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Swindon Town FC

SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Official Programme
including League Football



1973-'74

Millwall

Price 7p



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Football Company Limited 1972

Swindon Town Football Company Limited

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County Ground, Swindon

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Les Allen's Column

Our visitors today are Millwall who, after a slow start to the Season, have now started to get results, and have won their last two games. Millwall are always a difficult side to beat. They have recently taken to playing more attractive and open football, and have recently signed Brian Clarke from Bournemouth for a fee in the region of £40,000. We always have an interesting game against Millwall, and I am sure today's game will be no exception.

Our recent game against Bristol City turned out to be our first defeat of the Season, and possibly not one of our best displays. After being a goal down in the first minutes of the game we should have got to grips with the task of pulling the game round. Quite a few people have written to me stating that if we had continued our attacking policy we would have had no problems with Bristol City. Believe me nothing has changed in this respect, it was just that Bristol City played a very tight game and allowed us very little opportunity to make chances as in previous games. I thought at one time that we were going to get back into the game and pull the scores level, but unfortunately Bristol City defended very stoutly and refused to give us the space required to make any chances. Last Saturday we had an away game against Notts County, and once again proved to be very disappointing, coming away 2-0 losers. During the first half and well into the second half, sitting in the Directors Box I could see no problems in our getting a point or even 2 points, but unfortunately about 15 minutes from the end a bad defensive lapse gave Notts County their first goal. We continued attacking and made three excellent chances which we failed to convert and so we suffered, one bad goal given away and missed chances. According to reports in the local Evening Advertiser we had not played well. There I will have

to disagree because to play as we did and make chances we will get more points away from home than we have in the past.

On Tuesday night it was the same story again playing much more attractive football than Nottingham Forest until the interval when a rather simple situation developed. A ball was left to go into touch by one of our defenders and was hooked back into our box for Nottingham Forest to score their first goal. Once again you cannot legislate for this kind of lapse in our defence, and the sooner we do the simple things and take no chances we will start to earn the points instead of losing them.

I must give all our team in these last two games a lot of credit for the way they have played. Although being goals down they have stuck to their task and really played some excellent football.

On the injury side Alan Spratley is still out with a knee injury. Terry Hubbard, who we have missed terribly in the middle of the field, is recovering from ligament trouble and could be fit in the next week. Chris Porter who missed the pre-season plus our early games has come back into the reckoning after some excellent games in the Reserves. Other than these few players the injury situation is not too bad.

At Nottingham Forest on Tuesday night David Syrett was given his first full game in the First Team and did very well, and proved that with a little bit of sharpness he will certainly come into the reckoning in the near future.

With Alan Spratley injured Steve Newman has been given games in our Reserves and has done quite well. Steve Scarrott, who is more or less a regular in the Reserve Team has also been doing very well, and Geoff Chalklin who was also a member of our last years youth team has had a couple of games in the Reserves.

Second Division Scene

by Tony Pullein



Robins Year-by-Year

Part 5 — Season 1924/25

Tom Finney maintained his remarkable record of at least a goal per game when hitting Luton's equaliser in their 3-3 draw with Portsmouth last Saturday. The Irish winger, a member of Crusader's championship team last season, thus tallied five goals in only four games for the Hatters.

At the other end, Welsh international striker Ron Davies, hit his first League goal for Portsmouth, who had the misfortune to have goalkeeper Ron Tilsed injured with a broken arm which is likely to keep him out of the game for some weeks.

Orient, the Second Division's shock team, followed their 3-0 win at Fulham by defeating another fancied team last week. The Os were trailing 0-2 at Blackpool with only half-an-hour to go when they hit back with goals from Bullock, Allen and Queen (penalty) to win 3-2.

Nottingham Forest made a fine recovery from a 1-2 interval deficit at West Bromwich to swing into a 3-2 lead. But a late goal from Tony Brown earned the home side a point.

Oxford United have scored only one goal, and that one was given to them on a plate, in five games and, though they have missed the suspended Hugh Curran in three of those, they could be forced to go into the market for new players.

If that happens, it would be right out of character. For in two-and-a-half years Oxford have paid a fee for only one player — that was Curran, who cost them a £50,000 club record fee.

Final Table DIVISION III (South) — Season 1924/25

	P	W	D	L	For	Ag.	Points
1. Swansea Town	42	23	11	8	68	35	57
2. Plymouth Argyle	42	23	10	9	77	38	56
3. Bristol City	42	22	9	11	60	41	53
4. Swindon Town	42	20	11	11	66	38	51
5. Millwall	42	18	13	11	58	38	49
6. Newport County	42	20	9	13	62	42	49
7. Exeter City	42	19	9	14	59	48	47
8. Brighton & Hove Albion	42	19	8	15	59	45	46
9. Northampton Town	42	20	6	16	51	44	46
10. Southend United	42	19	5	18	51	61	43
11. Watford	42	17	9	16	38	47	43
12. Norwich City	42	14	13	15	53	51	41
13. Gillingham	42	13	14	15	35	44	40
14. Charlton Athletic	42	13	12	17	46	48	38
15. Reading	42	14	10	18	37	38	38
16. Bristol Rovers	42	12	13	17	42	49	37
17. Luton Town	42	10	17	15	49	57	37
18. Aberdare Athletic	42	14	9	19	54	67	37
19. Queen's Park Rangers	42	14	8	20	42	63	36
20. Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic	42	13	8	21	40	58	34
21. Brentford	42	9	7	26	38	91	25
22. Merthyr Tydfil	42	8	5	29	35	77	21

Men Who Played

League appearances:

A. Archer, 5; D. C. Bew, 34; R. Cooper, 33; C. A. Crossley, 11; C. H. Daniel, 14; A. S. Davies, 38; A. E. Denyer, 40; W. Dickenson, 38; S. Furniss, 10; J. H. Johnson, 37; E. M. Nash, 1; H. O'Neil, 8; J. W. Price, 2; G. Purcell, 15; O. S. Randall, 41; F. Richardson, 36; D. Rogers, 21; A. Ruddlesdin, 16; J. Rutherford, 5; R. Waite, 1; W. Wareing, 20; A. M. Weston, 36.

League scorers:

Johnson 17, Richardson 14, Daniel 9, Ruddlesdin 7, Davies 5, Bew and Crossley each 4, Denyer and Purcell each 2, Weston and Forst (Millwall) each 1.

DON'T MISS A COMPLETE SET! Part 6 of this unique club record series will appear in our next first-team programme. Make sure you collect each instalment and thus complete this best-ever record of Swindon Town.

If you have missed past instalments, back numbers are available from the Secretary's Office.

Football League

Division III (South)

	Home	Away
Aberdare	2-0	1-1
Bournemouth	4-0	0-0
Brentford	2-0	0-0
Brighton	3-0	1-3
Bristol City	3-0	0-0
Bristol Rovers	3-0	1-0
Charlton	2-2	0-1
Exeter	1-0	0-1
Gillingham	2-0	1-1
Luton	4-1	2-2
Merthyr Tydfil	5-1	5-1
Millwall	1-0	2-1
Newport	2-2	1-3
Northampton	5-0	0-0
Norwich	1-0	0-4
Plymouth	1-0	0-2
Q.P.R.	5-3	0-2
Reading	2-1	1-1
Southend	3-0	0-0
Swansea	0-2	0-2
Watford	0-1	0-1

F.A. Cup

Rd. 1 — Fulham (h) 1-2

Millwall Make Slow Start

by Tony Pullein



Back Row: Left to Right. A. Wood, S. Webb, R. Wainwright, D. Smethurst, F. Saul, T. Sampson, R. Pittaway, B. Kitchener, B. King, M. Kelly and E. Jones.

Front Row: Left to Right. G. Hill, K. Enver, E. Dunphy, A. Dorney, D. Donaldson, H. Cripps, D. Burnett, S. Brown, B. Brown, G. Bolland and D. Alder

With only one goal and one point from four games, Millwall manager Benny Fenton seemed likely to continue his experiments in a bid to find a winning combination. But last Saturday's 3-0 win over Hull must have given him some peace of mind. So for this season the Millwall team — which last term was virtually unchanged throughout — has undergone considerable change. And, in an attempt to add goal power, Mr Fenton paid Bournemouth £35,000 for striker Brian Clark.

Clark, a player of vast experience, has scored over 180 goals in League football, many of them with his first club Bristol City. He was on two occasions their leading scorer but, for all his efforts, he was never quite able to beat the club record of 36 in a season set up by his father, Don Clark, in 1946/47.

After leaving Ashton Gate in 1966, Brian spent a short while with Huddersfield but was never really happy there. Things improved when Cardiff signed him and in his last two full seasons in Wales he was top scorer. Bournemouth signed him as replacement for Ted MacDougall last season and, in only his second game for the Cherries, he scored four goals at Rotherham.

Clark now joins another prolific scorer in Alf Wood, who cost Millwall a club record £45,000 when they signed him from Shrewsbury last year. Alf celebrated his first season with the Lions by finishing joint top scorer with 19 goals. Alf, who created a Shrewsbury club record by scoring 39 goals in 1971/72, began his career with Manchester City.

Frank Saul has become almost a

forgotten man at The Den these days. The former Spurs' striker, who scored their winning goal in the 1967 F.A. Cup final, has played only half-a-dozen first-team games since joining the club two years ago from Queen's Park Rangers. After leaving Spurs, Frank spent almost three years at Southampton before returning to London with Queen's Park Rangers in 1970.

Gordon Bolland, who plays either in midfield or as striker, shared the scoring lead with Alf Wood last season, five of his 19 goals coming from penalties. Gordon started with Chelsea but really made his mark in League football at Orient. He moved to Norwich in 1963/64, topping their scoring list in the following season, and then linked with Charlton during 1967/68. Millwall signed him five seasons back.

Millwall usually play 4-4-2, contenders for the midfield places including Bolland, Dennis Burnett, Dough Alder, Eamonn Dunphy, Steve Brown, Gordon Hill and Robin Wainwright.

Dennis Burnett is a former West Ham player. He played 50 First Division games for the Hammers before transferring to Millwall in 1967, since when he has missed only one League game in six seasons. A wonderfully consistent performer.

Doug Alder was still an apprentice when introduced to the League team four seasons ago. He made a big impression, held his place and was rewarded with a full-time professional contract and a place in England's youth XI. Eamonn Dunphy returned to the side last season after giving up football to go into the licensed trade in the summer. A former Manchester United player, he made his League debut with York and joined Millwall in 1966. He is a full and under-23 Eire international.

Young Steve Brown became one of the country's most experienced substitutes before gaining a regular place last season. He was first given the number 12 shirt four years ago, but, though he had chalked up 16 League appearances before last season, he had only on one occasion been in the field at the kick-off. Now, at last, he is in the team by right.

Gordon Hill is the latest player to graduate from the juniors. He made his League debut late last season, as substitute. Robin Wainwright served his apprenticeship with Luton but made his bow in League football while on loan to Cambridge in 1970/71. He made a few League appearances for the Hatters last season, moving to Millwall in November.

One department which has

looked fairly settled is defence, where Brian Brown, Barry Kitchen-er, Alan Dorney and Harry Cripps have been forming the back four.

Brown came through Chelsea's junior set-up but didn't make their senior team. Millwall gave him his initial chance in 1968/69 and he has been a permanent member of the defence for four seasons. Alan Dorney completed his apprenticeship in the printing trade before signing professional for Millwall. He had his first taste of League football five seasons ago and has not missed a game for over two years.

Barry Kitchen-er fought his way from the ranks of Millwall's junior teams to make his senior bow six seasons ago and he had been ever-present for five seasons, ending an unbroken run of 242 League appearances for the Lions last season when he was suspended.

Harry Cripps, who two seasons ago set up a new club record for League appearances, has now played almost 400 League games for the club. Harry has certainly given the club wonderful service since joining them from West Ham in 1961, appearing in the Second, Third and Fourth Divisions for them. A hero of Millwall fans on many occasions, he was never more so than when scoring the first goal which helped to knock Everton out of the F.A. Cup last season.

Bryan King has for a long while been one of the Second Division's most-sought-after goalkeepers, only this week being involved in another transfer speculation. A former Chelmsford City player, Bryan was promoted to Millwall's League side six years ago and has built up a wonderful record of consistency. By the end of last season Bryan had played 154 consecutive League games since his last absence in October 1969. He played as second half replacement for Gordon Banks

in the F.A. XI which beat Gibraltar 9-0 last season.

Over the years, Millwall manager Benny Fenton has become one of football's most respected figures. He started as a 17-year-old professional with West Ham before the war, his first contact with Millwall, where he now reigns supreme, being in 1945 when he was transferred to them as a budding inside-forward.

Charlton paid £6,000 for him in January 1945 and while with them he converted to wing-half, the position in which most fans best remember him. He became Colchester United's player-manager in 1955.

But, my, how Benny used to anger the crowds with his shouting, gesticulating, and boundless energy when playing away! And I'm sure he enjoyed every moment of it!

Fenton was appointed manager of Orient in October 1963 shortly after they had lost their First Division place. Brisbane Road was a depressing place then: the club was dangerously debt-ridden, the spirit was low and it needed more than Benny's tremendous enthusiasm to revive it. The necessary backing wasn't forthcoming and he left after only 13 months.

He took charge of Millwall in May 1966 and five seasons ago almost took them into the First Division. But they couldn't quite stay the course on that occasion. In 1972 they held one of the top two positions almost continuously from October until they had completed their fixtures. Then Fenton had the galling experience of watching Birmingham win their last game — and overhaul his club.

Mr Fenton contends: "If you are to be a good manager you mustn't worry about losing leisure hours. You've got to put your back into the work and can't bother about hobbies or outside interests."



Richard Legg gets up well and puts in a powerful effort at goal against Bristol City.

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Have you purchased your

**GOLDEN GOAL
TICKET?**

SOMEONE TODAY WILL

WIN £60

for an outlay of only

5p

It could be you!

Your Golden Goal ticket seller will be in the usual place — make a date to buy your ticket every match.

Additional £10 prizes for last goal scored and Official Attendance.

Remember we pay £80 at every First Team match.

Forthcoming matches

Tuesday, September 25th
Football Combination
NORWICH CITY
Kick-off 7.15 p.m.

Saturday, September 29th
Football Combination
READING
Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

Tuesday, October 2nd
Football League — Division II
NOTTINGHAM FOREST
Kick-off 7.15 p.m.

TOWN SOUVENIRS

All your favourite souvenirs and sports items are available at our Souvenir Shop opposite the Supporters Club — See you there!



Ray Treacy beats a Bristol City defender to the ball and heads at goal.

Key of the board

Saturday, September 22nd, 1973

- A Arsenal v. Stock City
- B Coventry v. Newcastle
- C Derby v. Southampton
- D Ipswich v. Burnley
- E Leeds v. Manchester United
- F Liverpool v. Tottenham H.
- G Manchester City v. Chelsea
- H Q.P. Rangers v. Birmingham
- I West Ham United v. Leicester
- J Wolverhampton v. Everton
- K Aston Villa v. Orient
- L Blackpool v. Middlesbrough
- M Bristol City v. Sheffield Wednesday
- N Carlisle v. Oxford United
- O Crystal Palace v. Cardiff
- P Fulham v. Bolton
- Q Hull City v. West Bromwich Albion
- R Nottingham Forest v. Preston N.E.
- S Portsmouth v. Notts County
- T Sunderland v. Luton

The man in the middle

JOHN GOGGINS

(Manchester). Appointed to The League's full list last season after serving on the supplementary list in 1971-72 and The League line since 1966. Began refereeing in local Manchester leagues and worked his way up via the Lancashire and Central Leagues. Was a linesman in a U.E.F.A. Cup game in 1971 and officiated in the 1972 Anglo-Italian Cup tournament. Refereed England v. West Germany schoolboys international in 1966 and England v. Scotland schoolboys 1973. The headmaster of a secondary school he is married with four children. He is choirmaster of a local parish church and musical director of an amateur operatic society. Secretary of the N.W. section of the Association of F.L. Referees and Linesmen and a member of the national executive.

GOLDEN GOAL WINNERS

WEST BROMWICH ALBION — 8th September, 1973

£70 First and Last goal — 33m. 57s. paid on 33m. 54s. — C. V. J. Dobrel, 42 Stubbsmead, Eldene, Swindon.

£10 Attendance 11,583 paid on 11,584 — E. Howell, 4 Kelham Close, Park South, Swindon.

BRISTOL CITY — 11th September, 1972

£70 First and Last goal — 7m. 57s. paid on 7m. 56s. — D. H. Whitfield, c/o 55 Commercial Road, Swindon.

£10 Attendance 13,991 paid on 13,992 — Mrs M. Stevens, 2 Plummer Close, Wroughton, Swindon.

HAVE YOU AN ANNIVERSARY OR A BIRTHDAY TO CELEBRATE? WE SHALL BE PLEASED TO PLAY A RECORD AT ONE OF OUR GAMES TO CELEBRATE SUCH AN OCCASION — JUST DROP A LINE TO 'THE D.J. SWINDON TOWN F.C., COUNTY GROUND, SWINDON' WE WILL DO THE REST.

Saturday, September 22nd, 1973 – Kick-off 3 p.m.

SWINDON TOWN v. MILLWALL

Swindon Town

- 1 Allan
- 2 Thomas
- 3 Trollope
- 4 Butler
- 5 Burrows
- 6 Stroud
- 7 Moss
- 8 Porter
- 9 Treacy
- 10 Syrett
- 11 Jenkins
- 12 Legg

Millwall

- 1 King
- 2 B. Brown
- 3 Cripps
- 4 Dorney
- 5 Kitchener
- 6 Saul
- 7 Bolland
- 8 Clark
- 9 Wood
- 10 Dunphy
- 11 Hill
- 12

Referee:

Mr. J. B. Goggins
(Manchester)

Linesmen:

Red Flag
Mr. B. A. Voizey
(Yeovil)

Yellow Flag

Mr. H. B. Worman
(Redditch)

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