

Swindon 97-98 SEASON

TOWN F.C.

£1.80 **matchday magazine**

**Sunday 28th
December 1997**

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE



**Ipswich
Town**

Kick-Off 3.00pm

**Today's
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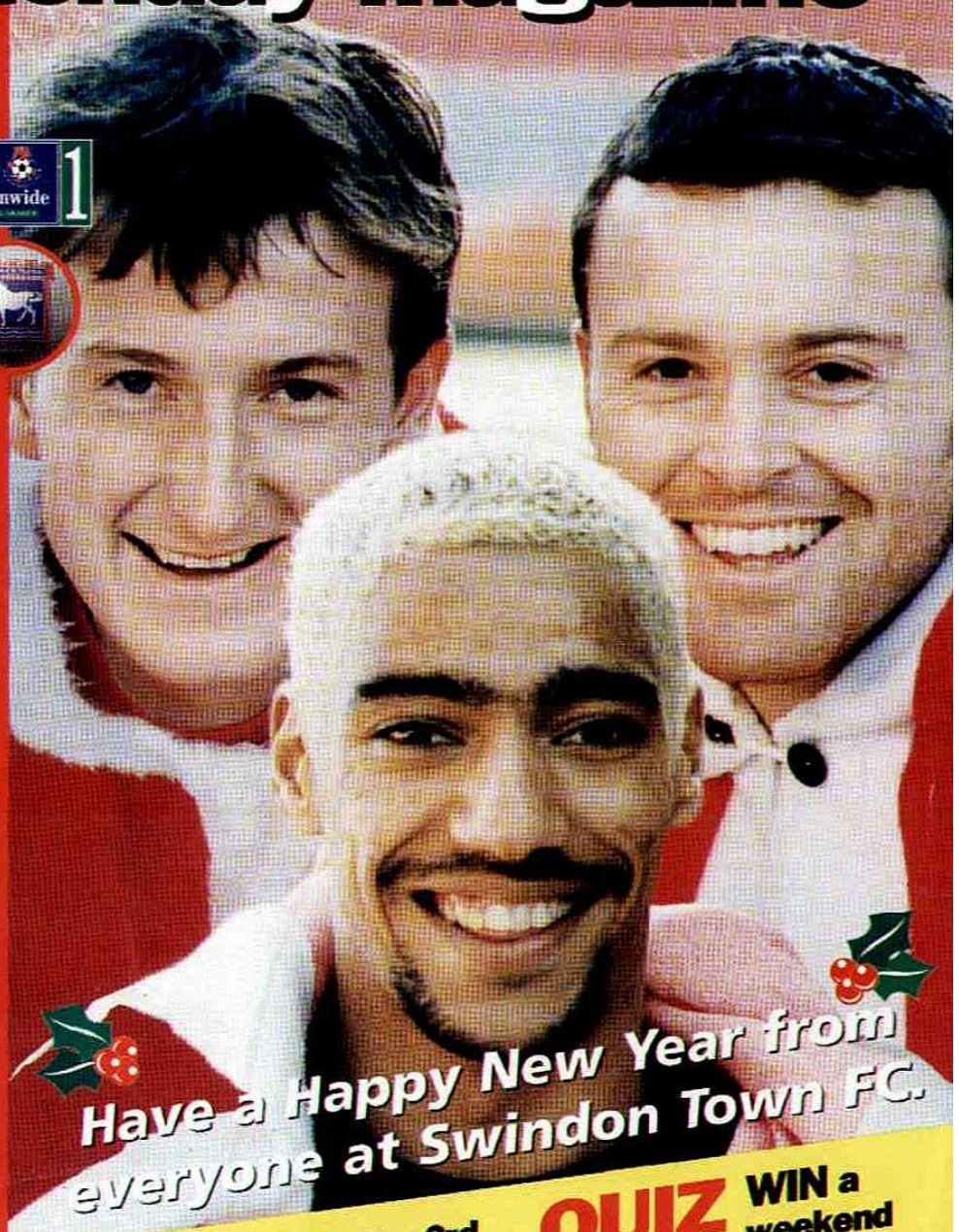


Littlecote
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**Review of
the year**
pages 17-31

Today's visitors
pages 6-9

**Chairman's
message** page 44
**Interview with
Rikki Hunt**



**Have a Happy New Year from
everyone at Swindon Town F.C.**

FREE! INSIDE S.T.F.C
Review of
97 Poster

NEXT HOME MATCH Saturday 3rd
January vs
Stevenage Boro

QUIZ SPECIAL WIN a
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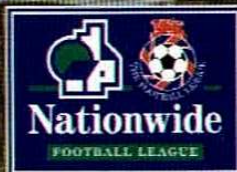
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**OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF
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welcome to today's game

We hope you all had a great Christmas and as this is our last game of 1997, everyone at Swindon Town would like to wish you a prosperous 1998.

It has been another hectic 12 months here at the County Ground with lots to talk about both on and off the field of play.

Out on the pitch the team recovered from a poor end to last season to make a flying start to the 1997/98 campaign which took us to the top of the Division One table.

And the play-offs are still very much in sight, as the Club predicted would be the case with the announcement of a unique cash-back pledge to season ticket holders during the summer.

As the New Year comes into view there is an awful lot to look forward to and we hope

the tremendous support you have given us will continue as the charge towards the Premiership gains momentum.

Today we take on an Ipswich side who completed a league double over us last term and having gone down 2-1 at Portman Road back in September, this afternoon the lads will do all they can to end the losing sequence against the Blues.

Of course picking up League points is the priority but next Saturday we take a break from Division One action when we entertain Vauxhall Conference outfit Stevenage Borough in the third round of the FA Cup.

There is always a special atmosphere for cup ties and with Stevenage hoping to cause something of an upset the stage is set for an enthralling encounter.

Don't miss it!

contents...

Steve McMahon says	page 5
Today's visitors	pages 6,7,8,9,10
Looking back	page 11
Action Replay	pages 14-15
Community News	page 16
Review of the year	pages 17-31
Ticket office update	page 34
Travel News	page 35
Today's mascots	page 36
Superstore sale	page 38
Quick Quiz	page 40
Chairman's message	pages 44-45



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Produced & Printed by:
PIA ADVERTISING & MARKETING
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NEXT MATCH Saturday 3rd
January vs
Stevenage Boro

It's FA Cup action for us next Saturday when we start the new year with a third round tie against Stevenage Borough.

They may be a Vauxhall Conference side but we can't afford to take them lightly and I'll be drumming it into the players that they must be on their toes.

There's always a special atmosphere in the Cup and I've no doubt our visitors will be making lots of noise, so make sure we're in good voice too! Happy New Year to you all.



Steve McMahon says

Sponsored by



This afternoon we close our 1997 account with what promises to be a tight game against fast improving Ipswich Town.

Our aim is to grab a late Christmas present with a home win but it won't be easy against George Burley's side who had a rough start to the season mainly due to injuries. They are now picking up a bit and I'm sure they will continue to climb the table, although today of course we'll be doing our best to send them home with nothing.

Lack of form

With this being our final game of the year, it seems appropriate to take a look back over the last 12 months and see how far we have progressed. We struggled badly at the end of last season, this after being outsiders for a play-off place just after Christmas. There was a lack of form, too many players were out suspended, and basically we lost

it at the back where there were not enough players to fill in, whereas this year we have been able to cope a bit better. It was a sad end to the season with just one win and one draw

in our last 10 matches but I'm sure we won't let that happen again this season. Inconsistency was our main problem at the tail end of last season although the catalogue of injuries and suspensions certainly didn't help.

Encouraging signs

During the Summer we increased the size of the squad, brought in some fresh faces and put the disappointments of the previous campaign behind us by

starting this term in fine fettle.

We've slipped a bit of late but we've shown encouraging signs. The performance against Middlesbrough was good although we lost 2-1 and the same was the case at Sheffield United where we were unfortunate to go down.

What we must do is start turning those close defeats into draws and our draws into wins and if we can do that then I think we have still got a chance of making the play-offs.

Looking at the new players we've brought in, all of them have settled in well. Alan McDonald and Craig Taylor have been strong at the back, Philippe Cuervo was magnificent until he picked up that injury, George Ndash is going to be a real star and Chris Hay is in a different class in terms of goalscoring.

And don't forget Brian Borrows - who has been doing the right things for over 15 years and he is now doing the same for us. Brian is a great asset to the team.

Hard work needed

Looking ahead to 1998, all I want is for everyone to continue putting in the hard work and dedication to the cause and by doing that I'm sure we will be in the play-offs.

It will be a big disappointment if we don't make it to the top six, particularly after our flying start. The players deserve it for the amount of effort they have already put in this season.

Finally, a big thank you to our fans who deserve a lot of credit. To be honest I was bitterly disappointed when only 7,000 turned up for the game against Tranmere - even though we were second in the table at the time. Since then it has steadily picked up with the help of everyone at the Club and if we can continue to bring in more fans, who knows, we might have a few more quid in the kitty and be able to bring in more players!

today's visitors *The Blues*

Ipswich

Town

This afternoon we welcome the players, supporters and staff of Ipswich Town Football Club to the County Ground.

We hope you all enjoy your trip to Wiltshire and that you have a safe journey home after the match. The Christmas period is a time of good cheer, and Ipswich fans will be hoping that is as true in 1997/98 as it was last season. In 1996/97, Town had made a stuttering start to the League campaign before beginning a tremendous run in December which saw them defeated just four times in 25 games and eventually carried the Portman Road club to fourth place in the First Division table and a Play-Off Semi-Final with Sheffield United. This year, riddled with injuries, Ipswich have again struggled to make headway in the early stages, although a recent 4-0 thrashing of Reading served notice of their intentions. At one stage,

manager George Burley had as many as 16 first-team squad members unavailable, and he has already called on the services of two loan players - Mark Stein (Chelsea) and Andy Legg (Birmingham) - as well as Jason Dozzell and David Whyte, who were both on short-term contracts and have now been released. Like most clubs in this country outside the Premiership, Ipswich are by necessity an outfit that relies heavily on its youth policy. While the likes of Steve Sedgley (Wolves), Craig Forrest (West Ham) and Tony Vaughan (Man City) have had to be sold to help balance the books, several promising youngsters have emerged from the Youth ranks to take their places. Remarkably for a lower division club, Town boasted four players in the most recent England U21 squad, with three of those - James Scowcroft, Richard Wright and Kieron Dyer - being 'home grown'. The fourth, David Johnson, was the

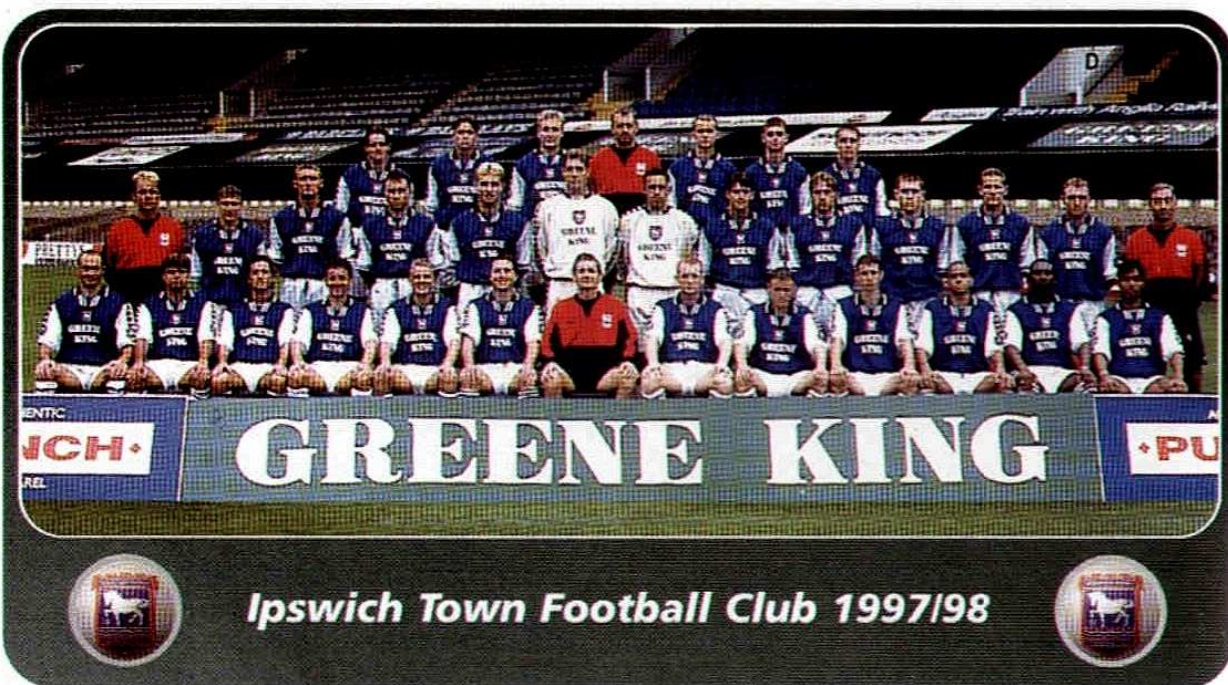
club's record signing, at £1 million from Bury in November.

The pick of the bunch are probably Wright - tipped as a future England international and already called-up for training with the Full national squad - and Dyer, who was reportedly a £4 million subject of interest from Arsenal recently.

There is the nucleus of an excellent young side emerging at Portman Road, to carry on the traditions of the late 1970 and early 1980s when, under the aegis of Bobby Robson, a largely home-grown Town were one of the country's leading sides.

The last time Ipswich came to the County Ground they won 4-0, although three of the scorers that afternoon are no longer with the club. Chris Swailes, Steve Sedgley and Niklas Gudmundsson have all moved on, and only the veteran Mick Stockwell remains.

Steve McMahon's high-flying Robins will be anxious to avenge that defeat today.





Ipswich Town

Goalkeepers

Lee Bracey

Joined Town full-time during the summer, after a successful spell on loan at Portman Road last season, replacing Canadian international Craig Forrest. Lee played his part in Bury's successive promotions of 1995/96 and 1996/97, but has yet to figure in the Ipswich first-team.

Born: Barking, 11.09.68

Height: 6ft 1in

Weight: 13st 7lb

League record this season:

0 games, 0 goals

Honours: Welsh Cup 1989

Era	Club	Games
87/88	West Ham	-
91/92	Swansea	99
92/93	Halifax	73
96/97	Bury	67
96/97	Ipswich	-

Richard Wright

First choice for the England U21s, Richard has already been earmarked as a future Full international. A tremendous shot-stopper who has learned to command his box well, he is one of several top quality young players to have come through the ranks at Portman Road in recent seasons.

Born: Ipswich, 05.11.77

Height: 6ft 2in

Weight: 13st

League record this season:

21 games, 0 goals

Honours: England Schools, Youth, U21 caps

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Ipswich	66

Defenders

Jason Cundy

Tough, uncompromising central defender who has happily battled back to health after being diagnosed as suffering from testicular cancer at the tail end of last season. His arrival at Portman Road coincided with Town's excellent late season form which carried the club to a Play-Off place in 1996/97.

Born: Wimbledon, 12.11.69

Height: 6ft 1in

Weight: 13st 13lb

League record this season:

18 games, 1 goal

Honours: England U21 caps

Era	Club	Games
91/92	Chelsea	41
91/92	Tottenham	10
95/96	Tottenham	16
95/96	C.Palace	4
96/97	Tottenham	-
96/97	Bristol C	6
96/97	Ipswich	13

Tony Mowbray

Veteran stopper whose career at Portman Road has been beset by a series of niggling hamstring and groin injuries. Strong in the air, 'Mogga' likes to push forward at set-pieces and when fit is still a class performer at the back for Ipswich.

Born: Saltburn, 22.11.63

Height: 6ft 1in

Weight: 13st

League record this season:

7 games, 0 goals

Honours: England 'B' caps

Era	Club	Games
91/92	Middlesbrough	348
94/95	Celtic	78
96/97	Ipswich	27

Mick Stockwell

Utility man Mick recently passed the 500-game milestone for Town, his only senior club. Able to play at right-back or in midfield, he has an eye for goal and has even filled in at centre-forward on a couple of occasions. Has an excellent partnership with Kieron Dyer down the right flank.

Born: Chelmsford, 14.02.65

Height: 5ft 9in

Weight: 11st 4lb

League record this season:

21 games, 0 goals

Honours: Div Two title 1992

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Ipswich	395

Adam Tanner

A classy central defender or midfielder, Adam has bounced back from his well-documented problems of last season to put himself back into the first-team frame in 1997/98. He is Ipswich's first choice penalty taker.

Born: Maldon, 25.10.73

Height: 6ft

Weight: 12st 1lb

League record this season:

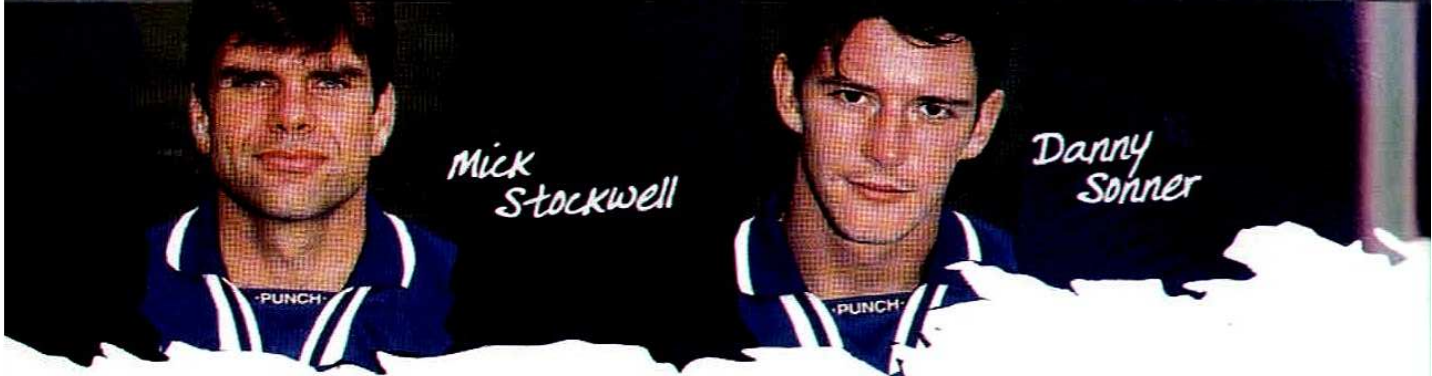
11 games, 1 goal

Honours: None

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Ipswich	36

Mauricio Taricco

Town's current 'Player of the Year', Mauricio is a marauding left-back with good ball skills, pace and a strong tackle. Reportedly a £2 million target for Sheffield Wednesday, he is keen to play his way into the thoughts of Argentine national



boss Daniel Passarella before World Cup 98.

Born: Buenos Aires, Argentina, 10.03.73

Height: 5ft 8in

Weight: 11st 5lb

League record this season: 18 games, 0 goals

Honours: Argentina U23 caps

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Ipswich	80

Mark Venus

Versatile defender or midfielder with a good left-foot. A torn thigh muscle sustained in the East Anglian 'derby' match v Norwich in September has kept him sidelined for much of the current campaign. Moved to Portman Road as part of the deal which took Steve Sedgley to Molineux.

Born: Hartlepool, 06.04.67

Height: 6ft

Weight: 12st 9lb

League record this season: 7 games, 1 goal

Honours: Div Three title 1989

Era	Club	Games
84/85	Hartlepool	4
87/88	Leicester	61
96/97	Wolves	287

Other Defenders include:

Wayne Brown (ex-YTS); David Kerlake (from Tottenham, Aug 1997, Free. Currently on loan at Wycombe); John Kennedy (ex-YTS); Mark Burgess (ex-YTS); David Theobald (ex-YTS).

Midfielders

Kieron Dyer

Home grown youngster who has been attracting envious glances

from several Premiership clubs this season. Deceptively strong, with great stamina and good ball skills, Kieron celebrates his 19th birthday tomorrow - and is already a regular in the England U21 side. Happiest as a central midfield playmaker, although he generally operates wide on the right for Town, either in midfield or as a wing-back.

Born: Ipswich, 29.12.78

Height: 5ft 7in

Weight: 9st 7lb

League record this season: 20 games, 2 goals

Honours: England Youth, U21 caps

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Ipswich	13

Matt Holland

Snapped up from Second Division Bournemouth on the eve of the current season, the versatile Matt has been a revelation at the higher level and, at the time of writing, is ever-present in 1997/98. Able to play in central defence, as sweeper or in midfield, he is a hard-working player who likes to get forward and help his attack.

Born: Bury, 11.04.74

Height: 5ft 9in

Weight: 11st 12lb

League record this season: 21 games, 3 goals

Honours: None

Era	Club	Games
94/95	West Ham	-
96/97	Bournemouth	104

Simon Milton

Currently enjoying his Testimonial season, long-serving Simon is back to full fitness

after a nightmare time with injuries in 1996/97. A strong-running and imaginative midfielder with a powerful shot.

Born: Fulham, 23.08.63

Height: 5ft 10in

Weight: 11st 5lb

League record this season: 16 games, 0 goals

Honours: Div Two title 1992

Era	Club	Games
87/88	Ipswich	8
87/88	Exeter	2
87/88	Torquay	4
96/97	Ipswich	253

Bobby Petta

Mercurial winger or central striker who became the forgotten man of Portman Road last season as he struggled to cope with the demands of English football. With his great pace and good dribbling skills he has begun to stake a claim for himself this term, benefitting from the long-term injury of left-sided midfielder Paul Mason.

Born: Rotterdam, Holland, 06.08.74

Height: 5ft 7in

Weight: 11st 3lb

League record this season: 11 games, 0 goals

Honours: Holland U21 caps

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Ipswich	6

Geraint Williams

Tough-tackling former Welsh international who holds everything together in the midfield for Ipswich. Hugely consistent, Geraint - or 'George' as he is known at Portman Road - has struggled a little with a back injury in recent weeks.



Born: Cwmpare, 05.01.62
Height: 5ft 7in
Weight: 12st 6lb
League record this season:
 17 games, 0 goals
Honours: Div Two title 1987;
 Wales Youth, U21, Full caps

Era	Club	Games
84/85	Bristol R	141
91/92	Derby	277
96/97	Ipswich	194

Other Midfielders include:
 Danny Sonner, Paul Mason, Chris Keeble, Leon Bell, Gus Uhlenbeek, Stuart Niven.

Forwards
David Johnson

One of the signings of the season so far, diminutive David has been a resounding success

at Portman Road, scoring five goals in his first six games for his new club. Town's record signing, his pace and nose for goal make him a potent threat. Recently called into the England U21 squad for the first time.

Born: Jamaica, 15.08.76
Height: 5ft 6in
Weight: 12st 5lb
League record this season:
 23 games, 10 goals (including 17 games, 5 goals for Bury)
Honours: FA Youth Cup 1995; Div Two title 1997; England Schools caps

Era	Club	Games
94/95	Man Utd	-
97/98	Bury	97

Alex Mathie

A free-scoring Scot who has yet to fully recover from a double shoulder operation last season which kept him out of action for more than nine months.

Developed a sound partnership with young James Scowcroft last season, but his injury - coupled with the arrival of David Johnson - has seen him struggle for a regular place so far in 1997/98.

Born: Bathgate, 20.12.68
Height: 5ft 10in
Weight: 11st 7lb
League record this season: 14 games, 1 goal
Honours: Scotland Youth caps

Era	Club	Games
90/91	Celtic	11
92/93	Morton	74
92/93	Port Vale	3
94/95	Newcastle	25
96/97	Ipswich	64

Other Forwards include:
 Richard Naylor, James Scowcroft, Neil Midgley (ex-YTS); Neil Gregory (ex-YTS. Currently on loan at Peterborough).

Figures Correct at 15.12.97

George Burley the manager

George Burley was born in Cumnock, Ayrshire on June 3, 1956.

He joined Ipswich as an apprentice in 1972 and made his senior debut the following year against Manchester United at Old Trafford, marking a player called George Best.

He was an integral part of the Town side that became a force in the game in the late 1970s and early 80s, tasting FA Cup glory in 1978 and also playing a part in the run to UEFA Cup glory in 1981, although he missed the Final.

George made 500 senior appearances for the club as well as picking up 11 caps for Scotland at Full level.

In 1985, he headed North to Sunderland, a move that started a mini-tour of Britain for the left-back. He moved south again for a brief spell at Gillingham, then packed his bags for Motherwell in 1989.

In 1990 he was appointed player-manager of Ayr Utd, three years later he moved to Falkirk as a player and then returned to Motherwell as player-coach.

He hardly had time to settle, though, and 12

months later he was on his way across the border again - this time to Colchester, where he was appointed player-manager in June 1994.

A fine start at Layer Road soon brought him to the attention of Town and he resigned at Colchester on December 24th 1994 before being appointed Ipswich boss four days later.

The full circle was complete and now Burley looks set to remain in charge until at least the year 2000, having signed a new three-year contract in the summer of 1996.

He has built an attractive, attacking team at Portman Road that topped the divisional goalcharts in the 1995/96 season, missing out on the Play-Offs by one point.

Town went even closer last season, only to be cruelly denied a place in the Wembley Final on away goals after drawing with Sheffield United home and away at the Semi-Final stage.



STATS...STATS...STATS Swindon vs Ipswich Town

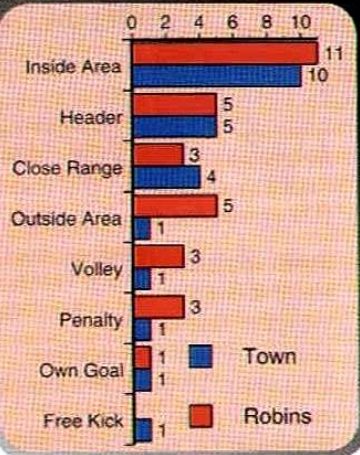
who's played for Ipswich

	A	G	C	Previous Clubs
Richard Wright	22			
5/11/77	Eng U21	6		
Matt Holland	21	3		Bournemouth West
11/4/74		6	2	Ham
Mick Stockwell	21			
14/2/65		5	1	
Kieron Dyer	20	2		
28/12/78	Eng U21	6	1	1
Mauricio Taricco	18	5		Argentinos Juniors
10/3/73	Arg U23	5	1	
Jason Cundy	17(1)	1	6	Tottenham Bristol City
12/11/69	Eng U21	5	2	(L) Palace (L)
Geraint Williams	17	2		Derby Bristol Rovers
5/1/62	Wales	6	1	
James Scowcroft	11	2	3(1)	
5/11/75	Eng U21	4	1	
Bob Petta	10(1)	1		Feyenoord
6/8/74	Holl U21	3(1)		
Adam Tanner	9(2)	1	1	
25/10/73				
Alex Mathie	8(6)	1		Newcastle Morton Port
20/12/68		2(2)	1	Vale (L) Celtic
Tony Mowbray	7	3		Celtic Middlesbrough
22/11/63	Eng B	3	1	
Mark Venus	7	1	1	Wolves Leicester
6/4/67		4	1	Hartlepool
David Johnson	6	5	1	Bury
15/8/76	Eng Sch			
Andy Legg	6	1		on loan from
28/7/66	Wales	1	1	Birmingham
Simon Milton	5(11)	2		Torquay (L) Exeter (L)
23/8/63		1(1)		Bury St Edmunds
Danny Sonner	3(3)	1		Preussen Hull Burnley
9/1/72		1(1)		Bury (L)
Neil Gregory	2(6)	1		Torquay (L) Scunthorpe
7/10/72		(2)		(L) Chesterfield (L)
David Kerslake	2(5)	2		Tottenham Leeds
19/6/66	Eng U21	1(1)		Swindon QPR
Paul Mason	1			Aberdeen FC Groningen
3/9/63		1		Everton
Richard Naylor	(3)	1	1	
28/2/77				

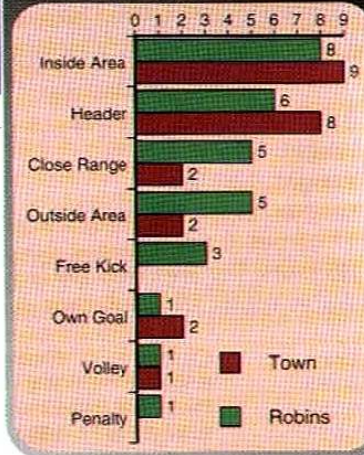
Key : A=Appearances (Sub) C=Cautions (Sent Off) G=Goals
Cup details, date of birth and international honours in *italics*

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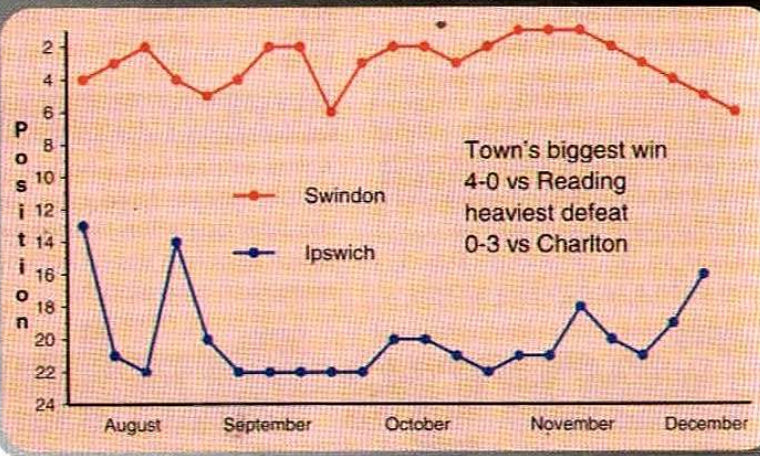
how goals went in



how goals conceded



league position so far this season



Ipswich's 10 year league and cup record



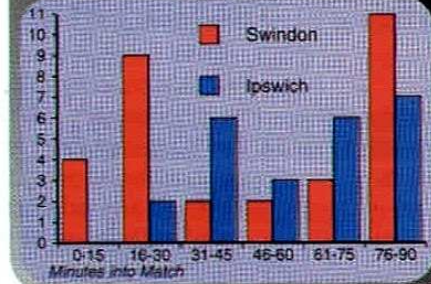
Ipswich's results analysis

shows the number of matches finishing with a variety of scores, eg they have won 2 games 2-0 and lost 2 games 0-1

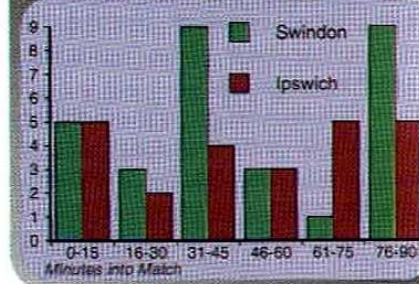
Goals For	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
6							
5							
4	1						
3							
2	2	1	2	1			
1	1	5	2				
0	2	2	1	1			

goals agt

when goals were scored



and when goals conceded



Looking back...

Dick Mattick looks back

5 YEARS AGO

Swindon's match with Birmingham City fell victim to the cold weather. City refused to play the following day which wrecked Swindon's idea for a Christmas Party style match

10 YEARS AGO

Swindon's biggest League gate of the season 12,429 turned up to see Town tackle visitor's Ipswich. After a dull opening half hour the game came to life with a goal from Ipswich skipper Ian Cranson in the 33rd minute. Unfortunately for him it was an own goal headed past his own keeper. Ten minutes later Jimmy Quinn collected a pass from Chris Kamara and scored his 23rd goal of the season. David Lowe an £80,000 buy from Wigan put Ipswich back into the game just two minutes into the

15 YEARS AGO

An underhit back pass by Mike Graham proved to be Swindon's undoing in the match with Wimbledon as it allowed John Leslie to push the ball past

FLASH-BACK

F.A. Cup Third Round day in 1965 gave Swindon the chance to forget the struggle against relegation. Ipswich Town who had never won a Cup tie at the County Ground were the visitors and Swindon took hope from the fact that they had already defeated Ipswich in the previous October's League fixture. The first half was one way traffic with the Swindon forwards piling on the pressure. Ernie Hunt, Mike Summerbee and Don Rogers all went close but were

presentation which had promised to attract a crowd of 15,000. "I suppose you could say that relations between the two clubs are a bit frosty" joked Town Secretary, Jon Pollard. Bontcho Guentchev and Chris Kiwomya scored the goals that

gave Ipswich a 2-1 victory over Premiership rivals Blackburn Rovers. A crowd of 21,431 were present at Portman Road to see them move up to fifth place in the League. Local rivals Norwich City still topped the Premiership table.

second half. Steve Foley was booked for not retreating ten yard at a free kick and to rub salt in the wound the retaken free kick resulted in an equaliser for Mark Brennan. Phil King, Town's left back, celebrated his birthday by restoring Town's lead in the 76th minute and with just four minutes remaining Dave Bamber shrugged off two challenges before running through to make the final score 4-2. Terry Venables signed Terry Fenwick for Spurs for £550,000, £25,000 less than it cost Glasgow Rangers to secure the services of Mark Walters from Aston Villa.



Jimmy Quinn

Jimmy Allan for the only goal of the game. The Swindon attack, lacking Paul Rideout who had suffered a stressful fracture of the tow in the Boxing Day fixture, failed to shine. John

Wark scored the goal that eared Ipswich a point at Villa Park, some consolation for having lost to local rivals Norwich 3-2 two days earlier.

unable to find a way past Ipswich's third choice keeper, Dave Bevis. Ten minutes into the second half a pass by Ipswich veteran, Jimmy Leadbetter, set up Frank Brogan who hammered it past Tony Hicks, preferred to Scottish international Frank Haffey in the Robins goals. A Trollope free kick found its way into the net in the 71st minute only for it to be disallowed for a foul on the keeper. Swindon's hopes of at least getting a replay were

dashed three minutes from time when Frank Brogan scored again when he headed home Cyril Lea's free kick. This goal meant that the last gasp goal by Dennis 'Bullets' Brown had no effect on the result. "A shade unlucky but they must learn to snap up chances if the lean spell is to be halted" was the verdict of the Swindon Echo Sports Editor. Harold Hastings made Gordon Atherton Swindon's best player but rated Bill Baxter of Ipswich man of the match.

tony horne's view from a far

'Thank goodness for a nice easy home game against Ipswich Town!'

Well that is it - the anti climax is on - weeks and weeks of hype up to Christmas and now the day has passed you feel fat!

Unless you are a footie player - it must be one of those strange things you get used to during a career that you are up there with the emergency services when it comes to not having a Christmas Day. It must be one of the few times in your career that you long for a little injury!

As for us it is a lifesaver at this time of year, isn't it? By now, someone in your house will be giving you some codswallop about their diet being imminent, some relatives will still be there

and won't take the hint, and you can't remember which naf show you recorded on which tape.

Thank goodness for a nice easy home game against Ipswich Town! Can there be no greater feeling than finally getting out of the house, feeling well stuffed by the festive food, and going to watch someone else run around a footy pitch. Yes this game today cannot come soon enough!

Of course, once this festive season is over we will have a better idea of where we all stand in the nationwide and there is the added excitement of the nailbiting cup- thriller against the mighty Stevenage to tear our hair out over. I am worried, aren't you?

I don't wish to inspire the Portman Road lads today that they could do well to remember that really good side from the early eighties that my chum Eric Gates always reminds me of! Do you remember that team: Cooper (Mr Penalty save), Burley, Osman, Butcher, Mills, Thijsen (or however you spell it), Muhren, Warky, Gatesy, Mariner and Brazil. And the gaffer? Bobby Robson!

What a side! One of these is the answer to a trivia question that I will sign off with:

Q- Name 7 foreigners to have scored in an FA Cup Final?

A- Send your thoughts to tony@horne.ace.co.uk.....if you've nothing else to do!
(Answer next time!)

In the meantime happy new year and enjoy the game today!

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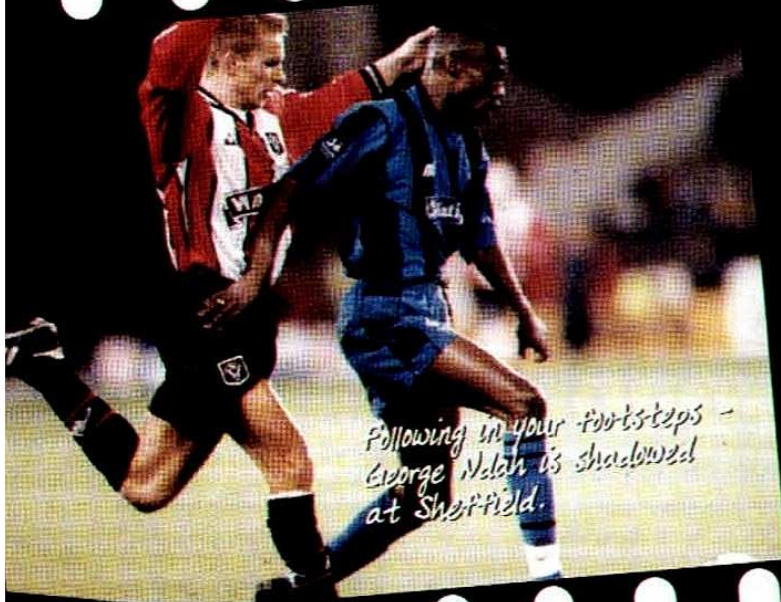
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Sport with *Susanna Bateman*

actions vs

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Sheffield Utd



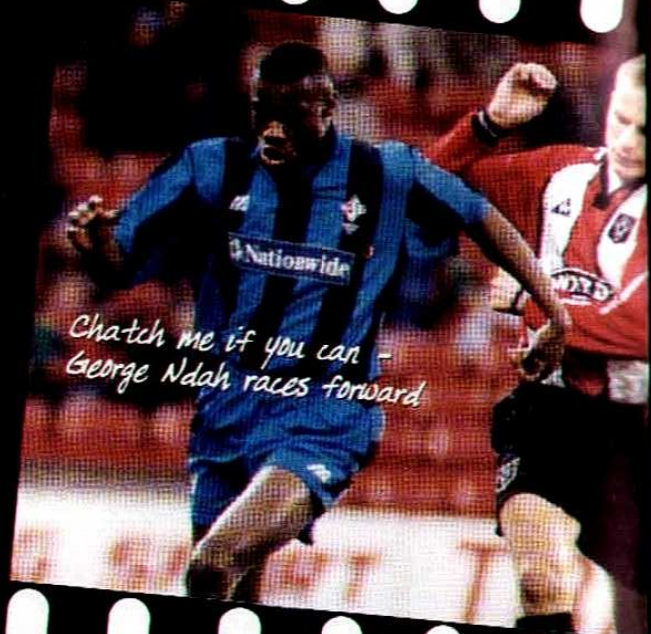
Following in your footsteps - George Ndashimira is shadowed at Sheffield.



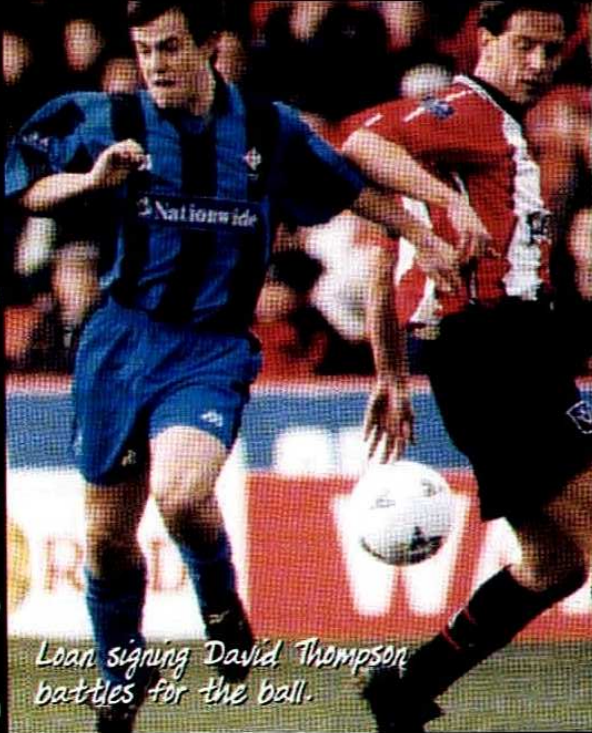
Steve Finney finds himself in a Sheffield sandwich.



Ty Gooden heads goalwards at Bramall Lane.



Chatch me if you can - George Ndashimira races forward.



Loan signing David Thompson battles for the ball.



George Ndah finds his path blocked at Sheffield.



RESULT..

SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER
NATIONWIDE DIVISION ONE

**Sheffield Utd 2
Swindon Town 1**

SWINDON...

- 1 Fraser Digby
- 2 Brian Borrows
- 3 Mark Robinson
- 4 Darren Bullock
- 5 Frederic Darras (Taylor 45)
- 6 Alan McDonald
- 7 David Thompson
- 8 Lee Collins
- 9 Steve Finney
- 10 George Ndah
- 11 Ty Gooden

Sub not used:

Steve Cowe, Mark Walters

SHEFFIELD UTD

Kelly, Barbokis, Nilsen, Ford, Vonk, Holdsworth, Saunders, Marker, Fjortoft (Taylor 81), Deane, Stuart, (Woodhouse 81). Sub not used: Hutchison.

MATCH REPORT

A controversial refereeing decision proved to be the turning point as Town were edged out by the odd goal in three.

On the hour with the scores level at 1-1, Ty Gooden looked to have fired Town in front when his shot crossed the line.

But the goal was disallowed for off side against George Ndah, even though he only hammered the ball into the net as a celebration after it had already gone in.

"We were robbed of a goal and that was a major turning point," commented Town boss Steve McMahon.

Earlier Steve Finney had given Town the lead only for David Holdsworth to equalise, yet it was the visitors who created the better chances and looked good for at least a point.

However it was not to be and a late strike by the much travelled Dean Saunders left Town with nothing to show for their efforts.

community scheme news

with Clive & Jon

Jon and I hope you had a great Christmas and would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

Today we would like to welcome our guests who are joining us on a Sunday Team Club. We hope you all enjoy your stay with us and bring us good luck as we attempt to pick up three points against Ipswich Town.

Our prestigious 8-a-side tournament that we ran last season is due to start again in January with 24 local Primary Schools taking part over a period of three Tuesday's on January 13th, 20th and 27th at Greendown School on the astroturf.

The final of the competition will be played here on the County Ground pitch before the Reserve team fixture against Chelsea on Wednesday March 4th.

Last season the tournament was won by Windmill Hill (pictured below) who narrowly defeated Lethbridge in an enthralling final.

Good luck to all of the teams taking part and let's hope this season's tournament is as successful as the last.



Our February course is the next major event for Jon and I and details of how to book will be given on this page in the next few weeks and in the local press.

Speak to you soon and enjoy the game!



Clive Maguire

Jon Holloway

SoccerCentres

The new soccer Centres begin on Monday January 5th. For further details contact Tom Jones on 01793 644777.

Don't forget that all the youngsters who attend the new Soccer Centres will get vouchers to watch the following games at the County Ground at discount prices: Stoke City, West Brom, Portsmouth, Stockport County, Charlton Athletic, Sheffield United and Sunderland.

SWINDON TOWN Soccer Centres

SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL

ANCHOR

For details on Soccer Centres courses contact Tom Jones: 01793 644777.



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1997 Review

of the year

Coming up over the next few pages we take you on a roller coaster ride looking at the ups and downs of the past 12 months here at Swindon Town Football Club.

From the lows of a disappointing end to the 1996/97 campaign, to the highs of topping the charts this season, there has never been a dull moment here at the County Ground.

Both on and off the pitch the Club have been hitting the headlines and as we move into 1998, the foundations have been laid and the structure is in place, as we plot a course towards the Premiership.

Coming up are all the best action pictures from 1997 with all the details on what has happened as we review 12 hectic months in and around the County Ground.

Words: Jason Harris and Richard Mackey
Pictures: Dave Evans and Keith Powditch
Layout design: Derrick Johnson



January



One minute into the first game of 1997 and you get sent off.

The new year didn't get off to the best of starts for **Ian Culverhouse** when he created a piece of unwanted history by being sent off 52 seconds into the game at Everton, making it the fastest red card in the FA Cup. To make matters worse Swindon went on to lose the game 3-0.

In the League Swindon were having an indifferent season sitting in 13th place. Consistent home wins were being let down by poor away performances.

January was the month that saw Keegan resign from Newcastle but Town boss **Steve McMahon** was making headlines of his own by putting some of his players up for sale. **Peter Thorne, Wayne O'Sullivan, Kevin Horlock** and **Frank Talia** were all put on the transfer list. And so Swindon went to face Tranmere Rovers at an icy Prenton Park

in an attempt to regain away form. But it was the home team that took the advantage with two goals from **Pat Nevin**. **Kevin Horlock** threw Town a life line with a 64th minute goal but after that the Town never looked like scoring: Tranmere 2 Swindon 1.

On the back of this result Swindon needed a morale boosting win but could only manage a 1-1 home draw against **Chris Kamara's** Bradford City.

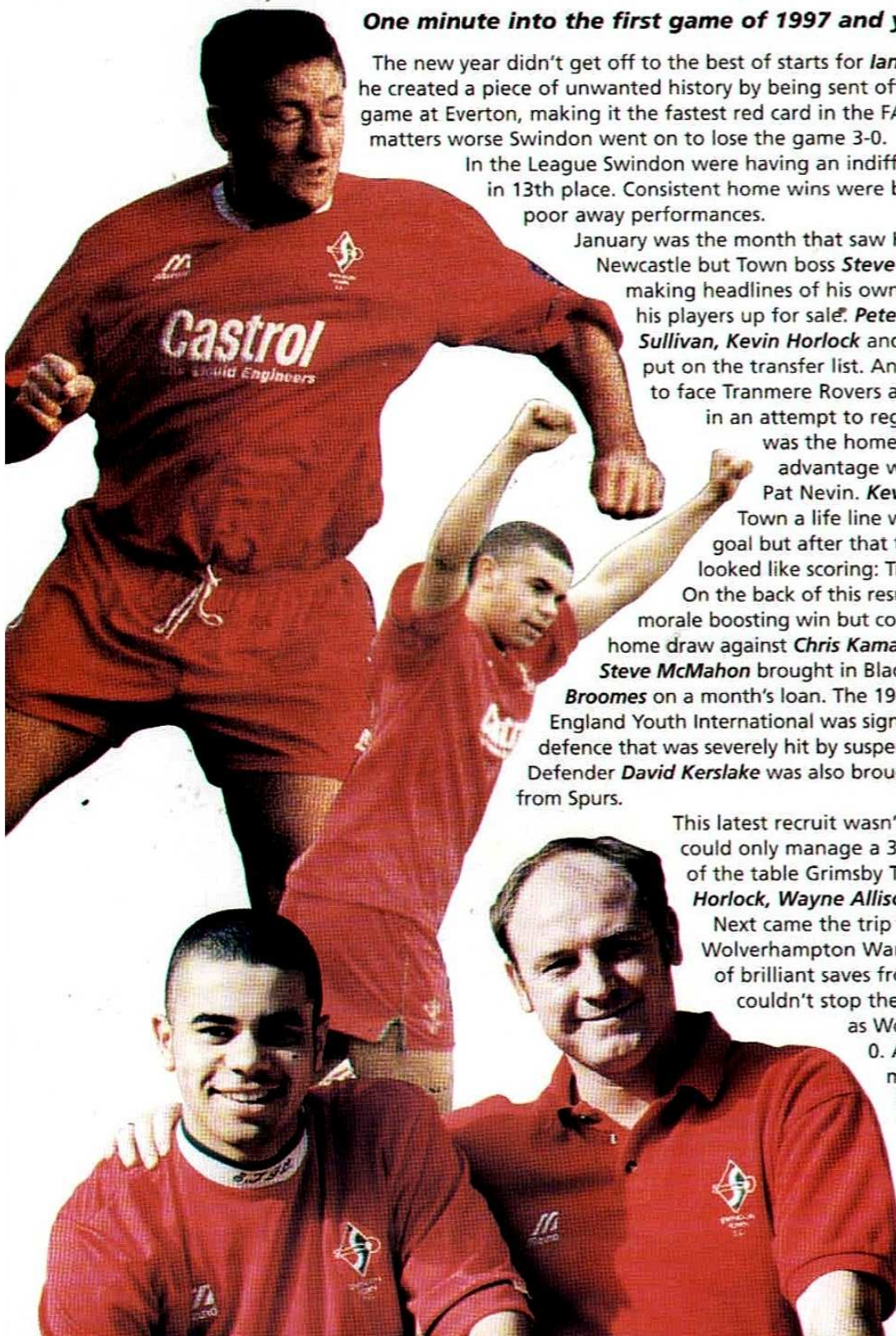
Steve McMahon brought in Blackburn Rovers' **Marlon Broomes** on a month's loan. The 19-year old former England Youth International was signed to bolster a defence that was severely hit by suspensions and injury. Defender **David Kerlake** was also brought in on loan from Spurs.

This latest recruit wasn't enough. Swindon could only manage a 3-3 draw with bottom of the table Grimsby Town, with goals from **Horlock, Wayne Allison** and **Mark Walters**.

Next came the trip to Molineux to face Wolverhampton Wanderers. Even a string of brilliant saves from **Fraser Digby** couldn't stop the run of poor results as Wolves beat Swindon 1-0.

At the end of the month were now lying in 16th position in the league.

Some people were starting to mention relegation.



February



With unsatisfactory performances on the field, attention switched to movements off it.

Town boss **Steve McMahon** was being linked with the manager's job at West Brom while **Kevin Horlock** was rumoured to be leaving the County Ground for Birmingham City.

Horlock finally signed for Manchester City for £1.5 million leaving Swindon with a massive hole to fill in midfield for the game against title chasers Sheffield United.

With Swindon's current form, the Blades must have thought the game would be a walk over but with brilliant performances from **Fraser Digby** and **Steve McMahon**, Swindon ran out impressive 2-1 winners. **Alex Smith** stepped into **Horlock's** boots with ease and took control of the midfield, marking himself as **Horlock's** long-term replacement.

Swindon Town's luck seemed to be turning as they clinched a 1-1 draw with QPR at the County Ground, thanks mainly to an own goal by Rangers' defender Rufus Brevett.

Another good result would lift Swindon further away from the relegation zone and this was exactly what they got when they played West Brom at the Hawthorns. **Alex Smith** scored his first goal for the Swindon, while **Allison** secured the win with a excellent header. West Brom converted a late penalty but it was too late as Swindon beat the Baggies 2-1.

Swindon were now within two wins of the play-off places and relegation worries were dispelled.

However, **Steve McMahon's** side came back down to earth with a bump as they crashed to a 3-0 defeat at the hands of a slick Manchester City side.

The team bounced back with a 3-1 victory over Birmingham to end the month on a happy note, with new signing **Darren Bullock**, a £400,000 purchase from Huddersfield, netting on his debut and **Marlon Broomes** scoring with a wonderful long range strike.



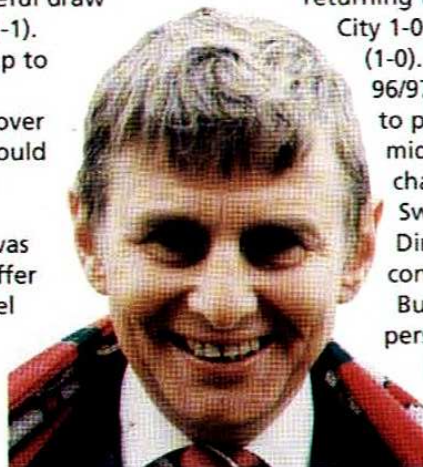
March

There was little time to reflect on the season so far as Swindon had to pack in seven games in March.

Things started well with good wins against Charlton Athletic (1-0) and a useful draw against title-chasers Barnsley (1-1). These results moved the Club up to 12th in the league.

But with these games barely over it was clear **Steve McMahon** would be forced to reshuffle his pack after his squad was hit by suspensions and injuries. This was hardly the sort of news the Gaffer wanted as he prepared to travel to top-of-the-table Bolton Wanderers.

The gap between mid-table and those at the top was telling, Bolton thumped



Swindon 7-0. After the game **Steve McMahon** was left to remark:

"It was men against boys out there and I've got to get a few more men".

Swindon emphasised their inconsistency by returning to the County Ground to beat Stoke City 1-0 and then losing away to Port Vale (1-0). With nine games remaining in the 96/97 campaign there seemed to be little to play for as the Town floated mid-table. Off the pitch former champion jockey **Willie Carson** joined Swindon Town as a Non-Executive Director, riding into his first press conference on **Steve McMahon's** back. But even **Willie Carson's** bubbly personality couldn't raise a smile at the County Ground as Swindon suffered another defeat at the hands of Norwich (3-0), before going down 5-1 at Oldham.

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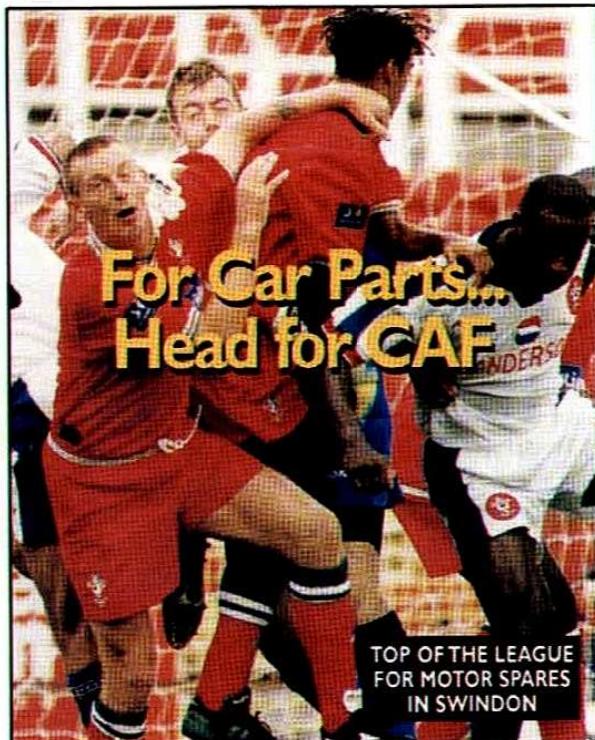
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April



After their latest heavy defeat, Steve McMahon began to threaten wholesale changes at the end of the season.

But the Gaffer's threats were to no avail as Swindon failed to take advantage of relegation candidates Southend drawing 0-0. The game also saw the County Ground's smallest gate of the season, just 6,730. They then lost 4-0 to Ipswich, with three games of the season left even the local derby against Oxford failed to create any new determination. Oxford strolled to a 2-0 victory at the Manor Ground.

In the final home game of the season Swindon were playing for pride and by all accounts turned in a better performance. But it wasn't enough, Crystal Palace won the game 2-0.

Away from the League, the County Ground played host to an Under 21 International between England and Switzerland with a crowd of over 10,000 turning out to watch.

Marlon Broomes was back on familiar territory as he made his Under 21 debut and despite the game ending goalless - it proved to be a big hit with the fans.

Although the season was coming to a disappointing close for Swindon fans, the Club were already gearing up for an assault on the play-offs next term and certainly put their money where their mouth is by introducing a unique cash-back offer to anyone who purchased a season ticket for the 1997/98 season.

And **Steve McMahon** was starting early in boosting his squad for the re-start in August as he drafted in **Craig Taylor**, younger brother of former Town star **Shaun**, from non league Dorchester Town.



May

Swindon lined up against Huddersfield Town for the final game of the campaign with both teams battling for 19th place- which in turn would yield an extra £11,000 giving the game an added meaning.

With so much at stake the game and the season ironically ended with a 0-0 stalemate.

With the campaign over, Swindon were left to reflect on a season that saw them touch the play-off stakes and come close to the rock bottom of the league.

One of the few high points was that, in his testimonial year, **Fraser Digby** had one of his finest seasons between the sticks. Throughout the season when others couldn't find their form it was **Digby** who turned in one great performance after another, one of the only consistencies in an inconsistent season. His service was deservedly marked by being voted the Evening Advertiser "**Player of the Season.**"

With summer upon the players, **Peter Thorne** and **Frank Talia** were still no closer to signing new contracts as they considered their future. Town had a £1 million offer from an undisclosed Premier League club but the price wasn't right.

Steve McMahon was making his move in the transfer market by signing Northern Ireland defender **Alan McDonald** from QPR on a free transfer. As one player came in, so another left, as **Wayne O' Sullivan** joined Second Division German team the Stuttgart Kickers on a month's trial- only to return one day later after playing in a 15 minute practice game.

More excitement was generated around the Club when rumours were abound that Swindon were trying to sign **Ian Rush**, **Peter Beardsley** and **John Barnes** in an attempt to get crowds flocking to watch the Town.

Unfortunately the deal of the century never came off.



June



The Club were given a financial boost as the share issue was a big success raising £1 million.

Meanwhile the Rover Stand was having a face lift with a new roof being constructed and the Club were hoping 100's of young fans would literally be raising the roof as they slashed the price of child season tickets.

The bookies didn't fancy Town's chances for the new season as they rated them at 40/1 outsiders for the First Division title but with Nationwide Building Society on board as the new main sponsors, confidence was high as preparations for the new season moved into full swing.

There was a re-shuffle among the board of directors with **Rikki Hunt** taking over as Chairman from **Mike Spearman** and **Cliff Puffett** stepping in as Vice Chairman.

With season tickets selling well, the disappointing end to the last campaign was now forgotten and as the players returned from their holidays the first major fixture was announced with the Coca Cola Cup draw being made - and Swindon were paired with Graham Taylor's Watford.





July



The County Ground was buzzing again as the squad returned for pre-season training with close season signing Alan McDonald, a free transfer from Queens Park Rangers, getting his first chance to meet his new team mates.

With the sun beating down the scenery improved as glamour model **Melinda Messenger** came along to her home town Club to officially model the Club's brand new home and away strips.

A tour of Ireland was fast approaching and as the Gaffer looked to strengthen his squad a number of trialists were invited in, including Austrian striker **Gerhard Fellner**.

Fellner struck twice as Town started their friendlies with a 2-0 triumph over Barry Town and he was on target again over in Ireland where St Patricks (1-0), Bray Wanderers (2-0) and University Collegé Dublin (2-0) were all beaten.

The players returned to find that Arkell's Brewers had signed a lucrative sponsorship deal with the Club which included the re-naming of the North Stand to the **Arkell's Stand**.

On the outgoing front, striker **Peter Thorne** left to join First Division rivals Stoke City in a £350,000 deal which was decided by tribunal.

But even without one of their main marksmen, Swindon maintained their unbeaten pre-season run with a 3-1 victory over Yeovil and a similar result against Dorchester Town.

The first major home friendly was against Premiership side Spurs and Swindon came storming back to draw 2-2 after falling 2-0 down early on with **Mark Walters** scoring a stunning equaliser.



August

It was full steam ahead as the first league fixtures were approaching fast and Town got ready for the big kick-off with two more exciting home friendlies.

The unbeaten sequence was ended by Southampton who sneaked a 1-0 win at the County Ground but a goal by **Wayne Allison** made sure of a 1-1 draw against a Manchester United XI in Fraser Digby's Testimonial match.

Involved in both those games was a French trialist by the name of **Philippe Cuervo** who didn't take long to impress both the management and the fans.

Cuervo, like the rest of the first team squad was on hand to sign autographs as the Club had another large turnout for their Open Day and shortly afterwards the Frenchman put pen to paper and joined Swindon on the same day as striker **Chris Hay** signed from Celtic.

Three of the four newcomers were involved in the opening day fixture at home to Crewe with **Alan McDonald**, **Cuervo** and **Hay** all playing their part in a 2-0 triumph.

Unfortunately **Craig Taylor** was out with a hernia problem but he was probably quite glad as Swindon were sunk 2-0 at home by Watford in the Coca Cola Cup.

The team bounced back to beat local rivals Reading 1-0 at Elm Park with **Chris Hay** scoring his first goal since his £330,000 move from Scotland.

And what a bargain he was turning out to be, scoring again in the 1-1 draw with Huddersfield and in the 2-1 success at Stoke.

Away from the first team the Reserves enjoyed playing in front of a big crowd as over 1000 fans turned out for the Club's first Family Night Football extravaganza against Spurs. The second string would be playing all their home games on a Wednesday evening in the hope of attracting bigger gates.



September



There was a mixed bag of results during September with Town starting the month on a downer as they suffered their first league defeat of the season with a 2-1 reverse at Ipswich Town.

The death of Diana Princess of Wales meant a sombre pre-match atmosphere prior to the visit of promotion favourites Nottingham Forest but both teams showed their professionalism as they put that tragedy to the back of their minds and thrilled the 14,000 fans with an entertaining spectacle.

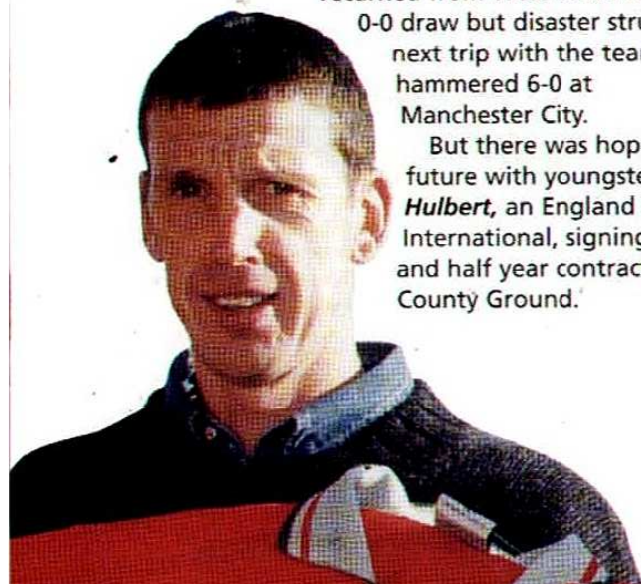
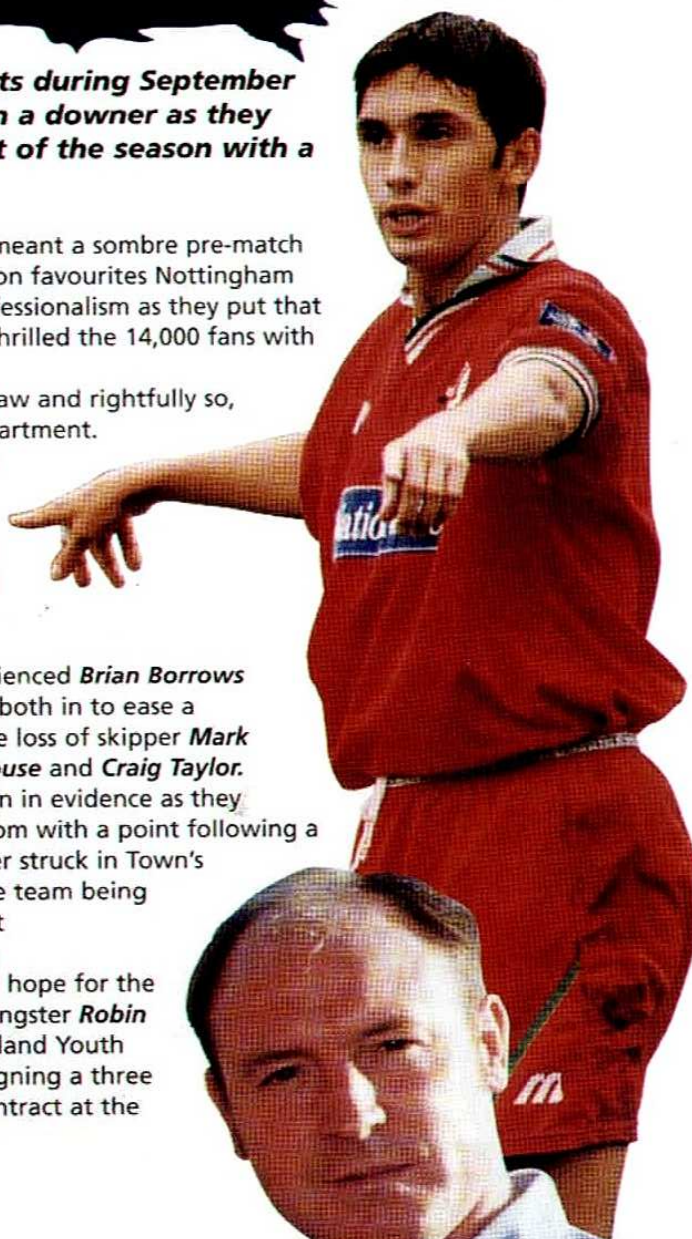
Swindon were pleased with the 0-0 draw and rightfully so, as they had matched Forest in every department.

Manager **Steve McMahon** was bitterly disappointed with the crowd of just 7,000 for the next home game as second placed Town overcame Tranmere 2-1 thanks to goals by **Mark Walters** and loan signing **Chris Casper** from Manchester United.

Another player on loan was the experienced **Brian Borrows** from Coventry with the Gaffer bringing both in to ease a defensive injury crisis which had seen the loss of skipper **Mark Seagraves**, **Mark Robinson**, **Ian Culverhouse** and **Craig Taylor**.

Swindon's battling qualities were again in evidence as they returned from West Brom with a point following a 0-0 draw but disaster struck in Town's next trip with the team being hammered 6-0 at Manchester City.

But there was hope for the future with youngster **Robin Hulbert**, an England Youth International, signing a three and half year contract at the County Ground.



October

Swindon had dropped to sixth in the First Division table following the mauling at Maine Road but by the end of October that defeat had been erased from their memory's as they leaped up into top spot.

The Club were flying high thanks largely to the goal scoring capabilities of striker **Chris Hay** who was showing why **Steve McMahon** believed he was a snip at £330,000 during the summer.

Hay weighed in with a classy hat trick as Port Vale were overpowered 4-2 at the County Ground. The other goal came from **Craig Taylor** who celebrated his debut in style with a terrific long range strike.

Next on **Hay's** hit list were Bury who were beaten 3-1 with the Scottish star bagging two more goals while **Ty Gooden** completed the tally with a fine finish.

However there was a price to pay for Swindon's success with **Alan McDonald** joining the injured list which had grown to nine first team players.

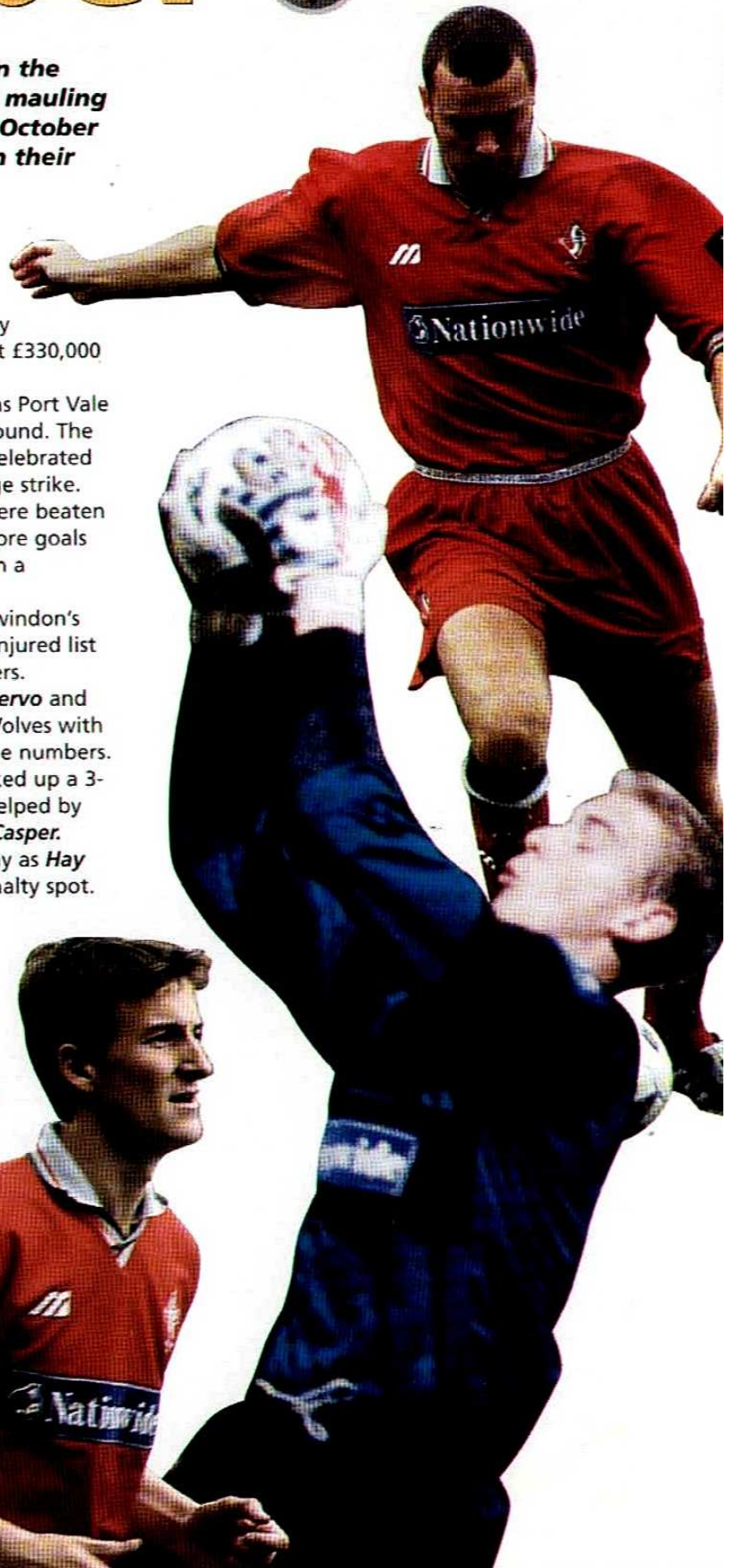
Long term victims included **Philippe Cuervo** and **Mark Seagraves** and Town travelled to Wolves with two trainees on the bench to make up the numbers.

Hardly surprising then that Wolves picked up a 3-1 victory although Town's cause wasn't helped by the sending off of **Lee Collins** and **Chris Casper**.

No prizes for Town's goalscorer that day as **Hay** made it nine for the season from the penalty spot.

The team dug deep to return from Sunderland with a precious point following a goalless draw and then two successive 1-0 wins, over Norwich at home and Portsmouth away put Swindon top of the pile.

Chris Hay took his total for the month to eight goals in just six games but there was another hero - third choice goalkeeper **Steve Mildenhall** who played through the pain barrier to make sure of the victory at Pompey. "Mildy" stood in at late notice with **Fraser Digby** and **Frank Talia** added to the injury list which had now reached massive proportions.



November



Remember, Remember the 5th of November! Well Town fans won't forget Bonfire Night in a hurry as there were some fireworks both before and during the home game against Queens Park Rangers.

Before the game there were some strong words from Town officials towards the Football League who would not give them the go-ahead to play loan keeper **Tony Warner** because he had not been signed in time.

With all three of Town's recognised shot-stoppers on the treatment table, it looked as if the Club would have to put an outfield player between the posts until **Fraser Digby** answered the emergency call and played with a pain killing injection.

Digby was inspirational as Town stormed to a 3-1 victory with goals from **Mark Walters**, **Craig Taylor** and **Chris Hay**.

This proved to be the "Chief" **Wayne Allison's** last game in a red shirt as he joined Huddersfield in an £800,000 deal. His replacement up front for the visit of Bradford was **Steve Cowe** and he scored a terrific winner in a 1-0 win which kept Town on top of the table.

With **Steve Finney** back from a loan spell at Cambridge, the battle for positions up front was hotting up, while at the back the permanent signing of **Brian Borrows** kept competition for places on the boil.

However Town were knocked off the top of the table following a 4-2 defeat at Stockport and despite the introduction of striker **George Ndah** brought for £500,000 from Crystal Palace, along with Liverpool midfielder **David Thompson** (on loan), Swindon slipped to a 2-1 defeat at home to Middlesbrough.

Chris Hay missed the game as he began a three match ban but **Ndah** gave a glimpse of his potential with a class finish in an unfortunate defeat. Next came a televised trip to **Charlton** which turned into a nightmare 3-0 reverse and after three defeats in a row, the rumour was that our bubble had burst.



December



Swindon silenced their critics with a delightful display against arch rivals Oxford United with goals from Alan McDonald (his first for the Club), Mark Walters, Steve Finney and Ty Gooden completing a 4-1 success.

Although Oxford drew first blood with an early goal. By half time Swindon were back in control and two second half strikes sent the Town fans home happy.

The injury worries continued with **Scott Leitch** missing due to a knee injury collected at Charlton. He missed the trip to fellow high flyers Sheffield United where a controversial disallowed goal proved to be the turning point and the Blades blunted Town's charge with a tight 2-1 triumph.

On the treatment table, **Chris Hay** was nursing a sore knee which was frustrating the ace marksman as he was desperate to get back to business following a suspension.

Meanwhile Frenchman **Philippe Cuervo** went back to France for a break as he struggled to come to terms with the hip problem which was keeping him out.

As the hectic Christmas schedule approached, Town found out that they would be facing Vauxhall conference side Stevenage Borough in the third round of the FA Cup.

But the priority was still the Nationwide First Division - with manager **Steve McMahon** determined to keep his team in the play off picture.



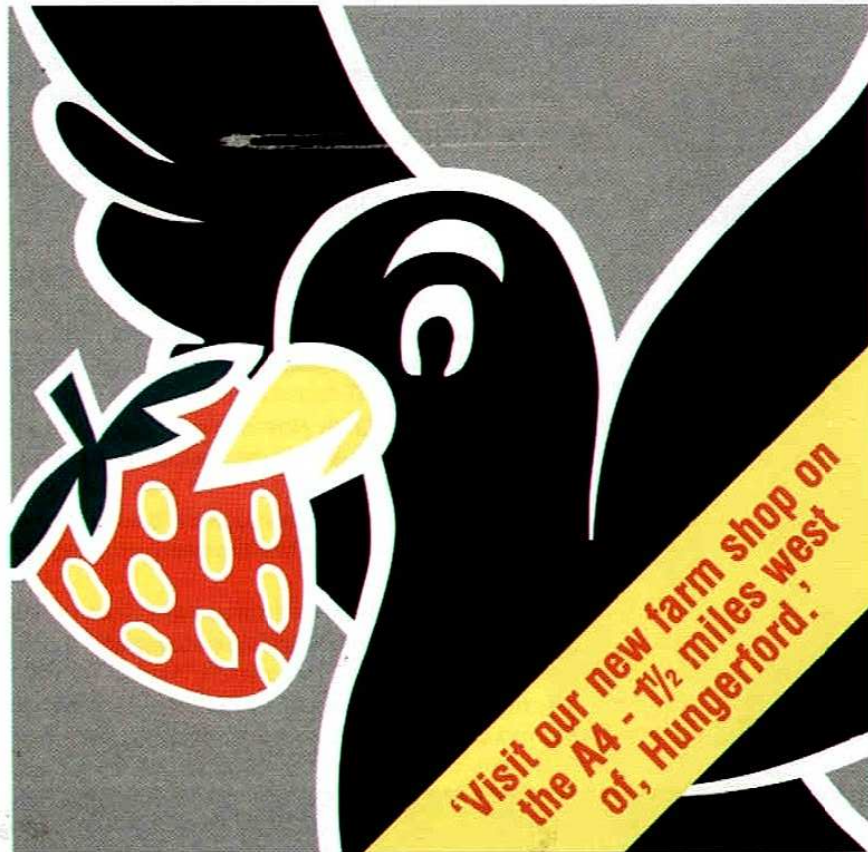
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with Julian Wetherall

marketing news

A warm welcome to the County Ground for this afternoon's game against Ipswich Town and can I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very Happy New Year.

Matchday Sponsors

Today's Matchday Sponsors are **LITTLECOTE FARM PARTNERS** and it is a pleasure to welcome their representatives and guests.

Sir Seton Wills (Director of Swindon Town) and Alan Holland are the two partners farming some 10,000 acres in the Hungerford area. Seton and Alan are also Directors of **HIGHCLOSE FARM ENTERPRISES & CO LTD** and run a large "Pick Your Own" fruit and vegetables enterprise and farm shop situated on the A4 just one mile west of Hungerford.

Matchball Sponsors

We have two Matchball Sponsors to introduce this afternoon and we would like say a big thank you to **THAMES WATER** and **WYVERN STAFF AGENCY** for their continued support.

Thames Water employ over 1,000 people in and around Swindon, mostly in their Customer Service Centre at Kembrey Park.

Thames Water have raffled their ticket entitlement for today's game to help raise funds to donate to Shaw Football Club to develop new changing rooms following a recent fire.

With an ever increasing client base, covering all areas of **Swindon**, **Wyvern Staff** offer a professional and efficient service, always searching for committed and flexible personnel, for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled roles within the growth area that is Swindon in the 1990's.

Twenty five years of trading in Swindon has provided them with a unique insight into the

industrial and clerical companies of the town.

This insight has been rewarded by International Manufacturers **Honda** who have given **Wyvern Staff** sole charge of recruiting new employees in their recent recruitment exercise.

Mascot Packages

It is every person's dream to run out with his or her favourite team on a matchday. This dream can come true with our Mascot Packages that offer kids the chance to meet the team and see the "behind the scenes" action that takes place before a game. We still have some packages left for the following games: **Stoke City 28/1/98; Wolves 23/2/98; Portsmouth 7/3/98; Stockport 21/3/98; Charlton 4/4/98; Sheffield 13/4/98; and the FA Cup tie against Stevenage on 3/1/98.**

The Mascot Package costs £120 plus VAT. If you would like to book a Mascot or would like to make further enquiries, please contact Helen Mercer in the Marketing Department on **01793 532121**.

Executive Day Membership

Executive Day Membership is a great way to say thank you or an ideal way to entertain a client. The membership gives you the chance to enjoy football in style in our exclusive Executive Suite. Here you will enjoy a quality two course meal with waitress service and our cash bar facilities are available for drinks. You can keep up to date with the other fixtures around the country with our Sky TV Sports coverage before and after the game and you can enjoy the match itself from the comfort of our executive enclosure.

Executive Day Membership is priced at £45 plus VAT and we have availability for most games this season. For further details, or to book your place, please contact Richard Mackey in the Marketing Department on **01793 532121**.

OUR CORPORATE SUITE SPONSORS



the ticket office @swindon town tickets



F.A CUP Round 3



Tickets for the FA Cup Third Round tie at home to Stevenage Borough on Saturday January 3rd (3pm) are on sale now priced £10 for adults and £5 for concessions in all areas of the ground.

Crewe Alexandra

Our next away trip is on Sunday January 11th when we take on Crewe Alexandra in front of the Sky Sports cameras.

Supporters are reminded that the game kicks off at 1pm and 900 seats are available priced £13 for adults, £10 for OAP's and £6.50 for Juniors.

Tickets for the following home matches are now on sale:



Reading, Saturday
January 17th, 3pm.



Stoke City, Wednesday
January 28th, 7.45pm.



West Brom, Saturday
February 7th, 3pm.



Manchester City, Saturday
February 21st, 3pm.



Wolves, Wednesday
February 25th, 7.45pm.

Don't forget that tickets for Reserve team games are on sale at the advance box office up until 7.30pm on matchdays. Tickets cost £4 for adults and £1 concessions with free admission for season ticket holders and Junior Robins. On Wednesday January 14th the Reserves take on Portsmouth here at the County Ground (7.15pm).

Box Office Closures over New Year

The office will be closed on New Years Day and will close early at 4pm on Monday January 5th for a system upgrade.

DON'T MISS OUT

Matchday Ticket Office:

For Saturday matches throughout 1998, tickets will go on sale at 11am.

For further details on ticket availability contact the Ticket Office on:

(01793) 529000

To order by fax:

(01793) 431887

WE ARE PLEASED TO ACCEPT



BOX OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday
8.30am - 5.45pm

Saturday
(non matchday)
10am - 4pm

Wednesday
(matchday)
8.30am - kick-off

Saturday (matchday)
9am - kick-off

Saturday Creche
Swindon Childcarers run a Matchday Creche on Saturday's at the Lifestyle Centre. It is limited to 24 children aged between two and eight years of age. Each session runs from 1.30-5pm and costs just £2 per child. Places must be booked in advance by calling Ann Read on 01793 514055 between 9.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

on the road... travel...



Crewe Alexandra
Sunday January 11th
Kick-Off 1.00pm

It's an early rise for Town's opening away trip of 1998 - as they come under the Sky spotlight once again. No tickets will be on sale on the day of the game, so make sure you purchase yours before you leave Swindon.



Going to Huddersfield
Saturday January 31st

Don't miss the next issue of our Matchday Magazine for all your travel details



TRAVEL CLUB

CREWE ALEXANDRA
Fare **£9.50 Adults £7.50 Juniors**
Depart County Ground: **8.00am**

Our coaches start at Aldbourne and we offer pick ups at Ashington Way plus other destinations en route. Please ask for these options and times when booking. Our coaches are either Executive or Luxury standard and we enforce our Non Smoking policy. Our Stewards are pleased to provide a selection of drinks and snacks throughout your journey, as well as the other on board entertainment we offer as well. Up to 25% reduction off our already excellent match day travel prices with our unbeatable Travel Club season ticket offer. Please ask for details. Special offers for our members - just £1.00 fee each season.

Make Sure You Book Now At:
Travel Club Office (Arkell's Stand, Supporters Club entrance) Open Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Also Open Every Matchday until 20 minutes before kick off Plus 24-hour Travel information answerphone service: Telephone (01793) 611499

Or book through Barnes Coaches Ltd Information Centre or telephone any day on (01672) 540330

Travelling by Road...

Take the A419/A417 to join the M5 at Junction 11a. Travel north via M5/M6, leaving at Junction 16 to join the A5020. At Crewe roundabout follow signs for Chester into Nantwich Road. Take the first turning on the left into Gresty Road.

Did You Know?

Crewe old Peter Coyne grabbed Town's fastest goal of the 1984/85 season at Gresty Road. He scored after just 30 seconds, but Swindon still found themselves 2-1 down by the seventh minute and ended up 3-2 losers.



S.A.S TRAVEL



CREWE ALEXANDRA Fare **£9.50**
Depart COUNTY GROUND (Superstore) 8.00am
also picking up at WOOTTON BASSETT 7.30am
WEST SWINDON 7.45am ERMIN STREET 8.15am

- Match tickets available when booking coach seats
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COUNTY GROUND BOOKING OFFICE

Open: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 10am to 2pm. Thursday evenings 7pm to 9pm. Matchdays from 1.30pm (Sats), and 6.30pm (Weds). Tel: (01793) 536757

Additional Opening Times Matchdays:
From 1.30pm (Sats) and 6.30pm (Weds)

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WE ARE NOW PLEASED TO ACCEPT



JUNIOR ROBINS



with Helen Mercer

Sponsored by



What a wonderful Christmas I am having, a nice relaxing day on Christmas day, lots of presents and lots to eat!

And all that time I have been looking forward to the Ipswich game, and here we are. So cheer on the lads and end this amazing year with a win, the louder you cheer the better!!

Junior Robins Christmas Parties

Let me say a big thank you to all you Junior Robins who came to the Christmas party this year, what a cracker it was! What with the food, getting to meet the players and the disco I am sure you all had a brilliant time.

Don't forget we will be having similar events throughout the year starting with the QPR trip in March, so keep those eyes peeled for the newsletters.

Away trips

The next Junior Robin away trip is to QPR on 13th March 1998. The ticket prices are Adults £12 and Junior Robins £7. What a bargain!

So why not make it a family trip and bring both Mum and Dad!

The Middlesbrough trip is on 28th March 1998, this is a little more expensive at £37 for Adults and £25 for Junior Robins. It is well worth the price and tickets will be snapped up for this match, so book now to reserve your seat.

Mascots

I've still got one or two mascot packages left, so get Mum or Dad to give me a call on 01793 532121 and I'll give them all the details, it's a very special day for our very special mascots!

mascots...mascots...

Today's mascots



Gavin Harris is 14 years old and attends Bradon Forest School. His hobbies are football and his favourite players are Fraser Digby and Chris Hay.



Joe Salter is 8 tomorrow and attends Haydon Wick school. His hobbies are football, rugby, computers and swimming. Joe's favourite players is Ty Gooden.

Daniel Simons is a Junior Robin and is 8 years old, he attends the Eldene Junior School. Daniels hobbies are football and his favourite players is Fraser Digby.



David Murray is the Ipswich Town mascot for today, he is 14 and attends St Mary Redcliffe and Temple School, Bristol. His hobbies are football, swimming, computers and the cinema and his favourite player is Alex Mathie.



The Prize-winner of the Stratton Community Leisure Centre Christmas Prize Draw.

(The details of this prize-winner were unavailable at the time of going to press, and will be included in the Reading matchday programme)



Rockin' Robin SUPERHERO

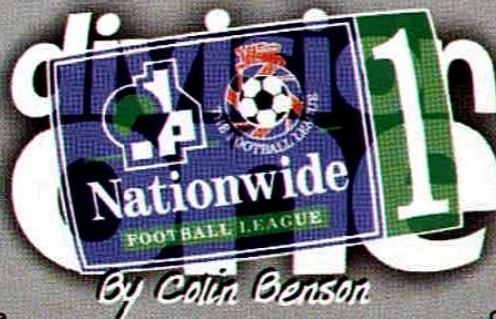
The Last game of 1997 sees us home to Ipswich Town but as this programme was completed before the holiday fixtures it is impossible to reflect, or even speculate, on the form of teams leading into this Sunday's programme.

Suffice to say that on the face of it the **Manchester City v Nottingham Forest** fixture would seem to provide the spice of the afternoon. What a year it has been for both clubs. At the end of December 1996 **Manchester City** were beaten 2-0 at **Barnsley** to leave them 21st in Division One but they kicked off the New Year with a point from a 1-1 draw with **Crystal Palace**. However their First Division record for 1997 is absolutely dismal by their standards. Up to Saturday the 13th December it read: **P43 W14 D14 L15**.

So how have the clubs

currently in Division One of the Nationwide Football League fared over the past twelve months and how different would the League table look if compiled over this calendar year?

Well **Stockport County** take the honours zooming straight to the top by a clear five points. **Wolves** lead the chasing pack



By Colin Benson

followed by **Middlesbrough** and **Sheffield United**.

It's not been a bad year for our visitors **Ipswich Town** either. The men from Suffolk have claimed 17 wins from their 41 games with 4 draws and just 10 defeats giving them 65 points.

Nottingham Forest fall from grace down in tenth while we

too have dropped down the table a place behind with 58 points equal with **Bradford City**.

But look at **Sunderland** down in 21st while there is better cheer for **Portsmouth**; and no doubt Frank Clark would also swap positions with the one they currently occupy. **table bottom right**.

Bury are another team who have done well over the year but of course they were in a lower division last season as were **Crewe**.

This is just a bit of fun and should not be taken too seriously of course. For a start as you will see from the table, not all teams have played an equal number of games.

Middlesbrough and **Nottingham Forest** were in the Premiership last season and so played fewer games.

Birmingham City and **Stoke City** were the busiest playing 45 League games each.

Stockport claimed the most wins - 22! **Wolves** won 21 while poor old **Reading** won just 12.



1997 CANENDAR YEAR TABLE

	P	W	D	L	PTS.
STOCKPORT COUNTY	43	22	10	11	76
WOLVERHAMPTON	43	21	8	14	71
MIDDLESBROUGH	40	19	12	9	69
SHEFFIELD UNITED	42	18	14	10	68
IPSWICH TOWN	41	17	14	10	65
BIRMINGHAM CITY	45	17	13	15	64
CHARLTON	43	17	13	13	64
W.B.A.	43	19	7	17	64
BURY	44	17	12	15	63
NOTTINGHAM FOR	40	16	14	10	62
SWINDON TOWN	43	16	10	17	58
BRADFORD CITY	42	15	13	14	58
NORWICH CITY	43	15	11	17	56
Q.P.R.	42	15	11	16	56
PORT VALE	42	15	11	16	56
MAN CITY	43	14	14	15	56
PORTSMOUTH	41	16	7	18	55
CREWE	44	15	9	20	54
TRANMERE	42	14	12	16	54
STOKE	45	15	8	22	53
SUNDERLAND	39	14	11	14	53
READING	42	14	9	18	51
OXFORD UTD	42	12	7	23	43
HUDDERSFIELD	42	10	12	20	42

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county ground, swindon

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Trust us to help the game

The Football Trust has been providing support for the game at every level throughout the UK for over 22 years. Its present priority task is to help League clubs to complete the implementation of the Taylor Report recommendations.

Thanks to the Government and to the Football Association, the FA Premier League and the English Sports Council, a major new funding package to secure the future of the Trust has been put in place.

These funds will be in addition to income derived from the football pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zettors, and will enable the Trust to complete its Taylor task, carry on its essential safety work and continue to grant aid football at every level. The Government's commitment to the Trust has the support of everyone who cares about our national game.



THE FOOTBALL TRUST
Helping the game

THE FOOTBALL TRUST, WALKDEN HOUSE, 10 MELTON STREET, LONDON NW1 2EB



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WYVERN STAFF AGENCY

24 Commercial Road, Swindon

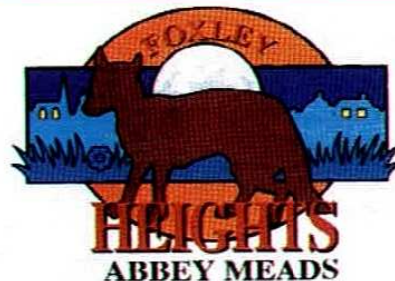
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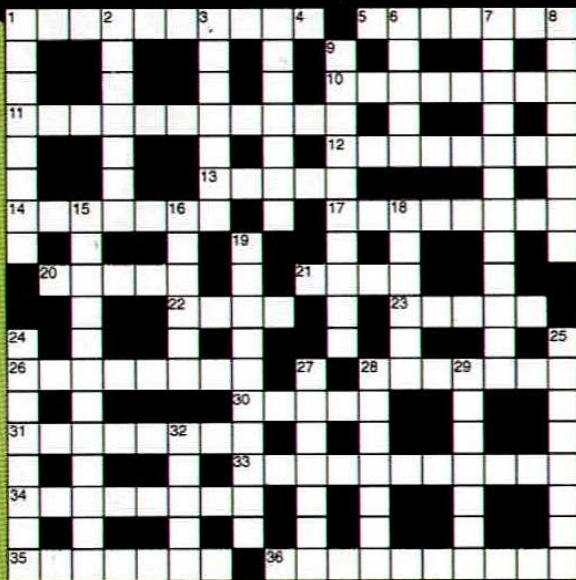
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BLOOR HOMES

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Here is your chance to **WIN** a weekend break for two at a Jarvis Hotel. Simply fill in the crossword below, photocopy it or send it to: Crossword competition, Promotions Office, Swindon Town FC, County Ground, Swindon SN1 2ED.

The first winning entry drawn out of a hat will receive this fantastic prize.



clues across...

1. You'll probably see it on Wednesday! (3-4-3)
2. Christmas Club does this whilst on course (4-3)
10. New Years Eve party-goer (8)
11. What Big Ben does at midnight on Wednesday (2-6-3)
12. We should be this with new intentions (8)
13. Girls add this to Christmas Disco (5)
14. They tread the boards in Pantomime (7)
17. Circus is big attraction? (3-5)
20. Grants wishes to 28 across (5)
21. New Years Day swimmers may dive from this (4)
22. Dels winter vehicle in reverse (4)
23. We all sang her praises recently? (5)
26. A tip for New Years Day racegoers? (5-3)
28. Cave dweller (7)
30. How Rudolph dances on rooftops (5)
31. Dad had it cut for Christmas? (4-4)
33. Where Jack looks for footholds (2-9)
34. Santa did this after his last delivery (8)
35. Unwanted gifts infrequently application (4-3)
36. A loved relation of Rudolphs, we hear (1-4-5)

clues down...

1. New Year confidence (8)
2. Provides fuel at Christmas (4-4)
3. Jack Frosts form of nudity? (7)
4. Mistletoe is best enjoyed when you are this (5-2)
6. Santa's assistants (5)
7. In Wizard of Oz 'The Yellow Brick' one is (4-4-4)
8. You may have to pay a few at the party (8)
9. Christmas without turkey is one (1-4-5)
15. An electric shaver? (1-4-7)
16. One of fruity taste in Christmas cake (6)
18. It gets passed around in party game (6)
19. A Christmas jaunt for Santa (10)
24. Unpleasant cost of New Years Eve (8)
25. Colourful Christmas present worth collaring (1-4-3)
27. Most streets are on Christmas cards (7)
29. They appear extra friendly during festive season (7)
32. These come from the head due to 24 down (5)



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FIVE NUMBERS	£100,000	typically £1250

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During the half time break at today's game Swindon Town and Jarvis Hotels will be giving away a superb weekend break free of charge, to someone in the crowd. It will be completely at random, and you

don't have to enter any competition.

We're just going to give it away there and then.

The weekend break is for two people for two nights and can be taken at any of Jarvis' 63 fine hotels across the UK.

All you need to do to win a Jarvis weekend break is hold onto your ticket stub until half-time. Straight after the half time scores are announced, we'll call out a seat number, which one of the Swindon Town players will randomly pick for us at half-time.

If it's your seat, come along with your ticket, to the Reception and ask for Louise Kaye and pick up your Free Jarvis Weekend Break voucher. It's as simple as that.

So listen out at the half-time break and you could be going on a superb weekend break with JARVIS HOTELS.



see every goal



Goals, goals, goals!

See every goal from the weekend with **ITV's NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE EXTRA**, in association with Nationwide Building Society.

We'll be on air just after midnight on Mondays and repeated later in the week in many regions.

The programme is introduced by Gabriel Clarke and includes interviews, competitions, the latest news and talking points, and all the goals scored at the weekend from the Nationwide Football League.

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Rovers are roasted

Town's Academy team ran out impressive 5-2 winners over Bristol Rovers in the South West Counties League with Karl Robinson claiming a hat trick.

The youngsters got off to a flyer with Robinson heading home a cross by Mark Simpkins in only the second minute, but sloppiness at the back let Rovers back in and they scored twice in quick succession to edge in front.

By half time Town were level when a neat exchange of passes between Alun Hughes and Robinson ended with Hughes hammering the ball in from the edge of the box.

Swindon got a firm grip of the game in the second half with new signing Jason Donlon prompting from midfield.

Robinson bagged his second 10 minutes after the interval but the best goal of the game came on the hour when some great play down the right resulted in Steve Bennett side footing a volley into the roof of the net.

With 10 minutes remaining Robinson completed his treble to seal a superb home win.

Team: Bitner, Pottinger, Donlon, Cope, Sharps, Farley, Bennett, Masson, Simpkins, Hughes, Robinson. **Subs used:** Sperti, Mackey, Clayton.



in & around the county ground

Park and ride

Don't forget that for every home game played on a Saturday there will be a Park and Ride service available for the remainder of the season.

Free parking for 1000 cars is located at Nationwide House, Pipers Way and for just 50p you can get a bus to and from the game (children under 5 travel free).

Buses, courtesy of Stagecoach, will depart from the car park every 20 minutes from 12.30 to 2.30pm.

After the game buses will run every 20 minutes from the Magic Roundabout, back to Nationwide House from 4.45pm to 6pm.

The car park closes at 6.45pm.

Richard seeks help

Richard Titcome from Wootton Bassett Comprehensive is hoping to travel to Venezuela next July to help the street children by doing community projects.

He needs to raise some cash to help finance the trip and has arranged a sponsored swim which will see him attempt 1,600 lengths of a 25 metre pool over 50 sessions. Each length being equivalent to one mile of the 1,600 mile Orinocco River which runs the length of Venezuela.

If you can give Richard a cash boost then contact the Programme Editor at Swindon Town FC who will be happy to pass on his details.

Party time

Swindon Town Supporters Club are staging a New Years Eve party on Wednesday December 31st from 7pm to 12.30am.

There is no cost for members while non-members can gain entry for £5 and once inside drinks will be club, not pub prices!

For more details speak to the committee on **01793 422246 (evenings).**



Nationwide Review

There is no Nationwide Review in today's Matchday Magazine due to print deadlines over the festive period.

But normal service will resume for our next home league game against near neighbours Reading on Saturday January 17th.



Thanks to the fans

The fans have been fantastic so far this season. We have had some great gates here at the County Ground and I know earlier in the season there was talk about us being disappointed that some people weren't coming, but the attendances have been above what we expected. Our total gate number is only down because of our poor cup run - and let's hope we can pick that up in the FA Cup!

Generally our supporters have been fantastic, trouble has been minimal and we are all working really hard to try and improve dramatically the facilities for them when they get here.

We have a view that is very much saying, let's stop worrying about the people who don't come and let's make sure we are looking after properly the ones who do come.

I hope you had a good Christmas and have a great New Year.

I look forward to hearing you cheer us all the way to Wembley.

chairman's mess

Rikki Hunt

It has been a very interesting year because it has been one of a lot of change at the Club.

Not change in personnel in particular, but more in the structure of the Club and the way we work.

Since I took over as Chairman we have had much to do in terms of getting the Club to run a different way than in the past.

That is having Steve Jones and Steve McMahon as the drivers for what's going on in the Club day to day, with the Directors taking a more consultative role.

This has been the biggest change that has gone on locally at the Club but clearly there have been lots of things going on in football during that period and here we are at the crossroads of the Football League with some of the biggest decisions in the history of football to be made in the next couple of months, with talk of a Football League "Super League" and six or seven divisions of different sizes.

With all this going on it has turned out to be a far busier year as Chairman than I expected but I've enjoyed every minute of it. As far as we are concerned it has been a great year on the pitch and I couldn't have wished for a better start. I think if we had been at the bottom there would have been calls of "sack the Chairman" but we've had a fantastic start with Steve Jones and his team doing marvellously behind the scenes and what's gone on on the pitch is just a reflection of that.

To be up there at number one

or two makes me very proud as Chairman of the Club. It makes you proud as a fan and proud as a Director, but as Chairman there is something special about that and people talk to you a lot more about it.

I can't go anywhere in the town without somebody commenting to me about Swindon Town and certainly sitting up at the top of the league has raised our profile, as we saw when the national press were down here in force doing features and interviews.

It's a far cry from the end of last season when we had that miserable run but even at that stage, we knew it wasn't terminal. We knew we needed players, we said we were going to strengthen the squad with more players and we've changed some along the way as well. As yet we haven't quite got the number we want as far as the size of the squad is concerned, but that is balanced by the fact that what we have brought in has been real quality.

George Ndah is a class act and Chris Hay is a player people will be talking about forever at Swindon I think. But there have been other players coming in that have done great jobs for us, including some of the youngsters like Robin Hulbert, Michael Pattimore and Sol Davis who have been thrown in at the deep end and done brilliantly.

We are always on the look-out for new faces. Steve has the view that you have to keep culling the team, changing maybe two or three a year and keeping things fresh, rather

age

than getting a good team and sitting with it forever because football doesn't allow you to do that anymore.

Clearly, more recently, we've spent a lot of time talking about promotion and we said at the beginning of the season that we expected to be in the play-offs. When you say that, you have got to expect if you are Swindon Town to win the play-offs. We've done it twice before and then you start to think about how we would cope in the Premier League this time and we've started planning for that from a playing perspective and a financial point.

Purchasing the freehold of the County Ground is a big part of our future plans and the response from the Council has been very positive and no matter what happens now, the Council are trying to look at the options for the Club and I feel quite encouraged by that.

I'm sure if anything happens it will do before the end of the season and if that is the case it would be a great way to end my first year because the freehold is vitally important to our long term security. We need that freehold if we are to push forward.

If we did get it it would be the single most important thing this Club has done in the last 10 or 15 years - there is no question about that.



statistics 1997/98 season



**Ipswich
Town**



All home Saturday fixtures will kick-off at 3.00pm.
Home Sunday and Bank Holiday fixtures will kick-off as advertised.
Home midweek fixtures will kick-off at 7.45pm.
All dates and times of kick-off's are subject to change.



1 NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION 1 TABLE 1997/98 AS AT 22.12.97

	P	W	D	L	W	D	L	F	A	PTS.
MIDDLESBROUGH	23	7	2	2	6	4	2	39	19	45
NOTTINGHAM FOREST	23	9	2	1	4	4	3	37	21	45
SHEFFIELD UNITED	23	8	3	0	3	6	3	34	22	42
CHARLTON ATHLETIC	23	8	2	1	4	3	5	43	29	41
WEST BROMWICH ALBION	23	8	1	3	4	3	4	25	21	40
SUNDERLAND	22	5	4	2	6	2	3	35	21	39
SWINDON TOWN	23	8	3	1	3	2	6	32	31	38
WOLVES	23	7	4	0	3	2	7	29	36	36
STOCKPORT COUNTY	23	7	4	0	3	1	8	39	32	35
BRADFORD CITY	23	6	4	2	2	5	4	22	22	33
BIRMINGHAM CITY	23	5	3	3	3	5	4	24	19	32
QUEENS PARK RANGERS	23	6	4	2	2	2	7	28	36	30
NORWICH CITY	23	4	4	4	4	2	5	23	32	30
IPSWICH TOWN	22	4	3	3	2	6	4	27	25	27
STOKE CITY	23	4	2	4	3	4	6	24	30	27
OXFORD UNITED	23	5	3	3	2	2	8	29	33	26
PORT VALE	23	4	4	4	3	1	7	26	31	26
READING	23	4	3	5	2	4	5	21	35	25
MANCHESTER CITY	23	4	3	5	2	3	6	26	27	24
HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	23	3	3	5	3	2	7	24	37	23
TRANMERE ROVERS	22	5	2	4	1	2	8	28	34	22
BURY	23	3	6	3	1	4	6	22	32	22
CREWE ALEXANDRA	23	2	2	8	4	1	6	26	39	21
PORTSMOUTH	22	4	2	6	1	3	6	26	36	20



First Team Player Appearances 97/98

Player Name:	League		Cup		Total	
	Apps.	Gs.	Apps.	Gs.	Apps.	Gs.
WAYNE ALLISON	16	3	2	0	18	3
BRIAN BORROWS	18	0	0	0	18	0
DARREN BULLOCK	12(5)	0	0	0	12(5)	0
CHRIS CASPER	8(1)	1	0	0	8(1)	1
LEE COLLINS	4(2)	0	0	0	4(2)	0
STEVE COWE	4(2)	1	(1)	0	4(3)	1
PHILIPPE CUERVO	6(1)	0	2	0	8(1)	0
IAN CULVERHOUSE	7(1)	0	0	0	7(1)	0
FREDERIC DARRAS	11(2)	0	2	0	13(2)	0
SOL DAVIS	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
FRASER DIGBY	20	0	1	0	21	0
JASON DRYSDALE	8(2)	0	2	0	10(2)	0
STEVE FINNEY	5(4)	4	1	0	6(4)	4
TY GOODEN	23	2	2	0	25	2
CHRIS HAY	16(2)	13	1	0	17(2)	13
ROBIN HULBERT	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
SCOTT LEITCH	13	1	2	1	15	2
STEVE MILDENHALL	1	0	0	0	1	0
ALAN McDONALD	19	1	2	0	21	1
STEVE McMAHON	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
ALEX MEECHAN	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
GEORGE NDAH	5	1	0	0	5	1
MICHAEL PATTIMORE	(2)	0	0	0	(2)	0
MARK ROBINSON	7(1)	0	1	0	8(1)	0
MARK SEAGRAVES	5	0	2	0	7	0
ALEX SMITH	2(3)	0	0	0	2(3)	0
FRANK TALIA	0	0	1	0	1	0
CRAIG TAYLOR	12(2)	2	0	0	12(2)	2
DAVID THOMPSON	5	0	0	0	5	0
MARK WALTERS	14(5)	3	1(1)	0	15(6)	3
TONY WARNER	2	0	0	0	2	0
KEVIN WATSON	10(1)	0	0	0	10(1)	0

Date	Opponents	Res	Att.
SAT AUG 9	CREWE ALEXANDRA	H 2-0	8,334
WED AUG 13	WATFORD CCC 1 (1)	H 0-2	6,271
Sat Aug 16	Reading	A 1-0	9,338
SAT AUG 23	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	H 1-1	7,683
Tues Aug 26	Watford CCC 1 (2)	A 1-1	7,712
Sat Aug 30	Stoke City	A 2-1	23,000
Tues Sep 2	Ipswich Town	A 1-2	11,246
SUN SEP 7	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	H 0-0	13,051
SAT SEP 13	TRANMERE ROVERS	H 2-1	6,811
Sat Sep 20	West Bromwich Albion	A 0-0	16,237
Sat Sep 27	Manchester City	A 0-6	26,646
SAT OCT 4	PORT VALE	H 4-2	8,076
SAT OCT 11	BURY	H 3-1	7,998
Sat Oct 18	Wolverhampton W.	A 1-3	21,794
Tue Oct 21	Sunderland	A 0-0	27,553
SAT OCT 25	NORWICH CITY	H 1-0	9,842
Fri Oct 31	Portsmouth	A 1-0	8,707
WED NOV 5	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	H 3-1	10,132
SAT NOV 8	BRADFORD CITY	H 1-0	10,030
Sat Nov 15	Stockport County	A 2-4	7,694
SAT NOV 22	MIDDLESBROUGH	H 1-2	15,228
Fri Nov 28	Charlton Athletic	A 0-3	15,481
SAT DEC 6	OXFORD UNITED	H 4-1	10,902
Sat Dec 13	Sheffield United	A 1-2	18,115
SAT DEC 20	BIRMINGHAM CITY	H 1-1	10,334
Fri Dec 26	Nottingham Forest	A	
SUN DEC 28	IPSWICH TOWN	H	
SAT JAN 3	STEVENAGE BOROUGH F.A. Cup 3	H	
Sun Jan 11	Crewe Alexandra (1pm)	A	
SAT JAN 17	READING	H	
Sat Jan 24	(F.A. CUP 4)	A	
WED JAN 28	STOKE CITY	H	
Sat Jan 31	Huddersfield Town	A	
SAT FEB 7	WEST BROMWICH ALBION	H	
Sat Feb 14	Tranmere Rovers (F.A. Cup 5)	A	
Tue Feb 17	Port Vale	A	
SAT FEB 21	MANCHESTER CITY	H	
WED FEB 25	WOLVERHAMPTON W.	H	
Sat Feb 28	Bury	A	
Tue Mar 3	Bradford City	A	
SAT MAR 7	PORTSMOUTH (F.A. CUP 6)	H	
Sat Mar 14	Queens Park Rangers	A	
SAT MAR 21	STOCKPORT COUNTY	H	
Sat Mar 28	Middlesbrough	A	
SAT APR 4	CHARLTON ATHLETIC (F.A. Cup SF)	H	
Sat Apr 11	Oxford United	A	
MON APR 13	SHEFFIELD UNITED	H	
Sat Apr 18	Birmingham City	A	
Sat Apr 25	Norwich City	A	
SUN MAY 3	SUNDERLAND	H	
Sat May 16	F.A. Cup Final		

Stats table key

FAC = F.A. Cup
C.C.C = Coca-Cola Cup
* After Extra Time
^ Indicates own goal

Substitutes Used

number in brackets
indicates player
replaced ()

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
DIGBY	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	ROBINSON	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	FINNEY(9)	BULLOCK(8)	WALTERS	
DIGBY	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	ROBINSON	CUERVO	FINNEY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE(8)	WATSON	WALTERS(5)	
DIGBY	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	ROBINSON	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	FINNEY(9)	BULLOCK(8)	WALTERS(12)	
DIGBY	DARRAS	BULLOCK	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	WALTERS	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE(8)	WATSON	McMAHON(3)	
TALIA	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	WALTERS	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	ELKINS	BULLOCK	
DIGBY	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	WALTERS	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	SMITH(4)	BULLOCK(3)	
DIGBY	DARRAS	DRYSDALE	LEITCH	SEAGRAVES	MCDONALD	WALTERS	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	SMITH(5)	BULLOCK(4)	
DIGBY	DARRAS	BORROWS	BULLOCK	CASPER	MCDONALD	WALTERS	CUERVO	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	DRYSDALE	WATSON	McAREAVEY	
DIGBY	DARRAS	BORROWS	BULLOCK	CASPER	MCDONALD	WALTERS	DRYSDALE	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	FINNEY(9)	WATSON(7)	SMITH	
DIGBY	DARRAS	BORROWS	BULLOCK	CASPER	MCDONALD	SMITH	DRYSDALE	COWE	ALLISON	GOODEN	FINNEY	COLLINS	SEAGRAVES	
DIGBY	DARRAS	BORROWS	BULLOCK	CASPER	MCDONALD	SMITH	LEITCH	COWE	ALLISON	GOODEN	HAY(3)	DRYSDALE(2)	WALTERS(7)	
DIGBY	DRYSDALE	BORROWS	LEITCH	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	WALTERS	WATSON	HAY 3	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	COLLINS(8)	DARRAS(2)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	COLLINS	LEITCH	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	WALTERS	WATSON	HAY 2	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	DRYSDALE(7)	CASPER(6)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	CULVERHOUSE	LEITCH	TAYLOR	CASPER	WALTERS	COLLINS	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	HULBERT(4)	MEECHAN(7)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	CULVERHOUSE	BULLOCK	TAYLOR	CASPER	WATSON	COLLINS	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	HULBERT	WALTERS(7)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	CULVERHOUSE	BULLOCK	TAYLOR	CASPER	WATSON	WALTERS	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	SMITH(8)	ELKINS	
MILDENHALL	BORROWS	CULVERHOUSE	BULLOCK	TAYLOR	CASPER	WATSON	WALTERS	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	COWE	HULBERT	ELKINS	
DIGBY	BORROWS	CULVERHOUSE	BULLOCK	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	WATSON	WALTERS	HAY	ALLISON	GOODEN	MEECHAN	DAVIS(3)	PATTIMORE(8)	
WARNER	BORROWS	CULVERHOUSE	LEITCH	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	WATSON	DRYSDALE	HAY	COWE	GOODEN	MEECHAN	DAVIS	PATTIMORE(4)	
WARNER	BORROWS	CULVERHOUSE	LEITCH	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	WATSON	WALTERS	HAY	COWE	GOODEN	FINNEY(9)	DRYSDALE	ROBINSON(3)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	ROBINSON	LEITCH	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	THOMPSON	WATSON	FINNEY	NDAH	GOODEN	CULVERHOUSE	WARNER	WALTERS(10)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	ROBINSON	LEITCH	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	THOMPSON	WATSON	FINNEY	NDAH	GOODEN	COWE(9)	BULLOCK(7)	CULVERHOUSE(4)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	ROBINSON	BULLOCK	DARRAS	MCDONALD	THOMPSON	WALTERS	FINNEY	NDAH	GOODEN	COWE	TAYLOR(8)	CUERVO(4)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	ROBINSON	BULLOCK	DARRAS	MCDONALD	THOMPSON	COLLINS	FINNEY	NDAH	GOODEN	COWE	TAYLOR(5)	WALTERS	
DIGBY	BORROWS	ROBINSON	BULLOCK	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	THOMPSON	WALTERS	FINNEY	NDAH	GOODEN	HAY(9)	COLLINS(8)	DARRAS(10)	

Next Home Match

Saturday 3rd
January

FA CUP ROUND 3

Sw
Stevenage
Borough

Kick-Off 3.00pm

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Information

IMPORTANT
NOTICE

Important safety
announcements by the Club
Management over the public
address system will be preceded
by a loud signal to catch the
attention of spectators.

team check

Swindon Town

- FRASER DIGBY 1
- BRIAN BORROWS 2
- MARK ROBINSON 3
- DARREN BULLOCK 4
- FREDERIC DARRAS 5
- ALAN McDONALD 6
- DAVID THOMPSON 7
- LEE COLLINS 8
- STEVE FINNEY 9
- GEORGE NDAH 10
- TY GOODEN 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- TEAM MANAGER STEVE McMAHON

Ipswich Town

- RICHARD WRIGHT
- MICK STOCKWELL
- MAURICIO TARICCO
- GERAINT WILLIAMS
- ADAM TANNER
- JASON CUNDY
- KIERON DYER
- MATT HOLLAND
- DAVID JOHNSON
- JAMES SCOWCROFT
- BOBBY PETTA
- TEAM MANAGER GEORGE BURLEY

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news updates, match commentaries and all the latest ticket information.

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Today's Result and Attendance

Swindon v Ipswich Town

Attendance

TY TOWN

Referee:
David Orr (Iver, Bucks)

Assisted by:
B.P. Elliott (Worcestershire)
A. Penn (Birmingham)

Reserve Official:
K. Barnes (Swindon)

David Orr

David is a 44 year Civil Engineer who is married with two teenage sons. Began refereeing in 1979 and progressed via the Spartan and Isthmian Leagues to the Football League Line in 1987. Became a Football League referee in 1993. David's hobbies include travelling, classical music and D.I.Y.

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Next Home Match

Saturday 3rd January 1998

FA CUP ROUND 3

Stevenage vs Borough

Kick-Off 3.00pm

Matchday Magazine

Matchday Magazine Editor:
JASON HARRIS: (01793) 532121

Produced & Printed by:
PIA ADVERTISING & MARKETING.