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Official Matchday Programme

v **Nostell Miners Welfare**

16.09.25 | 8pm



Northern Counties East Football  
League Division 1

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Matthew Swift



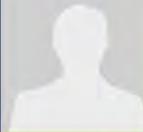
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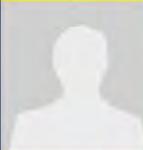
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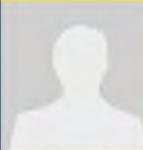
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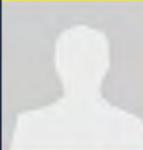
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# Manager's Notes

“

**Good evening and a very warm welcome to everyone joining us here at the MPM Stadium for tonight's game against Nostell Miners.**

”

I'd like to extend that welcome to the players, staff, and supporters of Nostell – we hope you enjoy your time with us under the lights.

Nostell come into this one with a mixed run of form, having won two, lost two, and drawn one of their last five games. They're always a competitive side, and we know we'll need to be at our best to get the result we want. I think both clubs will be disappointed with their starts to the season, and I expect tonight to be a competitive game until the very end.

Last Saturday's 1-1 draw at home to Louth Town was a step in the right direction for us. I felt we improved our performance levels compared to recent weeks and for the majority of the game we competed strongly. We had large spells of possession and controlled the game for long periods, but unfortunately, we didn't make that dominance count. That's something we're continuing to work hard on – turning our good play and control into winning results.

We've had a really positive week on the training pitch. After playing the last two Tuesdays, it was much needed to get a solid training session under our belts and focus on a few key areas together as a group.



The lads responded brilliantly. We also had the weekend off with no fixture, and I expect the players to come out firing tonight. It's an exciting game to be involved in – at home, under the lights – and we're all looking forward to it.

I can't speak highly enough of our group of players. Their attitude, commitment, and togetherness are first class, and I see the quality they possess every single week. Although results haven't always reflected that recently, I have no doubt that this run will turn around. Football always brings challenges, and it's during these moments that belief, resilience, and unity are most important. I genuinely believe in this squad and the progress we're making, and I'm confident that the hard work will soon be rewarded.

As always, thank you to our supporters for continuing to get behind the lads. Your encouragement makes a real difference, and we'll be giving everything tonight to put in a performance you can be proud of.

Enjoy the game.

**Sam Dexter,**

# Meet the opposition

# Nostell Miners Welfare



Records exist that a team from Nostell Colliery won a Wakefield District football competition in the 1890's. The club has photographs of Nostell Colliery teams from 1915 & 1921. At that time the football field was not in the present location but on two sites fairly close by.

The Miner's Welfare was formed in 1928 after the purchase of the land by the Miners Trust Fund. The sum of £400 was paid to a local land owner for 4.5 acres which includes the land on which the present ground is situated.

In the late 60's the club had a period of sustained success, winning several Wakefield District competitions and eventually being selected to join the West Yorkshire League, lifting the Division 2 League and Cup double in the 1966/67 season. However, the successful team eventually broke up and the club went back to the Wakefield League in the early 1970's. Enjoying relative success the club began to develop again; two teams were formed, the first team joining the West Yorkshire League in 1982.

However sadly even with mining subsidence to the ground, fund raising of over £30,000 allowed the pitch to be levelled off, drainage installed and other ground improvements, Nostell Colliery was closed.

The nearby colliery houses (1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> street) were demolished and the Welfare struggled to survive.

The football still continued throughout this difficult period. Promotions were seen through the divisions of the West Yorkshire League, eventually led us through to our present NCEL Premier Division status.

At this point the clubs most successful period in the distinguished history was about to begin, with the appointment of Alan Colquhoun as 1<sup>st</sup> team Manager in the late 1990's. After initially struggling in the West Yorkshire Premier League - Alan actually scored two goals to save us from relegation!

Gary Baker joined as Colquhoun's assistant and the team gradually improved, eventually being crowned Champions of the West Yorkshire Premier League, lifting the corresponding Cup and appearing in 3 consecutive finals, 2 County Cup final appearances and lifting 6 Wakefield & District trophies among other successes.

Off the field the introduction of the Coalfield Regeneration Trust encouraged other funders to invest in the Miners Welfare.

# Meet the opposition

# Nostell Miners Welfare



The ground was officially renamed Crofton Community Centre with approximately £1.5 million secured to provide the present facilities with Sport England, Football Foundation and the FA providing substantial sums of money to help the football side of the developments.

With the improvements on and off the field a successful application to the Northern Counties East League was made, heralding a new and exciting venture for the Club.

Gaining promotion to the NCEL Division 1, Nostell finished a respectable 4<sup>th</sup> in their first season 2006/7. Due to the Northern Premier League reforming its structure, along with one NCEL going to the wall for financial reasons, Nostell gained promotion to the NCEL Premier Division. A terrific first season in the premier league 2007/8 saw Nostell finish 5<sup>th</sup>, having led the division for the first quarter.

The following season 2008/2009, successful cup runs in FA Competitions caused an end of season fixture congestion. Playing every Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday for the last six weeks of the season, Nostell eventually finished 13<sup>th</sup> not losing to any of the top four teams home and away.

However, the Welfare, who were the under dogs, beat Scarborough Athletic over 2 legs to win the "Presidents Cup", probably the highest point of Nostell's recent history.

During season 2008/9 Nostell had their first player to be signed by a Football League club. Stockport County signed Oli Johnson who impressed during a friendly fixture. Oli made an instant impact for County who sold him to Norwich City, where he was involved in the League 1 Championship winning team. Nostell got a percentage of the transfer fee and with appearances monies eventually banked over £20,000

During the campaign of 2015/16 season, despite a positive start, with a number of occasion's results failing to match performances, partway through the season Simon and Paul left the club. Despite the hard work and best endeavours of all those involved, players, committee and management it wasn't enough, as a result, the club was relegated from the NCEL Premier League.

A disastrous 2016/17 season in which the club finished bottom of Division 1 we were offered a last-minute reprieve and retained our status in the NCEL.

# Meet the opposition

# Nostell Miners Welfare



Halfway through the 2017/18 and the club in difficulties once again struggling in division 1 another managerial change was inevitable. The appointment of joint Managers Simon Houghton & Jason Dodsworth with a huge amount of NCEL experience proved a turning point in the clubs' fortunes, initially securing our NCEL status and avoiding relegation.

The 2018/19 season was overall very positive accumulating the highest number of points in a NCEL season than any previous Nostell side, finishing a creditable fifth and securing a return for the club to The Emirates FA Cup in 2019/20.

Having started the 2019/20 season like a house on fire with six straight league wins in a row, form dipped, players left for pastures new, and the season was heading towards a mid-table finish before COVID-19 struck. The rest is history as we all know.

In guiding the clubs under 19's & 21's over the two previous seasons reaching consecutive cup finals, league champions first time of asking and a hugely creditable second place league finish behind a very strong Harrogate Town u23's, the committee agreed the way forward was to reward such success and promote from within with the appointment of Ian Walker as First Team manager for the 2020/21 season.

Despite many new faces around the club, the emphasis is always to support and develop our youth and junior footballers. Ian's high work ethic, attention to detail and loyalty of his successful group of young rising stars gave them the opportunity to grow and make the step forward to becoming regular first team players. Ian was in charge for three seasons with mid-table respectability achieved on every occasion. Because of work and personal issues Ian resigned after the end of the 2023/24 season. Chairperson over his tenure and the of Houghton and Dodsworth era, Kevin Allsop also stepped down at the same time

The Club advertised extensively to recruit new blood for several key positions and behind the scenes roles. The club received many applicants, eventually after a long stressful process, a team comprising of Liam Willingham, Mathew Wright, Mark Wright, Mark Maspero and Chris Clay were appointed. Other volunteers for important roles are also involved.

The Club looked forward to the new 2024/25 season with a new sense of optimism. In September 2024 Liam made the decision to step down as Chairperson. This was a shore tenure in post and as an interim measure Scott, Vice Chairman became Chairperson. In October 2024 the committee appointed Chris Clay as Chairperson for the club due to all his engagement and enthusiasm around the club and his passion to drive the club forward.

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I had a cardiac arrest on the football pitch. Thankfully, two other players knew CPR. They saved my life. Everyone should learn CPR.”  
Asad, cardiac arrest survivor



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SAVE A LIFE.**



**ILKLEY TOWN**  
**MANAGER: SAM DEXTER**

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- Thomas Bramley
- Jay Harris
- Matthew Swift
- Josh Parker
- Thierry Hendrickson
- Nick Brayshaw
- Maxim Hague
- Prince Attakora
- Joe Edmonds
- Lewin Storton
- Nic Hewitt
- James Nightingale
- Harry Brown
- Jack Lane
- George Pearson
- Alex Knox
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- Kevin Gonzalez
- Elliel Maville-Anku
- Toby Marriott
- Shaban Mehmeti
- Tom Smith
- Will Loftus



**Nostell Miners Welfare**  
**MANAGER: MATHEW WRIGHT**

- Aiden Tyas
- Charlie Austerfield
- Cyrus Rowe
- Dominic Oldfield
- George Baston
- Harold Monkam
- Jack Gascoigne
- Jack Maeer
- Jack Thompson
- Jamie Miller
- Jordan Chippendale
- Joseph Taylor
- Kymarley Vincent
- Lloyd Horridge
- Mahamadou Ceesay
- Matty Hughes
- Miguel Cassama
- Niall Bent
- Ogunleye Trust
- Regan Dixon
- Sam Borrie
- Thomas Booth
- Thomas Street
- Vinnie Hewitt

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION



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 Wrcfa Affiliation Number Faw00110  
 Chairman: Robert Brown

Programme Design:  
 mboucherart@gmail.com

## UPCOMING FIXTURES

**V South Leeds (A)**  
 NCEL1 – 20.09.25 – 3 PM

**V Appleby Frodingham (H)**  
 NCEL1 – 23.09.25 – 8 PM

**V Armthorpe Welfare (H)**  
 NCEL1 – 27.09.25 – 3 PM