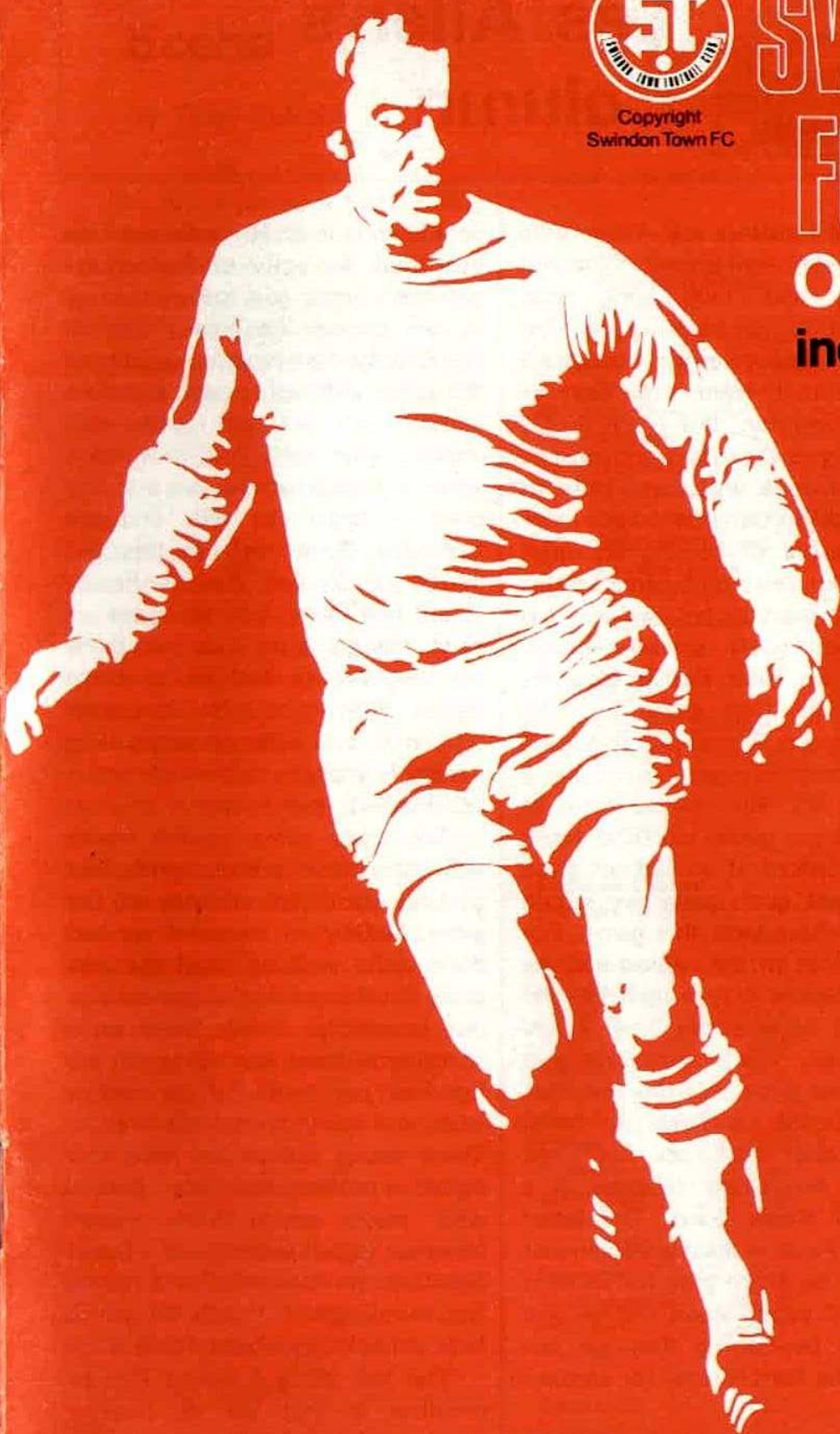




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SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Official Programme
including League Football



1973-'74

Aston Villa

Price 7p



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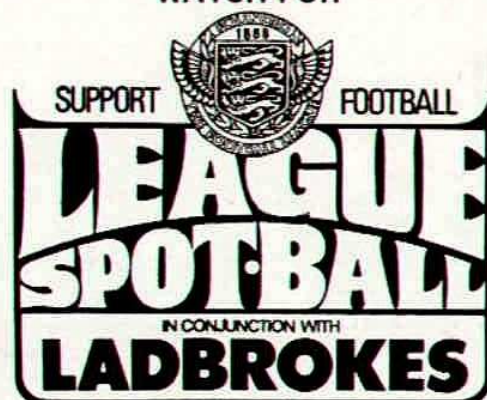
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WATCH FOR



Les Allen's Column

Today's visitors are Aston Villa who are very well placed in the 2nd Division, and look very good prospects to go back to the 1st Division. Last year they proved a very difficult team, and beat us here at Swindon, but I feel that if our lads give the effort and play as they have done, with just a little bit more luck on our side we are more than capable of causing an upset today. Our last home game against Carlisle proved to be very exciting with four goals shared equally between us. Peter Eastoe who was playing his first game on that particular day scored our two goals and he certainly gave our team a very big lift. He injected a lot of flair into our game, which at times we have lacked. If we had not given two stupid goals away we would certainly have won this game. For long periods in the second half we pinned Carlisle in their own 18 yard box, and could easily have scored more goals. The unfortunate part about that game was the fact that Peter Eastoe received a facial injury, and after at first not showing on X-rays resulted in a fractured cheek bone. The latest news on Peter is that he will almost certainly be fit to play for us next week at Crystal Palace, and we will certainly be hoping that we can extend the loan further for another month.

The game away at Sunderland, in the first half we had every bit as much of the play as Sunderland themselves. Tommy Jenkins scored a very good goal for us to put us in front, and then Dennis Tueart equalised with a truly magnificent

goal from at least 40 yards out. I do not think anybody at Sunderland will see a better goal during the rest of the season. We held a one all draw to the last twenty minutes of the game although under a certain amount of pressure, and with Jimmy Allan who had received a very bad gash above his eye the pressure began to tell, and we conceded three goals in this last period. I do feel that if Jimmy Allan had been feeling aware of what was going on I do not think we would have had all of them scored against us. He has now recovered, and although very young Jimmy is sticking to his task and is learning with every game.

The away game against Blackpool they actually scored their first goal in the 45th minutes of the game, and by all accounts we had done quite well up until the first goal. On this particular game I was not present as I was away on a scouting mission, but we gave one hundred per cent and we cannot fault our players on this result. Three young apprentices have now signed as professionals, Glyn Broom who plays centre half, Steven Newman goalkeeper and David Syrett centre forward. David played for the England Youth XI which beat Bristol City Under-19s 2-0.

The last thing I would like to mention is that we do have a number of young players that at times we require digs for. If there are any supporters who are willing to offer accommodation when required, perhaps they could drop me a line and I can keep their names and addresses on file.

Second Division Scene

by Tony Pullein



Robins Year-by-Year

Part 10 — Season 1929/30

Villa lost a precious home point last Saturday thanks to a player who only very rarely gets his name on the scoring list. Dennis Burnett hit his first goal for Hull City, following his recent £60,000 transfer from Millwall, on the stroke of half-time to level the scores at 1-1. Yet, in 259 League games with Millwall he had netted only three times.

Middlesbrough continued to power their way ahead at the top of the table with a 3-0 win over Frank O'Farrell's new club, Cardiff City. It was Middlesbrough's fourth win on the trot and their 15th League game without defeat.

Crystal Palace's local derby with Millwall attracted the third highest crowd (30,054) for any Second Division game this season. Best so far was 31,935 for Sunderland v. Palace, followed by 30,162 for Aston Villa v. Fulham.

Carlisle United were hoping to prove a point this afternoon — if the power dispute has forced them to kick-off at 2.15. A few years ago local farmers complained that late kick-offs in winter meant they couldn't get home in time to finish their work after the match. The club relies heavily for its support upon the surrounding farming community and a big gate today could lead to a change of policy.

Leading scorers by last Saturday:

	League	Cup	TOTAL
McKENZIE (Forest)	13	—	13
BULLOCK (Orient)	9	2	11
HALOM (Sunderland)	7	3	10
WOOD (Millwall)	9	1	10
GOULD (Bris.City)	7	2	9

Final Table DIVISION III (South)

	P	W	D	L	For	Ag.	Pts.
1. Plymouth Argyle	42	30	8	4	98	38	68
2. Brentford	42	28	5	9	94	44	61
3. Queen's Park Rangers	42	21	9	12	80	68	51
4. Northampton Town	42	21	8	13	82	58	50
5. Brighton and H.A.	42	21	8	13	87	63	50
6. Coventry City	42	19	9	14	88	73	47
7. Fulham	42	18	11	13	87	83	47
8. Norwich City	42	18	10	14	88	77	46
9. Crystal Palace	42	17	12	13	81	74	46
10. Bournemouth and B.A.	42	15	13	14	72	61	43
11. Southend United	42	15	13	14	69	59	43
12. Leyton Orient	42	14	13	15	55	62	41
13. Luton Town	42	14	12	16	64	78	40
14. Swindon Town	42	13	12	17	73	83	38
15. Watford	42	15	8	19	60	73	38
16. Exeter City	42	12	11	19	67	73	35
17. Walsall	42	13	8	21	71	78	34
18. Newport County	42	12	10	20	74	85	34
19. Torquay United	42	10	11	21	64	94	31
20. Bristol Rovers	42	11	8	23	67	93	30
21. Gillingham	42	11	8	23	51	80	30
22. Merthyr Tydfil	42	6	9	27	60	135	21

Football League Division III (South)

	Home	Away
Bournemouth	1-1	3-1
Brentford	0-2	2-3
Brighton	0-1	0-3
Bristol Rovers	2-2	2-3
Clapton Or.	0-0	1-2
Coventry	1-1	2-1
Crystal Palace	3-1	0-1
Exeter	1-0	1-5
Fulham	1-1	1-4
Gillingham	3-0	0-0
Luton	1-1	1-1
Merthyr Tydfil	6-3	3-3
Newport	5-1	1-2
Northampton	2-0	3-3
Norwich	2-1	5-1
Plymouth	1-2	0-5
Q.P.R.	2-2	3-8
Southend	5-1	1-3
Torquay	2-1	1-1
Walsall	3-1	0-4
Watford	1-3	1-4

F.A. Cup

Rd.3—Man. United	(a)	2-0
Rd.4—Man. City	(h)	1-1
	(a)	1-10

Men Who Played

League appearances:

Archer, A. S. 18; Bew, D. C. 13; Braithwaite, E. 31; Crook, M. 1; Dent, F. 20; Denyer, A. E. 35; Dickinson, W. 13; Dowdall, C. 8; Eddleston, J. 32; Girvan, H. 28; Humphreys, B. 21; Johnson, J. 11; Low, D. 32; McCartney, F. 34; Morris, D. H. 38; Nash, E. M. 36; Penn, T. 27; Roberts, C. L. 28; Thom, A. 8; Viggars, R. W. 3; Weale 2; Webster, H. 6; Wylie, T. 17.

League scorers:

Morris 27, Eddleston 10, Roberts 9, Dent 6, McCartney 5, Denyer 4, Dickinson 3, Humphreys and Dowdall each 2, Penn, Weale, Thom, Salt (Brentford) and Brett (Northampton) each 1.

WORST-EVER

After beating Manchester United on their own ground, and then holding City to a draw at the County Ground, we scarcely expected the hammering we would receive in the replay. That 1-10 defeat remains the worst in our history.

LOWEST

Fourteenth place in the League was also our lowest on record at the time.

VILLA TO MAKE IT THIS TIME?

by Tony Pullein



Back Row: Left to Right. Ray Graydon, Bruce Rioch, Chris Nicholl, Keith Leonard, Neil Rioch, Alun Evans, Ian Ross
 Centre Row: Left to Right. Frank Upton (Youth Team coach), Malcolm Beard, Brian Little, John Robson, Roy Stark, John Findlay, Jim Cumbes, Tommy Hughes, Fred Turnbull, Charlie Aitken, Sammy Morgan, Leo Crowther (Reserve Team coach), Fred Pedley (physiotherapist)
 Front Row: Left to Right. Ron Wylie (Assistant Manager), Alan Little, Tony Betts, Jimmy Brown, John Gidman, Vic Crowe (Manager), Ian Hamilton, Geoff Vowden, Trevor Hockey, Bobby McDonald, Michael Wright.

It is only six years since Aston Villa left the First Division, yet it seems like a lifetime to loyal Villa followers. During the intervening years — which included a two-year stint in Division Three — there has, however, always been hope of better things ahead. Today that hope has never burned brighter for now the club has a magnificent chance of returning to the big time.

While manager Vic Crowe has been building his team he has shown a steady improvement each year. Last season they finished third and, of course, if they can only repeat that this season they will achieve their big ambition.

Villa are particularly sound in defence where goalkeeper Jim Cumbes is once again performing well. Cumbes joined Villa from

West Bromwich for £35,000 in December 1971. Tranmere discovered him, introduced him to League football in 1966 and collected £25,000 when he left for West Bromwich three years later.

Cumbes, of course, acknowledges the cover he is being given by one of the best defences in the Second Division. No problems here for manager Vic Crowe who, unless

injury has struck, will almost certainly name a back four of: John Gidman, Ian Ross, Chris Nicholl and Charlie Aitken.

Gidman has only recently returned after several months lay-off due to a knee injury. He made a big impression when introduced to the team last season but he damaged his knee in his 13th League game and had the frustration of undergoing a cartilage operation. Gidman was once a Liverpool apprentice but Bill Shankly decided against offering him a professional contract. Villa snapped him up in July 1971 and by the end of the following season, he had won five England youth caps.

Gidman's recovery has, however, brought dejection for John Robson who was signed from Derby to replace Gidman following his injury. Robson, an England under-23 international, cost Villa £90,000.

Ian Ross was just beginning to establish himself at centre-back in Liverpool's First Division side when Villa paid £70,000 for him in March 1972. He switched to midfield for Villa but he later reverted to defence.

Chris Nicholl was a £75,000 signing from Luton on the eve of the 1972 transfer deadline. Luton had paid Halifax £25,000 for him three years earlier. Aitken, a former Scottish under-23 international, made his Villa debut on the last day of 1960/61 and has now played over 450 League games for them.

Indeed, Aitken is now within a week or so of creating a new club record for League appearances which was set up by the legendary Billy Walker with 480 League games between 1919 and 1934.

While Villa haven't been conceding many goals, they are not exactly prolific scorers themselves though, had they turned to good account the many chances carved

out for them, they might well have had a hatful.

Setting up many of these opportunities were the midfield men — Trevor Hockey and Jimmy Brown, regularly, with possibly Pat McMahon or Bruce Rioch helping them.

Hockey was one of Mr. Crowe's close-season signings, going to Villa Park after a very brief stay at Norwich for a £38,000 fee. Hockey has thus extended his list of clubs to seven. Trevor previously played for Bradford City, Nottingham Forest, Newcastle, Birmingham and Sheffield United.

Jimmy Brown, a former England schoolboy international, was only 15 when introduced to the Villa senior team in 1969/70. He was dropped last season but has now returned in triumph as team captain.

Rioch became the first Third Division player to transfer to £100,000 when he left Luton for Villa in 1969, since when he has changed positions. He was top scorer in his first season but, after recovering from a cartilage operation two years ago, he has matured as a fine midfielder.

McMahon was usually a reserve player with Celtic but at Villa Park he has been a member of the senior squad since his transfer in 1969.

Alun Evans, Chico Hamilton and Brian Little have generally been on duty as strikers, though Sammy Morgan is often named as substitute.

Evans, an England under-23 cap, was one of manager Vic Crowe's expensive signings, being the subject of a £70,000 transfer from Liverpool in 1972. In 1968 he became the first £100,000 teenager when Liverpool signed him from Wolves. Last season he was Villa's top scorer with 11 goals.

Hamilton was a Chelsea player once but they let him go to

Southend for a nominal £5,000 fee in 1968. A year later Villa paid £40,000 to secure his transfer.

Brian Little, a Villa discovery, won his debut two seasons ago. Sammy Morgan, a Northern Ireland international striker, was another of Mr. Crowe's summer signings but he hasn't played many games yet. Last season he was Port Vale's level top scorer as they chased promotion from Division Three.

Also awaiting recalls following injury are Geoff Vowden and Ray Graydon.

Vowden began with Nottingham Forest. Birmingham paid £20,000 for him in 1964 and he was for three years their top scorer. While with them he once hit a hat-trick after coming on as substitute — and is still the only substitute to achieve that feat in a League game. Villa signed him in 1971.

Graydon had been a Bristol Rovers regular for almost four years when Villa signed him in 1971.

When Aston Villa were relegated to the Third Division in 1970, the event was described by many folk as one of the greatest tragedies the English game had known. There were Villa, the most successful of all English clubs — seven times F.A. Cup winners, six times League Champions and the first winners of the League Cup — slumping it among the minnows of the soccer world. But with crowds bigger than for very many First Division games!

It took Villa only two seasons to get back into the Second Division and, during their Third Division tenure, they fought their way to the final of the League Cup where they were beaten — very unluckily — by Spurs.

Now Villa have made a complete recovery and those Third Division days are no more than a painful memory as this great club heads back towards its rightful place . . . in the First Division!



As the ball comes off the crossbar Peter Eastoe is just about to chest in our second goal against Carlisle.

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ing Director of Dial a Fleet Limited)
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The man in the middle

TOM REYNOLDS

(Swansea) A company director, he began refereeing in Bristol and officiated in junior leagues in Cardiff and Swansea before being appointed to the Welsh League and Football Combination. He went on the League line in 1965-66 and the referee's list three seasons later. Took charge of the Switzerland v. Greece Nations Cup game in 1971 and the England-Scotland Under 23 international in 1972. He has also refereed a European Cup game in Malta. His interests outside the game include animals.

Forthcoming matches

Wednesday, November 28th
F.A. Youth Cup Competition
A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH
Kick-off 2.0 p.m.

Saturday, December 1st
F.A. County Youth Cup
WILTSHIRE v. GLOUCESTERSHIRE
Kick-off 2.15 p.m.

Saturday, December 8th
League Division II
FULHAM
Kick-off 2.15 p.m.

GOLDEN GOAL WINNERS CARLISLE UNITED

£60 First Goal — 5m. 4s. — Mr. J. W. Wardle, Dingley Dell, Hackthorne, Durrington.

£10 Last Goal — 45m. 23s. — Mr. R. Laycock, 22 John Aubrey Close, Yatton Keynell, Chippenham.

£10 Attendance — 6480 — Paid on 9,001 — Mr. J. M. Doyle, 15 Eden Grove Whitley, Melksham.



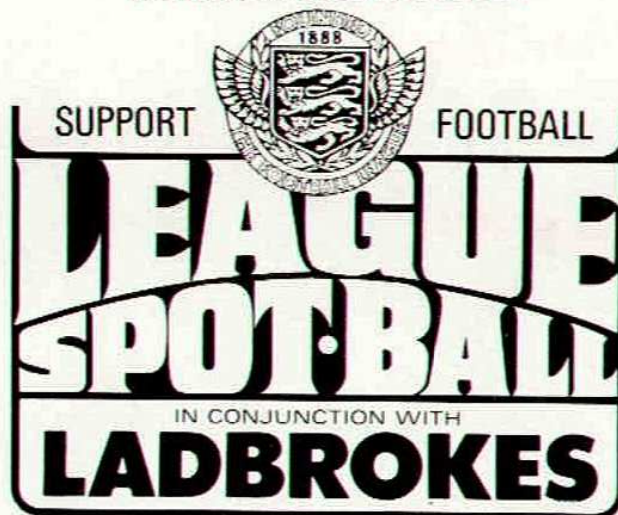
Frank Burrows joins in the attack and manages to get his head to this corner against Carlisle United.

Key of the board

Saturday, November 24th 1973

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

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Saturday, November 24th, 1973 — Kick-off 2.15 p.m.

SWINDON TOWN v. ASTON VILLA

Swindon Town

- 1 Allan
- 2 Butler
- 3 Trollope
- 4 Gabriel
- 5 Burrows
- 6 Potter
- 7 Moss
- 8 McGovern
- 9 Syrett
- 10 Porter
- 11 Jenkins
- 12

Aston Villa

- 1 Cumbes
- 2 Gidman
- 3 Aitken
- 4 Hockey
- 5 Nicholl
- 6 Ross
- 7 McMahon
- 8 Brown
- 9 Evans
- 10 Hamilton
- 11 Little
- 12

Referee:
Mr. T. H. C. Reynolds
(Swansea)

Linesmen:
Red Flag
Mr. J. Byles
(Oxford)

Yellow Flag
Mr. L. C. Shapter
(Paignton)

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