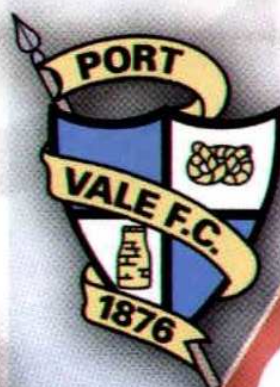


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Fax: 01782 836875

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Official Website: www.port-vale.co.uk

Email: pvfc@port-vale.co.uk

Club Officials

Chairman: Bill Bratt

Vice Chairman: Charles Machin

Directors: Paul Humphreys, Glenn Oliver,

David Smith, Mike Thompson,

Geoff Wakefield

Secretary: Bill Lodey

Manager: Martin Foyle

Assistant Manager: Dean Glover

First Team Coach: Ian Brightwell

Youth Development Officer: Bill Chetwyn

Youth Academy Head Coach: Andy Porter

Physio: Andy Jackson

Medical Officer: Dr D. Phillips

Ticket Office Manager: Ted Wilcox

Merchandise Manager: Andrew Burgess

Community Officer: Jim Cooper

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Safety Officer: Bill Stephenson

Health & Safety Officer: Phil Mayer

Club Photographer: Bill Bache

Kit Man: Stan Nichols

Website Editor: Dave Johnson

Club Chaplain: John M. Hibberts (M.A.)

Club Honours

Founder Members (Div 2) 1892

Highest Position - Fifth (Div 2) 1930/31

Div 3 (North) Champions 1929/30, 1953/54

Div 4 Champions 1958/59

Promoted to Div 1 1993/94 (runners-up)

Promoted to Div 2 1988/89 (via play-offs)

Promoted to Div 3 1969/70, 1982/3, 1985/6

FA Cup Semi-Finalists 1953/54

Autoglass Trophy Winners 1992/93

Anglo Italian Cup Runners-up 1995/96

LDV Vans Trophy Winners 2000/01

Matchday Magazine

Programme Produced by:

The Design Sauce Ltd

Programme Printed by:

Printability 2000 Ltd

Programme Editor:

Dave Johnson

The views expressed in this programme
are not necessarily those of Port Vale
Football Club

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Juniors



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Football in the
Community



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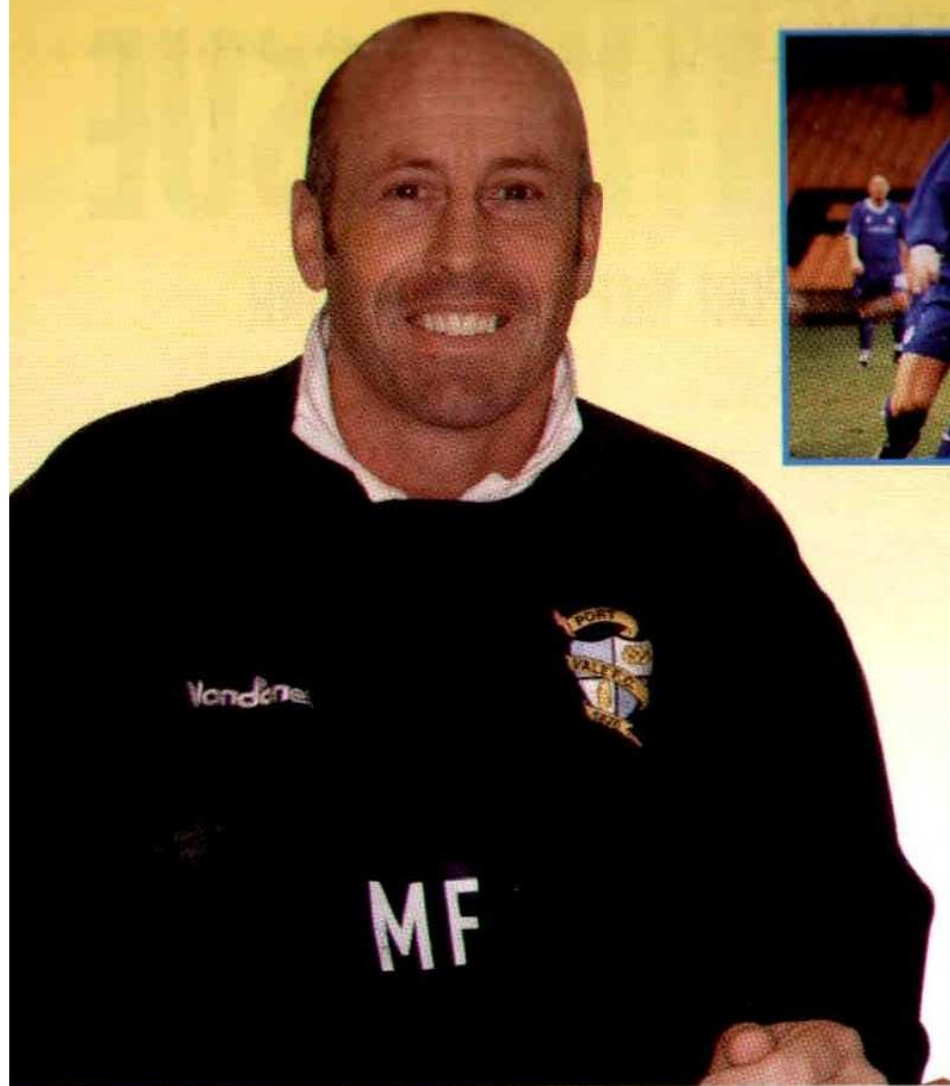
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FROM

THE response from the players since I took over little more than a fortnight ago has been everything I could have asked for - and so has that of the fans.

Cards wishing both myself and my assistant Dean Glover well have flooded in and we have received faxes from managers and coaches. There have also been bottles of champagne but we will keep them on ice in the hope we have something to celebrate.

Beating Oldham here was a dream debut for me as a manager. The team looked compact and the crowd got behind us so went to Plymouth in good heart, only to be beaten in about the fifth minute of added time. I fancy Plymouth will gain promotion with the way they play.

They are very direct and I always had a feeling they might score, but

the lads battled and scrapped well enough to be worth a draw.

Having made one long journey we set off again three days later to Colchester where the efforts of the players spoke for themselves in the 4-1 victory.

It was a win we needed in view of the tough programme in store. I told the players we had to come away with something and they delivered the goods in no uncertain terms, especially after conceding an early goal.

Unfortunately, Steve Brooker picked up a groin strain that is likely to rule him out today but I have no hesitation in playing Billy Paynter

up front again. Billy has been playing wide right of late and has been working his socks off in the team effort, but he played the closing stages at Colchester in attack and looked fit and confident.

From a management point of view it was nice for us to get closer to the players and enjoy the long journey home for things have been happening so quickly we have not had much chance to sit down with them.

The players are buzzing and the victory at Colchester sets today's game up nicely. It is fifth against fourth with three points between us: it is a game we cannot afford to lose and we are really looking forward to it.

I would particularly like to welcome Swindon manager Andy King, who is a good friend of mine. We were together at Aldershot and Andy was a big influence on my career to go on to better things as I rose from playing in the Fourth Division to the First. As a manager he has done



THE DUGOUT WITH....

MANAGER MARTIN FOYLE

really well on a shoestring at Swindon.

Hopefully, the game will attract a decent crowd for the we need to generate revenue towards next season's budget. At the moment the numbers for next season are very low so we need to crack on and sort out contracts, which we are trying to do. There is a case for keeping players hungry but we need to sign a few.

Management has not changed my life because I have always been a thinker and I have been trying to groom myself. Dean Glover and I have always got on well and he is also tactically aware, although we both believe in getting the opinions of the players, too.

*Martin
Foyle*



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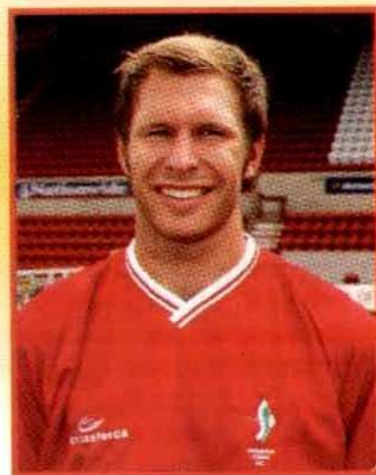
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WITH MICHAEL BAGGALEY

LOOK OUT FOR...



SAM PARKIN



Striker, Sam Parkin, leads Swindon's promotion campaign with 16 goals so far this season.

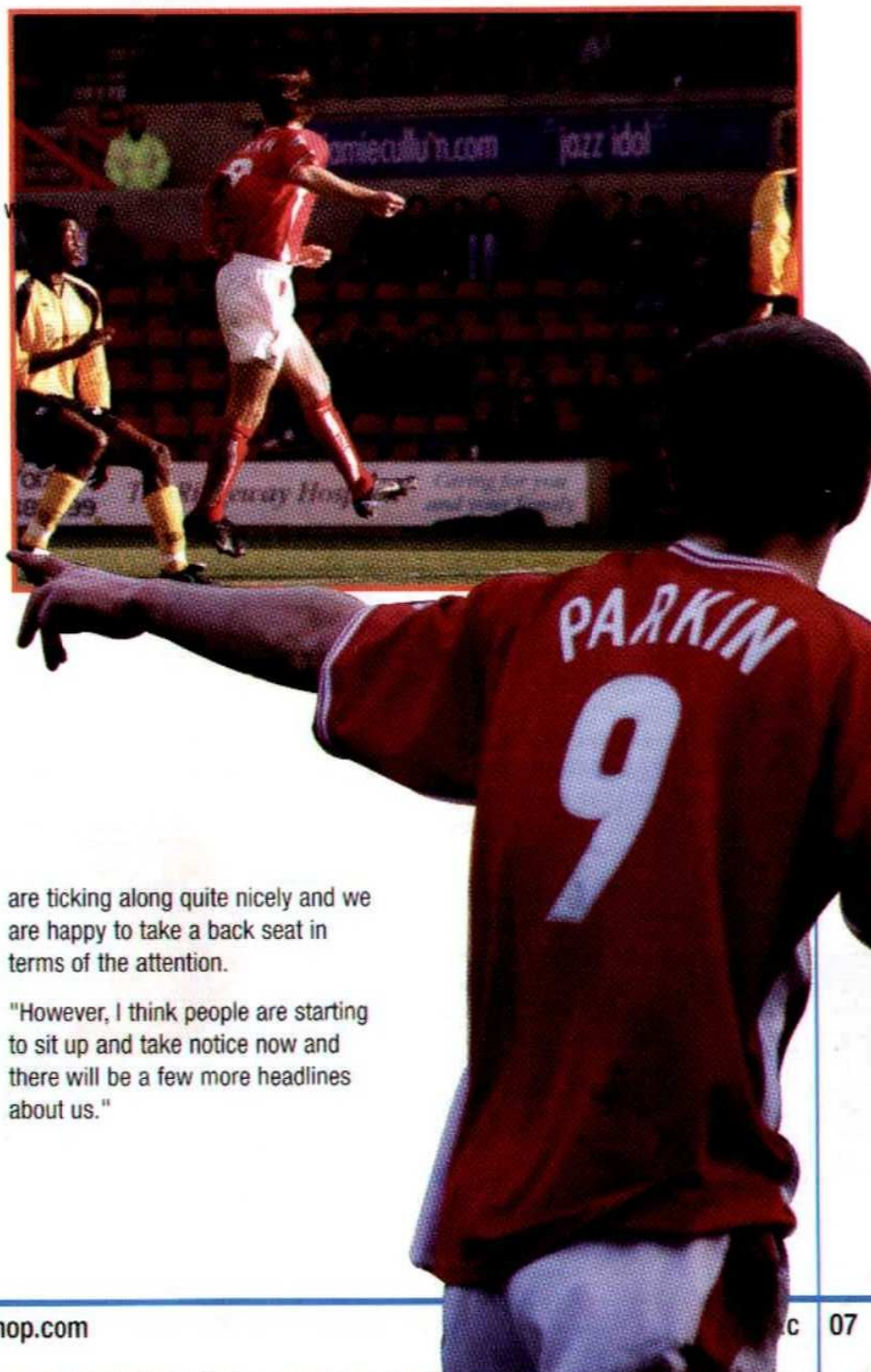
The tally continues a fine return on the £50,000 Swindon paid Chelsea for his services in the summer of 2002.

Parkin, who had loan spells at Millwall, Oldham, Wycombe and Northampton, made an explosive start to his Swindon career with a hat-trick in a 3-1 win against Barnsley and went on to score 26 goals last term.

His goal rush continued last Saturday as he netted late on in Swindon's 2-0 win over Chesterfield at the County Ground. The win gives the Robins an outside chance of automatic promotion and the 6ft 2in striker believes a strong squad can muscle their way into the top two.

He told the thisiswiltshire website: "We are on a great run and going into every match believing we can win it. We are scoring goals, defending well and we want to keep it going.

"As Bristol City have shown, the front two are catchable. We haven't really been mentioned, as yet, but



are ticking along quite nicely and we are happy to take a back seat in terms of the attention.

"However, I think people are starting to sit up and take notice now and there will be a few more headlines about us."

INTRODUCING

SWINDON TOWN



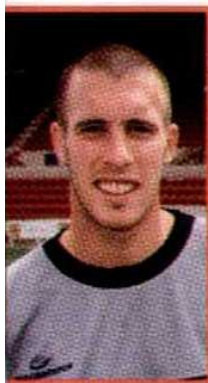
1. Bart Griemink

Giant keeper signed by Colin Todd on a free transfer in the summer of 2000. Griemink is a former Dutch Under-21 international who spent a successful loan spell with The Robins (as cover for Frank Talia) before eventually joining the club. He came to English football in 1995 with Birmingham and deputised competently for the injured Ian Bennett, playing in the 1995 League Cup semi-final.

He then followed Barry Fry to Peterborough United but lost his place to Mark Tyler. Griemink started the 2000-01 season as first choice goalkeeper, and even deputised as captain, but ended up on the bench as Steve Mildenhall took his place in goal following Griemink's two dismissals and subsequent lengthy suspension.

20. Rhys Evans

The promising young keeper joined Leyton Orient on a three-month loan deal last August. He proved to be an excellent shot stopper and showed good command of his area. Rhys was unfortunate to pick up a leg injury, which cut short his period at Brisbane Road and saw him return to Chelsea.



Town manager Andy King swooped for the young stopper in 2003 to give first choice keeper Bart Griemink more competition for the number one shirt at Swindon Town. Since then Evans has been a regular between the posts for Town and has turned in many match saving performances.

3. Grant Smith

Grant, although fully involved in Sheffield United's pre-season games, made just one start in their 2002-03 campaign, appearing as a striker against Wimbledon when things did not go his way. Occasionally on the bench, he was a regular in the Blades' successful reserve side and in March he joined Plymouth Argyle in a loan deal. He debuted in midfield against Blackpool and went on to add four appearances, scoring at home to Brentford.

He joined Swindon Town after being released from the Blades and was strongly recommended by Sheffield United boss, Neil Warnock, amongst many others. Since joining in the summer of 2003, 'Smithy' has had little chance to impress with a host of restricted performances in the first team and a blight of niggling injuries.

4. Matthew Hewlett

All at Ashton Gate once tipped midfielder Matt for the top. The former Bristol City player was called into the England Under-21 squad, but a number of injuries curtailed his flourishing career. In the end, Hewlett made over 100 appearances for City, but left them to join Town on a Bosman in the summer of 2000.

6. Adi Viveash

Viveash started his career here at Swindon and spent two separate brief spells on loan with the Royals in the 1992/3 and 1994/5 seasons. Joined Reading on a permanent deal in 2000/01 and started as the first-choice centre-back. He was excellent throughout, and showed similar consistency at the start of the following season before suffering a groin injury in the cup defeat at York in December 2001.

Last season his first-team involvement at Reading was restricted to a handful of games as a non-playing substitute until the final part of the campaign. He kept in shape with a two-month loan spell at Oxford United, helping the club to their best spells of the season. He even captained the side in the last two league games against Walsall and Stoke City.

6. Andy Gurney

Andy started his career at hometown club, Bristol Rovers, where he spent four seasons, before moving to Torquay for one year and impressing during their surge to the play-offs.

He then joined Reading in January 1999 for £100,000 as an attack-minded, right-sided defender who could also play in midfield. He soon established a regular starting place with Reading in 1999/00 and figured in the Royals' promotion push last year.

Was keen to join Town after their impressive performance against Reading and King snapped him up on a Bosman in the summer of 2001. Crowned an impressive home debut performance against Tottenham with a long-range goal and proved to be one of King's best buys. Gurney missed just four games in his first season and last year made 45 appearances in all competitions.

7. Sammy Igoe

After making his way up through the ranks at Portsmouth, where he began as a trainee, Igoe went on to secure a first-team spot at the south coast club and made his mark with some impressive performances.

He moved to Reading in a £100,000 deal but found it difficult to break into the first team and spent much of his time on the substitutes' bench. Last term, the diminutive midfielder had something of a disappointing season at the Royals, being restricted to just a handful of starts and rarely featured at all at the turn of the year. Igoe left to join Swindon in the summer of 2003.

8. Tommy Mooney

Tommy joined Town from Birmingham in July this year. He joined previous club Birmingham from Watford and, over the course of his career, he has spanned the highest and lowest levels of English football. He was born in



Middlesborough but he started out at Aston Villa before a move to Scarborough, who were then a Football League club.

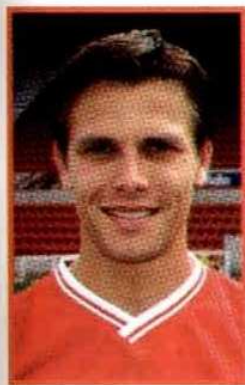
After three years there, he moved to Southend United in 1993 for £100,000 but his one season there saw him make 19 appearances for the Shrimpers and a move to Watford soon materialised.

Tommy netted a total of 22 goals, the first time a Watford player had hit the 20-goal mark in nearly a decade.

In 2001 he moved to Birmingham, and enjoyed considerable success, before moving down to a loan at Stoke City.

He joined the Potters for three months, then spent further periods on loan at Sheffield

United and Derby County. Faced with an abundance of talent ahead of him in the pecking order at St Andrews, he looked to the Nationwide teams in search of first-team football. Late on in the summer of 2003, he decided to join Andy King's revolution at Swindon Town and has quickly become a fans' favourite in Wiltshire.



10. Stefano Miglioranzi

Miglioranzi is the product of the American College football system in which the most promising players are drafted into Major League Soccer. Stefano helped St John's University win the 1996 NCAA Division I

Championship and played for MLS team Chicago Fire before joining Everton on trial.

They were keen to sign him, but no deal came about. Portsmouth then out-jumped Liverpool in inviting him for a trial and signed him soon thereafter.

The 22-year-old is a Brazilian-born American but holds an Italian passport.

11. David Duke

'Dukey' will feel slightly aggrieved with the tag of 'Most Improved Player' last season – but he hardly missed a game and rarely put a foot wrong on the left-hand side of Town's midfield. The Scotsman arrived on a free transfer from Sunderland in 2000 having never managed a start for the Black Cat's first team. Duke appeared regularly in his first season with the Robins.

14. Jon Stevenson

Live-wire young striking prospect signed his first professional forms in February 2001 with Leicester City. He was involved regularly from the bench during that season, scoring in their drubbing at Portman Road, and continues to have the making of a fine future player.

Although he looked a fine prospect, he was released by the club in preparation for their return to the Premiership.

15. Andrew Nicholas

Andrew was a regular member of Liverpool's successful under-19 winning team in 2003 and won plaudits with his consistent performances at left back, resulting in a flattering comparison to Anfield legend Sami Hyypia.

At the time, his path into the first team at Liverpool seemed blocked and upon his decision to leave, King snapped him up in the summer of 2003. After working his way into

the manager's starting line up with some hard work in training, the left-sided defender has never looked back and has given a number of solid performances so far.

16. Rory Fallon

A recent signing from Barnsley, the big striker made quite an impression against Town in the past two seasons, scoring on many occasions and catching the eye of Town boss, Andy King.

He joined Barnsley as a professional in 1999 after moving up through their trainee programme. Last season saw him score his first-ever league goal, against Blackpool and he quickly followed that up the week in a game at Stockport.

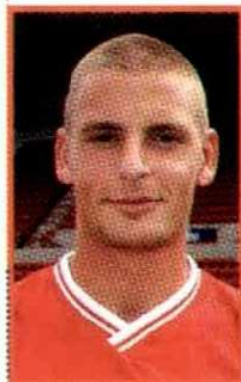
King had become a keen admirer of the striker by that point and Town eventually agreed a undisclosed fee with Barnsley to bring him down to Wiltshire. However, with Parkin and Mooney in such good form, he has found it difficult to gain many first-team chances but looks a superb prospect for the future. Has so far come off the bench to good effect and managed his first goal for the club against Plymouth in December.

17. Brian Howard

The youngster joined Town from Southampton in 2003 having playing for the Saints' reserves for two years. The 20-year old left-sided midfielder even turned down a late move to go to Chelsea, choosing instead to opt for some first-team football under Andy King.

He has been a regular member of the England youth set-up and was unlucky to not be included in the Under-20's side that went to the FIFA World Youth Championships.

The left-sided midfielder has proved to be a revelation on the flanks this season and should regularly be getting a pat on the back from the Town forwards as he continues to put chances in front of them. Capable of scoring his fair share of goals, including important away strikes at Brentford and Notts County, he also possesses a superb dead-ball technique set-pieces, specially from corners.



19. Matthew Heywood

It has been another consistent year for Town's most effective defender and, after a slow start, he returned to the kind of form that saw him clean up in the 2001/02 Player of the Year Awards.

Originally, Heywood failed to break through at Burnley's Turf Moor and, after being alerted

as to his availability by former scout, Shaun Reid, Andy King snapped him up on a free transfer.

Was an ever-present in the latter half of 2000/01 and has now missed just four games since. The tall defender signed an extension to his contract, much to the delight of the fans, and he has shown the same strength and commitment this season.

21. Ben Martin

Manager, Andy King, signed Martin, a massive 6' 7" centre-back, in August 2003. After impressing King during a scouting mission last season, he trained with the squad towards the end of last term and signed a one-year deal with the Club.

He has so far had a loan spell at Lincoln City, where he didn't manage to get into the first-team action, and recently decided to join Farnborough Town on loan in a bid to get more football under his belt and will hope to figure in manager Andy King's future plans.

22. Alan Reeves

Before joining Swindon in 1998, he spent four years at Wimbledon, where he had the tough task of replacing John Scales. Reeves has also played for Gillingham, Chester and Rochdale, where he is considered to be one of the best players in the club's history.

Town's veteran defender enjoyed another fine season in 2002-03. Although initially not a member of the side, he forced his way into contention as the team hit some poor early-season form and, his uncompromising and committed displays helped the Robins turn their fortunes around.

He has now made well over 400 league appearances and was rewarded last season with a playing/coaching role that has seen him turn around the fortunes of Town's reserve side. He continues to back up the Swindon defence, when called upon and has so far continued with some sterling performances this season.

25. Steve Robinson

Tough-tackling and energetic right-footed midfield terrier signed from Birmingham City for £50,000 in February 2001, he was an automatic choice for the Robins for the remainder of that season and, more recently, signed a two-year extension to his contract.

A former Birmingham trainee, he broke into the Blues team under Barry Fry but has constantly been dogged by injuries that have limited his first-team chances. He made over 50 league starts for the Blues, but almost joined Sheffield United in 1999, only to fail the medical.

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LOOKING BACK AT SOME OF PORT VALE'S GREATEST GAMES





VINTAGE PORT


SEASON 1958/59

WITH PHIL SHERWIN


 Due to a reorganisation of the leagues, Vale found themselves suffering two successive relegations and became founder members of the new Fourth Division. Also, after 22 years of having black and white colours, a new strip was unveiled, amber and black stripes, with black shorts. It lasted five years.


 The season started badly as, on the opening day to Northampton, the visitors took the lead in the first minute, with Andy Woan claiming his place in history with the new division's first goal. Woan went on to complete a hat-trick as Northampton won 4-1; Roy Sproson was subsequently dropped.


 Vale could do no wrong away, beating Hartlepool 5-1 (it took them until last month to get their revenge) and Watford 4-0 and they won 7 and drew 2 of the first nine games on the road. At home, it was a different story though, no wins and just two draws from the first five.


 In September, floodlights were switched on at Vale Park for the first time in a friendly 5-3 victory over West Brom, when a five-figure gate braved the pouring rain to witness the new innovation. The first league game


played under them was against Southport and Vale won 4-1 to claim their first home win. Thirteen wins and four draws from the remaining seventeen home games showed that the bogey had been well and truly lifted.


 In October, Shirley Bassey made a surprise appearance at the home game v Oldham as a guest of manager Norman Low, the sly old fox. She was appearing at the Theatre Royal in Hanley at the time, but the game ended goalless, the only time that Vale failed to score at home all season. I don't think she has been since, somebody ought to tell her that it isn't always 0-0.

 Vale went top for the first time in November, beating previous leaders Exeter City 5-3 at Vale Park. It was certainly a goal-laden time, as on Boxing Day it was Gateshead's misfortune to travel to fortress Vale Park and go away with an 8-0 spanking. It is still our record Vale Park score and has only ever been bettered by a 9-1 win over Chesterfield in 1932. New striker, Graham Barnett, notched a couple as the goals were shared out, and we also had a new face, Ken Hancock in goal.

 The goals continued to flow but over Easter, (three games in four days - no chance of that nowadays) we struggled against Crewe, losing 2-0 at Gresty Road and only drawing 1-1 at home. A 4-3 win at Exeter in between with two late goals kept the points ticking over though.

 Almost 21,000 turned up for the home game against Coventry City to see us belt them 3-0 to virtually seal promotion. It was four up in those days, no play offs, and promotion was actually clinched in a 1-1 draw at home to Darlington. To win the title though, we needed to win our final home game v Millwall. We duly did 5-2 and the usual pitch invasion followed, not of the kind normally seen at Millwall games though.

 By winning the inaugural title Vale earned £300 talent money, just to illustrate how long ago it was, and it was also the last time that we did finish at the top of the pile in any division.

 Vale scored a club record 110 goals, but remarkably no hat-tricks were recorded. Jack Wilkinson was top scorer with 23, followed by Stan Steele on 21 and Graham Barnett who scored 20 in just 22 appearances.



IT'S GOOD NEWS WEEK

LEIGH EDWARDS REFLECTS ON THIS WEEK DOWN THE YEARS...

1947

Port Vale were without a match on 22nd February 1947 as freezing conditions caused widespread postponements. Goals by Billy Pointon and Don Triner had given Port Vale a 2-1 Third Division victory at home to Bristol City five days earlier and Gordon Hodgson's side did not play again until winning 2-0 at Reading three weeks later.

Jimmy Morgan, Fred Leamon and Ken Wookey scored in Bristol Rovers' 3-0 Third Division (South) win at home to the following Swindon Town team: *Sam Burton, Bill Lloyd, Albert Young, Bob Shanks, Jimmy Ithell, Eddie Painter, Billy Stephens, Billy Lucas, Maurice Owen, George Paterson, Gordon Williams.*

Albert Stubbins scored to give title-chasing Liverpool a 1-0 win over Huddersfield Town at Anfield Jack Rowley netted twice in Manchester United's 3-0 victory at home to Blackpool Goals from Frank Baker, John Jackson and Johnny Sellars gave high-flying Stoke City a 3-1 win over Arsenal at the Victoria Ground.

1954

Goals from Ken Griffiths and Dickie Cunliffe gave Freddie Steele's title-chasing Port Vale a 2-2 Third Division

(North) win at home to Chesterfield on 27th February 1954: *Ray King, Stan Turner, Reg Potts, Albert Mullard, Tom Cheadle, Roy Sproson, Colin Askey, Albert Leake, Basil Hayward, Ken Griffiths, Dickie Cunliffe.*

Ken Lambert scored to give Maurice Lindley's Swindon Town a 1-1 Third Division (South) draw against Leyton Orient in front of 12,466 at Brisbane Road: *Sam Burton, George Hunt, Terry Elwell, Jimmy Cross, Garth Hudson, Jimmy Johnston, Ken Lambert, Ray Sampson, Maurice Owen, Roy Onslow, Micky Bull.*

Strikes by Bill Slater, Peter Broadbent and Dennis Wilshaw gave leaders Wolverhampton Wanderers a 3-2 win at home to Newcastle United Title rivals West Brom triumphed 2-0 at Huddersfield Town with goals from Paddy Ryan and Johnny Nicholls Tottenham Hotspur defeated Arsenal 3-0 at Highbury.

1961

Bert Llewellyn, Cliff Portwood and Stan Steele netted to give Port Vale a 3-2 Third Division win over Grimsby Town at Vale Park on 25th February 1961: *Ken Hancock, David Raine, Selwyn Whalley, Harry Poole, Peter Ford, Terry Miles, Brian Jackson, Cliff Portwood, Bert Llewellyn, Stan Steele, Harry Oscroft.*

Ernie Hunt scored to give Bert Head's Swindon Town a 1-1 Third Division draw against local rivals Reading watched by 9,703 at the County Ground: *Sam Burton, Terry Wollen, John Trollope, Keith Morgan, Maurice Owen, Bobby Woodruff, Arnold D'Arcy, Ernie Hunt, Mike Summerbee, Cliff Jackson, Freddie Jones.*

Double-chasing Tottenham Hotspur triumphed 1-0 at Manchester City with a goal from Terry Medwin Strikes by Colin Booth, John Rowland and Colin Addison gave Nottingham Forest a 3-2 win at home to Manchester United Alan Finney scored to give Sheffield Wednesday a 1-0 win over Chelsea at Hillsborough.

1968

Mick Mahon scored twice to give Port Vale a 2-2 Fourth Division draw against Hartlepool United at the Victoria Ground on 24th February 1968: *Stuart Sharratt, John James, Roy Sproson, Clint Boulton (Jimmy Goodfellow), Bill Asprey, Ron Wilson, Mick Mahon, Harry Poole, Terry Miles, Roy Chapman, Mick Cullerton.*

Don Rogers and Pat Terry netted two goals apiece in Swindon Town's 5-0 Third Division victory over Grimsby Town watched by 12,791 at the County Ground: *Peter Downsborough, Rod Thomas, John Trollope, Joe Butler, Mel Nurse, Stan*

Harland, Willie Penman, Peter Noble, Pat Terry, Roger Smart, Don Rogers.

Francis Lee's goal gave title-chasing Manchester City a 1-0 victory over Sunderland at Maine Road

George Best was on target as rivals Manchester United defeated Arsenal 2-0 at Highbury Strikes by Ian Callaghan, Geoff Strong and Tony Hateley gave Bill Shankly's Liverpool a 3-1 win at home to Leicester City.

1975

Port Vale faced struggling Watford in the Third Division and the following team was held to a 0-0 draw at Vale Park on 22nd February 1975: *John Connaughton, John Brodie, Garry Dulson, Colin Tarrt, Bill Summerscales, Brian Horton, Tony Lacey (John Woodward), Derek Brownbill, Keith Chadwick, Terry Bailey, John Ridley.*

Goals by Allan Gauden, Damien Richardson and Dave Chadwick gave Gillingham a 3-1 Third Division win at home to the following Swindon Town team: *Jim Barron, Will Dixon, John Trollope, Mick McGovern, Kenny Stroud, Colin Prophet, Dave Syrett, John McLaughlin, Peter Eastoe, Joe Butler, Trevor Anderson.*

Alan Ball and Bob McNab were sent off in Arsenal's 2-1 defeat at title-chasing Derby County Goals by Mike Stringfellow, Frank Worthington and Jon Sammels gave Leicester City a 3-0 win at fellow strugglers Tottenham Hotspur Liverpool and Everton drew a blank in the Merseyside derby watched by 55,853 at Anfield.

1982

Tony Kenworthy and Keith Edwards scored to give title-chasing Sheffield United a 2-1 Fourth Division win at home to the following Port Vale team on 27th February 1982: *Mark Harrison, Colin Tarrt, Russel Bromage, Geoff Hunter, Phil Sproson, Paul Bowles, Gerry Keenan (Trevor*

Brissett), Ernie Moss, Jimmy Greenhoff, Tony Sealy, Mark Chamberlain.

Paul Rideout's strike gave struggling Swindon Town a 1-1 Third Division draw against high-flying Carlisle United in front of 4,633 at Brunton Park: *Jim Allan, Charlie Henry, Kevin Baddeley, Gary Williams, Russell Lewis, Kenny Stroud, Brian Hughes, Roy Carter, Paul Rideout, Roy Greenwood, Howard Pritchard.*

Kevin Reeves scored to give Manchester City a 1-1 draw against rivals United in front of 57,827 at Old Trafford Goals from Graeme Souness and Ian Rush gave title-chasing Liverpool a 2-0 win at Leeds United Ray Kennedy and Robbie James netted in Swansea City's 2-0 victory over Arsenal at Highbury.

1989

Port Vale travelled to promotion rivals Sheffield United in the Third Division on 28th February 1989 and the following side gained a 0-0 draw at Bramall Lane: *Mark Grew, Simon Mills, Darren Hughes, Ray Walker, Alan Webb, Dean Glover, Gary West, Robbie Earle, Ron Fletcher, Darren Beckford, David Riley (Andy Jones).*

Duncan Shearer and Tom Jones scored to give high-flying Swindon Town a 2-1 First Division win over Leicester City in front of 7,456 at the County Ground: *Fraser Digby, Dave Hockaday, Paul Bodin, Tom Jones, Colin Calderwood, Steve Foley, Alan McLoughlin, Duncan Shearer, Ross MacLaren (Phil King), Steve White.*

Goals from Ian Butterworth and Malcolm Allen gave Norwich City a 2-1 victory over Manchester United at Carrow Road Arsenal remained top after Perry Groves and Alan Smith scored in their 2-0 win at home to Luton Town Paul Goddard netted twice in Derby County's 3-2 win over Everton at the Baseball Ground.

1996

Port Vale were without a match on 24th February 1996. Jon McCarthy's goal had given Vale a 1-1 First Division draw at Leicester City the previous Saturday. He also scored to give John Rudge's side a 1-1 draw at West Brom the following week and Vale soared clear of relegation danger with six consecutive wins.

Goals from Wayne Allison and Shaun Taylor gave leaders, Swindon Town, a 2-1 Second Division victory over Bristol Rovers at the County Ground: *Fraser Digby, Ian Culverhouse, Jason Drysdale, Ty Gooden (Steve Finney), Paul Allen (Mark Seagraves), Shaun Taylor, Mark Robinson, Lee Collins, Peter Thorne, Wayne Allison, Kevin Horlock.*

Newcastle United remained top of the Premiership after a thrilling 3-3 draw at Manchester City Paul Scholes scored twice as title rivals Manchester United closed the gap with a 6-0 victory at struggling Bolton Wanderers Stan Collymore netted two goals as Liverpool defeated Blackburn Rovers 3-2 at Ewood Park.



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WITH ANTHONY MUNDAY

GOT IT IN 2

Nationwide  2

DIVISION TWO ROUND UP

The elaborately named Enoch Showumni put his previous claim to fame in the shade last weekend when he fired a hat-trick to force improving Luton into the play-off places.

University graduate, Showumni, who doubled for Patrick Viera in the Nike advert for the 2002 World Cup, grabbed the limelight himself in only his fifth start in league football.

Brentford had no answer to the 6ft 5ins youngster, who Luton snapped up from Willesden Constantine of the Middlesex County League, and manager, Mike Newell, promises there is much more to come.

Showumni joined the Hatters after completing a business degree at London South Bank University and Newell said: "He's getting much fitter and I always knew it would only be a matter of time before he started scoring.

"Enoch is getting more comfortable with the lads and settling in well. We are all delighted he has got a hat-trick so soon and this is bound to do his confidence the world of good."

Sixth-placed Luton, unbeaten in eight league games, have taken 10 points from their last four and could cement their position, as they have two matches in hand on all the teams above them.

But Newell insisted: "I'm not getting carried away yet. Our success or otherwise will depend on us steering clear of injuries and suspensions. What you see is what we've got and we really need to add to the squad."

Showumni's treble was actually bettered, by on the day, by Paul Heffernan, who breathed new life into Notts County's bid for safety by bagging all four goals in a 4-1 victory over Stockport.

The 22-year-old Dubliner is averaging close to a goal every two games in 62 league starts for County - and his latest feat had the Meadow Lane historians reaching for the record books.

It took some time to discover Heffernan had become the first Notts player to score four in a game since Jimmy Jackson did so in a 5-1 win over West Ham on New Year's Day 1955.

More importantly to County manager Gary Mills, the three points against relegation rivals Stockport were "absolutely vital" after his side had picked up just one point from their previous four games.

Notts are still five points adrift of the safety mark, but Mills insisted: "This has put us back in with a shout. We've just had a run of playing against the top six teams and this started a run of games against the bottom six."

Form teams, Bristol City and Swindon Town, continued their outstanding runs, with the former now rattling off 11 successive league victories since they were beaten in an FA Cup replay at Barnsley on December 16.

Luke Wilshire's third minute goal proved sufficient to beat Wrexham at Ashton Gate as Danny Wilson's side maintained pole position - a point clear of Plymouth.

Today's visitors, Swindon, who have stormed up the table with an impressive sequence of seven wins and two draws, are threatening to put daylight between the top four and the rest.

Sean O'Hanlon's first goal for the club and Sam Parkin's 16th strike of the campaign were enough to end Chesterfield's surge of three victories on the spin.



A BACKWARD GLANCE



PORT VALE v OLDHAM



WITH SIMON HUMPHREYS

SIGNAL2
1110AM - Medium Wave

George Pilkington returned to the starting line-up, and was joined by Ryan Brown, as new boss, Martin Foyle, put his own mark on things in his first game in charge, following the departure of Brian Horton.

Danny Boshell wasted an early opportunity to put the visitors ahead, when he side-footed the ball way over the bar, when he looked to have time to pick his spot.

Then Steve Brooker put a more difficult chance over the bar at the other end, but Vale were soon having to defend again as the Latics moved forward confidently.

Brown made his presence known early on with a neat interception, as the two sides battled it out for early supremacy.

A free kick on the edge of the Oldham box, following a handball by Haining gave Brown the chance to show what he could do in a dead-ball situation, but it was charged down by the visitors before being cleared.

Oldham 'keeper, Pogliacomi, needed to come quickly off his line to snatch the ball

from the toes of Brooker as he tried to get on the end of a right-wing cross from Steve McPhee, after a smart turn from the young Scot.

A terrific run from Brooker took him past three Oldham defenders, but they managed to force him wide and when he whipped the ball in low across the face of goal, there was nobody there to add the finishing touch.

Billy Paynter had the ball in the net on 27 minutes, when he rushed into the box to get on the end of Brown's free kick, but the referee's assistant held his flag firmly in the air and there were few protests at the decision.

Adrian Littlejohn showed a turn of pace to go past Clegg on the Vale left, but his cross was intercepted by Gareth Owen, on loan from Stoke, before it could reach the head of Brooker.

Scott Vernon wasted a perfect chance to give the visitors a half-time lead when he planted a header well wide of the mark in stoppage time.

Half Time: Vale 0 Oldham 0

In an explosive start to the second half, Steve McPhee collected the ball 35 yards from goal, after Owen made a hash of heading clear, and burst into the box for a one-on-one with the 'keeper. He then slotted home his 18th goal of the season.

It was a dream start to the second half for the Valiants, but they knew they would now need to keep up their concentration levels.

Brooker caused problems as he again ran at the Oldham defence, but his shot was charged down, only for the loose ball to run to Littlejohn.

The Vale winger's attempt to cut inside was thwarted, but he managed to roll the ball for Brown, who was sprinting down the left, on the overlap.

Brown's near-perfect cross was met by Brooker, who twisted his body in an attempt to hit the target, and Pogliacomi

breathed a sigh of relief as the ball flew narrowly wide.

Vale were now looking confident and began to play some neat football, knocking it about in triangles, but the need for a second goal was apparent.

And never more so than in the 64th minute when, under pressure, Paynter headed against his own post. Fortunately, the ball struck Brain to prevent an equaliser for the visitors.

Oldham continued to push Vale back, forcing the likes of Paynter, Brooker and McPhee to defend deep inside their own half.

The visiting supporters were on their feet to a man, as they sensed their side could grind out a result and spoil Martin Foyle's debut as a manager.

Johnson wormed his way to the byline to send in a cross which was then struck towards goal, and substitute, Zola, wasn't far off getting the finishing touch as he stooped to try to head the ball.

With five minutes remaining, Vale almost wrapped the game up, when Cummins rose above everyone to meet Bridge-Wilkinson's left wing cross and send a header thudding against the Oldham crossbar.



MATCH RECAP

It was a terrific start for the new manager, with three hard-earned points in the bag after his first game in charge. In truth, Oldham did deserve to go back to Greater Manchester with something to show for their performance, but the lads worked hard for their reward and deserved the win for the effort they gave their new boss.

MAN OF THE MATCH

George Pilkington

There were a lot of plusses to be had from the game, but George Pilkington turned in another superb performance in the heart of the Vale defence and skipper Sam Collins was hardly missed, which tells you something about the former Everton defender.



PLYMOUTH V PORT VALE



One of the longest journeys of the season and one that not many would be relishing after being thumped 5-1 at home by Paul Sturrock's side earlier in the season.

New boss, Martin Foyle, resisted the temptation to make changes, but had the fit-again Andreas Lipa on the bench, after missing the last three games with a hamstring injury.

This was always going to be a tough encounter and so it proved. Right from the kick-off, the home side set their stall out. Long, hopeful high balls were pumped up to striker Mickey Evans in the hope they could then feed off him.

What the Valiants had to do was to make sure they won enough of the knockdowns and hope to stifle the home side's threat.

As early as the sixth minute, Evans knocked the ball down to fellow strike-partner Nathan Lowndes, but he blazed over when well placed.

After a quarter-of-an-hour, David Norris saw his shot cannon off the foot of the post, with goalkeeper Jonathon Brain well beaten.

But the Vale defence stood firm and won enough of the second balls from Evans' knockdowns to keep the home side's threat to a minimum.

Skipper Marc Bridge-Wilkinson then tried his luck from distance, midway through the half, but his effort was comfortably held by Argyle keeper, Luke McCormick.

Liam Burns was then caught in possession by Lowndes, who saw his shot from an acute angle parried by goalkeeper, Jonathon Brain. Despite mounting pressure, Brain was rarely tested in a goalless first half.

Neil Brisco replaced Michael Cummins at the start of the second half. The Irishman had

picked up an ankle injury. The home side started in the ascendancy, with right back, Paul Connolly, seeing his shot hit keeper, Brian's, legs before rebounding to safety.

The visitors then stunned the big home crowd by taking the lead. Steve Brooker pounced down the left, skipping past the challenge of a defender before making his way into the penalty area.

His intended pullback to Billy Paynter hit defender, Hasney Aljofree's, heel and rebounded straight into the path of Steve McPhee who slotted home his nineteenth goal of the campaign.

Five minutes later Burns was again caught in possession and Lowndes hit a vicious swerving shot that was brilliantly tipped over by Brain.

From Capaldi's resulting corner, Coughlan headed over from six yards out. Paul Sturrock then made a double substitution, bringing on Martin Phillips and Ian Stonebridge for Tony Capaldi and David Norris, and what an impact the pair would have later on!

It was a case of backs to the wall for the Vale, with some superb defending and outrageous luck that kept out the home side, but that is what football is all about. Evans, Lowndes and David Friio all went close for the home side before a Steve Brooker clearance in his own penalty hit Steve Rowland and rebounded straight into the arms of a grateful Brain.

Could this really be Vale's day? The answer was no! The home's side pressure eventually paid off nine minutes from time when sub, Phillips, latched on to an Evans pass before crashing home a shot from inside the box.

The linesman signalled the ball had crossed the line after hitting the underside of the

crossbar. The home side and fans scented blood and felt the Vale were there for the taking.

However, at the other end, Brooker just failed to control a through ball from Bridge-Wilkinson that had goal written all over it, if he had not let the ball bounce too far forward off his thigh.

Friio then hit the post with a free kick, two minutes from the end, and we all thought that was it, but, in the fifth minute of time added on by the officials, another sub, Ian Stonebridge, pounced to smash home the winner.

Where did the extra time come from? This really was a kick where it hurts for the Vale. All that hard work and graft went unrewarded.

MATCH RECAP

A real kick in the teeth for the lads who defended so magnificently at times. They withstood an incredible bombardment and just when it looked like they were going to get some reward from the game, the home side popped up with the winner so very late on. Not a pleasant journey home, to say the least.

MAN OF THE MATCH

George Pilkington

Just about shaded it. A great performance at the heart of the defence and had his hands full all afternoon with Mickey Evans. It's just a pity all his hard work went unrewarded. It must have been his toughest and most physical battle of the season. But 'Pilks' gets better with every game and has been a revelation this season.

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09/10/2007

WITH BEN BROWNING

BEN'S BETTING BONANZA

There's no way we can underestimate today's opposition, Swindon Town, but I think our home form this season – apart from two embarrassing defeats that is – give me the confidence to have a small flutter on the lads getting a positive result against the Robins.

At the time of writing, I haven't seen the odds, but the goal-scoring form Steve McPhee is in at the moment means I feel I have to stick another small wager on him to net the first goal of the game. OK, so the odds are guaranteed to be short, but a winning bet is a winning bet after all.

I mentioned Michael Cummins in the last programme. He is back in his favoured midfield role and in my opinion will get back to his old scoring ways soon. Micky's odds are a lot more attractive at the moment, so I may stick a quid on him netting the first goal too. I'm sure I would be kicking myself if he did find the net and I missed out on those juicy odds.

If you would like to put a wager on through ValeBet, the club will benefit financially, whether your bet comes up trumps or not!

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Nationwide Division Two

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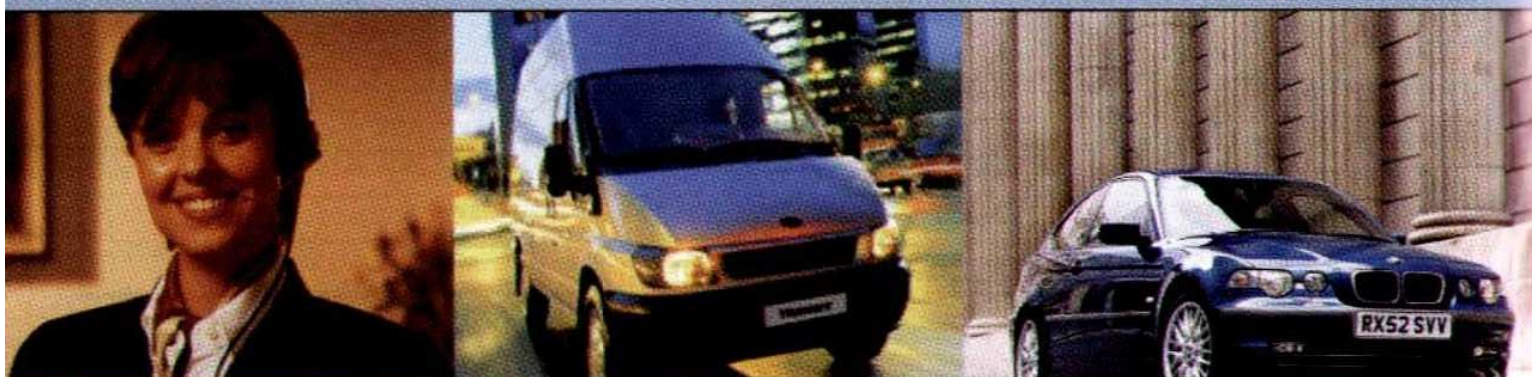
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STUDENT DIARIES

THE STUDENTS POINT OF VIEW

WITH TOM HOLDCROFT

With this being the first time of writing since the replacement of Brian Horton with Martin Foyle, as Port Vale manager, there is only one place to start.

I am sure I speak for all Vale fans in wishing Martin Foyle the very best of luck in the job and I feel that, as he is such a popular figure, he will receive continued backing from the supporters.

As with all such major decisions, there are people with differing opinions of whether the right decision was made. There are people who feel that Brian had justified himself in the position as Vale manager by guiding the team to the brink of the play offs, this season.

My response to this would be that he did a fantastic job in getting us there, but a club should always look to improve.

Vale have a very young side and I feel that Foyle's supportive management style will help the young players more than what some have described, rightly or wrongly, as a dictatorial regime run by Brian Horton.

I mean this as no criticism against Brian's methods; he has had a successful management career using them and I am sure he will go on to be successful at another club.

Potentially, I think that the decision could be of financial significance to Port Vale as well. I am assuming that

Foyle's initial salary will be somewhat less than what the club have been paying the previous manager, so money will be saved in that respect.

There are a number of Vale fans who would not attend while Horton was in charge because of bitterness regarding the departure of John Rudge.

Horton was unfortunate because when replacing such a long serving and much-loved manager he was under immediate pressure and when things started to go wrong the fans

were on the manager's back immediately, rather than getting on at the players.

However, Foyle's long-running affinities to the club, and links with the Rudge era, may bring some of these stay-away fans back, so long as the team performs well on the pitch, and I predict a steady rise in attendances over the coming months. This can only benefit the club financially.

Up the Vale!

Tom



Rosemary Holdcroft (left) flies the flag at Sydney Cricket Ground on January 2nd this year

“ There are people who feel that Brian had justified himself in the position as Vale manager by guiding the team to the brink of the play offs this season. ”

Clinic in a Box

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If there is a God of Football, (s)he was not smiling on Vale at Plymouth last week. Had we lost the game in a normal fashion it would have been a difficult journey home but to go down in the final minute of a considerable amount of added time was cruel indeed. I've often suspected the existence of such a deity, but it is my firm belief that, whatever colours (s)he wears, they're certainly not black and white!

New manager, Foyley, must have been totally gutted by the experience. Get used to it, Martin – it goes with the territory when you join the Vale. Surely you haven't forgotten the injury-time Gary McAllister free-kick have you? On occasions, though, it works the other way. A few years ago, I named my Fantasy League team "Mills 94", just to remind my Stoke-supporting colleagues how we had pinched a draw at Vale Park in the fourth minute of added time, just as they were celebrating a victory!

I was delighted to see Martin Foyle and Dean Glover take over the reins at Vale. Both will no doubt agree that they have a considerable amount to learn in the art of successful team management. Both, however, start from a position of strength. There are a lot of supporters who remember these two sweating blood in Vale's cause in the

“

I was delighted to see Martin Foyle and Dean Glover take over the reins

at Vale.”



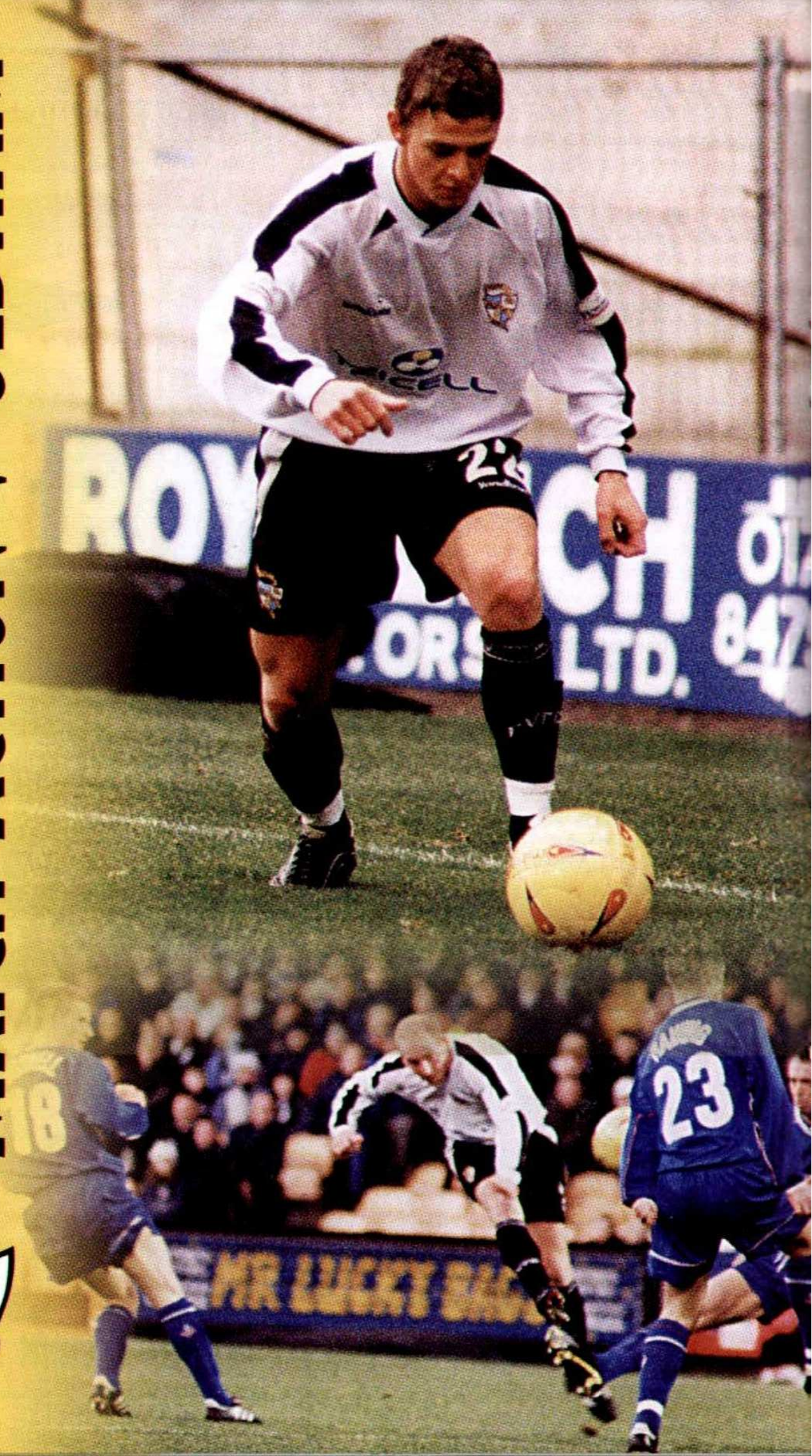
not-too-distant past although, in Deano's case, it looked more like he was just perspiring gently! If the current squad can copy the level of commitment and degree of ability shown by these two, in their playing careers, the play-offs will become not a dream but a reality. Go for it lads.

BIRD BRAIN

WITH KIRSTY ROLLINGS & JEAN JACKSON

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MATCH ACTION V OLDHAM







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MEET THE FANS



Name: Sally-Anne Burke

From: Burslem

A Vale Fan Since: All my life

Favourite Players: Steve McPhee & Billy Paynter

Favourite All-Time Player: Robbie Earle

One For The Future: Levi Reid

Most Improved Player: Billy Paynter

A Player You Would Sign: David Beckham

Where We Will Finish: An optimistic 5th

Best Ground Visited: Anfield

Best Vale Game: Vale 3 Stoke 1 (FA Cup)

Biggest Disappointment: Relegation from Div 1

Makes Me Proud To Be A Vale Fan: The fans



WIGAN ATHLETIC 1 (0)
PORT VALE 3 (1)

Line-up: Anyon, Gowland, Roberts, Holmes, Booth, Robinson, Orpe, Doxey, Hibbert, Winters (Hall 82), Cardle (Reid 82).

Subs. Not used: Sly, Brownfield, Gebulgen.

The normal league season finished with Vale still top and Notts County and Rotherham unable to complete their fixtures. Vale kicked off their Merit League season with a win at Wigan.

They were soon into their stride, with Hibbert having a shot saved in the 2nd minute following a series of one-touch passes and they only had to wait until the 8th minute to go ahead.

A quick throw by Roberts in his own half gave Holmes the chance to break into the opposition half and play a diagonal ball to put Winters through for a one-on-one with the 'keeper.

His attempted chip was just about finger-tipped away, but Winters had followed up and squeezed it back into the net from a tight angle for the opener. Winters had another chance five minutes later, but snatched at it to send it high and wide.

The game then became more of a midfield

U19s TEAM 2003/04

VALE GO TOP OF TABLE

battle, with Holmes being the centre point of Vale's probing. Neither team looked likely to score again until just after the half-hour, when Hibbert won a corner which, when taken, caused confusion in the penalty area and Robinson had two efforts blocked before it was finally cleared.

Hibbert was again prominent when he initially tried to control the ball before shooting, but was robbed at the last minute. He then held the ball up for Cardle to send in a dipping volley that dropped just over the bar, as the half came to a conclusion.

The second half was only two minutes old when Vale extended their lead, as Doxey put Winters through on the 'keeper once more.

Although he rounded the 'keeper, he had been pushed too wide to shoot, but he pulled the ball back and Hibbert crashed the ball home from 12 yards.

Vale were now well in command and it wasn't too surprising when we went 3-0 up after 65 minutes.

Hibbert had collected a through ball and, after

beating two players, had seen his shot blocked to concede a corner.

The ball was swung to the near post, where Booth out-jumped the defenders to get in a back-header, which flew into the net at the far post.

Vale almost added another two minutes later, when Hibbert met a cross from Orpe, but saw his effort rebound from the base of the post. Cardle then saw a shot pushed just wide of the upright.

With ten minutes remaining, the Latics pulled a goal back. A cross to the far post saw some indecision, as no one went for the ball, though there was a clear shout of "Keeper", and the ball was bundled home off an attacker's knee.

The home side suddenly saw a chance to salvage something from a game in which they had only been involved spasmodically, but Vale closed it down well and survived with reasonable ease.

Lindon Roberts

Supporter's Representative on the Port Vale Supporters Representative Council (PVSRC)

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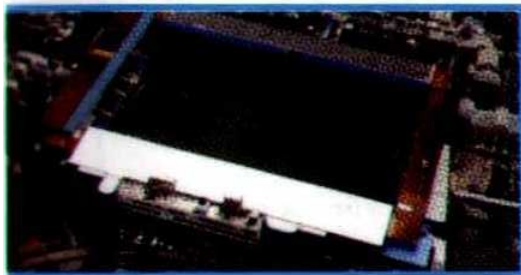
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Tuesday 2nd March KO 7:45pm

How to get there

Take the M6 (South) and at Junction 8, join the M5. At Junction 4A, take the M42 and then join the M40 at Junction 3A. At the end of the M40, take the A40 towards Central London. At the point where the A40 becomes the A40(M), turn off onto the A40 towards White City/Shepherds Bush and turn right into Wood Lane, turn right into South Africa Road for the ground.

Coaches leave Vale Park at 2pm

Adults	£13.00
Concessions	£11.00



Blackpool v Port Vale
Saturday 6th March KO 3.00pm

How to get to Bloomfield Road

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Coaches leave Vale Park at 11am

Adults	£9.00
Concessions	£7.50



A trip to Home Park is a fair distance to go, but it's a pretty straightforward trip and we set off in high spirits, though depleted in numbers as one of the regulars had been hit with a nasty bout of gastroenteritis.

Despite that, we were in good spirits and arrived early enough to watch most of the Chelsea v Arsenal game on television in 'The Green Room', which was situated just inside the Official Entrance at Plymouth's ground.

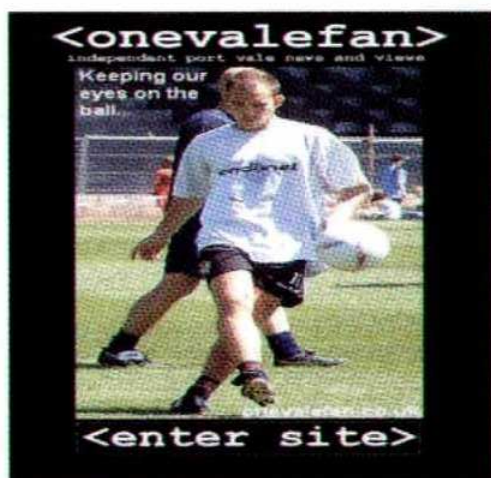
The side which most folk expected to win conceded the first goal, only to go on to win the game by two goals to one. Little did we know that there was to be a repeat performance that afternoon.

The lads did us proud during the first half, rallying to keep out the free-scoring Pilgrims, and when Steve McPhee put us ahead after the break, you could have heard a pin drop in the press box as the local journalists suddenly went quiet.

A goal which arguably didn't cross the line, followed by a second, five minutes into stoppage-time, gave them something to shout about, but we felt we had deserved at least a share of the points.

The drive home wasn't too bad, however. The lads may have lost the game, but they hadn't let us down – and there was always a midweek trip to Colchester to look forward to!

**It's black and white and
read all over.....**
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"I visit it often" - Robbie Earle
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"A must visit for Vale fans" - Soccersearch

SALES & MARKETING

AT VALE PARK

MATCH SPONSORS

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We are pleased to welcome today's Match Sponsors, Acme Dental Laboratories Ltd. Acme Dental Ltd has been established since 1980, and is operated by husband and wife team, Malcolm and Linda Turner. Malcolm has many years experience and provides a comprehensive service to many local surgeries in the area.

As a life-long supporter, Malcolm and his staff wish the Directors, players, support staff and the new Manager, Martin Foyle, every success for the future.

UP THE VALE!

MATCHBALL SPONSORS

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We would also like to extend a warm welcome to Kevin Burke and his accountancy firm based in Hanley. Kevin has sponsored the match ball on many occasions, and we hope he enjoys today's match.

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Very little work is involved – just get together a few of your family and friends and collect the money each week.

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Goo Arn!

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■ £1,000 JACKPOT ■ £500 (2nd prize) ■ £250 (3rd prize) ■ £125 (4th prize)

At least 40 x £10 consolations

If you would like to join the lottery, please give Lottery Manager Brian Lewis a call on 07791 674961 (mobile) anytime.



■ Hibs Valiants, who make the journey down to Vale Park once a year, are pictured here after our home game against Sheffield Wednesday
Left to Right: Danny Gardiner, David Austin, Stuart Robinson, Richard Bennett, John Bogie, Colin McEwan

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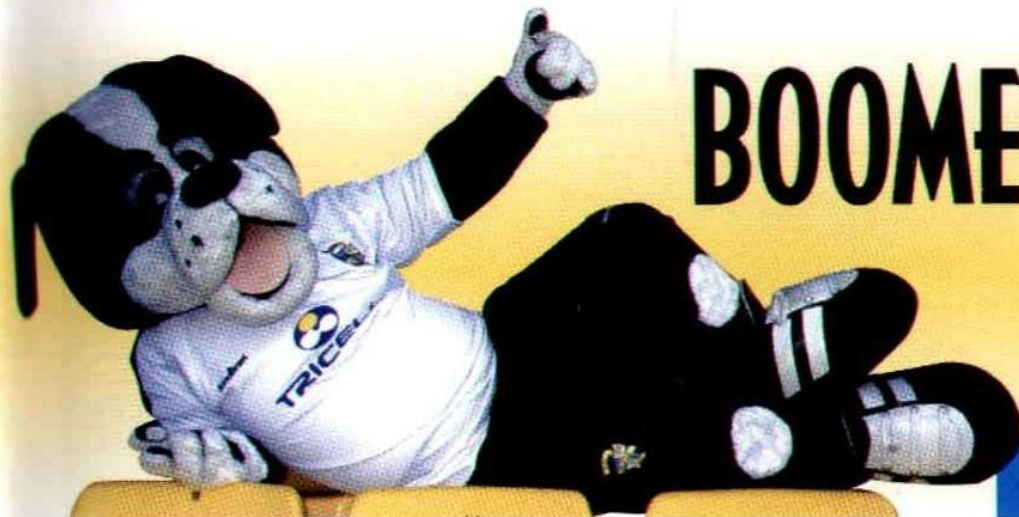


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BOOMER'S VALE JUNIORS

WITH BOOMER

TODAY'S MASCOT



Name: Alice Kent

Age: 13 years old
on 2nd March

From: Hanley

School:
St. Peter's C of E

Favourite Players:
Ian Armstrong
& Michael
Cummins

Hobbies: Playing and watching football



Name:
William Litherland

Age: 13 years old
on 1st March

From: Middleport

School: Brownhills

Favourite Players:
Steve Brooker
& Steve McPhee

Hobbies: Football,
Golf, Cricket

Additional Information: Attended the
Autoglass Final aged 2



Name:
Bradley Smith

Age: 9 years old

From: Talke Pits

School:
Springhead
Primary School,
Talke Pits

Favourite Players:
Billy Paynter,
Steve McPhee, Sam Collins

Favourite Players: Playing football,
Cross Country running,
playing the guitar and Playstation

Hi Kids

Welcome to the Swindon Town game and a new age at Vale Park. Vale now have the dream team in charge at Vale Park with stalwarts Martin Foyle and Dean Glover given charge for two years - let's hope that they can push the lads towards that play-off place.

I always remember Foyle's ability up front and never-say-die attitude. He led the line so brilliantly for John Rudge. I seem to remember he scored a memorable goal or two particularly in the driving rain at a home match. I wonder who it was against? Deano used to take a book onto the pitch to read, while making his defensive job look rather easy, I seem to remember.

Let's get behind 'em, kids, because they need our help too.

Enjoy the Game

Boomer



A WEEK IN FOOTBALL

1. Which goalkeeper scored in the Premiership last weekend?
2. Which ex-West Ham striker has scored 4 times since moving to Tottenham?
3. Which Premiership ground has been chosen to stage at least one England International game before Euro 2004?

Nationwide Division 2 Statistics



Margins of Victory

Games WGN by	1 gl	2 gls	3 gls	4 gls	5+ gls
Plymouth	4	9	2	1	2
Bristol City	12	3	1	1	1
GPR	8	2	4	1	1
Port Vale	9	2	3	1	0
Swindon	7	7	0	1	0
Brighton	5	5	3	1	0
Wrexham	10	3	0	1	0
Luton	6	6	1	0	0
Bournemouth	10	0	1	0	1
Rushden	5	5	1	1	0
Barnsley	7	4	1	0	0
Hartlepool	5	4	1	0	1
Blackpool	8	1	1	1	0
Colchester	8	3	0	0	0
Sheff Wed	7	2	1	0	0
Brentford	7	1	0	1	0
Grimsby	4	4	0	1	0
Tranmere	7	0	2	0	0
Oldham	4	1	2	0	1
Chesterfield	4	3	1	0	0
Notts County	4	1	2	0	0
Peterborough	3	1	2	0	0
Stockport	4	1	0	0	0
Wycombe	1	1	2	0	0



Comebacks

WON from	-3	-2	-1	Total
Port Vale	0	0	5	5
Bournemouth	0	0	4	4
Blackpool	0	1	2	3
Luton	0	1	2	3
Rushden	0	0	3	3
Wrexham	0	0	3	3
DRAWN from	-3	-2	-1	Total
Oldham	0	0	9	9
Stockport	0	1	6	7
Barnsley	0	0	7	7
GPR	0	0	7	7



Throwaways

LOST from	+3	+2	+1	Total
Peterborough	0	1	2	3
Grimsby	0	0	3	3
Luton	0	0	3	3
Oldham	0	0	3	3
Port Vale	0	0	3	3
GPR	0	0	3	3
Rushden	0	0	3	3
DRAWN from	+3	+2	+1	Total
Tranmere	0	0	8	8
Stockport	0	1	6	7
Swindon	0	0	7	7



Scoring Chances per Game

No. of Shots per game	ON Target	OFF Target
Plymouth	8.47	6.59
Bristol City	6.84	5.00
Oldham	5.69	5.78
Swindon	6.22	5.09
GPR	6.00	5.03
Notts County	5.66	5.34
Colchester	5.45	5.42
Bournemouth	5.63	5.19
Wrexham	6.09	4.63
Rushden	6.47	4.22
Luton	6.29	4.39
Blackpool	6.03	4.39
Peterborough	5.66	4.72
Barnsley	6.00	4.28
Tranmere	5.69	4.44
Brighton	5.84	4.28
Hartlepool	5.68	4.39
Port Vale	5.47	4.56
Grimsby	5.41	4.47
Sheff Wed	5.00	4.41
Stockport	4.88	4.38
Chesterfield	4.78	4.34
Wycombe	4.50	4.00
Brentford	4.56	3.72



Scorer's Points Gained & Scoring Run

	Gl	Gl/Gm	Pts	Run	1st Gl
Leon Knight	20	0.65	17	3	5
Scott Taylor	16	0.52	17	3	6
Tommy Mooney	16	0.50	14	4	8
Steve McPhee	17	0.53	12	4	8
Lee Peacock	12	0.43	12	3	7
Wayne Andrews	10	0.34	11	4	6
Warren Feeney	10	0.33	10	4	2
Kevin Betsy	9	0.29	10	1	3
Onandi Lowe	14	0.64	9	5	6
Kevin Gallen	13	0.42	9	3	6
Guylen Ndumbu-Nsungu	6	0.55	9	2	3

eg if player scores the goal in a 1-4 win, the goal is worth 2 pts as score would have been 0-0, or if 2 goals in 2-1 win, goals worth 3 pts. Also shown is goals per game figure and number of games player scored 1st goal



Headed Goals

most goals from headers	Player	Club	Goals
	Frio	Plymouth	7
	Mooney	Swindon	6
	Dadi	Tranmere	6
	Coughlan	Plymouth	5
	Lawrence	Wrexham	5
	Hutchinson	Brentford	4
	Peacock	Bristol City	4
	Miller	Bristol City	4
	Evans	Plymouth	4
	Lowe	Rushden	4
	Barlow	Stockport	4



Shots from Long Range

Most goals from outside 18 yd box	Player	Club	Goals
	Wotton	Plymouth	5
	Lowe	Rushden	4
	Peacock	Bristol City	3
	Anderson	Grimsby	3
	Strachan	Hartlepool	3
	Padula	GPR	3
	Jack	Rushden	3



Late Goals Scored

Most goals in LAST 10 mins of match	Player	Club	Goals
	Hayter	Bournemouth	4
	Mooney	Swindon	4
	Parkin	Swindon	4
	Lita	Bristol City	3
	Boulding	Barnsley	3
	Hefferman	Notts County	3
	Frio	Plymouth	3
	Evans	Plymouth	3
	Taylor	Tranmere	3



Scored in last 15 mins

FOR	76-90	Total	%
Bristol City	16	47	34
Tranmere	11	38	29
Swindon	15	52	29
Peterborough	10	36	28
Plymouth	17	67	25
Grimsby	9	37	24
Chesterfield	7	31	23
Bournemouth	9	40	23
Against	76-90	Total	%
Brentford	19	51	37
Sheff Wed	13	40	33
Brighton	10	35	29
Notts County	14	54	26
Peterborough	11	45	24
GPR	7	30	23
Chesterfield	11	48	23



Set Piece Goals

Scored from	Corner	Free Kick	Total
Plymouth	9	11	20
Port Vale	7	7	14
Stockport	4	10	14
Brentford	8	5	13
Bristol City	9	4	13
Hartlepool	5	8	13
GPR	4	9	13
Swindon	4	9	13
Rushden	7	4	11
Brighton	6	4	10
Luton	5	5	10
Conceded from	Corner	Free Kick	Total
Brentford	12	5	17
Wycombe	10	6	16
Chesterfield	9	6	15
Stockport	4	11	15
Bristol City	5	7	12
Oldham	6	6	12
Bournemouth	5	6	11
Colchester	4	7	11
Grimsby	4	6	10
Rushden	5	5	10



Fouls & Offsides per game

FOULS	Games	Fouls	Average
GPR	32	520	16.25
Tranmere	32	458	14.31
Barnsley	32	447	13.97
Notts County	32	434	13.56
Luton	31	413	13.32
Plymouth	32	424	13.25
Colchester	31	407	13.13
Wycombe	32	415	12.97
Brentford	32	414	12.94
Bristol City	32	411	12.84
Brighton	32	410	12.81
OFFSIDES	Games	Offsides	Average
Rushden	32	151	4.72
Luton	31	137	4.42
Bristol City	32	140	4.38
Peterborough	32	140	4.38
Chesterfield	32	137	4.28
Hartlepool	31	132	4.26
Blackpool	31	123	3.97
Grimsby	32	127	3.97
Oldham	32	125	3.91
Stockport	32	121	3.78
Colchester	31	117	3.77

Average is number of Fouls/Offsides per game. Clubs are ordered by highest number of Fouls/Offsides per game.

delays

Nearer Than Heaven

The single - out 22nd March

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ROUGH
TRADE



Valiants



Form Guide:

Won: 3
 Drawn: 0
 Lost: 3
 Scored: 13
 Conc: 11
 Points: 9
 Goal Diff: 2
 Last 6:
 LLWWLW
 Last 5 Home:
 WWLWW
 Last 5 Away:
 WLLW

Miscellaneous

Players Used: 21
 Clean Sheets: 8
 Failed to Score: 5

The Guys to Watch		
Headed goals	Paynter	3
Long range shots	4 players	2
Inside 6 yards	McPhee	7
Shots from 6-18 yards	McPhee	9
Volleyed shots	McPhee, Paynter	3
Penalties	Bridge-Wilkinson	1
Scored 1st Goal in match	McPhee	8
Most goals in last 10	Collins, Brooker	2
Points gained from goals	McPhee	16.25

When Goals Scored & Conceded



Goalkeeping

Opp. attempts on target	161
Goals conceded	45
On target/goals scored	3.58
Division 2 rating	22

Goalscoring Strike Rate

Shots on target	175
Goals scored	53
On target / goals	3.30
Division 2 Rating	1

Goals in last 10 mins

Goals For, last 10	8
Points won	5
Goals Against, last 10	5
Points lost	2

Fouls & Offsides

Average fouls per game	11.34
Div 2 Rating (1-least, 24-most)	3
Average Offsides per game	2.34
Div 2 Rating	1

Swings

WON when behind	5
DRAWN when behind	2
LOST when ahead	2
DRAWN when ahead	3
WON 2 down	0
WON 1 down	5
LOST 2 up	0
LOST 1 up	3
DRAWN 2+ down	1
DRAWN 1 down	1
DRAWN 2+ up	0
DRAWN 1 up	3

Attendances

Aggregate	92,227
Highest	7,958
Lowest	4,523
Average	5,764

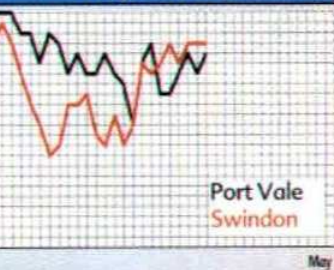
Where Goals



How Goals



Seasonal Progress Comparison



Set Piece Goals

CORNERS:	
Scored from C	7
Conceded from C	5
FREE KICKS:	
Scored from FK	7
Conceded from FK	4

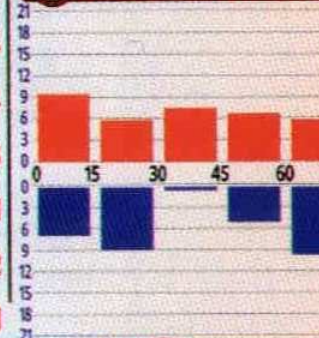
Cards

47	2
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The Guys to Watch

Headed goals	Mooney	6
Long range shots	Mooney	2
Inside 6 yards	Parkin	5
Shots from 6-18 yards	Mooney	7
Volleyed shots	Mooney	4
Penalties	Gurney	1
Scored 1st Goal in match	Mooney	8
Most goals in last 10	Parkin	4
Points gained from goals	Mooney	16

When Goals Scored & Conceded



Goalkeeping

Opp. attempts on target	164
Goals conceded	39
On target/goals scored	4.21
Division 2 rating	16

Goalscoring Strike Rate

Shots on target	199
Goals scored	52
On target / goals	3.83
Division 2 Rating	5

Goals in last 10 mins

Goals For, last 10	9
Points won	6
Goals Against, last 10	4
Points lost	2

Fouls & Offsides

Average fouls per game	12.06
Div 2 Rating (1-least, 24-most)	8
Average Offsides per game	3.13
Div 2 Rating	5

Margins

WON BY:		LOST BY:	
1 Goal	7	1 Goal	5
2 Goals	7	2 Goals	2
3 Goals	0	3 Goals	1
4 Goals	1	4 Goals	0
5+ Goals	0	5+ Goals	0

Swindon Town's 10-Year Record



Attendances

Aggregate	116,777
Highest	10,573
Lowest	5,313
Average	7,299



Robins



Form Guide:

Won: 5
 Drawn: 1
 Lost: 0
 Scored: 16
 Conc: 7
 Points: 16
 Goal Diff: 9
 Last 6:
 WWDWWW
 Last 5 Home:
 WWWW
 Last 5 Away:
 LDWDW

Miscellaneous

Players Used: 28
 Clean Sheets: 10
 Failed to Score: 5

delays

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THIS WEEK'S DIARY

Monday 23rd February
Schools coaching
Dilhorne
Quinta

After schools coaching
Woodcroft
St Thomas
Staffs University

Tuesday 24th February
Schools coaching
Goldenhill

Abbey Hulton
Grove

After schools coaching
Summerbank
Townsend

Wednesday 25th February
Schools coaching
St Marys

Smallthorne
Forest Park
Belgrave

After schools coaching
Woodcroft
Belgrave

Thursday 26th February
Schools coaching
Parkhall

Forsbrook
St Johns
St Marks

After schools coaching
Congleton High
Goldenhill
Dimensions
St Marks
Blackfriars

Friday 27th February
Schools coaching
St Thomas

Bursley
Carmountside

After schools coaching
Blurton
Werrington
St Peters

Saturday 28th February
Saturday Soccer
Dimensions Leisure
Cobridge Community

FOOTBALL IN

Football in the Community in association with



Good Afternoon, may I extend a warm welcome to all the Swindon Town F.C supporters who have travelled to Vale Park for today's game.



Adidas Community Cup for U 13's Girls

The Area Finals for this competition will take place on April 1st at Manchester City's Platt Lane training ground. Congleton High School were our local winners and will represent Port Vale F.C on the day, other club's competing on the day will include Manchester City, Manchester United, Crewe, Everton, Macclesfield Town, Rochdale, Wrexham and Stoke City. We wish the girls well and will be travelling with them on the day to give our support.



■ New apprentice (at the Front) Lee Marshall supported by community coaching staff Shazad Mohammed, Andy McGregor and Dave Fleary

Kellogg's Frosties Cup for Under 11's

Our local winners of this competition were Carmountside Primary School and they have since gone on to represent Port Vale F.C in the Area Finals at Manchester United's Cliffe Training Ground.

Sadly they failed to make any further progress in the competition but they competed well against very strong opposition, the eventual winners were Macclesfield Town who defeated Stockport County 1-0, they will now progress to the Regional Final.



■ Kellogg's Frosties Cup local competition organiser Andy McGregor seen with this year's Port Vale F.C representatives from Carmountside Primary School.

THE COMMUNITY



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Birthday Treats

Although we are only a few weeks into the new year our phone has been busy taking birthday party enquiries and bookings.

This package is a 90 minute football experience incorporating a tour of the ground, a football session in the gym, a signed ball for the birthday boy/girl and a superb function room at Vale Park.

The whole package costs £50.00 which represents exceptional value for money, if you wish to book a party with a difference ring the community office.



Away Travel

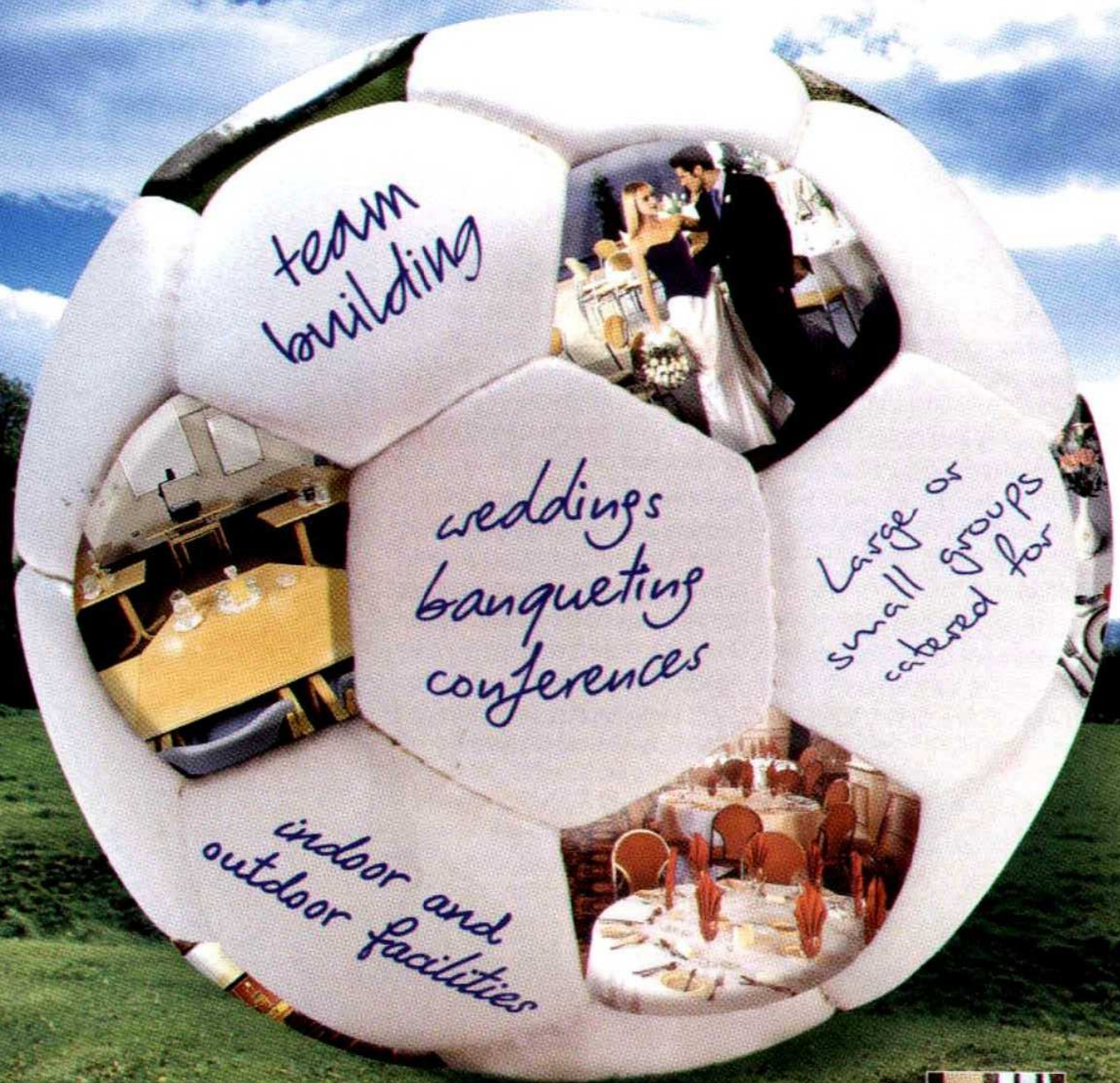
Following the success of our last trip to Sheffield Wednesday on Boxing Day we have organised a trip

to **Blackpool** on March 6th.

Again we can offer an exceptional package, our coach will leave the Hamil Road car park at the same time as the club's main coaches, prices for adults are £13.00 and Juveniles £7.00 this includes both ticket and travel

Seats are going fast so ring us ASAP to avoid disappointment.





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For further information contact us on 01782 655810.





WITH PHIL BOWERS

Foyle, Glover, Porter. -

Teamsheet from the 90s, or Port Vale coaching staff of 2004? Either way, it has a special ring about it, and the degree of nostalgia that is currently awash

ON THE AIR

BBC RADIO STOKE

at Vale Park is certainly raising a few eyebrows amongst the rest of the League.

"Too inexperienced" is the phrase I've heard repeatedly, but to the doubters, I ask this question: Who gave Phil Parkinson or Chris Coleman a chance, when Colchester and Fulham respectively gambled on them?

Already, in his first two games, Foyle has demonstrated a tactical awareness and balance to the team that has beaten Oldham and stifled Plymouth until the last ten minutes. Maybe more concentration was needed on that occasion, but the important thing is Foyle had analysed the opposition and exploited their deficiencies.

As Vale approach a vital set of fixtures, starting from today with

Swindon Town, it's important that Vale approach them in the right way, and capitalise on their excellent home form. Away from home is obviously something that needs to be worked on, but turning defeats into draws would be enough at this stage to at least grab sixth place.

Best of luck to Martin Foyle and the rest of his staff, and who knows? Maybe this time next year Foyle will have the best experience he'll need: A promotion campaign behind him.

BBCi at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

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Hamil Road, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent. ST6 1AW

Dear Port Vale,

I must write to you before I forget again, to thank you for the way you treated the disabled - me being one of them.

Your staff treated us with respect and did everything they could. You are by a long way the best club I have visited this year. You are on a par with my own club Sheffield Wednesday.

The result was not very good from our point of view, but once again thank you and your staff for making it a good day.

All the best to you and your club

Mr Cyril Sharp.

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FAST FORWARD



Last season, following promotion to Division One, Brighton made a great start with a victory at Burnley, followed by a home draw with Coventry. After that, it was nothing but problems. They lost the next thirteen games to become firmly entrenched at the foot of the table. Only a brief spell in March, when they won five games out of seven, saw the Seagulls above the three relegation places.

In the close season, the really significant departure was that of goalscorer, Bobby Zamora, to Spurs for a reported £1,500,000. Paul Rogers left for Sutton United, Will Packham to Farnborough and Dave Beasant to Fulham, all on free transfers. In came Ben Roberts from Charlton and Leon Knight from Chelsea, the latter for a bargain £100,000. Other

players have been to Brighton on loan this season, including Darius Henderson from Reading and Trevor Benjamin from Leicester.

Brighton seem unlikely to achieve automatic promotion back to Division One but, like Vale, are in with a shout for a play-off spot. At home they have beaten Barnsley 1-0, Blackpool 3-0, Chesterfield 1-0, Grimsby 3-0, Luton 2-0, Plymouth 2-1, QPR 2-1, Sheffield Wednesday 2-0, Wrexham 2-0, Wycombe 4-0 and last week Bournemouth 3-0, drawing with Oldham 0-0, Vale 1-1, Swindon 2-2, losing emphatically to Bristol City by 4-1 and Stockport 1-0. Away they won 2-1 at Notts County, 3-1 at Oldham, 3-1 at Rushden and Diamonds, drew 0-0 at Hartlepool, 2-2 at Peterborough, 3-3 at Plymouth and 1-1 at Wycombe, losing 1-0 at Barnsley, 1-0 at Bournemouth, 4-0 at Brentford, 1-0 at Colchester, 2-1 at QPR, 2-1 at Swindon, 1-0 at Tranmere and 2-1 recently at Grimsby.

WITH EDDIE JACKSON

v Brighton

Kick Off: 3:00pm Vale Park
Saturday 13th March 2004

Vale players and fans will have vivid memories of the nightmare journey around the M25 they had in reaching Brighton on a Friday night, last December. Many fans missed the kick-off and I recall walking into the Withdean Stadium to hear "Sussex by the Sea" being played as the players ran out. To the great credit of the players they recovered from an indifferent first-half performance to achieve a 1-1 draw. Ref Rob Styles awarded the home side a first-half pen which was cancelled out by a super goal from Adrian Littlejohn. Vale came close to winning at the end of the game when McPhee headed against the bar.

Brighton are still fighting a bigger battle off the field. They are keen to build a new stadium at Falmer, rather than playing at the unsuitable Withdean Stadium, where they are unwelcome tenants. Latest news is not good.

As regards their ground, we wish them well. On the field, let us hope we get three points.

FIXTURES & STATS

Key:	Started the Game	Booked
	Playing Sub	Sent Off
	Non Playing Sub	Subbed
		Scored (Goals Scored)



	Home						Away							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Table
Bristol City	32	11	4	1	28	8	7	6	3	19	15	24	64	
Plymouth	32	11	4	1	40	11	7	5	4	27	20	36	63	
QPR	32	12	4	0	35	7	4	7	5	21	23	26	59	
Swindon	32	9	4	3	31	17	6	5	5	21	22	13	54	
Port Vale	32	11	3	2	34	21	4	3	9	19	24	8	51	
Brighton	32	11	3	2	29	10	3	4	9	17	25	11	49	
Luton	31	11	3	2	32	15	2	7	6	18	28	7	49	
Barnsley	32	6	9	1	21	12	6	3	7	19	23	5	48	
Wrexham	32	6	5	5	17	12	8	0	8	19	25	-1	47	
Bournemouth	32	9	5	2	28	15	3	5	8	12	21	4	46	
Hartlepool	31	6	7	2	22	9	5	4	7	24	29	8	44	
Rushden & D	32	8	4	4	33	22	4	2	10	19	30	0	42	
Sheff Wed	32	4	8	4	18	17	6	4	6	19	23	-3	42	
Tranmere	32	8	6	2	24	14	1	8	7	14	29	-5	41	
Colchester	31	7	6	3	20	17	4	2	9	12	24	-9	41	
Blackpool	31	6	2	7	19	18	5	5	6	19	26	-6	40	
Oldham	32	7	4	5	26	18	1	9	6	21	29	0	37	
Grimsby	32	6	4	6	25	20	3	5	8	12	36	-19	36	
Brentford	32	6	3	7	23	27	3	4	9	11	24	-17	34	
Chesterfield	32	6	6	4	24	19	2	4	10	7	29	-17	34	
Peterborough	32	2	6	8	21	25	4	6	6	15	20	-9	30	
Stockport	32	2	6	8	20	29	3	7	6	21	28	-16	28	
Notts County	32	4	5	7	22	21	3	2	11	12	33	-20	28	
Wycombe	32	4	4	8	21	25	0	8	8	11	27	-20	24	

Vale Park Emergency Procedures

In the event of an emergency at Vale Park you will hear a Police message over the public address system providing information and directions to spectators.

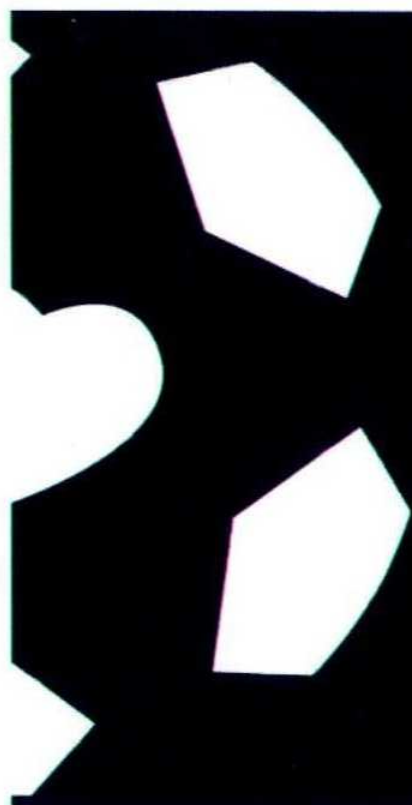
We ask all spectators to remain where they are and to listen very carefully to the message. If it affects your area, please comply to instructions immediately.

Please do not move unless the area announcement concerns your area.

Stewards, Police Officers and Officials will direct you to safe areas which may be through exit doors/gates or on to the playing area. If you are disabled or feel unsafe in a large crowd, remain where you are until stewards assist you.

Please respond quickly but calmly to ensure a safe evacuation of the stadium.

		Score	Att.
Sat Aug 9th	AFC Bournemouth	W 2-1	6,465
Tue Aug 12th	Nottingham Forest (LC)	D 0-0	4,950
Sat Aug 16th	Grimsby Town	W 1-2	4,816
Sat Aug 23rd	Colchester United	W 4-3	5,133
Mon Aug 25th	Hartlepool United	L 0-2	5,314
Sat Aug 30th	Brentford	W 1-0	5,257
Sat Sept 6th	Stockport County	D 2-2	5,316
Sat Sept 13th	Barnsley	W 3-1	7,809
Tue Sept 16th	Luton Town	L 0-2	5,079
Sat Sept 20th	Bristol City	W 1-0	11,369
Sat Sept 27th	Wycombe Wanderers	D 1-1	6,822
Tues Sept 30th	Peterborough United	W 3-0	5,495
Sat Oct 4th	Wrexham	L 1-2	5,822
Sat Oct 11th	Oldham Athletic	L 1-2	6,913
Tue Oct 14th	LDV Vans: Scarborough	L 1-2	1,003
Sat Oct 18th	Plymouth Argyle	L 1-5	5,786
Tues Oct 21st	Queens Park Rangers	W 2-0	5,243
Sat Oct 25th	Swindon Town	D 0-0	5,313
Sat Nov 1st	Chesterfield	L 0-1	4,088
Sat Nov 8th	Ford United (FAC1)	D 2-2	4,016
Sat Nov 15th	Notts County	W 1-0	4,900
Wed Nov 19th	Ford United (FAC1 Replay)	W 1-2	-
Sat Nov 22nd	Tranmere Rovers	L 0-1	7,081
Sat Nov 29th	Rushden & Diamonds	D 1-1	4,586
Sun Dec 7th	Scarborough (FAC2)	L 0-1	-
Fri Dec 12th	Brighton and Hove	D 1-1	5,811
Fri Dec 26th	Sheffield Wednesday	W 3-2	24,991
Sun Dec 28th	Stockport County	D 2-2	6,237
Sat Jan 10th	AFC Bournemouth	L 1-2	5,926
Wed Jan 14th	Blackpool	W 2-1	4,523
Sat Jan 17th	Grimsby Town	W 5-1	5,133
Tue Jan 27th	Hartlepool United	L 2-5	4,845
Sat Jan 31st	Brentford	L 2-3	4,306
Sat Feb 7th	Sheff Wednesday	W 3-0	7,958
Sat Feb 14th	Oldham Athletic	W 1-0	6,035
Sat Feb 21st	Plymouth Argyle	L 1-2	11,330
Tue Feb 24th	Colchester United	W 4-1	2,539
Sat Feb 28th	Swindon Town		
Tue Mar 2nd	Queens Park Rangers		
Sat Mar 6th	Blackpool		
Sat Mar 13th	Brighton		
Tue Mar 16th	Luton Town		
Sat Mar 20th	Barnsley		
Sat Mar 27th	Bristol City		
Sat Apr 3rd	Wycombe Wanderers		
Sat Apr 10th	Wrexham		
Mon Apr 12th	Peterborough United		
Sat Apr 17th	Chesterfield		
Sat Apr 24th	Notts County		
Sat May 1st	Tranmere Rovers		
Sat May 8th	Rushden and Diamonds		



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TEAM LINE-UPS



Port Vale

1	Mark Goodlad				
2	George Pilkington				
3	Ian Brightwell				
4	Andreas Lipa				
5	Michael Walsh				
6	Sam Collins				
7	Neil Brisco				
8	Michael Cummins				
9	Stephen Brooker				
10	Stephen McPhee				
11	Marc Bridge-Wilkinson				
12	Dean Delaney				
13	Levi Reid				
14	Mark Boyd				
15	Ian Armstrong				
16	Steve Rowland				
17	Chris Birchall				
18	Billy Paynter				
19	Simon Eldershaw				
20	Adrian Littlejohn				
21	Liam Burns				
22	Ryan Brown				
23	Joe Molloy				
24	Jonathon Brain				



Swindon Town

1	Bart Griemink				
2	Sean O'Hanlon				
3	Grant Smith				
4	Matthew Hewlett				
5	Adrian Viveash				
6	Andrew Gurney				
7	Sammy Igoe				
8	Tommy Mooney				
9	Sam Parkin				
10	Stefan Miglioranza				
11	David Duke				
14	Jonathan Stevenson				
15	Andrew Nicholas				
16	Rory Fallon				
17	Brian Howard				
19	Matthew Heywood				
20	Rhys Evans				
21	Ben Martin				
22	Alan Reeves				
23	Michael Pook				
24	Luke Garrard				
25	Steve Robinson				

Key:-

- Goalscorer
- Player Booked
- Player Sent Off

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE:

E. L. Ilderton

ASSISTANT REFEREES:

R. H. Smith

K. N. Townsend

FOURTH OFFICIAL:

A. R. Hendley

MATCH FACTS

SCORE:

HALF TIME:

Port Vale

Swindon Town

FULL TIME:

Port Vale

Swindon Town

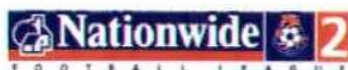
SCORERS:

Port Vale

Swindon Town

ATTENDANCE:

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES



Queens Park Rangers v Port Vale
 Tuesday 2nd March 2004
 Kick Off: 7.45pm
 Nationwide League 2



Blackpool v Port Vale
 Saturday 6th March 2004
 Kick Off: 3.00pm
 Nationwide League 2



Port Vale v Brighton
 Saturday 13th March 2004
 Kick Off: 3.00pm
 Nationwide League 2

