



# NCEFL 2024/25 PREMIER DIVISION

## BARTON TOWN



## HALLAM

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THE EASY BUY STADIUM

# BARTON TOWN SWANS REVIEW



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Asad, cardiac arrest survivor



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# Gregory's Greeting

Good afternoon once again to everyone and welcome to the EasyBuy Stadium for this NCEL Premier Division match. Today we are pleased to host Hallam FC, and we extend a warm welcome to their players, officials and supporters that have made the relatively short journey to be here tonight.

Although it shouldn't affect your journey home we'd like to point out to those from Hallam that the westbound M180 from Junction 3 is scheduled to be closed from 8pm; however we believe that the stretch of motorway will be single lane so be prepared for some possible delays.

I think it's fair to say that we've had a bit of an "up and down" season so far. Having had matches postponed had caused us to drop down the NCEL Premier Division table a bit however in recent weeks we have played some of the "missing" games - and today is another of these.

The hoped for win on Tuesday evening didn't materialise so we have fallen back a spot in the league table. Today we take on Hallam who sit 4th in that



table and it will be another difficult match for us against a side that has proven themselves to be very strong opposition in the past.

As the saying goes "it's not how you start but how you finish" and with three wins - and two narrow losses - in 2025 I'm looking forward to getting back to winning ways over the final weeks and we have a busy schedule in front of us in February and March.

We are still waiting for news on the grant for the pitch drainage project; I'm hoping we'll get the confirmation through shortly. Although we've had a couple of matches postponed due to poor pitch conditions, it doesn't appear to have been as bad recent seasons. It feels like the winter has, so far at least, not been too hard on us, and the hard work put in by the groundsman, Paul Coult, has kept the pitch in as good a condition as possible. After today we only have four NCEL fixtures left to play with Friday 21st March being the last home match, but the Reserves will still be playing home matches until mid-April so work can't commence until late April.

Today we welcome Jane and Jim White as our matchday sponsors. We thank them for their support and hope they and their guests have a good time and enjoy a good match... with a home WIN for the Swans!



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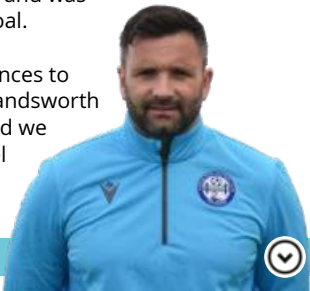
## A Shot Across The...

Good afternoon everyone... here we are again at The EasyBuy Stadium in NCEL Premier Division action. Today we welcome Hallam FC... although rain is in the forecast for today the weather this week has been good so there should be no problems with the pitch.

Our last home match was against Handsworth on Tuesday evening and the result was, I suppose, "disappointing" although I was happy with the effort, commitment, desire and performance from the players. We had a lot of opportunities and several near misses and I think we were on top in the first half before we went down to 10 players. That make it difficult to get out of our half for the remaining minutes. A half time we discussed options but a goal by Handsworth early in the second half gave us a bit of an uphill struggle.

We changed the formation a bit after that and got the equaliser... depending on who you speak to the ball was over the line off the crossbar but Will Waudby made sure and was credited with the goal.

We had several chances to get a second but Handsworth are a good team and we were unable to level the score.





## A Shot Across The...

Those of you that were at the match will have seen Tom Waudby was attending... and without his crutches. He's making good progress and was thinking about starting a little light training. Also at the game was Grant Tait whose right wrist is still in a cast... which explains to those asking about his recent absence from the squad.

Last week we made a further addition to the squad by signing Robert Guilfoyle from Frickley and he's been making his presence felt when he's on the pitch. This week we have signed Oliver Nicholson from Boston United on a one month loan.

Our visitors today had a good win on Tuesday at Rossington Main and have won five of their last six (and drew against Penistone Church) and I'm expecting a good game against what are one of the better teams in the league and one that has been expected to do well. We shared the points in the match at their home in October but of course we'll be looking to take all three points against them today.

After Tuesday's result it's important to get back to winning form as we aim to progress up towards the play-off positions.

***Enjoy the Game!***



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HEAR the one about the Non-League club whose first ever floodlights were stanchions from a dual carriageway?

It's fair to say things have changed at Aylestone Park since 1974 and last week one of their most famous sons, Gary Lineker, went back to where it all began for him to see their progress.

The United Counties League Premier South side have benefitted from the support of more than £1.2m of funding from the Premier League and Football Foundation – who are funded by the Premier League, The FA and UK Government – to help improve their facilities. The club now have more than 500 players across 34 teams with the funding also including grants for grass pitches, changing rooms, a full size 3G pitch, goalposts plus maintenance and improvements.

Long gone are the old lights with a £20,000 grant from the Premier League Stadium Fund used to upgrade to energy-efficient LED floodlights. Lineker played in the first ever game under those original floodlights.

"I've been back a few times over the over the years," Lineker said. "I remember the opening of the floodlights when they first had them put in and now I'm here to see what Premier League investment has done and the difference it has





made. It's quite significant and I think it's transformed youth teams and children's football in this country."

Chairman John Greaves was a founding player of the club back in 1968 and remembers the occasion well.

"We were the first local club to have floodlights," Greaves said. "Those floodlights were old stanchions off a dual carriageway which we managed to beg and borrow. So we were the first club locally to have floodlights – they weren't very good but we had them!

Gary played in the game to open the floodlights. Obviously he wasn't famous then but we had former England manager Don Revie to come down and switch them on for us."

Lineker would go on to become a Three Lions' great, scoring 48 times in his 80 appearances and landing the Golden Boot in the 1986 World Cup.

"He used to score goals out of nothing," Greaves said of Lineker's early days. "Nobody was surprised when Leicester City came in for him when he was 16. In those days, professional clubs didn't come in for kids until they were 15 or 16. But nobody was surprised because he was banging in about 80 goals a season!







He's never lost the connection with the club. He's our president and supports us well."

He also took time out to talk about a famous Non-League boy done good – Jamie Vardy!

"Jamie's an absolute legend," Lineker told The NLP. "We love him in Leicester. He's a hero. Probably the second best striker in Leicester's history! No, not at all. Jamie's remarkable. He's still going at 38, still knocking in goals and still hugely competitive. He's a brilliant example for players. He's mine and all my sons' favourite player!"

And Lineker believes Non-League football can be a goldmine of talent.

"All players start somewhere along the lines, schoolboy level, often Non-League level, and find a way into the upper echelons of football," said the broadcasting giant.

"There are so many examples. Ian Wright being one of them that springs to mind! And there are many others.

"So there's not only one route to football. It's not all about players going to an academy. Lots will come through different routes, mature later for different reasons and will make it eventually."



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# In Town Today



## Hallam FC - A History

Sheffield. You may be forgiven for only knowing the busy, bustling South Yorkshire city by its two football league sides, but Sheffield can be thanked for numerous contributions to British history and culture. From stainless steel and Hendersons Relish, to Arctic Monkeys and The Full Monty. We've got Park Hill, we've got The Leadmill. We've got it all.

And do you know what else we have? This city has a long, proud and incredibly rich sporting heritage. The oldest football club is from here. The oldest set of football rules is from here. You even have us to thank in part for your beloved Boxing Day football fixtures. And last, but by no means least, the oldest football ground, home to Hallam FC, is here.



# In Town Today



This is our story...

1860 - 1900 - The Beginnings, The Rules and the first ever trophy

The Hallam Football Club was formed 4th September 1860, and is officially recognised as the second-oldest association football club in the world. Although formed in 1860, the football club can trace its links even further back, to 1804, when the owner of the now demolished Plough Inn on Sandygate Road agreed to allow a new cricket club, Hallam Cricket Club, to start playing on an adjacent field he owned.

The club had over 300 members by the 1850s, and in 1860 decided to form a football club to compete against Sheffield F.C, who were formed three years earlier. On Boxing Day 1860, the two clubs played each other at Sandygate for the first time. The match report for the game in the Sheffield Daily Telegraph states that the game was played between 16 of Sheffield and 16 of Hallam and Stumperlowe.

The Hallam Football Club's founder and captain, John Charles Shaw, soon became President of the Sheffield Football Association which organised matches according to the local rules for its growing number of member clubs. Shaw was directly instrumental, with Charles Alcock of the London-based Football Association, in the



# In Town Today



formation of nationally accepted rules for playing the game. Shaw and Alcock were the respective captains in the first game between a Sheffield XI and a London XI, in 1871, in which the preferred rules were tried out.

In 1867, Hallam won the first ever football competition, the Youdan Cup. The trophy itself is named after Thomas Youdan, a local theatre owner who endowed the cup for the tournament. The trophy was subsequently misplaced by the club, and did not resurface again until 1997 when a Scottish antiques collector who had come into possession of the silver trophy sold it back to the club for £2,000. In 2022, the trophy received a valuation from Graham Budd Auctions, who placed a value of £350,000 upon it.

During the 1870's and 1880's, professionalism began to creep into the game. Despite this, Hallam chose to remain fully amateur. In the summer of 1886, for reasons unknown but likely because of financial constraints, the club was dissolved, but a year later the club was re-formed and re-registered with the Sheffield & Hallamshire FA.

1892 saw Hallam enter their first league competition by joining the newly formed Hallamshire League, and they would also play in the Sheffield Minor Cup League, Sheffield Alliance



# In Town Today



and the Hatchard League as the 19th century came to a close.

1900 - 1982 - The Nomads, The Record Makers and The Trophy Winners

Hallam won the Hatchard League title for the first time in 1903, and a year later won the league again, though they lost the play-off final played between the top four teams, and so



surrendered their title. They also reached the final of the Sheffield and Hallamshire Senior Cup for the first time in 1904, but lost 1-6 to Barnsley reserves at Bramall Lane.

In 1911 the club first competed in a Football Association (FA) cup competition, when they entered the FA Amateur Cup. Three years later the First World War began, but Hallam continued to play, dropping out of the Hatchard League to join the Sheffield Amateur and Minor Leagues, previously competed by the club's reserve team. However, in 1917, Hallam decided they could no longer keep playing, and suspended playing operations, rejoining the Sheffield Amateur League after the war had ended, in 1919.



# In Town Today



In 1925 Hallam pulled off a giant-killing when they knocked out five-time Amateur Cup winners Bishop Auckland in front of over 2,000 people at Sandygate. Two years later the club entered the FA Cup for the first time. After winning the Sheffield Amateur League for the second time in 1927, they once again joined the Sheffield Association League.

A downturn in fortune was soon to follow. At the end of the 1932–33 season the landlord of the Plough Inn public house decided to lease Sandygate to other teams, such as Crookes WMC and Fulwood, as Hallam were not providing enough bar takings. Although the club retained its affiliation with the local FA, Hallam's eviction from their ground saw them refrain from playing any football for a period of 15 years.

Hallam's time in the wilderness subsided in 1947 when they finally arranged a return to Sandygate, playing in the Sheffield Amateur League and the re-formed Hatchard League (which they won) before finally re-joining the Sheffield Association League in 1949, winning the title for the first time. A year later Hallam won the Sheffield Senior Cup for the first time when they beat Stocksbridge Works at Hillsborough in front of 7,240 spectators, and in 1952 they entered the Yorkshire League.

That same season, Hallam's FA Amateur Cup tie





# In Town Today



with Dulwich Hamlet was switched to Hillsborough stadium because of increased ticket demands – the attendance of over 13,000 proving to be a club record, which is still held today. After winning promotion to the top flight of the Yorkshire League for a second time in 1960, Hallam became a regular fixture in the league, playing at the same level for the next 20 years.

1982 - Present - NCEL Years, a rejuvenated Sandygate and the Centurions



The 1982–83 season saw the demise of the old Yorkshire League, with Hallam entering the newly formed Northern Counties East League (NCEL), which demanded more stringent ground grading rules. With

only seven years of its ground lease remaining the club could not commit to expensive improvements. Protracted negotiations with the landlord eventually led to a 99 year extension being granted but a large premium was demanded within one year. A massive fund raising effort secured the new lease and continued for the provision of floodlights, first used in 1992, and a stand behind one goal to shelter 100 people.



# In Town Today



During season 2000/2001, Hallam FC received two certificates from the Guinness World Records

organisation, which recognised that Sandygate was the Oldest Football

Ground still in use and that Hallam FC possesses the World's oldest "knock-out" cup, namely the "Youdan Cup" of 1867. Both certificates can be seen proudly displayed in the entrance porch of the 1860 suite.

The club has spent most of its time in the NCEL in the Premier Division (which currently sits at level 9 of the English football league system), and won the League Cup competition in 2004 when beating Mickleover Sports in the final, but in 2011 they were relegated back to the First Division.

In 2012, Sandygate received a much needed facelift, paid for by a posthumous donation by lifelong supporter Roger Bell. This donation allowed the facilities to be upgraded in line with the modern day league requirements and to refurbish the clubhouse which was officially reopened on the 13th April 2012 as the "1860 Suite".

In the years that followed, the club became a competitive force in the first division, qualifying for the Division One end of season play-offs, but ultimately being eliminated in the semi-finals on both occasions. However, disappointment wasn't





going to linger around Sandygate for long.

The appointment of Craig Denton as manager in 2020 was followed by an upturn in results and attendances, and in the 2021-22 season Hallam secured the Division One title with a thumping 102 points, coupled with a goal difference of 103 and securing promotion to the NCEL Premier Division after nearly a decade away, with Sandygate hosting record crowds in excess of 1,100.

These magnificent crowds soon necessitated further expansion at Sandygate, with the Shed End seeing an extension behind the goal and beyond.

The 22/23 season saw Hallam finish in 6th place, with an average attendance of 502 for the campaign, a fine first season back in the Premier Division.



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# The Barton Blog

Our last home game By Darren Stockdale  
against Handsworth saw  
the first game in which one of the teams managed  
to win since March 2023.  
That game Handsworth won, as they did on  
Tuesday.

A goal for Handsworth after the break was  
cancelled out by Will Waudby, but Handsworth got  
the winner with about 15 minutes to go.  
There was far more to the game than just the  
three goals, which I am sure you will be able to  
see on YouTube in good time.

Rather than dwell on it let's take a quick look at  
how the reserves are getting on in the  
Lincolnshire League. They are currently 8th in the  
table, with three home wins and three away wins,  
one home draw and one away draw, and eight  
losses in total. Their last three games have seen  
some good results with the latest being a 3-0  
victory over Lincoln United FC Development Team.

That followed a good 4-1 victory away at  
Cleethorpes Town Reserves and a good 4-2 victory  
away at Horncastle Town FC. Harry Bowes and  
Kien Salter share the lead for leading scorer with  
eight goals each. However, the goals are being  
spread throughout the team with a total of 17  
different scorers so far.







There are eight more fixtures for the reserves, with five of those at being home, so there is still plenty of time to go watch them.


## Trivia

Viking words we still use today – Another topic inspired by RobWords. Today we will take a quick look at some of the Viking words we still use today, and how influential they have all been in our lives.



Vikings gave us words that we take for granted. Words like 'they' (peir) and 'their' (peirra), in fact many words beginning with 'th' like 'though' (peah), 'thrift' (prift). 'thrust' (prysta) etc. We can also 'crawl' (Krafla) thanks to the Vikings and 'stagger' (stakra) and 'stumble' (stambia).





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# The Barton Blog

The Vikings gave us some good fighting words too. Words such as 'slaughter' (slahtr), 'ransacked' (rannsaka), 'club' (kylfa), 'knife' (knifr) and 'beserk' (beserker). Many of the words that begin with 'sk' also have Viking origins such as 'sky' (sky), 'skull' (skulle), 'skirt' (skyrta), 'skin' (skinn), 'skip' (skopa). In fact, 'skirt' and 'shirt' originally meant the same thing. 'Skirt' was Viking for short garment and 'shirt' was the Germanic language equivalent.

Some of the other words that come from the Viking language and Germanic language, which originally had similar meanings to which we use both today are shabby/scabby, shatter/scatter, ship/skipper, bathe/bask and ditch/dyke to name but a few.

Of course we are all familiar with Viking place names. There are around 1400 Viking place names around the British Isles. Names ending in 'by' meant a farm, 'thorpe' meant a village and 'wick' a bay. Some people's surnames also have a Viking influence, such as those ending in 'son'.

However, to me one of the most interesting parts to all this is how some of the Viking words are preserved in certain dialects, even if they never made it to the main language. For example, the phrase "bairns leck in't beck" is entirely a Viking phrase. I am sure a lot of the 'older' generation will probably understand most of that sentence,





# The Barton Blog

but if not, it means “children play in the stream”.

## History

Our away game against Hallam was the highest attended game in the league last season with an amazing 823 supporters. They would have seen a good game.

Hallam took the lead in the first half and held on to it to half time. Craig King equalised for Barton just after the hour, with Hallam restoring their lead a few minutes later. Tom Waudby scored very late on to leave the game 2-2 at the end.

Our home game against Hallam saw the visitors race into a two-goal lead before the break. A goal from Tom Waudby on 63 minutes was not added to, leading to a defeat for Barton. This season a modest 246 supporters saw the teams fight out a draw at Hallam. Hallam took the lead on 22 minutes with Tom Waudby equalising soon after. It remained that score until the 90+ minutes when both teams scored again (Grant Tait for Barton) to leave the score 2-2 at the end.

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





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# The Untold Game

## Cha Boom

When Eintracht Frankfurt coach Dieter Schulte received an invitation to visit the 1978 Asian Games, his hopes must not have been high. Koln had brought in the talented Yasuhiko Okudera a year earlier, and he had done well, but he was the first Asian player ever deemed of sufficient quality to play in Europe. The lack of talent in that part of the world could be blamed on cultural differences, or military service, or simply the distance from footballing centres in Europe and South America. But Schulte went along anyway, out of curiosity more than hope, to see what Asian football could offer his Bundesliga side. In the process, he discovered Cha Boom.



In 1972, his first year at Korea University, Cha's form was exceptional and he earned his first cap, becoming the youngest player



# The Untold Game

to represent his country. He was included in the Korean Team of the Year and the following year was named the Korean Footballer of the Year. In his final year at the university he led the team to the Korean National Championship; a forerunner to the Korean Cup. Quite the feat for a player still only 20.

South Korean football was part-time, and Cha took on a job for the Korea Trust Bank so that he could play for the team, and despite leading his side to the league title was quickly moved on. National Service was, and is, still expected in the peninsula. Cha joined the Air Force, and it was here that, in 1978, his life would change, and in 1979 at the conclusion of his service, he finally linked up with Schulte at Frankfurt.



Cha immediately set about endearing himself to his German fans, scoring in his first three appearances for the club. A hard worker, a physical presence, good in the air and

with powerful technique, he was a problem that German defences struggled to cope with, and formed a formidable partnership with Bernd Holzenbein and top-scored with 12 goals. The side only managed a ninth-placed finish, but Cha found himself in the Kicker team of the year,





## The Untold Game

joined in the forward line by Kevin Keegan and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge. But it was in Europe that he would really make his mark.

On the way to the UEFA Cup final, he earned high praise from Alex Ferguson, who described him as 'unstoppable', and set up a clash with Borussia Monchengladbach. Cha had set up what turned out to be the winning away goal in a 3-3 aggregate draw, slipping away from Lothar Matthaus to slide the ball across to Fred Schaub. 'Tscha Bum is the best attacker in the world', the German defender would concede.

A hero for his team, and a fan favourite across Germany, Cha helped his side to the German Cup the following season, scoring six goals en route to the trophy, and topped the scoring charts in three of his four seasons. But the UEFA Cup was the high point of his Frankfurt career, and with the club struggling to balance the books in 1983, he was sold to Bayer Leverkusen.

The Korean spent six years at his new club, and Leverkusen saw an immediate upturn in fortunes upon his arrival, lifting themselves to mid-table from the threat of relegation. A difficult second season saw some question his influence on the team, but he was back to his imperious best in 1985/6, scoring 17 goals as his side qualified for the UEFA Cup.



# The Untold Game

The 1986/7 campaign was disappointing for Cha, and signalled the approaching conclusion to his career. There would be one more triumph, however. Despite being knocked out in the second round of the UEFA Cup, another sixth placed finish gave the Korean one more chance to make history.

Cha managed only four Bundesliga goals that season, but they did make him the highest scoring foreign player in German history. In Europe, Leverkusen



struggled their way toward the final. After a 3-0 drubbing by Espanyol in the first leg of the final, it looked as though the curse of Leverkusen was about to strike again. Leverkusen fought back hard in the return fixture, but were held at 2-0 in the dying seconds. They needed a goal. They looked to Cha Boom.

The Germans earned a free kick in a dangerous area. Everyone pushed forward as the seconds ticked down. Espanyol had one hand on the trophy, but their fans were nervous. The ball was floated into the box, too close to Thomas N'Kono in the Espanyol goal, who came to claim it. But then, out of nowhere, the Korean popped



# The Untold Game



up to nod it beyond him. The Spanish lost all concentration. The Germans were delirious. They took the game to penalties, where Cha held his nerve to win the trophy. A thrilling end to a thrilling career.

Cha played just one more season, retiring at the end of the 1989 season and turning to management in his homeland. But in Germany, he will always be Cha Boom.

Enjoy the game.

Martyn Green The Untold Game

Find more at [TheUntoldGame.co.uk](http://TheUntoldGame.co.uk) or on social media @TheUntoldGame



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