

**WREXHAM ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB**

# **THE TOWN**



**Wrexham  
v.  
Swindon Town**

Football League — Division Three  
Saturday, 5th February, 1977  
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

**OFFICIAL PROGRAMME**

**Price 10p**

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## Side Lines

● Sides who have goal-scoring "twins" often give them nicknames. **Billy Ashcroft** and **Graham Whittle** are "Smash and Flab" . . . "I'm the flab admitted big Billy as he patted his chest!"

● **MEL SUTTON** who trains the Wrexham groundstaff youngsters is keenly watching the talents of defender **STEVE KENWORTHY** a 16-year-old from Brynteg and being hailed behind the scenes as another **JOEY JONES** . . . and striker **CHRIS CASSIDY** who comes from the Conwy area. Both play regularly in Wrexham's reserve side.

● **MIKE THOMAS** escaped unhurt when he was involved in a road accident recently. His car was damaged but the ever smiling **MIKE** quipped "The first thing I checked was my stereo. Thank goodness it was O.K."

● Cardiff City winger **WILLIE ANDERSON** has been house hunting in the Wrexham area this week. Anderson joined American club Portland Timbers. His wife Vera comes from Brynteg and that's why the family are looking for a new home in these parts.

● **ALAN DWYER** who dislocated his shoulder in the Sunderland F.A. Cup replay—should be back in action in two weeks. Manager John Neal reports no complications with the injury.

● Wrexham's sweeper **WAYNE CEGEILSKI** (pronounce Cig-el-ski) has been picked for the Wales Under-23 side to play Scotland in Edinburgh next Wednesday.

Wrexham manager **John Neal** had a shock when he scanned a football paper last Saturday night. There was an article on Gordon Lee's move to Goodison Park and it stated under a photograph that this was Lee in action when playing for Villa against Everton . . . the photo was of John Neal. "Gordon was in our reserves at the time" joked Mr. Neal.

● Congratulations to Wrexham goalkeeper **BRIAN LLOYD**. When he stepped out at Ninian Park on Saturday he set up a British record for consecutive appearances for a goalkeeper now standing at 286.

● **Graham Whittle's** goal at Cardiff is included in the BBC 'Goal of the Month' competition . . . and what about that 30 yard stormer from Swindon's **Kenny Stroud** against Everton which was on the other channel.



# JOHN NEAL

**Our fans are still talking about those dying seconds of Saturday's F.A. Cup tie at Cardiff City. It was sickening to let it slip like that, but that's football. We have had plenty of ups in this game, so we must accept it when we have a 'down'.**

**We felt sorry for the fans. They had travelled down in their thousands, and at times out-shouted the vast number of Cardiff City supporters.**

The cup matches against Sunderland and Cardiff have proved to me that we have got the following—and that our fans can shout when they want to.

Our journey back was not a 'funeral' type trip. We openly talked about the game and discussed various aspects. We certainly learned a thing or two from that game.

Although we lost at Cardiff we must have left a lot of friends behind just as we did at Sunderland. Millions who watched the highlights on "Match of the Day" on Saturday night, must also have been impressed with our display.

We timed our arrival back in town perfectly—we all got into the players lounge at the Racecourse and watched "Match of the Day" ourselves!

For some clubs, being knocked out of the cup is not the end of the world and while of course it was extremely disappointing to us too, we must now settle down to get the thing we want most of all—**PROMOTION**.

We are going to need to repeat the points tally we have had from the first half of the season to make sure. Although we are at the moment in an excellent position, it is going to be a fight

because so many clubs are still locked together near the top of the table.

If you look closely at last year's results you will see we did not lose that many games, and that includes cup and league games. We missed promotion by a few points and have had a marvellous start to this season.

I hear people moan about things from time to time, especially when things do not seem to be going right, but one must be patient and not panic. If you panic, you are dead.

The most important thing fans must remember, is that players are human beings, and not machines. Too many think we should be brilliant every minute of every match.

Perhaps we have set a high standard with some of our displays, and we have certainly had nice things said about our football by people respected in the game. Now and again, you have a match when two or three players are not up to their best. You can carry the odd player going through a poor spell, but not any more than that. It's when all eleven are on song that we have produced those magic displays.

I am very pleased that the special train trips organised for the cup matches have proved such a success that arrangements are now being made for some of our away League games. I don't have to remind you how much it means to the lads, we hear you when we come out especially away from home.

Today, of course, we welcome Swindon Town who themselves have been heavily engaged in F.A. Cup ties and are doing quite well in the League—it was way back in August that we played at Swindon and were winning at one stage only to go down 3—2. It should be another exciting game today—but one we must win!

## NEXT HOME MATCH

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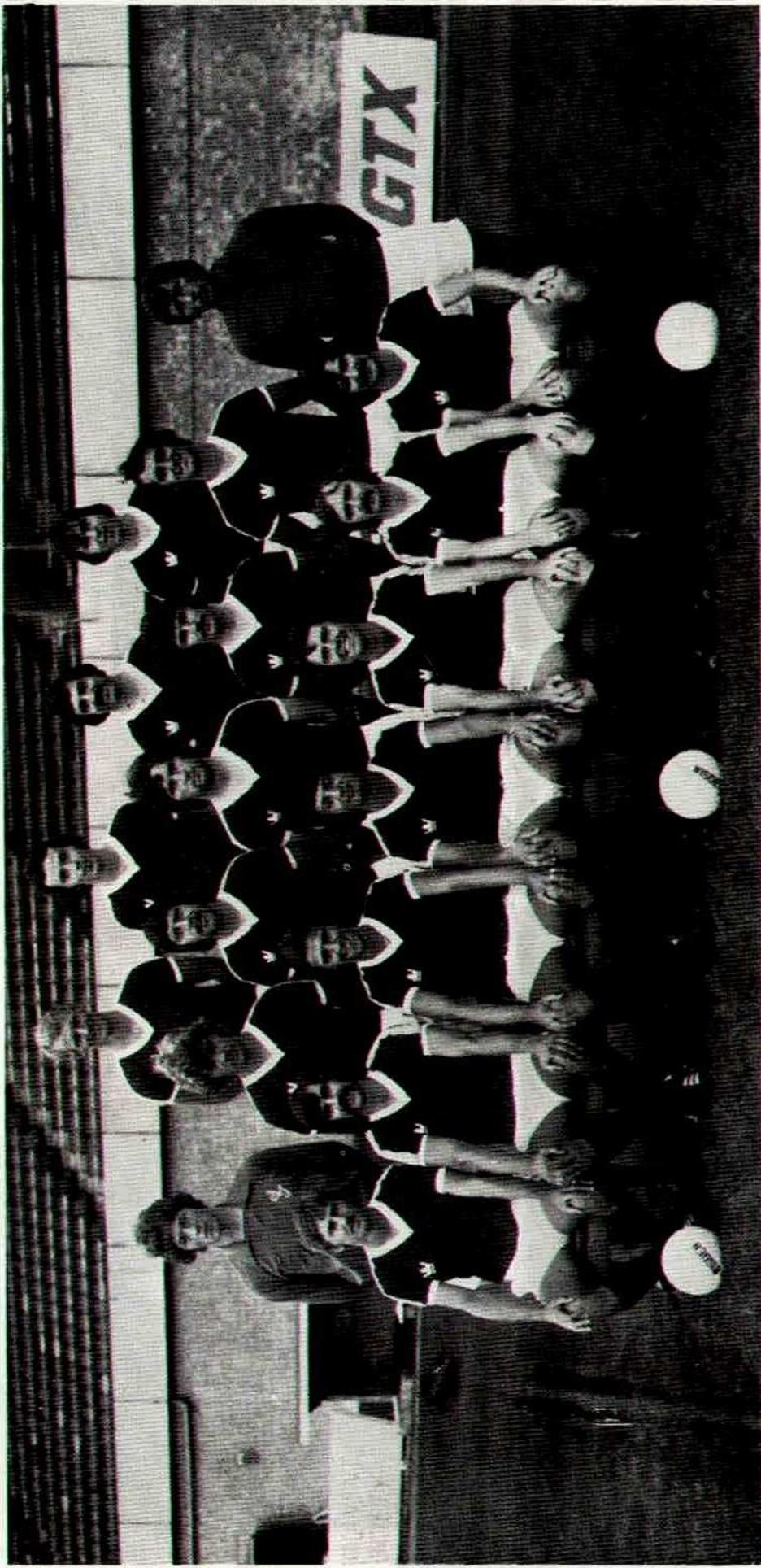
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**SWINDON TOWN F.C., SEASON 1976-77.**

*left to right:*

**Back row:**

John Trollope, Mark Thompson, Don Rogers, Kenny Stroud.

**Middle row:**

Jimmy Allen, Howard Goddard, Colin Prophett, Steven Aizlewood, John Gilligan, Frank Burrows, Jim Barron.

**Front row:**

Geoff Chalklin, Will Dixon, Dave Moss, Dave Syrett, John McLaughlin, Gerry O'Brien, Trevor Anderson.

# Our Visitors



Wrexham's Welsh international defender **John Roberts** pictured with his wife Eyunne and their two sons Jonathan (right) aged six and Matthew aged three.

## At Home



## Ups — and Down at Cardiff !

pictures by BOB HEWITT.

**UP —** Graham Whittle's brilliant goal which put Wrexham back in the game.



**UP —** Billy Ashcroft's last minute equaliser—but then came Cardiff's winner in the dying seconds.



**DOWN —** Skipper Gareth Davis's face tells the story. City celebrate in background after final whistle.



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# Swindon Pen Pics

## STEVE AIZLEWOOD (Centre-half)

First appeared for Newport County at the age of 16 in season 1968/1969 and went on to make nearly 200 League appearances before his transfer to Swindon on 9th March, 1976. He also won four Welsh caps at under-23 level. Made his debut for Swindon on 13th March, 1976 at Halifax, but an injury after 5 games sidelined him to the end of the season.

## JIMMY ALLEN (Goalkeeper)

Joined Brora Rangers from school and was signed from them as an apprentice in October, 1970. Signed professional in July, 1971 making his debut against Q.P.R. on 4th September, 1971. Although his first team chances have been limited of late, he has had spells as first choice and made 71 League appearances to the end of last season.

## TREVOR ANDERSON (Forward)

Began his career with Portadown, but transferred to Manchester United in October 1972, making 13 League appearances before moving on to Swindon. Following his debut for Swindon against Chesterfield on 5th November 1974, he made 70 League appearances to the end of last season, during which he was an ever-present player, and he was voted 'Player of the Year'. He also has seven international caps for Northern Ireland. A fast and skilful player he was joint leading scorer last season with 15-goals including a hat-trick of penalties against Walsall.

## WILL DIXON (Midfield)

Originally with Arsenal he made his League debut with Reading for whom he played 150 League games. Transferred to Swindon in September 1973, playing his first game at Bristol City on 23rd October, 1973. He gained a regular place later that season and had made 96 League appearances to the end of last season, mostly at full-back. Switched to midfield last season with considerable success.

## JOHN McLAUGHLAN (Full-back)

Started his career with Colchester for whom he made 66 League appearances during which time he was capped for England at Youth level. Joined Swindon on 3rd December, 1973, making his debut against Orient on 22nd December, 1973. Originally a full-back he moved to midfield for many of the 99 League games played for Swindon to the end of last season, but has since reverted to defence.

## DAVID MOSS (Forward)

Signed from his local non-League Club as an apprentice and on full forms in 1969, he made his debut against Watford on 25th April, 1972 and had made 129 League appearances to the end of last season. A true orthodox winger who can play both sides of the park and scores as well as makes goals.

## COLIN PROPHETT (Defender)

Played for Crewe Alexandra as an amateur, but his League debut came for Sheffield Wednesday in 1968. After 113 League games for the Owls he moved to Norwich City in 1973, making 34 appearances in the First Division before his transfer to Swindon on 30th September, 1974. Made 67 League appearances for the Town to the end of last season, including 45-minutes as emergency goalkeeper against Sheffield Wednesday.

## KEN STROUD (Defender)

Joined the Club as an apprentice in 1967, signed professional in 1970 and had made 78 League appearances to the end of last season, during which he became established in the first team. A very strong player both in the tackle and on the ball, he prefers a central defensive role, but has played equally often in midfield.

## DAVID SYRETT (Forward)

Another former apprentice he joined the Club in July 1972, signing professional in November 1973, by which time he had already appeared several times in the League side having made his debut as substitute at Preston on 1st September, 1973. In the same season he was capped by England at Youth level, and had made 67 League appearances to the end of last season. Although in the first team squad since his debut, opportunities have been limited and he spent a month on loan to Wolves last season which would have been extended, but for an injury crisis. Only gained a regular place in January but finished last season joint leading scorer with 15 goals.

## JOHN TROLLOPE (Full-back)

The Club's longest-serving professional, he served his apprenticeship with the Club and signed professional in August, 1960. Has since broken the Club's appearances record making 662 League appearances to the end of last season, and 750 appearances including cup games. A member of the promotion-winning side of 1963 and 1969 and the League Cup-winning side in 1969. An ever-present at left-back for the past two seasons, he is the Club captain and one of the most loyal and hard working players in the game.

## RAY McHALE (Midfield)

A powerfully-built midfield player. Signed for Swindon for £8,000 from Halifax Town last September. Scored three goals—and had scored two in the game against Brighton which was abandoned with Swindon leading 4-0!

## TONY TAYLOR

Played for Crystal Palace when they were in the First Division, moved to Southend for £25,000 but came on a 'free' to Swindon at the start of the season. Was regular full-back until he pulled a muscle, now fighting to get back in the side.

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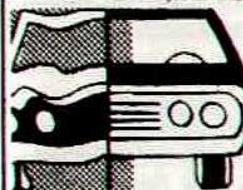
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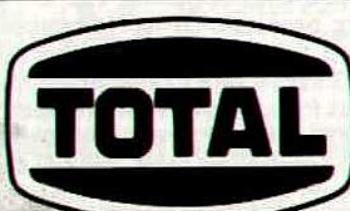


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### THIRD DIVISION FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	Att.	F	A	Scorers
Aug. 14	Port Vale (L.C.I)	3912	1	1	Whittle.
18	PORT VALE (L.C.I)	4320	1	0	Ashcroft
21	PORTSMOUTH	4752	2	0	Shinton (2).
28	Swindon Town	6204	2	3	Lee (2)
Sept. 1	LEICESTER CITY (L.C.2)	9776	1	0	Davis
4	SHREWSBURY T.	6646	1	0	Thomas
8	Reading	6201	0	2	
11	Chesterfield	3325	6	0	Ashcroft (4) Shinton (2)
18	WALSALL	5923	1	0	Shinton
22	Tottenham H. (L.C.3)	19156	3	2	Thomas (2) Ashcroft
25	SHEFFIELD WED.	8672	2	2	Shinton, Whittle
Oct. 1	Northampton T.	5114	2	0	Ashcroft, Whittle
9	LINCOLN CITY	7753	3	0	Thomas, Ashcroft (2)
16	Port Vale	5347	3	2	Whittle (2) Ashcroft
23	GILLINGHAM	7370	2	1	Shinton (2)
27	Aston Villa (L.C.4)	41428	1	5	Whittle
30	BURY	7630	0	0	
Nov. 1	YORK CITY	6000	1	1	Shinton
5	Tranmere Rovers	5524	0	0	
10	PETERBOROUGH U.	6258	2	0	Ashcroft, Shinton
20	GATESHEAD F.A. Cup 1	5554	6	0	Shinton (3) Ashcroft (2) Lee
27	Brighton & H.A.	22682	2	0	Whittle, Shinton
30	Grimsby T.	4820	0	3	
Dec. 4	OXFORD U.	6424	1	1	Ashcroft
11	GOOLE T. F.A. Cup 2	5721	1	1	Whittle
14	Goole T. F.A. Cup 2 Rpy.	4209	1	0	Shinton
18	Mansfield T.	5700	0	2	
27	CHESTER	15412	4	2	Whittle (3) Shinton
1977					
Jan. 8	Sunderland F.A. Cup 3	23356	2	2	Ashcroft, Whittle
12	SUNDERLAND F.A.C. Rpy.	16000	1	0	Ashcroft
15	READING	5635	3	1	Ashcroft, Whittle, Griffiths
19	BRIDGNORTH T. (W.Cup)	2446	4	1	Shinton (2) Ashcroft (2)
22	Portsmouth	13505	1	0	Whittle
29	Cardiff City F.A. Cup 4	29943	2	3	Whittle, Ashcroft
Feb.					
5	SWINDON T.				
7	SWANSEA (W. Cup)				
12	Shrewsbury T.				
15	Rotherham U.				
19	CHESTERFIELD				
25	Walsall				
Mar.					
1	Bury				
5	Sheffield W.				
7	TRANMERE R.				
12	NORTHAMPTON T.				
15	Preston N.E.				
18	Lincoln City				
23	PORT VALE				
Apr.					
2	Gillingham				
8	Chester				
9	PRESTON N.E.				
12	York City				
16	GRIMSBY T.				
18	ROTHERHAM U.				
23	Peterboro' U. (F.A.C. S.F.)				
30	BRIGHTON & H.A.				
May					
3	Crystal P.				
7	Oxford U.				
11	CRYSTAL P.				
14	MANSFIELD T.				

Home Fixtures in Capitals

© Football League 1976

### LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

	(Up to date)					
	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts.
Brighton	26	15	5	6	52	24 35
Rotherham	24	11	10	3	39	23 32
Mansfield	23	13	5	5	39	20 31
Wrexham	22	13	5	4	38	20 31
Shrewsbury	25	13	5	7	39	23 31
Sheffield W.	26	12	7	7	37	32 31
Preston N.E.	24	10	10	4	37	20 30
Crystal Pal.	24	10	9	5	29	18 29
Bury	25	11	5	9	33	39 27
Oxford	26	7	11	8	36	36 25
Tranmere R.	25	7	11	7	31	31 25
Chester	23	10	3	10	23	29 23
Lincoln	21	8	6	7	32	31 22
Swindon	21	8	6	7	30	31 22
Chesterfield	25	8	5	12	31	34 21
Gillingham	24	7	7	10	30	40 21
Peterborough	25	7	7	11	26	36 21
Portsmouth	25	5	10	10	28	36 20
Walsall	25	6	7	12	26	39 19
Grimsby	25	7	4	14	25	37 18
Reading	26	7	4	15	28	42 18
Port Vale	24	4	9	11	25	35 17
York	23	6	5	12	28	49 17
Northampton	25	6	4	15	25	44 16

### APPEARANCES & GOALS CHART

Name	Appearances						Goals					
	L.	L.C.	F.A.C.	W.C.	L.	L.C.	F.A.C.	W.C.				
Lloyd	22	5	6	1	—	—	—	—				
Evans	20	5	4	1	—	—	—	—				
Dwyer	13	4	4	—	—	—	—	—				
Hill	5	1	3	—	—	—	—	—				
Davis	22	5	6	1	—	—	1	—				
Roberts	22	5	6	1	—	—	—	—				
Thomas	21	5	6	1	2	2	—	—				
Shinton	22	4	6	1	12	—	4	2				
Sutton	22	5	6	1	—	—	—	—				
Ashcroft	21	5	6	1	12	2	5	2				
Whittle	20	5	6	1	10	2	3	—				
Griffiths	22	5	6	1	1	—	—	—				
Lee	11	3	1	1	2	—	1	—				
Lyons	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Cegielski	5	—	3	1	—	—	—	—				

Includes Substitutions.

### Today's Referee

MR. P. J. RICHARDSON (Lincoln)

Started refereeing in Lincolnshire League and eventually appointed to the Football League. Was a linesman in a UEFA Cup match in Italy in 1974 and also the 1973/74 Texaco Cup Final. A married man he is a Works Director. Plays golf and is secretary of the local golf club.

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- 8 MEL SUTTON
- 9 BILLY ASHCROFT
- 10 GRAHAM WHITTLE
- 11 ARFON GRIFFITHS

Referee : P. J. RICHARDSON, Lincoln

### Swindon Town

Colours :

- 1 JIMMY ALLAN
- 2 WILL DIXON
- 3 JOHN TROLLOPE
- 4 KEN STROUD
- 5 STEVE AIZLEWOOD
- 6 COLIN PROPHETT
- 7 DAVE MOSS
- 8 JOHN McLAUGHLIN
- 9 DAVE SYRETT
- 10 RAY McHALE
- 11 TREVOR ANDERSON

Linesmen:

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