



TOWN



Official Matchday Programme

v **Club Thorne**

04.10.25 | 3pm



Northern Counties East Football League Division 1

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Matthew Swift



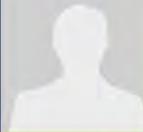
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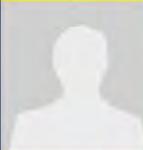
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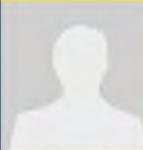
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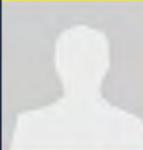
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Manager's Notes

“

Good afternoon and welcome back to the MPM Stadium for today's game against Club Thorne Colliery.

”



A warm welcome as always to our visitors, their management team, players, and supporters who have made the trip over.

We go into today's game in what can only be described as one of the toughest spells we've faced since reaching Step 6. We've won just one of our last nine matches, and with 11 players currently unavailable through a mixture of injuries, suspensions, and other commitments, it's fair to say that absolutely nothing seems to be going our way at the moment. Whether it's injuries, refereeing decisions, or just plain bad luck – we're being tested in every possible way.

Wednesday night summed it up. We were well in the game at 1-1 and competing well, but two goals from set pieces saw us leave empty-handed once again.

It's incredibly frustrating because the margins are so fine, yet the outcomes just aren't falling for us right now.

However, football has a funny way of turning when you least expect it. Only we can change our fortunes. There's no quick fix, no shortcuts – it comes down to togetherness, resilience, and belief in what we're doing. We've got to dig in, stay tight as a group, and fight our way through this period together.

We'll get there – I've no doubt about that. We've got too many good people and too much character in this group for it to be any other way.

Enjoy the game,

Sam Dexter,
First Team Manager

Meet the opposition

Club Thorne



Club Thorne has been a part of the Doncaster footballing community for almost 100 years. The club has stood the test of time and has ambitious plans for the future.

Early History

1927

Little is known of the formation of the club, but Thorne Colliery first came to the limelight in 1927, when they reached the 3rd Qualifying Round of the FA Cup in their debut campaign in the competition. Five years later they joined the Yorkshire League, finishing as high as 4th in the pre-World War 2 years.

Success and Failure

1946-1966

They re-joined the Yorkshire League after the war and finished as runners-up in 1946. A year later they went one better, being crowned as league champions. They were relegated to Division Two in 1950 but won promotion back to the top flight four years later. Their stay in Division One would only last another year before being relegated again, but their yo-yo status continued when they were promoted back again in 1956. Following another relegation in 1958, Thorne wouldn't get back to Division One again until 1966.

Tougher Times

1970-1988

After another relegation in 1970, the club embarked on a decade of tough times which saw them relegated again to Division Three in 1974, remaining in the basement division for five years. Between 1978 and 1982 they went through a remarkable period where they won back-to-back promotions to reach Division One, before then going through back-to-back relegations to find themselves back in Division Three.

Their last relegation came at the wrong time, as the Yorkshire League merged with the Midland League to form the Northern Counties East League (NCEL), with Thorne being placed in Division Two North of the new competition. They only remained in the NCEL for five years before resigning and joining the Doncaster & District Senior League.

Success and Stability

1988 – 2020

They won the Doncaster & District Senior League for five consecutive seasons between 1988-89 and 1992-93, before joining the Central Midlands League (CMFL) in 1993.

Meet the opposition

Club Thorne



They won promotion to the top flight of the CMFL in 1995 but spent only three seasons in the Supreme Division before being relegated back to the Premier Division, remaining at that level until 2011, when they were placed into the North Division of the newly restructured CMFL.

A New Era

2020 – Present Day

In 2020, the club began improvements at the ground with a new roof to the main stand and for the first time in the club's history floodlights were installed. In 2021 they merged with the local junior team Moorends Hornets & Stingers to become Club Thorne, forming a development team, an Under 21s team and junior teams. This merge saw the release of the new club logo and a change from blue and white stripes to blue and black stripes to incorporate the main colours of both clubs.

The club is moving forward at an impressive rate. In 2021-22 the club missed out on promotion by losing on the final day of the season to Retford United knowing that three points would have secured the CMFL title and promotion to the NCEL.

The following season they again finished third but won silverware by securing their first trophy since 1993 by beating Staveley Miners Welfare Reserves in the Central Midlands Floodlit Cup. The decision was made to switch to the Humber Premier League for the 2023-24 season and it paid off greatly as the Championship was secured by an 8-point margin with only 4 league defeats all season. Our first season back in the NCEL saw us achieve a respectable 11th place finish despite the many challenges we faced, and we look forward to pushing on this season.

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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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ILKLEY TOWN
MANAGER: SAM DEXTER

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- Thomas Bramley
- Jay Harris
- Matthew Swift
- Josh Parker
- Thierry Hendrickson
- Nick Brayshaw
- Maxim Hague
- Prince Attakorah
- Joe Edmonds
- Lewin Storton
- Nic Hewitt
- James Nightingale
- Harry Brown
- Jack Lane
- George Pearson
- Alex Knox
- Harry Miles
- Daniel Billington-Boateng
- Joe Snowden
- Kevin Gonzalez
- Shaban Mehmeti
- Tom Smith
- Will Loftus
- Harry Abson



CLUB THORNE
MANAGER: JAMES BAXENDALE

- Charlie Freebury (GK)
- Ryan Musselwhite (GK)
- James Baxendale
- Harry Brown
- Daniel Curtis
- Owen Dale
- Ryan Ellison
- Matthew Flanagan
- Will Gomes
- James Hardeman
- Ethan Harrison
- Reiss Harrison
- Alex Kemp
- Dominic Mellor
- Nathaniel Muenda
- Marc Newsham
- Freddie Oliver
- Alex Peterson
- Jake Robinson
- Ahren Rogers
- Louis Seddons
- Ben Stobart
- Lewis Twibell
- Lewis Walker
- Andrew Wright

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 Unincorporated Company
 Wrcfa Affiliation Number Faw00110
 Chairman: Robert Brown

Programme Design:
 mboucherart@gmail.com

UPCOMING FIXTURES

V Harrogate Railway Athletic (A)
 NCEL1 – 07.10.25 – 7.45 PM

V Goole AFC (H)
 NCEL1 – 14.10.25 – 8 PM

V Dearne & District (H)
 NCEL1 – 18.10.25 – 3 PM