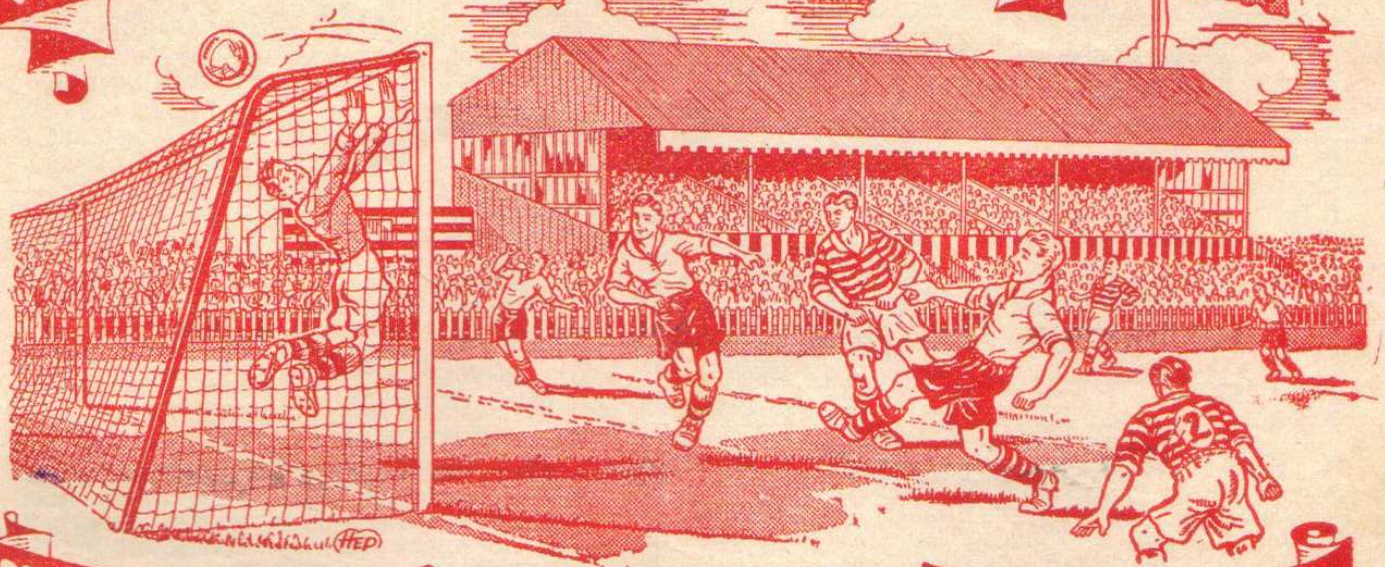


# The WALSALL FOOTBALL NEWS

Price THREEPENCE



OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

SATURDAY, 8th SEPT., 1956

FOUNDED 1888

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# Let's Talk it

## Over

WITH

**BILL  
PEMBERTON**



**G**OOD afternoon and a special welcome back to those fans who have re-converted following the victory over Ipswich on Thursday evening.

The mere fact that we beat the East Anglia side by two clear goals is good enough news in itself for they had lowered the Fellows Park colours on their previous four visits. But there was much more to it than that.

I make so bold as to say that in my humble opinion the first half of Thursday's game was equal to the best performance of any Walsall side in the last quarter of a century. I speak from personal experience and doubt if I shall be corrected.

### NO MOANS.

I write these notes only a few hours after the game has ended and already I have heard groans and moans that Walsall did not maintain their first half form all through the game. Of course they did not—but what on earth do some people want!

To my mind there was sufficient good soccer from Walsall in the opening 45 minutes and later from Ipswich to make this game a certain crowd satisfier—and the vast majority of the supporters echoed those sentiments as they left the ground.

I know only too well that after that rather dismal showing against Torquay there were such comments as "The same old story". . . "Never again". . . "I have finished." Oh yes, you said it to me, and you said it to others in my hearing, and 4,000 fickle fans have kept true to their word. After Thursday's showing I hope the "Unfaithful 4,000" will be attracted back to cheer on the most hopeful combination I have seen at Fellows Park for quite a while.

### THANKS TONY!

I am far too old a campaigner to suggest that one impressive victory makes this Walsall side promotion contenders. You and I have been led up that garden path before, have we not!

But I do suggest, in all fairness to manager and players alike, that after see-

ing those first 45 minutes on Thursday there is little doubt at all that Manager Jack Love has got the men capable and able to ensure that our struggle will be in the top half of the table rather than as has been our fate for the last five seasons—a battle against re-election almost from the opening game.

And here let me Thank Tony Richards for so quickly showing in practice what I had advocated in theory—the placing of a ball to beat the goalkeeper rather than the wild, smashing shot. The game was only four minutes old when Tony found himself with the ball and only goalkeeper Roy Bailey to beat. To my heartfelt relief Tony did not try the blasting-through-the-goalkeeper tactics but wisely side-stepped to put the ball into an empty goal. Thank you again Tony—and I hope you prove the theory right many times yet.

### "TOT'S" TRIUMPH.

The goal which really did bring the 9,399 crowd to its feet, however, was that which followed only ten minutes later when "Tot" Leverton opened his account in the Fellows Park "Scoring Bank."

It was Doug Taylor who "made" it with a pin point centre from the left wing which slipped over the heads of the Ipswich defence. Somehow, and I don't know how, "Tot" managed to make a flying leap into the air which enabled him to reach the ball with his head—and the ball was sagging the back of the net before the goalkeeper was aware of the danger.

As it turned out there were no more goals, but there was an abundance of copy-book football before the interval and had Walsall been six goals ahead Ipswich could hardly have had a grumble.

### FATEFUL FUTURE.

Now what of the immediate future? Today of course we meet Swindon—and if book form is any criterion we should certainly make certain of the best start to a season since I took over the programme editorial. For which I shall be eternally grateful.

After this afternoon's encounter we face three away games in succession. Normally that prospect would fill me with some dismay but after seeing that first half against Ipswich I am convinced that there is no reason on earth why Walsall should be "Aunt Sallies" on away pitches and I anticipate some welcome points.

Faith can build mountains. Faith can build football teams as well. Have faith!

\*\*\*

## WALSALL FOOTBALL

### SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

**T**HE Supporters Club would like to express their grateful thanks to Mr. W. E. Wood of New Jersey, U.S.A., for the gift

FRANKE RE  
STOCKPORT  
NEWPORT.



of £1 and also a golden 2½ dollar piece — valued, we believe, at about 50/-. Mr. Wood, who lived in Walsall and was a staunch supporter of the town team before emigrating to America, is to be asked to become a vice-president of the S.C.

Those who recall the very successful trip we ran to Southend last season will be pleased to hear we are embarking on an even more ambitious venture this season. Next April in connection with Walsall's visit to Southampton, the S.C. is to organise a week-end outing. The party will travel overnight on the Friday and after the match go on to Southsea until Sunday mid-day. All meals and hotel bills will be covered in the charge, the actual cost of which has not yet been fully ascertained. Supporters can rest assured however that it will be very moderate. To help we are prepared to accept weekly subscriptions right away. These should be handed to Miss E. Siddons.

Another memo: we have a supply of lead pencils at 4d. each. And don't be the man without his "Sports Express." You can get your copy from any S.C. official for 6d.

## VISITORS TO FELLOWS PARK TO-DAY

### SWINDON TOWN

VISITORS to Fellows Park this afternoon, Swindon Town, have been having a very rough time of it of late. Last season, of course, they donned the robe so often worn by ourselves and had to apply for re-election.

Despite close season efforts to strengthen the side, this campaign has opened little better. All three home games against Aldershot, Brentford and Shrewsbury have been lost, while the visit to Brentford was equally unrewarding. Their only victory—a 4-3 win at Watford—must rank as one of the season's biggest surprises. They will doubtless be anxious to give a repeat performance today!

In the corresponding game last season Walsall chalked up one of their biggest victories by 4-0 and completed the "double" in winning away—only the third time they had achieved this distinction since 1927.

Yet Swindon have no reason to regard Fellows Park with fear for they have quite a good record here. Of the past 17 encounters they have won 7 to Walsall's 6 with 4 games drawn. At Swindon they have proved even better with 9 victories to Walsall's 4 and again 4 matches ended all-square.

Three men to watch today will be goalkeeper Sam Burton, pivot George Hudson and centre forward Maurice Owen. A formidable trio in any company.

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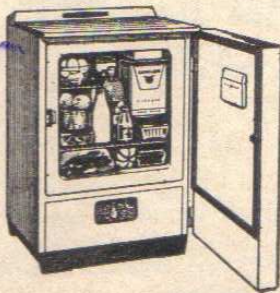
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ANT (5) 1 PEN 209 RAWLINGS (6)

DS (9) BROWN (10) TAYLOR (11)

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TE (5) CROSS (4)

HUNT (2)

ON (1) RIGHT

NDON 6

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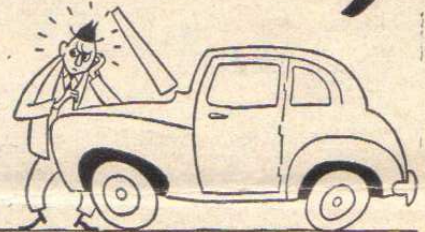


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<b>I</b>	NORTHAMPTON COVENTRY	0 1	0 3
<b>J</b>	PLYMOUTH COLCHESTER	3 0	6 0
<b>K</b>	Q.P.R. NORWICH	3 2	5 4
<b>L</b>	READING NEWPORT	2 0	2 1
<b>M</b>	SHREWSBURY BRENTFORD	0 1	0 2
<b>N</b>	SOUTHEND SOUTHAMPTON	0 2	3 2
<b>O</b>	TORQUAY MILLWALL	1 0	2 2
<b>P</b>	WATFORD ALDERSHOT	2 2	2 3

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### Football League Division 3 Southern Section

(With results of corresponding matches last season).

1956	AUGUST	Result	DECEMBER	Result
18—	Millwall (2-3) a	0—1	26—	S'bury T. (1-2) a
23—	Torquay U. (1-4) h	0—1	29—	Gillingham (2-1) h
25—	Brighton (2-2) h	3—2		
29—	Torquay (2-3) a	0—2		
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
1—	Gillingham (1-0) a	0—2		
6—	Ipswich (1-3) h	2—0		
8—	Swindon (4-0) h			
12—	Ipswich (2-5) a			
15—	Brentford (2-2) a			
19—	Bournemouth (0-2) a			
22—	Aldershot (4-2) h			
27—	Bournemouth (0-0) h			
29—	Watford (2-4) a			
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
6—	Newport C. (3-3) h			
13—	Reading (0-2) a			
20—	Plymouth A. (—) h			
27—	Q.P.R. (2-3) a			
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
8—	North'ton (2-0) h			
10—	Southend (2-3) a			
17—	F.A. Cup (round 1)			
24—	Exeter (1-1) a			
<b>DECEMBER</b>				
1—	South'ton (1-3) h			
8—	F.A. Cup (round 2)			
15—	Millwall (2-1) h			
22—	Brighton (0-3) a			
25—	S'bury T. (1-0) h			

### Birmingham & District Football League — Division 1

1956	AUGUST	Result	DECEMBER	Result
18—	Whitwick C. .. h	4—1	29—	Rugby Town .. a
25—	Brush Sports .. a	4—4		
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
1—	Rugby T. .. h	2—1		
3—	S'bury T. .. a	1—1		
8—	Halesowen T. .. a			
15—	Stourbridge .. h			
22—	Nuneaton B. .. a			
29—	Worcester C. .. h			
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
6—	Burton A. .. a			
13—	Lockheed .. h			
20—	Bromsgrove R. .. a			
27—	Aston Villa .. h			
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
3—	Brierley Hill A .. a			
10—	Bedworth T. .. h			
17—	Banbury S. .. a			
24—	Atherstone T. .. h			
<b>DECEMBER</b>				
1—	Tamworth .. a			
8—	W'ton W. .. h			
15—	Whitwick C. .. a			
22—	Brush Sports .. h			
26—	S'bury T. .. h			

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#### FOOTBALL LEAGUE Div. 3 (South)

(Table To Date)

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals		
					F.	A.	Pts.
Norwich City ..	6	4	2	0	7	1	14
Southampton ..	6	4	1	1	14	4	9
Watford .....	6	4	1	1	19	9	9
Reading .....	6	3	2	1	11	6	8
Newport Co. ..	6	3	2	1	13	3	8
Torquay United ..	6	3	2	1	9	6	8
Brentford .....	6	4	0	2	16	13	8
Coventry C. ....	6	3	2	1	7	6	8
Gillingham .....	6	3	1	2	11	7	7
Northampton ..	6	3	1	2	9	6	7
Bournemouth ..	6	3	1	2	11	8	7
Brighton .....	6	3	1	2	17	14	7
Shrewsbury T. ..	6	3	1	2	9	11	7
Colchester U. ..	6	2	2	2	12	11	6
Queen's Park ..	6	2	2	2	7	7	6
Aldershot .....	6	2	1	3	8	11	5
Millwall .....	6	2	1	3	6	9	5
Walsall .....	6	2	0	4	6	8	4
Exeter City .....	6	1	2	3	3	7	4
Crystal Palace ..	6	0	3	3	7	13	3
Southend U. ....	6	0	2	4	4	8	2
Swindon Town ..	6	1	0	5	8	17	2
Ipswich Town ..	6	1	0	5	4	12	2
Plymouth A. ....	6	1	0	5	4	19	2

#### BIRMINGHAM LEAGUE (Division One)

(Positions up to Saturday Last)

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals		
					F.	A.	Pts.
Brierley Hill ....	5	5	0	0	16	3	10
Burton .....	4	4	0	0	21	6	8
Rugby .....	5	3	0	2	7	5	6
Bromsgrove .....	3	2	1	0	5	3	5
Walsall .....	3	2	1	0	10	6	5
Banbury .....	4	2	1	1	7	6	5
Brush Sports .....	5	2	1	2	10	8	5
Worcester .....	2	2	0	0	7	3	4
Shrewsbury .....	4	2	0	2	7	5	4
Bedworth .....	5	2	0	3	11	13	4
Wolves .....	4	2	0	2	9	15	4
Nuneaton .....	5	2	0	3	5	10	4
A. Villa .....	3	1	1	1	7	7	3
Atherstone .....	4	1	1	2	8	11	3
Stourbridge .....	3	1	0	2	2	6	2
Tamworth .....	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Oswestry .....	3	0	1	2	3	6	1
Halesowen .....	4	0	1	3	4	10	1
Lockheed .....	5	0	1	4	9	16	1
Whitwick .....	3	0	0	3	2	11	0