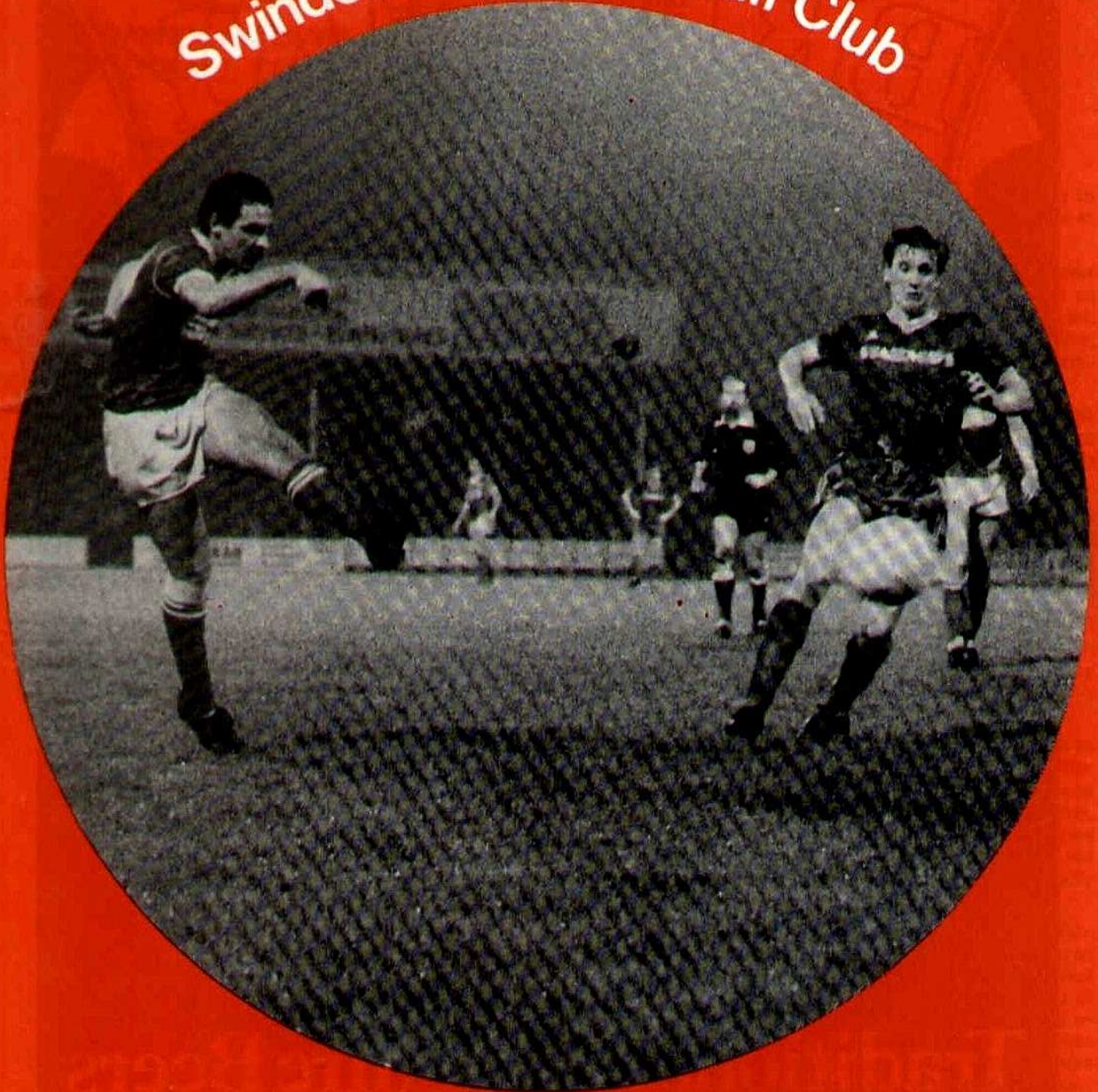




Swindon Town Football Club



YORK CITY

at the County Ground, Swindon Saturday, 13th November
Kick-Off 3:00p.m. Official Match Magazine 35p

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Talk of the Town by the Chairman

We welcome our visitors today from York City who are not strangers to the County Ground and they are also a team that has had experience in the third and second divisions of the league.

Our run of ten games without defeat came to an end at Darlington last week but not without a fight, and as John had previously told us Darlington are a good footballing side and although we pressed them hard in the second half it was not to be. It was interesting to note that we had three eighteen year old players in our side, beside two at twenty which augers well for the future.

This week our Reserve Team beat Reading by two goals to one at the County Ground and Jimmy Quinn scored both goals for us, much to the approval of those supporters who were fortunate enough to be able to support our mid-week games.

This week our Players have had a busy social life taking part in a games evening playing teams from the Supporters' Club at skittles, pool and darts. This evening was well organised on our side by John and Paul Heath of our Directors, and on the Supporters side, by Mick Lewis and his helpers. A cup was the prize for the winning side to be held until the return game. The Supporters' Club won hands down this time but I am sure that another challenge will be thrown out to the Supporters in the near future. This very friendly evening seemed to be enjoyed by everyone on Tuesday last and I understand that John will be taking his lads to other Clubs in the Town in the near future.

On Wednesday we were entertained by the Broome Manor Golf Club to our annual Golf Match to compete for a cup presented by Councillor John Stevens. Our team was successful winning the match by three games to two, but I must add that Barry Sandry, their golf Professional, was playing on our side which made all the difference. For our Players to be able to compete with the man in the street must be good for public relations and I know that John intends to foster this friendly approach.

Our week was saddened by the loss of a very good friend to our Club, Mr Alf Bown to whom we paid our last respects at a service in Christ Church on Monday last. We had the opportunity to show this respect publicly at our last home match which we did by observing a minute of silence before the game. Alf dedicated his life to the future of this town and we shall all miss him. A sad loss to the Football world has taken place this week with the death of Jimmy Dickenson of Portsmouth who was respected wherever he went, holding the proud distinction of playing more games for one Club, Portsmouth, than anyone else in the football world. We, of course, know that our John took this distinction from him and it could be held in the book of records for all time.

Our match Sponsor for today is Mr Frank Saunders of Skoda Cars at County Garages, Hawksworth Estate. Our Ball Sponsor is Mrs Fisher on behalf of the invalids who use the covered shelters on the ground, and last, but by no means least, our Mascot for the day is Sally Brewster who lives in Blunsdon. To all these generous people we say thank you very much, and of course, to you all for your support. . .

Although the game at Chester took place before that against Tranmere Rovers, my last notes were written before the result of the match was known, a 1-0 win again obtained by a very good team effort. The winning goal was one of the best seen this season scored by Andy Rowland.

We maintained our winning ways against Tranmere Rovers at home and although we came out on top in the end it was possibly our hardest home game this season. Having worked with Bryan Hamilton during his stay here at Swindon and knowing his coaching and managing capabilities it came as no surprise, and the fact of the small staff available to him evokes more credit to them for the hard game they put up against us. This result took us into the top four but unfortunately we could not maintain our form at Darlington last Saturday where we lost 1-0. This was disappointing not only because of the result but because of the way in which we were beaten. For the first hour we played as though we thought we had the right to win and it wasn't until the last half an hour that we realized the unbeaten run was in jeopardy and we began to play as we have in the last nine games. Hopefully we have learned the lesson that we must match teams for the effort they are going to put in, as our ability, which is perhaps superior to many other teams in the Division, will not suffice and quite frankly I thought we had got out of those bad habits and let us hope we get back to our winning ways today and maintain our position in the league.

During the last couple of weeks the Reserves have played three games with mixed results, a win, a draw and a defeat. The most interesting game was that at Tottenham Hotspur where we lost 3-1, a game that was good for the youngsters who played against a strong Spurs side including Glen Hoddle and Graham Roberts. Playing against players of this calibre can only be good for the development of our young players.

The S.E.C. side have had a disappointing time in the League, but have reached the semi-finals of the Junior Cup Competition by defeating West Ham by three goals to two last Saturday morning.

On behalf of the Swindon Co-Operative Committee, I would like to thank everyone who bought and sold tickets for their draw, with a special thanks to Chris Scott, the Committee Member who did most of the hard work involved in the draw. Hopefully after all expenses, the Committee will have made £1,000. net.

I welcome today the Players, Officials and Supporters of York City and I am sure that today we shall see another interesting and hopefully enjoyable game with the points coming to Swindon Town. Your encouragement this season has gone a long way to the favourable results being achieved here at the County Ground this season and I know that this encouragement will continue this afternoon. Enjoy yourselves . . .



**JOHN
TROLLOPE**



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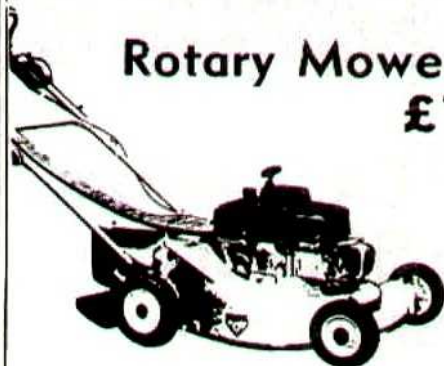
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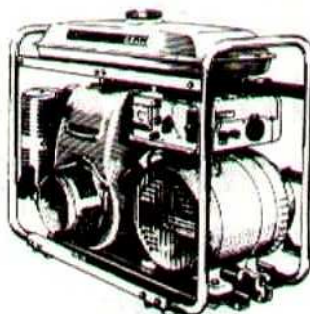
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HONDA

IN NORTH WILTSHIRE

Picture Parade...

BY DAVE EVANS



Town winger Howard Pritchard crosses the ball into the Tranmere penalty area in Swindon's four-two win at the County Ground.

YORK CITY

DENNIS SMITH (Player/Manager).

Appointed the Club's first ever player manager in May 1982. Denis joined Stoke City from school and gave stalwart service in his 19 years with "The Potters" making over 400 Football League appearances for the Club. Had a spell on loan with City towards the end of last season playing 7 games (1 goal).

VIV BUSBY (Player/Coach). Appointed Denis Smith's right hand man Viv was with Blackburn Rovers last season. He started his career with Luton Town and his other Clubs were Fulham, Norwich City and Stoke City and he also had experience in the American League with Tulsa Roughnecks.

MIKE ASTBURY (Goalkeeper). Former Apprentice Mike made his Football League debut in 1980/81 at the age of 16. Last season made 15 league appearances and is regarded as a fine prospect.

JOHN BENTHAM (Defence/Midfield). Former apprentice who became full time professional during 1980/81 season. John made his league debut last term and went on to make 22 appearances but at the end of the season had the misfortune to break a leg.

EDDIE BLACKBURN (Goalkeeper). Signed from Hull City in May 1980 and voted "Clubman of the Year" in his first season at Bootham Crescent. Last season made 31 league appearances.

JOHN BYRNE (Forward). Manchester born John joined City as an apprentice in the Summer of 1977 and made his league debut in September 1979. A player of immense ability and talent he made 28 league appearances (6 goals) last term.

MALCOLM CROSBY (Midfield). Was signed from Aldershot in November 1981 in an exchange deal which took Ian McDonald to the Recreation Ground. Malcolm spent 10 years with Aldershot playing well over 300 senior games and he made 19 league appearances (2 goals) for City last season.



Back Row (L to R)

Viv Busby, John Simpson, Tommy Stanley, Richard Dawson, Chris Evans, Roger Jones, Eddie Blackburn, Mick Astbury, Keith Walwyn, Ricky Sbragia, Mick Laverick, Denis Smith

Front Row (L to R)

John Bentham, John Byrne, Derek Hood, Malcolm Crosby, Brian Pollard, Steve Senior, Gary Ford.

DEREK HOOD (Defence/Midfield). Signed from Hull City in February 1980 he has been a regular first teamer since then and last season was the Club's only 'ever-present'. A most industrious player Derek netted 8 goals last term and is the team's "penalty expert".

ROGER JONES (Goalkeeper). Signed from Derby County in the close season Roger is one of the League's most respected and experienced goalkeepers. He made his league debut with Bournemouth in 1965/66 and his other Clubs have been Blackburn, Newcastle and Stoke plus a spell on loan with Birmingham City last season. He approaches a total of 600 Football League appearances and was capped at Under 23 level for England.

GARY FORD (Midfield). still only 21 Gary is a serving player having made his professional debut in June 1977 when he signed for York City. A local boy he made his Football League debut in 1978. He has scored over 150 senior appearances and has made 40 league appearances.

CHRISTOPHER EVANS (Goalkeeper). season signing from Luton Town. He was previously on the books of Luton and has made his Football League debut in his opening game of the season. A young player who was a Schoolboy and York City youth player.

YORK CITY



Tommy Stanley, Richard Dawson, Chris Evans, Roger Jones, Keith Walwyn, Ricky Sbragia, Mick Laverick, Denis Smith

Derek Hood; Malcolm Crosby, Brian Pollard, Steve Senior, Eddie Flood,

GARY FORD (Midfield). Signed in January 1980 he has been here ever since then and is the club's only 'ever-present' player. Derek Hood is the team's

ROGER JONES (Defence). Signed from Blackpool in the summer of 1965 he made his league debut in 1965/66 and has since played for Blackburn, Newcastle and Ipswich. He approaches his 200 league appearances and has also played at the 23 level for Eng-

GARY FORD (Midfield/Forward). Although still only 21 Gary is the Club's longest serving player having been with City since June 1977 when he became an apprentice professional. A local lad he made his Football League debut in October 1978 and now tops 150 senior appearances. Last term he made 40 league appearances (8 goals).

CHRISTOPHER EVANS (Defence). Close season signing from Stoke City, Christopher was previously on the books of Arsenal and has made his Football League debut in City's opening game of the season. Highly rated young player who was capped for Wales at Schoolboy and Youth International level.

MICK LAVERICK (Midfield). Signed from Huddersfield Town in January 1982 for a fee of £10,000 Mick went on to make 26 league appearances (4 goals) last season. Previous to his spell at Leeds Road he was with Mansfield and Southend and is a very experienced player.

BRIAN POLLARD (Midfield/Forward). Local born Brian returned to Bootham Crescent in September 1981 after a 4 year absence which took him to Watford, Mansfield Town and Blackpool (trialist). A former Youth Team Player and England Youth International he made his Football League debut for City in March 1972 as a 17 year old. He went on to make 163 league appearances (34 goals) before being transferred to Watford in November 1977 for £33,000. Last season he made 25 league appearances (3 goals).

RICHARD SBRAGIA (Defence). Close season signing from Blackpool Ricky started his league career with Birmingham City with whom he made a number of 1st Division appearances. A Scot he also has been with Walsall and had a spell on loan with Morton.

STEVE SENIOR (Defence). A former apprentice Steve made his Football League debut in the last game of the 1980/81 season and last term made 14 league appearances (1 goal). Very promising and talented young player.

TOMMY STANLEY (Midfield). A former apprentice Tommy made his Football League debut in Match 1981. A tenacious and hard working player he made 6 league appearances last season.

KEITH WALWYN (Forward). Signed from Chesterfield in the summer of 1981 Keith had an outstanding first season with the Club. In 49 league and Cup appearances he netted 25 goals and was voted 'Clubman of the Year' by supporters. Big and strong Keith has developed into one of the most respected and feared strikers in the 4th Division.

From the York City Archives

Compiled by PAUL PLOWMAN

On June 1 1973, at the Football League's annual general meeting, a decision was made to increase the number of promoted and relegated clubs between the Second and Third Divisions from two to three. That decision proved perhaps to be the most significant in the history of York City since 1929, when they joined such names as Manchester Central, Prescott Cables, Rhyl, Llanelly and The Argonauts in the quest for Football League status. In the event, the York club was the only successful candidate and took the place of Ashington - then the northernmost club in the League. City's first League game was on August 31 1929 at Wigan Borough. The eleven who represented York in that encounter were: Farmery, Archibald, Johnson, Beck, Davies, Thompson, Evans, Gardner, Cowie, Smiles, Stockhill. Stockhill and Cowie scored the goals in a 2 - 0 win. Home games were then played at Fulfordgate, the first Football League game taking place there on the following Wednesday, September 4 1931, when Sheffield United were visitors, brought the largest crowd - 12,721 - to City's old ground. The club moved to Bootham Crescent in 1932 and so recently celebrated fifty years there. In that time the ground has staged many stirring F.A. Cup battles. In 1938 York forced their way through to the Sixth Round. After winning at Halifax, City despatched Clapton Orient, Coventry City, West Bromwich Albion (where centre-forward Reg Baines hit a hat-trick) and Middlesbrough before meeting Huddersfield at Bootham. The gate that day, 28,123, is the largest ever to assemble there to this day but, unfortunately, they saw no goals and York lost 1 - 2 in front of 58,066 in the Leeds Road replay.

The biggest effort of all came in 1955 when York came the closest that any Third Division side has come to reaching the F.A. Cup Final at Wembley. Scarborough and Dorchester were dismissed in the first two rounds, after which City won 2 - 0 at Blackpool and 3 - 1 at Bishop Auckland. Centre-forward Norman Wilkinson scored twice in a 3 - 1 Fifth Round win over Tottenham and then a single Arthur

Bottom goal gave them victory at Notts County to reach the Semi-Final. Newcastle were to be York's opponents and Hillsborough the venue, but an injury to the experienced Sid Storey (he had played over 300 League games since his arrival in 1947) meant that City were forced to make a late team change. But still they held on, with another Bottom goal sending a good many of the 62,000 customers home happy. Roker Park was chosen for the replay and although Storey was fit again York were unable to reply to two early United goals and the fairy tale had ended.

The club returned to the more mundane life of Third and Fourth Division football until that meeting in 1973. In November of that year York City reached Third place in Division Three and stayed there, thus bringing Second Division football to Bootham Crescent in the following autumn.

KEY OF THE BOARD

- A Aldershot v Chester
- B Hereford v Hartlepool
- C Mansfield v Bristol City
- D Northampton v Blackpool
- E Peterborough v Rochdale
- F Port Vale v Hull City
- G Wimbledon v Halifax
- H Arsenal v Everton
- I Aston Villa v Brighton
- J Ipswich v Manchester City
- K Liverpool v Coventry
- L Manchester Utd v Tottenham H.
- * M Notts. County v Birmingham
- N Southampton v Nottm. Forest
- O Sunderland v Luton
- P Watford v Stoke
- Q West Brom. Alb. v Swansea
- R West Ham Utd. v Norwich
- S Barnsley v Chelsea
- T Oldham v Wolverhampton

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SUPPORTERS CO-OPERATIVE

AUTUMN DRAW - Prize Winners' List (Drawn 10.00 p.m. Tuesday, 2 November)

Prize	Ticket Number	Winner
Video Recorder	24096	D. Fisher, 17 Tanners Cl., Wootton Bassett.
Radio	24827	D.A. Evans, c/o National Westminster Bank, Didcot
Autographed Football	21959	c/o Winterbourne Construction, High Street, Wroughton
Dining Room Tray	4123	Mr. D. Leonard, 21 Richmond Road, Swindon
£10. Meat Voucher	10964	Hipperson Builders Ltd. 37A Oxford Rd. Cowley
Ladies Bracelet	3167	G. White, 91 William St., Swindon

Bottle Whisky	13961	G. Kearley, 18 Martinsfield, Covingham, Swindon
Dressed Doll	11444	Claimed at draw
Basket of Fruit	17541	Mr. F. Collins, 4 Downside, Kingston Lisle, Wantage
Liquor Chocolates	13633	J. Rogers, 10 The Willows, Highworth
Salt & Pepper Set	4598	Mr. P. Lampard, Inlands Close, Pewsey, Wilts.
Pen	14536	Anon.
Swindon Town Toy	198306	T. Hart, James Davies Timber, Swindon.

The Supporters' Co-Operative Committee express their grateful thanks to the many people who helped in making this draw a great success. . .

1982-83 Facts & Town Figures				Allan	Henry	Baddeley	Emmanuel	Lewis	Graham	Pritchard	Hughes	Rideout	Rowland	Barnard	Carter	Baverstock	Quinn	Batty
	APPEARANCES			League	12	10	12	12	12	12	8	6	12	12	12	3	3	7
				Cup	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2				
	SUBSTITUTE APPEARANCES			League						1	1				1		2	
				Cup													1	
	GOALS			League			1			1		5	5	1	1		2	
				Cup								2						
Date 1982	Opponents	Att.	Score F - A															
Aug. 28	Port Vale	H	3602 1 - 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
Aug. 31	Bristol City MC (1)	H	3739 2 - 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	S			
Sept 4	Blackpool	A	3395 1 - 2	1		3	4	5	6	S	8	9	10	11	7	2		
Sept 8	Hereford Utd	A	2478 2 - 1	1		3	4	5	6		8	9	10	11	7	2	S ¹	
Sept 11	Halifax Town	H	3450 0 - 1	1		3	4	5	6		7	9	10	11	8	2	S	
Sept 14	Bristol City MC (2)	A	3786 0 - 2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			S	
Sept 18	Rochdale	A	1363 1 - 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
Sept 25	Crewe Alex.	H	2967 1 - 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		9	10	11			8	
Sept 28	Nothampton Town	A	2550 1 - 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		9	10	11			8	
Oct 2	Hull City	A	3536 0 - 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		9	10	11			8	
Oct 10	Colchester United	H	4473 3 - 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	S	9	10	11			8	
Oct 16	Bury	A	2357 0 - 0	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	9	10	11			8	
Oct 20	Torquay Utd	A	2728 1 - 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		9	10	11			8	
Oct 23	Mansfield Town	H	3917 4 - 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		9	10	11		S	8	
Oct 30	Chester	A	1544 1 - 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		9	10	11			8	
Nov 2	Tranmere Rovers	H	4407 4 - 2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		9	10	11			8	
Nov 6	Darlington	A	1267 0 - 1	1		3	4	5	6		7	9	10	11	2	S	8	
Nov 13	York City	H																
Nov 20	F. A. Cup																	
Nov 26	Stockport Cty	A																
Dec 4	Peterboro' Utd	H																
Dec 11	F.A. Cup 2																	
Dec 18	Aldershot	A																
Dec 28	Wimbledon	H																

DIVISION FOUR LEAGUE TABLE - Up to and including 6 Nov. 1982

	P	W	D	L	F - A	W	D	L	F - A	Pts	G/D	Av. Home Lge. Gate	Top Goalscorers
Scunthorpe United	15	5	2	1	14 - 5	4	3	0	9 - 3	32	+15	3,176	Paul O'Berg 6
Bury	16	5	1	1	12 - 5	4	4	1	13 - 6	32	+14	2,277	Craig Madden 7
Hull City	15	5	3	0	20 - 5	3	2	2	6 - 6	29	+15	4,402	Brian Marwood 8
Wimbledon	15	5	2	0	19 - 6	3	2	3	13 - 11	28	+15	2,006	John Leslie 9
Port Vale	15	4	2	1	10 - 4	4	2	2	13 - 7	28	+12	3,504	Ernie Moss 5
SWINDON TOWN	15	5	0	1	13 - 3	3	4	2	7 - 6	28	+11	3,802	Paul Rideout 9
Torquay United	15	6	2	0	19 - 7	2	2	3	7 - 11	28	+8	2,438	Steve Cooper 10
Blackpool	15	5	4	0	15 - 5	1	1	4	5 - 11	23	+4	3,485	Dave Bamber 11
Colchester United	14	5	2	0	16 - 4	1	2	4	3 - 8	22	+7	2,573	Ian Allinson 7, John Lyons 7
Mansfield Town	15	2	1	4	5 - 12	4	1	3	11 - 11	20	-7	2,319	Allan Waddle 4
Aldershot	15	4	1	2	9 - 8	1	4	3	10 - 19	20	-8	1,898	Howard Goddard 7
York City	15	4	2	1	17 - 10	0	5	3	6 - 12	19	+1	1,827	Keith Walwyn 5
Hartlepool United	15	5	2	1	12 - 7	0	2	5	6 - 17	19	-6	1,322	John Bird 3, Andy Linighan 3
Darlington	15	3	2	3	8 - 7	2	1	4	9 - 11	18	-1	1,584	Alan Walsh 8
Chester	14	2	2	4	9 - 8	2	3	1	5 - 3	17	+3	2,033	John Thomas 7
Nothampton Town	16	3	4	2	13 - 9	1	1	5	5 - 17	17	-8	2,479	Steve Massey 10
Rochdale	15	3	4	1	13 - 8	0	2	5	5 - 16	15	-6	1,761	Barry Wellington 5
Stockport County	15	2	4	1	9 - 8	1	2	5	10 - 18	15	-7	1,903	Mike Quinn 5
Peterborough Utd	15	3	1	3	9 - 10	0	5	3	4 - 10	15	-7	2,929	Micky Gynn 5
Crewe Alexandra	15	2	1	4	11 - 13	2	0	6	5 - 8	13	-5	2,232	Clive Evans 6
Bristol City	15	2	4	2	10 - 10	0	3	4	7 - 21	13	-14	4,185	Glyn Riley 7
Halifax Town	15	1	4	3	7 - 12	1	2	4	6 - 10	12	-9	1,818	Bobby Davison 9
Hereford United	15	3	2	2	5 - 4	0	1	7	7 - 22	12	-14	2,325	Winston White 3
Tranmere Rovers	15	3	2	2	9 - 6	0	0	8	4 - 20	11	-13	1,339	Owen Brown 4, Bryan Hamilton 4

Includes Football League and Milk Cup only

			Stevens	Baverstock	Baillie	Batty	Beamish	Gould	Bristow	Barnes	Quinn	Shaw	Evans	Henry	Round	Blackler	Pritchard	Williams	Carter	Cousins	Hughes	Gallo	Osbourne	Sheppard		
Appearances			9	5	8	4	8	2	9	6	7	1	7	2	3	8	3	7	3	1	4	1		1		
Substitute Appearances								1		2		1								1			1			
Goals						2	2		1		3							1	2							
Date 1982	Opponents	Score F - A																								
Aug 28	Southampton	A 0 - 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11													
Sep 8	Bristol Rovers	H 1 - 0	1		3	4 ¹	9		8	10				2	5	6	7	11								
Sep 11	Swansea City	A 0 - 1	1		2	4	9		8	10	S	11	5			6	7	3								
Sep 21	Chelsea	H 3 - 4	1		3	4 ¹	5		7	10	9 ¹	2				6	7	11 ¹	8	S						
Sep 28	Birmingham City	A 0 - 3	1	2	3		5	S	7	10	9	11				6			4		8					
Oct 5	Charlton Ath	H 4 - 0	1		5		10 ¹	2	7		9 ¹	11				6		3	8 ²		4		S			
Oct 12	Watford	H 2 - 1	1	2			10 ¹		4 ¹	S	9 ¹	11				6		3		8	7			5		
Oct 18	Leicester City	A 1 - 4	1	2	3		8		4	S	9 ¹	11			5	6	7	10								
Oct 26	Norwich City	H 0 - 0	1	2	3				7	10	9				5	6		11			4	8				
Oct 30	Tottenham H	H 1 - 3	1	2	3				7	9 ¹		11			5	6		10			4	8				
Nov 9	Reading	H 2 - 1	1	2	3				8	S	9 ²				5	6	7	11	10		4					
Nov 16	Fulham	A																								
Nov 20	Ipswich Town	A																								
Nov 30	Brighton & H	H																								
Dec 7	Q.P.R.	A																								
Dec 14	C. Palace	H																								
Dec 18	West Ham Utd	A																								
Dec 21	Arsenal	A																								

Pro-File on Paul Batty



Paul was born in Edlington in Yorkshire and, in fact, his home is there still. He joined the club in July, 1980 as an apprentice and signed professional forms in January of this year. Made his League debut on 15th September, 1982 against Crewe Alexandra and he has maintained his position ever since.

Relaxation/Hobbies: Snooker and playing Snooker.

Favourite Player: Kevin Keegan for his 100% effort in every game.

Favourite Singer/Group: Diana Ross/Kool and the Gang.

Favourite Film Star: Sylvester Stallone & Clint Eastwood

Favourite Sports Person: Daley Thompson

..... Paul Batty

Town through time

A match to remember

NUMBER 4.

by paul plowman

F.A. Charity Shield 1911 :
MANCHESTER UNITED 8
SWINDON TOWN 4

The fourth Charity Shield - it was first introduced in 1908 - brought together the respective champions of the Football League and the Southern League. Swindon were hoping to emulate Brighton's defeat of Aston Villa twelve months earlier. Glorious sunshine greeted the two centre-halves as they led their teams into the vast Stamford Bridge arena on the afternoon of Monday September 25 1911:

Manchester United: Edmonds; Hofton, Stacey; Duckworth, Roberts, Bell; Meredith, Hamill, Halse, Turnbull (A), Wall.
Swindon Town: Skiller; Kay, Tout; Handley, Bannister, Silto; Jefferson, Fleming, Wheatcroft, Bown, Lamb.

United had a wealth of experience in their side, with no less than six players having been in the side that had taken that first Shield in 1908 - in fact the entire half-back line had been with the club for six years! Swindon were forced to switch Billy Tout to left-back, being without Scottish international Jock Walker. Frank Handley thus slotted into Tout's right-half position. ' . . . It was almost too warm for football . . . ' commented The Sportsman

nevertheless only twelve thousand people were present, paying just 6d (2p!) each admission - and what value for money they got! Swindon made the best possible start with a goal in the seventh minute - and it came following a United corner. The Town defence cleared, Sammy Lamb finding the ball in space. The winger was checked by Hofton, but Freddy Wheatcroft picked up the loose ball and his perfect pass was headed home by HAROLD FLEMING. But within two minutes ALEC TURNBULL had equalised and in the 20th minute Swindon fell behind when HAROLD HALSE made a lightning break, evaded Harry Kay's challenge and beat the advancing Skiller. The ball swept from end to end and the Town almost got on level terms immediately. Archie Bown being denied by a splendid save from

Edmonds. Not to be outdone, Len Skiller pushed a blistering drive from Halse for a corner, from which, unfortunately for Swindon, the former Southend man made it 3-1 to United. Swindon protested that the centre-forward was offside (he was apparently standing under the crossbar at the time!) but referee Schumacher was unmoved and the Town swung into action at the other end. Fleming sent Jefferson down the right flank and WHEATCROFT stooped to glance the winger's cross past Hugh Edmonds' left arm. However, HALSE popped up again to make it 4-2 in the 35th minute but Swindon still came back before the break, Hofton pulling down Wheatcroft and BILLY TOUT registering the penalty kick with his usual aplomb.

There was a lull in the proceedings for eighteen second-half minutes although Halse - who might have scored ten that afternoon - went close again, whilst Turnbull headed narrowly over the Town crossbar. Inevitably it was again HALSE who eventually added to the score with the best goal of the match - a fine solo effort which he rifled past the sad Skiller. And the man still wasn't satisfied, with two more successes taking his personal tally to six. GEORGE WALL, given far too much freedom by Handley, got his name on the scoresheet to record United's eighth - but the final act came from BOB JEFFERSON, who took Fleming's pass and saw the ball bounce over Edmonds' outstretched hand.

It was a scoreline which the Swindon Advertiser reporter could scarcely believe himself ' . . . Swindon's astonishing debacle at Stamford Bridge taxes one's credulity that the defence could actually have been riddled eight times . . . ' The man who had done most of the damage, Harold Halse, joined Aston Villa in the following summer in a £1,200 transfer - a colossal fee in those days, while Swindon bounced back to surge to the F.A. Cup Semi-Finals for a second time in three seasons.

NEXT IN THIS SERIES: Swindon's first Football League game in 1920.



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- 9 PAUL RIDEOUT
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- 11 LEIGH BARNARD
- 12

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- 6 DEREK HOOD
- 7 TERRY FORD
- 8 MALCOLM CROSBY
- 9 KEITH WALWYN
- 10 JOHN BYRNE
- 11 BRIAN POLLARD
- 12



REFEREE:

MR. KEN G. SALMON (Barnet, Herts.) Started refereeing in 1963 and progressed via the Mid-Herts. and Herts. County League to the Isthmian League and then the Football League List. Refereed the Hertfordshire Senior Cup Final in 1972, and lined the England v. Wales Amateur International in 1970, a Football League Cup Semi-Final (1974), and a U.E.F.A. Cup match in Sweden (1975). Was reserve official for the England v. Wales World Cup qualifying game at Wembley in 1973.

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