out of use to see if any were worth bringing back.

The list includes:

1. Holy Pretzel  
– which in reality could be any word after 'Holy'.
2. Stiffen the Wombats  
– which, unsurprisingly, is an old Australian phrase.
3. My Elbow and My Wig  
– which was used in the UK in the early 1900s.
4. Gosh all Hemlock  
– which is another old English phrase.





5. Oh Fishhooks!  
– Yet another old English phrase.

I think we should definitely all start using the phrase “Stiffen the Wombats!” again.

So, if you had to compile a list of British exclamations of surprise what would you include in it?

## Match History

Our away game against Frickley last season ended in a draw. The first half was goalless, but Sam Cable put Barton ahead in the second on 69 minutes. Right at the death Frickley equalised to leave the score 1-1 at the final whistle. Our home game saw Frickley take an early lead on ten minutes. Tom Waudby equalised on 26 minutes and his brother, Will, scored a second for Barton on 30 minutes. It remained 2-1 at the break. Tom Waudby scored his second on 61 minutes, and then completed his hat-trick through a penalty on 77 minutes. The final score was The Waudbys 4 Frickley 1.

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





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# The Untold Game

## After the GOAT

We have spent the last 20 years inundated with Greatest Of All Time. Tennis, Formula 1, American Football, Gymnastics, Sprinting and of course football, where two players have vied for that particular moniker for longer than some of their fans have been alive. It's become such a commonplace argument that sometimes people forget just how rare it is to find a player of such exceptional ability, let alone two. Deep into the twilight of their careers, they have both moved into semi-retirement in less prestigious leagues, and the footballing world must begin to come to terms with a future lacking Messi and Ronaldo. But just what kind of hole do these greatest ever players leave when they move on?

By 1991, Napoli had enjoyed the most successful period in their history. Two Scudetti, a UEFA Cup, and two domestic trophies is a spell that hasn't since been repeated in Southern Italy. Spearheading this success was the last footballer to unambiguously earn the title of 'greatest



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ever', Diego Maradona. Among footballing mortals, he was Napoli's Mars, the God of War. So when he failed a drugs test, and a year later left for Spain, the whole city was thrown into turmoil. What followed was a decline that could have been a Roman tragedy, with heroes falling from the heights of Vesuvius into the Tartarus of Serie C.

Building the entire club around Maradona was not just cultural. Napoli had taken out a massive loan to pay a world record fee for the Argentinian in 1984, and their transfer business



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throughout the 1980s, while successful on the pitch, had loaded the club with debt. The loss of their talisman was masked in the short-term by the emergence of a talented crop of youngsters, among them Gianfranco Zola who admirably filled the number 10 shirt. They were competitive for a couple of years, but the Tangentopoli Scandal, which tore Italian politics apart, claimed club president Corrado Ferlaino and the cracks were exposed. When he returned a year later to try to save the club, without the questionable resources he had called upon before, there was a fire sale.

Zola and Fabio Cannavaro went to the new project at Parma, Ciro Ferrara went with head coach Marcello Lippi to Juventus, Benito Carbone to Inter. Power in Italian football was, once more, decidedly in the north. In the 1996/97 season, Napoli finished just four points above the relegation zone. But they were far from their nadir.

The following season, more players were sold, and Napoli were disastrously ill-equipped for the fight they were about to undertake. Four managers, and the emergence of a new talisman in Roberto Ayala, weren't enough to stop the club conceding a disastrous two goals per game. They finished the season with just two wins, and their three-decade stay in the top flight was over.

A new owner - Giorgio Corbelli - saw the





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club as a proving ground for his own footballing ideas. Despite Walter Novelino performing heroics to haul the club back into Serie A at the second attempt, he was jettisoned for the entertaining Zdenek Zeman. Zeman is something of an antithesis in Italian football, and would later get a Pescara side to Serie A with some of the most swashbuckling football ever seen. In Naples, he lasted six games. His outrageously attacking side was entrusted to Emiliano Mondonico, a man who seemed to think Fabio Capello was a gung-ho enthusiast. He got the side playing admirably, and with a bit of a transfer gamble in January, Napoli fought until the final day of the season, when they suffered relegation. Unfortunately, those gambling debts came due too.

The ancients were big believers that nature rewarded and punished, so when heavy rain caused the near-collapse of the San Paolo,



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Neapolitans could be forgiven for thinking they were being seriously punished. They spent the 2001/02 season playing at various smaller grounds across the south. Corbelli was arrested at the end of that season in another corruption scandal, and while Napoli stayed up in 2003, but 2004 they had reached the very depths of Italian professional football, Serie C.

With debts of €79 million, there was a very real chance that the club would disappear forever. To the fans credit, even in the third tier, 50,000 of them continued to fill the stadium. That enthusiasm would be the spark that saved them, convincing film producer Aurelio de Laurentis to part with €39 million to rescue the former giants.

De Laurentis' time in charge took a while to get going. It took two attempts to get out of Serie C, before a return to the top flight. But in 2022/23, three decades after Maradona's departure, the Scudetto returned to Naples. Maybe the fall and rise of the iconic club isn't just down to the loss of the GOAT, but it's amazing how the trajectory of a story can change around one man.

Enjoy the game.

Martyn Green, The Untold Game

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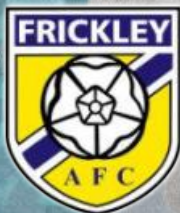
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