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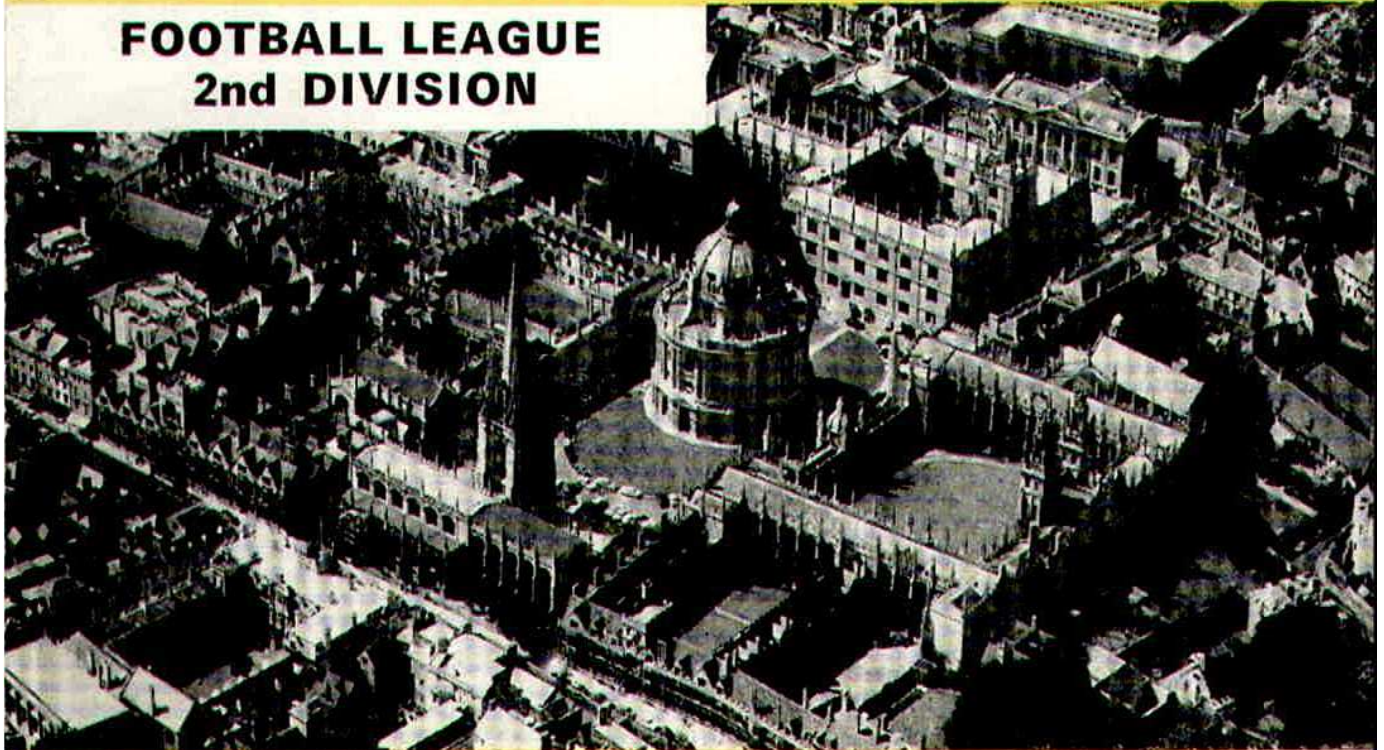
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*Programme Editor:* Vic Couling.

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## GENERAL MANAGER'S NOTES

Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen,

FOR the second time this season we welcome to the Manor Ground our friends and opponents from Swindon Town Football Club, who are at the moment enjoying a very successful season after their promotion last season to Division Two. They are very nicely placed for a late run in the promotion race and must be considered serious contenders at this stage of the season. It is fairly obvious to everyone that this game this afternoon should be one of thrills and entertainment and I am confident it will be played in the same sporting manner in which the League Cup match was played previously in the season.

Our matches in the past with this Club have always been entertaining ones and even though we are both desirous of winning today, this could prove to be one of the hardest in as much as we both require the points, theirs towards possible promotion and ours towards safety. After our two previous victories in the last two games against promotion contenders, let us hope we can make it a hat-trick, but it will be hard.

I realize that supporters of both teams are partisan towards their Clubs and could get excited today, but once again let me appeal for sanity among you all regardless of the outcome of the match. It was indeed pleasing and refreshing, as it must have been to you all, to hear the remarks of David Coleman the B.B.C. Commentator relating the words of the Chief Constable of Liverpool to the effect that in their local derby last week with a gate of 55,000, no incidents of madness was reported. This is indeed a wonderful achievement to say the least in these days of hooliganism. I personally feel it is worth mentioning in our own programme today. So while enjoying yourselves, also behave yourselves.

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## GENERAL MANAGER'S NOTES *(continued)*

In the F.A. Cup draw we have once again been fortunate to be drawn at home and against First Division opposition in Stoke City. This should prove to be a capacity crowd match. I shall of course enjoy meeting the Club whom I started my career with and for whom I hold a very soft spot. They are having a good season in Division One and this will again be a terrific struggle when the match takes place. Their Manager, Tony Waddington, was a player under my Management at Crewe, and was introduced to his present club by myself, and I am delighted to see he is proving his worth as a Manager, so we shall be renewing an old acquaintance.

**A TURNER**

*General Manager*

**F.A. Cup versus Stoke City.** Saturday, 3 January 1970. Kick-off 3 p.m.  
Replay date: Wednesday, 7 January 1970. Kick-off 7.30 p.m.  
This Match is an all-ticket only. Normal League Prices.

**Ground Tickets** will be on sale Wednesday, 17 December from 6 p.m. at London Road turnstiles **only** at the Football Combination match versus West Ham United. Two tickets per person will be available for purchase when entering through the turnstiles at the Football Combination normal charge of 2/6 adults and 1/3 juniors or Old Age Pensioners.

### Special Note

**Adult** ground tickets will **only** be on sale at **adult** turnstiles and **junior** tickets at **junior** turnstiles. Adult supporters will not be allowed to enter on the day of the match with a Junior ticket and a cash payment of 2/6, and Old Age Pensioners in possession of a 2/6 ticket must produce their Pension Book on the day of the match.

Stand tickets will be available to Oxford season ticket holders only from Saturday, 13 December until 5 p.m. on 1 January 1970. Any unclaimed tickets left after this time will be sold.

Season Ticket Holders are reminded to present their book together with Voucher No. 5 when purchasing their seat. If any Season ticket-holder wishes to purchase ground tickets they must join the ticket queue and present the Combination match voucher in lieu of ground admission cash, as ground tickets will not be on sale for ticket holders at their normal ticket turnstile.

**K. McCLUSKEY**

*Secretary*

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## ANNUAL SPORTSMEN'S SERVICE

THE ANNUAL SPORTSMEN'S SERVICE will take place in St Aldate's Church on Sunday, 14 December 1969 at 6.30 p.m. All sportsmen in Oxford and the surrounding area are warmly invited to attend. The Preacher will be the Rev. Michael Chantry, Chaplain of Hertford College, who also acts as Chaplain to the Club. Ron Atkinson our Captain has been invited to read a Lesson, and other well known sportsmen will be taking part.

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# TEAM MANAGER'S NOTES

Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen,

THE season has only been underway for a little over four months, but we have already seen two major changes in the football scene, heavy suspensions for players and an attempt for contact between referees and players. Suspensions came before the get-together attempt unfortunately, but there is a lot to commend in both.

Players must realize now that if they take matters into their own hands they must suffer the consequences. We unfortunately have Colin Clarke now having to play for the next twelve months with a suspended sentence hanging over his head and Dick Lucas with two bookings and knowing a further slip means trouble.

There is a lot wrong with the players attitude to officialdom and towards each other. Why argue with decisions, a referee very rarely changes his mind, but players can be forgiven at times in this respect for 'amateurish' decisions by the person in charge. But what about their attitude towards each other? Some go down in a heap at the slightest touch and do everything in their power to make things as difficult as possible for the player who has been involved in the incident. The way players appeal to referees to have opponents sent off is sickening, and what about Managers who ask players to feign injury just to waste time? Football is a man's game and is only for men who are big enough to take defeat and victory alike. The pressures of the game are great, and so must the characters of the players and managers show through, because every brush with officialdom reflects on the team, the Manager and the Club alike.

I have instructed my players not to argue with decisions and only to draw attention to a linesman if he has made a different decision from that of the referee. We had a very debatable goal scored against us at Leicester, and when my players got on with the game instead of clambering around the referee, I was pleased to see this self control. But it had a different effect on a lot of people who just couldn't understand my players' attitude.

The referee's job is a difficult one. Managers, and players have grown further away from officials over the years, and that is why I applaud the few minutes get-together before games. The attitude of the referees we have been involved with has been good, friendly and ready to answer questions, and there has seemed to be a better spirit existing in the games that followed. The crowd demand professionalism from their Team Manager, the Manager demands this from his players and we all demand it from our referees. He has a difficult job which I am sure he could do better if he had more time at his disposal to do several things. Fitness is important. I wonder what type of training our referees do. Don't tell me they are lapping around a football pitch. There should be more referee's courses and free exchanges between managers, players and referees.

One of the biggest problems is the fact that the majority of offenders who get punished are the ones who retaliate, while the one who did the foul goes unpunished. It is all right for me to say to a player 'don't retaliate' but its difficult for him to stay calm after someone has gone over the top to him or a team mate. These people are the ones who should be dismissed from the field not the technical law breakers. The player who has pushed the ball away after an offence does not warrant his name taken. He deserves a ticking-off from the referee and his own team manager.

How much time does a referee get to watch other referees officiate. I am sure they could only benefit from this, but how many of the referees watching Match of the Day are only looking for the bad points of the man in charge? Yes, referees must show more character. They must realize that they have an important part to play but only in the background. Too many of them, I feel, think that the crowd has come to watch them and not the teams. Whenever a player or referee resorts to exhibitionism it is to draw the crowds attention to himself. Give me the person who does his job in a professional manner, the player for the good of the team, the referee for the good of the match, and we will be much more consistant over the season and the game will be all the better for it. In fact give me Professional Referees.

**G. SUMMERS**  
*Team Manager*



# OUR VISITORS—SWINDON TOWN

By Tony Pullein

IF today's match provides as much excitement and entertainment as our previous meeting with Swindon in the League Cup in September, then a few thousand very happy United fans will wend their way home from The Manor this evening. Particularly if the result again swings our way!

That was a memorable match for the high standard of play by both sides. But, whereas Swindon have since been able to convert many of their attacks into goals, we haven't had such luck and, consequently, while Swindon are well up among the promotion hopefuls, we have had to satisfy ourselves with a mid-table position.

But, having beaten them once—and taken a League point from the Robins at the County Ground earlier on—we shall be out to repeat the success. And if we do pull it off it will be our first-ever League win over the Robins. Indeed, as we have only scored one goal against them, we have much to make up for today. Our League record versus Swindon is:

	<i>P</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Pts</i>
Home	3	0	2	1	0	3	2
Away	4	0	3	1	1	4	3
	7	0	5	2	1	7	5

Swindon's last League visit was on Good Friday 1968:

**United 0**

**Swindon 0**

17,751

**United:** Barron; Smithson, Lloyd; Atkinson (R.), Kyle, Clarke; Sloan, Atkinson (G.), Bullock, Shuker, Harrington.

**Swindon:** Jones; Thomas, Trollope; Butler, Dawson, Harland; Heath, Noble, Giles, Smart, Rogers.

While Swindon have no more than an average away record, they are one of the best home sides in the division and have yet to be beaten at the County Ground—United are one of only four sides to come away with a point, in fact. If they can salvage a few more away points, Swindon could well become only the third side to jump from the Third to the First Division in successive seasons. Last season they were runners-up in Division Three.

Swindon have won only two away League games so far—at Aston Villa (2—0) and Bolton (1—0)—the remainder of their away points coming from draws at Cardiff (2—2), Middlesbrough (0—0), Carlisle (2—2) and Watford (0—0). They were beaten at Blackburn (0—2), Blackpool (2—3), Queen's Park Rangers (0—2), Portsmouth (1—3), Birmingham (0—2) and Preston (1—3).

This is Swindon's second spell as a Second Division club. They first gained promotion in 1963 with a star-studded team of youngsters, many of whom moved on to win fame with bigger clubs.

After only two seasons, Swindon slipped back into the Third Division, remaining until last season when they won both promotion and the Football League Cup in a Wembley game that will long be remembered. Arsenal, their lordly opponents, were well beaten 3—1 after extra-time.

That was a great occasion for a club with a great Cup tradition, dating back to 1910 when, as a Southern League side, they progressed to the semi-final of the F.A. Cup. Many famous heads have rolled as Swindon wielded their Cup axe, among them—Arsenal, Burnley and Manchester United (each beaten on *two* occasions), Everton, Newcastle and West Ham.

When those famous Cup wins were achieved, Swindon lived worlds apart from those great clubs. The exciting thing is that now Swindon have an excellent chance of meeting them all again on equal terms—in the First Division next season!



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## SWINDON TOWN *Men in Action*

**Peter Downsborough** (*Goalkeeper*) Peter was still an amateur when introduced to League football with Halifax Town. He turned professional in 1960 and joined Swindon for a nominal £3,000 fee five years later. Has been a magnificent performer in recent years, turning in a five-star show at Wembley last season. And what a brilliant match he had here in the League Cup-tie earlier this season!

**Rod Thomas** (*Right-back*) Rod is now first-choice at full-back for Wales. He is the only player in post-war soccer to win his first seven full caps while playing in Third Division football. Now he totals nine caps. Swindon picked Rod up from Gloucester City and put him in the senior side in 1965-66.

**John Trollope** (*Left-back*) One of Swindon's most consistent performers of all time, completing one run of 360 consecutive League appearances for them. Then the sequence was only ended when he broke an arm. Made his 400th League appearance for the club last Saturday.

**Joe Butler** (*Right-half*) Joe entered League football with Newcastle in 1963-64 and joined Swindon in 1965. He was originally a full-back but has switched, with considerable success, to wing-half.

**Frank Burrows** (*Centre-half*) Frank left Raith Rovers to try his luck in English football with Scunthorpe in 1965. In his last two campaigns, before joining Swindon in 1968, he missed only five League games and he has continued to perform consistently well since his move.

**Stan Harland** (*Left-half*) Stan made several abortive attempts to break into professional football before he eventually succeeded. He was an amateur at Burnley, turned pro with New Brighton then had a go with Everton—but he didn't make the League side. Bradford City gave him his League debut, then he spent two seasons at Carlisle before joining Swindon three years ago.

**John Smith** (*Outside-right*) Former England youth and under-23 cap John kicked off with West Ham as a wing-half. After holding a regular place for four years, he moved to Tottenham in 1960. But it was a bad move for John rarely got a League game with Spurs. Consequently, he shifted to Coventry, then had short spells with Orient and Torquay before linking with Swindon last year.

**Don Heath** (*Outside-right*) Don first signed professional for Middlesbrough but he never managed to get a League game with them. He moved on to Norwich City where he won himself a regular place in the senior team in 1964-5. For three years he was a member of the senior squad, then he shifted to Swindon in September 1967.

**Roger Smart** (*Inside-forward*) Roger is a product of Swindon schools football who got his first taste of League football in 1961-62. He helped Swindon into the Second Division for the first time in 1963 when he really began to establish himself as a regular and now looks back on over 200 League games for them.

**Arthur Horsfield** (*Centre-forward*) See special article elsewhere in programme.

**Peter Noble** (*Inside-forward*) A native of the North-east, Peter started with Newcastle and cost Swindon £10,000 in January 1968. He recently bagged hat-tricks in successive games against Charlton (League) and Swansea (League Cup).

**Willie Penman** (*Inside-left*) Willie joined Newcastle United, from Glasgow Rangers, in 1962 and spent four seasons at St James Park before signing for Swindon. Held a regular place for two seasons but last season made only thirteen appearances in the League side.

**Chris Jones** (*Inside-forward*) Chris developed in Manchester City's junior teams, rising to their First Division side in 1966-67. But he didn't manage to shift any of the big stars on a permanent basis so he moved to Swindon last season.

**Don Rogers** (*Outside-left*) Injuries have kept Don out of recent games and Swindon have certainly missed him. An England under-23 international, Don has been a regular for six seasons and top scorer for the past three campaigns. First Division clubs have made fabulous offers for him but so far Swindon have been able to hang on to their prize asset.



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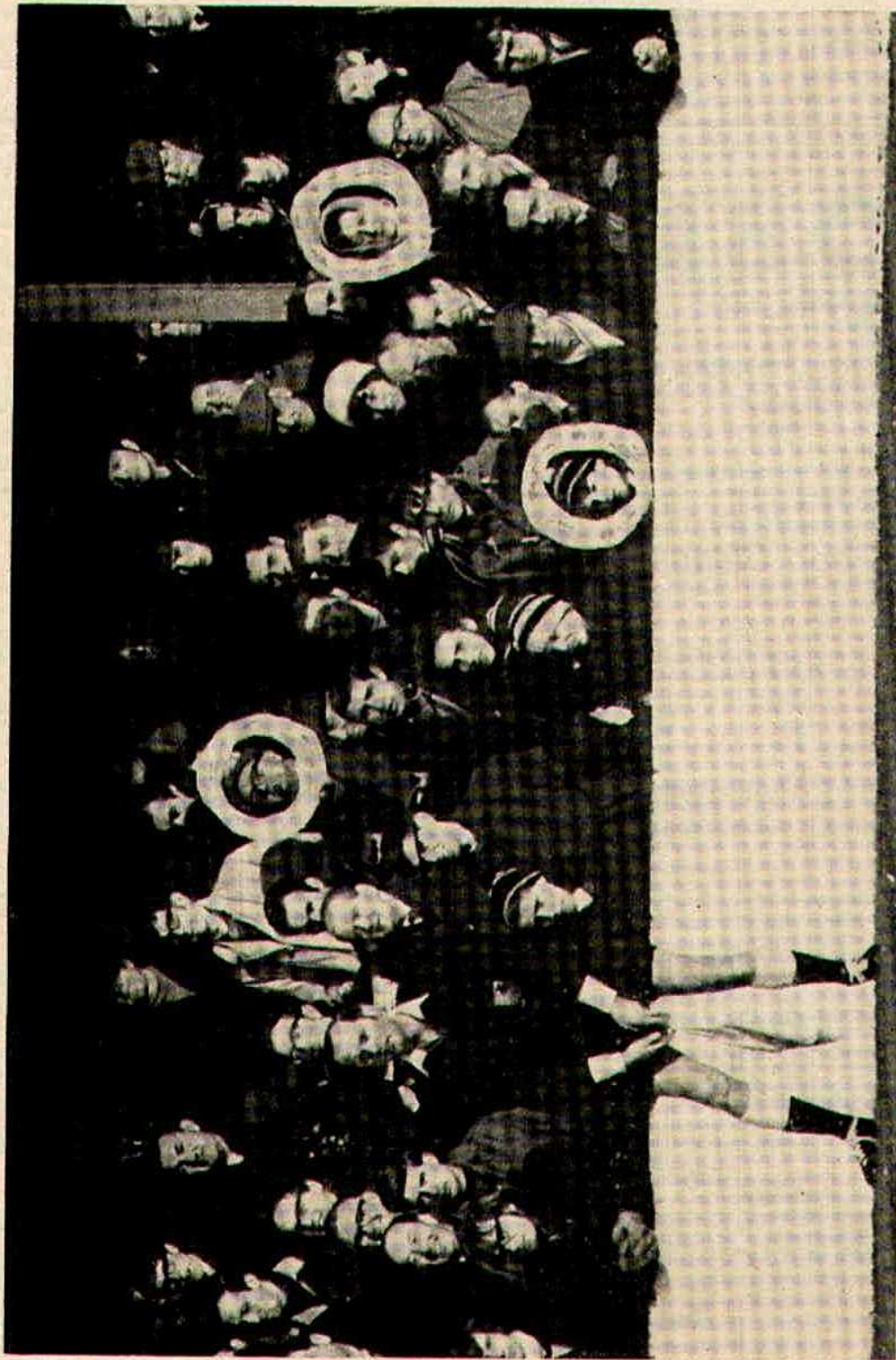
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## Spotlight on Star Visitor

### ARTHUR HORSFIELD

ONE man who recognizes star talent when he sees it is Raich Carter, the former England and Derby County forward. Soon after taking over the managership of Middlesbrough in January 1963, Mr Carter was captivated by a lanky centre-forward playing in the reserves. 'ARTHUR HORSFIELD is going to become a really outstanding player—mark my words,' he said at the time.

During the following season, Mr Carter decided to give Arthur a run in the Second Division. Result: he hit eight goals in only twelve games.

Mr Carter didn't want to rush him, though, and restricted his senior appearances to a minimum for three years. Ironically, it was after Mr Carter lost his job, following Middlesbrough's relegation to the Third Division, that Arthur Horsfield really began to make his mark.

Horsfield found a perfect understanding with fellow striker John O'Rourke and between them they hit forty-nine goals to regain Middlesbrough their Second Division place at the first attempt. Arthur hit twenty-two of them, including a hat-trick against Doncaster Rovers.

Somehow, things didn't go so well after that—he went back into the reserves for a while—though he did regain a regular place last season. Local rivals Newcastle United, seeking reinforcements for their Fairs Cup campaign, signed him last January. He didn't get a regular game but, when he did play, he usually obliged with a goal.

At the end of the season he made another move, to Swindon, where he has awakened all his old scoring instincts. At the moment he is top scorer with twelve goals, including a wonderful hat-trick against Italian first division side AS.Roma when Swindon became the first winners of a new challenge trophy for League Cup winners.

#### Arthur Horsfield's League Record:

Middlesbrough	1963-64	12a	8g
	1964-65	11a	5g
	1965-66	12a	3g
	1966-67	33 (1)a	22g
	1967-68	16 (3)a	6g
	1968-69	23a	7g
Newcastle	1968-69	7 (2)a	3g
		114 (6)a	54g

### Introducing FRED FORD (Swindon's Manager)

FRED FORD'S disappointment in having his playing career severely hampered by injuries and the war has been well compensated by a very good career in club management.

He was a First Division player with Charlton before the war but he was continually troubled by leg injuries. When war came he joined the Royal Engineers and was mentioned in despatches. He was chosen for his regiment versus All-England XI and when the war ended he picked up the threads of his career after transferring to Millwall.

In 1947 he moved to Carlisle and it wasn't too long before his damaged legs forced him to retire from the playing side. Carlisle appointed him club trainer, a job he filled until Bristol Rovers asked him to join them as chief coach in 1955.

At that time he was appointed trainer to the England under-23 side, travelling with the team on foreign tours. He got his first chance in club management in 1960 when he took charge of Bristol City. The Ashton Gate club had just lost its Second Division place, but Mr Ford rebuilt the team and took them back into Division Two in 1965.

Two years later he was relieved of his position and spent some months coaching at Swindon. Then Bristol Rovers asked him to fill their vacant manager's chair so he returned to Bristol until accepting his latest post with Swindon during the summer.

#### Today's Referee

##### REX SPITTLE (Great Yarmouth)

'REFEREES must train harder than ever to keep up with the increased pace of the game,' says REX SPITTLE who considers the game has quickened considerably since he was appointed to the League Referees' list in 1962.

Rex Spittle experienced the game from a player's angle as a goalkeeper in the R.A.F., but he took up refereeing in 1948. He progressed through the Eastern Counties, Midland, Central and Football Combination Leagues to the League linesmen's list in 1957. He was a linesman for a Benfica-Dukla European Cup-tie and officiated at the Liverpool versus Leicester F.A. Cup semi-final in 1963. His ambition is to referee the F.A. Cup final.

Mr Spittle runs his holiday business, letting bungalows and caravans, from his home in Great Yarmouth but he doesn't look upon his refereeing activities as any holiday. He takes them very seriously.

His other hobbies include motoring, swimming and cine photography.

One of his pet hates—'People who stupidly encroach on the pitch, even if they only have the intention of congratulating their players. It only holds up play and causes irritation to players and officials.'



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# OWN GOALS CAN CHANGE SOCCER HISTORY

By Tony Pullein

IT'S a defender's nightmare to put through his own goal. But most of them suffer the agony at some time or another. So Terry Caldwell, Carlisle's very fine left-back, shouldn't worry too much that he is currently the Second Division's leading own-goal scorer.

Alan Slough (Luton) and Alf Wood (Shrewsbury) had, like Caldwell, conceded goals in two games. But spare a thought for poor Chris Dunleavy, of Southport, who scored **two** own goals in their match with Rochdale!

Oldham's Jim Bowie hadn't found the net all season until the game with Aldershot when he hit a remarkable hat-trick—one for Aldershot and two for Oldham! There have been three other cases of players scoring for both teams and the strange thing is, in each case, none of the players had previously scored a goal all season. Glyn James (Blackpool v. Crystal Palace) in the League Cup, Alan Slough (Luton v. Shrewsbury) and John Wile (Peterborough v. Brentford) in League games were the men concerned. Maybe it was the guilt feeling of letting the side down that set them on the search for a redeeming goal?

The record for this sort of thing has stood for forty-six years since Oldham's full-back Wynne scored from a penalty and a free-kick for his own side—but also scored twice for the opponents Manchester United.

Carlisle, were concerned in one of only two recorded cases of defenders scoring three times for the opposition. Underwood, Boyle and Murphy (of Rochdale) all scored for them in a League game in 1954. Two years earlier Kenny, Gannon and Curtis (Sheffield Wednesday) all netted for West Bromwich Albion.

Last season Northampton would never have completed the last stage in their remarkable fall from Division One to Four had not their own players forfeited three points through own goals. Were it possible to cancel all own goals Gillingham, not Northampton, would have gone down.

No one disputes that Swindon Town were fine League Cup winners. Yet they might never have got to Wembley had not Burnley's Arthur Bellamy had the misfortune to slip one past his own goalkeeper in the semi-final play-off to give the Wiltshire side the game. But Swindon lost out in League games. But for own goals they would have been Third Division champions instead of runners-up.

Own goals are probably the most frustrating and annoying of incidents to players, managers and supporters. I like the true story of the French player who put through his own goal in a rather unimportant game. When he left the ground he was hit on the head by a lady's shoe and decided to take it home as a souvenir. Later his wife came home... wearing only one shoe!

## TOP DIVISION 2 MARKSMEN

	L Eur.			Total
	L Cup	Comp		
Bridges (Queen's Park R.)	14	2	—	16
Byrom (Bolton ... ..)	11	5	—	16
Toshack (Cardiff) ... ..	13	—	2	15
Woodward (Sheffield U.) ...	12	3	—	15
Martin (Blackburn) ... ..	10	2	—	12
Clark (Cardiff) ... ..	9	—	2	11
Hickton (Middlesbrough) ...	11	—	—	11
Noble (Swindon) ... ..	8	3	—	11
Worthington (Huddersfield)	11	—	—	11
Chilton (Hull) ... ..	9	1	—	10
Clarke (Queen's Park R.) ...	6	4	—	10
King (Cardiff) ... ..	7	3	—	10
Lochhead (Leicester) ... ..	6	4	—	10

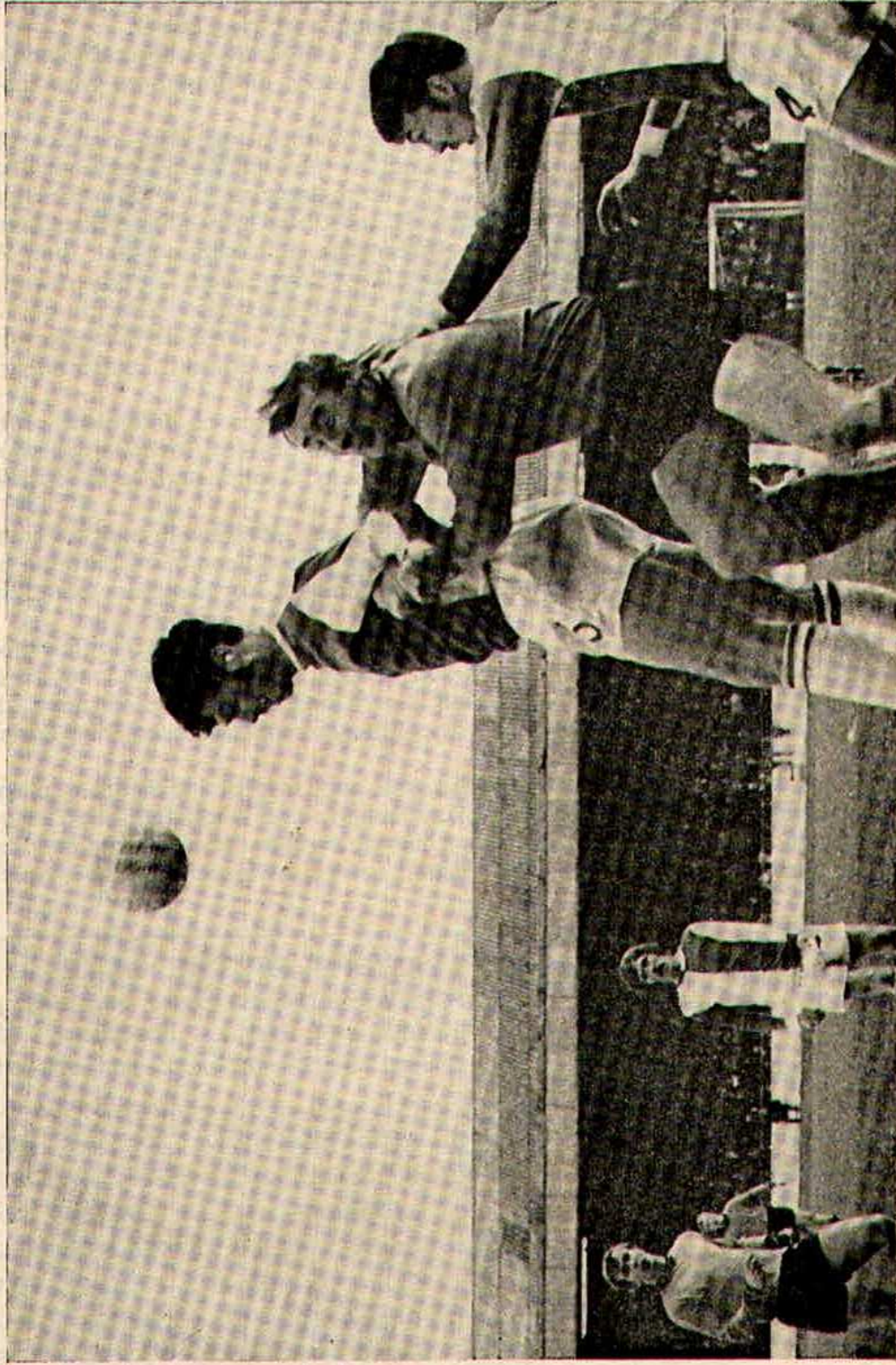
(Up to and including Saturday, 6 December 1969)

## LEADERS AT THE GATE

FOR Second Division games only, up to and including Saturday, 6 December 1969. Figures in brackets denote position in last chart.

	Aggregate	Average
1. Aston Villa (1) ...	350,431	29,203
2. Birmingham (2) ...	296,264	26,933
3. Leicester (3) ...	290,929	26,448
4. Cardiff (4) ...	255,210	23,201
5. SWINDON (6) ...	221,184	20,108
6. Queen's Park R. (5) ...	232,029	19,336
7. Watford (7) ...	179,338	17,934
8. Sheffield United (9)	207,219	17,268
9. Portsmouth (8) ...	186,159	16,924
10. Middlesbrough (10)	167,426	16,743
20. UNITED (19) ...	117,953	10,723





Hey!! Who's pushing? Ken Skeen seems to be getting the worst of this challenge in the Blackburn game



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WE once again appeal to old and new members to support our **Daily Competition with its £550 weekly prizes.**

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Make sure you become another of our regulars and help yourself and the club. Whether you can become an Agent and sell a few tickets, or just want one or two for yourself and family, please have a go—every little helps.

Please contact either Mr D. Prouse or Mr D. Buswell at the Club shop, 118 London Road, Headington (right by the traffic lights), and they will do the rest.

## COMPETITION BONUS WEEK

AS an Extra Treat for Christmas, there will be **Twenty Additional Prizes of £5** each, during the week **8 to 13 December**, so make sure of your Tickets.

## HAVING TROUBLE SELECTING CHRISTMAS PRESENTS?

WHY not have a look in our SHOPS, both on the Ground and at 118 London Road, Headington (right by the traffic lights). There are stacks of both useful and novelty items for all age groups and both sexes. The list is too long to mention them all, but here is a small cross section:

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Key Rings

Duffle Bags

Boys' Playing kits

Badges of all sorts

Wall Plaques

Pens, etc. etc.

We also have some of these items from the top First Division Clubs, especially Manchester United, plus team photo, Georgie Best tea towels, ash trays, etc. etc.

Programmes of many clubs available. Come and have a look around, and get some ideas for Christmas.





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## ***SPECIAL REQUEST TO ALL SPECTATORS***

### **WE ASK FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION**

IN order to facilitate a more methodical packing of the ground, spectators are asked to enter by the turnstile nearest the point at which they wish to stand, not for example to come in at London Road to get to Cuckoo Lane. In addition, please do not block the gangways, or cause bottlenecks near the entrances. Stewards will be on duty to ensure an even flow around the ground, and your co-operation would be appreciated.

**Do not suffer unruly hooligan behaviour. Call the police on duty and get offenders ejected.**



# THE MAN IN BLACK

By Graham Spiers

" Soccer Star "

PERHAPS some of you will remember the radio series 'The Man in Black' when actor Valentine Dyll used to tell sinister tales of mystery? It might be a coincidence that referees dress all in black and tend to have the reputation of being, if not exactly sinister characters, at least the un-loved people in soccer and certainly many of their decisions remain a mystery to me.

Clive Thomas from Treorchy who refereed our match here at The Manor in October when we beat Birmingham 2—0 is described, at the age of 33, as 'one of the youngest officials in the Football League'. It's not easy to say whether Mr Thomas is *the* youngest of the League's seventy full-time and thirty auxiliary referees because the League thinks the referees may not like them divulging their ages. Perhaps they are right. It may be fine for 'youngsters' like Mr Thomas who became a League referee at 30 but it wouldn't be much fun to be known as one of the older ones on the retirement age of 47.

We must therefore assume that most of the League's referees are over 33 years-old. In contrast most League footballers are under that age—and in strict training all week. For just an hour and a half, usually once a week, referees attempt to cover the whole pitch, keeping up with the action while twenty-two match fit players have to do the same job.

If that doesn't seem possible to you (it didn't to me) the League will tell you the referee isn't expected to cover all the field that the players do. Apparently they use the diagonal system, leaving the two linesmen to help keep an eye on everything happening on the field. Sounds fine in theory but there is still a problem. The referee's word is all that really matters, we've all seen linesmen over-ruled, so even if the 'man in black' isn't up with the play he is the only authority on the field.

There is a suggestion that there should be two referees to a game; after all there's no shortage with thousands of them up to League standard. The League don't seem very keen on the idea though. They have no doubt considered some of the problems, like who would look-after the centre line. Letting one's imagination run-riot we can imagine one referee sending the other one off or if they both got heated and started scrapping who would separate them? The players I suppose! As there doesn't seem to be anything in the rules to stop them wearing contact lenses I wouldn't like them to lose these.

Back to reality. Although I still think a good referee makes all the difference to a match and we still see far too many sub-standard ones their job is not all that enviable.

Back to Mr Thomas. Imagine the journeys he has to make from his Glamorganshire home, 169 miles from London, all for a ten guinea fee and expenses. Then he has a full-time job and a wife and two daughters to claim his attention. One former League referee told me he had to train for a couple of hours, two nights a week, to keep fit. If Mr Thomas has to go out training these cold winter evenings after a day at the office he's welcome to the ten guineas which is so often such a small sum compared to the wages of the footballers he is trying to control in a match. Maybe we are a bit hard on the referees after all. I expect we will still go on moaning about them though but it might be worth pointing out that Valentine Dyll, that original sinister 'Man in Black', has since worked a lot with the Goons and played in a good deal of comedy—I hope that's a good omen!





Ken Skeen on the target with the winning goal against Blackburn Rovers



# HOW TO GET THERE

*(Information supplied by kind permission of the Royal Automobile Club)*

**20 DECEMBER 1969**

## OXFORD TO WATFORD

OXFORD	Miles		Miles
Leave by Green Road Roundabout for		Croxley Green	43½
A40		At ½ mile on by station, cross railway bridge and turn sharp left for	
Follow signs 'London (A40)' through High Wycombe, Beaconsfield, Gerrards Cross and Red Hill, at junction of roads turn sharp left, for:		Watford	44
Denham	35	Continue on A412, Rickmansworth Road, for 1½ miles until junction on right with Harwoods Road, turn right, into Harwoods Road, ½ mile on 'T' junction, turn left into	45½
West Hyde	37	Vicarage Road for	46
Rickmansworth By Pass	42		
Bear left onto By Pass and almost ¼ mile on pass under railway bridge. Nearly ½ mile further, end of By Pass, turn left and ¾ mile beyond by Church turn right		<b>WATFORD FOOTBALL GROUND</b> (on right next to Shrodells Hospital)	
			<b>46 miles</b>

*Further information can be obtained from your local R.A.C. Office at*

**226 Banbury Road, Summertown, Oxford**

**Telephone: OXFORD 53333**

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## METROPOLITAN LEAGUE TABLE

(Up to and including 6 December 1969)

	<i>P</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Pts</i>
West Ham United ...	11	6	2	3	22	10	14
Metropolitan Police ...	11	5	4	3	16	14	14
Wellingborough Town ...	9	5	3	1	12	9	13
Stevenage Athletic ...	9	4	4	1	18	8	12
<b>Oxford United</b> ...	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>12</b>
Bletchley ...	10	4	3	3	18	13	11
Bedford Town ...	14	4	3	7	14	18	11
Brentwood Town ...	9	3	4	2	7	9	10
Cray Wanderers ...	12	4	2	6	16	21	10
Bury Town ...	8	4	1	3	14	12	9
Epping Town ...	11	3	3	5	12	18	9
Hatfield Town ...	11	3	3	5	13	20	9
Romford ...	8	3	1	4	11	13	7
Sheppey United ...	7	2	2	3	9	9	6
Braintree & Critt. A. ...	4	0	1	3	2	7	1

---

## FIVE YEARS AGO

ON 12 December 1964, United completed three consecutive away games without defeat:

CREWE (1) 2  
Harkin  
Gowans

UNITED (0) 2  
Booth  
Atkinson (G.)

CREWE: Hickson; Whelan, Leigh; Keery, Barnes, Gannon; Gowan, Kane, King, Harkin, Wheatley.

OXFORD: Fearnley; Beavon, Quartermain; Atkinson (R.), Kyle, Jones; Morris, Booth, Willey, Atkinson (G.), Shuker.

Both Crewe's 'terrible twins' got one past us, as they did most other opponents that season—they grabbed fifty-three goals between them! Terry Harkin, a man of many clubs, moved on to Cardiff at the end of the season and later served Notts County and Southport en route to his present club, Shrewsbury Town. He was capped by Northern Ireland at full and under-23 levels. Peter Gowans is currently aiding Aldershot's Fourth Division promotion drive.

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## BALL DONORS

LAST season the Club was favoured by many firms and individuals who kindly donated the cost of the footballs at each home match. I know there are a number who would like to help the Club in this manner, some of whom will be approached, but failing this, if they would like to contact Mr Ken McCluskey, the Secretary, at the office on the ground, he will be pleased to make the necessary arrangements with them. The balls cost around £10 each.

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# FIXTURES 1969-70

## FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION II

Date	Opponents	Score			Att.
		Grd.	F.	A.	
<b>1969</b>					
<b>August</b>					
S. 9	Huddersfield	H	1	2	9897
W. 13	League Cup 1, N'ampton	H	2	0	7158
S. 16	Birmingham	A	3	1	27067
W. 20	Bristol City	H		P	
S. 23	Portsmouth	H	0	2	10853
Tu. 26	Charlton	A	0	1	11814
S. 30	Preston N.E.	A	1	0	10058
<b>September</b>					
W. 3	League Cup 2 Bury	H	4	1	8349
S. 6	Watford	H	2	1	12620
S. 13	Swindon	A	0	0	21903
W. 17	Sheffield United	H	0	0	10856
S. 20	Middlesbrough	H	1	1	9389
W. 24	League Cup 3 Swindon	H	1	0	18193
S. 27	Norwich	A	0	2	12103
<b>October</b>					
S. 4	Millwall	H	0	0	10764
W. 8	Birmingham	H	2	0	12476
S. 11	Hull	A	1	3	8176
W. 15	League Cup 4 Notts. F.	A	1	0	20734
S. 18	Bolton	A	1	1	6731
S. 25	Aston Villa	H	2	2	14386
W. 29	League Cup 5 Carlisle	H	0	0	17964
<b>November</b>					
S. 1	Leicester	A	1	2	25663
Tu. 4	League Cup 5 Carlisle (Replay)	A	0	1	16303
S. 8	Carlisle	H	1	0	8374
Tu. 11	Bristol City	A	0	2	10698
S. 15	Cardiff	H	1	1	11012
S. 22	Blackpool	A	0	1	10968
S. 29	Blackburn	H	1	0	7326
<b>December</b>					
S. 6	Queen's P.R.	A	2	1	12018
S. 13	Swindon	H			
S. 20	Watford	A			
Fri. 26	Portsmouth	A			
S. 27	Preston	H			
<b>1970</b>					
<b>January</b>					
S. 3	F.A. Cup 3				
S. 10	Middlesbrough	A			
S. 17	Norwich	H			
S. 24	F.A. Cup 4				
S. 31	Millwall	A			
<b>February</b>					
S. 7	Hull (5)	H			
S. 14	Huddersfield	A			
S. 21	Carlisle (6)	A			
S. 28	Bolton	H			
<b>March</b>					
S. 7	Blackpool (LCF)	H			
S. 14	Blackburn (SF)	A			
S. 21	Queen's Park Rangers	H			
Fri. 27	Leicester	H			
S. 28	Cardiff	A			
Tu. 31	Aston Villa	A			
<b>April</b>					
S. 4	Charlton	H			
S. 11	F.A. Cup Final				
Tu. 14	Sheffield United	A			

## FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Date	Opponents	Score			Att.
		Grd.	F.	A.	
<b>1969</b>					
<b>August</b>					
S. 9	Gillingham	A	2	1	
W. 20	Crystal Palace	A	4	3	
W. 27	Reading (Cup)	H	1	1	976
<b>September</b>					
Th. 4	Swindon	H	0	2	747
S. 6	Norwich	A	0	2	
W. 10	Tottenham	H	0	2	5363
Th. 18	Bournemouth	H	3	0	
S. 20	Bristol Rovers	A	0	1	781
<b>October</b>					
W. 1	Chelsea	H		P	
W. 15	Peterborough	H	3	0	
S. 18	West Ham	A	2	2	
<b>November</b>					
M. 3	Fulham	A	0	3	
W. 12	Bristol City	H	0	2	
W. 19	Plymouth	A		P	
W. 26	Birmingham	H	3	2	709
<b>December</b>					
W. 3	Cardiff	A	1	1	
W. 10	Swansea	H			
W. 17	West Ham (Cup)	H			
Fri. 26	Reading (Cup)	A			
W. 31	Southampton (Cup)	A			
<b>1970</b>					
<b>January</b>					
S. 3	Bournemouth (Cup)	A			
W. 14	Walsall	H			
Tu. 20	Northampton	A			
W. 28	Ipswich	H			
S. 31	Arsenal	A			
<b>February</b>					
W. 4	Bournemouth (Cup)	H			
M. 9	West Ham (Cup)	A			
W. 11	Leicester	H			
M. 16	Fulham (Cup)	A			
W. 18	Fulham (Cup)	H			
<b>March</b>					
S. 7	Luton	A			
Tu. 10	Queen's Park Rangers	A			
<b>April</b>					
W. 1	Reading	A			
S. 25	Southampton	H			

P Postponed. To be arranged



# YOUR RECORD PAGE

Up to and including 9 December 1969

Players	Appearances		Goals		Total Attendances To Date	
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	Home	Away
Atkinson, Graham...	29		5		169,617	194,236
Atkinson, Ron ...	27	1				
Barron, Jim ...	29				Home Gate last Match	
Clarke, Colin ...	29		1		7,326	
Clayton, R. ... S.2		9		2	Best Home Gate this Season	
Clinch, Peter ...		13			18,193	
Crook, L. ...		11		2	Goals Scored at LONDON ROAD end	
Evanson, John ... S.3	4	11		2	For	Against
Gaston, Ray ...		10		3	11	6
Gladwin, Robin ...	19	3			Goals Scored at CUCKOO LANE end	
Harrington, Colin ... S.1	7	5	2		For	Against
Hatch, Peter ... S.1	2	13			7	4
Jones, David ... S.3	12	6	1	3	Corners	
Kearns, Michael ...		13			For	Against
Kyle, Maurice ...	14	3			107	59
Lucas, Richard ...	29				Results Last Time we met Today's Opponents	
Pack, Roy ...					Home	Away
Shepherd ... S.2	11	8	1		1-0	0-0
Shuker, John ...	23	1	3		18,193	
Skeen, Ken ...	29		10		21,903	
Sloan, David ... S.1	22	2	5			
Smithson, Rodney ...	29					
Thompson ... S.3	2	9		3		
Way, Michael ...	1	9				
Burton, R....		1				
Flay, R. ...		9				
Light, J. ...						
Lowe, N. ...		3				
Rex, C. ... S.1		7		4		
Austin ...		1				
Davies ...		1				

## JACKPOT WINNERS FROM BLACKBURN MATCH

1st	20004	£18. 7s. 6d.	Not claimed.
2nd	20944	£11. 0s. 6d.	Mr B. J. Greenwood, 80 Templar Road, Summertown, Oxford.
3rd	20111	£7. 7s. 0d.	Miss B. Panton, 1 Bayswater Road, Headington, Oxford.

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**v. WEST HAM RESERVES**

**FOOTBALL LEAGUE 2nd DIVISION**

**SATURDAY, 27 DECEMBER 1969. Kick-off 3 p.m.**

**v. PRESTON NORTH END**

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# SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

Good Afternoon Supporters,

ONCE again we have great pleasure in welcoming our friends from Swindon to the Manor. We congratulate our boys for their wonderful win last Saturday and hope it will inspire them for today's match and another two points.

Next Saturday evening in the Social Club we have the start of the Christmas festivities so come along and get into the Spirit of Christmas. We have a welcome return visit of that favourite Squire Hayward presenting his show 'Make it a Party' supported by Bob Champion, Chalky White and Ann Jackman. Party Competitions—Bingo—Novelties.

On Sunday, 21 December for The Lunch Hour we have 'Carols in the Lounge' with Reg Froude at the organ.

The Christmas Eve party in the Club has become a tradition with our members and we have another good evening planned for this year.

If anyone needs a breath of fresh air to clear their heads in the midst of the Christmas celebrations transport has been arranged for our match at Portsmouth on Boxing Day. It's an 11 a.m. kick-off. Full details from the Supporters' Club Office.

---

Next Wednesday we have the draw for the Grand Christmas Draw and Toyland Draw, this takes place at 7.30 p.m. in the Social Club. All members are welcome to attend. A member from the floor will be asked to make the draw, come along and see your tickets drawn. Leaflets of the winners will be on issue from Thursday evening. All winners notified by post. There is still a few days left, so get your tickets now.

---

YOU can solve your last minute Christmas present problem at the Supporters' Club 'Boot and Ball' shop. We have many items useful as stocking fillers. We still have a good range of Christmas cards, calendars, and table decorations. We have almost sold out of the *Supporters' Club 1970 Diary*—only a few left—so hurry, price 1/- each.

All the best,

**JIM KNAPP**

*Secretary*

## SHOW TIME IN THE NEW SOCIAL CLUB

Saturday, 20 December 1969

Squire Hayward in 'Make it a Party' commencing at 8.30 p.m.



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6. BRIAN THOMPSON
7. JOHN SHEPHERD
8. GRAHAM ATKINSON
9. KEN SKEEN
10. COLIN HARRINGTON
11. RON ATKINSON

*Sub To be announced*

*Colours*

Gold Shirts, Black Shorts

*Referee*

**R. V. Spittle**  
Great Yarmouth



*Linesmen*

**J. H. Smith**  
Groby, Leics  
(Red Flag)

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Solihull  
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