

= Craig Nelthorpe =

Craig Robert Nelthorpe (born 10 June 1987) is an English semi @-@ professional footballer who plays for Northern Premier League Premier Division club Matlock Town . His favoured positions are either at left back or on the left wing .

Nelthorpe played for Brodsworth Miners Welfare and Frickley Athletic before joining Doncaster Rovers in 2004 and he made his first team debut in 2005 . He was loaned out on six occasions , playing for Hucknall Town , Kidderminster Harriers , Gateshead , Halifax Town and Darlington . He joined Oxford United in 2009 and after being released by them he joined York City . Having left York after a season he rejoined Gateshead .

= = Career = =

= = = Doncaster Rovers = = =

Born in Doncaster , South Yorkshire , Nelthorpe played for Brodsworth Miners Welfare before joining Northern Premier League Premier Division side Frickley Athletic in April 2004 . He made his debut as a 74th minute substitute in a 2 ? 1 defeat at Vauxhall Motors on 3 April 2004 . He made three appearances for Frickley before he joined the Doncaster Rovers youth system . He made his first team debut as a 56th @-@ minute substitute for Steve Foster in a 3 ? 3 draw against Luton Town in League One on 7 May 2005 . His first appearance of the 2005 ? 06 season came after being introduced as an 80th @-@ minute substitute for Jonathan Forte against Cambridge United in the Football League Trophy , which Doncaster lost 3 ? 2 . He joined Conference North team Hucknall Town on work experience on 23 November 2005 and he made his debut in a 4 ? 0 victory over Redditch United , during which he scored two goals . He made five appearances for Hucknall , with his final appearance coming in a 2 ? 0 defeat to Stafford Rangers , before returning to Doncaster in January 2006 . He made one more appearance for Doncaster this season , against Tranmere Rovers on 6 May 2006 , which he finished with two appearances for the club .

Nelthorpe signed a professional contract with Doncaster on 28 June 2006 and he joined Conference National team Kidderminster Harriers on a one @-@ month loan on 10 October . He made his debut the same day in a 0 ? 0 draw with Oxford United , and he nearly scored for Kidderminster during the first half . He scored his first career goal against Droylsden in the FA Cup , and after Kidderminster decided against extending his loan spell , he returned to Doncaster in November after making six appearances . This was followed by a loan spell at Northern Premier League Premier Division team Gateshead , after joining in November , where he made 19 appearances and scored eight goals . While at Gateshead he still appeared for Doncaster and he had a run of seven appearances , which started after coming on during the 3 ? 2 victory over Crewe Alexandra in the Football League Trophy at the Keepmoat Stadium on 13 February 2007 . In the final game of the 2006 ? 07 season on 5 May 2007 , Nelthorpe scored his first goal for Doncaster against Northampton Town , which finished as a 2 ? 2 draw . He had a trial with recently relegated League Two side Chesterfield in May 2007 , with a view to him joining on loan .

After making four appearances for Doncaster during the 2007 ? 08 season , he joined Conference Premier club Halifax Town on a one @-@ month loan on 10 January 2008 . Nelthorpe scored four minutes into his Halifax debut against Northwich Victoria on 26 January 2008 , which finished as a 2 ? 2 draw , and he netted three minutes into his next appearance , a 2 ? 2 draw with Rushden on 9 February . He finished the loan spell in March , after making 10 appearances and scoring 3 goals , after which he joined League Two team Darlington on loan until the end of the season on 27 March 2008 . He made his debut in a 3 ? 1 defeat at Bradford City on 29 March 2008 and entered the play @-@ off semi @-@ final second leg tie against Rochdale on 17 May 2008 as an 88th @-@ minute substitute for Clark Keltie , which finished as a 5 ? 4 defeat in a penalty shoot @-@ out . He finished the loan spell with eight appearances .

Nelthorpe was handed a new one @-@ year contract at Doncaster in July 2008 . He rejoined

Gateshead on a three @-@ month loan in August 2008 , which he completed in November with 15 appearances and one goal .

== = Oxford United == =

He was released by Doncaster at his own request on 13 January 2009 and joined Conference Premier team Oxford United the next day on a contract until the end of the 2008 ? 09 season . He made his debut in a 1 ? 0 victory over Altrincham on 17 January 2009 and scored his first goal four days later with a shot into the top @-@ left corner of the goal , which gave Oxford a 1 ? 0 victory against Mansfield Town . Nelthorpe was named on standby for the England C team , who represent England at non @-@ League level , in February 2009 , for a friendly against Malta under @-@ 21s . He was sent off against Torquay United after clashing with Mustapha Carayol , which resulted in a three @-@ match suspension , and following this he said he was looking to use his aggression more effectively . He made his return in a 2 ? 1 victory over Kettering Town on 19 March 2009 , during which he opened the scoring with a 20 yard free kick and assisted the second goal with a corner kick that was headed in by Chris Willmott . He finished the season with 16 appearances and 2 goals for Oxford .

== = York City == =

Nelthorpe was released by Oxford at the end of the season and he subsequently signed for fellow Conference Premier team York City on 19 May 2009 . He suffered from illness during much of York 's pre @-@ season , and during a friendly against FC Halifax Town he was sent off for jumping dangerously with his arm raised . He made his debut as a stoppage time substitute in a 2 ? 1 defeat to former club Oxford on 8 August 2009 . After failing to start any games for York , he requested a loan move away from the club in October 2009 . On 10 November 2009 , he joined league rivals Barrow on loan until 1 January 2010 . He made his debut in a 2 ? 2 with AFC Wimbledon on 14 November 2009 , assisting Jason Walker 's goal through a corner kick . He scored his first goal for Barrow in a 2 ? 2 draw with Grays Athletic on 24 November 2009 with a free kick and finished the loan spell with six appearances and two goals . He joined Conference Premier rivals Luton Town on trial in January 2010 , starting a reserve team match against Peterborough United , before signing on loan until the end of the 2009 ? 10 season on 22 January . He made his debut a day later as an 83rd @-@ minute substitute for Tom Craddock in a 1 ? 0 victory over Gateshead . His loan period at Luton came to an end on 7 May 2010 , having made eight appearances for the club . He finished the season with eight appearances for York and was released by the club on 18 May 2010 .

== = Gateshead == =

He signed for former club Gateshead , now playing in the Conference Premier , on 21 June 2010 . He made his debut in the opening game of the 2010 ? 11 season , a 0 ? 0 draw with Kettering on 14 August 2010 . Nelthorpe 's first goal came after scoring a 90th @-@ minute winner in a 1 ? 0 victory over Southport , turning in Josh Gillies ' cross from six yards . He made 41 appearances for Gateshead during the 2010 ? 11 season , scoring 5 goals , before he was released on 4 May 2011 .

== = Later career == =

Nelthorpe signed with Conference North side Gainsborough Trinity on June 2011 . However , he was released by the club in November alongside defender Rory Coleman , with manager Steve Housham claiming " they haven 't lived up to expectations " . Later that month he turned out for Winterton Rangers of the Northern Counties East League Premier Division . He then signed for Matlock Town of the Northern Premier League Premier Division and made his debut on 3 December 2011 in a 2 ? 2 draw away at Bradford Park Avenue , in which he was substituted after half an hour due to a hamstring injury . He then joined Conference North club Eastwood Town in early March

2012 but stayed less than a month , joining Northern Premier League Division One South side Brigg Town . He left soon after , re @-@ signing for Frickley of the Northern Premier League Premier Division , a club he had played for earlier in his career , in late March 2012 . His debut came on 24 March 2012 as a 72nd @-@ minute substitute in a 1 ? 0 defeat at home Marine , and was sent off after nine minutes for a needless challenge on Neil Harvey . Shortly after that appearance , he was released by the club on 3 April 2012 .

Nelthorpe returned to Gainsborough Trinity in August 2012 . In May 2013 Nelthorpe signed with Harrogate Town to become their first signing of the summer . He joined Northern Premier League Premier Division team Buxton on a one @-@ month loan in February 2015 , before he emigrated to Australia with his family . Here he joined Mornington , an amateur club in the Victoria State League 1 . Nelthorpe returned to England later that year , and re @-@ joined Matlock in October 2015 , scoring the winning goal less than a minute into his debut in a 1 ? 0 home victory over Rushall Olympic .

= = Style of play = =

Nelthorpe is left footed and is able to play either as a left back or as a left winger . He has also been played at left wingback , although he has stated his preference in playing a more attacking role , saying " I ? m not really the best defensively ? I ? d sooner go at people " . While playing as a winger , he is " adventurous " and has a " willingness to run at defenders " . His skills have been praised as being " deft and quick " and his set pieces have been described as being " excellent " .

= = Personal life = =

Nelthorpe has two children with his girlfriend . He was arrested along with York players Michael Gash , Michael Ingham and Michael Rankine in August 2009 following an incident involving two other men at a Subway outlet on a night out . The four appeared at York Magistrates ' Court on 14 January 2010 after being charged with affray . Nelthorpe pleaded guilty to the charge of affray after appearing at York Crown Court on 1 September 2010 .

= = Career statistics = =

As of match played 14 November 2015 .