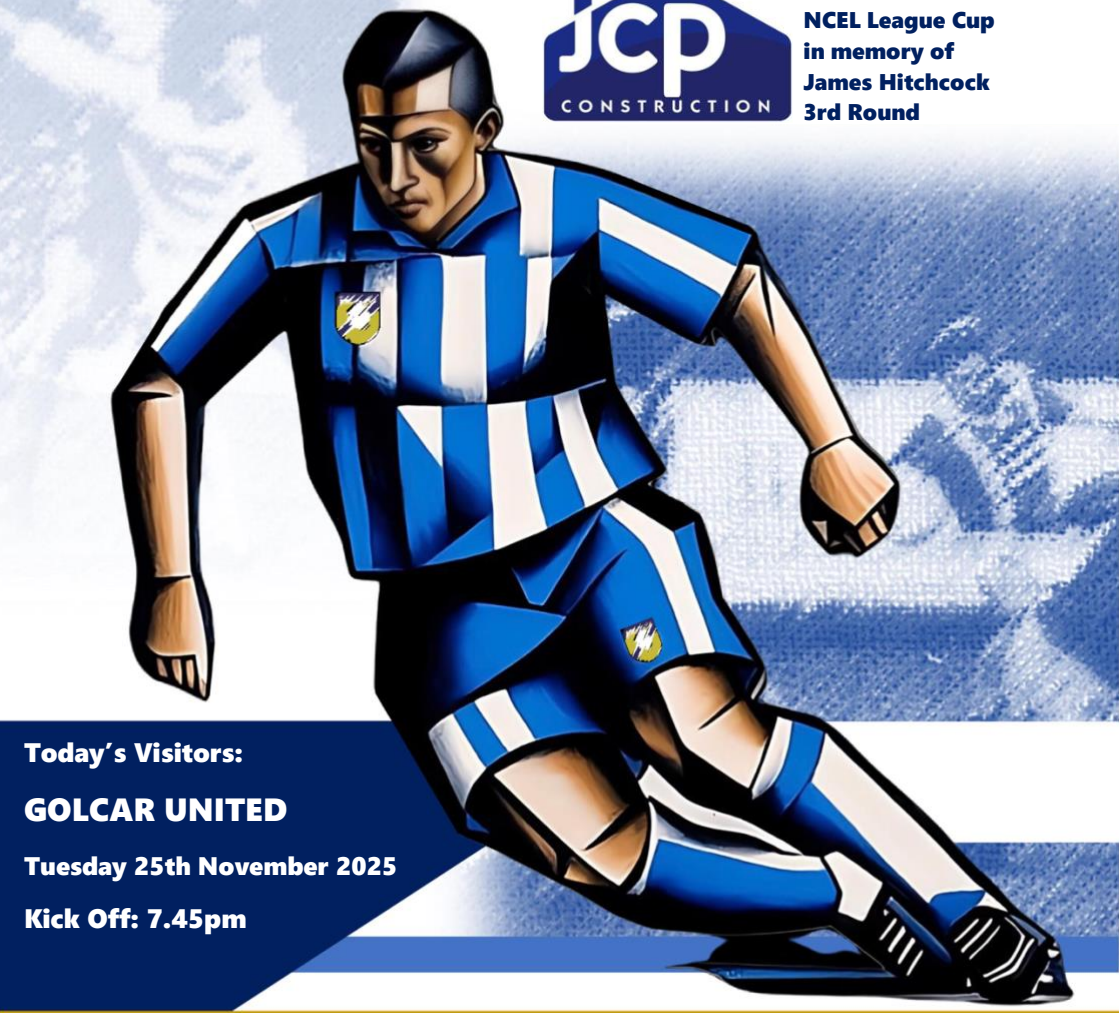
FRICKLEY ATHLETIC

25/26

NCEL Premier Division
Official Match Day Programme

JCP CONSTRUCTION

JCP Construction NCEL League Cup in memory of James Hitchcock 3rd Round



Today's Visitors:

GOLCAR UNITED

Tuesday 25th November 2025

Kick Off: 7.45pm

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Owen Jenkinson was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma in 2022 and, after a year cancer-free, sadly relapsed in 2024. Despite further treatment, his cancer has progressed, and he's now undergoing further chemotherapy. Owen's strength, spirit, and love for life remain unwavering, and the charity PACT (Parents' Association of Children with Tumours & Leukaemia) has been a vital source of support for him and his family throughout the journey.



To donate to PACT, helping them to continue their fine work, go to www.pactfriends.co.uk/donate

JCP CONSTRUCTION NCEL LEAGUE CUP 3RD ROUND
(in memory of James Hitchcock)

TUESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2025 KICK OFF 7.45 PM

FRICKLEY ATHLETIC		GOLCAR UNITED
Blue/White Shirts, Blue Shorts, Blue Socks		Purple & Blue Shirts, Purple Shorts, Purple Socks
Spencer Booth	1	Hugo Bennett
Harry Gagen	2	Kallum Reid
Sam Kilner	3	Will Morrisey
Joel Spence	4	Ryan Wadsworth
Tom Radley	5	Kieron Lawrence
Lewis Binns	6	Jackson Durham
Tom Alngohuro	7	Rekealan Jeffers
Shaun Heselwood	8	Daniel Naidole
Destiny Ifeanyi Nnenanua	9	George Doyle
Martin Woolford	10	Callum Petch
Lucas Robinson	11	Rico Kilbourn
Niall Butchart	12	Masal Arbouin
Charlie Clegg	14	Harry Stead
Josh Lindley	15	Jerome Bedeau
Elliott Andrew	16	Zach Rushworth
Shayan Keyghobadi	17	Finlay Hunt

REFEREE
Dylan Hague

ASSISTANT REFEREES
Finlay Parr
Lee Knight

Bluescene

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, welcome to The SALUS Stadium for this evening's JCP Construction NCEL League Cup in memory of James Hitchcock 3rd round game against Golcar United. We give a warm welcome to Golcar's players, officials and supporters and hope they have a safe trip home after the game.

This evening's visitors, Golcar United, reach this stage of the competition by virtue of a bye in the first round, then in the second round they claimed a comfortable 4-1 victory at Barton Town.

Golcar's recent form saw them go 4 games without a win since September. There was no shame in a 2-1 home defeat at the hands of league leaders Liversedge or a spirited 5-4 reverse at Parkgate. A pair of 2-2 draws at Bottesford Town and Penistone Church then preceded the ending of that winless run with a 2-0 victory at home to Pickering Town at the weekend.

The Azzurri were on a 6 game unbeaten run (in normal time at least) going into last weekend's game. Since a 4-1 triumph - our 3rd on the trot - over Rossington Main, here at The Wezzie, with goals from Shaun Heselwood, Destiny Ifeanyi Nnenanua, Lucas Robinson (a penalty), and Charlie Clegg, our next 3 games were all draws. A 0-0 stalemate at Horbury Town, where Will Jenkinson's red card was the main talking point, was followed by a 1-1 home draw against Pickering Town, as a soft last minute penalty denied us the 3 points that Tom Alngohuru's first half strike warranted. A week ago, Rossington Main were our visitors again but in the Sheffield Cup. Despite Lewis Binns's header and Lucas Robinson's penalty dragging us from 2 down to draw 2 all at 90 minutes, a marathon penalty shootout ended with Rosso going through to the next round 7-6 on spot kicks. But, on Saturday, we crashed back to Earth at Knaresborough Town as we were comprehensively beaten 6-0.

Our most recent meeting with Golcar United was our league game earlier this season in October when we were trounced 6-0 at Longridge Avenue. Our last meeting here at The Wezzie was also earlier this season, in September, as Tom Alngohuru's goal for us was merely a consolation in a 6-1 drubbing. Golcar's dangermen have proved to be George Doyle who netted 5 goals and Zac Rushworth who got 3, across the 2 games.

Expect The Blues to be going all out to restore pride in the badge.

Please note that if tonight's game is drawn after 90 minutes it will go straight to a penalty shootout.

In recruitment news, goalkeeper Spencer Booth has signed on dual registration from/with Guiseley, as cover for Will Sykes who is out injured. We welcome him to the club and wish him the best of luck.

Our next game sees The Blues in action here at Westfield Lane on Saturday 29th November when Barton Town are our visitors, 3pm ko. We hope to see you all there.

Enjoy the game and as always we thank you for your valued and continued support.

#forzafrickley #FFTD

Ground Regulations

Everybody that visits the Westfield Lane Stadium on match days must follow club rules and regulations. Any club official may ask you to leave the ground if you do any of the following:

- **Enter the ground without paying.**
- **Enter the field of play before, during and after a game without permission.**
- **Throw anything onto the field of play.**
- **Use obscene or abusive language (racial or otherwise), or violence of any nature.**

Meet The Visitors

Golcar United were established in 1904 in Huddersfield and played in the Huddersfield District League for many years. They won their first piece of silverware in 1920 when they won the Huddersfield Invitation Cup and won it again in 1923. By the 1930s, the club were popular and would often see crowds in excess of 1000, even going as far as to feature on a cigarette card back in 1935. Golcar won their third Huddersfield Invitation Cup a year later in 1936 and their fourth in 1937. Eventually, the club moved to Longfield Avenue in 1955 and it remains their home today. After small successes in the intervening years, such as winning the Huddersfield Invitation Cup in 1971, the Barlow Cup in 1973 and the Groom Cup in 1991, the club joined the West Riding County Amateur League in 1993.

The odd cup final appearance and league win followed, namely the Groom Cup in 1999, the West Riding County FA Cup in 2001 and the West Riding League championship in 2005. The club found themselves experiencing increasing success towards the end of the 2010s. This period of success coincided with the appointment of Gavin Connor as manager in 2014, he was quickly joined by his brother Ashley Connor as joint-manager and they both steered Golcar to the Double in the 2017/18 season where they won the West Riding League and the Huddersfield Invitation Cup. The 2018/19 season wasn't much different as the Connors replicated their success by retaining both the title and the cup, winning 20 out of 22 league games whilst scoring 105 goals and conceding just 20.

With Golcar doing very well on the pitch, the committee decided to try and take the club to a new level and in 2018 applied to the FA to gain promotion. In order to gain promotion, the club had to undertake a great deal of development work. This included fencing of the pitch, obtaining a clubhouse, adding hard standing, installing female changing rooms, applying and installing floodlights and levelling the pitch due to the considerable slope across the field. This work was completed on time and the club were accepted into the NWCFL in April 2019.

The club started their first ever season in semi-professional football very well with a 2-1 home win against Prestwich Heys in August 2019. The club began to attract big crowds, with a record (at the time) 556 people turning up to watch the side beat Shelley 1-0 in October 2019. Unfortunately, the club wouldn't play another game at home until January 2020. Pitch problems eventually forced a ground share with Avro, located in Oldham, from January onwards. Despite the 21 mile trip to home games, over 100 Golcar fans would regularly make the journey until the Covid 19 pandemic curtailed the season in March 2020. Golcar were sat in 5th place, 10 points behind 3rd with 3 games in hand.

The pandemic was perhaps a blessing in disguise for the club as it allowed them to get to work off the pitch to continue the development work and sort out the pitch. A 100 seater stand and a standing section behind the goal were was installed, alongside a walkway and railings on the bottom touchline. The clubhouse has been extended and the pitch has been dug up and completely re-laid. The ground has been re-named The Skye Direct Stadium and their first game of the 2020/21 season was in the FA Vase, their first involvement with the competition, where they took on Northwich Victoria in front of a sell-out crowd of 300.

The pandemic put paid to the 2020/21 season as well and it was later cancelled in early 2021. After twiddling their thumbs for a few months, Golcar took part in the inaugural Yorkshire Trophy. The first game saw them take on Liversedge and a club record crowd of 575 saw a 1-1 draw. Golcar eventually finished 3rd in the competition.

The 2021/22 season saw the club continue their rise up the pyramid as a 3rd place finish in NWCFL First Division North lead to a playoff place where they triumphed over Holker Old Boys in the final to gain promotion to Step 5.

Allocated to the NCEL Premier Division for 2022/23, achieving a creditable 9th place finish, followed by a 12th in 2023/24. Then 2024/25 was a great season for the club but was a case of so near but yet so far as they finished 3rd in the league, losing in the playoff semi final, and reached the West Riding County Cup Final, losing on penalties. Golcar United will be looking to go one step further in 2025/26.

Elsewhere, Golcar United boast a ladies team, a U6s to U15s junior section and a new academy, offering a pathway through to the 1st team as the village roots remain at the forefront of the club's thoughts.

Frickley's History

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 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 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.

In 2016/17, most of the players who had brought this success were attracted to more affluent clubs. The club were relegated from the NPL Premier Division after a 30 year stay.

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 lead to the appointment of Dave Frecklington in September 2019.

Frecks rapidly turned the side's fortunes around, before lockdown ended the season. 2020/21 ultimately suffered the same fate.

Frecks built what looked like strong squad for the 2021/22 season in the newly formed NPL East Division. However, things didn't pan out as hoped. Key departures lead to a 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 installed 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 ended with the release of McGuire. James Baxendale was in the hot seat for the start of 2024/25 but left to be replaced by Tom Claisse in November 2024 and successfully avoided the drop before being relieved of his duties in September 2025.

Club legend Martyn Woolford has taken the reigns and he'll be looking to roll back the years and bring winning ways back to Westfield Lane.

The JCP Construction NCEL League Cup (in memory of James Hitchcock)

The League Cup is contested by every club in the league. Reaching the quarter finals in 2023/24 is the furthest that both ourselves have ever got in the competition, while tonight's visitors, Golcar United, reached the final in 2022/23.

Season	Winner	Result	Runner-up	Venue	Attendance
1982/83	Shepshed Charterhouse	1–0	Sutton Town		
1983/84	Ossett Albion	2–1	Ilkeston Town	Coronation Park	
1984/85	Alfreton Town	2–1	Long Eaton United	Coronation Park	
1985/86	Sutton Town	1–0	Bradley Rangers	Tickhill Square	
1986/87	Harrogate Railway Athletic	5–0	Woolley MW	Skinner Lane	
1987/88	York Railway Institute	2–1	Rowntree Mac	Bootham Crescent	
1988/89	Bridlington Town	3–1	Emley	Skinner Lane	
1989/90	Ossett Town	1–0	Bridlington Town	Grange Lane	
1990/91	Guiseley	1–0	North Ferriby Utd	Ingfield	
1991/92	North Shields	5–0	Armthorpe Welfare	Queen's Terrace	
1992/93	Spennymoor United	2–1	Thackley	Ingfield	
1993/94	Hucknall Town	4–1	Thackley	Ingfield	
1994/95	Stocksbridge Park Steels	3–0	North Ferriby Utd	Queen's Terrace	
1995/96	Ashfield United	8–2	Ossett Albion	Christchurch Meadow	
1996/97	Hucknall Town	3–1	Pontefract Colls	Millmoor	
1997/98	Hucknall Town	1–0	North Ferriby Utd	Welfare Ground	
1998/99	Denaby United	1–0	Selby Town	Wheatley Park	
1999/00	Garforth Town	3–1	Glapwell	Queen's Terrace	
2000/01	Sheffield	2–1	Gedling Town	North Street	
2001/02	Alfreton Town	4–0	Armthorpe Welfare	Sandy Lane	
2002/03	Ossett Albion	3–0	Sheffield	The Hawthorns	
2003/04	Hallam	1–0	Mickleover Sports	Silverlands	
2004/05	Sheffield	2–1	Harrogate Railway	Queen's Terrace	250
2005/06	Liversedge	5–1(agg)	Sheffield	Coach & Horses / Clayborn	
2006/07	Mickleover Sports	1–1(p)	Garforth Town	Coach & Horses	243
2007/08	Winterton Rangers	3–1	Parkgate	Inkersall Road	213
2008/09	Long Eaton United	4–0	Selby Town	Inkersall Road	260
2009/10	Dinnington Town	5–2	Armthorpe Welfare	Inkersall Road	195
2010/11	Farsley	3–0	Winterton Rangers	Inkersall Road	235
2011/12	Thackley	3–2	Shirebrook Town	Roundwood	272
2012/13	Thackley	3–1	Louth Town	Inkersall Road	225
2013/14	Knaresborough Town.	2–2(p)	Eccleshill United	Valley Parade	390
2014/15	Handsworth Parramore	4–3	Cleethorpes Town	Inkersall Road	376
2015/16	Cleethorpes Town	3–2	Tadcaster Albion	Wheatley Park	423
2016/17	Penistone Church	4–1	Bridlington Town	Bramall Lane	485
2017/18	Cup withdrawn (final abandoned)				
2018/19	Worksop Town	3–1	Liversedge	Keepmoat Stadium	1075
2019/20	Final not played				
2020/21	Competition cancelled				
2021/22	Barton Town	3–2	Garforth Town	Keepmoat Stadium	718
2022/23	Winterton Rangers	2–1	Golcar United	Keepmoat Stadium	810
2023/24	Parkgate	3–0	Emley	Glanford Park	667
2024/25	Beverley Town	3–2	Knaresborough T.	Glanford Park	587

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Memory Match

As usual, we've got 2 memory matches for you. This week we have an 'on this day' game and one that almost was, both played at The Wezzie. The first match was against Colwyn Bay in the NPL Premier Division, played on Saturday 25th November 2000. Mark Wilkinson's penalty save from ex-Manchester United man, Deniol Graham, set the tone. Then a treble from loanee Matt Clarke crowned a fine 6-2 victory for The Blues. Then the second game is a Cheshire County League fixture from Saturday 26th November 1966 against Oswestry Town. The Azzurri ran out 2-1 winners from a remarkable game in which the visitors started with only 7 players. With thanks to JL.

Matt's on the mark for Blues

FRICKLEY Athletic got off the bottom of the Unibond Premier Division in superb style, Matt Clarke, on loan from Halifax Town, scoring a magnificent hat trick as they conquered Colwyn Bay 6-2 at Westfield Lane.

Having only acquired ten goals in their previous 15 league games, the Blues were brilliant, everyone playing a role in subduing a lively Bay combination.

After some even exchanges, Chris Hurst, who was a midfield dynamo, won a tackle in the 16th minute and sent Clarke down the left where he knocked a low pass in for Gary Duffty to strike at the far post and put the home side ahead.

Two minutes later, Colwyn were awarded a penalty after Chris Hilton was alleged to have handled but Mark Wilkinson, having already saved three spot kicks this season, guessed right again to deny Deniol Graham.

A scorching drive by Martin Fox was well turned away by Richie Roberts in the 21st minute, but the Bay keeper had no chance six minutes later when Duffty threaded a ball through and Clarke swept past his man to steer a low shot just inside the far post.

The visitors were still a handful and Mickey Lennon seized on a defensive mistake to reduce the arrears from ten yards after 37 minutes. They resumed the second half strongly, getting on terms when Graham took a pass and hit a 25 yards shot on the turn in the 58th minute.

Clarke put a lob on the roof of the net two minutes later as Frickley renewed their raids, and they regained the lead in the 66th minute, Ian Edge finding Hurst who knocked a pass for Dean Jones to volley in off a post.

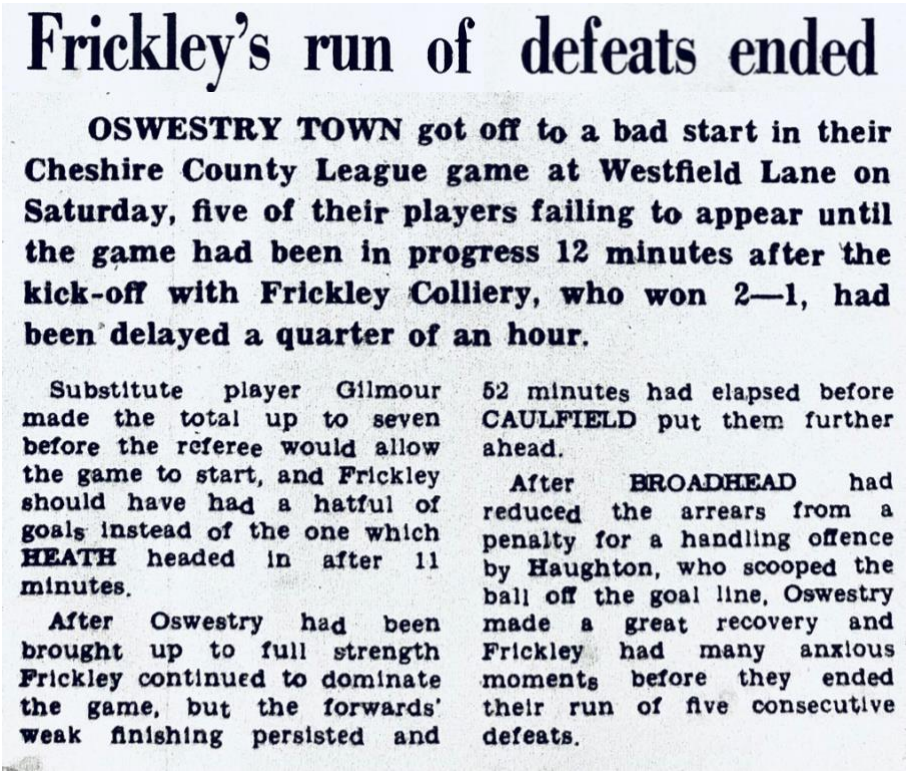
A piece of sheer skill saw the Blues strike again in the 74th minute, Clarke putting a 40 yards pass inside the defence for Edge to race on and rifle an angle drive into the opposite corner.

Mark Wilkinson made a full length dive to turn a 25 yards free kick by Graham over the bar in the 81st minute and then made a point blank save from Mark Price from the resulting corner.

Hurst and Rob Hanby were probing the Bay cover, and Clarke pounced on a through ball to score from 15 yards in the 89th minute, repeating the feat again in the second minute of injury time to crown an excellent performance.

Tomorrow, Frickley travel to Wombwell Main in an effort to get their Sheffield Senior Cup first round tie concluded, kicking off at 1pm, while on Tuesday, they visit Harrogate Town in the Unibond League Cup group stage, kick off 7.30pm.

Memory Match (Cont.)



Frickley's run of defeats ended

OSWESTRY TOWN got off to a bad start in their Cheshire County League game at Westfield Lane on Saturday, five of their players failing to appear until the game had been in progress 12 minutes after the kick-off with Frickley Colliery, who won 2—1, had been delayed a quarter of an hour.

Substitute player Gilmour made the total up to seven before the referee would allow the game to start, and Frickley should have had a hatful of goals instead of the one which HEATH headed in after 11 minutes.

After Oswestry had been brought up to full strength Frickley continued to dominate the game, but the forwards' weak finishing persisted and 52 minutes had elapsed before CAULFIELD put them further ahead.

After BROADHEAD had reduced the arrears from a penalty for a handling offence by Haughton, who scooped the ball off the goal line, Oswestry made a great recovery and Frickley had many anxious moments before they ended their run of five consecutive defeats.

The Famous Five – Who Am I?

1. Blues midfielder who has made over 20 appearances so far this season and shares a nickname with England midfielder Ray Wilkins.
2. Golcar United forward who has scored 5 against The Blues so far this season and is his side's current top scorer.
3. AZ Alkmaar and Republic of Ireland striker who scored a brace against Portugal and a hat trick against Hungary in the recent international break.
4. Former Welsh international midfielder who played for Leicester, Birmingham, Blackburn and Derby and is the current Forest Green Rovers manager?
5. Dutch forward who recently scored Sunderland's late equaliser in a 2-2 draw against Arsenal to deny the Gunners an 11th consecutive win.

Answers on the 'Awaydays' page

The NLP Column:
A Sound Start

By Matt Badcock

Radcliffe joint boss Anthony Johnson's recent social media post caught the eye. Highlighting their three goalscorers, Jordan Hulme, Rio Clegg (pictured) and Mikey Afuye Johnson pointed out their upbringing through local amateur football to the positions where they were used to putting up the nets and paying subs.

His message to youngsters is to not turn noses up at lower levels, but get out and play competitive men's football.



Those three are now spearheading Radcliffe's National League North campaign that has got off to a flyer.

It's interesting as a reminder to young aspiring footballers there are many ways to make a career in football. Playing, and being paid, to play part time at such a good level doesn't happen by accident. It takes hard work and dedication to achieve.

It's true there are some youngsters who may sneer at Non-League. Stories of some turning down the chance to go on loan to help with their development do float around. Perhaps it's the social media culture where it's easier to have 'professional footballer' written in the X or Instagram bio.

But for those who do play, there are more opportunities than ever to make an impact and get spotted.

In recent seasons we've written about so many stories of players getting their chance in the Football League who are not drawn just from the top of Non-League, but right the way through all Steps.

"Let's use those (Hulme, Clegg and Afuye) as an example," Johnsons told us. "Rio Clegg has never been hurt by the system. Because he's never come through an academy, he's never been released by a Liverpool, United, Blackburn and landed at, say, an Oldham and had to start again.

"That leaves a lot of scar tissue, it does. I see it with young players we coach now, 8, 9, 10 year olds who have been told they're not good enough, and people wonder why there's a pandemic of young lads with mental health!

"We've got Rio Clegg, Mikey Afuye and a whole group of that age around the club where we can go: They're starving hungry. "Then when you've got a Jordan Hulme, who has come from the exact same playground as them, put nets up and, it sounds awful, cleared dog s**t off the local park pitch, paid subs to then getting to paid to play semi-professional football, shows how far they've come.

"Yes, you've got young hungry lads coming through but you've also got lads at the top end who have been there and done it themselves. That helps keep their feet on the ground.

"We've got a group here, Matt Sargent, Danny Greenfield, Michael Afuye and Rio Clegg, who are all 23, 24, being watched by EFL clubs and they're an incredibly talented bunch.

"Then we've got the group above them who are coming into their prime. Then we've got our experienced group. It's almost three categories so we've got a good blend."

EFL, and even Premier League, teamsheets this weekend will show there are plenty of routes to the same destination.

Match Reports

Frickley 2 Rossington Main 2
(Sheffield Cup – Rossington win 7-6 on pens)

The Blues mounted a spirited second half comeback after a shaky start as they drew 2 apiece with Rossington Main. However, a 7-6 penalty shootout win broke Azzurri hearts and sent the visitors into the next round of the Sheffield Senior Cup.

The game started the quite evenly. On 4 minutes, Andrew nearly latched onto a through ball, only for a defender to nick it off his toe at the last moment. Moments later, a defensive slip at the other end gifted Rossington a sight of goal, but Sykes gathered comfortably.

Robbo went close on 9 minutes, spinning outside the area and firing just over. But the game was turned on its head over the course of 2 minutes. First, in the 10th minute, a Rosso cross found an unmarked attacker inside the 6 yard box who headed home. And 2 minutes on, the Rosso number 11 was afforded too much space on the edge of the box and placed a neat low effort into the bottom corner.

Things settled for a time until Sykesy kept The Blues in it with a spectacular 29th minute triple save, before Tom A forced the keeper to fingertip the ball over at the opposite end a minute later.

The Frickley rhythm was further disrupted as Luis Af pulled up and had to be replaced by Keyghobadi. Rossington still threatened, firing over on 40 minutes, and The Blues went into the break with work to do. HT 0-2.

Frickley came out with renewed purpose. On 52 minutes, the Rossington keeper tipped Keyghobadi's fierce strike over, and from the resulting corner, the comeback began as El Binno rose to head home to reduce the deficit.

Barely a minute later, Sykesy was called into action again, producing another fine stop to keep the gap at 1.

Andrew blasted over on the hour as The Blues continued to push for an equaliser. In the 73rd minute, Robbo teed up Tom A, who could only shoot over. But persistence paid off. On 76 minutes, Robbo drove into the box and was hauled down. He took responsibility for the penalty himself and smashed it in to level the match.

Woolly replaced Andrew as The Boys in Blue searched for the winner, and nearly had it when Tom A's lung busting run ended with a cross to Woolly but his finish was lifted agonisingly over the bar in the 88th minute.

Rossington thought they had snatched it at the death, but their 90th minute "goal" was ruled out for a misdemeanour.

Robbo then danced through the Rosso defence in stoppage time only to be dispossessed at the crucial moment, and Radz saw a header from a corner headed off the line.

The ref's whistle then signalled the need for penalties to decide the tie. FT 2-2.

Rossington stepped up first in a long, tense, marathon shootout of 22 spot kicks. The momentum swung repeatedly with both sides missing out on earlier opportunities to win it as they endured misses, kicks crashed against the bar and keepers making fine stops. In the end it was the unfortunate Will Sykes, who was hobbling as a result of an injury, that saw his kick saved to hand Rossington a 7-6 victory, and The Blues a frustrating defeat after a much improved second half display.

Penalty Summary:

Rossington: ⚽⚽ ✖ ⚽ ✖ ⚽⚽⚽ ✖ ✖ ⚽

Frickley: ⚽ ✖ ✖ ⚽⚽⚽⚽⚽ ✖ ✖ ✖

It was the scrappy opening quarter of an hour that left us chasing the game, but the fightback was outstanding, showing plenty of promise heading into the rest of season. That's 6 games unbeaten now, in normal time at least. Then there was penalties – they're a lottery and there's no shame in losing what is largely a game of chance.

WEBMASTER MOTM – losing on pennos is always gutting but coming back from 2-0 down with a much changed side to actually get to a shootout was a real achievement. El Binno's header sparked the revival, and Robbo's calm penalty drew us level. And Shayan Keyghobadi and Tom A were equally crucial. But the Glitterball goes to Will Sykes. Playing through the pain barrier (as it stands, he'll be out for a couple of games or so), it was his saves that kept us alive. Superb, Sykesy!

TWITTER MOTM – Lucas Robinson takes it from Will Sykes, Shayan Keyghobadi and Tom Alngohuru. Thanks to all who voted.

SPONSORS/VOLUNTEERS MOTM – Lucas Robinson was chosen by Neil Ascough. Well done, Robbo!

123 through the gate. Your prolonged support on a bitter evening is priceless. And a big thank you for stopping out so late on a school night too!

Frickley Player Statistics

Frickley Athletic Apps. & Goal Scoring Record Career Up to & Inc. Sat. 22nd. Nov. 2025							
	League	Cups	Total	Sub.	Grand	Gls	c/s
			Starts	Apps.	Total		
Martyn Woolford	63	13	**76**	9	**85**	17	
Lewis Binns	49	9	**58**	14	**72**	4	
Charlie Clegg	16	3	**19**	49	**68**	7	
Joel Spence	54	9	**63**	2	**65**	4	
Will Sykes	30	6	**36**	0	**36**		8
Niall Butchart	17	4	**21**	14	**35**	1	
Tom Alngohuro	22	6	**28**	6	**34**	9	
Harry Gagen	26	6	**32**	0	**32**		
Sam Cable	10	3	**13**	18	**31**	8	
Destiny Ifeanyi Nnenanua	15	2	**17**	8	**25**	7	
Lucas Robinson	19	3	**22**	2	**24**	4	
Wil Jenkinson	17	3	**20**	0	**20**		
Sam Kilner	16	3	**19**	0	**19**		
Tom Radley	13	2	**15**	3	**18**	1	
Louis Afonso-Ferreira	11	2	**13**	4	**17**	3	
Tyler Sheard	4	2	**6**	8	**14**	1	
Takunda Katsere	6	3	**9**	4	**13**		
Shayan Keyghobadi	0	1	**1**	6	**7**		
Shaun Heselwood	4	1	**5**	0	**5**	1	
Jack Horobin	0	2	**2**	2	**4**		
Elliott Andrew	0	1	**1**	3	**4**		
Louis Baker	1	0	**1**	0	**1**		
Josh Lindley	0	0	**0**	1	**1**		

MOST RECENT PREVIOUS RESULTS ON THIS DAY 25TH NOVEMBER

Year	Day	H/A	Comp.	Opponents	Result	Frickley Scorers
1989	Sat	A	PC1R2L	Fleetwood Town	L 1-3	Woodhead aet.
1995	Sat	A	NPL	Drolysden	D 2-2	Rayson 2
2000	Sat	H	NPL	Colywn Bay	W 6-2	Duffty, Clarke 3, Jones, Edge
2006	Sat	H	NPL	Radcliffe Borough	D 2-2	Eastwood, Moore
2008	Tue	H	LC 3R	Garforth Town	L 0-1	
2017	Sat	A	NPL1S	Lincoln United	L 1-2	Hazel.
2023	Sat	A	NCELP	Campion	L 6-2	Elkin, Walker.



Blues Squad 25/26

Joel Spence (Midfielder): Joel 90 was at Armthorpe before joining us and he's been on the books of Rotherham United before plenty of experience at Belper Town, Ossett United and Wakefield. Deservedly won player of the season in 24/25.
Will Sykes (Goalkeeper): The Holy Goalie is a highly rated young stopper who joined us from Hallam, against whom he saved a penalty towards the end of last season.
Niall Butchart (Defender/Midfielder/Forward): The Butcher is a versatile squad member. He is a former youth teamer at Altrincham, then was at Winsford United, Swallownest, Armthorpe Welfare and Goole.
Tom Alngohuru (Midfielder/Forward): The Guru is a defender's nightmare. He joined last season from Ossett United. Prior to that he was at the York City and i2i academies, and has played almost 80 games for Pickering Town.
Luis Afonso-Ferreira (Midfielder/Forward): The Ferrari is a rapid forward who puts teams on the back foot. He has plenty experience from time at the likes of Retford United, Parkgate and Albion Sports.
Sam Cable (Forward): The Power is a handful of an attacker. Since starting out in our U19s over a decade ago, he is now in his 3rd spell with the club after spells at Barton Town, Garforth Town and others.
Will Jenkinson (Defender): Jenko is a footballing defender who joins us from Parkgate, having started out at Rotherham United.
Takunda Katsere (Defender): The Thunder is a big, strong defender with loads of potential. Has previous NCEL experience at Goole, Selby Town, Athersley Rec and Wombwell Town.
Sam Kilner (Defender): A NCEL title winner at Silsden last season, Killer is a highly proficient fullback who has also been at Buxton, Mossley, Hemsworth and Knaresborough.
Ifeanyi Nnenanua (Forward): Goes by the name of Destiny, he's a committed young striker who is always in the thick of it. He's been at the i2i academy and has previously played for Pickering Town.
Lucas Robinson (Midfielder/Forward): A rangey winger with an eye for goal, Cool Hand Lucas comes to us from Harrogate Railway but has been at Goole and Barton Town too.
Tyler Sheard (Defender/Midfield/Forward): VersaTyler is another who can do a job anywhere on the park, team before self every time. And he's another of our U23s stepping up for 1st team duties.
Harley Wilson (Midfielder): With time at Penistone Church, Rossington Main, Wombwell Town and Dinnington Town, Hells Angel is an experienced midfielder at this level.
Thomas Radley (Defender): Radz is a big centre half who was at Shelley last season and brings quality and leadership into our back line.
Harry Gagen (Defender): Gadge is a Rolls Royce of a defender who started out at Barnsley but joined us from Ossett United after an initial loan spell.
Jack Horobin (Defender): Jack The Lad has stepped up from the U18s to make his debut as very capable defensive cover.
Ashton Johnson (Midfielder): AJ is an exciting winger from our U18s who recently made his debut, getting an assist within 5 minutes of coming on!
Dylan Sefton (Goalkeeper): Safe-ton is a solid young keeper who returns after coming through our academy and spending time at Worsbrough Bridge.
Josh Lindley (Midfielder): J-Force is a midfielder signed on dual reg with Ponte Colls. The son of ex-Blue, Phil, he started at Doncaster Rovers, and has been at Ossett, Wombwell Town and Dearne & Dist.
Bailey Cowsell (Forward): Bails is an exciting goals scorer from our U23s. Made his first team debut in 2023/24 and has played for Athersley Rec and Wombwell Main since then.
Charlie Clegg (Forward): The Power is a local boy and a fan favourite, in his third spell with us. Has experience with Ponte Colls youth programme, Emley, Athersley, Armthorpe and Club Thorne.
Shaun Heselwood (Midfielder): Hez of The Wez joined us from Selby Town, after spells at Hemingbrough United and Goole AFC, to add drive in the middle of the park.
Elliot Andrew (Forward): The Prince is a quality striker who started out at Doncaster Rovers then Nottingham Forest before more recent spells at Tadcaster, Beverley and Rossington Main.
Spencer Booth (Goalkeeper): The Barrier joins us dual reg with Guiseley. He has also had a spell at Leeds UFCA earlier in the season.
Lewis Binns (Defender/Midfielder/Coach): Binno is a rock. This local lad has played for local clubs, like South Kirkby and Armthorpe. A Frickley legend, the Supporters' Player of the Season in 22/23 is back from injury, and is part of the coaching team too.
Mike Carmody (Assistant Manager): As a player, MC Hammer was a top defender for Huddersfield and Tranmere in the EFL and for many years at Altrincham. Since retirement, he has managed Armthorpe Welfare and Goole AFC.
Martyn Woolford (Midfielder/Forward/ Manager): The Woolfman started at The Wezzie in 2005 after joining from Glasshoughton Welfare. He is a very classy attacking midfielder who has been in the EFL with the likes of York City, Scunthorpe United, Millwall, Bristol City and Sheffield United since then but he's back home now for a 3rd spell. Took over as player- manager in October 2025.

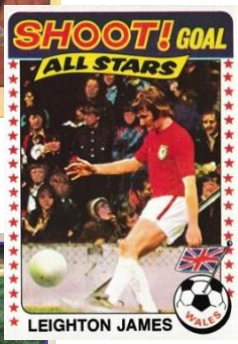
Linked to The Lane

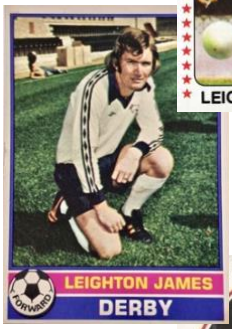
I'm an incorrigible collector of old A&BC, Panini, Merlin, Topps, etc. football cards and stickers, and it struck me how many of the players pictured had links to Frickley Athletic. They might have played for or against us at some point, or are related to one of The Azzurri past or present. Or the connection might be even more tenuous! But you can be sure it was the highlight of their career ;)



Leighton James was a true Welsh wizard. He never had the honour of visiting The Wezzie, to my knowledge, but he was was the manager of Gainsborough Trinity when we visited them inNovember 1993 (and beat them 3-2).

James was born near Swansea in 1953, and was one of the most gifted and charismatic wingers Wales produced until the rise of Ryan Giggs. Renowned for his pace, close control, and ability to beat defenders with either foot, he embodied the traditional wide player - direct, daring, and always looking to make something happen.





James began his professional football career with Burnley in 1970, making his debut at just 17 years old. Over the next 5 years at Turf Moor, he became a key figure in the side, scoring 45 goals in more than 180 league appearances. His blend of skill and confidence made him a crowd favourite and earned him international recognition while still only 18.

In 1975 he moved to Derby County for a club record fee, continuing to impress with his creativity and eye for goal. A brief spell at Queens Park Rangers followed before he returned to Burnley in 1978 for a second stint, once again making an impact.

His most memorable period, however, came after joining his hometown club, Swansea City, in 1980. Under John Toshack, James was instrumental in Swansea's meteoric rise through the divisions, scoring the crucial goal at Preston North End that sealed their first ever promotion to the First Division in 1981. The following season, he helped Swansea achieve a remarkable sixth place finish in the top flight, the pinnacle of his club career.

After leaving Swansea, he went on to play for Sunderland, Bury, and Newport County, before returning to Burnley for a third spell. He concluded his pro playing days having racked up more than 600 league appearances and over 120 goals.



On the international stage, James earned 54 caps and scored 10 goals for Wales between 1971 and 1983. His most iconic moment came in 1977, when he converted a penalty at Wembley to secure Wales's first-ever victory over England on their home ground, a defining highlight in his nation's footballing history.

Following his retirement, James turned to coaching and management, starting with time in England at Gainsborough Trins, Netherfield, Ilkeston and Accrington Stanley, he worked with several Welsh clubs including Llanelli, Garden Village and Aberamen Athletic. He also became a forthright and respected media pundit, known for his passion and candour when discussing the beautiful game. He was a big fan of rugby too.

Leighton James passed away at the age of 71 in 2024. However, he earns the undying respect of this writer (although the BBC banned him for 2 weeks) when he used his South Wales Evening Post newspaper column to experts his hope that Cardiff City would lose the 2008 FA Cup semi final to Barnsley. Local rivalry over all else, Swansea till he died. RIP.

Awaydays

Next up – Thackley

Thackley Fact: Dutch masters Johan Cruyff and Johan Neeskens trained at Dennyfield in Thackley before Barcelona's European Cup semi final against Leeds United in 1975.

When : Saturday 6th December 2025.

Kick off : 15:00

Where : Meridian Stadium at Dennyfield, Ainsbury Avenue, Thackley, Bradford, BD10 0TL.

How much : Adults £7, Concessions £5, Dogs allowed on a lead.

Then – Albion Sports

Bradford Fact: Harry Corbett, puppeteer and the creator of Sooty, and singer Kiki Dee were both born in Bradford.

When : Tuesday 9th December 2025.

Kick off : 19:45

Where : Myra Shay, 489 Barkerend Road, Bradford, BD3 8QX.

How much : Adults £6, Concessions £3, U16s Free, Dogs allowed on a lead.

Ian Clarkson frequently runs a supporters' bus to the more distant away games provided there is enough support to make it worthwhile. Departure is usually from North Elmsall and cost varies with distance. Details will be posted on the club's usual social media channels, or you can contact Ian on 07790 569075. Alternatively, if anyone is travelling to an away game by car and is willing to offer car share places, or is looking to travel to an away game but hasn't got transport, please email **media@frickleyathletic.co.uk** with your contact details.

Lucky 7 Quiz Answers

1. Niall Butchart. 2. George Doyle. 3. Troy Parrott. 4. Robbie Savage.
5. Brian Brobbey.

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Frickley Athletic Football Club Macron NCEL Premier 2025-26

Date	Opponents…	Res	Att	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Sub	Sub	Sub	Sub	Sub
26.07.25	**Albion Sports**	2-1	183	3	Sykes	Kilner	Gagen	Butchart	Katsere	Jenkinson	Williams	Sheard	**Afonso F**	Robinson	**Alngohuro**	Cotson	Nnenanua			
02.08.25	Brighouse FACEPR	0-1	151		Sykes	Kilner	Jenkinson	Butchart	Gagen	Collins	Afonso F	Spence	Woolford	Sheard	Alngohuro	Radley	Nnenanua			
09.08.25	Barton Town	0-1	301	12	Sykes	Kilner	Jenkinson	Tingle	Radley	Collins	Afonso F	Spence	Nnenauua	Butchart	Alngohuro	Wilson				
16.08.25	**Thackley**	1-0	182	5	Sykes	Kilner	Jenkinson	Tingle	Radley	Collins	Woolford	Spence	Nnenanua	Robinson	Alngohuro	Butchart	**Afonso F**			
19.08.25	Bottesford Town	0-1	212	7	Sykes	Kilner	Jenkinson	Tingle	Radley	Collins	Afonso F	Spence	Nnenanua	Robinson	Alngohuro	Keyghobadi				
23.08.25	**Maghull FAV1Q**	1-5	152		Sykes	Kilner	Collins	Tingle	Gagen	Jenkinson	Afonso F	Spence	Woolford	Robinson	Alngohuro	**Nnenanua**	Butchart	Katsere	Sheard	
26.08.25	**Tadcaster Alb.**	0-3	165	10	Sykes	Kilner	Jenkinson	Tingle	Gagen	Collins	Robinson	Spence	Nnenanua	Woolford	Sheard	Afonso F	Butchart	Katsere	Keyghobadi	
30.08.25	Penistone Chu.	2-0	232	7	Sykes	Kilner	Gagen	Woolford	Radley	Jenkinson	**Afonso F**	Spence	**Nnenanua**	Robinson	Alngohuro	Ceesay				
02.09.25	**Liversedge**	0-0	220	9	Sykes	Kilner	Gagen	Woolford	Radley	Jenkinson	Afonso F	Spence	Nnenanua	Robinson	Sheard	Ceesay	Keyghobadi			
06.09.25	Parkgate	2-2	150	8	Sykes	Kilner	Gagen	**Woolford**	Radley	Jenkinson	Afonso F	Spence	Ceesay	Robinson	**Alngohuro**	Nnenanua				
09.09.25	**Knaresborough**	0-3	205	9	Sykes	Kilner	Gagen	Woolford	Radley	Collins	Afonso F	Spence	Nnenanua	Robinson	Ceesay	Garrick	Butchart	Katsere		
13.09.25	**Golcar United**	1-6	206	14	Wass	Kilner	Gagen	Woolford	Radley	Jenkinson	Robinson	Spence	Ceesay	Butchart	**Alngohuro**	Nnenanua	Tingle	Collins	Garrick	
17.09.25	Campion	0-4	137	14	Sykes	Kilner	Gagen	Woolford	Radley	Jenkinson	Afonso F	Spence	Ceesay	Robinson	Alngohuro	Collins	Nnenanua	Tingle	Butchart	
23.09.25	**SJR Worksop SC1**	1-0	115		Sykes	Kilner	Gagen	Butchart	Katsere	**Collins**	Garrick	Tingle	Nnenanua	Spence	Alngohuro	Sheard	Cable	Robinson	Binns	
27.09.25	Sheffield FC	0-5	416	16	Sykes	Kilner	Gagen	Tingle	Collins	Katsere	Afonso F	Butchart	Cable	Spence	Robinson	Nnenanua	Alngohuru			
04.10.25	Beverley Town	4-1	333	14	Sykes	Kilner	Gagen	Butchart	Jenkinson	Katsere	Afonso F	Spence	**Nnenanua**	**Robinson**	**Alngohuro**	**Sheard**	Woolford	Wilson	Johnson	Horobin
11.10.25	**Handsworth**	0-3	308	15	Sykes	Kilner	Gagen	Butchart	Jenkinson	Katsere	Sheard	Spence	Nnenanua	Robinson	Alngohuro	Cable	Woolford	Radley		
14.10.25	**Bottesford T LC2**	7-6	160		Sykes	Horobin	Gagen	Binns	Katsere	**Radley**	**Alngohuru**	Spence	**Cable 3**	Robinson	**Woolford**	Butchart	**Nnenanua**	Sheard	Johnson	
18.10.25	Golcar United	0-6	344	15	Sykes	Kilner	Gagen	Butchart	Katsere	Jenkinson	Robinson	Spence	Cable	Woolford	Nnenanua	Johnson	Cowsell	Sheard	Binns	
25.10.25	Wombwell Town	2-0	198	15	Sykes	Gagen	Jenkinson	Spence	Radley	Binns	Alngohuru	Heselwd	Nnenanua	Woolford	**Robinson**	**Clegg**	Butchart	Keyghobadi	Sheard	Horobin
29.10.25	**Jubilee Sp. SC2**	3-0	153		Sykes	Gagen	Jenkinson	Spence	Katsere	Binns	**Alngohuru**	Butchart	**Nnenanua 2**	Sheard	Keyghobadi	Radley	Robinson	Afonso F	Johnson	Cowsell
01.11.25	**Rossington Mn.**	4-1	234	13	Sykes	Gagen	Jenkinson	Spence	Radley	Binns	**Robinson**	**Heselwd**	**Nnenanua**	Woolford	Alngohuru	Afonso F	Butchart	**Clegg**	Keyghobadi	Shear
08.11.25	Horbury Town	0-0	181	12	Sykes	Gagen	Jenkinson	Spence	Radley	Binns	Afonso F	Butchart	Nnenanua	Robinson	Alngohuru	Clegg	Andrew	Sheard	Woolford	
11.11.25	**Pickering Town**	1-1	154	12	Sykes	Gagen	Jenkinson	Spence	Radley	Binns	**Alngohuru**	Heselwd	Nnenanua	Woolford	Robinson	Clegg	Butchart	Andrew		
18.11.25	**Rossington SC3**	2-2	123		Sykes	Horobin	Gagen	Butchart	Radley	**Binns**	Alngohuru	Heselwd	Andrew	**Robinson**	Afonso F	Keyghobd	Katsere	Spence	Woolford	
	(Lost 6-7 pens)																			
22.11.25	Knaresborough	0-6	121	14	Baker	Gagen	Kilner	Spence	Katsere	Binns	Alngohuru	Heselwd	Nnenanua	Woolford	Robinson	Lindley	Clegg	Andrew		
25.11.25	**Golcar Utd. LC3**																			
29.11.25	**Barton Town**																			
06.12.25	Thackley																			
09.12.25	Albion Sports																			
12.12.25	**Bottesford Town**																			
20.12.25	Tadcaster Alb.																			
27.12.25	**Penistone Chu.**																			
03.01.26	Liversedge																			
10.01.26	**Parkgate**																			
24.01.26	**Campion**																			
31.01.26	Pickering Town																			
07.02.26	**Sheffield FC**																			
14.02.26	Handsworth																			
21.02.26	**Beverley Town**																			
28.02.26	**Eccleshill Utd.**																			
14.03.26	Eccleshill Utd.																			
21.03.26	**Wombwell Town**																			
28.03.26	Rossington Main																			
04.04.26	**Horbury Town**																			

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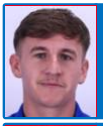	**WILL JENKINSON** Sponsored by **#TEAMJENKO**	P-ACT SMALL CHARITY big IMPACT
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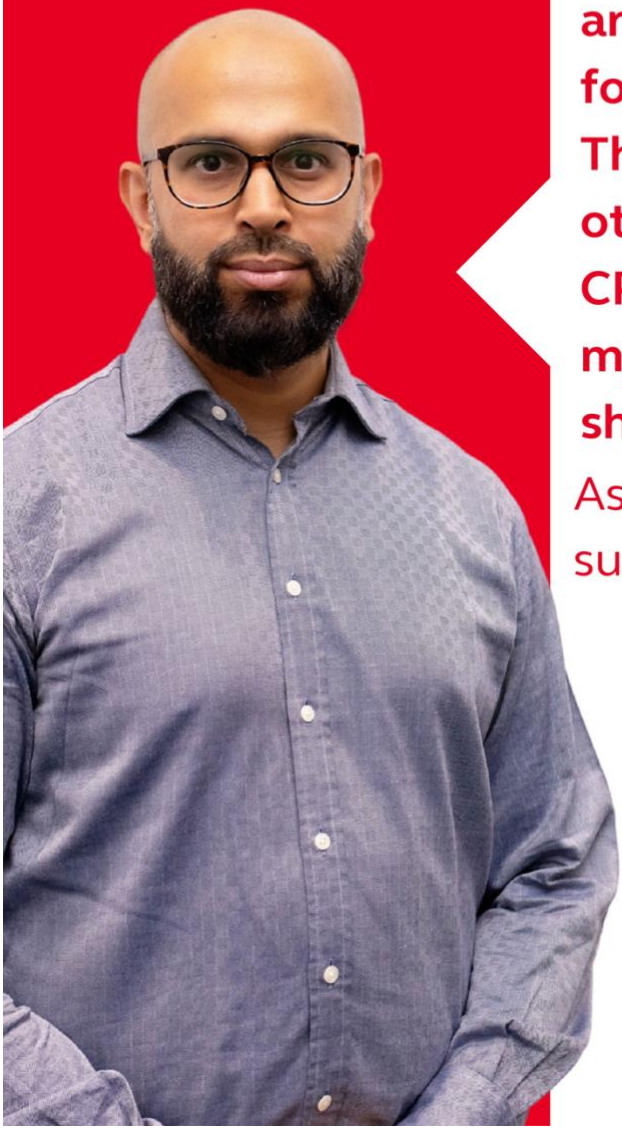

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