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## BARTON TOWN



## PICKERING TOWN

Match Sponsor



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THE EASY BUY STADIUM

# BARTON TOWN SWANS REVIEW



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# Gregory's Greeting

Good afternoon and welcome to The EasyBuy Stadium for today's NCEFL Premier Division match which finds us hosting Pickering Town. As the team furthest north in the NCEFL only Beverley and Tadcaster are closer to them so it's almost a derby match!

As always we extend a warm welcome to the players, officials and especially supporters of The Pikes who have made the journey to be with us today. Let's hope we have a great match.

It's been a couple of weeks and four games since my last notes and we've run the full range of emotions. A great win against Parkgate at our last home match, a frustrating draw away at Handsworth when we were clearly the better side, a draw with all the anxiety and stress of a penalty "shoot out" to decide the winner at Harrowby United in the Lincolnshire Senior Trophy, and finally on Wednesday the disappointment of losing away at Penistone Church on Wednesday; an evening that started with a thick mist over the ground and finished with The Swans the wrong end of a 3-1 scoreline in torrential rain.



If you were at the Penistone match then I hope you have now dried out and are looking forward to the warmer sunnier afternoon that today's weather forecast promises!

Despite having recruited a large squad with a lot of experience due to the nature of non-league football we have some players that are not always available due to work commitments as well as the ever present problems of player injuries.

Our manager, Anthony Bowsley, has already brought in additional players through contacts with other clubs and continues to look to attract new players to the club.

You will have undoubtedly noticed some new loan and work experience arrivals in recent weeks and "Bows" has his eyes on other signings in the very near future.

As mentioned previously, we are now looking at getting things sorted for the installation of the pitch drainage. With a magic wand we'd like to see that done next week but it will have to wait until next spring at the end of the current season.

Finally, thank you to match sponsors Howarth Timber. They have been valued supporters of the club for several seasons. I hope you and your guests enjoy today's game.

UP THE SWANS!



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# A Shot Across The...

Good afternoon everyone; today we extend a warm welcome to the Pickering Town players, officials and their travelling support. We hope they have had a safe and pleasant journey to be with us today, and get to witness and enjoy a great match.

It's only been a couple of weeks since my last notes but quite a lot has happened. Last time at home we hosted Parkgate - who were promoted from NCEL Division One last season. After a run of drawn matches that we could, no, should have won, we finished the day with a convincing win over the visitors.

Then off on the road once again... our first trip was to Handsworth and their all-weather pitch. I'll admit I'm not a great fan of the artificial pitch despite training on them at Baysgarth School. With the home side scoring twice in close succession in the first half the lads put in a much stronger performance in the second with Ali and Tom stepping up to see us get the draw, although we were so much better than Handsworth in the second period we should have come away with all three points. Wednesday games mess with our







# A Shot Across The...

training schedule a fair bit as we will train Tuesday evening, if there is no match, and Thursday evening. Of course a Wednesday evening match means we can't do this. Our next match was on Saturday in the Lincolnshire Senior Trophy and a trip to Grantham to pay Harrowby United... and another draw but with no replays we faced a penalty shootout. Always tense we scored four and with James Hitchcock doing his bit we progress to the Quarter Final stage.

Then just a couple of days ago we were off to Penistone Church for another Wednesday evening match. The thick mist when we arrived was replaced by rain that turned up for the second half and I think just about everyone took cover in the stands as it got heavier. We found ourselves a goal behind and down to 10 players after an innocuous looking challenge despite starting strongly. We were the better team in the second half; with both sides scoring in the dying minutes we conceded a third goal while trying to salvage a draw and one point; only our third league defeat.

Today will be another tough match but at home one I believe we can take all three points from an boost our league position.

UP THE SWANS!



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FA CUP first round draw day is always one of the most eagerly-awaited of the Non-League calendar.

It's the day when all those dreams and aspirations of drawing a big club are realised, when cup fever really kicks in.

Every year it throws up a tie or two to whet the appetites of the minnows, but this year's helping was unlike any other.

In fact, I can honestly say that the roll of the balls - served up by Bradford City legend Stuart McCall and former Manchester United and Salford City winger Danny Webber on Monday night - were about as kind to Non-League clubs as I've ever known it to be.

Not just the odd tasty match-up to help fill a few column inches in The NLP on a Sunday, but a whole host of absolute beltors to ensure we are bursting with preview ideas in the build-up to the weekend of November 2.

Of the 40 ties pulled out of the hat, 23 see a Non-League club pit their wits against their





counterparts from Leagues One or Two. Eleven of those ties are at home, 12 away.

A further four are all-Non-League affairs, ensuring there'll be plenty of interest in the second round too come November 30.

While the grudge match between MK Dons and AFC Wimbledon will naturally be seen as the pick of the bunch by many, there are a number of mouth-watering ties with a strong derby feel.

Take Kettering Town, for example. The Poppies are already FA Cup folk heroes as the country's highest FA Cup goalscorers. Their 2-1 win at Farsley Celtic on Saturday extended their record to 920 – seven more than Tottenham Hotspur.

A healthy crowd gathered at the Latimer Park clubhouse on Monday night to witness their fate and they were toasting long into the night as they were handed an away tie to near neighbours Northampton Town.

Also celebrating a derby to savour were Weston-Super-Mare, who were handed an away tie at Bristol Rovers, and Alfreton Town, who will relish their short trip to face Notts County. Elsewhere, Oldham Athletic boss Micky Mellon and striker James Norwood return to former







club Tranmere Rovers, while Aldershot Town will be looking to repeat their heroics of last season when they make the trip to Bradford City's Valley Parade.

Of the Non-League home ties drumming up interest, Tamworth are getting ready for a monster clash when Huddersfield Town, winners in 1921-22, visit The Lamb, while all eyes will also be on National League North high-flyers Curzon Ashton when they host Mansfield Town.

Southend United were rewarded for their last-gasp victory over Eastleigh in the last round with a home tie against Charlton Athletic, while Boreham Wood have pulled it out of the hat once again, this time landing a crunch home clash with League One Leyton Orient.

Wood's National League South rivals Chesham United were paired with League One Lincoln City, Woking pulled out struggling Cambridge United and Worthing will fancy their chances of an upset at home to Morecambe.

But the top pick must surely be Sutton United, who undoubtedly pulled out the plum draw – a home tie against big-spending League One title chasers Birmingham City at Gander Green Lane.





The U's are no strangers to welcoming high-profile opponents, of course, after famously pulling out Arsene Wenger's Arsenal in the fifth round back in 2016-17.

At the time of writing, before Tuesday night's replays, Step 3 Harborough Town were the lowest ranked club left in the competition having ended Bury's cup dream in the last round.

And the Bees will relish a trip to Tonbridge Angels, of National League South, in what manager Mitch Austin describes as a "winnable tie".

Whatever happens come November 2, the eyes of the nation will be on the Non-League clubs once again with the 'three-up' brigade ready with their stats books to prove that the gap between the fourth and fifth tiers is narrower than ever.

Replays, of course, are no more hereon in, so it's a straight 90-minute shoot-out, decided by extra-time and then penalties if necessary.

Either way, the cup gods have shone on us and the stage is set for our Non-League clubs to earn a place in history. It promises to be a weekend to remember.



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# In Town Today



Pickering Town are an old established football club, formed in 1888, making them older than many top professional clubs. Happy to compete in local leagues for almost 80 years, the club made the bold step up to senior non - league football in 1972, when an invitation to join the Yorkshire League was taken up. Those who made the momentous decision to leave local football back in 1972 could never surely have imagined the progress the club would make over the following years.

The ground has developed beyond all recognition in this time, with the erection of floodlights, two smart seated stands and a covered enclosure, making it an impressive small football stadium. On the field, there have been plenty of ups and downs along the way, as the club sought to become established in the highly competitive world of non - league football. The Pikes enjoyed many successful seasons in local football winning many trophies but the decision to join the Yorkshire League came after they had been relegated to the York League second division. Pikes had been unsuccessful in an application for membership of the Yorkshire League twelve months earlier, but after the terrible 1971-72 campaign, with the relegation, the club received an invitation to take up a vacant place in the Yorkshire League third division, and so the journey in senior non league football began.



# In Town Today



The team became champions of the third division in 1973-74 gaining promotion to the second division, then next season 1974-75 after another successful campaign, The Pikes

achieved promotion to the Yorkshire League Division. After maintaining their status in Division 1 the following season, the club ended been relegated at the end of 1976-77 to Division 2 and suffered a similar a similar fate the following season. Over the next four seasons The Pikes continued to play in Division 3 of the Yorkshire League with mixed fortunes. Then in season 1982-83 with the merger of the Yorkshire League and Midland Counties League, The Pikes were placed in Division 2 (North) of the newly created Northern Counties East Football League.

After re-organisation in the NCEFL the team were placed in Division 1 (North) 1984-85, and again in 1985-86 after another re organisation the Pikes found themselves competing in Division 2, in the season 1987-88 the Pikes won the Division 2 league title to gain promotion to Division 1 of the NCEFL, where they finished a creditable 5th. In 1990-91 the Pikes claimed their first major cup success since stepping up to senior football by winning the North Riding County Cup, defeating Marske Utd 3-2 at Whitby Town's Turnbull Ground.

Season 1991-92 saw Pickering gain promotion to the Premier Division of the NCEFL by finishing



# In Town Today



runners up in Division 1 to champions Stocksbridge Park Steels. The following season their first in the Premier division saw a thrilling campaign with The Pikes finishing runners up to Spennymoor United on goal difference, with the final result only being decided on the last day of the season.

Season 1993-94 saw the Pikes finish 5th in the league and reach the final of the North Riding Senior Cup for the first time losing 2-0 to Guisborough Town, this season also saw the club play their ever FA Cup tie, beating Penrith 5-2. The following season 1994-95 again saw the club again reach the final of the North Riding Senior, suffering defeat again, losing 5-2 to Marske Utd. The team continued to compete in NCEFL Premier Division, until suffering relegation to Division 1 at the end of the 1998-99 season, two seasons later 2000-01 the club regained their Premier Division status by finishing runners up in Division 1 to Borrowash Victoria.

The next few seasons saw the team have fluctuating fortunes, with the best campaigns been 2003-04 when finishing 5th, having been amongst the front runners for a large part of the season and third in 2008-09. The club also reached the last 16 of the FA Vase on three occasions before achieving their best run in the competition in reaching the Quarter Finals in



# In Town Today



2005-06 losing out to eventual winners Nantwich Town.

Season 2012-13 saw The Pikes winning the North Riding Senior Cup, defeating Marske Utd 3-0 in the final, the club again reached the final in 2016-17, but on this occasion losing 3-1 to Whitby Town, the league campaign this season was also one of success with the club finishing runners up in the NCEFL to Cleethorpes Town, unfortunately just missing out on promotion. The following Season 2016-17, saw The Pikes repeat the feat, this time finishing runners up to Pontefract Collieries, but with two teams been promoted on this occasion The Pikes achieved their highest ever level in Senior non-league football.

Season 2018-19 was one of consolidation, but the club continued to improve their facilities, with the extension of the players changing rooms and the building of an extension to create two new changing rooms for officials during the close season.

2019-20 proved a difficult one for the club and results were poor with the team being bottom of the table when the season was curtailed and declared null and void. Denny Ingram was relieved of his duties in January and Steve Roberts previously assistant manager at Scarborough Athletic was appointed as his replacement





# In Town Today



bringing in Tony Hackworth as his assistant. The following season 20-21 was also brought to an early end with the season curtailed again.

We started the 21-22 season with hopes of improved performance but unfortunately despite a late rally the season ended with relegation from the NPL. Although last season proved to be very disappointing at senior level, the start of the Club's Scholarship saw some players from the Academy make their debuts at first team level and hopefully this will bode well for the future. The season saw a new challenge for the club with them having being placed in the Northern League, for the first time and we looked forward to welcoming some new faces to Mill Lane and a hope for an improved season.

Season 22/23 saw a complete change with our first foray into the Northern League. An eventful season saw us survive in Division 1 by the skin of our teeth. The FA then decided to move us to the Northern Counties East League from which we had been promoted a few years earlier. Our first season back did not go as we had hoped and we managed to survive with only one team relegated.

A much better pre-season has led to hope for a good 2024/25 season.





## Pickering Town Player Profiles 2024/25

### Goalkeepers

**Alfie Burnett** - Signed during the summer Alfie has solid experience with Leeds, Rotherham and Forrest Green.

**Stan Conner** - a promising youngster who will spend time with our under 18 squad but looks like one for the future.

### Defenders

**Blake Drury** - Blake is a defender who was previously been with York City, he joins us in 2021 and showed good promise last season.

**Eddie Cass** - a well accomplished centre back who is good in the air and is a tough, strong tackler. He is very organised at the back and shows good leadership qualities. Previously, Eddie has played for both Pickering Town and Bridlington Town before his move out to America, to play for Rocky Mountain College. Upon his return from the US he played for Knaresborough before signing for us during the summer.

**Connor Avison** - Connor is a young central defender, who came through the Scarborough Scholarship programme.



# In Town Today



**Ben Leyland** - An experienced full back who came to us in the summer from North Ferriby.

## Midfielders

**Jamie Thornton** - Jamie is a very composed central defender who joins us having previously been with Leeds United Academy.

**Wayne Brooksby** - Wayne is a vastly experienced semi pro who has played for the likes of Guiseley, Harrogate Town and more recently Scarborough Athletic.

**Harry Lovick** - Having played for us on loan from Hull he rejoined this season from North Ferriby.

**Omar Sanyang** - Former Scunthorpe United Pro has also had spells at Tadcaster Albion and Bradford Park Avenue. Rejoined us for a third spell from Liversedge.

**Ben Silburn** - spent 7 years as a youngster with Hull City before non league stints with Bridlington Town and North Ferriby.

## Forwards

**Sam Calvert** - Rejoins the club after seven seasons away.



**George Brown** - Brownny comes to us after a couple of prolific seasons in the York League. Capable of playing in any of the front three roles , his pace will give us a real edge this season

**Joe Wood** - a promising youngster joined us in the summer after a successful pre season

**Bradley Wood** - another promising youngster joined us in the summer after a successful pre season

**Ify Ofoegbu** - He can play multiple positions as well as striker. Previous clubs include Chesterfield, Ossett Utd, Lincoln Utd.

and in The Pikes Dugout...

Manager: **Tony Hackworth**

Assistant Manager: **Joe Connor**

Coach: **Wayne Brooksby**

Sports Therapist: **Curtis Metcalfe**



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# The Barton Blog

Our previous home game [By Darren Stockdale](#) was a cracker, especially if you were a Barton fan. I cannot remember the last time I saw such a dominant performance by Barton, and such a great defensive display by the visitors.

From the off Barton were on top and after 15 minutes took the lead when a great cross from Will Waudby was met by Keegan Green. It was chance after chance for Barton after that, with the only thing Hitchcock having to do most of the half was pick the ball out of the back of the net when Parkgate got a shock equaliser.

The second half got underway in the same fashion. Barton were totally dominant, and we even had a visit from "Dave the football cat". 70 minutes into the game and Ali Aydemir put Barton in front again, and again one of the few things Hitchcock had to do for most of the half was take the ball out the back of the net when Parkgate got another unexpected equaliser.

Ali Aydemir got his second goal on 82 minutes to put Barton back into the lead. As I mentioned in my previous blog, no one should leave a Barton game early as something always happens in the time added on. It was exactly the case on this day too. Up to that point the referee hadn't brandished a single card all match.





# The Barton Blog


As soon as we hit added time one of the Parkgate players threw in a really bad tackle on Clements. The ensuing arguing saw a yellow for one player each, and a red for the lunging Parkgate player. Minutes later Andy Norfolk scored Barton's fourth to seal the game 4-2.

I did mention in my pitch-side notes that Barton had around 700 chances in the game to Parkgate's three. That may have been a slight exaggeration as Parkgate did have a few more in the second half, but it felt like that. There were at least two goal-line clearances from Parkgate to keep the score respectable. If that had been a team with a poorer defence we could have reached double figures.

Next came our trip to Handsworth. Two quick goals in the first half gave the hosts a comfortable lead at half time. However, when it comes to away games Barton do like to draw them, and that was the case here when second-half goals from Ali Aydemir and Tom Waudby levelled the game.

Our next game was in the Lincolnshire Senior Trophy first round. We usually don't do so well in this competition, apart from last season when we won the first round at home on penalties but lost in the next round. This season saw us away at Harrowby United of the United Counties Football League Premier Division North.





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# The Barton Blog



I have no idea how that league compares to ours. Charlie Clements put Barton into the lead after 24 minutes, but Harrowby equalised just before the break. It remained like that until the end of the game, resulting in another away draw. However, in the Lincolnshire Senior Trophy there are no replays it goes straight to penalties. It looked all





# The Barton Blog

lost for Barton when we missed and Harrowby scored early on, but two great saves from Hitchcock saw Barton eventually win 4-3 on penalties.

Finally, Wednesday saw Barton fall to a defeat away at Penistone Church. That is our first defeat in seven games, but with only two wins amongst them we currently find ourselves at the wrong end of the table.

## Trivia

Portmanteaus – What on earth is a portmanteau I hear you ask? A portmanteau is a large travelling bag, but also a word blending two other words together to make a new word, like podcast (from the words ipod and broadcast). It is the latter meaning I want to look at today.

The word portmanteau is itself a portmanteau, as it is made up of the French for porte (to carry) and manteau (cloak), which describes a suitcase that opens in two halves. Portmanteaus carry both meanings of the two words it contains.

So, let's take a look at some obvious portmanteaus which I am sure you will all be familiar with and possibly hear being used quite often:





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- Brunch – coming from breakfast and lunch and means a meal that takes place between the two.
- Brexit – coming from Britain and exit which I am sure we all remember.
- Email - coming from electronic and mail and is something most of us will use daily.
- Frenemy – coming from friend and enemy and is someone who pretends to be a friend whilst actually being an enemy.
- Guesstimate – coming from guess and estimate and is based on a hunch rather than data.
- Jeggings – coming from jeans and leggings which are leggings designed to look like jeans.
- Labradoodle – coming from labrador and poodle which is a hybrid dog from both breeds.
- Mocktail – coming from mock and cocktail and is a cocktail that contains no alcohol.
- Spork – coming from a spoon and a fork, an eating utensil serving as both.

However, some portmanteaus have become so embedded in our language that you probably didn't realise they were made up of two words.





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This list includes:

- Breathalyser – coming from breath and analyser.
- Clasp - coming from clutch and grasp.
- Dumbfounded – coming from dumb and confounded.
- Electrocute – coming from electricity and execute.
- Fortnight – coming from fourteen and night (or two weeks being fourteen nights).
- Intercom – coming from internal and communication.
- Splatter – coming from splash and spatter.
- Stash – coming from store and cache, both meaning keeping something safe.
- Vitamin – coming from the word vita (life) and amine (amino) as scientists originally thought vitamins contained amino acids.

These are just a few portmanteaus we use in everyday life. If you are interested in learning more about the subject, I can recommend the YouTube channel Words Unravelled, which covers





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this and many more interesting language topics.

## History

Last season our home game against Pickering came right at the start of the season. A single goal just after the break from Tom Waudby was enough to give victory to the Swans. Our away game was full of goals, although not a good result for Barton. Pickering took the lead on 15 minutes.

Reece Moody equalised on 25 minutes and put Barton ahead on 28 minutes. Pickering equalised almost immediately, leaving it 2-2 at the break. Pickering shot into the lead just after the break with two quick goals. Will Waudby pulled one back for Barton, and Harrison Coley got the equaliser on 75 minutes.

Pickering got their fifth, and winning goal not long after. The final score was 5-4 to Pickering.

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







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## The Untold Game

### **Defends like Beckenbauer, Passes like Zico**

On 11th December 2004, Argentina mourned the first death of one of their World Cup winners. Jose Luis Cuciuffo was just 43 years old, and had been hunting in the southern tip of the country. 100km from the nearest hospital, he hit a mound in the road, and the rifle that he had between his legs discharged, firing through his liver, and then ricocheting into his neck. He died en route to the hospital, the blood loss overwhelming. He would be remembered as an Argentine legend, and beloved by Maradona. That itself is high praise in the South American nation.

Born in Cordoba in 1961, Cuchu put plans for an engineering degree on permanent hold when he was recruited by local club Huracan in 1978. He impressed enough in his first two years as a professional to earn a move to one of Cordoba's giants, Talleres, where he slotted immediately into the team. An underwhelming season from the club couldn't disguise the youngster's



# The Untold Game

undoubted ability, and he made 43 appearances in his first year, securing a reputation as an exceptional centre back.

He moved on to Velez Sarsfield in 1982 - a modest team in the early 1980s - despite being chased by a number of other clubs. Over the next three years, he helped bring them into title contention, and in 1985 they finished runners up. Marshalling their defence, with his ability to read the game and play a pass, he wouldn't be out of place in today's game. That skillset was spotted by national team manager Carlos Bilardo, and in 1986 he was selected by the Albiceleste for the 1986 World Cup.



Cuchu was left out of the team for the first game against South Korea, but was drafted in for the second against Italy. His task was to mark Giuseppe Galderisi out of the game, the Italian already signed up to move to Milan after the tournament. He wasn't a prolific forward, but he was quick and tricky and it was a difficult



# The Untold Game

introduction to the tournament. The game finished 1-1, and Cuchu was important in keeping the Italians at bay.

However, it was in the third game against Bulgaria that Cuchu really began to shine. Playing out of position at right back, it didn't take him long to find his feet. With just four minutes on the clock, he stole the ball off of the winger. Getting out from under his feet, he played a long, deep cross into the box. Maradona would describe the cross as 'Garrincha style'. It looped into the box, where Jorge Valdano was waiting to head his side into the lead.

It won over the Argentinian captain, which was an important step toward keeping your place in the national team. Maradona's book *Touched by God* positively gushes about Cuchu. He was integral to the tournament with his captain's name stamped all over it.

In the following round, he was tasked with marking Enzo Francescoli. The Uruguayan was in a rich vein of form, being named South American Footballer of the Year in 1984, and then the first foreign player to win Argentine Player of the Year in 1985, with his 25 goals in 32 games securing the title for Los Millonarios. Not that any of that impressed Cuchu, who kept him quiet for 90 minutes to help his side progress.



# The Untold Game



He played in the game against England that was, once again, dominated by Maradona, but it was in the semi-final that he earned his captain's praise again. For the second, brilliant goal, Cuchu intercepted a stray pass from Belgium, and played it into Maradona in the centre. While the maestro strutted his stuff through the defence, the defender's run is often overlooked, but expecting the ball to be played back to him he continued. It opened up the defence just enough for Maradona to dance between the defenders and put a tight, difficult game beyond doubt. One person it wasn't overlooked by was Maradona himself, who



# The Untold Game

acknowledged the defender's contribution.

Cuchu had a quiet, dependable final, but played the full 90 minutes as Argentina won the trophy for the second time in three tournaments. Cuchu hadn't expected to play, but had been a key part of the side. He moved to one of Argentina's great clubs after the tournament, transferring to Boca Juniors. His move coincided with the barren spell for the blue and gold, and domestic silverware once again eluded the defender. He moved to France in 1990, spending three years at Nimes and helping them into Ligue 1, before returning to Cordoba and finishing his career at Belgrano. He hung up his boots after one season.

When he died, there was an outpouring of emotion, and the great and the good flocked to his funeral. Maradona was full of praise for him, and in his book likened his defensive ability to Franz Beckenbauer and his passing ability to Zico. To even be mentioned in the same breath as them, and by him, is testament to his greatness.

Enjoy the game.

Martyn Green The Untold Game

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Referee : Christopher Caskey  
Assistant Referee : Marc Hicks  
Assistant Referee : Ashley Cooper