

# Swindon 97-98 SEASON

# town

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**Saturday 21st  
February 1998**

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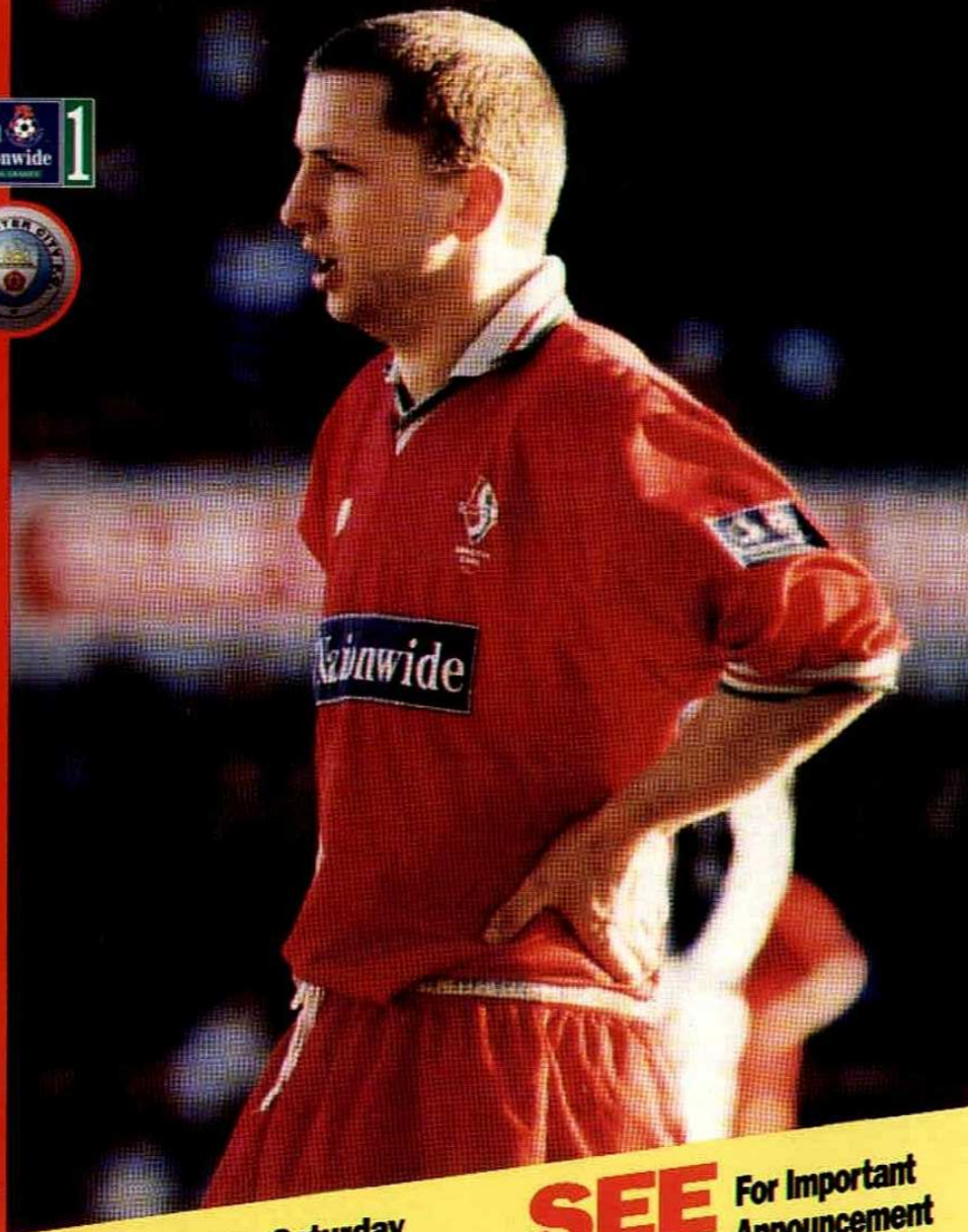
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**Action pages 14-15**  
All the best shots  
from the away trip  
to Port Vale

**Today's visitors**  
pages 6-9

**Profile page 44**  
Interview with  
Mark Robinson



**FREE!** Philippe  
**INSIDE** Cuervo  
Poster

**NEXT** Saturday  
7th March  
HOME MATCH vs Portsmouth

**SEE** For Important  
**PAGE 26** Announcement

ISSUE No.17



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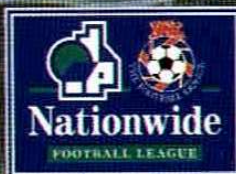
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# welcome to today's game

**A goal after five minutes, a back pass unpunished, the gaffer sent off the bench, our keeper knocked unconscious, and our striker going in goal- Life is never boring with Swindon Town F.C.**

And this was all in the midweek fixture with Port Vale. Collins had a great game and scored a deserved goal, while Bullock dropped into defence and did well. It was also good to see Chris Hay in amongst it with a lot more confidence.

A good three points after two disappointing results against West Brom and Tranmere. We're still in with a shout of the play-offs.

There is all to play in today's game against Manchester City.

Our visitors today are down in the relegation zone, a position that doesn't reflect the ability of the team. Perhaps the latest loan signing of Peter Beardsley can spark off a good run of performances, as long as it doesn't start today.

This hasn't been the only

change for city. Frank Clark has been dismissed and replaced by Joe Royle. The ex-Everton Manager is stepping into a difficult job which has seen 17 different managers since 1972!

Back to our own affairs, the reserves were unlucky not to beat local rivals Oxford, last Saturday, in a 1-1 draw at home. Next week the Reserves entertain Brighton & Hove Albion at the County Ground (Wednesday 25th February). Kick-Off is 7.15pm and tickets can be purchased from the Advance Ticket Office before making your way to the turnstiles.

Our next two games see us play against Division One strugglers Bury and Portsmouth. We've got to be looking to pick up six points from these fixtures. Why not make the away trip and give the lads some vocal support. There are over 2,500 seats available at Bury where payment is by cash at the turnstiles on the day in the Manchester Road (west) Stand. Adults priced at £14.00, Concessions £8.00.

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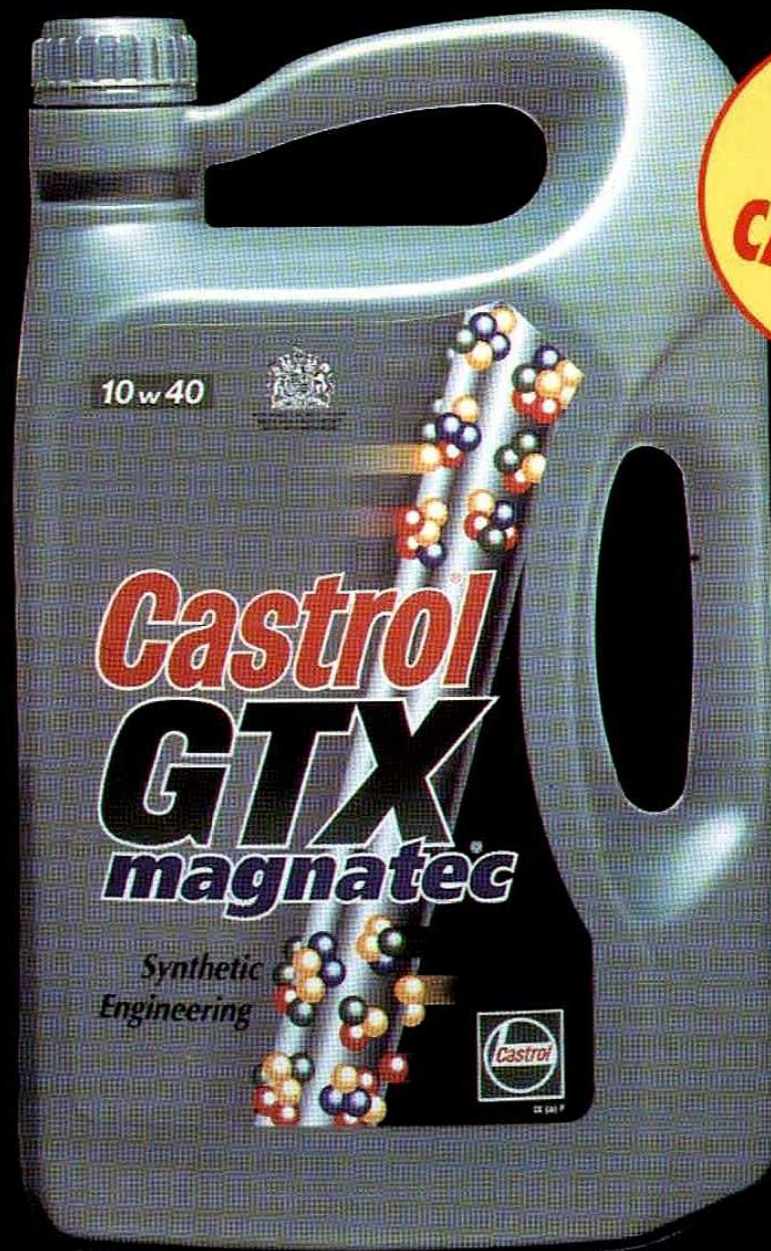
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**NEXT MATCH** Saturday 28th  
February  
vs Bury

The lads have been waiting for this game to avenge the 6-0 drubbing that City gave us earlier this season. That was a bitter pill to swallow when we were flying high at the top of the league. Today we're under no illusions about the mountainous task ahead of us but with your support we've got a great chance. So come on, get behind the Town and let's see if we can pick up all three points against Kinkladze and Co.



# Steve McMahon says

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***I'm not going to start saying we've turned the corner- Port Vale was a good result, now we've got to build on it.***

The lads pulled together at Vale and deserved to get the three points. What pleased me most was that they showed a lot of effort and determination, something that was lacking against Tranmere.

## **Good Start**

We got the best possible start with a great goal from Collins. Finney did well to get to the by-line he then hit a low cross into the six-yard box where Collins fired it in. It was nice to see him get a goal, the lad was magnificent all night, working hard down the right hand side. From here you could see the team's confidence grow. With about half an hour gone Finney cut inside their defender and hit a left foot shot at the keeper and we continued to create chances.

I took the decision to play Darren Bullock in a defensive role. Despite his height, he's good in the air and has plenty of aggression. Vale had their share of chances but we battled and we fought to stop them becoming a threat, Bullock making some important challenges.

It is during games like this that you see what a team is made of. In the dying minutes of the game we're without Drysdale and Digby, so the lads were down to the bare bones again.

But Steve Finney took over as goalkeeper and pulled off a great reflex save to tip Gareth

Ainsworth's volley round the post, giving us an important victory.

## **Looking Back**

Looking back at our last two games against West Brom and Tranmere it is clear we have been inconsistent.

Against West Brom I thought we were unlucky not to get more out of the game. We controlled the first half, and created some good opportunities but they scored from virtually their first attack. The Baggies are a team in play-off contention so it was a good yardstick with which to judge ourselves.

A week later I saw the other side of the coin when we were turned over by Tranmere 3-0. There can be no excuses for a performance like this. I only had fourteen players to pick from, but those who did play should have been capable of a decent ninety minutes. Instead I saw seven players who didn't perform. A team can carry one or two bad players but if half the team don't do the business you're going to struggle.

After this, it is clear we still need a few new faces at the club and I'm determined to bring some in within the next week or two. We've got players lined up and we need them desperately to brighten things up.

Today's fixture has always stood out as one of the big games of the seasons. Manchester City may be in the bottom half of the league but we know better than anyone that, on their day, they can really turn it on.

## **The Best of Luck**

I would like to congratulate Joe Royle who has taken over as the new Man City manager. It has not been an easy job to do of late but I'm sure Joe will do well for one of my old clubs.

today's visitors *The Blues*

# Man City

***This afternoon we welcome the players, supporters and staff of Manchester City Football Club to the County Ground for today's Nationwide League Division One match.***

We hope you all enjoy your trip to Wiltshire and that you have a safe journey home after the match.

The question on everybody's lips remains the same as it has done for the last couple of seasons, since Alan Ball took the sky blue side of Manchester out of the Premiership. Just what is going on at Maine Road?

Fanatical and remarkably loyal support, a team full of quality players and a proven manager with a great track record mean

that, on paper at least, City should boast one of the best sides in the country, let alone Division One. But, as the old joke goes, they don't play on paper, they play on grass - and that is where it has all gone wrong.

At the time of writing City are perched anxiously in the division's bottom three after what in the old days would have been seen as a shock home defeat by fellow strugglers Bury last Saturday. But gone are the days of Manchester derbies against the Ryan Giggs' and David Beckham's of this world. These days their closest city rivals are the likes of Bury and Stockport County.

Way back in September, City were adamant that 1997/98 was going to be the season when all

the malaise of the last few years was finally thrown off and the good times were going to come back to Maine Road.

There seemed to be some justification for those high spirits as an impressive 3-1 victory away at table-topping Nottingham Forest was quickly followed by a 6-0 battering of high-flying Swindon at Maine Road.

But it proved a false dawn and Frank Clark's side promptly went four games without a victory, failing to recapture that sort of form ever since. Now with Joe Royle in the hot seat things may change. This said, Steve McMahon will be looking forward to renewing hostilities with his former club, and will be anxious to make amends for that shock result suffered by the Robins back in September.



**Manchester City Football Club**





# Man City

## Goalkeepers

### Martyn Margetson

Capitalised on Tommy Wright's pre-season injury to play in City's first few games of 1997/98. Has spent much of his time at Maine Road in the shadows, first of Tony Coton and later Eike Immel.

**Born:** West Neath, 08.09.71  
**Height:** 6ft  
**Weight:** 14st  
**League record this season:** 19 games, 0 goals  
**Honours:** Wales Schools, Youth, U21, 'B' caps

Era	Club	Games
93/94	Man City	6
93/94	Bristol R	3
93/94	Bolton	-
94/95	Man City	-
94/95	Luton	-
96/97	Man City	17

### Tommy Wright

Experienced 'keeper who tore a thigh muscle during the club's pre-season tour of Scotland in July 1997 and missed a big chunk of the early part of the campaign. Impressive performances for Northern Ireland last season put him in the spotlight and he was reunited with his former Forest boss Frank Clark in March 1997.

**Born:** Belfast, 29.08.63  
**Height:** 6ft 1in  
**Weight:** 14st 5lb  
**League record this season:** 12/0  
**Honours:** Div One title 1993; N.Ireland U23, Full caps; Football League Rep XI

Era	Club	Games
90/91	Newcastle	23
90/91	Hull	6

93/94	Newcastle	50
96/97	Nottm For	11
96/97	Reading	17
96/97	Man City	13

**Other goalkeepers include:** Michael Brown (ex-YTS); Nick Weaver (ex-YTS).

## Defenders

### Ged Brannan

Versatile defender or midfielder who is difficult to knock off the ball and who gets forward well. He has a contract at Maine Road until 2001 and his power and determination are a major asset for City.

**Born:** Liverpool, 15.01.72  
**Height:** 6ft  
**Weight:** 12st 5lb  
**League record this season:** 26/3  
**Honours:** None

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Tranmere	238
96/97	Man City	11

### Richard Edghill

Highly-rated youngster who suffered a serious knee injury in December 1995 and consequently missed the whole of last season. Just 23, he was on the brink of a Full England call-up before injury struck. Quick and composed.

**Born:** Oldham, 23.09.74  
**Height:** 5ft 9in  
**Weight:** 11st 3lb  
**League record this season:** 26/0  
**Honours:** England U21, 'B' caps

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Man City	49

### Murtaz Shelia

Tough-tackling player who in October 1997 became the third Georgian international to join

City, following in the footsteps of Giorgi Kinkladze and Mikhail Kavelashvili. The Georgian international captain packs a fearsome shot and scored on his debut for City, v Birmingham.

**Born:** Georgia, 25.03.69  
**League record this season:** 8/2  
**Honours:** Georgia Full caps  
**From:** Alania Vladikavkaz, Georgia £500,000

### Kit Symons

No nonsense central defender who forms the backbone of the City back-line. He was appointed club captain in July 1996 and is a firm favourite among City fans. Originally came to Maine Road in a deal which also took Carl Griffiths and Fitzroy Simpson to Portsmouth.

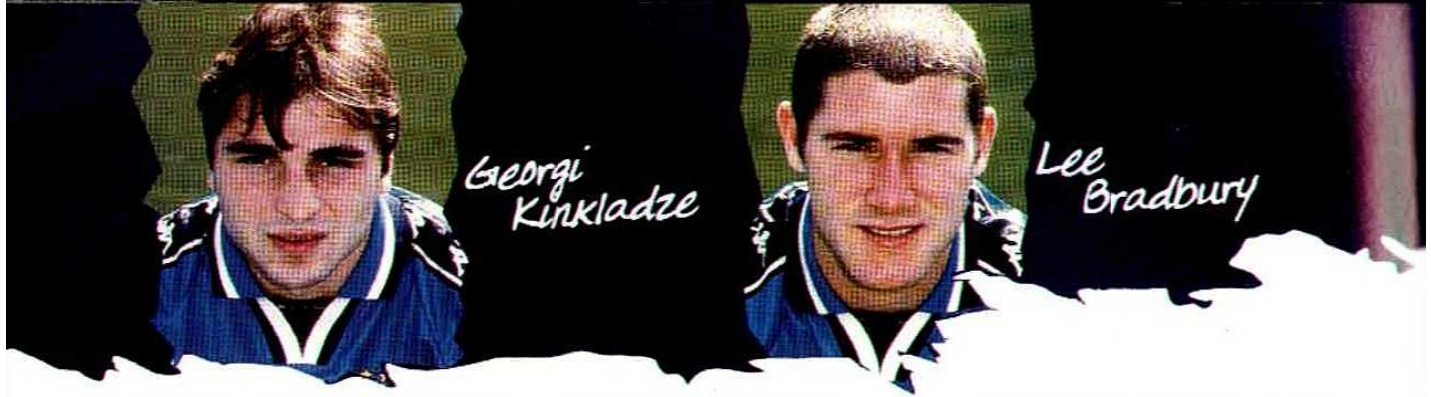
**Born:** Basingstoke, 08.03.71  
**Height:** 6ft 1in  
**Weight:** 13st 7lb  
**League record this season:** 30/1  
**Honours:** Wales Youth, U21, 'B', Full caps

Era	Club	Games
95/96	Portsmouth	161
96/97	Man City	82

### Jason Van Blerk

Overcame major work permit problems last season - City were twice refused the necessary paperwork - before finally being allowed to remain in the UK by the Department of Employment. Knee injuries also curtailed last season for him, but Frank Clark had seen enough of this accomplished attacking left-back or midfielder to snap him up on a free transfer in August 1997.

**Born:** Sydney, Australia, 16.03.68  
**Height:** 6ft 1in  
**Weight:** 13st



**League record this season:** 19/0  
**Honours:** Australia Full caps

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Millwall	73

### Tony Vaughan

Former Ipswich Town favourite who transferred to Maine Road in a tribunal set deal during the summer. Hard tackling defender who likes to push forward.

**Born:** Manchester, 11.10.75  
**Height:** 6ft 1in  
**Weight:** 11st 2lb  
**League record this season:** 13/1  
**Honours:** England Schools, Youth caps

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Ipswich	67

**Other defenders include:**  
 Rae Ingram, John Foster, Scott Hiley, Paul Beesley, Anthony Callaghan, Anthony Fenton, Nick Fenton, Ben Gallagher, Stephen Rimmer.

## Midfielders

### Ian Brightwell

Principally a midfielder, but also happy in defence, Ian was an excellent track athlete before turning to football in his mid-teens. His ability to the track was not surprising, as he is the son of international athletes Robbie Brightwell and Ann Packer. His brother, David, is also a professional.

**Born:** Lutterworth, 09.04.68  
**Height:** 5ft 10in  
**Weight:** 12st 5lb  
**League record this season:** 20/0  
**Honours:** FA Youth Cup 1986;

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Man City	300

### Michael R Brown

A home grown youngster and former captain of the City youth team, Michael has established himself in Man City's midfield this season. Was sent-off only minutes after entering the field as a substitute on his club debut, v QPR in September 1994.

**Born:** Hartlepool, 25.01.77  
**Height:** 5ft 8in  
**Weight:** 11st 8lb  
**League record this season:** 17/0  
**Honours:** England U21 caps

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Man City	32
96/97	Hartlepool	6

### Kevin Horlock

Hard-working midfielder man and former Swindon favourite who became Frank Clark's first signing for City when he joined in January 1997. Ironically, scored his first City goal against the Robins just a couple of weeks later.

**Born:** Plumstead, 01.11.72  
**Height:** 6ft  
**Weight:** 12st  
**League record this season:** 20/3  
**Honours:** Div Two title 1996; N.Ireland 'B', Full caps

Era	Club	Games
92/93	West Ham	-
96/97	Swindon	163
96/97	Man City	18

### Georgi Kinkladze

Probably the most naturally gifted player in the First Division, 'Gio' saw his season get off to a slow start thanks to injury, and was later involved in spectacular high-speed car

crash. City's Player of the Year last season for the second consecutive campaign. Signed a new three-year contract with the club in May 1997.

**Born:** Tbilisi, Georgia, 06.11.73  
**Height:** 5ft 8in  
**Weight:** 10st 9lb  
**League record this season:** 25/3  
**Honours:** Georgia Full caps

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Man City	76

### Jeff Whitley

Promising wide man who made history last season by becoming the first black player to represent N.Ireland in a Full international. His brother, Jim, is also on the books at Maine Road.

**Born:** Zambia, 14.04.75  
**Height:** 5ft 8in  
**Weight:** 10st  
**League record this season:** 5/0  
**Honours:** N.Ireland Full caps

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Man City	23

### Jim Whitley

A slower starter than his brother, 22-year-old Jim finally made his senior debut for City this season, in the FA Cup Third Round tie against Bradford City. Happiest playing central midfield, he is a good passer of the ball who likes to direct the pace and flow of the game.

**Born:** Zambia, 14.03.75  
**Height:** 5ft 9in  
**Weight:** 11st  
**League record this season:** 3/0  
**Honours:** None

Era	Club	Games
96/97	Man City	-





## Gerard Wiekens

Signed for City in March 1997 but was immediately loaned back to his former club, Veendam, for the remainder of last season. Scored on his debut, v Portsmouth, on the opening day of this season and has established himself as a City regular.

**Born:** Tolhviswyk, Holland, 25.02.73

**Height:** 6ft 1in

**League record this season:** 25/3

**Honours:** None

### Other midfielders include:

Lee Crooks, Tony Scully, Neil Brisco, Nigel Clough, Gary Mason, Brian McGlinchey, Eddie McGoldrick, Neil Morley, Scott Thomas.

## Forwards

### Lee Bradbury

Became City's record signing when he transferred from Portsmouth

during the summer. Powerful front-runner with an eye for goal, he began his football career with the Army, but has been sidelined by injury for a chunk of the current campaign.

**Born:** Isle of Wight, 03.07.75

**Height:** 6ft 2in

**Weight:** 13st 10lb

**League record this season:** 13/2

**Honours:** England U21 caps

Era	Club	Games
95/96	Portsmouth	12
95/96	Exeter	14
96/97	Portsmouth	42

### Paul Dickov

Alan Ball's last signing for City, Paul struggled a little under boss Frank Clark. Despite his lack of height he is a determined and skilful finisher and he scored twice during City's 6-0 win over Swindon early in the current campaign.

**Born:** Glasgow, 01.11.72

**Height:** 5ft 5in

**Weight:** 11st 9lb

**League record this season:** 24/8

**Honours:** ECWC 1994; Scotland

Schools, Youth, U21 caps

Era	Club	Games
93/94	Arsenal	4
93/94	Luton	15
93/94	Brighton	8
96/97	Arsenal	17
96/97	Man City	29

### Uwe Rosler

Unsettled City striker who has been attracting a lot of interest from Premiership clubs this season, particularly Everton. Top scorer last term with 17 goals.

**Born:** Attenburg, Germany, 15.11.68

**Height:** 6ft 1in

**Weight:** 12st 6lb

**League record this season:** 17/3

**Honours:** E.Germany Full caps

Era	Club	Games
90/91	Magdeburg, Ger	62
91/92	D.Dresden, Ger	33
92/93	Nuremberg, Ger	28
93/94	D.Dresden, Ger	7
96/97	Man City	123

### Other Forwards include:

Chris Greenacre, Neil Heaney, Alan Bailey, Barry Conlon, Gerry Creaney, Ray Kelly, Aled Rowlands, David Wills, Craig Russell.

# Joe Royle the manager

**A former Manchester City playing hero, Joe Royle returned to the Maine Road hot-seat last Wednesday, in succession to the beleaguered Frank Clark.**

After a bright start under Clark last season, City have slipped away in 1997/98, and the men in suits clearly decided it was time to arrest the club's alarming slide down the First Division table. Last Saturday's dispiriting 1-0 defeat at the hands of fellow-strugglers Bury proved the final straw for the likable Clark.

Royle - who helped City win the League Cup in 1976 - has experienced the 'return of the prodigal son' feeling before - having previously managed at Everton, the club where he first found fame and fortune. He had been the goal scoring hero of Everton's successful sides of the late 1960s and early 1970s and, with his great power in the air and on the ground, won six caps for England.

When he succeeded Mike Walker at Goodison, Royle came with an impressive track record. On a shoestring budget he had guided Oldham back into the old First

Division - as Division Two Champions in 1991/92 - for the first time in more than 65 years, and perhaps more impressively kept them in the top flight for three seasons.

In addition he led the side to the 1990 League Cup Final (lost 1-0 to Nott'm Forest) and to the Semi-Finals of the FA Cup in the same year, where they lost a thrilling replay to eventual winners Man Utd.

As a player, Royle scored 119 goals in 272 appearances for Everton and helped the club to their 1970 League title, as well as appearing in the 1968 FA Cup Final side, before moving to Maine Road in December 1974. He went on to represent Bristol City and Norwich before a serious knee injury brought his playing career to a premature halt in April 1982.

As manager he took Everton to the 1995 FA Cup Final - where they beat Manchester United 1-0 - but failed to mount a serious title challenge and ultimately paid the price, for his failure to reign over neighbours Liverpool, by losing his job during the summer.

Now he has moved to Manchester, and City will be hoping that brighter times lie ahead for the new Royle Blues.

# STATS...STATS...STATS Swindon vs Man City

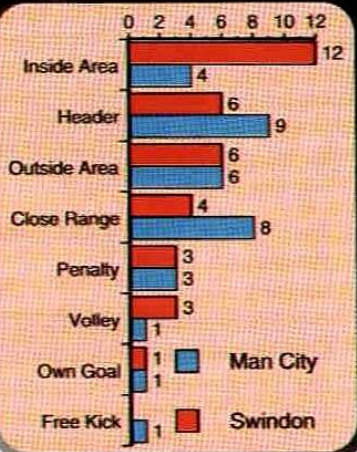
## who's played for Man City

	A	G	C	Previous Clubs
Kit Symons	30	1	3	Portsmouth
8/3/71	<i>Wales</i>		2	
Richard Edgill	26		5	
23/9/74	<i>Eng U21</i>		1	
Ged Brannan	25(1)	3	5	Tranmere
15/1/72			3	
Georgiou Kinkladze	25	3	1	Dynamo Tbilisi
6/7/73	<i>Georgia</i>		4	
Gerard Wiekens	25	3	2	FC Veendam
25/2/73			3	
Paul Dickov	20(4)	8	4	Arsenal Brighton (L)
1/11/72	<i>Scot U21 2(1)</i>		1	Luton
Kevin Horlock	20	3	2	Swindon West Ham
1/11/72	<i>N/Ire</i>		2	
Martin Margetson	19			Luton (L) Bolton (L)
8/9/71	<i>Wal U21</i>		2	Bristol Rovers
Ian Brightwell	18(2)		5	
9/4/56	<i>Eng U21</i>		4	
Craig Russell	15	1		Sunderland
4/2/74			2	
Uwe Roster	14(3)	3	2	Dynamo Dresden
15/1/68	<i>E Germany</i>		4	Nuremberg Magdeberg Chemie Leipzig
Michael Brown	13(4)		2	
5/11/79			1	
Tony Vaughan	13	1	3	Ipswich
11/10/75	<i>Eng Sch</i>		2	
Lee Bradbury	12(1)	2	1	Portsmouth Exeter (L)
15/7/71	<i>Eng U21</i>		2	
Tommy Wright	12			Forest Reading (L)
29/8/63	<i>N/Ire</i>		2	Newcastle Hull (L)
Jason Van Blerk	10(9)		3	Millwall Go Ahead
15/3/66	<i>Australia (2)</i>			
Murtaz Shelia	8	2	2(1)	Atania Vladikavkaz
25/3/69	<i>Georgia</i>		2	Dynamo Tbilisi
Jeff Whitley	7(2)			
14/4/75	<i>N/Ire</i>		2(1)	
Eddie McGoldrick	6(1)		1	Arsenal Palace
30/4/65	<i>Ire</i>		(1)	Northampton
Paul Beesley	4(1)			Leeds Sheff Utd Orient Wigan
21/9/65				
Lee Crooks	3(1)			
14/1/78	<i>Eng Yth</i>			
Chris Greenacre	2(1)		1	Cardiff (L)
23/12/77			(1)	
Neil Heaney	2			Southampton Arsenal
3/11/71	<i>Eng U21</i>			Cambridge (L) Hartlepool (L)
Kakhaber Tskhadadze	2			Atania Vladikavkaz
7/9/66	<i>Georgia</i>			Dynamo Tbilisi
Tony Scully	1(8)			Palace Cardiff (L)
12/6/76	<i>Ire U21</i>			Bournemouth (L)
Barry Conlon	1(6)			QPR
1/10/78				
David Morley	1(2)		1	
25/9/77				
Garry Creaney	1			Chesterfield (L) Burnley (L) Ipswich (L) Oldham (L) Portsmouth Celtic
1/3/70	<i>Scot U21</i>			
Ray Kelly	1			
29/12/76				

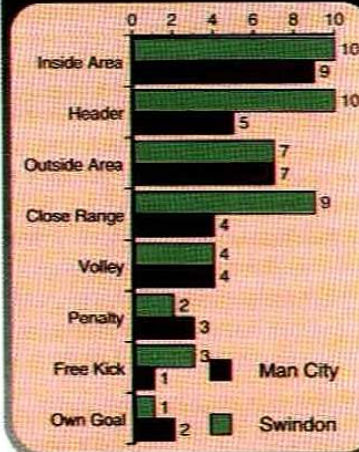
Key: A=Appearances (Sub) C=Cautions (Sent Off) G=Goals  
Cup details, date of birth and international honours in *italics*

Compiled by Football Information Services  
Tel: 0151-632-5679

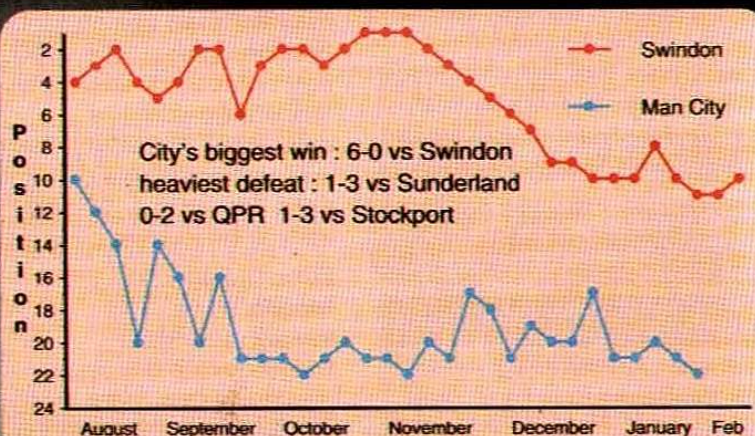
## how goals went in



## how goals conceded



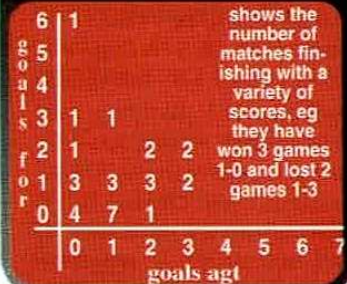
## league position so far this season



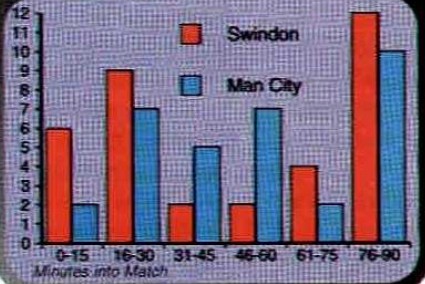
## Man City's 10 year League and Cup record



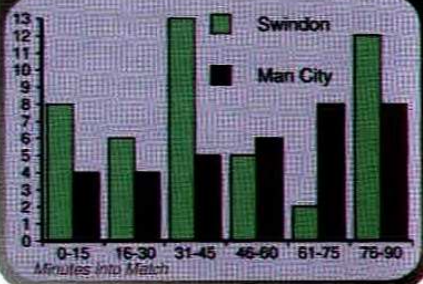
## Man City's results analysis



## when goals were scored



## and when goals conceded



# Looking back...

*Dick Mattick looks back*

## 5 YEARS AGO

Colin Calderwood's 75th minute tackle on Steve Claridge did not look a particularly bad one, but when the Cambridge United striker took a tumble, a penalty was awarded and Alan Kemble netted to end Town's run of three wins in a row. John

Vaughan in the home team's goal had pulled out a great one handed save from a Shaun Taylor header at the end of the first half but in a howling gale and an uneven surface Glen Hoddle's men failed to shine. Other results went Swindon's way and left them in the last play off spot in Division One,

three points ahead of Grimsby Town. Despite a goal by Mike Sharon, Manchester City go down 2-1 in their Premiership match at Carrow Road and slip down the table to 10th position. A four year sponsorship deal with the Premiership is finally agreed by Ross Brewers.

## 10 YEARS AGO

All the goals came in the first half in Town's match at the Gay Meadow. Bernard McNally put Shrewsbury in front from the penalty spot when Dave Bamber handed in the eighth minute. Two minutes later Town's tall striker made amends with a close range shot. The decider came in the 20th minute when Victor Kasule cut inside Dave Hockaday and shot high into the net. The match had been an ill

tempered affair but the major controversy came after the final whistle. As he ran off the field Chris Kamara appeared to elbow Jim Melrose. It was a momentary loss of temper which was to cost him dear as Town suspended him for a month and he was given a hefty fine by the courts. Manchester City go down at home 1-0 to Notts County. In a bad spell they fail to win a League match throughout the whole of February and March and the end of the season sees

them lose their place in the top Division with Swansea and Brighton. Brian Clough suggests banning soccer from TV screens for three years.



## 15 YEARS AGO

A late goal at Colchester's Layer Road robbed Town of what would have been a well earned point. Mick Walker in the Colchester goal had twice been called upon to pull out

diving saves to keep out Paul Batty but the only goal of the game was something of a fluke, a mistimed header by United's on loan John Linford evading the Swindon defenders and falling to Micky Cook who headed the ball in. Ian Scott,

Paul Simpson and Paul Moulden are the scorers as City beat Plymouth Argyle 3-1 at Maine Road to earn a place in the Sixth Round of the F A Cup. Where a 44,000 strong crowd will see them suffer a 4-0 home defeat at the hands of Liverpool.

## FLASH-BACK

When they travelled to Maine Road early in 1965 Swindon had the worst away record in Division Two having lost ten and won just two. They adopted a defensive formation with nominal outside right, Wilf Shergold, actually playing as an extra defender. Tony Hicks in the Town goal was called on to produce a fine save from City's left back Sear as early as the third minute and throughout the game it was the home side

who had 90% of the play. Swindon took the lead after 19 minutes though Brown when he fastened on to a right wing ventre from Don Rogers. Hicks was only beaten once in the first half and then Swindon were saved by the bar when Jimmy Murray's shot crashed against it. The Robins increased their lead after 62 minutes when a pass from Brown caught the City defence square and allowed Summerbee to dash through to score. A long range shot from

Alan Oakes reduced the arrears but there was no further goals for Manchester's smallest ever Saturday crowd of just 8,015 to cheer. There were rumours that City, whose manager George Poyser missed the game to go scouting were interested in signing Town's Mike Summerbee but a new man was to be in charge at Maine Road before Swindon's versatile forward moved North to Moss Side.

# Mike Walsh's diary of the week



## Monday

**9th February**

Players came in for training today with long faces. After the game against West Brom we were more disappointed with the result rather than the team performance. We took the game to them and played well. But after the goal we were chasing the game. We all know what happened with Scott Leitch and Mark Robinson, both players are very apologetic and they have been disciplined internally. It won't happen again.

In training we played some games of eight against eight on a half pitch to encourage some passing and to get the lads enjoying it while also working hard. Then we set off for Tranmere.

## Tuesday

**10th February**

The lads were up for the game and the first twenty minutes we did well. It always looked like the first team to score would go on to win, and unfortunately it wasn't us. I was disappointed with our reaction after going a goal behind and we went back to how we played prior to the last three games.

## Wednesday

**11th February**

The first team had a rest day after last night's game. The reserves had a match against Southampton. The team put on a very respectable performance and should have won, had it not been for one mistake that cost us.

## Thursday

**12th February**

First team were in today, trying to put the game against Tranmere behind them. We took them down to Supermarine for training. We kept the session sharp, keeping the lads on their toes and finished off with some short sprints.

## Friday

**13th February**

Light training session for all the lads, making sure they remain focussed for the coming game on Tuesday.

## Saturday

**14th February**

The reserve team played Saturday morning, against local rivals Oxford. It was a real blow not to win. In the last minute of the game Oxford scored from a free-kick after we totally dominated the match, leaving the scoreline at a 1-1 draw. In the afternoon the coaching staff split up to watch different games. We had a look at a few players and Les O'Neill ran the rule over future opponents.

## Sunday

**15th February**

We took the first team down to the training ground for an eleven against eleven game. It wasn't really a practice game because we were stopping and starting, looking at different match situations, focussing on what is going right and what is going wrong.

## Monday

**16th February**

We tried to keep things nice and bright today, did a lively warm-up and then some work concentrating on defence and the strikers play. We were trying to keep the attackers closer together because, as of late, they seem to be drifting apart from each other. The players seem in good spirits ready for tomorrow.

## Tuesday

**17th February**

The morning was taken up by the trip to Port Vale. On our arrival at the hotel we had the Pre-Match meal then the players went up to their rooms to have a sleep and a relax before the game. At around 5.00pm the team had tea and toast and we set off for the stadium.

We were delighted with the 1-0 victory at the Potteries. We took a good early goal with Collins slotting home Finney's cross. Although they had some chances we kept them under pressure for much of the game. Bullock did a job for us in defence, and what can you say about Finney's save in the last minute? Overall, the gaffa and I were most pleased with the lads effort, they pulled together on the night to give us a deserved victory.



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936/1161 AM

### PRE-DICTA-SCORE AND WIN AN AUTOGRAPHED FOOTBALL

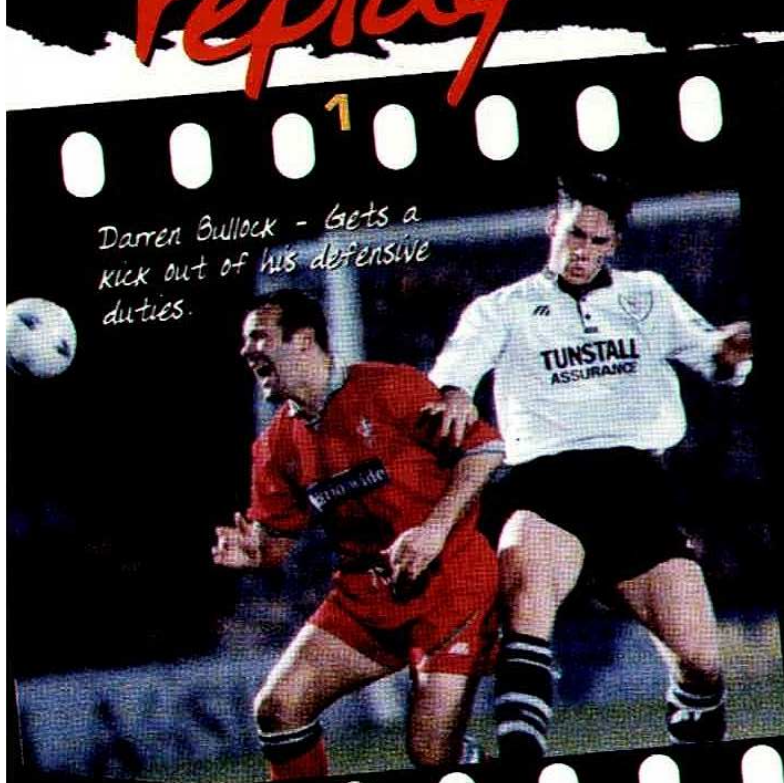
**CLASSIC GOLD**  
BRUNEL  
936/1161 AM

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Sport with *Susanna Bateman*

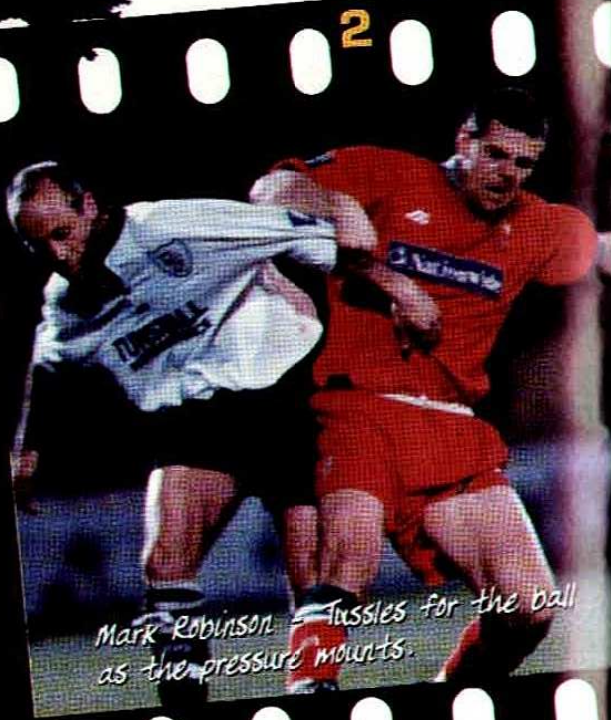
# action

## replay

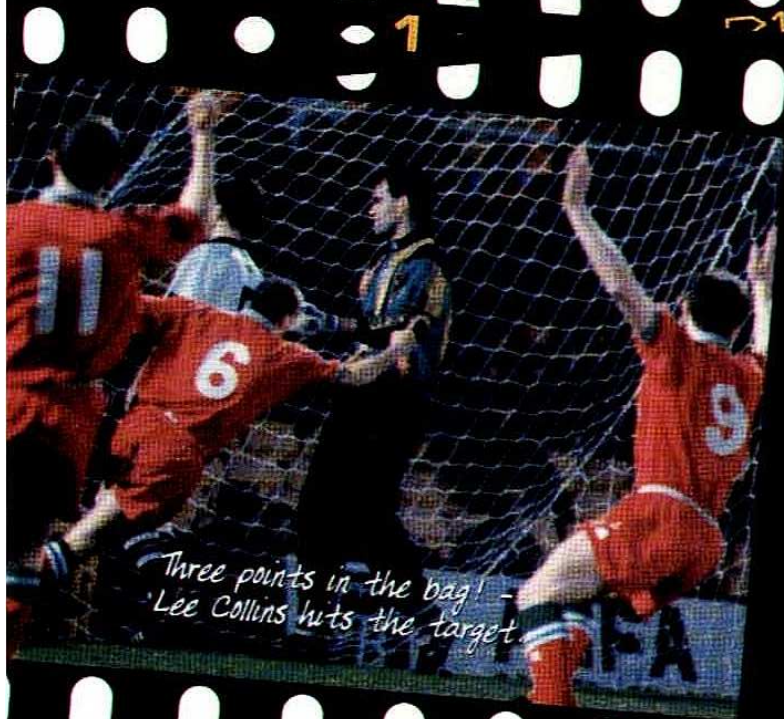
Port Vale



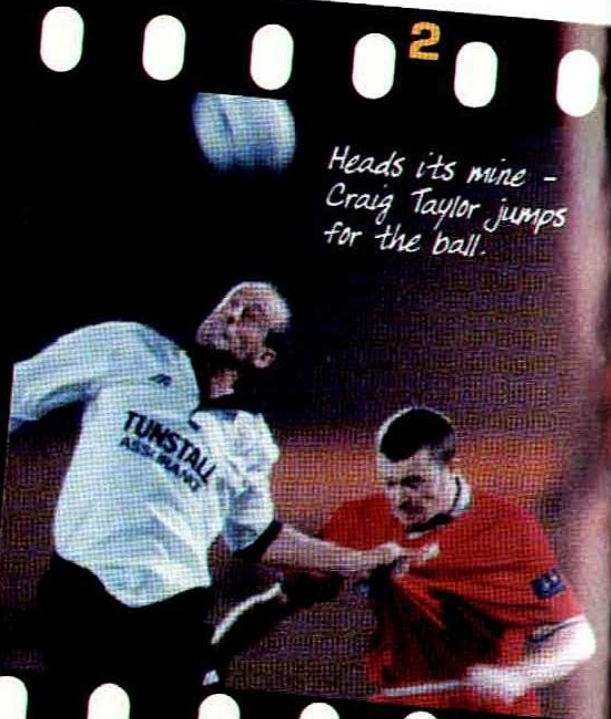
Darren Bullock - Gets a kick out of his defensive duties.



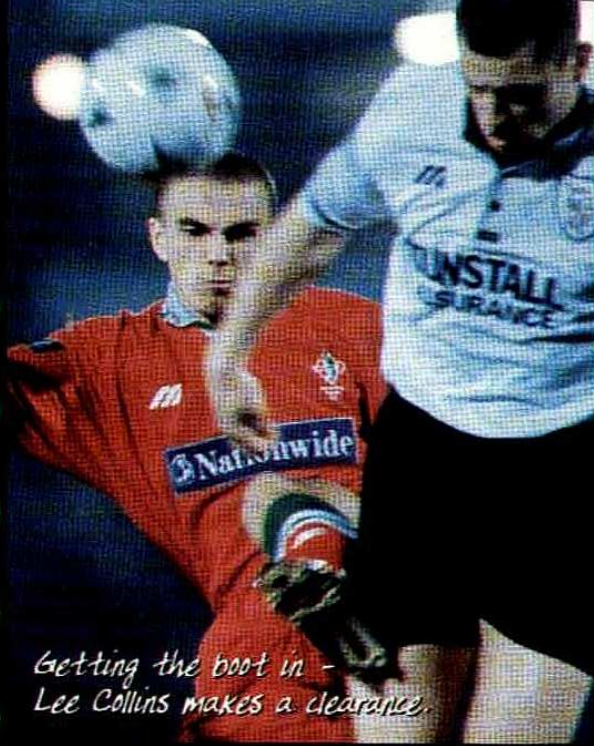
Mark Robinson - Tussles for the ball as the pressure mounts.



Three points in the bag! - Lee Collins hits the target.



Heads it mine - Craig Taylor jumps for the ball.



*Getting the boot in -  
Lee Collins makes a clearance.*



*Finney to the rescue -  
Hero of the night Steve Finney  
gets between the posts.*

## RESULT...

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17TH  
NATIONWIDE DIVISION ONE

**Port Vale 0  
Swindon Town 1**

ATTENDANCE: 5,925

## SWINDON...

- 1 Fraser Digby (Walters 85)
- 2 Mark Robinson
- 3 Brian Borrows
- 4 Scott Leitch
- 5 Craig Taylor
- 6 Lee Collins
- 7 Darren Bullock
- 8 Bobby Howe
- 9 Chris Hay (Cowe 83)
- 10 Steve Finney
- 11 Jason Drysdale (Cuervo 36)

## MATCH REPORT

The lads got off to a dream start in the fourth minute. Steve Finney powered his way to the by-line with the ball, pulled it back to the six yard box where Lee Collins hit the decisive shot past the keeper. After this the game settled as both teams began to play some good football and create chances. Mark Sniijders had a good free kick and hit the bar on the half hour mark. At the other end Steve Finney cut inside from the left and hit a low, hard shot which the keeper saved. On the stroke of half time Port Vale went unpunished when their keeper, Arjan Van Heusden handled Dean Glover's back pass. The gaffa, Steve McMahon was livid and was eventually sent of the bench by the referee Messias. The second half saw a great save from Digby as he stopped Lee Mills powerful header. However, the real drama started in the last minute when Digby took a bad fall during a goal mouth scramble. Knocked unconscious by the fall Digby had to be stretchered off. In steps Steve Finney to take his place for the final few minutes of the game. This gave the signal to Port Vale and they put us under siege. Swindon failed to clear as the ball fell to Ainsworth who shot in a hard 15yard effort goalward. But, temp. goalie Steve Finney pulled off the save of the night, a reflex diving save to secure the points for the Town.

# reserve round-up

with Ross MacLaren



**Avon Insurance Combination Division One.**

**Ipswich Town Reserves 3 Swindon Town Reserves 1**

**After having so much possession in this game it is annoying to have to say sloppy defending cost us the points.**

We started brightly enough with Bradley Peters cutting in from the right and hitting a deflected shot past the keeper. But within two minutes of us scoring we lost a runner from midfield who bent the ball round Fraser for the equaliser. Ipswich scored another before

half-time. Our lads were caught ball watching as an Ipswich player chested the ball down and volleyed a shot past the keeper.

The second-half saw little change as we lost possession in mid-field and gave away another goal. Hulbert had a good second half, but the only thing the pro's got out of the game was ninety minutes hard work.

**Team:** Digby, Peters (MacDiarmid,57), Thorne (McHugh, 65)Watson, McDonald, Elkins, Culverhouse, Hulbert, Meechan (Burke, 45), Cowe, Holcroft

**Swindon Town Reserves 0 Southampton Reserves 1**

**A reasonable performance where we**

**had plenty of the ball without creating any real goal scoring chances.**

Alan McDonald headed wide from a corner and Alex Finlayson should have done better with a headed chance as well but the goals wouldn't come.

The whole game turned with 10 minutes to go when Kevin Watson was dispossessed in midfield, their lad ran through

## NEXT HOME GAME

**Wednesday 25th February 1998**

**Brighton & H.A.**

**Kick-Off 7.15pm**

## Reserve Team Player Appearances 97/98

Player Name:	League		Cup		Total	
	Apps.	Gl's.	Apps.	Gl's.	Apps.	Gl's.
STEPHEN BENNETT	1(2)	0	0	0	1(2)	0
ANTHONY BETTERTON	3	0	0	0	3	0
DARREN BULLDOCK	11	0	0	0	11	0
PETER CAIRNS	1	0	0	0	1	0
NICKY BURKE	(2)	0	0	0	(2)	0
SAM CAMPAGNA	1(4)	1	0	0	1(4)	1
STEVE COWE	16	3	0	0	16	3
LEE COLLINS	10	0	0	0	10	0
PHILIPPE CUERVO	3	0	0	0	3	0
IAN CULVERHOUSE	11	0	0	0	11	0
FREDERIC DARRAS	4	0	0	0	4	0
SOL DAVIS	7(3)	1	0	0	7(3)	1
FRASER DIGBY	1	0	0	0	1	0
JASON DRYSDALE	3	0	0	0	3	0
STUART ELLIOTT (TRIALIST)	1	1	0	0	1	1
GARY ELKINS	17(1)	3	0	0	17(1)	3
ALEX FINLAYSON	2(3)	0	0	0	2(3)	0
STEVE FINNEY	6	5	0	0	6	5
CHRIS HAY	2	1	0	0	2	1
STUART HODSON	6(2)	2	0	0	6(2)	2
PETER HOLCROFT	10	1	0	0	10	1
ALUN HUGHES	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
ROBIN HULBERT	9(5)	0	0	0	9(5)	0
SCOTT LEITCH	2	0	0	0	2	0
PHIL KING	4	0	0	0	4	0
PHIL MACDIARMID	(3)	0	0	0	(3)	0
PAUL MAREAVEY	1(7)	1	0	0	1(7)	1
ALAN McDONALD	4	0	0	0	4	0
SENUGH	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
STEVE McMAHON	2	0	0	0	2	0
IAN MCSHERRY	1(1)	0	0	0	1(1)	0
ALEX MEECHAN	8(9)	2	0	0	8(9)	2
STEVE MILDENHALL	11	0	0	0	11	0
JAMIE MILLS	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
MICHAEL PATTINORE	9(2)	0	0	0	9(2)	0
BRADLEY PETERS	3	1	0	0	3	1
MARK QUAYLE (TRIALIST)	6	3	0	0	6	3
MARK ROBINSON	2	0	0	0	2	0
MARK SEAGRAVES	3	1	0	0	3	1
ALEX SMITH	15	2	0	0	15	2
FRANK TALLA	7	0	0	0	7	0
CRAIG TAYLOR	3	0	0	0	3	0
WAYNE THORNE	6(6)	0	0	0	6(6)	0
MARK WALTERS	7	1	0	0	7	1
KEVIN WATSON	12	0	0	0	12	0

## FIXTURES 97/98

**Avon Insurance Combination Div 1**

Tue Aug 12	Crystal Palace	A 1-2
WED AUG 20	TOTTENHAM	H 0-2
Thur Aug 28	West Ham United	A 0-1
WED SEP 10	CHALTON ATHLETIC	H 0-1
Mon Sep 15	Brighton & H.A.	A 2-0
THU SEP 25	NORWICH CITY	H 1-2
Wed Oct 01	Portsmouth	A 2-0
Wed Oct 08	Wimbledon	A 0-3
WED OCT 15	IPSWICH TOWN	H 1-1
WED OCT 29	ARSENAL	H 0-3
Mon Nov 03	Chelsea	A 2-5
WED NOV 12	OXFORD UNITED	H 5-1
Thur Nov 20	QPR	A 2-3
MON NOV 24	MILLWALL	H 1-1
WED DEC 03	WEST HAM UNITED	H 3-1
Mon Dec 08	Luton Town	A 0-6
Wed Dec 10	Watford	A 1-1
Wed Jan 07	Chalton Athletic	A 0-0
WED JAN 14	PORTSMOUTH	H 4-1
Thur Jan 22	Norwich City	A 1-2
THUR JAN 29	WIMBLEDON	H 3-1
Wed Feb 04	Ipswich Town	A 1-3
WED FEB 11	SOUTHAMPTON	H 0-1
Wed Feb 14	Oxford United	A 1-1
Wed Feb 18	Millwall	A 1-4
WED FEB 25	BRIGHTON & H.A.	H 7-15
WED MAR 04	CHELSEA	H 7-15
Tue Mar 10	Arsenal	A 2-00
MON MAR 16	LUTON TOWN	H 7-15
WED MAR 25	CRYSTAL PALACE	H 7-15
WED APR 01	QPR	H 7-15
Wed Apr 06	Southampton	A 7-30
Wed Apr 15	Tottenham	A 7-30
WED APR 22	WATFORD	H 7-15

All home fixtures are to be played at The County Ground and will kick-off at the time indicated above. Kick-off times are subject to change without prior warning.





with only the keeper to beat and slipped it past Mildenhall.

The best part of this game was seeing Phil King back from a long-term injury. He put in 65 minutes and played well with some good runs down the left and accurate passing.

**Team:** Mildenhall, Walters, King (Hodson, 65), Bullock (MacDiarmid, 67), Elkins, McDonald, Watson, Hulbert, Finlayson, Cowe, Milonsavljevic.

**Avon Insurance Combination Division One.**

**Oxford United Reserves 1 Swindon Town Reserves 1**

***This was a game we should have won.***

The lads pinned Oxford back and gave them limited chances. Mildenhall made a great save to

keep the score 0-0. But we also created five or six good goal scoring opportunities and didn't take them. We had Stuart Elliott, a young lad on trial from Newcastle, he played sweeper first half then we pushed him up into the mid-field in the second half. Overall we were pleased with his performance.


The trialist Elliott broke the deadlock in the second half by blasting home a shot from twenty yards when Oxford failed to clear.

But luck wasn't on our side. With thirty seconds remaining Oxford United swung in a free kick which was netted by a player that looked off-side. This was a bad way to lose and was especially hard on the lads who worked so hard.

On a more positive note, it was great to see Mark Seagraves back after his pelvic injury. He put in a very creditable performance.

**Team:** Mildenhall, Walters, King (Elkins, 66), Bullock, Seagraves, McDonald, Elliott, Watson, Finlayson (Meechan, 72), subs not used: MacDiarmid

THE LEAGUE							
Avon Insurance Combination Div 1							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	23	15	6	2	56	17	51 +39
Charlton Athletic	20	14	4	2	47	11	46 +38
Tottenham H.	21	14	4	3	45	20	46 +25
Wimbledon	23	10	5	8	32	27	35 +05
Norwich City	25	9	8	8	25	31	35 -06
Oxford United	24	9	7	8	36	47	34 -11
Southampton	21	8	8	5	34	24	32 +10
Q.P.R.	23	8	6	9	34	29	30 +05
Crystal Palace	21	10	0	11	30	29	30 +01
Millwall	23	8	5	10	21	33	29 -12
Ipswich Town	20	7	6	7	32	37	27 -05
Portsmouth	23	7	6	10	29	34	27 -05
Luton Town	21	7	4	10	29	32	25 -03
Chelsea	24	5	9	10	32	39	24 -07
<b>SWINDON TOWN</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>21 -11</b>
Watford	19	5	6	8	19	32	21 -13
West Ham United	20	5	3	12	22	40	18 -18
Brighton & H.A.	17	1	4	12	13	45	7 -32










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## FIXTURES 97/98

### South East Counties League Division 2

SAT AUG 09	BRENTFORD	H 2-2
Sat Aug 16	Southampton	A 1-2
SAT AUG 23	LUTON TOWN	H 2-4
WED AUG 27	CARDIFF CITY (JFC1)	H 3-3
Sat Aug 30	Reading	A 3-1
Tue Sep 9	Cardiff City (JFC1 Rep)	A 0-3
SAT SEP 13	PORTSMOUTH (LC1)	H 1-0
WED SEP 17	P'BORO UTD (MYC1)	H 1-1
Sat Sep 20	Colchester United	A 2-1
SAT SEP 27	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	H 4-2
Tue Sep 30	P'boro Utd (MYC1 Rep)	A 2-1
Sat Oct 04	Bristol Rovers	A 1-1
SAT OCT 11	WYCOMBE W.	H 1-0
Tue Oct 14	Notts Forest (MYC2)	A 1-2
SAT OCT 18	BRISTOL ROVERS (LC2)	H 2-0
Sat Oct 25	Wimbledon	A 2-4
Sat Nov 01	Tottenham Hotspur	A 3-0
SAT NOV 08	OXFORD UNITED	H 1-3
Sat Nov 15	Barnet	A 0-1
MON NOV 17	BRISTOL ROVERS (FAYC)	H 1-1
Sat Nov 22	Luton Town (LC3)	A 2-4
Thur Nov 27	Bristol Rovers (FAYC)RepA	0-0
Swindon lost 10-9 on penalties		
SAT NOV 29	BRIGHTON & H.A.	H PP
Sat Dec 06	Bristol City	A 3-0
SAT DEC 13	BRISTOL CITY	H PP
Sat Dec 20	Brentford	A 2-3
SAT JAN 03	SOUTHAMPTON	H PP
Sat Jan 10	Luton Town	A 1-0
SAT JAN 17	READING	H 2-0
SAT JAN 31	COLCHESTER UNITED	H 0-2
Sat Feb 07	AFC Bournemouth	A 1-3
SAT FEB 14	BRISTOL ROVERS	H 0-4
Sat Feb 21	Wycombe Wndrs.	A
SAT FEB 28	WIMBLEDON	H
SAT MAR 07	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	H
Sat Mar 14	Oxford United	A
SAT MAR 21	BARNET	H
Sat Mar 28	Brighton & H.A.	A

Home fixtures kick-off at 11.00am at the Nationwide Pavilion, Pipers Way - Kick-Off times are subject to change without prior warning.

south east

## FIXTURES 97/98

### West Country Television South West Counties Youth League

Aug 23	Bristol Rovers	A 4-2
AUG 30	CARDIFF CITY	H 2-3
Sept 06	Cheltenham Town	A pp
SEPT 13	CIRENCESTER TOWN	H 1-2
Sept 20	Exeter City	A 1-2
OCT 09	SWANSEA CITY(LC R1)	H 2-1
Oct 11	Plymouth Argyle	A 1-5
OCT 18	SWANSEA CITY	H 0-3
OCT 25	YEDVIL TOWN	H 0-1
Nov 01	Torquay United	A 1-2
NOV 08	AFC NEWPORT	H 1-1
Nov 15	Bashley	A PP
Nov 22	AFC Newport (LCR2)	A 1-2
NOV 29	BRISTOL CITY	H PP
Dec 06	Bristol City	A 1-1
DEC 13	BRISTOL ROVERS	H 5-2
Jan 03	Cardiff City	A PP
JAN 10	CHELTHAM TOWN	H 3-3
Jan 17	Cirencester Town	A 0-5
JAN 24	EXETER CITY	H 1-3
FEB 07	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H 0-2
Feb 14	Swansea City	A 0-2
Feb 21	Yeovil Town	A
FEB 28	TORQUAY UNITED	H
Mar 07	AFC Newport	A
NOV 02	BASHLEY	H

Home fixtures kick-off at 11.00am - and Wednesday fixtures kick-off at 2.00pm. At the Nationwide Pavilion, Pipers Way - Kick-Off times are subject to change without prior warning.

south west

# youth team focus



with Tommy Wheelodon

### South East Counties League Division Two

#### Swindon Town Youth 0 Bristol Rovers Youth 4

**A disappointing result for us, but the result in no way reflects the effort the lads have put in.**

Up to half-time it could have gone either way, we've had some chances and hit the bar twice, we were continually keeping the goalkeeper busy.

I felt we were in with a shout right up to the end, but every time Bristol Rovers got into attacking positions they scored. The last fifteen minutes it was one way traffic and Rovers could have netted a few more but Swindon battled well.

It was clear we were missing a bit of experience, with players like Hodson, Meehan and Hulbert all turning out for the reserves. Apart from Wayne Thorne who played well, the rest of the team was made up of first years and trialists, with this in mind you have to be happy with the amount of hard work the team put in.

**Team:** Clark, Peters, Falla (Campagne, 75), Cairns, Culbertson, Donlon, Mills, Thorne, McHugh, Burke, Hughes. **Subs not used:** Sharps, Pottinger

### South West Counties League Division Two

#### Swindon Town Academy 0 Swansea City Youth 2

**With four fourteen year olds, a couple of trialists and only five regular players,**

the Academy produced a very respectable performance against a very good team.

Swansea scored a goal in each half from Stuart Roberts and Carl Mainwearing but this gives an incomplete picture of the game.

Although the we went one down due to a lack of concentration the lads battled well. Nathen Edwards had a shot rebound off the crossbar, and Danny Clayton embarked on a good run, got around the back of their defence and forced their keeper to make a fine save.

We conceded a second goal late into the game but overall I was delighted with the attitude and effort shown by the team.

**Team:** Purcell, Kimber, Halliday, Evans, Mackey, Edwards, Little, Masson, Clayton, Cleverley, Sperti. **Sub not used:** Collins.

### NEXT HOME GAME

**SOUTH EAST COUNTIES**  
**Saturday 28th**  
**February 1998**

**Wimbledon**  
**Kick-Off 11am**

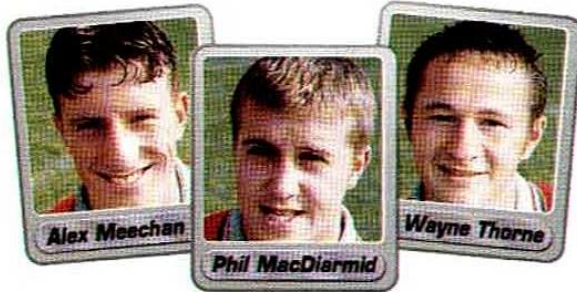
### NEXT HOME GAME

**SOUTH WEST COUNTIES**  
**Saturday 28th**  
**February 1998**

**Torquay**  
**United**  
**Kick-Off 11am**



**Three of our youth team players have been chosen to play in an FA Youth Select XI Alex Meechan, Wayne Thorne and Phil MacDiarmid are the three lads picked and we are all very pleased for them.**



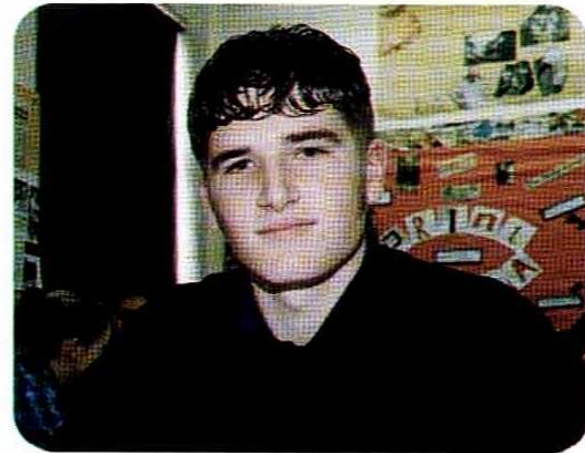
**Stars of the future - the up and coming talent of the Swindon Youths.**

It is just reward for the three lads who have played well throughout the season. This is an additional bonus for Alex Meechan who has already made great progress by being selected for the first team squad on numerous occasions.

**Congratulations are also due to Academy player Neil Dix.**

Dix, a big centre forward has been selected for England honours. He has been picked to represent the English Schools FA at under 18 level and could make his debut against Belgium next month.

We will keep you updated on the lads progress.



**Climbing the ladder of success - Neil Dix proving to be yet another young star!**

If watching live football is **alien** to you...

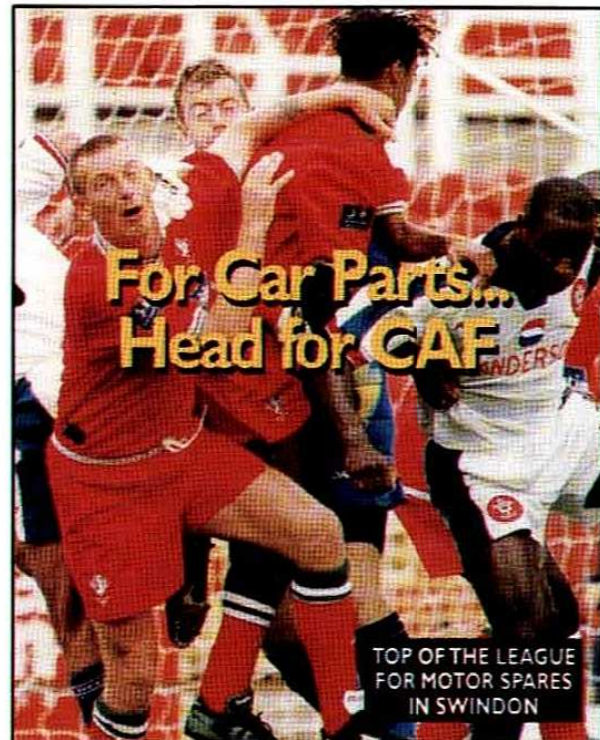


**...join the real world!**

ComTel offers sports fans unbeatable cable TV coverage including live F.A. Carling Premiership and Nationwide Football League action every week of the season.

Every Friday, ComTel's own local channel brings you 'Local Sport' an exclusive preview of the weekends action including all the latest news from the County Ground.

**Don't miss another match,  
FreeCall 0500 400 500**



UNIT 8, LYNTON ROAD, CHENEY MANOR IND. EST.  
TELEPHONE: 01793 532891

# community scheme news

with Clive & Jon

Good afternoon to you all for today's game against Manchester City.

And an especially warm welcome to our Saturday team Club guests. This week they are Wickwar Wanderers with Malcolm Alexander and the Lavington Boys who are here with Mrs Hutchings. I hope you bring us luck against today's tough opposition.

This week has been one of the busiest since starting our Soccer Funweeks nearly two years ago. This week we've had 134 kids at the club for our first Funweek of the year. The standard has been great as kids improve their soccer skills and enjoy themselves.



This is our second biggest course on record, and Jon and I are feeling extremely optimistic about the summer courses we have booked for later this year. We will keep you posted about future dates over the next few weeks.

Our Wagon Wheel sponsored Mothers Day Card Competition is under way so get your entries back to us as soon as possible. Don't forget first prize is a £15 voucher to present a bouquet of flowers to your mum, before a Swindon home game!

Tuesday 27th January 1998 saw us complete the last heat stages of this years 8-a-side tournament out on the artificial pitches at Greendown.

Don't forget to catch the final between Wanborough and Wroughton. This will be played at the County Ground before the Swindon Vs Chelsea reserve fixture on Wednesday 4th March 1998. *Till next time, best wishes Clive and Jon*



Sponsors of the Saturday Team Club  
Tel: 01793 432840



Clive Maguire

Jon Holloway

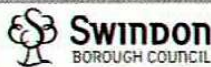
SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL

The new courses start on Feb 23. Contact Tom Jones: 01793 644777.

VENUES - (FEB-MARCH)

<b>LINK CENTRE</b>		
Monday	5.30-6.30pm	5 - 6 & 9 - 11 years
Thursday	4.30-5.30pm	5 years
	5.30-6.30pm	7 - 8 years
<b>OASIS</b>		
Wednesday	5.00-6.00pm	8+ years
Saturday	9.00-10.00am	5 - 8 years
	10.00-11.00am	5 - 8 years
<b>STRATTON</b>		
Monday	3.30-4.30pm	5 - 6 years
	4.30-5.30pm	9 - 11 years
Wednesday	3.30-4.30pm	7 - 8 years
	4.30-5.30pm	7 - 8 years
<b>MARLBOROUGH</b>		
Wednesday	4.00-5.00pm	5 - 6 years
	5.00-6.00pm	11 - 16 years
<b>HIGHWORTH</b>		
Tuesday	4.00-5.00pm	5 - 6 years
	5.00-6.00pm	7 - 8 years
Thursday	5.00-6.00pm	9+ years

Swindon Town Football Club's Community Scheme is kindly supported by:



# JUNIOR ROBINS

with Helen Mercer

Sponsored by



**We will drown out the QPR fans on Saturday 14th March as we have a fully subscribed Junior Robin trip.**

Don't despair though, if you wish to put your name down I am holding a reserve list and if I get enough names I will organise another coach. Thanks for all the support, the lads will really appreciate it on the day. 01793 532121. - I can't wait!

Those reserves are still kicking, although the result against Southampton didn't go our way, we played a good game and didn't deserve to lose. Junior Robins get in free so don't miss the next home game against Brighton & Hove Albion on Wednesday 25th Feb. 7.15 kick off. See you there!

Have you booked for Mothers Day yet at the County Ground? £12 for Adults £7 for juniors including a 'behind the scenes' tour and Bucks Fizz reception, 01793 533121 to book your table.

Come on you Reds, lets give Manchester the 'Blues'.



Matchday Mascots vs West Brom

## mascots...mascots...

### Today's mascot



#### Lewis Moore

First up for the Robins today is Lewis Moore. Lewis is 13 years old and attends The Boroughbridge School. His hobbies are Soccer, art and cooking and his favourite Town player is Steve Cowe.

#### Robbie Saddler

is another Junior Robin and attends Inkpen County Primary School. Robbie is very busy playing his favourite game for Inkpen School, Wickham Wanderers and Newbury District Boys, and when he finds time, he unwinds with a spot of fishing! Fraser Digby is Robbie's favourite Town player.



#### Gerald Woodhouse

Happy 70th Birthday to you! This surprise mascot package was organised for Gerald by his daughter, grandson Robbie Sadler and all the family. Gerald has supported Swindon Town all his life and his all time favourite Town player is Mike Summerby. When Gerald isn't watching football his interests are in Model Railways.

Have a wonderful day Gerald from all the staff and players at the County Ground.

#### Michael Rayner

Michael is the lucky winner of the 'Peoples choice' Evening Advertiser Competition. He drew a brilliant picture of Chris Hay and got to meet Chris at the County Ground the other day along with winning this chance to be a Swindon Town Mascot. Michael attends Westlea Primary School and likes drawing and football. I think the grin says it all, well done Michael from everyone at STFC!



#### Manchester City Mascot

#### Brendan Thomas Cowan

Brendan's favourite player is Georgi Kinkladze his hobbies are swimming and bike riding his age is 51/2 years old and he loves Man City.

## Rockin' Robin SUPERHERO

# tony horne's view from a far

*"I am left amazed that we lost 6-0 to Manchester City in September"*



**One look at the fixture list and you see 'home to Wolves Wednesday and Man City today.**

You think 'great, two massive games'. That is a lie. These should be routine games - our minds are clouded by their names, their histories, their heritage, their stadia. These are not big games this week.

Of course for pride, and in search of justice in relation to our performances in the first half of the season, we have to get points here - it is vital that we give the rest of the season a shot. But if you think that we have been disappointing this season and thrown it all away, what must it be like to a Manchester City fan.

I rarely slate an opposition before a match but Manchester City, 'You can not live on past glories, you have let your fans down as much as any team this season. You have a world class player in your side who should be playing premiership football, and several others who would walk into a Nationwide Division 1 Representative XI...And you are looking at the trapdoor marked Division 2.'

The decline is staggering - Kevin Horlock was widely regarded as the best payer in the Swindon side when he left for Maine Road and Kevin, I'm sure you left 'for a big club, and hopefully premiership football,' It did look like a good move for you, and I hope it works out in the end, but you already have the only second division championship winners medal that you should want from your career. You are a classy international - you should be in one of Andy Gray' slo-mo replays by now, not worrying about playing Carlisle next season.

I am left amazed that we lost 6-0 to Manchester City in September and we were going well then, Manchester City actually scored about 1/6 of their season's goals in 90 minutes on 27 September. You have to ask questions.

Since then they have lost Nicky Summerbee to Sunderland and he is doing brilliantly and should be playing premiership football next season.

Man City have also acquired Peter Beardsley, and I desperately hope his appearance boosts the gate today - he is still an excellent player, who should not have been sold by Newcastle, let alone loaned out by Bolton. I hope he is quiet today.

**Individual  
Quality  
makes a  
Great  
Team!**

# centre of excellence

*with Phil Cannon*

**To promote the Swindon Town Soccer Centres there will be a 20 minute exhibition game before today's Manchester City fixture.**

This will be between the Centre of Excellence and a Soccer Centre Select.

The two teams will be made up of mainly under 11's and under 10's. Kick-off is 1.45pm.

We hope that the game will encourage more kids in Swindon to take advantage of the coaching sessions run by the Town while also showing the standards attained by the young players.

Anyone can join the courses. The sessions are designed to improve youngsters skills. At the same time, if a kid is good enough, they can progress to the Centre of Excellence where they will receive more specialised training.

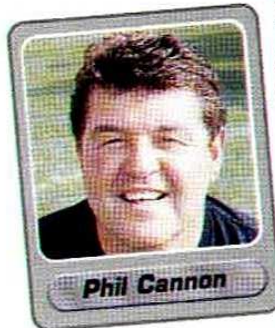
One of the aims of the scheme is to find the talented kids at an early age and bring them through the ranks. The better players go on to the Centre of Excellence, and then if they are talented enough could make trainees at the Club.

Every parent believes their child is the next Michael Owen. The Soccer Centres offer a real

chance for these youngsters to be seen by coaches with contacts at Swindon Town Football Club.

As well as spotting the stars of the future the

Centres also provide a much needed outlet for young footballers in the area, therefore helping the community around us. There are currently five Soccer Centres around Swindon, for more information contact Tom Jones on the Soccer Centre Hotline **01793 644777**



**Spotting the stars  
of the future -  
Swindon Town's  
Centre of Excellence.**

# National Power PLC

proud sponsors of



**SWINDON**  
**Town's**  
centres of excellence



National Power and Swindon Town Football Club working in partnership to improve the skills of young footballers and searching for the stars of tomorrow

In partnership with



**National Power**

▶ **Philippe Cuervo**



 Nationwide

 Mizuno



# the ticket office

@swindon town *tickets*



## Bury



**Saturday 28th Feb - Away.**

Over 2,500 seats available. Payment is by cash at the turnstiles on the day in the Manchester Road (West) stand.  
Adults priced at £14.00  
Juniors/Cons £8.00.



**Q.P.R. Away Saturday 14th March.**

646 seats available in advance priced at £13.00 adults £7.00 Juniors/Cons. Q.P.R. have made this match all ticket for Swindon Fans. A further 500 tickets will be made available if needed.

## Don't forget

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 25th February the Reserves take on Brighton & H.A. here at the County Ground (7.15pm).



## Wolverhampton Wanderers

This Match has been rearranged to Wednesday 18th March 7.45pm Kick-off, due to Wolves involvement in the F.A Cup. Tickets already purchased for the match will be valid for the new date.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

As from **Saturday 7th March match day tickets for the Arkell's Stand will be on sale from the match day ticket office situated at the back of the Rover Family Stand. All home tickets available on a matchday will be on sale from this office.**

**DON'T MISS OUT**

### 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

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

**(01793) 529000**

To order by fax:

**(01793) 431887**

WE ARE PLEASED TO ACCEPT



## Park & Ride

Parking is free at Nationwide House and a return ticket for the bus journey is only 50p (kids under 5 and



Junior Robins travel free). The first buses depart Nationwide House at 12.30pm then every 20 minutes thereafter through to the final bus at 2.30pm. After the game the first buses depart the County Ground at 4.45pm then every 20 minutes thereafter through to the final bus at 6.00pm. The Bus Stop is located at the Magic Roundabout, towards Shrevenham Road. Why not give it a try at the next home game against Portsmouth on Saturday March 7th.

# on the road... travel...



## Bury

Saturday February 28th  
Kick-Off 3.00pm

*With the season pushing on every game is vital, and with Bury fighting the drop, it should be a real ding dong. So follow the lads and give them some extra support!*



**Going to Q.P.R.**  
Saturday March 14th  
Kick-Off 3.00pm

*Don't miss the next edition of our match day magazine for all your travel details to Q.P.R.*

## Travelling by Road...

**Bury** - Exit the M62 at Junction 17, take the Bury Road (A56) for three miles and then turn right into Gigg Lane.

## Did You Know?

**Did you know who used to be the manager of Bury before joining a more well known local side to become assistant manager? Yes that's right it's our very own Mike Walsh!**

## TRAVEL CLUB

### BURY

**Fare £12.00 Adults, £10.00 Juniors**  
**Depart County Ground: 9.15am**

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**



## S.A.S TRAVEL



### BURY Fare £12.00

Depart COUNTY GROUND (Superstore) 9.15am  
also picking up at WOOTTON BASSETT 8.45am  
WEST SWINDON 9.00am ERMIN STREET 9.30am

- Executive coach travel with hostess service
- All coaches are NON SMOKING
- Reductions for accompanied under 15's
- No membership fee

### COUNTY GROUND BOOKING OFFICE

Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thursday evenings 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Matchdays from 1.30 (Sats.) and 6.30 (Weds)

Tel: (01793) 536757

24-HOUR TRAVEL and TICKET INFORMATION SERVICE

Tel: (01793) 825935

WE ARE NOW PLEASED TO ACCEPT



# the swindon town superstore

county ground, swindon

**OPENING HOURS:**  
8.30AM - 5.45PM  
MONDAY - FRIDAY,  
10AM - 4PM  
NON MATCHDAY SAT  
9AM - KICK-OFF  
MATCHDAY SATURDAYS

## SALE STILL ON!

**DRESS WATCH**

**NOW JUST**

**£10.00**

**KIDS WATCHES**

~~£9.99~~

**£6.99**

**WHILE STOCKS LAST!**

**MIZUNO DRILL TOP**

~~£32.99~~

**£19.79**

**STFC JUMPER**

~~£29.99~~

**£19.99**

**SPORTS WATCH**

~~£24.99~~

**£19.99**

## LARGE HOME SHIRTS NOW IN STOCK...

To contact the Club Superstore and for  
Mail Order details call 01793 423030.

WE ARE PLEASED TO ACCEPT



MAIN SPONSOR



Brought to you by

**PHH**

Official car supplier to STFC

## **Finetime Club launches German night**

**To launch the new Finetime Club that will be providing evenings out with a difference in Swindon, we are holding a German Night on April 11th at the County Ground.**

The evening starts at 7.00pm in the Supporters Club with each person receiving a free Bavarian Glass which is filled up with "bier" once at the bar for free! The fun filled evening will see entertainment provided by an Ompah Band along with Party games such as "musical towels on chairs", with a disco to finish off the night. Food will be provided "German Style" and tickets are available at £20.00 each via Richard Mackey in the Marketing Office on Tel: 01793 532121

## **The Chairman's Challenge**

**In June of this year our very own Chairman Rikki Hunt embarks on his next polar challenge accompanied by Geoffrey McGonigle who is attempting to become the first disabled person to walk to the Magnetic North Pole and fly the flag for disabled worldwide and "Swindon for City Status".**

The Sealegs- Mitchemp Expedition 1998 is the first attempt on the Magnetic North Pole by a disabled person and sponsors are currently being sought for this worthy cause.

All donations are welcome in any form and anyone that would like further information should contact Rikki Hunt on 01793 422742.

# **In & around the county ground**



**Rikki Hunt on expedition to the Magnetic North Pole in June 1996.**

## **STFC Disabled Supporters Group**

**The group extend their appreciation to Phil King for attending the meeting held on 3rd February.**

Phil gave the supporters group a fascinating insight into the life of a footballer. Phil spoke of the growing confidence in the team and handled questions from the floor with tact and good humour.

The group would like to thank Phil for giving up his time and providing an entertaining speech. The next meeting of the STFC Disabled Supporters Group is on Tuesday 10th March at 7.15pm in the County Ground Supporters Club.

## **Town youngsters parade their talents**

**If you were here earlier enough you would have seen an exhibition game featuring youngsters from the Swindon Town Soccer Centres and the School of Excellence.**

The short match has been organised to highlight the talents of our younger players. At the same time the game hopes to encourage more kids to use the five Soccer Centres around Swindon. For more information see the Centre Of Excellence Section on Page 23.



## **Presentation**

**Before today's game Shirley Chick will present a signed ball to her husband in celebration of his 40th birthday.**

Both are Swindon fans and decided there was no better way to celebrate his birthday than at the County Ground.

# winning ways

by Dave Hollister



## Whichford Hyundai

Kennedy Drive, Eldene, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 3SB 01793 614855



WHEN ALL YOU WANT IS EVERYTHING

**WIN 1**

**For the second game running we have had a "keep it in the family" half-time draw result!**

**William Moore** of Broome Manor, Swindon, reaped a harvest of **£628** for the £1 coin he planted in the palm of seller Peter Brown. It was ticket No. 10544 that favoured him at the Stoke City game. On 7th October 1995, at the Bristol City match, **Mrs. Moore** received **£932**.

**Nigel Wild** (Manchester City F.C. Supporters Club) has requested assistance in making it known to his fellow fans of "the Citizens" that an official Thames Valley branch exists. It is based at Reading and further details can be acquired by ringing Nigel on **01844 212335**. I only apportion some of my valued space to this solicitation because I am a firm advocate of fans

of all clubs existing in harmony. This is not due to any misguided comprehension of human nature; but for the benefit of the beautiful game in general!

### **Who Am I?**

This is the new format of my competition that allows You the opportunity to win an autographed football. All you have to do is read the following factual evidence and post your conclusion to me, care of "Who am I?" Competition here at the County Ground. Last date for entries is Friday, 27th February. The first correct entry opened on the following Monday will be the winner.

*"I was born in Middlesbrough in 1935. I played professional football for my home town as well as for Sunderland. I scored 254 goals during my career which, alas, ended prematurely.*

*I moved into football management with Hartlepool and also had unsuccessful spells with other clubs. Even so, I did find success elsewhere and helped two clubs win the League Championships."*

It doesn't seem possible that it is five years ago since Peter Reid was sacked as manager of today's visitors. That's when Paul McGrath was voted the PFA Footballer of the Year and Chris Waddle was awarded the Football Writers' equivalent. It is also the year when Swindon Towns band of 30,000 "loyal fans" who told the ticket office staff that "I never miss a game" made their way to Wembley. I know where Peter Reid, Paul McGrath and Chris Waddle are. But what of the others? Surely they have not all gone down with the flu!!!

**WIN 1**

### **Half-Time Draw**

**Winning ticket number announced/displayed wins cash prize.**

**Any other ticket number ending with the last three digits of the winning number enter draw for Hyundai Coupe i. Such tickets to be deposited in Superstore within 8 days.**



# from the pressbox

by  
Gary Tate

**ComTel**  
Communications with Vision

**How many of you reading this were witness to the game in which we entertained Birmingham City back in December I don't know.**

What I do know however, is that I left the match incensed by the performance of the man in the middle. He must have been in dire need of some form of optical enhancement my mate Ashley Heath would say. Others in the stand were less than complimentary, questioning his parentage! Which ever way you look at it the man had a bad hair day so to speak.

When I was asked to put pen to paper for this column my mind wondered back to that day and the subject of referees. The men or women in black (just to be politically correct), bastions of football society. Probably the most talked about and most controversial people in the game.

I spent hours toiling over what I was going to write. Refereeing is a subject that is emotive but as time moved on and the ink began to run out, my attitude changed to a more sympathetic view.

In addition to reporting for ComTel on Swindon's Local Channel I am an ardent supporter of Swindon Town Football Club, and have been for many a year. My anger that day in December was based on frustration and emotion. We didn't win the match.

George Ndah blatantly out of the game and receiving a yellow card; Darren Bullock sent off. It was hardly surprising I felt aggrieved as I watched the match. But surely that is one of the problems. We do get passionately involved with what has happened to our team: the controversial penalty incident at Charlton; the disallowed goal at Sheffield United; we are slightly biased and blinkered and want to blame somebody - the referee is an easy target. Yes they do sometimes make mistakes but don't we all.

I wonder how many players have been guilty of playing out of position or giving the ball away resulting in a goal for the opposite, or a manager has got it dreadfully wrong with his team selection and tactics and watched in horror as 3 points slip away. As supporters we leave the

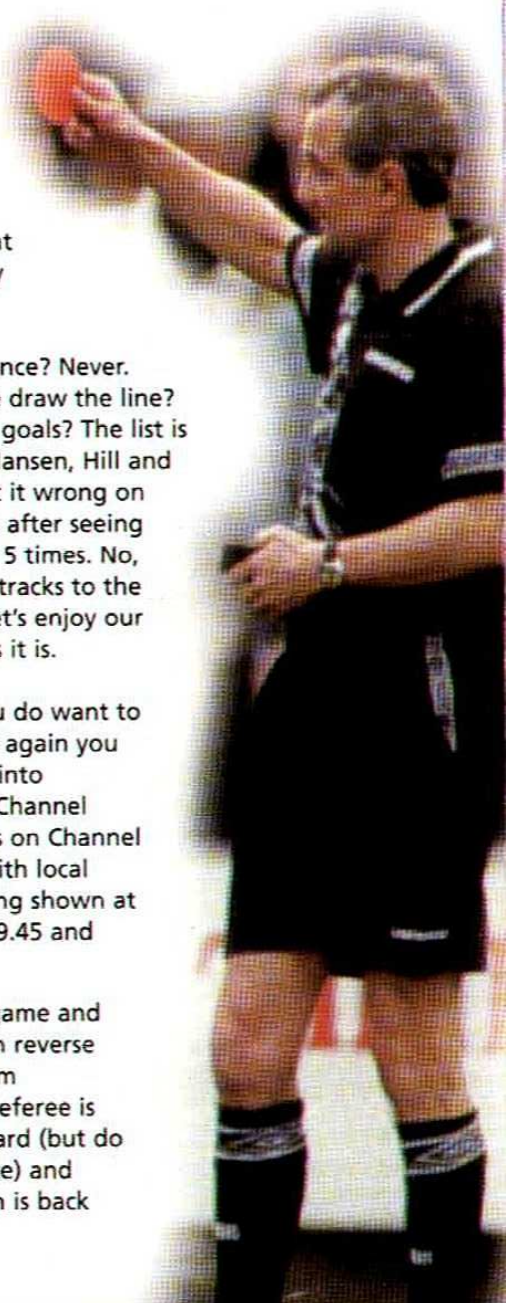
stadium disappointed and the goal or lost points become a topic for after match discussion in the local. Sadly for the referee if he or she makes an error of judgment they know about it instantly. When you face facts it doesn't matter what decision a referee makes during a game somebody is going to be unhappy.

There are calls for referees to become professional and provide them with video screens for action replays. I would certainly agree to the professional bit. Football is a big business run by professional people so why should amateurs have such an important role to play every match day.

But video evidence? Never. Where would we draw the line? Throw-ins, fouls, goals? The list is endless. Messrs Hansen, Hill and Brooking can get it wrong on MOTD and that's after seeing the incident 4 or 5 times. No, leave video play tracks to the Americans and let's enjoy our national game as it is. Warts and all.

Mind you if you do want to see the incidents again you can always tune into Swindon's Local Channel which broadcasts on Channel 01 on ComTel, with local programmes being shown at 5pm, 6.45, 7.45, 9.45 and 11.45pm.

Enjoys today's game and let's hope we can reverse the scoreline from September, the referee is seen and not heard (but do give him a chance) and Swindon's season is back on tracks.



# Congratulations to all our staff



Service Excellence Award  
Finalist



The Daily Telegraph



1996



A big thank you to the people who make PHH a winning team – our staff! As a direct result of their efforts, so far this year we have won a string of awards.



We are delighted to announce we have been awarded Best Fleet Management Company and Best Fuelcard Company in the Fleet Management/Business Car 1998 Fleet Excellence Awards.

PHH Vehicle  
Management Services

**PHH**

with Julian Wetherall

# marketing news

**This afternoon I would like to welcome all our sponsors to Swindon Town Football Club for what promises to be a great game against Manchester City.**

## Matchday Sponsors

Match Sponsors today are **PHH**. It is a real pleasure to welcome their guests and officials to the County Ground.

Swindon based **PHH Vehicle Management Services** is a market leading business solutions provider to companies and organisations of all sizes. It is part of the newly formed Cendant Corporation, the world's premier marketer and provider of consumer and business services, operating in membership, travel and real estate. Based at Windmill Hill, Swindon, the company employs 830 people throughout the UK and has operations throughout Europe.

## Matchball Sponsors

Today we have five Matchball Sponsors and we hope the officials and guests of **ARRIVA FORD, CHAPMAN WARREN, LANBASE PLC, PROFILE SHOPFITTING AND DESIGN** and **THAMES WATER** have a thoroughly entertaining day.

**Arriva Ford** in Swindon, which is part of the £1.3 billion turnover motor transport group Arriva Plc, is Wiltshire's largest motor retailer selling around 9,000 new cars every year.

**Arriva Ford** is one of only 160 Ford dealerships selected to supply specialised Ford vehicles, including sports Coupe and off road vehicles in addition to the full Ford range.

Also on offer at **Arriva Ford** is a business and fleet centre, extensive finance facilities, a rental operation and a dedicated team for Mobility customers. **Arriva Ford** also offers a national computer link which gives details of over 3,000 vehicles situated at **Arriva** motor retailers throughout the UK and can usually provide a used car of the customers choice within 4 hours.

**CHAPMAN WARREN** is Britain's largest independent Town Planning and Development Consultancy, with over 100 partners and staff operating from seven offices throughout the UK. The firm has its headquarters in Swindon, and it has a seventeen year history of promoting and planning Swindon's various stages of town expansion.

**LANBASE PLC** is a leading network systems integrator with headquarters in Thatcham, near Newbury and offices throughout the UK and overseas. **LANBASE** install computer network infrastructures for organisations of all sizes. Computer networks are

lifelines for many companies and therefore the correct design installation and support is critical.

**PROFILE SHOPFITTING & DESIGN LTD** are very pleased to be Matchball Sponsors of the Manchester City game. Their company specialise in the refurbishment of all types of retail outlets, from the independent to Multiple companies.

They are a company that insist on excellent services at competitive prices, with completion on time.

We are also pleased to welcome today's Matchball Sponsors from **THAMES WATER**. **Thames Water** employ over 1,000 people at their Customer Centre in Kembrey Park, their treatment works at Barnfield and their depot at Highworth, and they are pleased to continue their support for Steve McMahon and his team.

## Presentation Time

**BLICK PLC** were Matchday Sponsors for our recent home game against West Bromwich Albion. Pictured here is **Blick's** Commercial Director, Grahame Purvis being presented with a signed, framed shirt by Club Chairman Rikki Hunt. Grahame Purvis is also shown presenting a bottle of Champagne to Man of the Match, Matt Carbon.



**Commerzbank, Bourne Steel Ltd, Trencherwood Homes, NatWest and Ruba-Tech** were Matchball Sponsors for the West Brom game. Pictured below are representatives and guests of all five organisations being presented with signed footballs by Man of The Match Matt Carbon.



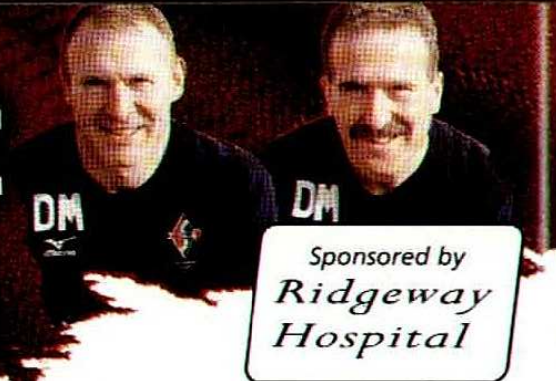
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# treatment room

Dave Moore and Dick Macken



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Hospital**



**After showing all the signs of a great recovery, Phil King is back in the Treatment Room this week.**

He played well in the reserves midweek, but on Saturday against Oxford he took a knock to his left ankle. A precautionary X-Ray revealed no serious damage but the injury will put his full recovery back a step.

George Ndah is currently undertaking work in the swimming pool. This form of treatment keeps his fitness levels up without aggravating his patella tendonitis.



Ty Gooden came off during the last home game against West Brom. After close examination we could see he had a



medial ligament sprain. Ty is working hard to recover from this with light training and bike work and continues to make good progress.

**New Approaches:** Fans at the last home game may have noticed the team jogging around the pitch post-match. This is not punishment, but a warm down. The warm down will reduce the effects that 90 minutes can have on the body, minimising muscle soreness and joint stiffness, a common complaint with footballers. Win or lose, you will see the squad doing this again.



## the shadow board



**So- the game we have all been waiting for since the late summer.**

The chance to avenge one of the worst results we have endured for a long time. And a chance to get our own season back on the road at the same time. Come on Swindon- lets go for it!

Besides waiting for the chance to turn over City, your Shadow Board members have been preparing for new member elections during the summer. We need to have your names now so that we can include you in the formal application program. Once we know that you are interested, we will send you an application form and then prepare a shortlist of candidates. These shortlisted candidates will be invited to join

a Shadow Board Meeting for interviews and finally the successful new members will be notified. As you can see, this is a long process and we need your names at the first step.

The Shadow Board is a great opportunity to become closely involved with the Club and to contribute a little time to represent the voice of all Swindon fans to the Board and management of the club. So come on Town fans- we are waiting to hear from you!

We also need to hear from Town fans so that we can finalise our submission to the Football Task Force. There is so much focus upon the finances that dominate soccer- how much does Ruud Gullit think a soccer manager should be paid? Surely we can help David Mellor and his crew to think about the real

issues, the things that are important to all real every-day soccer fans and to the future of the England team itself. Let us have your thoughts ASAP.

**Chairman**

**Sheila Maslin**

**Members**

**David Waldron**

**David Taylor**

**John Lodge**

**Dave Wiltshire**

**Derek Hand**

**Nigel Bennett**

**Neil Seamark**

**Alexander Deacon**

**Susan Tyrrell**

**Kevin Hall**

Write to us at the Swindon Town Shadow Board at: P.O. Box 663, Swindon SN1 2NX.

**Michael Owen booked his ticket to France with a sparkling England debut but the Liverpool starlet and the English team were upstaged by a Chilean side that frankly was more skilled and better organised.**

Marcelo Sales caught the eye and showed just what persuaded Alex Ferguson to track the £12million striker. His execution of the opening goal, when he cushioned a long through ball on his thigh and volleyed past goalkeeper Nigel Martyn, had hardened journalists drooling that it ranked with the best ever seen at Wembley, maybe so but it is almost an impossible claim to make.

Sales was not the only star in the Chilean armories as for my money, Javier Margas was possibly the man of the match. That endorsement was in fact given to Owen, the third youngest player ever to represent England in a full international.

No one expected us to lose to Chile even though Glenn Hoddle used the game for experimental purposes. Now I see nothing wrong with this policy, in fact he is doing the right thing but what I would question is the England coach's persistence in playing people out of position.

Glenn fielded seven players out of position in his very first selection and for the Chile game had four operating in unfamiliar territory. Philip Neville looked uncomfortable and was replaced by Le Saux at half-time; Robert Lee, so effective in the centre of midfield with *Newcastle* was hardly influential on the right, where Michael Owen ended up after Alan Shearer was brought

on in the 62nd minute.

We had another example of this in the "B" international the previous evening when *Leicester City's* Steve Guppy was thrown on at right wing-back. Guppy is a natural left-footer and a fine crosser of the ball but was unable to demonstrate the fact until being switched to his normal position ten-minutes from time.

## from the sidelines *Colin Benson*

Maybe our former manager is trying to assess which players will be most adaptable but the result at Wembley was a disjointed exhibition by a side lacking solidarity at the back and creativity in midfield.

One wonders if he is going to persist with a three-man back line or whether he should not turn to *Arsenal* and *Aston Villa* for his defensive players for these are the only two Premiership sides who have persisted with this strategy and their players are the only ones who seem to understand it and be able to make it work.

Having said that, even Brian Little has abandoned the system recently to revert to a four-man back line. The problem is the three-back game falls apart if the two wing-backs fail to tuck in and support.

So many times Neville, Adams and Campbell, were left exposed against Chile. If they moved out to cover the gaps on the flanks they left the door open through the centre. If they kept this closed they were exposed on the wings.

I noted that in the after-match interviews Roy Hodgson, *Blackburn Rovers'* astute manager who took Switzerland

to the 1994 World Cup Finals, took issue with Glenn's acceptance of the defeat. He felt strongly that we should be very concerned about a loss on home soil.

In retrospect this is possibly England's worst result at Wembley since Sweden beat us 3-2 on a dismal rainy afternoon in October 1959. Then, as now, we never contemplated defeat by the Swedes even though they had been World Cup Finalists the previous year.

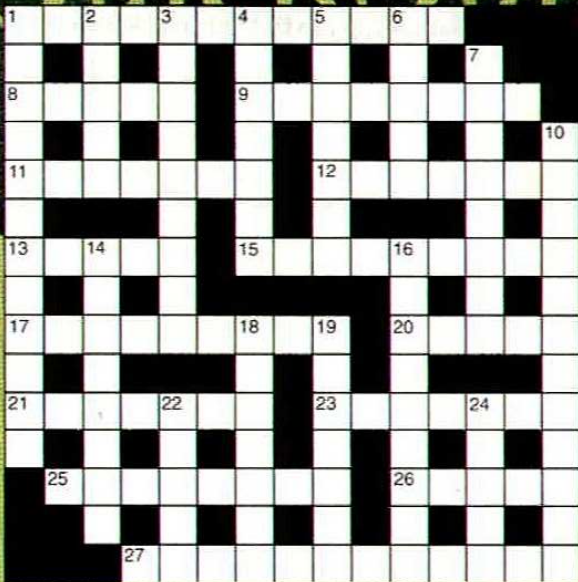
On the positive side Owen proved he has the pace to take on the world and Nigel Martyn looked capable enough and certainly could not be faulted for either goal. But why was Shaka Hislop on the bench, or in the "B" squad for that matter? Surely he is not consistent enough to be considered at this level. Our own Fraser Digby is a better goalkeeper in my opinion and surely it would have been more productive to have included one of the Under-21 custodians for experience.

There is still a lot of work to do between now and June for our former management team of Glenn Hoddle and John Gorman.



**Fraser Digby - Surely better than Shaka!**

compiled by Dave Hollister



### clues across...

1. Football tuition takes place here (6-6)
8. Walked out on England whilst they were on the 1978 World Cup qualifying rounds. (5)
9. Players prefer half-time chat if they result thus (2-6)
11. They share a stadium with Clyde (7)
12. Fans often miss this with matchday litter (7)
13. Securing socks or drawing the game? (5)
15. Lions den before Millwall F.C. formed (9)
17. Barnets' stadium (9)
20. Ball ends up on halfway line after one (1-4)
21. Bradford City
23. Some games are this more then others (7)
25. Programme editor has no choice but to beat it (8)
26. Groundsman makes them go white before kick-off (5)
27. Coach may do this to strengthen attack (3-9)

### clues down...

1. A legend in his time (3-4-5)
2. Defence provides it (5)
3. What the Press did regarding Hunt in 1966 World Cup Final (4-5)
4. What fans do when their team scores (4-3)
5. Schoolboys favourite player is also this (3-4)
6. Beaten by cup giant-killers? (5)
7. Used for Mexican hat-trick? (8)
10. Physio may administer his treatment thus (2-5-5)
14. Teams in bottom four at 4.45pm.m could well be this (2-6)
16. F.A. Cup may make this outfit something big (5-4)
18. Sir Alf Ramsey managed them (7)-
19. Southampton players may do this in training (3-4)
22. Assistant referees are meant to be these (5)
24. Every fan has one sat by him on a matchday? (5)

**Answers across...**  
 1 SIR MARTIN BUSBY, 2 COVER, 3 EVIDENCE, 5 HIS IDOL, 6 OGREY, 7 SOMBERNO, 10 IN SMALL DOSES, 14 IN DANGER, 15 LIONS DEN, 17 BARNETS, 19 LAMP, 20 HALF-WAY LINE, 21 BRADFORD CITY, 23 SOME GAMES ARE THIS MORE THAN OTHERS (7), 25 PROGRAMME EDITOR HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO BEAT IT (8), 26 GROUNDSMAN MAKES THEM GO WHITE BEFORE KICK-OFF (5), 27 COACH MAY DO THIS TO STRENGTHEN ATTACK (3-9)

**Answers down...**  
 1 USE HALFBACKS, 2 POLICED, 3 DEADLINE, 4 GOALS, 5 BANTAMS, 6 TRYING, 7 COLLOSSUM, 8 UNDERHILL, 9 A SOCCER SCHOOL, 10 REVIE, 11 AIRDRIVE, 12 DUSTBIN, 13 TRYING, 15 COLLOSSUM, 17 UNDERHILL, 20 A

# MYSTIC nut-meg PREDICT THE SCORE

See if you can predict today's results...

Birmingham City	1	Sheffield United
Bradford City	2	Oxford United
Huddersfield Town	3	Wolves
Ipswich Town	4	Norwich City
Middlesbrough	5	Sunderland
Q.P.R.	6	Port Vale
Reading	7	Portsmouth
Stockport County	8	Charlton Athletic
Stoke City	9	Nottingham Forest
Swindon Town	10	Manchester City
Tranmere Rovers	11	Crewe Alexandra
West Bromwich Albion	12	Bury

## wordsearch



10 items that must be on the pitch before the game starts.

# MILESTONES OF 96/97 SEASON

- (September)** What did Arsenal captain Tony Adams admit to being?
- (October)** Who did England beat 2-1 at Wembley in a France 98 World Cup qualifier?
- (November)** Which Italian Striker joined Chelsea from Parma?
- (December)** Who did Newcastle thrash 7-1 at St James' Park?
- (January)** What was Howard Wilkinson appointed to be?
- (February)** Who quits Crystal Palace to join Nottingham Forest as general manager?
- (March)** Who did Manchester United hold out to for a 0-0 draw to reach the semi finals of the Champions League?
- (April)** Who scored in extra time to give Leicester victory over Middlesbrough in the Coca Cola Cup Final replay?
- (May)** In the final of the European Champions League who did Borussia Dortmund beat 3-1?

**ANSWERS.....**  
 1. AN ALCOHOLIC 2. POLAND 3. GIANFRANCO ZOLA 4. TOTTENHAM  
 5. TECHNICAL DIRECTOR OF THE FA 6. DAVE BASSSETT 7. FC PORTO  
 8. STEVE CLARKE 9. JUVENTUS



**WHO'S THIS?**

Last game: Jason Drysdale



**WHO'S KIT?**

Last game: Southampton

## FACE in the crowd

Are you the lucky winner of our 'Face in the Crowd' competition?



If your face is circled, you are the winner of a special prize. All you have to do is ring the Club on 01793 532121 to claim a pair of tickets for our next home game and a signed photo. Look out for another face in the crowd picture in Tuesday's Swindon Evening Advertiser.



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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 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.*



# swindon town ladies

by Roger Reeves

Sponsored by



**The Town kept up their challenge in the Southern Region League Premier Division with a two goal to one win at Portsmouth.**

The Town had the edge in the first half and deservedly went ahead through Nadine Lloyd after a good build up between Tracy Mackeddie and Ashley Wiseman. Pompey fought back and cheered on by a large partisan home crowd and got an equaliser on the hour.

The Town gradually got back into the game and in the last minute Ashley Wiseman volleyed in Pam Laker's throw to give the Town the points.

The Town have a large representation in the County squad to face Gloucestershire at Almonsbury. Clare Wheeler, Netti Wyness, Pam Laker, Clare Tyson, Ashley Wiseman, Leanne Taylor and Nadine Lloyd have been called up. This is Wiltshire's second game in the South West Counties Championship this season. In the first game, played at Hamworthy, Dorset won two nil.

Please support the Race Night on Friday 13th March in the Executive Suite. "Saddle Up" at 7.30pm with Dave Hollister Clerk of the Course. Tickets at £3 can be obtained from Dave or any of the girls.

Tomorrow we travel to Cheltenham for a Southern Region League Premier Division game. Earlier in the season we won the home game against Cheltenham, by five goals to two. The Gloucestershire are having a good season and are just behind the Town in current league placings.

**Southern Region League Premier Division.**

**Portsmouth 1 Swindon Town 2**

**Team:** Jo Sharpe : Vikki McCann, Clare Wheeler, Netti Wyness, Clare Tyson: Ashley Wiseman, Tracey Mackeddie, Pam Laker, Kerie Garwood: Nadine Lloyd, Leanne Taylor.

**Subs Used** - Sharon Black  
**Not Used** - Sara Privett & Sara Richardson

**Scorer:** Nadine Lloyd & Ashley Wiseman



**Clare Wheeler**

## APPEARANCES

	APPS	GOALS
SHARON BLACK	14(2)	1
KERIE GARWOOD	8(6)	6
PAM LAKER	16	6
NADINE LLOYD	16	18
TRACEY MACKEDDIE	15(1)	5
VIKKI McCANN	2(2)	-
KIM REEVES	16	14
SARAH RICHARDSON	(5)	-
JO SHARPE	17	-
ADELLE TAYLOR	9(4)	-
LEANNE TAYLOR	17	18
CLARE TYSON	15(1)	1
CLARE WHEELER	11(3)	-
CLAIRE WHITE	(1)	-
ASHLEY WISEMAN	16	4
NETTI WYNESS	15	2

## FIXTURES 97/98

**Southern Region League Premier Division**

SUN 31ST AUG	HAVANT TOWN	5-1
Sun 7th Sept	Southampton Saints	6-4
Sun 14th Sept	Launton	5-0
Sun 28th Sept	Freeway (FA Cup R1)	6-0
SUN 5TH OCT	BINFIELD	4-1
Sun 12th Oct	Reading Royals	2-5
SUN 19TH OCT	PORTSMOUTH	1-2
SUN 26TH OCT	CHELTHENHAM	5-2
SUN 2ND NOV	CARDIFF C. (FA CUP R2)	0-2 aet
SUN 9TH NOV	SOUTHAMPTON	3-1
Sun 17th Nov	Havant Town	10-1
SUN 23RD NOV	SOTON SAINTS	5-2
SUN 30TH NOV	LAUNTON	9-0
SUN 7TH DEC	SALISBURY CITY	11-0
Sun 14th Dec	Oxford United	2-1
Sun 25th Jan	BRACKNELL TOWN (LC 2nd)	mark over
SUN 1ST FEB	READING ROYALS	1-2
Sun 8th Feb	Portsmouth	2-1
Sun 22nd Feb	Cheltenham	A
SUN 1st Mar	Southampton	A
SUN 8TH MAR	OXFORD UNITED	H
TBA	Swindon Spitfires	A
	SWINDON SPITFIRES	H
	Binfield	A

## THE LEAGUE

**Southern Region League Premier Division 1997-98**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Reading Royals	12	11	1	0	55	8	34
Swindon Town	14	11	0	3	60	23	33
Cheltenham	15	9	3	3	42	20	30
Southampton	14	8	1	8	39	30	25
Portsmouth	13	6	2	5	23	19	20
Oxford United	15	5	3	7	25	28	18
Swindon Spitfires	11	5	3	3	22	25	18
Southampton Saints	16	4	2	10	25	44	14
Launton	14	3	2	9	20	51	11
Binfield	11	3	1	7	13	29	10
Havant Town	13	0	0	13	9	56	0

## NEXT HOME GAME

**Sunday 8th March 1998**

**Premier League**

**Oxford United**

# 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.



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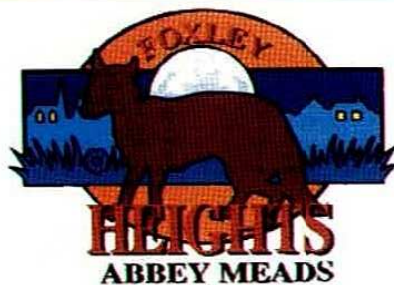
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## Goals, goals, goals!

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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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SERIOUS PERFORMANCE

# Swindon Town FC

Swindon Town Football Club will be looking just as good this season. Thanks to their exclusive Mizuno strip.

**If you were writing a script for a TV serial on a team struggling against relegation you wouldn't come up with half the events that have shadowed Manchester City's season.**

At **Norwich City** a fortnight ago City enjoyed at least seventy per cent of the play but could not score, Uve Rosler in particular squandering a handful of chances. So the blues were down in 22nd place when they entertained **Bury** at Maine Road last Saturday; a derby which over the years had proved very rewarding to them.

But Frank Clark's beleaguered team committed suicide - Paul Beesley, a second-half substitute making his first appearance since October, heading an own goal with his first touch of the game to plunge the Manchester giant closer to Division Two.

It was only **Bury's** second away success of the season and more to the point only their second ever victory at Maine Road - the last being achieved in December 1925 when they won 2-0.

As a former Maine Road favourite Steve McMahon will nurture some sympathy in a corner of his heart for their plight though that will not extend to anything more this afternoon

**Town v City** is one of the big games of the day as are **Middlesbrough v Sunderland** and **Ipswich v Norwich**.

The **Boro Sunderland** derby rivals any in this category and of course this afternoon it features

the leaders from Teeside against the third placed Wearsiders. Seven points separated them on Monday morning but that could be almost halved as while **Boro** took on Liverpool for a place in the **Coca Cola Cup Final**, in midweek, **Sunderland** were expecting to gather three points from a home match with **Reading**, although they only lost to an 87th minute goal at Bramall Lane, so will be no easy touch.



*By Colin Benson*

Could be a good time for **Sunderland** to play at the Cellnet Riverside Stadium - a chance to catch Bryan Robson's team on the rebound from Wednesday. I forecast a result for Peter Reid.

The East Anglian derby might not attract the same attention as those between the big city clubs but make no mistake the rivalry and commitment is just as fierce. A win in this game can expunge a whole host of failures as the men of Suffolk take on their rivals from Norfolk.

**Ipswich** held the higher ground after last week's games, one place and one point above the Canaries, who have played a game more. But both were involved midweek, **Ipswich** at Maine Road, **Norwich** home to **Tranmere**, and the roles could be reversed. Town's re-shaped forward line ripped **Huddersfield** apart, to the tune of 5-1 on Saturday, and they

have been the more consistent side this year.

**Nottingham Forest**, take a trip to Stoke where Chris Kamara still awaits his first win. Just one win in 21 for **Stoke** gives Dave Bassett's men plenty of optimism.

**Stockport County** fans were furious when the club sold old favourite Alun Armstrong to **Middlesbrough** for £1.6m and manager Gary Megson had to address them at half-time to explain the economics. He asked the fans to get behind the team and they responded energetically. Megson must have been delighted when his young replacement, Steve Grant scored the only goal.

The playoffs are still in range but they have a tough engagement against **Charlton** today, although the Valiants have had a few disappointments of late. Home win.

**West Brom** are back in the playoffs and should account for **Bury**; **Reading** will expect to ease their position at home to **Portsmouth**, who crashed 3-0 at **Crewe**. The gap between **Pompey** and **Bury** is widening.

Dario Gradi is the man who keeps unearthing great talents. The latest is Colin Little, signed from **Hyde United** for £50,000, and a striker who will eventually earn the club much more. Keep an eye out for him on the scoresheet at **Tranmere** today.

**Bradford** need a home win against unpredictable **Oxford United** to stay in touch and **Huddersfield**, who lost away for the first time in three months at **Ipswich**, have **Wolves** to contend with and will probably be satisfied with a draw.





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with Mark Seagraves

To be honest, I didn't fancy writing this section if we didn't get a good result at Port Vale, so it is with great relief that I say what a great victory it was.

All the lads knew they had to perform after the poor games against both Tranmere and West Bromwich Albion and that is exactly what they did.

It was a great start for us, Finney doing well down the right, then pulling it back for Lee Collins to rifle in his first senior goal for the club. This was a deserved goal for Collins who, despite results, has played consistently well for the Town over the last month or so.

Vale also created chances with both Snijders and Ainsworth

coming close, but on the night the defence played as a unit and Fraser was as reliable as ever. To round off a night of incident Steve Finney had to put on the gloves and stand between the sticks because Fraser was carried off with concussion.

### the captain's comment

Steve won't mind me saying we feared the worst. But the lad proved us all wrong with a save Gordon Banks would've been proud of. After what seemed like an eternity of injury-time the final whistle goes and you can hear a collective sigh of relief from the bench and Swindon fans.

Looking towards today's game, the lads are really up for it.

**BBC**

**WHERE ALL THE SWINDON TOWN ACTION IS**

**WILTSHIRE SOUND**

**103 - 105FM**

Manchester City may not be doing too well in the league but we all know what a quality outfit they are with players like Kinkladze and now Beardsley on loan.

Of course we also want to avenge our biggest league defeat of the season when we got beat 6-0 at Main Road earlier this season. Man City dominated that game and we simply collapsed as goal after goal went in. If we've learnt anything since then it is how to play well under the kosh. It is certainly going to be another hard battle today but with your support I know the lads will be doing all they can to get a result.

swindon town's **matchday magazine**

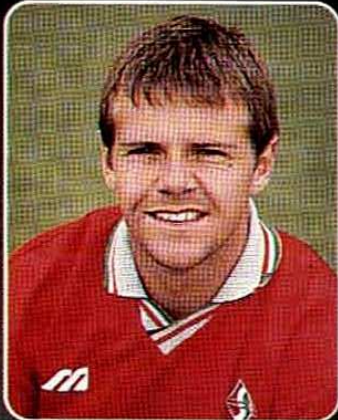
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## FACT FILE...

Name: Mark Robinson  
Date of birth: 21-11-68.  
Place of birth: Manchester.

### School years

Secondary school attended:  
Alderhill, Rochdale.  
Best subject at school:  
Geography.  
Worst subject at school:  
Physics.

Football team supported at  
school: Manchester City.  
Football hero as a schoolboy:  
Peter Barnes.  
Favourite football position at  
school: Right-Wing.  
Career probably taken up if  
not football: "I don't know".  
First match ever seen:  
League Cup Final, Man  
City Vs Newcastle Utd (1976).  
At what age did you first  
attend matches:  
9 years of age.

### Now

Favourite other sports:  
Course fishing and golf.  
Biggest influence on career:  
My family and Wife.  
Best match ever seen  
(Live or TV): Liverpool vs  
Newcastle (1996)  
Favourite football expert:  
Alan Hansen.  
Favourite country to watch:  
Brazil.  
Highlight of career so far:  
Debut for Newcastle.  
Biggest disappointment:  
Being injured for six months.  
Choice Opponents in a  
cup tie: Manchester United.

# close-up profi

Mark Robinson

**Mark Robinson has been a regular and consistent performer for the Town and during his four year spell, has made the right-wing back position his own.**

Yet as a child "Robbo" was an avid Man City fan. Asked where his loyalties lie for a game like today's he replies "You always have a soft spot for the team you supported as a kid, but when you're a pro you want to win, no matter who you're playing."

Mark Robinson was brought up in Manchester and at the age of 16 signed for West Bromwich Albion. Here he learnt his trade as a footballer and at the end of a two year apprenticeship had played a couple of games for their first team.

Robbo failed to make an impact with the "Baggies", and in 1986 moved on a free-transfer to Barnsley. "This is where things started to go right for me" says Robinson. "It was during my time with Barnsley that I truly believed I could play at a high level and make a career out of football".

At Barnsley Robbo's form was such that he began to attract the attention of bigger clubs and was snapped up in March 1993 by Newcastle for £450,000.

"When I signed for Newcastle they were top of the First Division, ten points clear with eleven games left, so I joined at a great time, they were on the up. We had a terrific squad and

won the league, I thought at the time that it doesn't get much better than this."

Then things went wrong for Mark. In a pre-season friendly he picked up an injury which cost him the first half of the Premiership season. But he isn't bitter "although I was injured for six months, I played in the second half of the season and we ended up third in the race for the title. For a lad like me who, not so long ago, was playing for Barnsley, it was an awesome experience."

But, at the end of this successful season, Robinson knew he would be moving on. Newcastle's manager Kevin Keegan, always looking for perfection, wanted to bring in some big money signings. For Robbo, this meant he could well be sidelined.

A keen competitor, Mark wasn't prepared to languish in the reserve team or keep the subs bench warm, so he looked to the south and Swindon. After talks with John Gorman, Mark Robinson signed in July 1994, the club paying a record £600,000.

"I fancied the move to Swindon Town. I knew a lot of the players, and whenever I played against them they always played good, attractive football. I also saw the set-up was very professional, geared towards playing well and getting back to the Premier League. On a personal note, the countryside is beautiful which makes it a nice area to live in."

# ie



Over the seasons Robbo has experienced all the highs and lows of Swindon's recent history: demotion from Division One, winners of the Second Division Title and then an average season to follow.

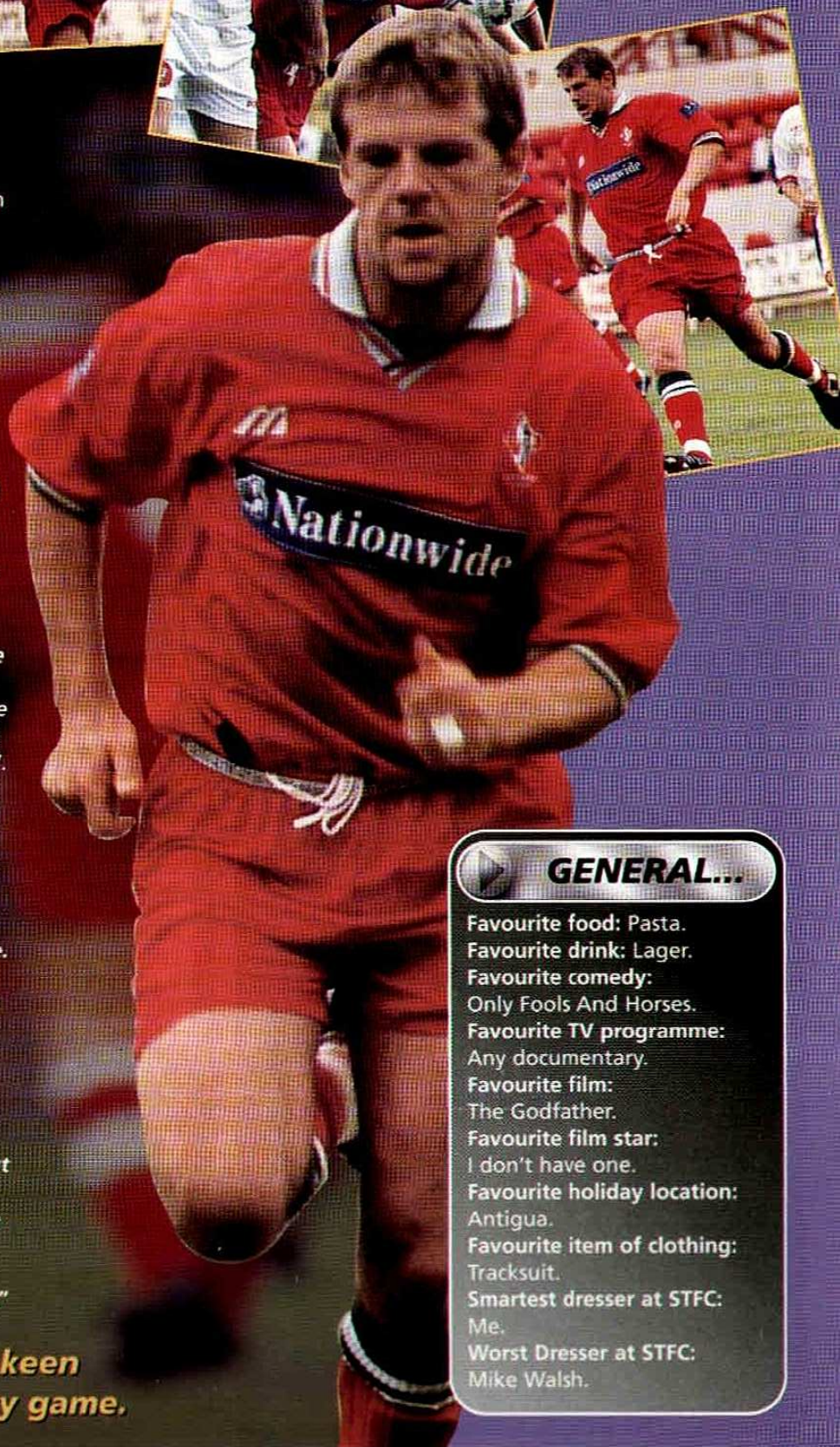
With the club bouncing around like this, it must place demands on the players. But Robbo seems to take it all in his stride.

*"With the pressures we're all under it is nice to escape from football now and again. Most of my free time is taken up by my two sons, one is three years old and the other is just one. They're at a smashing age now where you can do things with them. If I get a day on the riverbank fishing that can also help take my mind off things"*

Robbo is used to the ups and downs. He is the first to admit current form is at a low point. He said *"It almost seems like the kiss of death, going straight to the top of the table. It puts a lot of strain on the lads. It also doesn't help when we don't get any luck, like against Tranmere. A rebound from Fraser drops to a Rovers player and they're one up."*

*"We've let the fans down, but you've got to be realistic. I think we've got a good chance of making the play-offs. If we work hard and put some wins together we can turn it round."*

**Mark Robinson - a keen competitor in every game.**



## GENERAL...

Favourite food: Pasta.  
Favourite drink: Lager.  
Favourite comedy: Only Fools And Horses.  
Favourite TV programme: Any documentary.  
Favourite film: The Godfather.  
Favourite film star: I don't have one.  
Favourite holiday location: Antigua.  
Favourite item of clothing: Tracksuit.  
Smartest dresser at STFC: Me.  
Worst Dresser at STFC: Mike Walsh.

# statistics 1997/98 season



## Man City



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 18.02.98

	P	W	D	L	W	D	L	F	A	PTS.
NOTTINGHAM FOREST	31	12	2	2	7	4	4	51	28	63
MIDDLESBROUGH	31	10	3	2	8	5	3	51	26	62
SUNDERLAND	30	9	4	2	8	3	4	53	29	58
SHEFFIELD UNITED	30	11	4	0	3	8	4	46	31	54
CHARLTON ATHLETIC	31	10	4	1	5	4	7	54	39	53
WEST BROMWICH ALBION	32	8	3	5	6	4	6	34	31	49
WOLVES	30	9	4	2	5	2	8	40	30	48
STOCKPORT COUNTY	32	10	4	1	4	1	12	49	43	47
BIRMINGHAM CITY	31	6	6	3	6	5	5	39	23	47
SWINDON TOWN	33	9	3	4	4	4	9	35	46	46
BRADFORD CITY	32	8	6	2	3	5	8	33	33	44
IPSWICH TOWN	30	6	4	4	4	8	4	41	32	42
NORWICH CITY	31	7	5	4	4	3	8	31	43	41
CREWE ALEXANDRA	32	6	2	9	6	2	7	40	48	40
QUEENS PARK RANGERS	32	7	6	3	2	5	9	35	47	38
OXFORD UNITED	31	7	4	4	3	2	11	38	45	36
READING	31	6	4	6	3	5	7	32	49	36
STOKE CITY	32	5	4	6	3	6	8	31	46	34
TRANMERE ROVERS	30	6	5	4	2	4	9	33	38	33
HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	32	5	4	6	3	5	9	33	49	33
PORT VALE	32	5	5	7	3	2	10	37	50	31
BURY	32	3	9	5	2	7	6	28	40	31
MANCHESTER CITY	31	4	4	8	3	5	7	33	35	30
PORTSMOUTH	31	6	3	8	1	3	10	45	50	27



### 1 The Coca-Cola Cup LITTLEWOODS 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	27	0	0	0	27	0
DARREN BULLOCK	15(5)	0	0	0	15(5)	0
CHRIS CASPER	8(1)	1	0	0	8(1)	1
LEE COLLINS	12(4)	1	1	0	13(4)	1
STEVE COWE	4(6)	1	(1)	0	4(7)	1
PHILIPPE CUERVO	11(4)	0	2	0	13(4)	0
IAN CULVERHOUSE	9(2)	0	1	0	10(2)	0
FREDERIC DARRAS	12(2)	0	2	0	14(2)	0
SOL DAVIS	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
FRASER DIGBY	28	0	2	0	30	0
JASON DRYSDALE	11(3)	0	2(1)	0	13(4)	0
STEVE FINNEY	13(6)	4	1(1)	0	14(7)	4
TY GOODEN	29	2	3	0	32	2
CHRIS HAY	25(3)	14	2	0	27(3)	14
BOBBY HOWE	7	0	0	0	7	0
ROBIN HULBERT	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
SCOTT LEITCH	19(1)	1	2	1	21(1)	2
STEVE MILDENHALL	3	0	0	0	3	0
ALAN McDONALD	23(2)	1	3	0	26(2)	1
STEVE McMAHON	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
ALEX MEECHAN	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
GEORGE NDAH	8	1	1	0	9	1
MICHAEL PATTIMORE	(2)	0	0	0	(2)	0
MARK ROBINSON	17(1)	1	2	0	19(1)	1
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	21(3)	2	1	0	22(3)	2
DAVID THOMPSON	10	0	0	0	10	0
MARK WALTERS	15(7)	3	2(1)	1	17(8)	4
TONY WARNER	2	0	0	0	2	0
KEVIN WATSON	11(4)	0	1	0	12(4)	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 (F.A. CUP 1)	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 (F.A. Cup 2)	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 0-3	26,500
SUN DEC 28	IPSWICH TOWN	H 0-2	10,609
SAT JAN 3	STEVENAGE BOROUGH (F.A. Cup 3)	H 1-2	9,422
Sun Jan 11	Crewe Alexandra (1pm)	A 0-2	4,176
SAT JAN 17	READING	H 0-2	9,500
Sat Jan 24	Bradford City (F.A. CUP 4)	A 1-1	15,130
WED JAN 28	STOKE CITY	H 1-0	6,683
Sat Jan 31	Huddersfield Town	A 0-0	10,028
SAT FEB 7	WEST BROMWICH ALBION	H 0-2	9,861
Tue Feb 10	Tranmere Rovers	A 3-0	5,288
Sat Feb 14	(F.A. Cup 5)		
Tue Feb 17	Port Vale	A 1-0	5,925
SAT FEB 21	MANCHESTER CITY	H	
Sat Feb 28	Bury	A	
SAT MAR 7	PORTSMOUTH (F.A. CUP 6)	H	
Sat Mar 14	Queens Park Rangers	A	
WED MAR 18	WOLVERHAMPTON W.	H	
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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Front Cover Picture: Steve Finney

	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(9)	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(9)	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(9)	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)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	ROBINSON	LEITCH	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	THOMPSON	COLLINS	FINNEY	NDAH	GOODEN	HAY(9)	DRYSDALE(2)	WALTERS	
DIGBY	CULVERHOUSE	ROBINSON	LEITCH	DARRAS	MCDONALD	THOMPSON	WALTERS	HAY	NDAH	GOODEN	FINNEY(8)	COLLINS(4)	TAYLOR(5)	
DIGBY	CULVERHOUSE	ROBINSON	COLLINS	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	WATSON	WALTERS	HAY	NDAH	GOODEN	FINNEY(7)	MILDENHALL	DRYSDALE(8)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	ROBINSON	WATSON	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	BULLOCK	COLLINS	HAY	NDAH	GOODEN	FINNEY(6)	CULVERHOUSE	CUERVO(7)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	ROBINSON	BULLOCK	TAYLOR	MCDONALD	CUERVO	HOWE	HAY	FINNEY	GOODEN	COLLINS(6)	CULVERHOUSE	WATSON(4)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	ROBINSON	THOMPSON	TAYLOR	COLLINS	CUERVO	HOWE	HAY	FINNEY	GOODEN	COWE(7)	MCDONALD(6)	LEITCH	
MILDENHALL	BORROWS	ROBINSON	THOMPSON	TAYLOR	COLLINS	CUERVO	HOWE	HAY	FINNEY	DRYSDALE	COWE	MCDONALD	LEITCH(11)	
MILDENHALL	BORROWS	ROBINSON	LEITCH	TAYLOR	COLLINS	THOMPSON	HOWE	HAY	FINNEY	DRYSDALE	COWE	MCDONALD(11)	CUERVO(10)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	ROBINSON	LEITCH	TAYLOR	COLLINS	CUERVO	HOWE	HAY	FINNEY	GOODEN	COWE(9)	WATSON(7)	CULVERHOUSE(11)	
DIGBY	BORROWS	ROBINSON	LEITCH	TAYLOR	COLLINS	CULVERHOUSE	HOWE	HAY	FINNEY	CUERVO	COWE(9)	WATSON(7)	WALTERS(11)	
DIGBY	ROBINSON	BORROWS	LEITCH	TAYLOR	COLLINS	BULLOCK	HOWE	HAY	FINNEY	DRYSDALE	COWE(9)	CUERVO(11)	WALTERS(1)	

**Next Home Match**

**Saturday 7th March 1998**

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

**Portsmouth**

**Kick-Off 3.00pm**

**CLUBCALL**

SWINDON TOWN FC

**ClubCall**

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

\* Calls charged at 50p at all times

**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
- SCOTT LEITCH 4
- CRAIG TAYLOR 5
- LEE COLLINS 6
- KEVIN WATSON 7
- BOBBY HOWE 8
- CHRIS HAY 9
- STEVE FINNEY 10
- JASON DRYSDALE 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- TEAM MANAGER STEVE McMAHON

## Manchester City

- TOMMY WRIGHT
- RICHARD EDGHILL
- KAKHABER TSKHADADZE
- MURTAZ SHELIA
- KIT SYMONS
- JIM WHITLEY
- JEFF WHITLEY
- CRAIG RUSSELL
- PETER BEARDSLEY
- GEORGI KINKLADZE
- UWE RÖSLER
- 12
- 13
- 14
- TEAM MANAGER JOE ROYLE

**CLUBCALL**



**ClubCall**

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

\* Calls charged at 50p at all times

**Today's Result and Attendance**

Swindon v Man City

Attendance




**Referee:**  
B. Coddington

**Assisted by:**  
M. A. Howken  
A. J. Webb

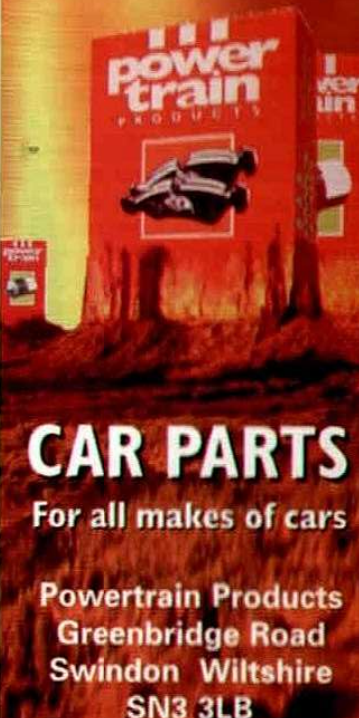
**Reserve Official:**  
I. Restall

**Brian Coddington**  
Brian is a 42 year old Local Government Officer who is married with two young children. He began Refereeing in the Sheffield Leagues in 1971 and progressed to become a Football League linesman in 1987, and then a full League referee in the 96/97 season. Brians highest honour of his refereeing career so far is being linesman for the Coca Cola Cup final in 1996. Brians interests off the pitch include most sports and DIY.



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**Next Home Match**

**Saturday 7th March 1998**

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

**Portsmouth**

**Kick-Off 3.00pm**

**Matchday Magazine**

Matchday Magazine Editor:  
RICHARD MACKEY: (01793) 532121

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