



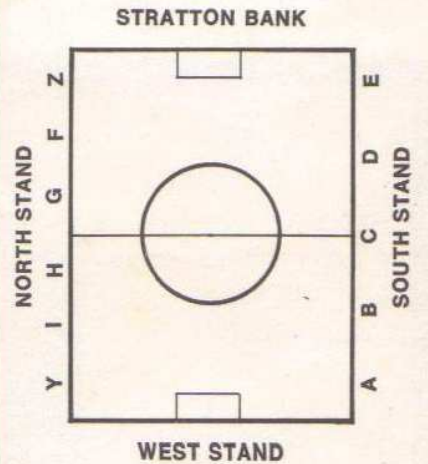
SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB



official programme 1/-



KEY TO GROUND



PROGRAMME CONTENTS

- News and Views
- Our Visitors
- League Table
- Teams
- Supporters Club Notes
- Club Information

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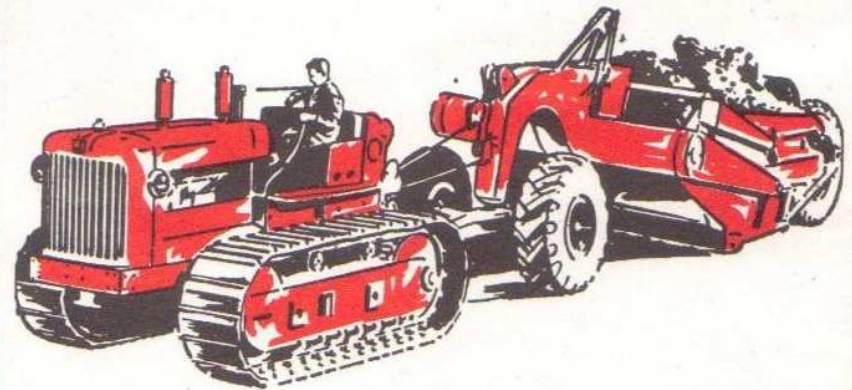


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VOL. 19

TUESDAY, 15th APRIL, 1969

No. 30

TUESDAY, 15th APRIL, 1969

DIVISION III

SWINDON TOWN

v.

CREWE ALEXANDRA

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

REFEREE:

MR. T. H. C. REYNOLDS (Swansea)

LINESMEN:

Red Flag—MR. P. W. HAYWARD (Bournemouth)

Yellow Flag—MR. D. S. HUTCHINSON (Gloucester)

NEWS and VIEWS

We often mention the "ups and downs" of football. One minute a team is on top of the world, and the next in the doldrums. Most clubs seem to go through the cycle, not exactly seven lean years, followed by seven fat years but, more often than not, a good season followed by a bad one.

A week ago we drew 1—1 at Shrewsbury, and that left them in bottom place with twenty-seven points from thirty-six games, yet only at the end of last season they missed promotion to Division II by one point. The final positions in Division III 1967/68 were as follows:

					Goals		
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
1. Oxford United	46	22	13	11	69	47	57
2. Bury	46	24	8	14	91	66	56
3. Shrewsbury Town	46	20	15	11	61	49	55
Swindon's final League position:							
10. Swindon Town	46	16	17	13	74	51	49

Such are the fortunes of football.

Our visitors tonight — Crewe Alexandra — gained promotion last season from Division 4 by virtue of finishing in fourth position. Their final record read:

					Goals		
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
4. Crewe Alexandra	46	20	18	8	74	49	58

Notice their splendid defensive record, they lost only eight games out of a total of forty-six. To date they are striving to escape relegation with the following record: played 39; won 11; drew 7; lost 21; goals for 44, against 66; points 29.

So obviously they will be anxious to gain points tonight. We won at Crewe on Good Friday by two goals to one, but most of our supporters present at that game will agree we were a little fortunate to gain both points. Still that is football, when you are on top the ball seems to run well, and when a team is struggling the odds seem to go against them.

Crewe has never hit the high spots, although it was one of the original members of League Division II on its formation in 1892. Like Swindon, it is a railway town (or rather, should we say, was) and also like us play in red shirts and white shorts.

Until this season Crewe has spent most of its football life in Division III (North) and now Division 4. It has a struggle on its hands to escape relegation back to Division 4. We wish them every success in their endeavours (after tonight of course). It would be hard indeed to return after only one season in a higher league.

Crewe's geographical position, just north of the Midlands soccer hot-bed — Stoke, Port Vale, Derby, etc. — creates difficulties in the way of attracting large gates. We are bound to admire those responsible for running the club. They are certainly very dedicated men. It must be one long struggle, just a fight for existence.

Good news this week. Swindon has again been awarded the

John White prize for crowd behaviour. The Final at Wembley was mainly responsible for this. The authorities, and the League officials, were greatly impressed by the forty thousand Swindon supporters. Well done indeed, but I'm afraid this award would not have been given on the last two home games. Whether or not they were our supporters is hard to tell, but the incidents behind the Town End goal at those matches, has certainly marred the good name of Swindon supporters. We can only hope this unfortunate business has now ended. The police have certainly been kept most busy.

Good news again, however. We note with great pleasure the success of Swindon Boys at Newcastle. To win the semi-final by three goals to one was a great achievement. The Final, which is played on a home and away basis, cannot be arranged for the other finalist is not yet known. Liverpool and Barnsley play at Oakwell on Tuesday next. Should Liverpool win, their home leg will be played at Anfield (home of Liverpool F.C.). This should provide a great thrill for our boys, but St. James Park, Newcastle is almost as large. It is safe to assume our home leg will be played on the County Ground. It will no doubt draw a very large gate, and provide Swindon supporters with yet another outstanding match. What a wonderful season for the Town. Already the senior team has won the League Cup, and hope most earnestly for promotion. Now another Cup Final at least, with high hopes of more honour-winners. What a boost for football in Swindon if the "hat-trick" is completed.

After tonight's game, we have two more home matches — Mansfield Town next Tuesday and Barrow Tuesday, 6th May. May the promotion issue be settled by the time we play the latter fixture.

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OUR VISITORS



CREWE ALEXANDRA FOOTBALL CLUB

Pen Pictures 1968/69

GOALKEEPERS

WILLIE MAILEY

Born Glasgow. A former Scottish Schoolboy International who started his league career with Everton, and joined the Crewe staff on March 15th, 1963. Although on the small side, he makes up for his lack of inches by his agility and daring. A most consistent performer who made maximum appearances last season with a total of 186 first team appearances to date.

GEOFF HICKSON

The only Crewe-born player on the staff. Commenced his career with Stoke City and joined his home town club during the summer of 1962. He is now a part-time professional and a capable deputy custodian. 113 first team appearances to date.

JIMMY CURRAN

Formerly with Oldham Athletic, joining the Crewe staff late in season 1966/67. Although signed as a goalkeeper, he has shown himself to be a versatile player having played at wing-half and inside-forward where his ball control has been a revelation.

FULL-BACKS

PETER LEIGH

Born Altrincham. Formerly with Manchester City he is now in his eighth season at Gresty Road. Captain of the side and is an extremely popular member of the staff, being a consistent performer and a great inspiration to his colleagues. In all he has played 288 first team games and always in the left-back position. He missed only one game last season.

TOMMY LOWRY

Born Liverpool. Now in his third season at Gresty Road. Although slightly built he is a keen tackler. Popularly known as "Twiggy", has made 68 first team appearances to date.

PETER NORTON

Born Manchester. One of the new recruits to the playing staff. Formerly with Bournemouth, his only professional club. He is a young player who should prove a useful acquisition.



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OUR VISITORS—continued

HALF-BACKS

STEVE ARNOLD

Was spotted playing for Cheshire Schoolboys and was signed in the face of keen competition. A young player still to make his first team debut but he is a regular member of the reserve side either at wing-half or outside-left.

ERIC BARNES

The longest serving member of the staff. After amateur service he signed professional and made his debut in the 1957/58 season. During last season he broke the club record of league appearances which had stood for 30 years. Although mostly appearing at centre-half he has also played at wing-half and full-back. A keen sportsman, is a league cricketer and a fair golfer. 346 first team games to date.

ALAN BRADSHAW

Born Blackburn. A schoolteacher by profession and a part-time player, now starting his fourth season at Crewe. He is a very versatile player who has appeared in all the forward positions and also at wing-half. A tireless worker and usually amongst the goals.

KEITH STOTT

Born Atherton, Lancs. First joined Crewe as an amateur in season 1964/5 and signed full-time forms later the same season. He started as a centre-half with the occasional game at centre-forward but is now firmly established at wing-half. A strong player with a total of 107 first team games to date.

MICK GANNON

Born Liverpool. Started his career with Everton then moved to Scunthorpe. He joined the Crewe staff during season 1964/65 and soon established a firm place in the side. A very popular member of the staff who has just completed two successive seasons with maximum League appearances. 159 appearances to date.

NEIL TURNER

Formerly with Blackpool and one of the close season recruits to the staff. Although mainly appearing in the Central League side he has also had some first team experience. A six-footer who should prove a useful acquisition.

FORWARDS

TOMMY CURLEY

Born Glasgow. An experienced player who has been with Celtic, Portsmouth and Brentford. He joined the Crewe staff on the opening day of season 1967/68. Plays either at wing or inside-forward. 18 first team appearances.

OUR VISITORS—continued

GRAHAM MATTHEWS

Born Stoke-on-Trent. Formerly with Walsall. He must claim the title as the unluckiest player on the books, for in the opening game last season he came on as substitute and sustained a broken leg. Still out of action, it is not yet known whether he will be able to resume his playing career.

KEVIN McHALE

After many years of faithful service with Huddersfield Town he joined the Crewe staff in January, 1968. A very experienced player making 20 appearances last season, scoring 3 goals, the last of these proving to be the one which assured promotion.

DON RATCLIFFE

Born Newcastle, Staffs. A seasoned campaigner having been with Stoke City, Middlesboro' and Darlington. Also joined Crewe in January, 1968 making his debut the same day as Kevin McHale. In his 20 games last season he showed his versatility appearing at full-back, wing-half, wing and inside-forward.

JOHN REGAN

Born Worcester. After previous service with Shrewsbury Town and Brentford he joined the Crewe staff in November, 1966 and scored on his debut against Aldershot. A deceptive player with an eye for goals. 45 first team appearances to date.

ALAN TARBUCK

Now starting his second season at Crewe. A teenager who came from Everton and quickly established a place in the League side. He is a busy type of player who never gives up and who finished high up on the goals list. 31 first team appearances.

GORDON WALLACE

Formerly with Liverpool and joined the Gresty Road staff in October, 1967. Son of a former Scottish International, he has proved to be a most useful acquisition. Scored 9 goals in 29 appearances besides creating many others for his colleagues.

WAYNE EMMERSON

Born Ontario, Canada. Formerly with Manchester United, he also joined the club in the close season. Another young player who should do well.

JOHN INGLIS

Born Leven, Fife. Formerly with Aston Villa, another new recruit to the playing staff. Whilst at Villa Park he played mainly in the reserve side. He should also prove to be a useful signing.

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He commenced refereeing in Bristol in 1959, and progressed through schoolboy, junior and local senior league football.

After moving to Swansea for business reasons, he progressed to the Welsh League and the Football Combination. In 1966 he was promoted to the Linesmen List of the Football League and this is his first season as a League referee.

His hobbies include five-a-side football, squash, tennis and water skiing. Mr. Reynolds is a building contractor.

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August 13	Torquay United (League Cup)	14,702	(H)	2-1
17	Stockport County	13,350	(H)	1-0
24	Hartlepool	5,732	(A)	0-0
27	Reading	16,765	(H)	0-0
31	Plymouth Argyle	12,302	(H)	3-0
September 4	Bradford City (League Cup)	7,806	(A)	1-1
7	Watford	8,709	(A)	0-0
10	Bradford City (League Cup Replay)	12,214	(H)	4-3
14	Walsall	10,593	(H)	1-0
18	Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic	11,920	(A)	0-2
21	Bristol Rovers	10,364	(A)	1-2
24	Blackburn Rovers (League Cup)	15,402	(H)	1-0
28	Shrewsbury Town	12,087	(H)	3-0
October 5	Orient	12,450	(H)	1-0
9	Reading	17,450	(A)	1-0
12	Brighton & Hove Albion	7,547	(A)	3-1
16	Coventry City (League Cup)	23,810	(A)	2-2
19	Torquay United	15,152	(H)	2-1
21	Coventry City (League Cup Replay)	23,828	(H)	3-0
26	Oldham Athletic	4,238	(A)	3-2
30	Derby County (League Cup)	35,104	(A)	0-0
November 2	Southport	18,910	(H)	5-1
5	Derby County (League Cup Replay)	26,449	(H)	1-0
9	Luton Town	17,250	(A)	0-2
16	(1) F.A. Cup Canterbury	14,387	(A)	1-0
20	Burnley (League Cup Semi-Final)	25,755	(A)	2-1
23	Mansfield Town	5,380	(A)	0-2
26	Northampton Town	6,827	(A)	6-2
December 4	Burnley (League Cup Semi-Final)	28,000	(H)	1-2
7	(2) F.A. Cup Grantham		(A)	2-0
14	Brighton & Hove Albion	10,907	(H)	1-0
18	Burnley (League Cup Semi-Final)	20,000	(A)	3-2
21	Torquay United	8,327	(A)	1-0
26	Orient	7,101	(A)	0-1
January 4	(3) F.A. Cup Southend United	18,528	(H)	0-2
11	Southport	5,232	(A)	1-1
18	Luton Town	18,903	(H)	0-0
24	Tranmere Rovers	8,181	(A)	5-3
28	Oldham Athletic	21,316	(H)	5-1
February 1	Barnsley	13,983	(A)	1-1
4	Hartlepool United	18,921	(H)	1-1
15	Barrow	3,470	(A)	3-0
18	Tranmere Rovers	19,714	(H)	1-0
22	Rotherham United	23,515	(H)	1-0
25	Gillingham	17,489	(H)	1-0
March 1	Northampton Town	17,081	(H)	1-0
5	Gillingham	6,104	(A)	0-2
8	Stockport County	6,550	(A)	1-2
15	Arsenal (Wembley)	100,000	(A)	3-1
22	Plymouth Argyle		(A)	1-2
25	Barnsley	17,199	(H)	2-0
29	Watford	28,898	(H)	0-1
April 4	Crewe Alexandra	9,053	(A)	2-1
5	Shrewsbury Town		(A)	1-1
8	Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic	22,465	(H)	3-0
12	Bristol Rovers	20,401	(H)	2-2
15	Crewe Alexandra		(H)	
19	Walsall		(A)	
22	Mansfield Town		(H)	
May 6	Barrow		(H)	
	Rotherham (To be rearranged)		(A)	

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DIVISION III

(up to and including Saturday, 12th April, 1969)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Watford	41	25	10	6	69	26	60
Swindon Town ...	41	23	9	9	64	34	55
Luton Town ...	42	22	10	10	65	35	54
Plymouth Argyle...	43	17	14	12	52	46	48
Tranmere Rovers...	42	18	9	15	67	63	45
Bournemouth & B.A.	41	18	8	15	57	44	44
Torquay United ...	41	17	10	14	51	42	44
Brighton & H.A. ...	44	16	12	16	70	61	44
Walsall	43	14	16	13	48	43	44
Stockport County	41	15	14	12	65	59	44
Reading	43	15	13	15	67	63	43
Southport	40	15	10	15	58	52	40
Rotherham United	42	14	12	16	49	47	40
Bristol Rovers ...	42	15	10	17	60	64	40
Northampton Town	42	14	11	17	52	56	39
Barnsley	41	13	12	16	50	59	38
Barrow	40	15	8	17	49	65	38
Gillingham	41	11	13	17	47	58	35
Orient	41	12	11	18	45	57	35
Oldham Athletic ...	43	13	8	22	48	77	34
Hartlepool United	41	9	16	16	37	67	34
Shrewsbury Town	39	12	9	18	40	59	33
Mansfield Town ...	38	11	10	17	46	56	32
Crewe Alexandra	40	11	7	22	44	67	29

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SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

There is nothing that gives your scribe greater pleasure than to hand around accolades for meritorious achievements. Today's list is quite worthy of note.

The first concerns you, the Supporters, as a group. A letter has been received from the management of a service station on the motorway to London. The meat of the letter was that, on the day of the League Cup Final, some 8,000 Swindon supporters used the service station, and the management was pleased to record that there were no breakages, bad behaviour of any description; that they were the best behaved bunch of Supporters ever to use the facilities, and that Swindon Town Supporters would, on the strength of this, always be welcomed. This is a high standard, ladies and gentlemen, and I am sure you will live up to it.

Now to the selection of the Footballer of the Year. The result of this, at the time of writing, is not known, but Don Rogers is very much in the front of the short list, as you will have noticed in recent Press reports. Congratulations, Don, on reaching this high level of regard from the hard-bitten Sports writers, and I would be delighted to be able to record your selection in due course, should this be the result.

Next to the Schoolboys Football team, who removed Newcastle Schoolboys by a smart 3—1 victory away from home, to reach the Final of the Competition. Their opponents in the Final joust for the privilege of meeting our local lads next week, and the Final, being on a home and away basis, means that there will be another Cup Final staged at the County Ground very soon. Congratulations also to young Mr. Stroud, of the Swindon team, who has been selected to play for the England Schoolboys.

One hopes that these youngsters will be supported in their

SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES—continued

endeavours by as many of you as possible. Apart from the kick the team's success will undoubtedly give to the younger schoolboys coming along, such a pool of talented youngsters must inevitably, in due course, produce the professionals of the future for Swindon Town.

This latter observation leads me to draw attention, and offer congratulations to, these dedicated people, who give so much of their time to schoolboy football, in particular the teachers, on whom the bulk of the work falls, as an extraneous, unpaid extra call upon their leisure time. The general public hears little about their efforts, and I trust this small tribute will do a little to put the record straight.

Now to domestic affairs. Members of the Supporters' Club may like to note that the provisional date for the A.G.M. will be Monday, 30th June next. As the football season will have ended by then, members are advised to watch for the usual Press notice, which will give ample advice of the actual date. Social Club members will, of course, be advised as well by way of the Notice Board in the Club foyer.

SUPPORTERS' CLUB ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE

Date: Wednesday, 23rd April, 1969.

Place: McIlroys Ballroom, Regent Street, Swindon.

Dancing: To Ken Kitching and his Band from 9.30 p.m.-1 a.m.

Tickets for the Dance only are obtainable at 5/- each, from Mrs. B. Ranger, Swindon 5158 (52 Medgbury Road), at the Supporters' Club H.Q. under the Town-end stand, and through any Committee member, officer, or duty officer at the Social Club.

Anyone playing cricket this summer? Then join the Supporters' Social Club and become eligible to play in the Social Club cricket team with all the Social Club amenities as a bonus. Contact Mr. Brian Hayward at the Social Club for further information.

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SATURDAY, 19th APRIL, 1969

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

NORTHAMPTON TOWN

Kick-off 3 p.m.

TUESDAY, 22nd APRIL, 1969

DIVISION III

MANSFIELD TOWN

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, 6th MAY, 1969

DIVISION III

BARROW

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

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FOOTBALL COMBINATION

(matches up to Monday, 7th April, 1969)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fulham ...	23	18	2	3	73	29	38
Arsenal ...	20	15	4	1	58	13	34
Tottenham ...	22	15	3	4	61	25	33
Crystal Palace ...	23	14	3	6	42	30	31
Ipswich Town ...	21	12	5	4	55	30	29
West Ham United	23	9	11	3	40	26	29
Bristol City ...	21	11	3	7	40	28	25
Southampton ...	22	9	5	8	31	19	23
Gillingham ...	19	9	5	5	21	20	23
Q.P.R. ...	22	8	7	7	39	40	23
Chelsea ...	21	9	3	9	38	34	21
Cardiff City ...	23	8	5	10	29	37	21
Bristol Rovers ...	23	8	5	10	38	49	21
Norwich City ...	22	6	8	8	41	38	20
Peterborough Unt.	23	5	10	8	27	34	20
Walsall ...	21	7	5	9	34	33	19
Birmingham City	23	7	5	11	35	34	19
Leicester City ...	22	7	5	10	29	35	19
Plymouth Argyle	22	6	6	10	21	35	18
Luton Town ...	21	5	8	8	24	44	18
Oxford United ...	20	6	4	10	24	42	16
Swansea Town ...	20	4	6	10	25	43	14
Swindon Town ...	22	5	4	13	16	35	14
Bournemouth ...	20	3	7	10	23	42	13
Northampton Tn.	22	5	2	15	25	55	12
Reading ...	23	4	3	16	22	61	11



John Smith heads in the third goal against Bournemouth.

Photograph by R. Marsh.

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