Swindon Town Football Club





HUDDERSFIELD TOWN

at the County Ground, Swindon Saturday, 3rd April Kick-off 3.00p.m. Official Match Magazine 35p







SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CO. LTD.

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Talk of the Town by the Chairman

Today we welcome the Players and Official from Huddersfield Town Football Club. Huddersfield are a club steeped in tradition but recently have had to battle for survival like ourselves in the lower divisions. Each week it seems that the media of the press and television bring to the notice of the public the struggle that different clubs have to exist. It is obvious that clubs will have to operate with smaller staffs, until such time that crowds return to watch football in the stadiums.

We held a meeting of our shareholders on Tuesday evening last and changed our Articles of Association which has enabled a shareholder to have one vote for every share held and we also changed our Articles of Association which has enabled us to raise our share capital from ten thousand pounds to two hundred thousand pounds.

We were very pleased to come away with a point from Millwall on Sunday last. The weather was ideal for watching football, but a crowd of four-anda-half thousand did little to prove that by playing on a Sunday, the attendance would increase.

Ken's Reserve team delighted an attractive crowd with a win over Reading Reserves by four goals to one. To score goals is a certain way to keep people coming through the turnstiles and yet often a game can be exciting even without goals as was witnessed in the first leg of the Midland Youth Cup Final, played against West Bromwich Albion on their ground when we drew 0 - 0. Don's youngsters put up a fine performance and were unlucky not to start last Tuesday's second leg with a lead of a goal or two. The second leg of our Cup Final played before an enthusiastic crowd seated in the North Stand, produced a fast encounter, but with goals hard to come by. It was surprising to see several of the West Bromwich players going down with cramp, especially in the latter stages of the game and it spoke well for our training methods that we proved the fitter side. The winning goal did not come until the second period of extra time with Simon Barnes scoring the one and only goal although we had pressed consistently for long periods.

This Cup Competition will not be in existence next season because the Midland Youth League is being suspended until such time that clubs can see their way clear to compete again in mid-week at this level. This is one of the sacrifices that clubs are having to make in the future. The Midland Youth League served as a stepping stone for school leaving apprentices up to the age of eighteen to play mid-week games and so gain experience to play in the senior leagues like the Football Combination and Central leagues. John will now have to step his juniors up into the Football Combination straight from Don's South East Counties league which is for boys under seventeen years of age at the beginning of the season.

I attended a meeting of the Football Combination this week to discuss the future of this league, because of the demand by many clubs to play reserve team football in mid-week. At the time of writing these notes, I do not know the outcome of this meeting but you may, by now, have seen the result in our Evening Advertiser. We are hoping to be able to stay in this league because of its strength.

Hoping that we can strengthen our league position today and that you enjoy the game and thank you for your support . . .

After gaining some good away points, when we had the opportunity to gain three points to create a gap between us and the bottom four teams, we produced a very disappointing performance against Gillingham. Their formation did not help towards the entertainment aspect of the game playing five at the back and three in midfield, but having said that as the home team it was up to us to find a way around this. However, on the day we did not have the necessary ideas and found ourselves in an "up against a brick wall" situation. I cannot fault the team for effort and we had a lot of the possession but very few attempts at goal. Hopefully we learnt our lesson should we come up against this formation in the future.

Last Sunday we travelled to Millwall and picked up another valuable point. This was achieved by a good team effort and although we had to defend desperately at times, we also had the opportunities to have come back will full points. Both sides had their chances to win and possibly a draw was a fair result.

The Reserves continue their good form drawing with Arsenal and defeating Reading. The Arsenal game was one of good end to end entertainment and this, of course, is what football should be all about, and I am sure that those who were present enjoyed a very entertaining evening. Although the Reading game did not have the same entertainment value, we came good in the last half-anhour achieving a 4-1 win. This is all good experience for the younger players of the side and having had the opportunity of seeing the last two Reserve games, I am pleased with the lads' progress. A number of these players have also had a good week in the Youth side by winning the Midland Youth League Cup Competition. The first leg, at West Bromwich, last week saw them draw no score, and with any luck they could have come home with a first leg lead. The second leg played at the County Ground last Tuesday evening wasn't such a good game but during the extra time period we scored the goal that clinched the tie. Over the two games the lads thoroughly deserved their victory. This is the second trophy they have won over the last two years for it was the same lads that won the South East Counties Junior League two seasons ago, and it is good to see that these players, who I had together as Youth Manager, are coming good - the good work having been continued by Terry Wollen and Don Rogers.

On Easter Monday, the Supporters' Cooperative, along with the playing staff, will be holding a Family Day. A photographic session and training stint by the playing staff will be two of the many attractions, which will also include an auction, side shows, cartoon characters, Punch and Judy, Inflatibles, Marching Display, etc., and I am sure that this will be a good day out for all of the family. We hope to have your support on this day. The Cooperative are still looking for donations of furniture, chinaware and glassware for lots for the auction, so please give us a ring if you can help here.

Today we welcome the team, officials and supporters of Huddersfield Town and once again I would ask for your continued vocal support for our team to enable them to get maximum points to help ensure our continued membership in the Third Division.

JOHN TROLLOPE



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BRIAN STANTON. Signed from Bury to become another of Town's "Lancashire Connection". Scored a tremendous goal on his debut away at Scunthorpe and again when he made his first appearance at Leeds Road in the match with Port Vale. Contributed some vital goals from midfield last season.

MICKY KENNEDY. Signed for Town in August 1980 from Halifax. A lively player, Micky is 20 yrs old and was born in Salford. Made 42 Football League appearances with the first team last season.

MARK LILLIS. Another of our "Lancashire Lads", Mark was born in Manchester. He joined the Club as an apprentice in July 1977 and signed professional in January 1978 on his 18th birthday. Mark played in 29 Football League matches last season, scoring 7 goals. He was voted "Player of the Year" for the 1980/81 season.

KEITH HANVEY. Joined Town in the summer of 1978 from Grimsby. He began his career with Manchester City, where he broke a leg whilst playing in an Anglo Scottish cup tie. Had periods at Swansea and Rochdale before signing for Grimsby.

DAVE SUTTON. Another player who is a model of consistency. He made 61 Football League appearances for Plymouth Argyle and was in their side that finished 3rd Division runners-up in 1975/6, and another 9 whilst on loan to Reading, before signing for Town in 1978.

PETER VALENTINE. Peter is a local boy coming to Town straight from school on apprentice forms, and has since signed professional. He played with our Northern Intermediate League side in the 1978/9 season before signing apprentice forms, and during the last two seasons has had many outings with the Central League side.

IAN ROBINS. Mick Buxton's first signing for Town, who scored the two goals against Scunthorpe United that put the club into the 3rd Div. on goal average. After his transfer from Bury in September 1978 Ian topped Town's goal scoring charge. Began his career with Oldham for whom he scored 40 goals. Played as a striker before moving to midfield. Member of Oldhams 4th Division promotion winning side in 1971, and the team which won the 3rd Div. Championship in 1974. Selected by the P.F.A. for the 4th Div. Top "Team" of 1979. DAVID BURKE. Signed in the close season for Town from Bolton Wanderers, he had played in Bolton's first team in both the 1st and 2nd Divisions. David was born in Liverpool, and celebrates his 21st birthday just before the 1981/82 season commences.

BERNARD PURDIE. Was described by Manager Mick Buxton as an "insurance" when signed from Crewe Alexandra. Bernard made the move after playing for Crewe against Town four times in less than two months. Utility player who prefers playing up front. He began his career with Wrexham, and was a member of the Welsh club's team that won promotion in 1970. Later moved to Chester and then Crewe, where he made 200 league appearances figuring in every position but No. 1 and No. 5. Capped three times by Wales at under 18 level. Scored over 60 goals in the League.

DAVE COWLING. He began his career at Mansfield but never got a first team chance although with the Club's reserves he reached the final of the North Midlands League Cup. Joined Town after writing to John Haselden asking for a trial. Industrious left flank midfield worker.

STEVE KINDON. Signed for Town from 2nd Division Burnley in December 1979. He started his career with Burnley before moving to Wolverhampton Wanderers, then back to Burnley in 1977. Steve was a member of the Burnley side that won the F.A. Youth Cup in 1968, and also won two England Youth caps. Was selected by Alf Ramsey for an F.A. Representative XI. Helped Wolves win the 2nd Division championship, and was in Burnley's team that clinched an Anglo-Scottish Cup Final victory in 1979. Steve has made more than 350 appearances in the Football League.

PETER FLETCHER. Formed a lethal striking partnership with Ian Robins and then with Steve Kindon in the 1979/80 season. Last season Peter suffered with back-trouble for a great amount of the time, and had to have an operation. Began his career with Manchester United, then moved to Hull City, and Stockport County, before signing for Town in July 1978.

TERRY AUSTIN. Terry came to Huddersfield from Mansfield in December 1980, and has made 16 first team appearances, scoring 8 goals. Terry was born in Isleworth, Middlesex. Was Town's largest ever signing, coming to Huddersfield for a six figure fee.



Front Row: Wilson, Stanton, Burke, Kennedy, Haselden (Coach), Buxton (Manager), Laverick, Purdie, Cowling, Robinson

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Picture Parade...

BY DAVE EVANS



Swindon supporters player Mike Carter is action against Gillingham at the County Ground. Mike is on loan from Bolton, thanks to the Supporters Co-operative.

John Ward talks to MARTIN BLACKLER

"Under the Cosh"

Martin Blackler's connections with Swindon Town date from the time Jack Smith was running the youth team "There weren't many apprentices in those days" he recalled "so I found myself playing in the Midland Youth Side (under 19s) while I was still at school. I was playing for Avebury as well; I found that a lot easier, even though the players were older. At Swindon I remember playing at the back with Charlie Henry; we were under the cosh a lot but I used enjoy playing all the same. It was great just being asked to play it was probably a good thing that I felt like that because we were usually under attack; you were under pressure the whole time."

Martin is blonde haired, stockily built and answers questions calmly and methodically. I had never seen him play but I could well imagine him as a 15 year old schoolboy methodically repelling the hordes of invading 18 year old forwards. "I never have worried about results at a lower level" he explained. "I used to think back on how I had played and then when the next game came just went out and enjoyed it."

From attack to defence

"At the start of this season I found it a bit of a struggle: I was out of action most of last season because of injury and it took some time to get back my fitness. That coincided with the whole reserve team doing better; the improvement was really a matter of belief. We had a better squad than for a long time and we soon started knocking in the goals: last year we only had a couple of trialists up front." In schoolboy and junior football Martin played as a forward and in mid-field. "Then one day at Swindon", he said "the team was short at the back so I found myself there and that's more or less where I've been ever since. Occasionally I I revert to mid-field to sharpen up; I enjoy that, getting on the ball. I think I am really stronger at that than actually defending."

A lover of speed

Unlike some footballers Martin is not at a loss for something to do off the field. "I used to like driving," he admitted "but the insurance became too much. I love speed: I would have liked to go rallying but of course the injury risk is too great for a professional footballer." So now Martin limits himself to the less dangerous pastimes of badminton and squash. Nor is his social life confined to football: "If anything I have more friends outside football than in the game" he said.

Martin never had any doubts what would happen when he left school. There is football in the family: his father is a local referee. "We discuss football a lot" said Martin. "And other people seem to be always coming up and joining in the discussion. I have two brothers and the younger one is in his school side. Football is the only thing I wanted to do: I talked it over with my parents and decided I wanted to stay at home. The rest was easy: It just had to be Swindon Town!"

		A.Home										
	P	W	D	L	F . A	W	D	L	F - A	Pts	L.Gate	Top Goalscorers (incl. Cup)
incoln City	35		6	3	32-14	6	6	5	21-19	57	3,700	Tony Cunningham 13, George Shipley 11
Reading		11	6	3	41-28	5	4	8	18-27	57	3,718	Neil Webb 13, Kerry Dixon 11
ulham	33		6	2	29-16	7	5	5	23-19	56	6,199	Gordon Davies 19, Dean Coney 15
arlisle United		12	4	1	31-15	4	4	8	15-22	56	4,112	Bryan Robson 11, Bob Lee 11
hesterfield		10	4	3	27-17	6	4	7	18-19	56	4,971	Phil Bonnyman 13, Martin Henderson 11
lurnley	33		6	2	22-13	6	7	5	22.22	52	5,077	Steve Taylor 12, Billy Hamilton 10
Brentford	35		4	6	14-10	8	4	7	21-21	50	5,710	Keith Bown 8
Iristol Rovers		10	3	4	28-20	4	5	10	17-30	50	5,779	Paul Randall 11, Archie Stephens 11
0xford United	32		5	4	18-13	6	5	5	22-20	49	5,034	Andy Thomas 16, Peter Foley 8
Sillingham	33		4	4	34-22	5	3	8	12-20	49	5,172	Dean White 14, Ken Price 12
lymouth Argyle	35	9	4	4	29-16	4	5	9	19-25	48	4,642	Jeff Cook 14, John Sims 13
outhend United	35	7	7	4	23-19	5	5	7	16-19	48	4,961	Steve Phillips 15*, Keith Mercer 9
fillwall	32	8	3	6	24-18	4	7	4	18-20	46	4,906	Nick Chatterton 13, Dean Horrix 10
Valsall	35	8	5	5	28-18	3	7	7	16-22	45	3,918	Don Penn 13
ortsmouth	34	8	7	2	22-11	2	7	8	16-27	44	9,140	Bill Rafferty 14
UDDERSFIELD TO	WN35	8	4	7	30-22	3	6	7	17-23	43	7,100	Peter Fowler 15, Ian Robins 8
xeter City	35	10	2	5	33-29	2	5	11	20-40	43	4,119	Tony Kellow 17, Peter Rogers 9
Ioncaster Rovers	34	7	4	5	22.17	4	5	9	20-26		5,672	Richard Dawson 8, Alan Warboys 7
reston North End	33		6	4	14-13	4	4	9.			5,400	Alex Bruce 13, Steve Elliott 8
WINDON TOWN	33	6	4	7	28-26	3	8	5	12-18	39	5,809	Roy Carter 10, Paul Rideout 8
ewport County	35	5	8	4	19-17	3	5	10	20-28	37	4,523	John Aldridge 9, Tommy Tynan 9
ristol City	33	4	5	8	15-21	4	4	8	14-20	33	6,643	Ricky Chandler 3
limbledon	31	6	5	5	19-18	2	3	10	18-36		2,641	Steve Ketteridge 8, John Leslie 7
hester	33	2	8	6	13-20	5	1	11	20-34		2,077	Gary Simpson 11

*Includes 12 for Northampton Town

Town through time Wingers

by paul plowman

In the summer of 1934 Swindon obtained the services of GORDON GUNSON from Liverpool where he had an excellent scoring record of 24 goals in some eighty League appearances since his move from Sunderland in March 1930. At the County Ground he maintained that scoring rate with eight in 31 appearances on the leftwing during 1934/35 - including a brace in an enthralling 4 - 4 draw with Brighton here in September. Another eight-goal thriller, when the Town defeated Northampton 5 - 3 in March 1935, saw a 27 year-old from Rodbourne Cheney making his first appearance at outside-left. He was Frank Orchard NEWBERY, more affectionately known as 'Nobby' - and he celebrated by scoring. It was Northampton who provided Swindon with a replacement for Gunson who stayed here just one season before moving on to Wrexham. TOMMY WELLS had become almost a part of the furniture at the other County Ground, having been on the staff there since leaving Arsenal back in February 1927. During those eight seasons Tommy had clocked up some 280 League games for the Cobblers and had over seventy goals to his credit. He stayed here only one term, during which he recorded a hat-trick in the local derby with Reading, but finished with a tally of just seven. DON McPHAIL, signed from Burton Town, deputised on both wings as the occasion arose - for Wells on the left and FRANK PETERS on the right. McPhail opened the 1936/37 season but soon lost his place to EDDIE JONES (who was to remain with Swindon until after the War) and the Scotsman eventually returned north of the border to assist Dunfermline Athletic. Ever-present on the left flank was a new signing from Preston North End, John ARTHUR HETHERINGTON, Jones and Hetherington were the regular choices during the following season with KEN WISE (formerly with West Ham United) completing eleven appearances in the latter's absence. On the closing day of the 1937/38 campaign, May 7, the outside-left position was filled by Welsh schoolboy international DON EMERY - still a month short of his eighteenth birthday. The possessor of the fearsome shot, Swindon was clearly going to see a lot more of this Cardiff-born youngster.



EDDIE JONES (left) and DON EMERY

ARCHIE ARCHER

One of the Town's stalwart defenders during the late 1920's ARCHIE ARCHER has died at the age of eightythree. Swindon-born, Archie made his league debut for the Town at centre-half on Tuesday March 29 1921 at Northampton. Opportunities were limited in that position, however, and in 1925 he moved to wing-half where he made the majority of his 190 League appearances.

A schoolboy international, Archie played in the same England side as Tom Phillipson who later came to Swindon. Following the Great War, Archie signed for Bristol Rovers but he did not graduate to their first team and joined his hometown club in 1920. His final appearance in a Town shirt was in East London on January 31 1931, when Swindon were defeated 2- 3 by Thames Association.

ARCHIE ARCHER



To be continued

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I CONDA

IN NORTH WILTSHIRE

Commercial Office

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen.

Which came first, the chicken or the egg? Don't worry if you don't know the answer, I will ask you another one. Why are consistently successful football clubs continually successful? Let's take the three clubs, Arsenal, Liverpool and Man. United for examples.

Could it be the drive, initiative and business acumen of the Board of Directors? They are certainly the power behind the throne. Does the credit go to the team manager who must be the person most responsible for leading the team to success? What of the players themselves? No club can be successful without a good team.

However players come and go with regular frequency so their help can only be considered temporary. Boards of Directors jointly with their managers have taken teams from the 4th Division into the 1st Division (is this success?) and then back down again to the 4th Division where they started. So one must question their ability to control the continued success of their clubs.

So what have we got left in the jigsaw, and is it the most important part of any football club? I think the answer is yes and I'm talking now about you, yes you the supporter. Arsenal, Liverpool and Manchester United are not so much supported because they are successful, they are successful because they are supported.

Support comes in various forms, support in bad times as well as good times, support and Agents or purchasers of the fund raising tickets, and now the opportunity to support through the newly formed Supporters Co-operative.

I know the majority of readers of this article are already playing their parts one way or another in the support of "The Town". We just need more like you. Can you enlist some friend or neighbour.

Eric Moore Commercial Manager

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KEY OF THE BOARD

- A Brentford v Oxford Utd.
- B Bristol Rovers v Millwall
- C Burnley v Reading
- D Carlisle v Portsmouth
- E Chesterfield v Lincoln
- F Doncaster v Gillingham
- G Exeter v Chester
- H Preston N.E. v Wimbledon
- I Southend v Bristol City
- J Walsall v Fulham
- K Q.P. Rangers v West Brom. Albion (at Arsenal)
- L Tottenham H. v Leicester (At Aston Villa)
- M Brighton v Southampton
- N Ipswich v Coventry
- O Leeds v Manchester Utd.
- P Manchester City v West Ham Utd.
- Q Nottm. Forest v Everton
- R Sunderland v Middlesbrough
- S Wolverhampton v Arsenal
- T Luton v Blackburn

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on Wednesday next April 7th Coaches leave the County Ground at 5.45 pm Fare £1.50

to FULHAM

on Tuesday April 13th Fare £2.60 (listen to announcements for departure time)

Tickets to Oxford are obtainable from the Squash Club after today's game and on Monday and Tuesday between 7 pm and 10 pm - PLEASE BOOK EARLY

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Saturday 10th April, 1982

Division III

HUDDERSFIELD

K.O. 3.00 p.m.



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Saturday April 17th	BRISTOL CITY	1245	£2.00

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TODAY'S TEAMS



The exact numberings of both teams will be announced over the PA system to enable spectators to insert the relevant numbers prior to the kick-off.

REFEREE. MR. BRIAN HILL (Kettering). Commenced refereeing in 1965 with local

leagues, progressed to United Counties League before moving on to the Southern League and finally the Football League List in 1975.

LINESMEN:

RED FLAG: MR. K. JONES - (Bridgend, Mid-Glam.) YELLOW FLAG: MR. A.S. MONTACUTE -(Yeovil, Somerset)