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# VALIANT *voice*

GOOD afternoon everyone and a Potteries welcome to the players, officials and supporters of Swindon Town, some of whom are making their first visit to Vale Park.

The return fixture with the Robins brings back memories of that lovely, sunlit day at the start of the campaign when we figured in the first of Central TV's live games.

With Wolves, Derby and Stoke seemingly dominating the choice of the Midlands Channel, were beginning to wonder when we might again be featured 'on the box'. Then, this week, news came through of Granada's plans to televise the match here against Tranmere Rovers, which has been switched to Sunday January 15th for the purpose (kick-off 3.05pm). Swindon's opening success against us at the County Ground sparked off a good start by the Wiltshire club but their failure to maintain the pace recently cost John Gorman his job as manager.

Steve McMahon is the man charged with the responsibility of leading a revival, not from the bench but in the thick of the action as player manager, although we assume he will be forced to watch from the sidelines today, having been red carded on his debut!

#### Short Fall

The Saturday prior to Christmas is seemingly still regarded as the worst of the season for attendances due to the counter attraction of being dragged round the shops.

Some clubs switch to a Friday while others seek alternative ways of offsetting the threatened shortfall at the turnstiles, even though the 'shopping excuse' is no longer as valid as it was due to late night opening and the popular Sunday trading. Birmingham City recently caused more than a few eyebrows to be raised when they attracted a crowd of 17,028 for

their Auto Windscreens Trophy match against Gillingham.

One of the reasons was that juveniles were admitted for the cut price of £1 and we today have aimed at a similar market.

Children under the age of 16 have been admitted free of charge to any home area on the ground providing they have been accompanied by an adult.

Also we have been pleased to admit up to 1,000 under privileged youngsters through our community scheme organised by Jim Cooper.

#### Heavy

Tickets went on sale in midweek for our local derby against Stoke City on Tuesday January 3rd (7.45pm).

Demand is expected to be heavy but holders of one voucher, issued at either of the recent games against Sunderland or Millwall, will have the opportunity of purchasing a ticket at the ground tomorrow (9.30am-12.30pm), depending of course on availability.

Any remaining tickets will go on general sale from Monday (9.30am).

Stoke City supporters have been allocated the Hamil Road end covered terrace and the Hamil end of the Lorne Street paddock.



#### POLICE NOTICE

The recent experimental one way traffic system introduced to help clear the immediate area after games has been temporarily suspended.

This is due to supporters on foot having to adjust to the system in darkness. The system will be re-introduced once the light evenings return and you will be notified well in advance.

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*Editorial team: Chris Harper (Editor), Ian McPherson, Phil Sherwin  
Margaret Moran Smith, Jim Cooper, David Cooper, Eddie Jackson, Jean Jackson,  
Tony Allan, John Baddeley (Club Photographer), Evening Sentinel Photographic  
Department, Jan Mozelewski, Tony Walley, Phil Lawton, Sarah Yates.*

**THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS MAGAZINE ARE NOT  
NECESSARILY THOSE OF PORT VALE FOOTBALL CLUB**

## **BIG BIG PROBLEMS** for the club *If spectators continue to invade the running track or playing surface*

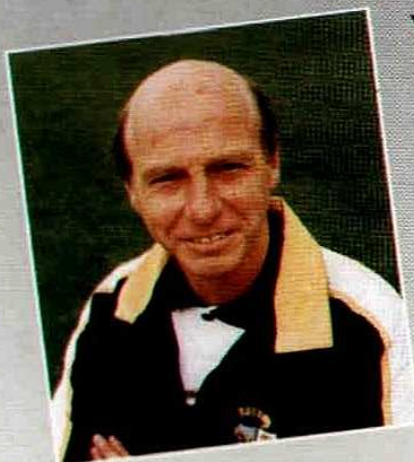
- Problem 1** ▶ The Club could be heavily fined.
- Problem 2** ▶ Hard-earned points could be deducted.
- Problem 3** ▶ Certain areas of the ground may be closed.
- Problem 4** ▶ The dreaded fencing, which we are all against, could be considered as a method of cotainment of spectators.
- Problem 5** ▶ Club Safety Certificate could be withdrawn. Home games would then be played without spectators.

FRONT COVER

● Robin van der Laan gives a Millwall defender a testnig time... Sentinel Picture

# RUDGE *report*

## Week to Forget



They say seven days is a long time in politics but it is nothing compared to what can happen in football. Three defeats and two injuries hardly made up the best of weeks for us here at Vale Park, although I did not go along with the pressure that was created after

our FA Cup exit at Scarborough.

Sure it was a dreadful result for which, as manager, I have to shoulder a proportion of the blame, but there are always shocks in the Cup otherwise it would not be revered competition it is.

Comments on the Scarborough game have already been well chronicled and clearly it is a game best forgotten. We have enjoyed ample success in the Cup, all of which made the taste of that particular defeat all the harder to swallow.

What we needed was response and, while results have continued to be disappointing, the performances I felt probably warranted a better return.

### Insisted

I was not particularly happy at the prospect of having to go to Bolton in a rearranged game three days after the Cup tie.

Burnden Park is not the easiest of places to visit at the best of times and Bolton had fresh legs following a free weekend. In the end the league insisted we played as they feared possible fixture snarl-ups at a later date, and we came out of it with credit if not points.

The loss of Ray Walker in the early minutes was a blow, the extent of which we are still awaiting at time of writing, but I thought the lads did well enough to get something out of a difficult game.

Oldham were not, in my opinion of the same quality as Bolton which made our defeat at Boundary Park all the more disappointing.

Unfortunately we paid the familiar price for poor defending and not making the most of our

opportunities.

Having got back into the game with Robin Van der Laan's equaliser, we had a great chance to go in at half time with a lead which would have given us a platform for victory. Unfortunately, Martin Foyle blazed his volley over the bar from some six yards and it is on such moments that games are won and lost.

So, we emerged from a traumatic week battle scarred and with nothing to show for it which makes it all the more imperative that we got a result this afternoon.

### Shape

The league table is assuming some shape. There was a time not so long ago when a couple of wins would have rocketed you into the top six while a couple of defeats would have had the adverse effect.

The trend of late is that teams in the lower reaches have not been winning with the result that the upper levels that were within reach are now further away.

Until last week we were doing reasonably well but this season was never going to be anything other than hard work following the promotion that put us in the company of better teams.

The difference between last season and this is that last term in the second division we could afford to be below par and still win, this time anything less than our best is likely to prove costly.

It is a test for us all, players and management alike. On our day we are a match for anything in the first division and even when we have faltered nobody has made us look that inferior.

I don't see that situation altering. In fact, I foresee a situation that with 10 games to go there will be teams at half way, who can either make the play-offs or the bottom four.



**WEAR THE BOOTS WORN BY THE BEST.**

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## Allen Tankard

had his ever present record wrecked at  
Oldham by a hamstring injury



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# SCENE ON *one*

Surprise team SOUTHEND - soundly thumped here at Vale Park early last month - seem to be back on the rails after a dodgy spell in which they won one game in five.

They chose no less a stage than Ayresome Park for their latest act, upsetting leaders Middlesbrough with a stunning decider by midfielder Phil Gridelet from all of 30 yards.

It was Gridelet's first league goal for the Shrimpers, superbly struck in front of his hero, Boro boss Bryan Robson.

Gridelet said: "When I was at Barnet under manager Barry Fry there were stories in the local paper of me being the new Robson.

I have always looked up to such a great player so to score a goal like that with Bryan looking on was the icing on the cake"

Boro's defeat enabled WOLVES to close the gap at the top to three points following their slender success against bottom club NOTTS COUNTY

## WOLF MAN

Wolves manager Graham Taylor has splashed out again to bring striker Don Goodman (Sunderland) and Dutchman John de Wolf (Feyenoord) to Molineux but it was the familiar sight of Steve Bull finding the net that delighted the 25,700 crowd.

Giant de Wolf, of the earrings and long hair, sported the skipper's armband and made a suitable impression, especially his colleagues.

"Just look at the guy. He's going to frighten opponents before they even get on the pitch," said Neil Emblen, clearly thankful to be sharing the same dressing room.

BOLTON continue to snap at the heels of the pack after their second 1-0 success in five days. It was Mark Patterson's thunderbolt from 30 yards that sunk Vale at Burden Park in midweek and it was Patterson who again popped up with the goods at Bristol City, this time after just 29 seconds.

BARNLEY have joined the top six after winning seven of

their last nine games. Latest victims CHARLTON have slipped uncomfortably down the table after a run of eight games without a win.

MILLWALL have picked up by taking maximum points from two games following their Coca Cola Cup triumph at Nottingham Forest. Striker Dave Mitchell, without a goal since the opening day of the season, has now scored two in two and shared in the home triumph against SUNDERLAND.

Struggling PORTSMOUTH only managed a home point against READING after Gerry Creaney had given them an early lead. Jimmy Quinn's second half penalty saved Reading, whose manager Mark McGhee is on Leicester's wanted list.

SHEFFIELD UNITED substitute Nathan Blake was sent off as The Blades accounted for lowly WEST BROM and BURNLEY's David Eyres was shown the red card as the Clarets went down to Toddy Orlygsson's double strike at STOKE, one from the spot.

New GRIMSBY boss Brian Laws watched a blank home encounter against WATFORD and there was a point apiece for LUTON and DERBY in Central's televised Sunday game that also failed to produce a goal.

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

Bolton	v	Grimsby
Charlton	v	Oldham
Derby	v	Barnsley
Notts County	v	Portsmouth
Southend	v	Millwall
Sunderland	v	Bristol City
Tranmere	v	Stoke City
Watford	v	Sheffield United

## TOMORROW

Burnley	v	Middlesbrough
Reading	v	Wolves
West Brom	v	Luton

## NAME THE PLAYER

REMEMBER ..... THE CLUES ARE THERE!!

1. He was born in Manchester on 29 March 1967  
**Got him already? Score 10 points**
2. He used to play for non-league Droylsden  
**Know who it is? Score 8 points**
3. He once scored five goals against Colchester United  
**Let's hope he does the same for Vale! Score 6 points.**
4. He scored 16 goals for Crewe last season  
**Yes? Score 4 points**
5. He was bought for £150,000 from Crewe last summer  
**Got him at last? Score 2 points**

Answer on page 31

# Swindon Town Football Club 94/95



Back row (L - R):

Middle row (L - R):

Front row (L - R):

Seated (L - R):

PAUL BODIN, LUC NIJHOLT, BRIAN KILCLINE, FRASER DIGBY, KEITH SCOTT, NICKY HAMMOND, SHAUN TAYLOR, ANDREW THOMPSON, EDWIN MURRAY.

JONATHAN TRIGG (PHYSIO), ROSS MACLAREN, MARK ROBINSON, AUSTIN BERKLEY, ADRIAN VIVEASH,

JAN AAGE FJORTOFT, CHRIS HAMON, ANDY MUTCH, MARCUS PHILLIPS, EDWIN MURRAY, TY GOODEN,

EDDIE BUCKLEY (KIT MANAGER).

JOEY BEAUCHAMP, MARTIN LING, ANDY ROWLAND (FIRST TEAM COACH), STEVE McMAHON (TEAM MANAGER),

JOHN TROLLOPE (YOUTH TEAM MANAGER), KEVIN HORLOCK, WAYNE O'SULLIVAN.

BEN WORRAL, JAMIE PITMAN, STEVE REEVES, STUART JAMES, DAVID ELSEY.



# Phil Sherwin

# WELCOME

## Swindon Town



After a promising start to the season Swindon have slipped to 20th place in the table after a run of 10 league games without a win. Part way through that run they dispensed with the services of manager John Gorman. Steve McMahon has since taken over, aiming to turn the clubs season around. Away from home they have just the one victory so far, 1-0 at bottom club Notts County whilst losing the remaining eight, at Tranmere (2-3), Charlton (0-1), Barnsley (1-2), Portsmouth (3-4), Middlesbrough (1-3), Bolton (0-3), Bristol C (2-3) and Southend (0-2).

In the Coca Cola Cup it has all been success so far though with just a home game against Millwall standing between a place in the semi finals. In the second round they lost 3-1 at home to Charlton but won the second leg 4-1 and have since defeated Brighton (after a replay) and Derby County. Involvement in the Anglo-Italian Cup means that they have played more games than any other team in the First Division, this afternoon being their 31st.

Scoring goals hasn't been a problem, Norwegian international Jan Aage Fjortoft has 18 and Keith Scott has 12, but keeping them out at the other end has been and it is now 21 games since they kept a clean sheet.

### MEET THE MANAGER - STEVE McMAHON

Steve began his managerial career with Swindon at the end of last month following his release from Man City where he had been since a £900,000 move from Liverpool in Dec 1991.

Liverpool born, his playing days started at Everton in 1979 and then £175,000 took him to Aston Villa four years later. Liverpool signed him in 1985 and that is where the honours began to flood in - three League Championships, two FA Cups, one Super Cup and 17 England caps, including appearances in the 1990 World Cup.

He is suspended this afternoon having been sent off on his debut at Southend.

## SWINDON THROUGH THE YEARS

- ● ● ● ● ● ● ●
- 1881** - Club formed
- 1893** - Moved to the County Ground
- 1911** - Lost to Man Utd 8-4 in the Charity Shield
- 1920** - Founder members of Division Three (South)
- 1925** - Defeated Fareham United Breweries 10-1 in FAC 1st Rnd
- 1927** - Harry Morris scored a club record 48 goals in a season
- 1930** - Lost 10-1 to Man City in FAC 4th Rnd replay
- 1958** - Founder members of Division Three
- 1963** - Promoted to Division Two
- 1965** - Relegated to Division Three
- 1969** - Promoted to Division Two
- Won the League Cup defeating Arsenal 3-1 at Wembley
- 1970** - Won the Anglo-Italian Cup
- 1972** - Record Attendance of 32,000 set v Arsenal in FAC 3rd Rnd
- 1974** - Relegated to Division Three
- 1982** - Relegated to Division Four
- 1984** - Lowest ever league gate, 1,681 v Darlington
- 1986** - Champions of Division Four with a record 102 points
- 1987** - Promoted to Division Two
- 1990** - Promoted to Division One via the play-offs
- Football League relegate the club to Division Three but on appeal they return to Division Two
- 1993** - Promoted to the Premiership via the play offs
- 1994** - Relegated to FL Division One

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# AWAY

## From Home...

### **FRASER DIGBY (Goalkeeper)**

Joined Manchester United from school as an apprentice eleven years ago, Fraser did not make the first team at Old Trafford and had loan spells at Oldham Athletic and at Swindon Town before joining us on a permanent basis in September 1986. Has now made over 350 first team appearances for the club although he did return to Manchester United for a loan spell during season 1992/93.

### **NICKY HAMMOND (Goalkeeper)**

Former Arsenal apprentice, Nicky was signed on a free transfer in July 1987 and has spent spells on loan at Bristol Rovers, Peterborough United and Aberdeen. He had to wait until 1991 before he got an extended run in the first team and has now made over 60 league appearances for Swindon Town.

### **PAUL BODIN (Defender)**

Welsh international now in his second spell at the County Ground. Paul was initially signed from the now defunct Newport County for £25,000 in March 1988. Three years later he was transferred to Crystal Palace for a fee of £550,000 but was unable to command a place at Selhurst Park and just ten months later he returned to Swindon.

### **LUC NIJHOLT (Defender)**

Signed from Motherwell for a fee of £175,000 in June 1993 having spent three years in Scotland following his transfer from Old Boys Basle in Switzerland. Luc started his career in Holland with FC Haarlem before moving to AZ 67 Alkmaar and FC Utrecht.

### **KEVIN HORLOCK (Defender)**

Northern Ireland U21 International, played against England last season, Kevin was signed from West Ham United on a free transfer in the summer of 1992 and made his League debut in the 3-1 defeat at Portsmouth that year after injury sidelined regular full-back Paul Bodin.

### **ANDREW THOMPSON (Defender)**

Impressive performance in the Reserves saw former trainee Andrew force his way into the first team at the end of last season. Made his Premiership debut in the final game of the Premiership at home to Leeds United and has been a regular in the team this season. Scored his first senior goal for the club in the Coca Cola Cup draw at Brighton & Hove Albion.

### **MARK ROBINSON (Defender)**

Signed as an apprentice for West Bromwich Albion on leaving school in June 1985 and made his Football League debut against Sheffield Wednesday on 22 April 1986. Surprisingly he was not offered a contract at the end of his apprenticeship and was picked up by Barnsley but had to wait until 1989 before earning an extended run in the first team. In March 1993 he was transferred to Newcastle United for £450,000 but injury and the vast squad at St. James Park prevented Mark from getting an extended first

team run. In July 1994 he moved to Wiltshire for a Swindon Town club record of £600,000.

### **MARTIN LING (Midfield)**

A former Exeter City apprentice, Martin is another in his second spell at the County Ground. He initially signed for £25,000 in July 1986 but just 93 days later he was on the move to Southend United where he made 138 League appearances, scoring 31 goals. While at Roots Hall he spent some time on loan at Mansfield Town and indeed here at the County Ground. In the summer of 1991 Glen Hoddle acquired his services for a mere £15,000.

### **JOEY BEAUCHAMP (Midfield)**

Joined Swindon Town just after the start of the season after a disastrous move in July 1994 from Oxford United to West Ham United which lasted less than one month. started his footballing career with Oxford as an apprentice and made a total of 151 appearances for the first team while at the Manor Ground for Oxford scoring 27 goals. In October 1991 he went on loan to Swansea City where in five games he scored twice. In the summer of 1994 he was about to sign for Swindon but at the eleventh hour chose West Ham and regretted it from the moment he signed.

### **JAN AGE FJORTOFT (Forward)**

Prolific goalscorer who joined the club in July 1993 for £500,000 from Rapid Vienna for whom he joined in 1989 from Lillestrom. He has made over 50 appearances for Norway including the game against England in over 50 appearances for Norway including the game against England in which he scored to end England's hopes of getting to the World Cup Finals in America in 1994. Norway themselves progressed through to the finals but were knocked out in the first round stage. In his first season in English football Jan scored 13 goals in 27 League and Cup appearances. Recently signed a new contract tying him to the County Ground until 1999.

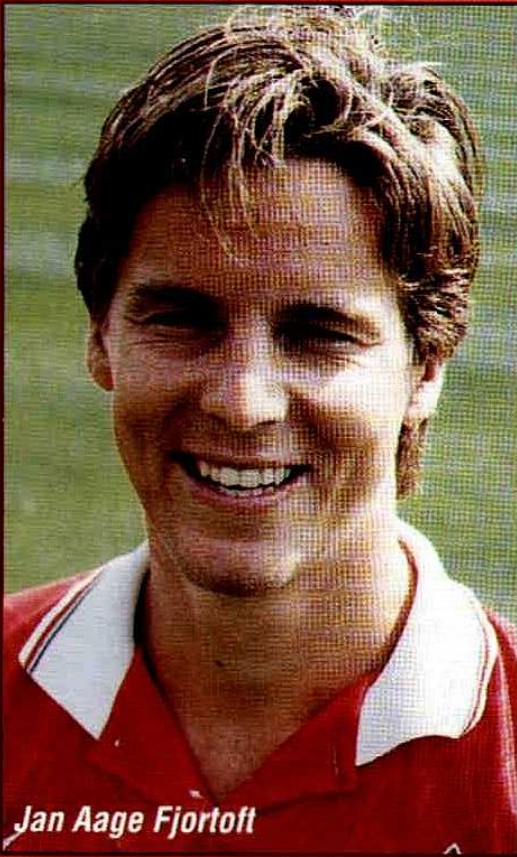
### **KEITH SCOTT (forward)**

Signed from Wycombe Wanderers in November 1993 for a fee of £300,000. Previously with Lincoln City, Keith had scored 60 goals in 112 games while with Wycombe during their non-league days and fifteen goals in 23 starts in their first year of League Football. Made an impressive start at the County Ground scoring in his two games, one against QPR which gave Town their first Premiership win.

### **IAN CULVERHOUSE (Defender)**

Currently on loan from Norwich for whom he figured in last season's UEFA cup adventure. Started his career as an apprentice with Tottenham but made only one full appearance before being transferred to Norwich for £50,000 in October 1985.

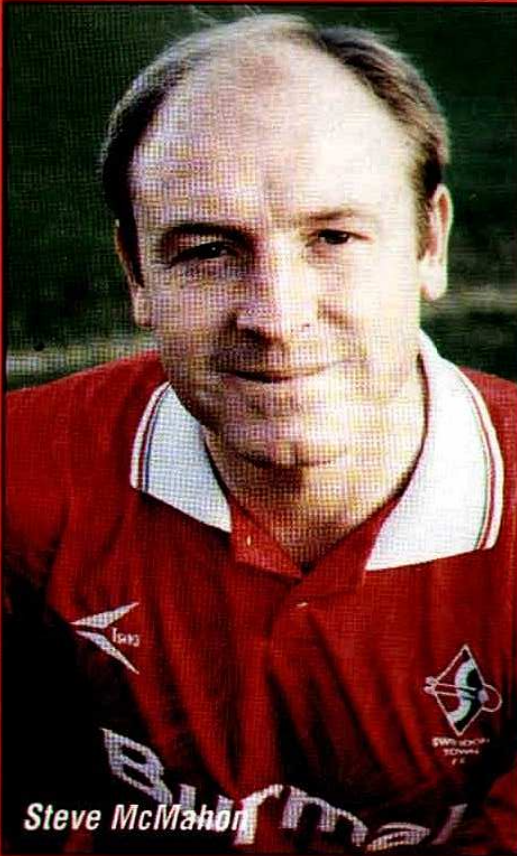
## ...Swindon Town



Jan Aage Fjortoft



Fraser Digby



Steve McMahon



Luc Nijholt

# SWINDON TOWN

# PREVIOUS

# encounters

This afternoon's game marks Swindon Town's first visit to Vale Park since September 1991 when two goals from Martin Foyle helped us to a 2-2 draw, Towns goals coming from White and MacLaren.

The teams lined up as follows:

**VALE:-** Grew, S. Mills, Hughes, Walker, Aspin, Glover, Porter, Van der Laan, Houchen, Foyle, Jeffers.

Subs:- Swan for Houchen, Kent for Porter

**Swindon:-** Hammond, Jones, Viveash, Hoddle, Calderwood, Taylor Hazard, Shearer, Simpson, MacLaren, White.

**SUBS:-** Ling for Hazard, Lorenzo.

The previous season's game here took place on the last day of the campaign and Vale won 3-1 thanks to two goals from Brian Mills on his appearance before his £75,000 transfer to Wimbledon.

Vale were also hosts to Swindon on the final day of the 1959-60 season and rattled up their biggest victory over the Robins to the tune of 6-1 with Harry Oscroft scoring four times (only Andy Jones has achieved the feat since).

Other goals came from Cliff Portwood and an own goal. Swindon gained their revenge in the teams next meeting at the County ground six months later winning 6-0.

Vale have a good record against Swindon at Vale Park, losing just the once in eighteen games (4-3 in Oct 1986), and also scoring in every one of them. Unusually four of the five draws have ended 2-2.

It's not quite as good at Swindon, with just two wins in the last twelve visits, the most recent being 2-1 in November 1990 when Darren Beckford scored for both sides. Gary Ford scored our other goal.

Earlier this season we met in front of the live TV cameras on the opening weekend and Swindon won 2-0 with goals by Jan Aage Fjortoft and Keith Scott.

Vale's total record against Swindon is:

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	23	15	6	2	52	21
Away	25	6	5	14	20	36
Total	48	21	11	16	72	57

## SWINDON TOWN FIVE YEAR RECORD

	DIV	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	POS	TOP LGE SCORER
1989-90	2	46	20	14	12	79	59	74	4th	Shearer 20
1990-91	2	46	12	14	20	65	73	50	21st	Shearer 22
1991-92	2	46	18	15	13	69	55	69	8th	Shearer 22
1992-93	FL1	46	21	13	12	74	59	76	5th P	Maskell 18
1993-94	P	42	5	15	22	47	100	30	22nd R	Fjortoft 12

## FLASHBACK

### FIVE YEARS AGO

16 December 1989: Vale were lying 14th in the Second Division when they faced league leaders Sheffield United in front of 9,813 at Vale Park. A Nicky Cross goal sent Vale into the half time break in front but Ian Bryson got the equaliser for Sheffield to maintain their ultimately successful promotion push Swindon had lost to the Sheffield club 2-0 at home on the previous Saturday but they followed up with a 2-1 at West Bromwich Albion. In the light of recent events, Swindon must wonder whether their acceptance of the FA's penalty following their end of season promotion was a wise course of action. It seems that you do not necessarily have to accept the prescribed punishment for a crime if you have the financial muscle to do something about it.

### TEN YEARS AGO

15 December 1984: Vale suffered a 2-0 home defeat against a Darlington side who were heading for promotion under the late Cyril Knowles. A crowd of only 3,645 were tempted away from the Christmas shopping. This was, however, well over a thousand more than watched the following home game a week later when Vale managed a 1-1 draw with Scunthorpe, Swindon were playing at home to Colchester United where a 2-1 win was witnessed by an even more meagre 2,263.

### FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

21 December 1979: Bill Bentley's second match as caretaker manager saw Vale gain an astonishing 2-2 draw away to Division Four leaders Portsmouth in front of a crowd of 12,022 thanks to two goals from Neil Griffiths. Bentley, however, handed over the reins to the new manager John McGrath, who was appointed a few days after this game. Swindon were going well in the division above Vale and were in the process of knocking Torquay out of the FA Cup following a replay. The team's previous league result had been an 8-0 thrashing of struggling Bury.

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# BACKTRACK

## **Saturday 19th November FL Division One**

### **Derby Co. 2 Port Vale 0**

Vale opened up quite well with Ray Walker firing just over from 25 yards and Foyle heading just wide. Derby began to come more into proceedings and took the lead in the 24th minute when a left wing cross was flicked on by Stallard for Tommy Johnson to volley in an unstoppable shot. It was the first goal Vale had conceded in four games. Johnson nearly scored again minutes later but Vale then hit back with a cracking shot by Foyle that was parried by the keeper although play was brought back for a scuffle between Allon and Short. Andy Porter then unleashed a great shot that thumped against the post before bouncing to safety.

Early in the second half Vale had a chance when a clearance rebounded to Foyle and he sent his angled effort just wide of the far post. Vale couldn't find a breakthrough and were caught in the 71st minute when Derby made it 2-0.

With nearly every Vale player up in attack Dean Glover miscued a cross into the box and it came out to Stallard who hared upfield with no one else in sight and as Musselwhite came towards him he slipped the ball to Johnson who sidefooted home.

**VALE:-** Musselwhite 6, Aspin 6, Tankard 6, Porter 8, Griffiths 6, D. Glover 6, Jeffers 5, Van der Laan 6, Allon 5, Foyle 7, Walker 6. Subs: L. Glover (for Allon), Burke (for Jeffers), Van Heusden.

## **Saturday 26th November FL Division One**

### **Port Vale 2 Millwall 1**

Steve Guppy announced his arrival with a run down the left and a cross which cleared the 'keeper only for Gareth Griffiths to knock the ball over the bar. Martin Foyle went through unchallenged only for the American custodian to save his resulting shot and then at the other end Cadette had a shot saved by Musselwhite and then scored only for it to be disallowed for offside.

Vale went in front in the 52nd minute when a move down the left ended with a perfect Guppy cross right on to the head of Joe Allon and he made no mistake from close range. Millwall then had the majority of the play for a while and Tankard prevented a van der Laan own goal with a deflection off the line.

Allon and Griffiths went close to increasing Vale's lead with blocked shots but the visitors equalised in the 69th minute. A free kick seemed to have been messed up but Kennedy seized on the ball and drove his shot through the wall and into the net via the inside of the post.

That seemed that but in the 3rd minute of injury time Foyle chased a ball down the left, knocked it to Guppy and his cross was flicked home by substitute Mark Burke. Cruel luck for Millwall maybe, but an important three points for the Vale and a four point cushion from the relegation zone.

**VALE:-** Musselwhite 6, Aspin 8, Tankard 5, Porter 6, Griffiths 7, D. Glover 6, Guppy 8, van der Laan 6, Allon 7, Foyle 6, Walker 5. Subs: L. Glover (for Allon), Burke (for van der Laan), Van Heusden.

## **Tuesday 29th November FL Division One**

### **Port Vale 0 Sunderland 0**

An unchanged Vale line up took the field after Joe Allon shrugged off a dead leg sustained against Millwall but they were unable to find a breakthrough, resulting in Vale Park's first goalless draw of the season.

Aspin had a shot blocked early on and Allon went close before Foyle had the best chance in the 36th minute, with a glancing header from a corner that was cleared off the line by Martin Smith. Van der Laan then had a header saved and almost scored an own goal with a sliced intended clearance that was pawed away by Paul Musselwhite to the Dutchman's relief.

In the second half Porter had a shot deflected wide but generally the sides were just cancelling each other out. Sunderland set their stall out to prevent Steve Guppy from getting any service and came close to winning the game themselves in the 77th minute when Russell raced clear only for Musselwhite to turn his shot over the bar. Tankard and Glover both cleared off the line as the game petered out to its conclusion. On the positive side it was another point and another clean sheet.

**VALE:-** Musselwhite 6, Aspin 6, Tankard 6, Porter 6, Griffiths 6, D. Glover 6, Guppy 6, van der Laan 6, Allon 5, Foyle 6, Walker 5. Subs: Burke (for Walker), L. Glover, Van Heusden.

# COMMERCIAL COMMENT

*With Margaret Moran-Smith*



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**MR. SIDNEY BOWCOCK** a supporter of over 60 years sadly passed away in the close season and today his family, widow **Elizabeth** together with daughter and son-in-law **Mr. & Mrs. Andy Carey** are sponsoring today's match ball in his memory.



Many Vale supporters who holiday in North Wales will know the Sandbank Bakery famous for it's queues of Potteries folk waiting to purchase their special recipe bread and cakes. Mr. Bowcock was the founder and proprietor of this highly successful business and although he was out of the area for much of his time still remained an avid supporter of the Valiants'. In later years Mr. Bowcock enjoyed an annual match ball sponsorship at Vale Park and we convey our deepest sympathies to all of the family together with our sincere thanks for their continued support.



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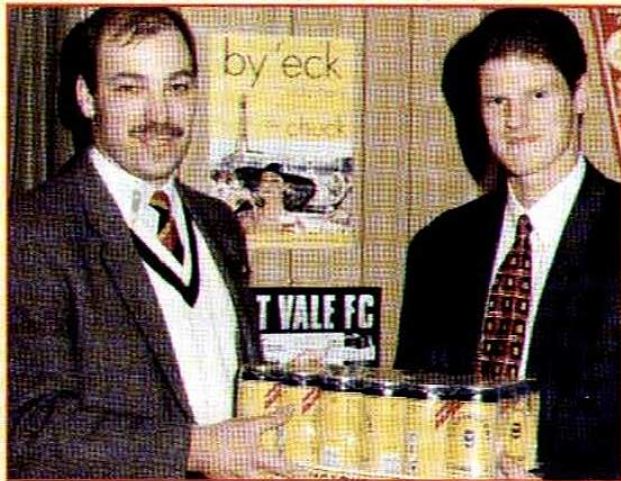
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answers on the entry form at the foot of the page (or photocopy or transfer details onto a separate sheet of paper).

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We travel to Watford on New Years Eve at **10.00 a.m.** and the fare is **£8.50**. **BOOK EARLY.**

*On behalf of us all in the Commercial Department we wish you and your families a very*  
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Answer:- .....

(2) From which team did the Vale sign Steve Guppy ?

Answer:- .....

(3) Who is the only Vale Player to be sold for £1million ?

Answer:- .....

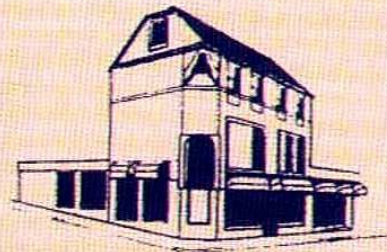
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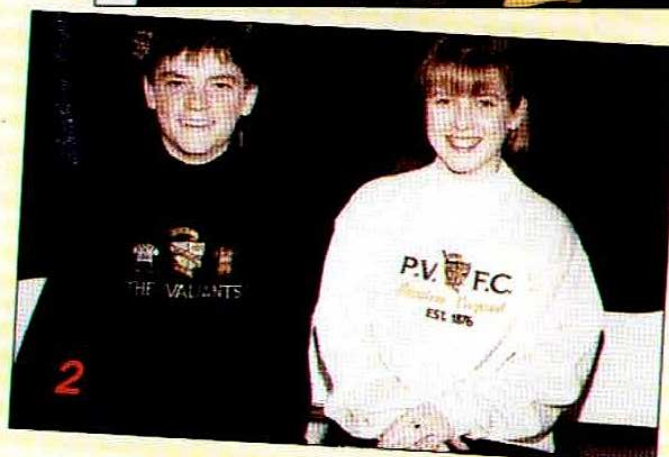
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(Right):

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# ACTION REPLAY



*New boy Steve Guppy, punts almost a blur on his debut against Millwall. Sentinel Picture*



*Gareth Griffiths slides in but just fails to make contact against Millwall. Sentinel Picture*



*Martin Foyle beaten by Adrian Meyer in that Cup game that is best forgotten!*



**Battling Andy Porter gives the Scarborough keeper an anxious moment.**





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- 1 Who plays at Forthbank Stadium?
- 2 Which team won the pre-season Makita tournament?
- 3 Name the England International who made his European Cup debut in a Final, scoring the winning goal?
- 4 Which current Premier League Club did Northern Irelands Manager Bryan Hamilton once manage?
- 5 Name the Manager of Bury
- 6 Who are nicknamed the 'Quakers'?
- 7 Which club replaced Accrington Stanley in the Football League?
- 8 Four English Internationals have played for AC Milan, who are they?
- 9 Who won the 1985 Freight Rover Trophy Final?
- 10 Name the oldest club in the Scottish League?
- 11 In which year did Cardiff City win the FA Cup, taking the Cup out of England for the only time?
- 12 Which Endsleigh League Clubs badge features an Owl?
- 13 Who did George Graham succeed as Manager of Arsenal?
- 14 Which Club knocked Wigan Athletic out of this years FA Cup Competition?
- 15 Which year was the Football League formed?

## **STRANGE CONNECTIONS**

Find the theme which links the club names in each list. But beware! Some of the clues are hidden in the middle of words.

For example: Crystal Palace; Newcastle; Queen's Park Rangers. (The theme is Royalty)

**Now try these:-**

1. Chesterfield; Barnsley; Meadowbank; Cowdenbeath.
2. Carlisle; Peterborough; Leeds; Stirling.
3. Blackpool; Tranmere; Burnley; Motherwell.
4. Liverpool; Chesterfield; Brechin; Plymouth.
5. Dumbarton; Gillingham; Caledonian; Port Vale.
6. Swindon; Sunderland; Leicester.

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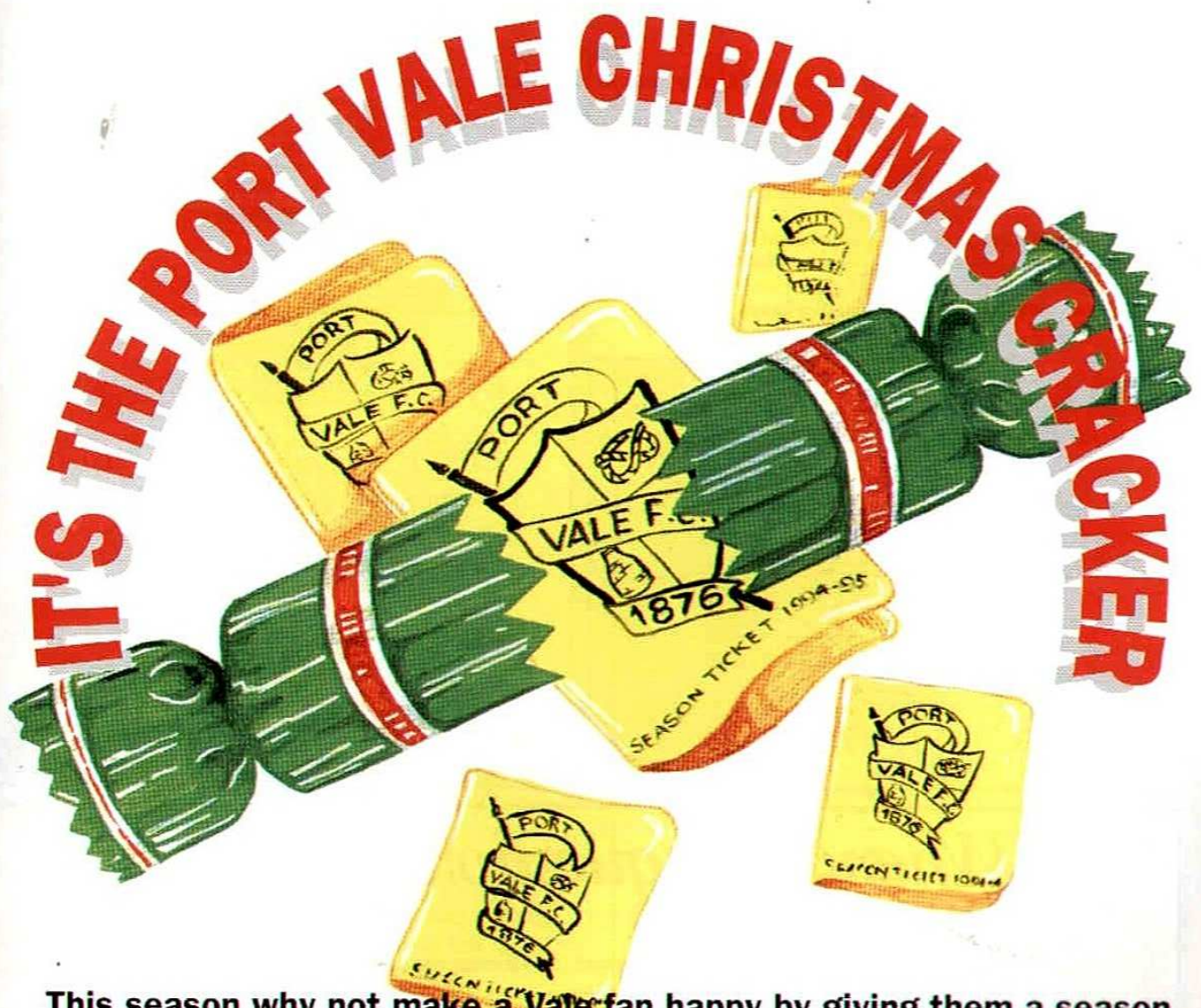
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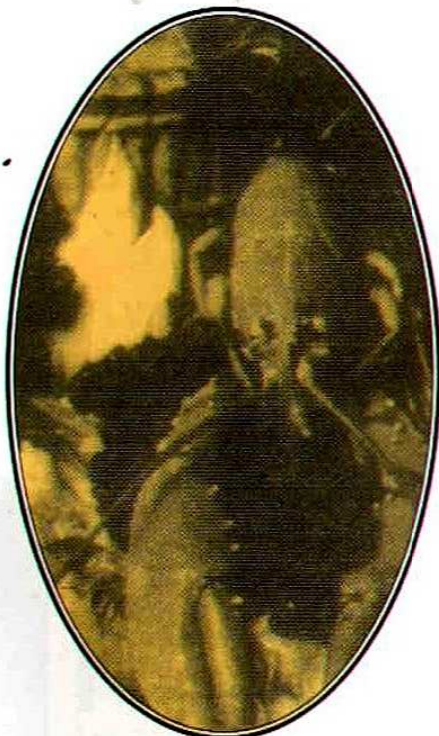


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# OLD BOYS *network*

## TERRY ALCOCK (1961-1967, 1977)

TERRY ALCOCK was a tall, commanding figure of a centre-half who was a member of the outstanding, all-conquering Stoke-on-Trent schoolboy side of the early sixties which introduced so many professionals to the game, under the excellent stewardship of Denis Wilshaw.

Currently, Terry is the licensee of the Bull and Dog Inn, Liverpool Road South, Burscough, West Lancs (all Vale fans welcome for a pie and pint!).

Terry's wife is Barbara and he has a son, Warren, stepson Robert and stepdaughter Michelle.

Terry joined the Vale in 1961 from school and the Vale boss at the time was Norman Low. "Norman was a very sincere man and an excellent manager", recalls Terry. "He was very knowledgeable about the game and was extremely good at spotting young talent, unearthing the likes of Mel Machin, Mick Porter and Stan Trafford."

Terry's Vale debut came on 20th April, 1964 in a 0-0 draw at Barnsley when he played at right back. Terry's recollection of the game was that it was "very hard, fast and furious". There were a host of memorable characters at Vale Park during Terry's valiant days and he remembers well players such as Roy Sproson, Stan Steele, Harry Poole and Terry Miles, trainers Lol Hamlett and Bill Cope and groundsman Len Parton.

That 0-0 draw at Barnsley which was Terry's debut remains the most memorable game Terry was involved in during his time at Vale Park and he rates Roy Sproson as the best Vale player he appeared alongside: "A great player and a most respected man".

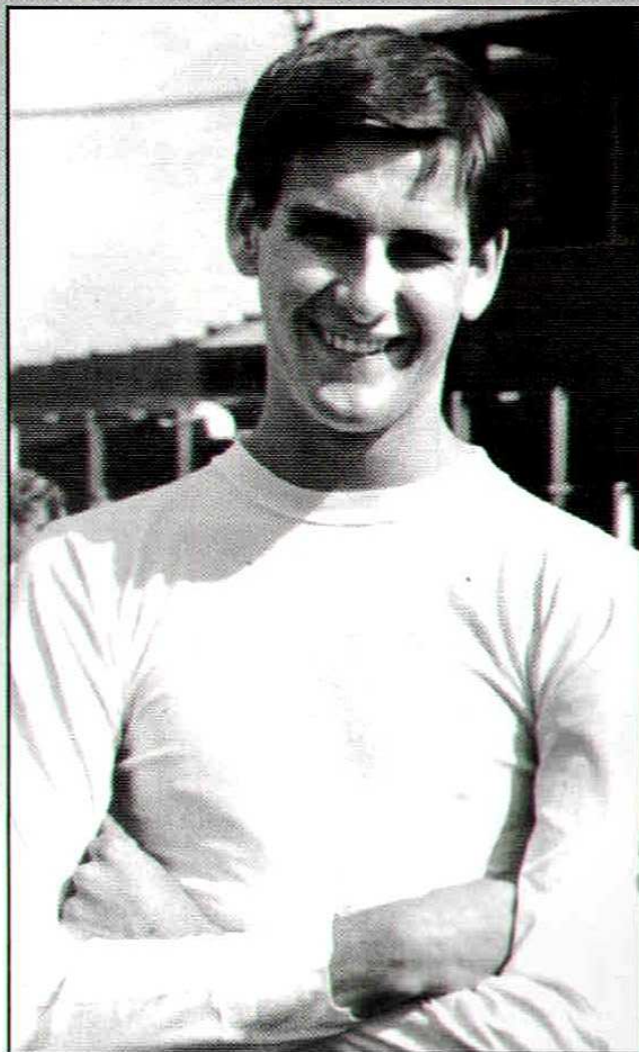
### Formidable

A trio of formidable players earn Terry's vote as his most difficult opponents. Joe Royle, Roger Hunt and Andy Lockhead would have struck fear into any self-respecting centre-half and Terry recalls many battles against the fearsome threesome.

The legendary Anfield, home of Liverpool, was Terry's favourite ground as a player while the unfortunate Hartlepool earn his vote as least favourite ground. Terry was under the impression that he had never scored a goal during his time at the Vale and certainly during his first spell at the club this was correct. But during a brief second spell in 1977, Terry scored his only two goals for the club, both intriguingly against Preston North End in the League Cup: one in a 2-1 victory at Vale Park and the other in a 2-1 defeat in a play-off.

In 1967, a series of excellent performances persuaded Blackpool Manager Stan Mortenson to hand over a £30,000 transfer fee to secure Terry's services.

At the time this was a record fee for a Vale player and



remained so for a number of years.

Terry spent 10 successful years with the Seaside and then spent a spell with Portland Timbers in the U.S.A. Then followed his brief second stint with the Vale and finally ended his playing career with Halifax Town. Terry has "very fond memories" of his time at the Vale, and is still very much a fan of the club. "I feel that John Rudge has done an excellent job under very difficult circumstances."

On the modern game in general Terry laments "There is far too much outside interference from the likes of the F.A., FIFA and the referees associations".

Terry names David Platt as the best British player today and when he looks back on his career says he would not alter any aspect of it.

Terry has many interesting tales to relate about his time at the club but regrets they are not for public ears!

**A grounded DEAN GLOVER  
enlists the assistance of ALLEN  
TANKARD in keeping Millwall's  
DAVE MITCHELL at bay.**

*Sentinel picture*



# *in the* **MIDDLE**

One of the newer Football League referees, Eddie Wolstenholme, from Blackburn, started his career in the middle on the playing fields of the Preston Sunday League in 1977 and quickly made progress.

He attained Class 1 status just three years later when he joined the West Lancashire League and in 1981 he was promoted to the old Cheshire League line.

Mr. Wolstenholme began refereeing in the North West Counties League in 1983-84 and he became a Football League linesman three years later.

He progressed from the 'panel league' middle to become a Football League referee in 1992-93.

Mr. Wolstenholme took charge of the North West Counties League Cup final in 1988 and ATS Lancashire Challenge Trophy final two years later.

In 1991 he ventured abroad to run the line in the European Championship match between Italy and Hungary.

A married man with children Paul (13) and Lynsey (10), Mr. Wolstenholme is a structural engineer by profession who lists swimming, athletics and gardening among his hobbies.



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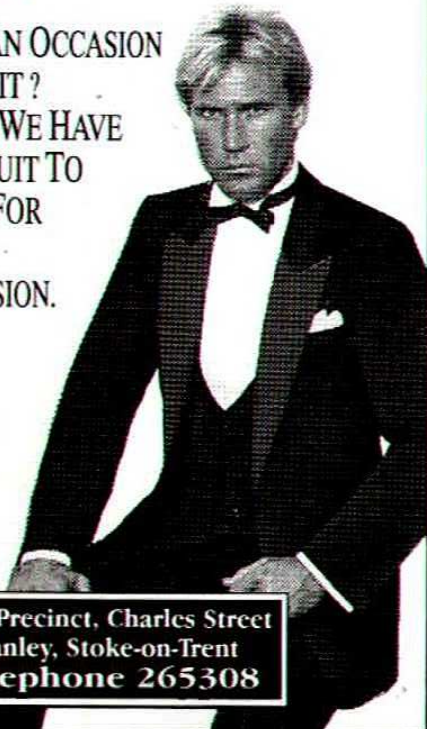
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# TALKING *point*

THOSE of you who have broken through the wall of anonymity which has surrounded authorship of these articles will have been waiting for an offering on the subject which obsesses me! It is that valiant band of people called referees. I almost said "band of men" but females are creeping ever-nearer - one already having made her debut at league level on the line at Torquay's Plainmoor ground.

Now I know it seems unsporting, and at my age I should know better, but I do have a tendency to be made rather agitated by referees.

When a crucial decision goes against Vale, I should be able to say "these things even themselves out" but at the time it's hard!

Jack Charlton once claimed that he had a "little black book" in which he itemised the names of players he was going to "get".

My "little black book" will not be used in the same way but it does contain a list of all the injustices which have been inflicted on Vale by the men in black. You name a referee - I bet I've "got something on him"!

## Dubious

What decisions stick in the mind after 44 years of watching Vale? Older Vale fans will doubtless recall the dubious penalty given to West Brom in 1954 to deny Vale the honour of being the first Third Division side to play in a Wembley final. How about referee Keith Styles adding on a large amount of non-existent injury time to enable Bolton to sneak a late equaliser in a vital match at Vale Park in 1973? I still remember Neil Midgley putting Vale out of the FA Cup by giving Bradford a last minute penalty at Valley Parade in 1978. What about John Watson of Whitley Bay who gave Stein that awful penalty five minutes from the end at the Victoria Ground in 1992? And more recently, who could ever forget (or forgive) Roger

Milford sending off Peter Swan in the Play-off Final at Wembley in 1993?

How many players did Milford send off in his career? Answers on a postage stamp please.

Are Vale the only club to suffer from referees in this way? I suppose not ..... it only seems that way! How people react to decisions depends on whether they go for or against you at the time. Remember the game at Molineux this season? Wolves were given two penalties, the second of which was a real shocker. Wolves manager, Graham Taylor, said "the referee must have seen something to have given it". Oh, yes Graham! Remember your reaction to the awful decisions against England in that vital World Cup game in Rotterdam?

Wolves might well be promoted on the strength of their record for "winning" penalties.

## Portly

There have, of course, been referees who have entertained us over the years. No doubt a lot of us remember the portly official from Leicester, Roger Kirkpatrick for his light-hearted approach to the game. Clive Thomas often entertained as much with his gestures as with his refereeing, whilst Gordon Hill was an official who always had the respect of the players.

I have said before in this column that refereeing is a difficult job, especially now with the close scrutiny of the TV action replay a constant menace. Referees have to pass stringent fitness tests each year in addition to proving their competence for years in the minor leagues. Then they have to develop a very thick skin to cope with the endless abuse questioning their parentage. Where would the game be without them? And I'll love one particular referee if he knows his duty at Vale Park on 3 January against a certain local team!!

## Name The Player

*Tony Naylor*

(From page 7)



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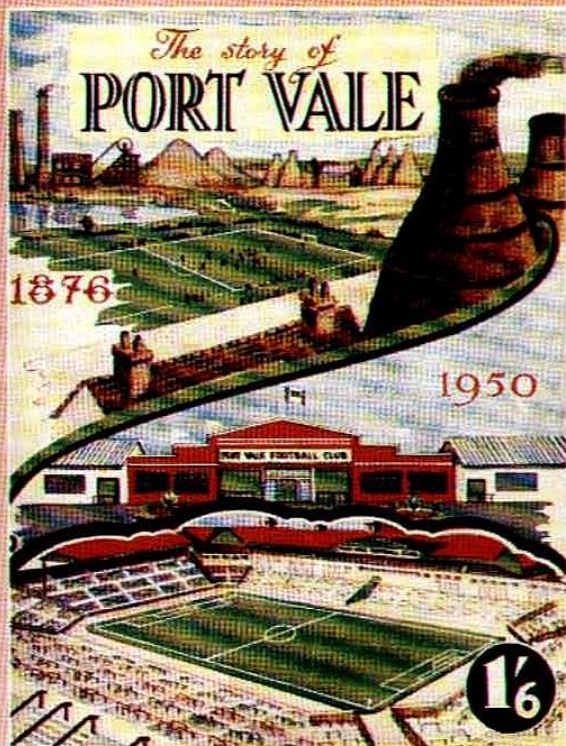


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# 50-51

## The Club's First Season at Vale Park



*The club produced a commemorative brochure to celebrate the opening of Vale Park*

1951 dawned with Port Vale in the middle of a catastrophic run of results. The first game of the New Year was on 6th January when Vale made the short trip to Stoke City in the FA Cup third round. No fewer than 49,500 spectators packed into the Victoria Ground to see the Valiants hold their First Division neighbours to a 2-2 draw. Winger Alan Bennett and Cliff Pinchbeck scoring for the Vale. Two days later the sides lined up for the replay, again at Stokes Victoria Ground. The Vale Park pitch had not recovered from its drainage problems, and the match could not be staged there. Another bumper crowd of 40,977 saw the Vale lose by the only goal of the game.

Out of the Cup and hit by a flu epidemic the Club was not enjoying the best of New Years, in fact they did not win a single game throughout January. Draws against Nottingham Forest and Brighton and Hove Albion were managed, but the Vale failed on their visits to Torquay United and Reading. The slide down the league table continued. February arrived and was like a breath of fresh air as the side brought its bleak run to an end. Of the four games played, three victories were recorded with just one defeat. This was at Swindon Town on 17th February. The victories over Aldershot, Exeter City and Leyton Orient accrued a useful six points and the Club found itself climbing up the league table at last. The Vale strikers hitting the back of the net three times on each occasion. In the meantime the corner section of the Bycars Stand was constructed, this being the current family stand. More on this first season at Vale Park in the next matchday magazine.



**PORT VALE SEASON 1950-51**

*Back row left to right: Polk, McGarry, Aveyard, King, Abbotts, Hayward.  
Front row: Hulligan, Pinchbeck, Hamlett, Martin, Bennett.*

# LOOKING *back*



**PORT VALE AS THEY POSED FOR THE PHOTOCALL PRIOR TO THE 1981-82 SEASON**  
**Back Row (Left to Right): Trevor Brissett, Johnny Miller, Neville Chamberlain, Mark Harrison, Gerry Keenan, Terry Armstrong, Geoff Hunter**  
**Middle Row: Russell Bromage, Ernie Moss, Paul Bowles, Andy Higgins, Phil Spence**  
**Front Row: Paul Bennett, Ray Deakin, Mark Chamberlain, Les Harwood.**

THERE was considerable activity at Vale Park in the summer of 1981, not all of it connected with the football. One of the biggest crowds to assemble at the stadium for many a year - estimated at 20,000 - turned up to support a heavy metal concert featuring Motorhead and Ozzie Osborn.

Vale profited by a reported £25,000 to ease the cost of bringing in new faces like Ernie Moss, Jimmy Greenhoff and Geoff Hunter, while ex-Everton defender Ray Deakin arrived on a free transfer.

Manager John McGrath lined-up attractive pre-season games as Vale went down by the only goal to Manchester United and then slumped 6-1 at home to Stoke.

The league campaign kicked-off with a goalless draw at home to Halifax, described as a "terrible game" by McGrath, and it took Vale five attempts to win, with a 2-0 scoreline against Hereford for once taking them over the first hurdle in the League Cup.

## REVERSE

Vale proceeded to win five games out of six, including success at Crewe where the Chamberlain brothers were on target, moving them up to seventh place in Division 4, before hitting the reverse trend.

Vale lost five in a row, going out of the League Cup to Tranmere, but then strung together a run of 10 games without defeat. The sequence included an FA Cup first round tie against Graham Taylor's Lincoln City that spread over three games.

The Chamberlains struck again as Vale drew 2-2 at Lincoln and after the teams had been goalless in the replay, Vale won the toss for the venue and eased home 2-0 a couple of days later.

Their reward was a home meeting with Stockport, who were despatched 4-1 in a delayed second round tie, but three days later Vale went out at Shrewsbury to a last-gasp goal scored by Chic Bates.

Vale turned down an offer by Stoke for Mark Chamberlain, reported to be £100,000 and described as "a disgrace"

# Season 1981/82

by chairman Don Ratcliffe, as they hovered on the fringe of the promotion pack.

They actually remained in eighth spot from late November until early March with too many drawn games being the chief problem. In a run of nine matches without defeat, Vale finished level in six of them.

Off the field loyal servant Lol Hamlett, the club's physio for many years, announced his retirement, while their longest-serving director Len Cliff resigned.

Vale's upsurge in interest was reflected in a crowd of 8,775 for a draw against league leaders Wigan while victory at Stockport where the popular Tony Sealy, on loan from QPR, was again among the scorers, extended their unbeaten league run to 15 games.

All came crashing down at York and three defeats out of four put a hefty dent in Vale's lingering promotion prospects.

There was another approach by Stoke for Mark Chamberlain - this time on a loan basis at a proposed £4,000 a game - which received a curt reply while another Vale winger, Johnny Miller, was forced to call it a day with a knee injury, having failed to play all season.

Vice Chairman Jim Lloyd became the club's major shareholder in buying our Fred Berrisford but he gave an assurance that there would be "no power struggle".

Vale had moved up a notch to seventh by the end of April

and had also made what proved a significant move in offering the teenage Robbie Earle a contract.

Vale continued to be tough to beat but too often could not make the most of home advantage. A 2-1 success at Tranmere was their ninth away win of the season, one more than they had managed at home until the final flurry of a 2-0 victory against Torquay.

Vale finished in seventh spot, which could be considered satisfactory progress considering they had occupied 19th and 20th place in the previous two campaigns.

Top scorer Ernie Moss was voted player of the year by supporters while goalkeeper Mark Harrison, who played every game, was the sportsman of the year. Skipper Paul Bowles was the shock among the free transfers who included Peter Farrell, Gerry Keenan, Trevor Brissett, Ray Deakin and Andy Higgins.

## Results

	Home	Away
Aldershot	1-0	2-1
Blackpool	2-0	3-2
Bournemouth	1-1	1-1
Bury	0-0	2-3
Bradford City	1-1	0-1
Colchester	2-1	0-1
Crewe	0-0	2-0
Darlington	2-2	1-1
Halifax	0-0	1-1
Hartlepool	5-2	1-3
Hereford	1-1	0-1
Hull	2-1	1-3
Mansfield	0-0	3-1
Northampton	1-0	5-3
Peterborough	1-3	0-1
Rochdale	1-1	2-1
Scunthorpe	2-1	0-0
Sheffield Utd.	0-2	1-2
Stockport	1-0	2-1
Torquay	2-0	1-0
Tranmere	0-0	2-1
Wigan	1-1	0-2
York	0-0	0-2

**League Cup:** Hereford 1-1 (a); Hereford 2-0 (a); Tranmere 0-2 (a); Tranmere 1-2 (h). **FA Cup:** Lincoln 2-2 (a); Lincoln 0-0 (h); Lincoln 2-0 (h); Stockport 4-1 (h); Shrewsbury 0-1 (a).

**League Appearances:** 46 - Harrison, Mark Chamberlain, 44 - Bowles, Moss, 42 - Sproson, Bromage, 39 Hunter, 36 - Tartt, 32 - Armstrong, 31 - Greenhoff, 27 - Neville Chamberlain, 20 - Keenan, 18 - Deakin, 11 - Brissett, 6 - Sealy, 5 - Shankland, 2 - Farrell, 3 - Higgins, 1 - Bennett, Bright.

**Goals:** 17 Moss, 9 Mark Chamberlain, Neville Chamberlain, 6 Deakin (5 pen), 5 Sproson, 4 Tartt, Sealy (3 pen), 3 Greenhoff, Hunter, 2 Armstrong, Bowles, 1 Keenan, Shankland.



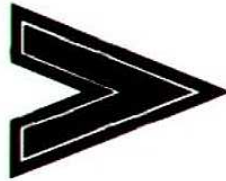
**Jimmy Greenhoff, who arrived from playing in Canada with Toronto Blizzards in time for the start of the season.**

# Vale Statistics & Match

Date	Opponents	FA	Att	Pts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Aug	14 Swindon	A 0-2	10,431	-	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
	18 Bristol Rovers (LC1)	A 3-1	3,307	-	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
	20 Oldham	H 3-1	10,051	3	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
	23 Bristol Rovers (LC1)	H 1-1	4,728	-	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
	27 Bristol City	A 0-0	8,588	4	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
	30 Barnsley	H 2-1	7,228	7	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
Sep	3 Luton	H 0-1	8,541	7	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
	10 Portsmouth	A 2-0	8,959	10	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
	13 Grimsby	A 1-4	3,216	10	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
	17 Middlesbrough	H 2-1	10,313	13	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
	21 Man Utd (CC2)	H 1-2	18,605	-	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
	24 Sheffield United	H 0-2	9,324	13	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
Oct	1 Wolves	A 1-2	27,469	13	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Billing	D Glover	Kelly	Asp
	5 Man Utd (CC2)	A 0-2	31,615	-	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Aspin	D Glover	Kelly	Kent
	8 Notts County	A 2-2	6,903	14	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Aspin	Billing	<b>Kelly</b>	Van
	15 Charlton	H 0-2	7,707	14	Musselwhite	Sandeman	Tankard	Porter	Aspin	Billing	Kelly	Van
	22 Bolton	H 1-1	9,080	15	Musselwhite	Aspin	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	Billing	Kent	Van
	29 Tranmere	A 1-1	6,972	16	Musselwhite	Aspin	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	Van
Nov	2 West Brom	A 0-0	14,513	17	Musselwhite	Aspin	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Jeffers	Van
	5 Southend United	H 5-0	7,141	20	Musselwhite	Aspin	Tankard	<b>Porter</b>	Griffiths	D Glover	Jeffers	<b>Van</b>
	12 Hartlepool FA Cup (1)	H 6-0	6,199	-	Musselwhite	Aspin	Tankard	Porter	<b>Griffiths</b>	<b>D Glover</b>	Jeffers	Van
	19 Derby County	A 0-2	13,357	20	Musselwhite	Aspin	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Jeffers	Van
	26 Millwall	H 2-1	8,016	23	Musselwhite	Aspin	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Guppy	Van
	29 Sunderland	H 0-0	8,121	24	Musselwhite	Aspin	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Guppy	Van
Dec	3 Scarborough (FAC 2)	A 0-1	2,382	-	Musselwhite	Aspin	Tankard	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Guppy	Van
	6 Bolton W	A 0-1	10,324	24	Musselwhite	Aspin	Tankard	Walker	Griffiths	D Glover	Guppy	Van
	10 Oldham	A 2-3	7,712	24	Musselwhite	Aspin	Jeffers	Porter	Griffiths	D Glover	Kent	<b>Van</b>
	17 Swindon	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	26 Burnley	A -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	28 Reading	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	31 Watford	A -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jan	3 Stoke City	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	7 FA Cup (3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	14 Tranmere	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	21 Southend	A -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	28 FA Cup (4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feb	4 Sunderland	A -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	11 West Brom	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	18 Millwall (FAC 5)	A -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	21 Derby County	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25 Wolves	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar	4 Sheffield United	A -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	7 Luton	A -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	11 Bristol City (FAC 6)	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	18 Barnsley A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	21 Portsmouth	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25 Middlesbrough	A -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr	1 Grimsby	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	8 Watford	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	15 Reading	A -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	17 Burnley	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	22 Stoke City	A -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	29 Charlton	A -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	6 Notts County	H -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



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# in RESERVE

A BRACE of goals by Mark Burke enabled Vale to get the better of Blackpool and end a dismal run of nine games without a win.

Vale dominated the first half played in torrential rain with the lively Tony Naylor and trainee Richard Eyre closest to opening their account.

On the stroke of half time they made a breakthrough when a left wing cross by John Jeffers was headed home from close range by Burke.

The second period was much the same with Naylor having a shot saved before Vale doubled their lead in the 67th minute. Bradley Sandeman overlapped along the right and when his cross was fumbled by the Blackpool 'keeper' Burke was on hand to apply a simple tap in from one yard.

Vale team: van Housden, Sandeman, Burton, Talbot, Morris, Billing, Eyre, Burke, Naylor (Patrick, 79), Lawton, Jeffers.

# the 'A' TEAM

No successor to youth coach Ian Miller has been appointed while the Board of Directors still contemplate their next move.

In the meantime former Vale goalkeeper Mark Grew, a fully qualified FA coach, has taken over the reins and watched the youngsters lose on both occasions.

Mark said: "The defeats have been the story of the season. The lads played quite well at times against both Grimsby and West Brom but cut their own throats by making mistakes at the back and failing to take their chances.

"We had Kevin Coyne sent off against Grimsby but even so could have got something out of the game. We twice went round the keeper in one-on-ones but failed to find the net! "The playing record suggests it can't all be bad luck I am working on the front two. We need more movement and to attack everything in the box."

## PONTIN'S CENTRAL LEAGUE (Division 2)

### August

18	Blackpool	A	2-0	Burke, Heald
24	Grimsby	H	3-1	Lawton, Burke, Allon
31	Hull	A	2-0	Heald, Jeffers

### September

7	Barnsley	H	2-2	Allon (2)
14	Newcastle	H	1-1	Allon
21	Huddersfield	A	3-3	Jeffers, Heald, Allon
28	Leicester	H	2-0	Naylor, Jeffers

### October

4	Hull	H	0-1	
12	Middlesbro	A	1-3	Kent
17	Preston	A	1-1	Heald
26	Birmingham AM	H	0-3	
31	Newcastle	A	2-3	Corden, Lawton

### November

8	Sheffield Wed	A	4-4	Naylor, L. Gover, Sandeman, Lawton
16	Burnley	H	1-2	Talbot
23	Bradford City	A	4-4	Kent, Naylor, L. Gover, Burke (2)
30	Preston	H	0-0	

### December

7	Blackpool	H	2-0	Burke (2)
13	Grimsby	A		
21	Mansfield	H		

### January

3	Oldham	A		
10	Manchester City	A		
18	York	H		
15	Birmingham	A		

### February

1	Sheffield Wednesday	H		
8	Burnley	A		
15	Bradford City	H		

### March

1	Huddersfield	H		
13	Leicester	A		
22	Newcastle	H		
29	Barnsley	A		

### April

3	Mansfield	A		
12	Oldham	H		
19	Manchester City	H		
26	Middlesbrough	H		

### May

10	York	A		
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## MIDLAND PURITY YOUTH LEAGUE

### August

12	Lincoln	H	2-2	Jackson, Christopher
20	Mansfield	A	6-7	Cunningham, Bloor, Worth, Eyre, Christopher, (og)
26	Northampton	H	2-2	Davies, Worth
31	Marine (F.A.Y)	H	3-1	Burton, Worth, Cunningham

### September

3	Notts County	A	0-2	
10	Notts Forest	H	1-4	Bloor
17	Peterborough	A	2-3	Cunningham, Eyre (pen)
24	Leicester (OC)	A	2-2	Burton, Eyre
26	Stockport (FAY)	A	1-0	Eyre

### October

1	Shrewsbury	H	1-1	Burton (pen)
8	Stoke City	H	1-2	O.G.
11	Leicester (LC)	H	0-2	
15	Walsall	H	4-3	Christopher 2, Reynolds, o.g.
20	Wrexham (FAY)	H	0-5	
25	Birmingham (MYC)	H	1-5	o.g.
29	Aston Villa	H	0-3	

### November

2	Notts Forest	A	0-2	
12	Birmingham	A	0-3	
19	Coventry	H	0-3	
26	League Cup			

### December

3	Grimsby	H	0-2	
10	West Bromwich	A	0-1	
17	Leicester	A		

### January

7	Leicester	H		
14	Lincoln	A		
21	Mansfield	H		
28	League Cup			

### February

4	Northampton	A		
11	Notts County	H		
18	Peterborough	H		
25	Wolves	H		

### March

4	Shrewsbury	A		
11	Stoke City	A		
18	Derby	A		
25	Walsall	A		

### April

1	West Bromwich	H		
8	Aston Villa	A		
15	Birmingham City	H		
22	Coventry	A		
29	Derby	H		

### May

6	Grimsby	A		
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# team check

## Port Vale

COLOURS: **WHITE & BLACK**  
MANAGER: **JOHN RUDGE**

*Paul Musselwhite*  
*Neil Aspin*  
*John Jeffers*  
*Andy Porter*  
*Gareth Griffiths*  
*Dean Glover*  
*Kevin Kent*  
*Robin van der Laan*  
*Martin Foyle*  
*Lee Glover*  
*Steve Guppy*

*Arjen van Heusden*

## Swindon Town

COLOURS: **RED**  
MANAGER: **STEVE McMAHON**

*Fraser Digby*  
*Mark Robinson*  
*Paul Bodin*  
*Andrew Thompson*  
*Lue Nijholt*  
*Ian Culverhouse*  
*Kevin Horlock*  
*Joey Beauchamp*  
*Jan Aage Fjortoft*  
*Martin Ling*  
*Kevin Scott*

*Nick Hammond*

**1**  
**2**  
**3**  
**4**  
**5**  
**6**  
**7**  
**8**  
**9**  
**10**  
**11**  
**12**  
**14**  
**GK**

Referee: Eric Wolstenholme (Blackburn)

Linesmen: **Red flag**, M. J. Arch (Kidderminster)

**Yellow flag**, B. T. Millership (Tamworth)

Reserve Official: P. M. Courtley (Stourport-on-Severn)



*In memory of*

### MR. SIDNEY BOWCOCK

proprietor of the Sandbank Bakery, Towyn, North Wales and also an original member of the Port Vale 100 Club who sadly passed away in June of this year.



## Mascots

Our mascot today is Chay Pickford. Chay's hobbies include football, cricket and computers. His favourite players are Neil Aspin, Dean Stokes and Paul Musselwhite. Chay is 13 years old and lives in Fenton and attends Blurton High School. Chay's grandfather is 80 years old and still attends every home game.

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