

Official Matchday Programme £2.50

this is gay meadow home of

# shrewsbury town fc



GAY MEADOW  
1910 - 2007

SATURDAY 21st OCTOBER 2008

7.00pm - 9.00pm

WINDON TOWN



TODAY'S MATCH  
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Call Nick Jones on (01743) 240968



# gary peters

I'd like to start by welcoming Dennis Wise to the Gay Meadow for today's game, as well as his staff and Swindon team. They are doing very well at the moment in the division and will give us a good test today.

I'd also like to welcome a new member to the backroom staff in Joe Hinnigan who has joined us as a physiotherapist. Joe played for Sunderland, Preston and Gillingham and has been a physio at Chester, Bury, Rochdale and Wigan. Joe has joined as we prepare for the loss of Rachel to family life. Rachel has been super while she's been in here as physio. She has worked within a real male dominated environment and we have been very impressed in the way that she has gone about her job and the quality and care that she has given to the players. I think one of the biggest compliments I can pay her is that we hardly noticed that she's a woman. We realise that we got this wrong when we found out that she was pregnant but Rachel has done a great job to prove that women can work very well within a football environment.

Now Joe is here he can work with Rachel and she can gradually ease out of the job and into motherhood. We are really sad to see Rachel

go and wish her well for the future.

One thing that we've been trying to sort out over the last few weeks but have found hard to do is the rescheduling of the Wrexham game. It's something that we thought would be easy to do but because it's a local derby game which the police wanted to be played on a Sunday we haven't been able to rearrange the fixture as yet.

The police need up to six weeks notice of any date and because we are playing Chester City and Hereford United soon in local derbies with 12 noon kick offs it's proving difficult to find a date for Wrexham.

We are now having to look at after Christmas for a new date and this is disappointing as we would have liked to play the game as soon as possible. It is our game in hand and it would give us a better idea of how we are doing if we had managed to play the Wrexham game.

It's been made to look worse as Bury had to call off a game with Wrexham but were able to rearrange it straight away as it wasn't a local derby and the Manchester police let Bury just set a date and get it sorted.

I'm writing these notes before the game with Hereford United so I'm not sure how that particular local derby has gone. We are looking forward to this game with Swindon Town, they came down a division but have got used to life in the Coca Cola League 2 very quickly and will be a very big test for us. I watched Swindon last week at

Accrington and they were a good outfit who've got a lot of experienced players who have played in higher divisions.

If you can get behind the lads straight from the kick-off today it will give us a big boost and help us to get our home form back to what it should be.

## Who's Who at The Meadow

Shrewsbury Town Football Club  
Gay Meadow, Shrewsbury SY2 6AB.  
Office: 01743 360111  
Commercial: 01743 356316  
Email: info@shrewsburytown.co.uk  
Website: www.shrewsburytown.com

President: K.R. Woodhouse

**Directors:** R.E. Wycherley (Chairman)  
K.J. Sayfritz (Vice Chairman), M.R. Whitrick,  
G. Poole

Associate Directors: M. Ashton, H.J. Wilson,  
A.T. Jones, A.H. Hopkins, M.J. Starkey, T.J. Allen,  
R. Edwards

Club Patrons: Mr R. Brown, Mrs G. Brown, Mr  
J. Fellows, Williams and Picken

Life President Of Executive Club Members  
Association: Frank Leath Esq., O.B.E., J.P., B.A.

Chairman Of Executive Club Members  
Association: Mr R. Brown

Life Vice-Presidents: G.W. Nelson

Life Members: Chris Smith, Malcolm Starkey

Secretary: John Howarth

Commercial Manager: Mike Thomas

Resources Manager: Chris Jarrett

Media Manager: Ian Whitfield

Manager: Gary Peters

First Team Coach: John McMahon

Goalkeeping Coach: Chris Mackenzie

Fitness Coach: Stuart Delaney

Chief Scout: Alan Fogerty

Head of Youth: Nigel Vaughan

Club Doctors:

Dr R. Wilson M.B.E.

Dr C. Tomlinson Dip(SEM)

Physiotherapist: Rachel Greenley PG Cert,

BSc(Hons), MCSP, SRP

Youth Physio: James Wigley BSc(Hons) MCSP

Hon. Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon:

Mr Dai Rees, M.Ch.Orth.F.C.R.S.

Safety Officer: Clive Parry

Stadium Manager: David Lucas

Community Officer: Brian Williams

Programme Editor: Ian Whitfield

Programme Design: Mike Bloom, Ian

Whitfield

Photographs: Kimberley Powell, Matthew

Ashton, Catherine Mill, Ian Wright, Shropshire  
Star

Programme Help: Kevin Davies, Sean

Femyhough, Steve Rogerson, Chris Smith,

Mike Robinson and a whole host more

Programme printed by WPG Ltd.

*The views in this programme are not  
necessarily those of Shrewsbury Town  
Football Club unless stated.*



Gary

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## Shrewsbury Town back football's message: 'One Game, One Community'

Shrewsbury Town FC will join communities of all races, cultures and religious beliefs in backing the unifying message of 'One Game, One Community' as part of the Kick It Out week of action this October, by holding a day of action at Gay Meadow.

The match against **Swindon Town** today will be the designated Week of Action game and will feature a number of activities across the club.

The period has been co-ordinated by football's anti-racism campaign, Kick It Out, as part of the game's ongoing contribution to promote greater inclusion in the game.



The Week of Action will take place between the 17 - 30 October with over 700 events taking place, including activities at all 92 professional clubs and conference and non-league clubs.

Shrewsbury Town are pleased to support the week as part of our commitment to promoting inclusion in the game and kicking racism out of football.

**Lord Herman Ouseley**, Chairman of Kick It Out, today commented,

"More than a million people will join

hands during the week of action under the banner, 'One Game, One Community'.

"The period will highlight football's popularity amongst communities stretching from the length and breadth of the country and celebrate the power the game has in bringing different people together.

"We hope this show of unity will illustrate how football can lead the way in promoting inclusion and celebrating diversity."

For further information please contact: Leon Mann, Kick It Out Media Relations, on 020 7684 4884.

### Fixture Change

The Barnet game scheduled for Saturday 23rd December 2006 will now be played on Friday 22nd December 2006 kick off 7.45pm. As this fixture fell on the last Saturday before Christmas, it was mutually agreed with Barnet to move the game to Friday night.

### Reserve fixture

The reserves are in action at home on Monday (23rd) against Walsall, kick off 2pm. This is the match rearranged from last Monday due to the Johnstone's Paint fixture.

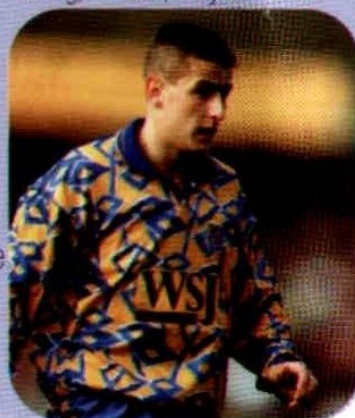
### Johnstone's Paint Trophy

After the great victory at Hereford United, we have been drawn at home to Yeovil. This tie will be played on Tuesday 31st October 2006, kick off 7.45pm. At the time of going to press full ticketing details had not been finalised but these should be on our website [www.shrewsburytown.com](http://www.shrewsburytown.com) by now and will be announced at today's game.

### CLASSIC KITS

The front of today's matchday programme features David Edwards modeling the infamous scrambled egg shirt from season 1992-93.

This was the season that STFC got relegated from Division Three but still ended up playing in Division Three as it was reconstituted due to Division One becoming the Premier League. Anyway, more on this infamous shirt! Each shirt was unique. They were made from a cloth cut to size so the pattern ended up in different positions on each shirt. At the time, there was no mass out cry in what the Meadow men were wearing, however, 14 years on this kit is now regularly featured in ugly looking tops in football magazines. Flares are kind of accepted again nowadays after being slaughtered but the drainpipe 80s society - will kits like this come back into fashion...!?



KICK IT OUT

WEEK OF ACTION

17th - 30th October 2006

Football is loved by billions of people all over the world.

In the UK more than a million of us play the game every weekend, while millions more support their clubs from the stands or with friends and family on television.

From Plymouth to Carlisle, Brighton to Manchester, and Harrogate to Harrogate, the game touches all of us.

Every October Kick It Out co-ordinates a Week of Action that reaches out to communities of all ethnic, religious and national backgrounds to challenge racism and promote inclusion.

Hundreds of activities take place including specific match day events at all 92 professional clubs.

Community groups, young people and football fans across the UK are involved showing that we are part of One Game, as One Community.

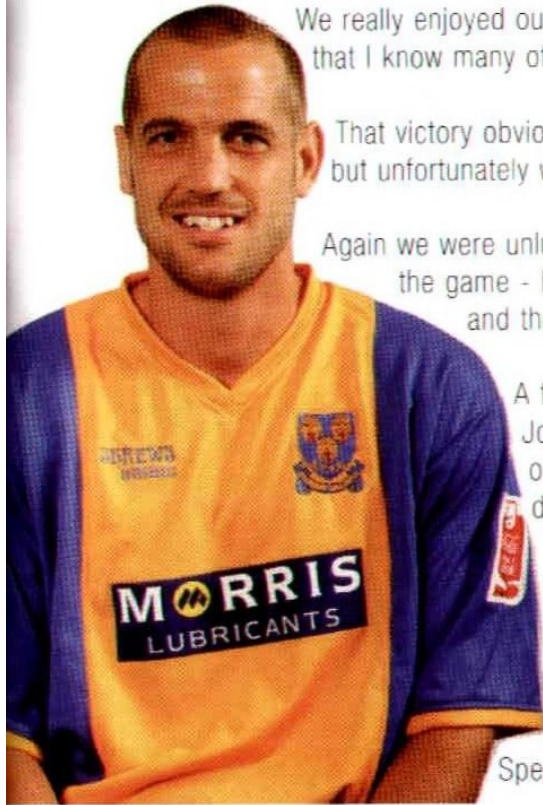
[www.kickitout.org](http://www.kickitout.org)





sWell we certainly have a test on our hands today with the visit of Swindon.

Hopefully there will be a big away following which will add another edge to what already will be a great atmosphere at The Meadow.



We really enjoyed our last home outing against Macclesfield and we took the victory that I know many of you, like us, thought we deserved.

That victory obviously meant we really pushed ourselves up into the play-off picture, but unfortunately we could not carry that on at Peterborough.

Again we were unlucky and as the gaffer said, there was no way we deserved to lose the game - but we just have to make sure we pick ourselves up this week - and there is no better game to do that with than against Swindon.

A few of us were given a bit of time off this week with our Johnstone.s Paint Trophy game at Hereford. The team which went out was unbelievably young and they all put on a tremendous display to secure a victory against a good side.

So confidence is still very high in the camp, rest assured we are all still up for what lies ahead and going into a tough looking run of games - we are really eager to again show just what we are capable of.

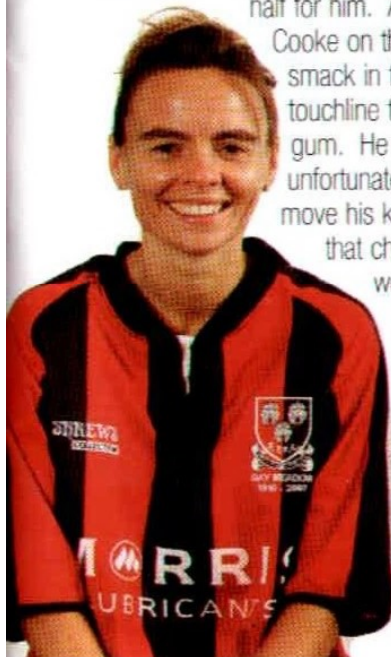
Speak soon Richard

## From the Physio . . .

Well... it felt very strange sitting on the bench at Posh and watching Joe run on - it turned into a slightly busy second half for him. As we were assessing Andy

Cooke on the bench Dave Edwards got a smack in the mouth and needed some touchline treatment for a cut along the gum. He carried on with no problems but unfortunately Cookie was unable to really move his knee much following the impact of that challenge and was subbed. We

were a bit concerned initially in case he had sustained any structural damage but by Tuesday morning the knee had settled down nicely and all the ligament and cartilage tests were negative. I got him running by Wednesday and he should be fully training tomorrow (Thursday).



Our only other visitor to the treatment room is Ryan Esson who continues to work hard to get some fitness back whilst biding his time before he can start full training with the keepers which should be in another 4 - 5 weeks time. He has discovered the joys of Haughmond Hill, the quarry pool and the Long Mynd with me in the past 2 weeks - great places to work hard on cardio fitness.

Last but not least thanks to everyone who has sent their congratulations to me & Lee, much appreciated. I will be here working alongside Joe until mid November - well, that's the current plan anyway, and then you will see me waddling about in the terraces at matches through winter!

Lets hope we perform today against Swindon and stay injury free...

C'mon u blues,

Rach



# super blues

## **Super Blues Golf Day at Shrewsbury Golf Club, Condover Friday, 29th September 2006**

I am delighted to provide a brief report of this very successful event. No less than 14 teams of 4 took part and we are indebted to the following participants:-

Miller Evans  
Furrows  
City Electrical Factors  
Longmynd Insurance  
Meole Brace Juniors Football Club (including former Town favourite Pete Wilding)  
Whittingham Riddell  
Team Prodeus  
St. James Place Partnership  
Zurich Risk Services  
Crown, Abbey Foregate  
Frank Galliers  
Morris Lubricants  
Team Premier  
Salop Glass (including Town secretary John Howarth).



The Crown



Zurich Risk Services

Football Club Manager Gary Peters kindly agreed to provide two players to present the prizes and we are very grateful to Kelvin Langmead and Ben Herd who joined us after lunch and were warmly received by all the golfers taking part in the competition. Both Kelvin and Ben were terrific and were a credit to the club, they would certainly be very welcome at any

other events we organise in the future.

On the subject of prizes, many thanks to the following who donated prizes for the event:-

Super Blues members Roy Baugh, Pete Blower, Mick Thomas, Neil Handley and Jayne Bebb; Lanyon Bowdler; Tanners Wines; Greenhouse DAF; St. James Place Partnership; Miller Evans; Alan Peach Painter and Decorator.

We picture the winners and runners up. In first place were Crown, Abbey Foregate, 2nd Zurich Risk Services and 3rd Team Premier. Guy Johnson from Salop Glass hit the longest drive.

Additionally we are very grateful to the following who sponsored a hole:-

Morland Potter; Furrows; Miller Evans; City Electrical Factors; William Martin Ltd; Andrews Orme Hinton; Stuart Bengel Associates; Salopian Sports; Britpart; Barbers; Terry Jones Solicitors; GK MOT & Tachograph Centre; Martin Kaye Solicitors; Wood Brewery; Salop Caravans; Alan Ward Furnishers; St. James Place Partnership; Lloyds TSB.

Shrewsbury Golf Club were tremendous hosts and special thanks to Dave Gilmour house chairman for all his help and to Jayne Bebb for selling raffle tickets on the day.

We raised over £1,000 and following excellent feed back I have already booked the venue for next year's tournament on the 5th October 2007.

### **GENTLEMAN JOE MALONEY**

Joe Maloney was not only a fine player, he was one of the best ambassadors that any club could have. The final signings of the Sammy Crooks era saw two young players arrive from Liverpool, and each would give sterling service. Russell Crossley accompanied Joe to the Club.



Joe was a wing half, but Walter Rowley asked Joe to play at centre half. Joe was a little reluctant, as he was only about 5'9" he said "I am not big enough, but Walter retorted "Son if you're good enough you're big enough." Joe played the next 108 games unbroken and 223 of his 237 appearances were at centre half.

His spell at Salop was only foreshortened by an injury picked up at Halifax from which he never fully recovered. He went on to play for Port Vale and Crewe Alexandra, and settled in Crewe. He was sponge man and trainer at Gresty Road then worked in a railway factory for many years. He was a dedicated family man and his wife makes an excellent cup of tea.

Sadly Joe died this Tuesday and the world will be a poorer place for his passing. If you asked Joe anything he would always round off his reply "God willing". It is a pity God has called one of his loyal servants home.

The Club and all supporters who remember him send their deepest condolences to the family.

Thanks for the memories JOE.

Mike Jones



# supporters news

## **SUPER BLUES CLUB - (Sponsored by Williams & Picken)**

Our monthly prize draw is being held at half time today. Prizes are:-

1st Prize £500, 2nd Prize £200, 3rd Prize £100, 4th Prize £100, 5th Prize £50

Listen out for your number, it may be your lucky day. Don't forget, it only costs £1 per week to join the Super Blues, application forms are available from the Club Commercial Office or the Club Website. Any enquiries telephone Membership Secretary Jayne Bebb on Shrewsbury 244607.

## **Annual Sportsmans Dinner**

This is on Monday the 30th October 2006 at the Lord Hill Hotel, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, 7:30 for 8:00 pm. Guest Speaker Duncan McKenzie (ex Leeds and Everton) supported by comedian Danny Walters. Tickets are only £30, dress is lounge suit.

Over 190 tickets have now been sold so book early to avoid disappointment. We can provide individual tickets or tables of 10 persons. Contact Chris Smith right away if you are interested.

## **Ladies Event – Body Shop Evening**

Friday, November 3rd in the Executive Lounge at the Gay Meadow, 7:30 pm. Refreshments available, a nominal charge will be made.

An ideal opportunity to order your Christmas presents for friends and family. Everyone welcome, tickets available from Jayne Bebb on Shrewsbury 244607.

## **Super Blues Merchandising**

With Christmas rapidly approaching why not purchase one of the limited edition aerial photographs of the Gay Meadow that we now have available. Only 20 remain and these will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Our enamel badges are also proving very popular, these are ideal stocking fillers costing only £3 each. Five different types are available, hurry while stocks last.

## **LUDLOW SHREWS**

The Ludlow Shrews will be running a bus to all Saturday home matches throughout the season and selected away matches.

The next match the bus will be running to is against Wycombe Wanderers on Saturday 4th November. The bus will be leaving The Compasses Pub, Corve Street, Ludlow at 1.00pm picking up on the A49 to Shrewsbury by arrangement. Fare £6.00 Adults £2.00 Children.

For more details or to arrange pick up call Brian Giles 01584 875163 or Gwyn Evans 01568 614871

## **JUNIOR BLUES**

Thank you to everyone who joined us on the trip to Peterborough, despite the result we had a good time. Look out for details of our next trip here in this column or in your newsletter.

The Junior Robins from Swindon have joined us today and have chosen one of their members to be a mascot. The Town mascots and the Swindon mascot will be carrying out a flag today as part of the Kick it Out campaign, 'One Sport, One Community'. They will also be wearing this years t-shirts, as will all the players in the warm-up. Make sure you give them all a great welcome. Hopefully you have got your sticker or badge to wear to support this very worthwhile campaign.

## **October Birthdays**

Alex Dovaston	03.10.93
Douglas Farr	07.10.94
Zach Williams	08.10.96

## **shrewsTRUST**

A big thank you goes out to all of the members who attended our recent Snail Racing evening. It was nice to see so many people having a good time and heartening to see so many younger Shrews having a good time also. A big thank you is also due to our main sponsors who were the ALS fanzine, the Away Supporters Football Club and the Up and Comers Under Nines team. More events are being planned for the future and we would welcome any ideas that members have for other events we could hold. It is worth noting that some members will need to renew their trust membership if they would like to continue enjoying the social side of the trust in the next year. We are still working on getting the trust website up and running, but please don't be discouraged by this. If you have any issues you would like addressed, you

can still contact the trust by E-mail: info@shrewstrust.com, Phone or Text: Roger on 07868 701719 or Write to: shrewsTRUST, P.O.Box 4642, Shrewsbury SY3 6WX.

## **OFFICIAL SUPPORTERS CLUB**

A Quiz Night has been arranged for Thursday 30th November at 7.45pm in the Executive Lounge. Teams of 4, cost £5 per team.

A Question and Answers Evening with Gary Peters, along with other events, are being arranged as we speak – Details in the next programme.

Membership has increased by 50% so far this season. There is still time to join and with the Q & A evening with Gary coming up (always a very popular night) it is worth reminding you that Official Supporters Club Members have priority for such events. Members are also entered into a free Draw for Match Day tickets etc. The next Draw will be on 13th November.

Membership is just £1 for the season!

To join, come into the Players Bar and ask for Alan Follmer

## **Fans On Tour**

Today's fans on tour shows season ticket Joe Kinsella on tour in Melbourne Australia earlier this month

The picture was taken right next to Albert Park which the Grand Prix was this year. Joe is 7 years old and plays for Market Drayton Tigers under 8's.





# sponsors

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## Golden Gamble

Ben Davies, who was injured for the game against Macclesfield, is seen doing the half time draw. Ben picked out No.1250 and that meant that Mr J Whittall picked up £652.50. Not a bad night's work all thing considered.

Not a bad result all round

Don't forget what they say, you have to be in it to win it.

The Golden Gamble is a 50/50 draw in that 50 per cent of the takings are given back in prize money. It takes place on match days, costs £1 and gives you a chance of winning up to £2000 each match.

Look out for sellers Mike and Barry as you make your way into the ground, Mary under the Wakeman Stand, Ralph on the Wakeman Terrace or Linda in the family enclosure.

Don't forget, every £1 makes a difference.



## Matchball Sponsor

# Martin Howard & Guests and Thomas Adams School

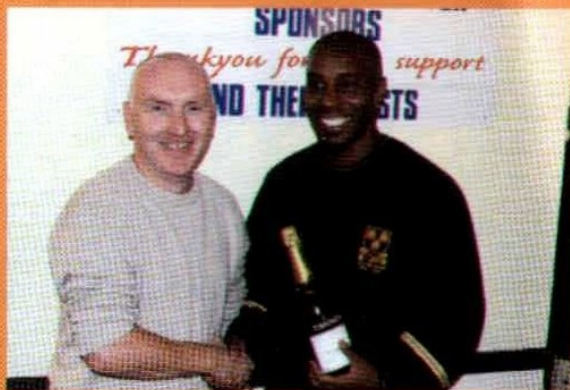
## MASCOTS



Hayley Neale, Elizabeth Neale and Amy Boswell were the mascots for the Macclesfield Town game.

## Sponsors Man Of The Match

The match sponsors chose Sagi Burton as their Man of the Match for the Macclesfield Town game.



## Tanners Wines Executive Man Of The Match

The Executive Club chose Kelvin Langmead as their Man of the Match for the Macclesfield Town game. Mr Ted Cowing is pictured presenting the bottle of Tanners Champagne.



www.shrewsburytown.com



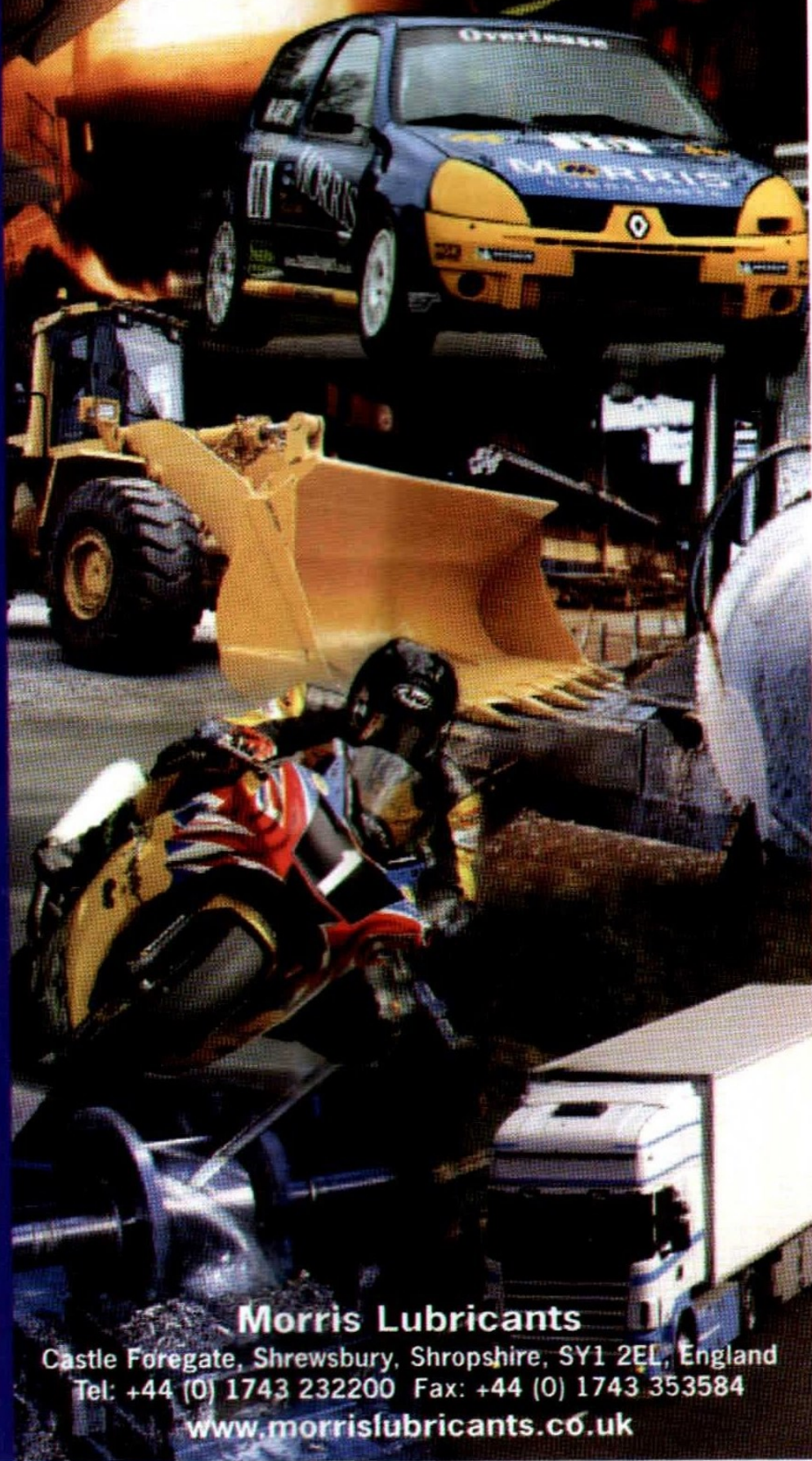


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# match action

19 - Dave Edwards

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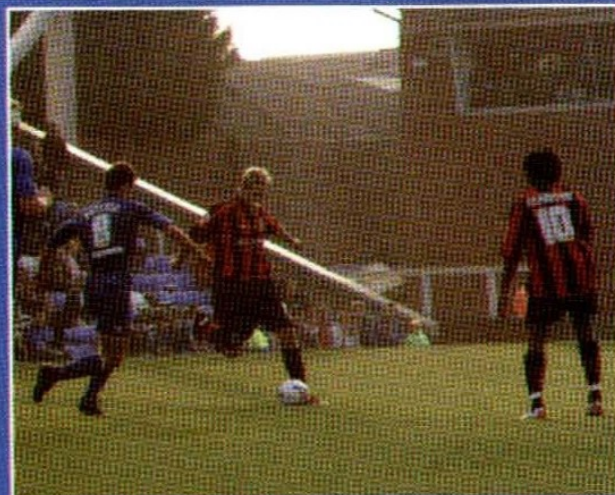


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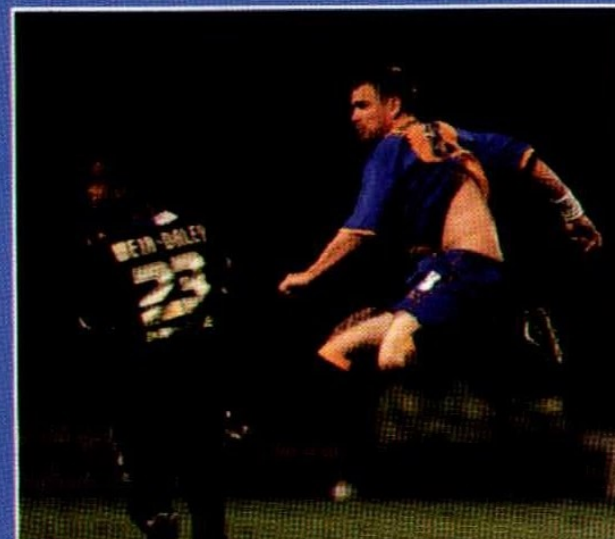
# match action



*Dave Edwards on the ball at Peterborough*



*Ben Herd lets Jamie Tolley know he's there*



*Kelvin Langmead smashes home the winner against Macclesfield*



*Andy Cooke looks for a way through at Peterborough*



*Kelvin Langmead looks pleased after grabbing the winner against Macclesfield Town*

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SHREWSBURY'S *New*

# Signing

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better team in town.

*Proud supporters of Shrewsbury Town FC.*

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[www.veolia.co.uk](http://www.veolia.co.uk)

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# the dunn thing

## By Meadow Press Box regular **Stuart Dunn**

IT MAY have been just a five minute run out as a substitute — but Derek Asamoah's recent appearance for Ghana ensured a piece of Shrewsbury Town club history had to be re-written.

By being summoned to appear from the bench for his country in the closing stages of their 3-1 friendly victory over South Korea, Asamoah became the first Town player to be capped at full international level while playing for the club in 18 long years.

Not since Shrewsbury-born Bernard McNally won the last of his five Northern Ireland caps against Malta in 1988 had a current Town player gained a full cap.

Yes, Town have produced quite a few Wales under-21 internationals — Carl Griffiths, Paul Evans (back here today with Swindon), Jamie Tolley, Darren Moss and David Edwards — while Joe Hart was memorably selected for England under-19s last season.

Also, within the last decade, Town have had players like Sagi Burton (St Kitts), John Keister (Sierra Leone) and Iain Jenkins (Northern Ireland) on their books, but none of them added to their collection of caps while they were actually wearing the blue and amber of Shrewsbury.

Burton might have done last month but he declined the chance to represent St Kitts in a Caribbean tournament.

It all only serves to underline what a great achievement it is for Asamoah to have forced his way into the squad of such a strong, emerging nation as Ghana.

Having emerged from the group stages during last summer's World Cup finals in Germany, the jet-heeled striker thought he would have to bide his time to play for his country.

So his delight was easy to understand when Ghana's new coach Claude Le Roy selected him in his first squad for the recent mini-tour to Asia. Asamoah had to settle for a place on the bench as an unused sub as Japan were beaten 1-0 in Yokohama in the opening match.

But he finally received his chance when he came on for the final five minutes of Ghana's fine win over South Korea in Seoul, lining up alongside the likes of Chelsea star Michael Essien.

"It was a very proud moment for me," said the man christened 'Del Boy' by Town skipper Richard Hope.

Asamoah joins a select group of players to be capped at full international level by their countries while playing for Shrewsbury — certainly since the club entered the Football League for the first time since 1950.

It may have been before my time but older supporters have told me all about Jimmy McLaughlin and Terry Harkin, who were both called up by Northern Ireland in the 1960s.

Winger McLaughlin played five times for the Irish during his Meadow days.

When I made the 'Meadow Memories' club history video with Matthew Ashton a few years ago, I can recall former Town full back Gordon Skeech telling me how most of the Shrewsbury side of the time traveled down to Wembley to watch McLaughlin make his Irish debut against England in 1962.

The popular winger also played against Wales twice, Scotland and Greece while he was a Town man.

Derry-born striker Harkin, meanwhile, who scored 30 goals in 79 league games for Town, was capped three times for the Irish during his Meadow days.

He lined up against Wales in 1969 and against USSR and Spain the following year.

Town fans of more recent vintage, like myself, will no doubt recall the club having to call off a division two game at Huddersfield in 1985 after both Gerry Daly and Bernard McNally received international call ups.

As a youngster watching from the Riverside, these two stylish midfielders were among my early Town favourites.

Daly may have been in the twilight of his career by the time Chic Bates signed him, but he remained a class act and he won the final four of his 48 caps for the Republic of Ireland while playing for Town.

He even scored a penalty against Uruguay at Landsdowne Road while Daly also played against Iceland, Czechoslovakia (that was) and Scotland during his all too brief Town career.

As for McNally, he shares with McLaughlin the accolade of Town's most capped player as he picked up five caps with Northern Ireland, strangely never adding to his tally after his £385,000 move to West Bromwich Albion.

McNally made his Irish debut in a Windsor Park friendly against Morocco in 1986 — the same night Daly was scoring for Eire against Uruguay — and he also went on to play against Turkey, Yugoslavia, Greece and finally Malta.

It can only be hoped that Derek Asamoah continues to entertain us with his skills and maintains his place in the Ghana squad for some time to come.

Then, perhaps, the record currently shared by McLaughlin and McNally may well be broken.



Derek Asamoah comes on for Ghana against South Korea



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Good afternoon, my turn to do the Shrewsworld article again and it's the next age bracket up in the USA coaching world that I'm going to focus on. Last time it was the nightmare arena of the 3 to 5 year olds, now we move on to the 6 to 10 year olds. A much more enjoyable age group to coach, for a number of different reasons; the main plus point of this age group is that you get much more response out of them and you almost feel yourself enjoying the sessions.

At this age the element of serious competition is introduced and children have the choice of two different grades of soccer – Travel vs. Recreation. To play in a travel team costs a decent amount of money and it tends to attract the better standard of player, whereas recreation soccer is less competitive and attracts the casual 'just playing soccer for fun' (i.e. completely rubbish) player. Now, if you remember that the standard of soccer in the USA in general is massively lower than in the UK, it might help you picture just how bad some of the recreation coaching sessions I oversaw really were; Stevie Wonder in charge of the blind school playing eye spy would've had more success than me.

However at least the recreation soccer environment was pressure free, as long as the kids had fun then everyone was happy, there was no need for any perceptible improvement or tactical discussion. Even the parents at this level seemed resigned to the fact that their kids were rubbish and as long as their kid was smiling, they were happy too. This wasn't always the case of course; one famous occasion when I managed to spectacularly upset a child was during a tremendously fun session in Tinton Falls, New Jersey. I was coaching a group of

8 year olds, who were quite a good laugh, aside from one child (there's always one) named Todd, blond hair and glasses, looked quite a lot like the milky bar kid, Todd was a spoilt brat and moaned his way through the fun times. Being something of a Victor Meldrew wannabe myself, I didn't treat Todd any differently than any other child I coached (i.e. I pretty much ignored him).



Gerry tries to pick up some coaching tips

Now we were nearing the end of another fun time getting ready for the close of session scrimmage (unbelievably this is the term for just playing normal football), Todd was standing in goal adjusting his sports goggles (protecting his milky bar glasses) and I was stood on the half way line of the mini-pitch waiting for the kids to finish putting on their bibs (recreation kids take at least ten minutes to master the task of putting your head through one hole and your arms through the other two). That's when something caught my eye, right next to the mini-centre circle was a ball, just sitting there waiting to be struck. Anyone who's ever played football will hopefully know what I mean, sometimes you see a ball and it's almost as if it is looking at you and the only solution is to thrash it goalwards and celebrate a silent glory at how great a

player you are. So, I made the rash decision to fire the ball at goal, preferably arrowing it into the top corner of the goal astounding all the watching parents into thinking I should've made it professionally.

Sadly, as you've probably guessed by now, the ball did not bullet into the net, instead it swerved up and then down and eventually (much to my horror) smashed squarely into the face of Todd, who was still adjusting his glasses. The milky bar kid might be tough and strong, but on this occasion he collapsed to the turf like a pack of cheap cards and looked like he might not get up again. At this point for me, the world had gone into silent slow motion mode, I couldn't help but thinking that being a child murderer probably wasn't going to look that good on my coaching CV.

I started the slow motion jog over to the goalmouth, Todd's mother anxiously looking on from her seat on the sidelines (although looking back, her anxiety wasn't so great that it forced her to get up). During this time, little Todd had yet to move, which led to my imagination to further paint the picture of 'child killer sent home in disgrace'. It was then that the little fella moved and praise the Lord he got up, never have I been so pleased to see his annoying little face. I decided to down-play the incident, "Good save there Todd, but next time you might want to use your hands", he nodded in agreement and amazingly did not cry or moan, so I casually waved over to his mother to let her know the boy wasn't dead and my coaching career remained intact.

That's all for today,

Gerry Leahy



## **We are Sailing, we are Sailing.....**

The choice last Saturday was a simple one. Go to Peterborough and support the Town or go to the seaside and play about on a boat. I know what I really wanted to do but I am a pragmatist. There may be more crucial games ahead and in order to bank a few 'Brownie' points I decided that I would do the decent thing. After all, when we left Shrewsbury on the Saturday morning, the sun was shining and the weather was going to be good for the day.

You see, a good friend of a friend bought a motor boat in the summer. These opportunities do not come along too often and once or twice before he had already invited Jane and me to take a trip on his new boat. Whenever I go to the seaside I always look on enviously when I see people on the water messing around in boats and this was too good an opportunity to miss.

We made our way to the Mulberry Marina in Conwy. The name was lost on me initially but I later found out that parts of Churchill's Mulberry Harbour used in the D-Day landings had been built here. Concrete sections were built in the Conway Estuary and then towed out to sea and sunk out of sight of the Germans. They were re-floated later in the war and taken to France ready for the invasion of Europe.

I have to say, chugging quietly out of the harbour in this very impressive little boat, my normal Saturday afternoon pre-occupation with the Town was fairly cursory. We passed big expensive boats, small insignificant dinghies some beautifully cared for but many rusting and ignored. I was aware of background chatter about water depth and the tide. I knew I had entered a new world when I heard the terms port and 'starboard' for the first time.

It was only as we left the Marina that the Captain opened the throttle a bit. But even then, the estuary speed limit limited the full impact of the boat's real capacity to go fast. It was only when we passed the estuary buoy, (I am into the language now!) that the front bit, sorry, stern, rose up out of the sea. The throttle was pulled back and for the first time we became aware of the real character and power of our boat.

They reckon the Menai Straits are potentially among the most dangerous waters around our shores. Making our way across to Puffin Island which lies off Anglesey, you were not really aware of the dangers. Something to do with wind direction, 'slack' waters and various other things to do with the sea.

On our return, this time facing into the wind and going against

the currents which force their way through the narrow straits which separate the Island from the mainland, I can only describe the way I felt as something akin to the moment Luke Rodgers missed the first penalty at Stoke.

Fear is a funny thing. The sea is marvellous to look at, but it can also be very frightening. You try to judge how things are by seeing how others are reacting. When all you see is fear etched across faces, you know that things aren't going too well.

When the captain enquires if we are 'leaving' Puffin Island behind yet because he is so preoccupied with negotiating the waves in front of him, and his wife, (who has also done a bit of this sort of thing), says she hasn't been in seas anything like this before, you begin to wonder if a trip to the Posh might have been a better option.

It's interesting how we all react to stress in different ways. I go quiet, others become loud. 'Are you feeling sea sick?' enquired my friend. To be honest, at that point I would have been very happy to throw up if it meant getting back in one piece. "No, no" was my reply, forcing a bit of a smile as you do.

In the middle of all of this I receive a text message. It is my son asking me if I know what the score is. At that moment I couldn't really have cared if we were losing 10-0 to be perfectly honest. I felt like texting him back to say "sod the score, call the Coastguard!"

Very quickly we returned to calmer waters, put down the anchor and opened a bottle of champagne. There was something very surreal and yet very agreeable about having sandwiches and champagne in a boat in the middle of the Conway Estuary. We toasted everything and everybody. We cheered our Captain who had brought us through the straits.....eventually.

The boat actually had a radio, but out of reach of Radio Shropshire we had to wait for Radio Five Live to get around to giving the Town score. It wasn't good news but the sense of relief and the knowledge that Wrexham had also lost, seemed to ease the pain a bit, especially as my companions were Wrexham supporters.

Now then Jane, on Tuesday night we have a choice. We can either pop down to see Town take on Hereford or we can go and fly a Glider on the Long Mynd. So what will it be?

*Ryan Jarvis*



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# lenny's den

## Half Time Challenge with the Junior Blues

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| T | H | G | B | U | L | R | Y | A | L |
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| R | G | S | E | I | S | B | B | C | R |
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| N | P | R | N | O | S | R | A | E | P |
| I | M | O | U | R | I | N | H | O | Y |

### QUICK QUIZ

- 1) Who scored for Shrewsbury in less than a minute in our game against Macclesfield?
- 2) Who scored in the closing minutes of the same game?
- 3) Why did we play Macclesfield on Friday and not on a Saturday? (a) To try out the floodlights (b) Because England were playing on Saturday (c) So people who work Saturdays could come to watch.
- 4) What is Swindon Town's nickname?
- 5) What is the name of their ground? (a) Under Ground (b) Finely Ground (c) County Ground
- 6) How many people can get into Swindon's ground? (a) Over 15,000 (b) Under 10,000?

### LENNY'S CHALLENGE

First is in hat but not in bat  
 Second in pat but not in pet  
 Third is in Lenny but not in Penny  
 Fourth is in fed but not in wed  
 Fifth is in tan but not in pan  
 Sixth is in tin but not in tan  
 Seventh is in men but not in ten  
 Eighth is in pen but not in pin  
 Whole is a time  
 And it's good to score, just before!!!

### ANSWERS

Quiz: 1) Ben Hird 2) Kevin Langmead 3) (a)  
 England were playing 4) The Robins or The Reds  
 5) (c) County Ground  
 6) (a) Over 15,000 in fact 15,728  
 Lenny: Half Time  
 Player: Richard Hope

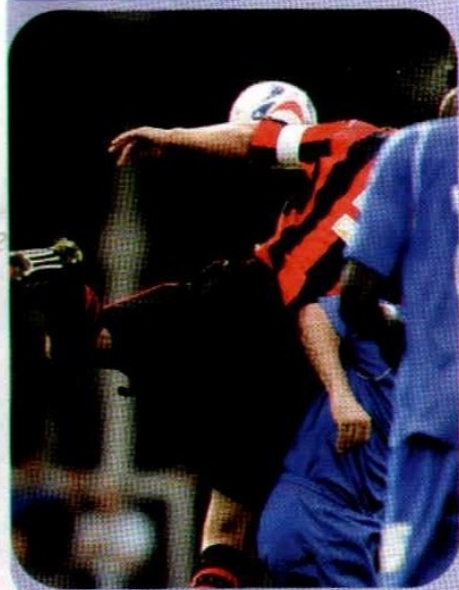
### LENNY'S LAUGHS

Q - What do you call our chairman when he goes to a Fancy Dress Party dressed as a sandwich?  
 A - Roland Butter!

Q - What is the bank manager's favourite kind of Football?  
 A - Fiver Side!

Q - Why do millipedes only play the second half of the Football Match?  
 A - Because it takes them the whole of the first half to get their boots on!

### GUESS WHO



### TODAY'S MASCOTS

#### ANNA HILL

Age: 5 1/2  
 From: Litchfield  
 School: St Peter & Paul Roman Catholic Primary School  
 Hobbies: Football, art and looking after baby sister Elena  
 Favourite Player: Derek Asamoah



#### TOMMY HUGHES

Age: 6  
 From: Chester  
 School: Cherry Grove Infants  
 Favourite Player: Dave Edwards



#### SAMUEL MCGOWAN

Age: 7  
 From: Wellington  
 School: St Patrick's  
 Favourite Player: Dave Edwards







**72 Clubs. The 'Coca-Cola' Football League. The Real League.**



It's fitting that Shrewsbury Town's last season at Gay Meadow should feature a visit to the ground by Walsall for the first time in nearly ten years.

December 2, 1996 was the last time the Saddlers came to Shrewsbury, and that game ended in a 2-2 draw, with Steve Anthrobus and Ian Stevens scoring our goals. Coincidentally, the game at the Bescot Stadium also finished 2-2, with Darren Currie and Dave Walton on target for the Town.

The true significance of a Walsall visit to Gay Meadow goes much further back than that – to April 26, 1961 in fact.

A ground record of 18,917 fans crammed into the Meadow that night to see Walsall snatch a 2-1 win and clinch promotion to the old Division Two (now the Championship) for the first time.

As a nine-year old lad, I was standing in my usual spot up against the wall, just to the right of what we called in those days the "Tech End". As those of you who weren't there can imagine, the atmosphere was amazing.

But it was strange to be watching a game at the Meadow where most of the crowd were supporting the visitors!

These days, with crowd segregation, it's easy enough to publish figures stating how many "away" fans attend any given match. Not so in 1961.

It would be interesting to learn exactly how many of that 18,917 were from Walsall. I suppose it must have been about 14,000 – it certainly seemed like it.

The prolific Colin Taylor put Walsall one up after just four minutes with his 32nd goal of the season, but a penalty by Arthur Rowley levelled the scores just before the break.

Colin Askey scored the winner after the break to spark wild celebrations, which became even wilder when the Walsall fans learned that their main rivals Queens Park Rangers had lost 3-1. They were up!

Whereas most of us these days, especially those of us who live to the west of Shrewsbury, consider our main local derby to be against Wrexham, when I was a kid it was always the Walsall games we looked forward to most in a season.

This was because Wrexham were usually a division below us in the league, and we only ever played them in cups. I make no excuse at this point for mentioning yet again that brilliant 1966-67 season, when we beat them 5-1 in the FA Cup and 6-1 in the League Cup. No, in those days the games between Shrewsbury and Walsall were

*Mike Robinson is Editor of the South Shropshire, Mid Wales and Ludlow Journal series.*

always big occasions, and I made several trips to the old Fellows Park ground.

One memorable visit came in April 1967, and that day sticks in the mind for a reason other than football. It was Grand National day, and on the Thursday before the race my brother Keith, who was then ten years of age, read something which convinced him that a rank outside called Foinavon was going to win the race.

He was going to put two shillings each way on the hopeless beast, but I persuaded him it had no chance whatsoever, and he invested his pocket money elsewhere.

Midway through the second half at Fellows Park, I noticed a man with a radio to his ear. "What's winning the National, mate?" I asked.

"There's been a massive pile-up and some 100-1 shot has gone about two fences clear," he answered. I feared the worst.

"It's not Foinavon, is it?" I inquired. "That's the one," came the reply. Needless to say, Foinavon held on to spring one of the greatest shocks in Grand National history, and my brother has hardly ever spoken to me since!

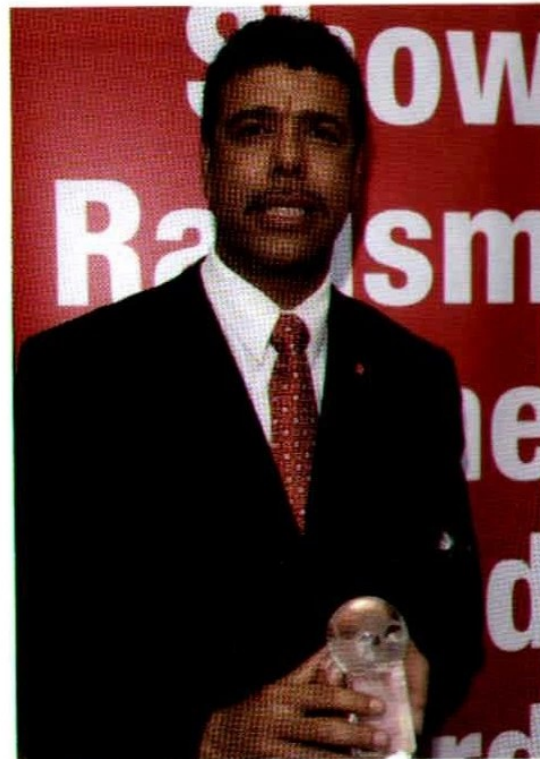
The result that day, as if it mattered, was again 2-2, with Trevor Meredith and Eric Brodie scoring the Town goals.

Brodie was again on target the following year, when Shrewsbury went one better and beat the Saddlers 2-1 after being a goal down at half time. Frank Clarke got the other, and all three goals were shown on the Midlands news the following day. It was the first time I had ever seen Town on the telly.

Now for something completely different... after I had finished my column about sports headlines for Saturday's Darlington programme headlines, it occurred to me I had forgotten one classic from the Oswestry and Border Counties Advertiser.

The story concerned legendary Oswestry angler Norman "Rum Cog" Millard, who became stuck in some deep mud one day when out fishing, after he went to rescue a dog.

This made it into the Advertiser's angling column, and sports editor Stuart Laurie came up with the headline: "Cog and a dog in a bog". Beat that!



Chris Kamara – a popular face on Sky Sports these days.



# away supporters



Today sees the visit of high-flying Swindon, and hopefully this morning the lads have played their fans' side - though, as I write these notes, nothing has yet been confirmed. I am pretty sure we have never played a Swindon fans team so it will be a first if it does go ahead.

Back to the end of September, and the team's visit to Rochdale, which ended in a first defeat of the season. Last season the ASFC enjoyed a rare win over Rochdale at our place on the opening day of the season, with no return fixture, as Rochdale couldn't find an available pitch.

Rochdale, fiercely competitive anyway, would be well up for their first chance to gain revenge for that defeat. The task for ASFC was that much harder given that player-manager Andy Davies was missing along with fellow regulars Stuart Dunn and Tim Williams. And Steve Price arriving late and having to start from the bench further hampered the away side. That though will not surprise anyone who knows PC!

Rochdale showed they meant business from the off hitting the outside of the post with a pile driver from thirty yards out. This positive start turned into a one-goal lead with just minutes on the clock when Ant Thomas put through his own goal attempting to clear a corner. Then defender Andy Groves survived appeals for what appeared a stonewall penalty after he handballed in the area.

After a tough opening twenty minutes the Shrews settled and built some good moves. Salop then encountered the strange rules interpretation by the referee. Tim Klekot was clattered in the area but managed to stay on his feet. The official waved play on and stated had Tim gone down he would have awarded a penalty!

Rochdale were still dangerous and Gareth Hopkins pulled off a great save, tipping a curling shot from the edge of the area around the post to keep the gap between the sides at just one as the sides went into the interval.

Town made two changes at half-time with Scott Pearson coming on in goal and Steven Price slotting into midfield. Whilst the first half had been largely Rochdale, the second was Shrewsbury. Dave Evison saw a low free kick parried by the 'Dale' keeper then Ant Thomas following up was just the wrong side of the bar.

ASFC equalised when Tim Klekot headed Dave Evison's corner home. Rochdale nearly regained the lead straight from the restart when their tall centre forward saw a spectacular over-head kick smack the bar before being cleared to safety.

Salop had two great chances to take the lead in the last twenty minutes. First Dave Evison turned and shot in the area but his effort was saved at point blank range, then Mike Price went close following up a shot from Gerry Leahy that the keeper had been unable to hold. The Shrews were then turned down on another penalty appeal when Ant Thomas was pulled to the ground in the area.

But 'Dale finished strong forcing several corners at the end and right at the death converted one at the back post to win 2-1 to leave the Town lads gutted

**TEAM** Gareth Hopkins, Dan Mansell; Justin Klekot, Mike Price; Andy Groves; Phil Thomas; Ant Thomas; Gerry Leahy; Dave Evison; Stevey Parton; Tim Klekot; Scott Pearson; Steven Price.

Since then the Away Supporters have played two games both away from home, beating Birmingham 3-1 and Peterborough 7-1. Reports to follow.

Today's player profile comes from midfield man Tim Klekot, a regular when he isn't breaking bones in his body, especially his leg!!

All the best,  
Chris Wynne.  
Come On Salop.

**Name** Tim Klekot

**Nickname** Timmy K, Glassman, Senor Coconut, Goat Lover.

**Age** 24

**ASFC Debut** Last season's "Best ASFC Newcomer" made his debut against Plymouth on the opening day of the 2001/2002 season - Needless to say I scored.

**Best Goal scored** Probably a 25-yard barnstormer against Rochdale last season. That, or one of two that I bundled in off my crotch against Barnet away.

**Most Memorable game (and why):** Our pre-Christmas jaunt to Northampton away last year. A few of us had enjoyed a shandy or two the night before and the drinking continued on the way down in the mini bus. Our ultra professional new gaffer Andy Davies had to sleep it off DURING the game. Needless to say we lost shambolically on what was possibly the coldest day since the ice age.

**Funniest moment being involved with the ASFC:** Too many to mention, most of which wouldn't mean anything to those not in attendance but for those who were they can be summed up by the words...Recompensal Tricky Dicky - football genius, '4 more beers', Moroccan dancing, Captain Gez's permo tan, Afro's terrible sport appreciation songs and Murray James (the wacky character).

**Worst nightmare situation you have found yourself in through the ASFC** Waking up in leading media mogul Colin Bloomfield's bed in Barcelona unaware of ever getting in the night before, running naked alongside Afro on the main street of that same city or being in the shower next to Dave 'Evo' Evison and his 'wandering eyes'. (Wait up, there's a pattern emerging here!)

**Your personal ASFC ambition:** To invent a cloning machine so that I can duplicate myself 10 times, meaning I don't have to play or hang around with these jokers. We'll be unbeatable.

**Favourite away supporters team played against and why** Catalonia XI - such a sporting bunch. Never once dived, cheated, kicked, moaned or fell to the floor holding their face. (Cough) Cheats. They went down so easily they made our very own theatrical talisman Glynier Drogba look like Duncan Ferguson.

**Best ASFC goal seen scored:** Mike 'Side netting' Price (the away supporters John Jenson) ending a 12,088,800-minute (23 year) goal drought with an orgasmic lob from the angle against Liverpool.

**Worst ASFC gaffe on the pitch:** Allowing Glyn Price anywhere near a football pitch on an empty stomach. He's an irritable, unpredictable, whirling dervish of a striker at the best of times. But if he hasn't had his Ginsters sausage roll quota, God help us.





# a large scotch's little brother

If you mention Swindon Town, two things probably come to mind. Our 1-0 win back in the mid nineties when Town against the odds performed a rear guard action that had John McMahon's brother Steve foaming at the mouth about our smash and grab raid, and secondly Chic Bates.

When Chic went to Swindon in the later part of the mid seventies, I'm sure many Town fans wondered where Shrewsbury's future lay. As ever in those days Town fans had seen a good start from the perennial promotion chaser, only to hit the usual mid pitches and dreams were shattered.

The conspiracy theorists amongst us put this down to the board's lack of ambition and Bates departure confirmed this.

I remember Town played Swindon virtually the next game after he had left. Bates' as ever muscled in on the keeper, a tactic that contributed to a famous encounter in the cup at Filbert Street a few years later.

It seems hard to think that for all the doom and gloom at the time Town would eventually go on to great heights, and as we know great lows. It seems hard to believe that we have become in this generation a team that has become a permanent fixture in the old Fourth Division.

Such talk back in Alan Durban's day of becoming a basement dweller would have been dismissed totally out of hand.

For Swindon, a brief flirtation with the Premiership is a highlight I'm sure they look back at with fondness. Maybe now they look with envy at Reading's huge stride in the top flight, but probably chuckle at Oxford's demise.

I've always enjoyed my trips to the County Ground, but I have to say the great expense at attending games there nowadays will probably mean me pencilling Bewdley Town against Great Wyrley or something similar.

Talking of the Premiership it was with great pride that many Town fans have had, on seeing Joe Hart play in the Premiership. Joe didn't seem to have too much to do with the Blades shots being

pretty wayward at Eastlands.

A fluffed cross (obviously) impeded was the only real question mark over the future England goalkeeper. And his appearance also justified his decision to leave.

I personally have questioned whether he made the right move, but ambition is a wonderful thing, and sometimes chances come up. Well done to Joe for taking his chance, and I'm sure we are all looking forward to a certain game next August.

On that subject much press attention has been given to the colour of our new stadium's seats. Even a certain Ade Plimmer had his comments blasted over the front page of the Chronicle.



Chic Bates

Blue or white, or amber and blue? The question I guess we have to ask is why in 1968 did someone somewhere decide that a bit of amber on the socks would herald a new identity for Shrewsbury Town?

Ok, the famous stripes are down to then chairman Tim Yates and his racing colours, but ambers introduction in 1968 certainly set Town out from the crowd.

It is may be interesting to note that Oldham Athletic used to play in Amber shirts and Blue Shorts during the late

sixties, implemented by a certain Ken Bates. I wonder if he will one-day return Leeds to their blue and amber colours. White shirts came about because Don Revie wanted Leeds to be the new Real Madrid. More like Real Guiseley!

Anyway I digress. I hope that eventually we do get blue and amber seats, however how's this for a thought. Are we just totally against blue and white seats because it reminds us of the plastic scousers up the road? And if so is the way to celebrate our blue and white heritage to have a blue and white seated stadium, with a blue and amber shirted team to celebrate our unique identity.

May Shropshire and its blue and amberians flourish!

Ade Plimmer



# shropshire lads

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## SHROPSHIRE LADS - DOWN MEMORY LANE

This Week - **Midfield (Part One)**

It is often the case that those who aspire and succeed in becoming professional footballers also have several other 'sporting strings to their bow'. The demands of playing professional football, however, preclude the vast majority from pursuing a twin track professional career in another sport. If we take the case of Thierry Henry it would be interesting to know just how fast he would be in the sport of athletics. His speed off the mark and acceleration would indicate that he is quite athletic! Clearly, there are many sporting people who are multi talented but when it comes to earning a living from a sport, the dedication and commitment to realise one's full potential generally prevents the 'double professional'. But there is a window of opportunity when the seasons for sport are complementary and a classic example of this is football and cricket. Today it is becoming increasingly difficult to undertake two separate full time sporting contracts due to the lengthening of the football season. Over the years several professional footballers have succeeded in becoming first class county cricketers. Obviously, for those readers who are old enough to remember Denis Compton, he achieved the pinnacle of representing his country at both football and cricket. In more recent times many professional cricketers such as Chris Balderstone (Yorkshire) and more notably, Ian Botham (Somerset) combined cricket and football.

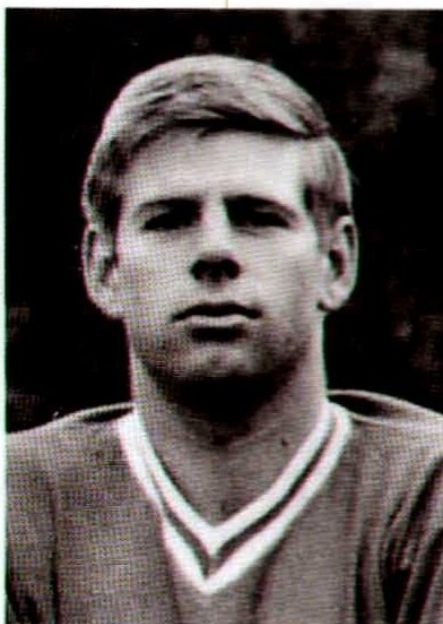
Here at Shrewsbury Town there have been a number of players who have also been pretty useful with the bat and ball. Arthur Rowley himself was a very accomplished cricketer and played for Shrewsbury CC. Several goalkeepers including Ken Mulhearn; Steve Ogrizovic and Bob Tooze played to a very good standard and more recently, Joe Hart, who could have taken a place at the Worcestershire Academy were it not for his football prowess. (As an aside – at the time of writing this article – the morning of 14/10/2006 - whilst scanning Sheffield United's website I read the wonderful news that Joe Hart was to make his debut for Manchester City against the Blades. Another giant step for this remarkable young man. I often wonder just how far Joe would have progressed with his cricket were it not for his football.)

Sorry for the digression yet again. Back to the main agenda.

### **Today's choice for memory lane is one Edward John Orton Hemsley**

born in 1943 in Stoke on Trent but whose family found its way to South Shropshire. 'Ted' Hemsley was to find his way to Shrewsbury Town in the late fifties to begin an apprenticeship under Arthur Rowley which would see him make his debut on the 29th April 1961 away to Bradford City. In those days his position would have been described as a wing half but were he playing today he would most certainly have been classed as an all round midfielder. So what is it about midfield

players? What qualities do they have to possess? Ideally they need to be very comfortable on the ball when in possession; they have to 'win' the ball both in the air and on the ground; they have to aid both the defence and attack and essentially need peripheral vision. In today's game the midfield can be made up of players who do not have all the skills required individually but complement one another. The likes of Duncan Edwards, Bryan Robson and Steve Gerrard who could arguably be described as outstanding midfield players possess all the qualities. Ted Hemsley possessed many of these qualities and for nine seasons the Meadow faithful witnessed an emerging all round professional sportsman. During his time at the club, I found myself looking at the Worcestershire County Cricket results because Ted was one of those remarkable individuals who combined the two sports at professional level. Two years after his Town debut at 17 he would join Worcestershire County Cricket Club where he would remain until 1982. An all round midfielder in football, Ted also



Ted Hemsley

proved his versatility in cricket both with his batting and bowling prowess. In a remarkable career he scored in excess of 13,000 runs which included 8 centuries and 70 half centuries. As a right arm medium bowler he also took over 140 wickets and weighed in with 245 catches. Meanwhile, back at the Meadow he went on to play for the Town in 234 Football League matches; he put in 43 cup appearances and hit the back of the net on 23 occasions. His departure from Shrewsbury followed hot on the heels of Arthur Rowley who was appointed as Manager of Sheffield United in 1968. I believe that the transfer fee was around £50k and Ted went on to establish himself as a firm favourite with the 'Blades' for the next eight seasons.

I came across Ted in 1994 at a Memorial Game for the late Joe Stoves – Senior

Master at the Oldbury Wells School in Bridgnorth - who had been a wonderful centre forward in his heyday with the great Hanwood United sides of the early 1950's and as a teacher, a very successful coach and mentor to many a young south Shropshire lad. Ted came over from Sheffield – bringing Len Badger and Colin Proffet - to join his brother Colin and other former Town favourites such as Peter Dolby; Tony Gregory, Frank Clarke, Dave Pountney and Colin Taylor in a charity match where the proceeds went to the MRI Scanner Appeal at the Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital. One of Joe's former star pupils was the diminutive David Preece (Walsall; Luton and Derby) who attended though did not play due to injury. The ex pro's took on a Teachers' XI and it was wonderful occasion. Clearly, the ex professionals put on a great display and I was particularly impressed with Ted's skills and athleticism at the age of 51. His fitness, control and passing of the ball suggested that he should still have been playing. It was a master class and an exhibition match that brings back the very best of memories.

Alan Jones



## IN CHARGE

Dennis Wise



Dennis Wise began his career with Southampton as a youngster before moving to Wimbledon in 1985 where he spent five years, scoring 27 goals in 127 appearances, including an FA Cup Final win over Liverpool. Chelsea spent £1.6m for the combative midfielder in 1990, where he went on to make 322 appearances, winning the Cup Winners Cup and the FA Cup twice.

In 2001, Leicester City bought him for £1.6m and he stayed just over a year before moving to Millwall, where he became player-manager.

In 2005, Wise made the switch to Southampton and after six-months joined Coventry City, where he played out the 2005-6 season, scoring six goals in 11 starts. In 2005, Wise moved to Swindon after turning down a new playing contract with Coventry.

## ONES TO WATCH

Paul Evans



### midfield

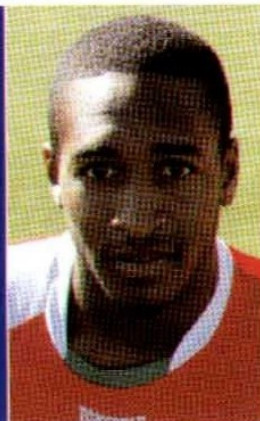
Former Shrewsbury player Paul Evans returns to the Meadow as Swindon's joint top scorer with five goals, one of them in the unsuccessful League Cup penalty shoot-out against Brentford.

An experienced campaigner with over 400 league starts and two Welsh caps to his name, Evo joined Swindon in July 2006 from Nottingham Forest.

His former clubs also include Brentford and Bradford City. He left the City Ground after being frozen out by former Forest boss Gary Megson and being loaned to Rotherham United towards the end of 2005-06.

Opened this season in fantastic form, with a free-kick against Darlington and another excellent strike against Brentford in the cup and scored the winning penalty against MK Dons in League Two.

Ricky Shakes



### midfield

A tricky winger with plenty of pace, Shakes signed from Bolton Wanderers in a deal which also saw Charlie Curney-Platt join the club.

He spent time on loan with Bristol Rovers and Bury during the 2004-05 season and impressed manager Andy King during a reserve game for Swindon

towards the end of the 2004-5 campaign.

A Trinidad & Tobago player, Shakes signed for Swindon in July 2005 and went on to establish himself on the right of the Town midfield, narrowly missing out on a place in the Soca Warriors World Cup squad along the way despite playing in a friendly against Iceland.

## NEW FACE

Royce Brownlie



### forward

The amicable Australian joined Town in July 2006 – four years after scoring for the Town in a trial game against Sporting Gijon in pre-season 2002.

Signed from Australian side Queensland Roar, Brownlie has now swapped life in the 52,000 seat Suncorp Stadium for the County Ground. The striker had previous trial spells in England with Sheffield Wednesday among others.

A player who is never afraid of a strike on goal, Brownlie scored one of Town's pre-season goals with a long-range chip against the Ibiza Select XI.

In his first League game this season he came on as substitute to score an injury-time winner against Barnet. He was then sent off in the League Cup against Brentford and has since been playing wide on the right of midfield with some success. His other goal this season was in the 1-1 draw at Wycombe



# swindon town

## **Peter Brezovan – goalkeeper**

A giant in goal at over 200cm tall, Brezovan signed on a year's loan from Czech club FC Brno in summer 2006. He became a fans' favourite after performing heroics on his competitive debut against Hartlepool United on the opening debut, saving two penalties from Porter and Humphreys to earn Town all three points. He will not be in the side today after suffering a serious arm injury last Saturday against Grimsby, which could see him out for the rest of the season.

## **Phil Smith – goalkeeper**

Goalkeeper Phil Smith joined Swindon in late July from Crawley Town. Smith had made 74 starts for Crawley Town during a two-year stay, which followed a year's spell at Margate where he made 35 starts. A dependable customer, Smith will be looking to add experience to the Town set-up. He was promoted to the first team on Tuesday in the JP Trophy against Wycombe following last week's injury to Peter Brezovan.

## **Jack Smith – defence**

Signed from Watford in summer 2005, Smith added youthful experience to the Town side. Due to the departure of Paul Robinson to West Bromwich Albion he was thrust into the first-team spotlight at Watford and coped admirably, registering two goals – the first of which a Goal of the Season contender at Sheffield United in front of the Sky Sports cameras. He made 38 League starts for Town last season in a variety of positions including right back, left back and midfield. This term he has only missed one game and has scored two goals, both from the penalty spot.

## **Jerel Ifil – defence**

Powerful defender Jerel Ifil joined Town in summer 2004 after enjoying three loan spells with Town previously from 2002-04. Jerel became a fans' favourite during his brief stays in Wiltshire and signed on a permanent basis in June 2004. He has amassed 100 appearances as a Robin. His one game missed this season was due to suspension after being sent-off at Chester and his one goal was in the unsuccessful penalty shoot-out in the League Cup against Brentford.

## **Leigh Henry – defence**

Son of former Swindon striker Charlie, Henry came up through the Centre of Excellence ranks at the County Ground. He progressed into the reserves last season after catching the eye with a number of dominant performances for the U18s. He was rewarded with a six-month professional contract in June 2006 and will

look to impress under the new management of Wise and Poyet, taking every opportunity available with typical grit and fervour. He has yet to get his chance though in a first team shirt.

## **Jamie Vincent – defence**

Jamie Vincent arrived at the County Ground and made the left-back slot his own. He began his football career as a trainee at Crystal Palace before making the switch to Bournemouth, where he made over 100 appearances between 1996 and 1999. He then made a £500,000 switch to Huddersfield Town, which was followed by an £800,000 deal which saw him move to Portsmouth in 2001. Spells at Derby County and Millwall then followed. He signed a one-year deal with Town in July 2006.

## **Ady Williams – defence**

Named on-field captain by manager Dennis Wise in mid-July, Ady Williams brings with him a wealth of footballing experience. Signed from Coventry City in pre-season, the former Welsh international boasts successful spells with Wolves and Reading on his CV. This season, he has forged a successful central defensive partnership with Jerel Ifil and has been a calming influence on the rest of the squad.

## **Andy Nicholas – defence**

Nicho joined Town in the close season of 2003 following his decision to leave Liverpool, where he came through the youth system but struggled to break into the first team. He was a regular in the U19s side at Anfield and won many plaudits with his performances at left back, which prompted Andy King to snap up the youngster. After working his way into the starting line up with some hard work in training, Andrew seized his chance to become a regular member of the side throughout the 2003-04 season and managed his first senior goal in a 4-2 win at Stockport in February. Despite making such a positive impression during 2003-04 season, the 2004-05 campaign saw the defender struggled with injuries and was unable to gain a regular starting berth. Nicho is now an established member of the Town squad and is approaching 100 appearances for the club.

## **Charlie Comyn-Platt – defence**

Charlie Comyn-Platt joined the Bolton Academy in summer 2002 after a long association with the club. The assured defender was called into the first team for the first time in September 2003, and he was handed his debut when replacing Bruno N'Gotty for the final nine minutes of the 3-1 League Cup win over Walsall. He

also started both the club's FA Cup games against Tranmere Rovers during the same season. He was loaned to Tony Adams' Wycombe Wanderers in mid-September 2004, making his debut in a 1-0 home defeat to Swansea City, and returned to Bolton in October, after a month with the Wanderers. After being released by Bolton in summer 2005 he made the switch to the County Ground on a one-year contract and went on to make 27 appearances in his first season in Wiltshire, scoring twice against Boston United (FA Cup) and Doncaster Rovers (League One). After a successful first campaign, he signed a new one-year deal in the summer 2006 but has only made two appearances this season.

## **Andy Monkhouse – midfield**

A product of the youth set-up at Rotherham United, Andy Monkhouse ended an eight-year association with the Millmoor club when he made the switch to Wiltshire in summer 2006. Having made over 150 appearances for the Millers, Monkhouse adds not only youthful experience to the Robins squad, but also unpredictable flair on either flank of the midfield. He has recently found scoring form netting in the 1-1 draw against Boston and again last week in the 3-0 win over Grimsby.

## **Gareth Whalley – midfield**

He signed for Swindon Town in July 2005 from Wigan Athletic on a free transfer. Originally a trainee at Crewe, Gareth made over 200 first-team appearances for them before signing for Bradford City in 1998 for £600,000. Gareth was a regular during their two-season spell in the top flight and in March 2002 went back to Crewe on loan for a few months. Injury kept him out from early-November 2002 until mid-April 2003 but he returned to play a significant role in the club's promotion through the play-offs. He left Cardiff in September 2004 and joined Wigan Athletic and subsequently made nine appearances for the Latics in the march to promotion to the Premiership. During his first season at Swindon, Whalley settled into the side and made 27 appearances during 2005-6. He still has two years to run on his current deal at Swindon, but had been sidelined after an ankle operation in July. He only made his first appearance this season on Tuesday in the JP Trophy defeat at Wycombe, where he picked up a yellow card.

## **Michael Pook – midfield**

Pooky signed a professional contract ahead of the 2005-06 season and was a consistent performer for the youth team and reserves before joining the professional ranks. An energetic box-to-box midfielder, Pook will look to benefit



from the wealth of knowledge passed to him by Dennis Wise and Gus Poyet. He scored his only goal of the season last Saturday in the 3-0 win over Grimsby.

## **Ben Wells – midfield**

One of three Centre of Excellence players who were signed as first year scholars in 2004, the midfielder impressed in the U17s last season. He was rewarded a squad number in November 2004 and made the bench against Bristol City in the LDV Vans Trophy. Now signed as a professional, the energetic Wells will look to make the most of every opportunity that comes his way, and there have been none this season; the closest he has got to the first team was as an unused substitute in the League Cup tie against Brentford.

## **Andy Gurney – midfield**

Gurney rejoined Swindon Town on a permanent basis in January 2005 after failing to pin down a regular place in the Swans' starting line-up. A versatile player, he can operate anywhere along the backline or in centre of midfield and likes a shot on goal and is not afraid to have a go from any distance. He joined Swansea City from Swindon Town on a free transfer in 2004 and lists his other clubs as Torquay United, Bristol Rovers and Reading. He has now made over 385 senior starts and has scored 45 goals. Gurney went under the knife in the summer and is recovering from an ankle operation.

## **Curtis Weston – midfield**

Another summer signing, Weston joined from Millwall where he became the youngest ever FA Cup finalist ever at 17 years and 119 days, coming on to replace Dennis Wise in the 2004 final against Manchester United. A busy midfielder who likes to get among the goals, Weston impressed with combative central displays against Crystal Palace and Reading, showing pace, aggression in the tackle and awareness. He has been a regular this season despite a missed penalty that helped Brentford beat Swindon in the League Cup.

## **Lee Peacock – forward**

Joint top scorer this season with five – including a brace against Chester – Lee Peacock joined Swindon Town in January 2006 on a free transfer from Sheffield Wednesday. The experienced frontman started his career at Carlisle United as a trainee, but after scoring 11 goals in 52 appearances he made the switch to Mansfield Town in 1997 for £75,000. It proved to be a productive spell with the Stags with 29 goals in 80 appearances attracting Manchester City who parted with £500,000 for his services. However, his time at Maine Road was not as successful

as he would have liked due to injuries, but his next stop certainly was. A £600,000 move to Bristol City in 2000 heralded the start of a successful four-year spell at Ashton Gate; 54 goals in 131 league starts was the result of his stay with the Robins. Next up was Sheffield Wednesday, who he joined on a free transfer in summer 2004. Peacock wasted no time in settling in at Town, scoring on his debut against Bournemouth after coming off the bench. However, he finished the season with just 11 starts to his name after a knee injury ruled him out of the final games of the campaign. After an end of season operation, Peacock enjoyed a solo pre-season and capped his start to the campaign with an opening-day winner at Hartlepool.

## **David Stroud – midfield**

Stroudy is another of Town's team with County Ground connections, with his father Kenny starring for Swindon. A skilful winger, he joined the Centre of Excellence before signing scholarship forms. He spent time on work experience with Basingstoke last season. Stroud made his Town debut last season at Huddersfield Town in September and is a player with great pace and balance. Stroud is one to watch from a crop of exciting youngsters in the Town ranks and has been handed a six-month professional deal in which to impress. He has yet to play this season.

## **Ashan Holgate – midfield/forward**

A tall, gangly figure who can operate as a striker or in midfield, he scored on his senior debut against Millwall in pre-season 2004, after coming on as a substitute. He made his competitive first team debut last term, coming on as a late substitute in the FA Cup draw with Boston United at the County Ground. He is on loan at Newport County after missing a penalty in the unsuccessful League Cup shoot-out against Brentford.

## **Christian Roberts – forward**

Cardiff-born striker who joined Town in 2004 in a £50,000 switch from local rivals Bristol City. He is an aggressive runner and adds much needed pace to the Swindon frontline. He was formerly with Exeter City where he scored 18 goals in 67 League starts for the Grecians from 2000 to 2002. With six goals in 22 starts for the Robins so far, Roberts' appointment as vice-captain seems to have invigorated the front man. He has scored twice this season.

## **Fola Onibuje – forward**

Dennis Wise handed the 198cm tall front man Fola a three-month contract in July 2006, and the former GB sprinter will be

out to impress. Having had previous spells with Preston North End, Barnsley, Huddersfield Town and Peterborough United, this is a big chance for the striker. Lagos-born Onibuje spent last season with Cambridge United – scoring nine goals in 25 appearances. His one goal this season was in the 1-1 draw at Notts County.

## **Alex Rhodes – midfield/forward**

The versatile player joined Brentford from Newmarket in November 2003. He scored five goals in 15 league starts for the Bees. He joined Swindon on loan this month and made his first appearance coming on as a substitute in the League Two encounter with Grimsby Town last Saturday.

## **Aaron Brown – midfield**

Aaron Brown is now fully focussed on his Town career after a difficult start to 2006-07. Brown requested a transfer in the summer following the club's relegation to League Two, but after interest from Brentford and an unsuccessful trial at Doncaster Rovers, he found himself back at the County Ground and he has now forced his way into the first team plans. The left-sided midfielder began his career at Bristol City, where he progressed through the ranks to make 135 starts. After six years at Ashton Gate, he made a move to QPR in July 2004 but after just one start for the Ps an initial loan spell at Swindon followed, before he made the move permanent in January 2006. His one goal this season was in the 2-0 win over Stockport.

## **Lucas Jutkiewicz – forward**

A boy in a man's frame is how manager Dennis Wise described the powerful striker, and few would disagree. Southampton-born, Jutkiewicz spent time with the Saints before joining Swindon's Centre of Excellence and won the Golden Boot Award in the Milk Cup in 2004. He then made his senior debut off the bench at Swansea City towards the end of 2005-06 and scored three goals in Town's pre-season campaign this year. He has made one start (on Tuesday in the JP Trophy against Wycombe) and five appearances from the bench this season.

## **Andy Caton – forward**

A powerful striker, Andy joined Swindon Town as a first year scholar in June 2004 after spending some time with GLS Hellenic Premier Division side North Leigh where he was a prolific scorer. He has made three starts this season and three appearances from the bench but has been out since with injury problems.



# meadow maestros

## CHRIS FREESTONE

Striker Chris Freestone was an experienced member of Kevin Ratcliffe's squad at Shrewsbury. Initially with Arnold, he joined Middlesbrough in December 1994 and featured in that season's First Division title triumph. He was loaned to Carlisle in March 1997 and helped win the Auto Windscreens Shield, joining Northampton in December 1997. A Second Division play-off finalist in 1997-98, he joined Hartlepool in March 1999 and moved to Salop in July 2000. He made 27 League appearances prior to joining Rugby United in November 2001, then played for Forest Green, Dundalk, King's Lynn, Leek and Ilkeston.

## GRAHAM FRENCH

England Youth winger Graham French helped Shrewsbury take top-flight Sheffield Wednesday to an FA Cup replay in 1962-63. Signing professional at Gay Meadow in November 1962, he was Town's youngest ever League player 16 years 177 days on debut versus Reading featured in Salop's 1961-62 FA Cup run and scored once in 27 League games before moving to Swindon Town in August 1963. Had spells at Watford and Wellington prior to joining Luton in October 1965 and starred in their 1967-8 and 1969-70 promotions, with Reading, and Southport appearing under the name Graham Lafite, he now lives in Wolverhampton.

## BENNY GALL

Danish Under 21 and Youth International goalkeeper who was signed by Fred Davies from Dutch side Dordrecht in August 1996. Competed with Paul Edwards for the place between the sticks, for two seasons, making 34 league and 6 Cup appearances, before returning to Denmark with Esbjerg. Had



Mike Gibson

started his career with Fremad Amager, before moving to KB and Bronshøj, he had a loan spell at De Graafschap. Has been with F.C. Copenhagen for 5 seasons, as cover goalkeeper, just 8 appearances, also acts as manager to their Division 2 East side KB. On the bench in this season's Champions League at Celtic and Manchester U.

## EDDIE GARBETT

Dawley born Eddie joined Salop as an apprentice, signing professional in July 1967. Came on as a sub in the Tow Law replay, and appeared at Highbury in Round Three. He had a thunderbolt shot and scored his first goal against Scunthorpe at the Meadow. After a dozen League games for Town moved to Barrow in July 1969 staying until they left the League. Went to Stockport in July 1972, and was part of their League

Cup run that season beating West Ham, and the next year's win over Palace. After 201 League games joined Telford, lives in Ketley, worked at Sankeys before becoming director of milk delivery company.

## BRIAN GAYLE

Experienced central defender Brian Gayle missed just three matches for Shrewsbury during the 1998-99 campaign. Initially with Leatherhead and Tooting & Mitcham, he joined Wimbledon in October 1984 and featured in their 1985-86 promotion campaign and 1987-88 FA Cup run. He joined Manchester City in July 1988 and was a promotion winner in 1988-89, then played for Ipswich Town before moving to Sheffield United in September 1991. He had spells with Exeter, Rotherham and Bristol Rovers prior to joining Salop in December 1997 and scored once in 66 League games, later reuniting with Jake King at Telford United.

## JOHN GAYLE

Powerful striker John Gayle was an early Kevin Ratcliffe signing for Shrewsbury. He played for various non-League clubs in the Midlands before moving from Burton Albion to Wimbledon with Steve Cotterill in March 1989. Gaining top-flight experience, he joined Birmingham in November 1990 and helped win the Leyland/DAF Cup in 1990-91 and promotion in 1991-92. He had spells with Coventry, Burnley and Stoke before winning promotion with both Northampton and Scunthorpe. Moving to Salop in November 1999, he scored twice in 19 League games before joining Torquay in December 2000, then played for Moor Green.

## DAVID GEDDIS



Tony Gregory

Ex-England B international striker David Geddis helped Shrewsbury avoid relegation in 1987-88. Signing professional for Ipswich Town in August 1975, he starred in their 1978 FA Cup final success and joined Aston Villa for £300,000 in September 1979. He featured in their 1980-81 League Championship campaign and moved via Burnley to Birmingham City in December 1984. Helping them win promotion that season, he joined Salop in February 1987 and netted ten goals in 39 League games before joining Swindon Town in October 1988, then Darlington. He coached at Middlesbrough and is now Leeds United's reserve team boss.

## MIKE GIBSON

Signed from Nuneaton in March 1960, Mike was a dangerously brave goalkeeper who competed with the ill fated



# meadow maestros

Paul Miller for the first team spot. An England Youth international, he made 76 appearances for Town before being sold to Bristol City in April 1963. Married a Shrewsbury girl, they settled in Bristol where Mike has for many years been a scout for the club and part of City's Academy set up. He made 332 starts for City, earning promotion in 1965, and League Cup Semi Final in 1971 before going to Gillingham in July 1972. He spent two seasons there, before he returned to Bristol and became a postman.

## TED GORIN

Centre-forward Ted Gorin played for Shrewsbury during the 1950-51 Football League debut campaign. Initially with Grange Albion, he joined Cardiff City in October 1948 but failed to secure a regular first-team slot and moved to Scunthorpe United in July 1950. He scored their first-ever goal in the Football League and was leading marksman in 1950-51 despite joining fellow new-boys Salop in January 1951. Netting three times in 18 League outings while at Gay Meadow before moving to Lovell's Athletic, he still lives in Cardiff where he was a lathe operator, then a publican for 26 years and latterly a security officer.

## PAUL GORMAN

Dublin born Paul started his career as an apprentice at Highbury as a teenager. He won an Irish under 21 cap before being transferred to Birmingham City in June 1984. He moved to Carlisle the following March and made 148 appearances for the Cumbrian side. Originally a midfield player he proved his versatility by playing left back, particularly during his spell with Salop which began in November 1989. Returned to Carlisle in December 1991, going on to Gretna the following year. Lives opposite Brunton Park and played



Dave Geddis

some Sunday football, recently came out of retirement for a pub charity match. Works for his father in law.

## JOHN GRANT

Was a trainee at Crewe Alexandra before signing professional in 1999, made 6 League appearances. Before linking up with Jimmy Quinn at Northwich Victoria in 2001. Graham Turner took him to Hereford United in July 2002 and he joined Telford United in the Shaw spending spree of 2003. He played 40 games scoring 8 before Jimmy Quinn brought him to the Meadow in August 2004, playing 19 games, 2 goals. A hardworking striker just short of league class, he went on to Halifax and had his most prolific spell netting 14 in 54 games. Scored in the play off final against Hereford, but linked up with Aldershot for this season.

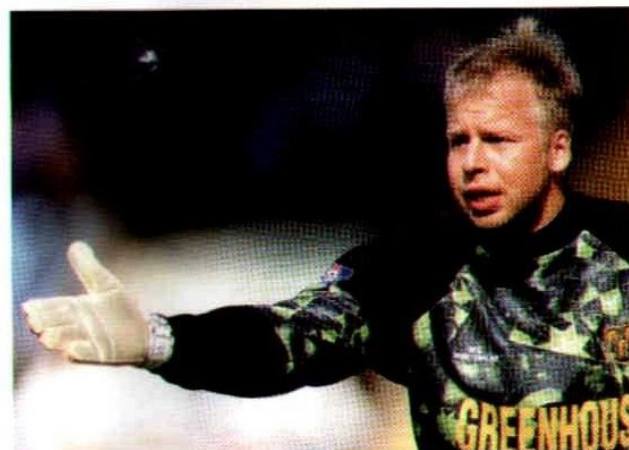


## RICHARD GREEN

A Youth Trainee at Shrewsbury in the same youth team as Mickey Brown, they made a colourful attack. Although Richard started as a striker the majority of his Football League career was as a defender. He had signed professional forms for Town in July 1986, his debut at home to Barnsley saw the lowest crowd of the season 2435, in September. Was a regular member of the side who reached the Quarter Finals of the League Cup in 1987. Left for Swindon in 1990, joined Gillingham in March 1992 played over 200 games for the Kent side. Moving to Walsall, Rochdale and Northampton before retiring to the West Midlands.

## RON GREEN

Big goalkeeper Ron Green had two spells at Shrewsbury. Initially with Alvechurch, he joined Walsall in June 1977 and starred in their 1979-80 promotion success and 1983-84 Milk Cup run. He moved to Salop in June 1984 and joined Bristol Rovers in March 1985, then played for Scunthorpe and Wimbledon before returning to Shrewsbury on loan in September 1988, making 36 League appearances overall. Rejoining Walsall in March 1989, he later played for Alvechurch again, Kidderminster Harriers, Colchester United, Bromsgrove, Redditch, Moor Green and Oldbury before becoming Coventry City's community officer.



Benny Gall

## TONY GREGORY

Another local lad born in Dawley, Tony was an apprentice before signing professional forms in March 1965. He made his debut in the final game of that season against Bournemouth, his first and Arthur Rowley's last League game. Was a regular member of the first team for the next 11 seasons, and is ninth in the all time starts list and tenth in the appearances playing the most outfield games without scoring. Mainly a full back, he deputised for the injured Alan Boswell at Swindon in October 1966. He lives in Bridgnorth, worked for the Ministry of Agriculture for many years, now a personnel officer with the Defence Ministry.



# gay meadow classics

**Town 2 Northampton Town 1**  
**Saturday 23rd April 1993**  
**League Division Three**

**Old boy delivers 'stab to the heart'**  
**By Neil Sambrook**

Amid the joyous scenes of celebration at Gay Meadow on Saturday heralding Shrewsbury Town's promotion to Division Two, it was impossible to do anything but acclaim their achievement.

Yet when the initial euphoria began to quieten and time came to reflect on last Saturday's 2-1 victory over Northampton, it became difficult not to find a degree of sympathy for John Barnwell's team, who made a big contribution to a fine football match - one far better than anyone had a right to expect considering what was at stake.

Beaten by a superbly executed goal by one of his former



protégés, Barnwell called Wayne Clarke's 80th minute winner a "stab in the heart". Indeed, they were cut down by a superb piece of swordsmanship from Clarke.

By not adopting a sweeper and the stifling tactics that most visitors to Gay Meadow this season have utilised, Northampton lived by the sword - but ten minutes from time they perished by it as well.

Standing one off the bottom, so enterprising was their approach play, particularly in the 20 minutes before half-time, that had they been one place behind Shrewsbury few would have been any the wiser. Northampton displayed more originality and flair than Chesterfield, Preston, Scunthorpe and Mansfield put together and look in the falsest of positions.

Northampton may not have felt much sorrow for Shrewsbury on the closing day of last season when their 3-2 success at Gay

Meadow prevented Town from reaching the play-offs, but in truth Shrewsbury did not deserve anything from that game. While they just about deserved to win last Saturday, Northampton could count themselves slightly unfortunate not to depart with a point.

Much fairer would have been a Shrewsbury victory over ultra-negative Chesterfield a fortnight ago and a draw last Saturday. So much for fortune favouring the brave.

After a nervous opening quarter-hour, Shrewsbury went ahead with their first significant attack. Ray Woods drilling a low shot beneath Barry Richardson after the Northampton defence had failed to clear a Mike Brown centre.



At this point Northampton had already distinguished themselves from the third division's rank and file, as aside from Crewe's Mark Smith and Alan Judge of Hereford - who even tossed the ball to the referee at half-time - visiting goalkeepers to Gay Meadow always elect to kick downfield. So when Richardson bowled the ball out during the early stages, this observer for one nearly fell off his seat.

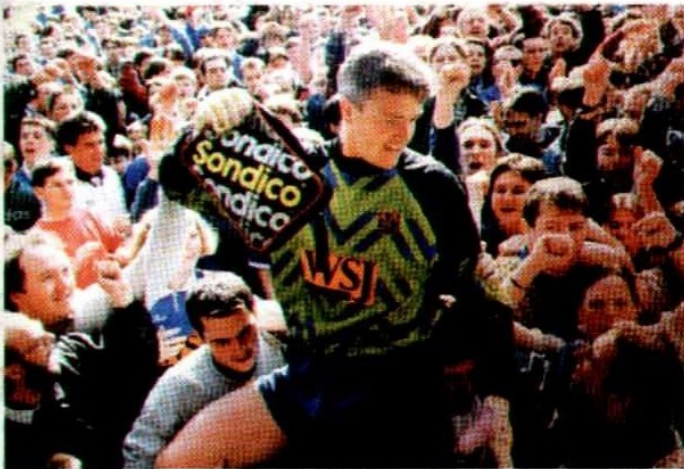
Despite taking a 16th minute lead, Shrewsbury never appeared happy with their progress and were pegged back ten minutes later when Kevin Wilkin steered a left-wing cross past Paul Edwards at the Station End. Busy and inventive Northampton had the better of exchanges leading up to half-time and it has been a long time since Shrewsbury's midfield have been forced so deep in a home match.

They were, however, able to generate enough momentum to mount a lengthy spell of second half pressure, during which Dean Spink became the principal difference between the sides. In their captain, Shrewsbury had a focal point on which to mount attacks, while Northampton cleared the ball upfield only for it to return into their territory without much delay.



Even so it still seemed likely they would escape with a draw, and for the novelty value of a team coming to Gay Meadow with ambitions higher than a goalless draw they were deserving of some reward. But that was taken from them when Dave Hockaday advanced into the penalty area and delivered a low cross which Clarke, who played under Barnwell at Wolves, turned exquisitely into the net, beating Richardson at the near post.

Thus victory was assured and Shrewsbury Town, by far and away the best team in Division Three, had clinched promotion. On this evidence, Northampton are due a bit of luck and few at Gay Meadow would begrudge them a large slice on Saturday - when they receive second-placed Chester, the only team with a realistic chance of preventing Town from becoming champions.



**Shrewsbury:** Edwards, Hockaday, Lynch, Taylor (sub Summerfield 73), Walton, Williams, Brown, Clarke, Spink, Patterson, Woods (sub Rutherford 88).

**Substitute** (not used); Clarke (goalkeeper).

**Referee:** J. W. Lloyd (Wrexham).

**Attendance:** 6,512.

## MATCH REACTION

### Two wins for the title By Neil Sambrook

Shrewsbury Town enter the last week of the football season knowing two victories from their final three matches will make them third division champions.

One win might be enough. If Town win at Scunthorpe on Saturday and second-placed Chester, who have only two games left, lose at Northampton, the title will be Gay Meadow-bound.

Such a turn of events would see the third division championship clinched at Scunthorpe for the second year in succession - because it was at Glandford Park on the final day of last term that Cardiff were crowned champions following their 2-1 victory.

Victories for both Shrewsbury and Chester on Saturday would make Town's visit to Carlisle on Tuesday evening the title decider - and if the championship is secured by Tuesday evening, celebrations should be in full swing by

the time Wigan Athletic arrive at Gay Meadow on Saturday week.

There was no shortage of celebration last Saturday as Shrewsbury managed a 2-1 home win over Northampton to clinch promotion - and this week has been a time to take stock on what Shrewsbury have achieved so far this season.

"The lads have had a couple of days off this week to take in what's happened," said manager Fred Davies yesterday. "After the way results went last Tuesday when it became clear that a win against Northampton would mean promotion, I think one or two of the players got a bit over-excited and consequently there was a bit of tension in our play last Saturday."

He continued: "We've had a bit of a break this week and went for a game of golf on Tuesday when we had a great time, but on Thursday we'll be back working hard because there's still a bit to do with two tough away games coming up".

Shrewsbury are likely to be unchanged from the side that overcame Northampton when they take the field at Glandford Park - and although they have never lost at that venue, recording 1-1 draws there last term and earlier this season in the Coca Cola Cup, Shrewsbury have yet to win on Scunthorpe soil in seven attempts.

Shrewsbury suffered three defeats and two goalless draws at Scunthorpe's previous home, the Old Showground, where they never scored a goal - all of which makes Saturday's visit the most significant Town have made to Scunthorpe since their first-ever Football League match, which took place at the Old Showground on August 19, 1950.

Although Scunthorpe aim to block Shrewsbury's path to the third division title on Saturday, without them Shrewsbury Town might not have joined the Football League as early as they did. It was Scunthorpe who initiated the move to extend Division Three North and South by two clubs in 1950 and as a consequence both clubs were elected to the third division north on June 6, 1950.

Reflecting on more recent history, Davies commented: "If somebody would have come on the coach after the Preston game in August and offered us promotion with three games to go, I think we'd have taken it. And to have it, and now have a chance of winning the title, shows just how much the players have achieved.

"The nice thing about these lads is they stick at things and never give up. There's a great spirit in the dressing room and it would be great to have everything rapped up by the time Wigan come here on May 7.

"The scenes last Saturday were tremendous and I'm sure if the title is won by then it will make for a real party. But nobody is going to hand the championship to us - so up to us to make sure we keep things going."

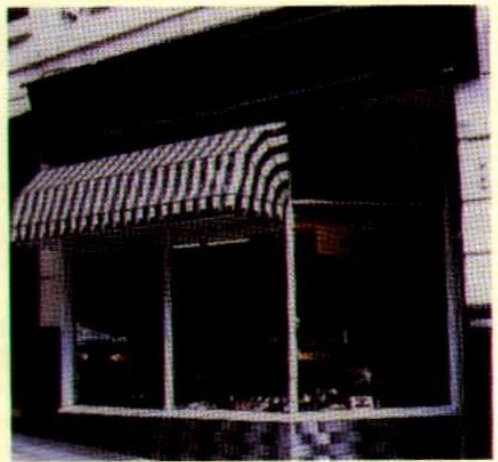
During this memorable season, Shrewsbury have become most adept at doing just that.



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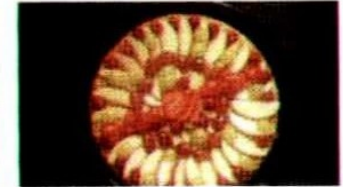
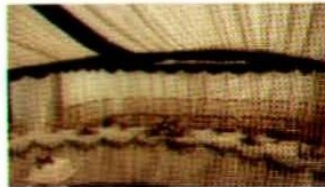
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I don't make all of the Town away games for reasons, which I will not divulge (in an effort to seem more enigmatic). Owing to a lack of Sky wanting to cover any of Town's away games and me not wanting to give Sky any more of my money, I find myself in the wonderful position of being able to listen to the Peterborough match on the radio at my own birthday party. I have a noisy family and with "but it is my birthday" not being extenuating circumstances, I ended up sitting in my car with Stuart Dunn. I wouldn't have it any other way either, I have always preferred football on the radio to its televisual counterpart. It's hardly surprising when I look at my earliest sporting memories.

I was nine years old when Shrewsbury played Wolves in the quarter finals of the F.A. cup against Wolverhampton Wanderers. Graham Turner's blue and amber heroes had gone on a memorable cup run and taken Manchester City's scalp and forced Wolves into to a replay. The Manchester City game was a turning point for me. I was at my brother's birthday party having a rare old time with jelly and cake and the like. My mum came into the hall where the party was being held and told me that there was great news. Shrewsbury Town had beaten Manchester City. I remember thinking that this was indeed great news, Shrewsbury had a football team!



Manchester City keeper Joe Corrigan and defender Paul Futcher are helpless as Paul Maguire slots home Town's first goal at the second attempt

A few weeks later, at school, I was told by a much more connected and older boy that Shrewsbury had drawn in the next round against Wolverhampton wanderers and would be playing a replay soon. He knew this because he had listened to it on the radio. This was another revelation to me, not only did Shrewsbury have a football team but they also put football on the radio! So I started to plan a way to hear this match. The actual mechanics of the plan were quite easy, I had been given a small red transistor radio for my birthday. The main problem with the plan was that in enquiring about the game, I had inadvertently let my mum know that I planned to listen in. My mum was a bit of a stickler for sleep and bedtime for children and on the night of the game she was on patrol until I convinced her I was asleep. Once convinced all was safe and I switched on to hear that the Town were not doing so well and that there were not many minutes left to play.

The commentator that night was the legendary Peter Jones. Mr. Jones was the BBC's main commentator at that time and

although the Town were going out of the cup, he was skilled enough to make me remember the game. I don't remember much of the commentary, but I do remember that Mr. Jones had a sorrowful intonation in his voice and this sorrow transferred itself to me. I ended up crying that we had lost but didn't think any more about the football until I had my radio on again and heard the same voice. I couldn't help listening, and from then I was hooked on football on the radio. It didn't matter what game was on so long as Mr. Jones was commentating and I would lose interest if it were not he.

There was nobody like him and has not been since, his ability to paint pictures in the minds of his listeners, made you feel that you were almost there will not be replicated by today's five live commentators. The likes of Alan Green with his whining about the standards of modern footballers couldn't hold a candle to

Peter Jones. Jonathon Pearce and his forced excitement seems more at home with robot wars than along side such a broadcasting legend and would not be fit to lace his broadcasting boots.

Commentators these days don't seem to possess anywhere near the quality and enthusiasm that Peter Jones exhibited in his career. Maybe these are more cynical times that we live in but radio commentators seem more interested in

homing in on the controversial rather than the beautiful. This is possibly as a result of the tabloid culture that exists today or maybe they like the sound of their own voices being repeated every half hour in sport bulletins as they drive home. It would be unfair to paint all commentators with the same brush and the aforementioned Mr. Dunn is more enjoyable than most as his enthusiasm always shows through.

Unfortunately, Peter Jones collapsed whilst commentating on the boat race in 1990 and died in hospital the following day but the good he has done for football remains to this day. If he had not commentated with such feeling and drama, I would not be here today enjoying the football and I suspect that this is the case for many other football fans. There is much written about the almost musical quality to his voice, but for me it was the fact that his excitement was genuine that involved me in listening to football for a full year before I had even seen a live game.

Marcus Braddock



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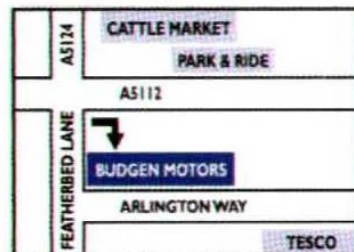
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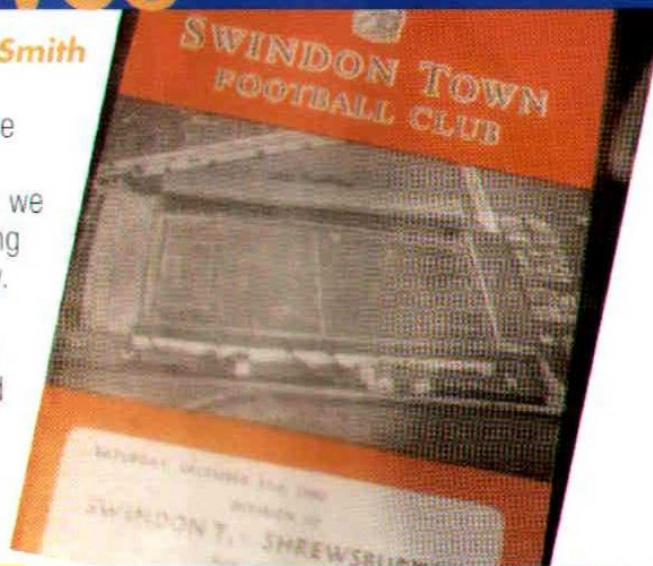


# in the archives

## Programmes from the Past with Chris Smith

Today we feature the front cover of the programme from the game played at the County Ground in December 1960. This was one of four occasions we played at Swindon during that season, also meeting them in the FA Cup and League Cup plus a replay.

The rarest of the programmes from games played during that campaign was the League Cup second round replay, a special four page issue which is very hard to come by and if you have got one, contact Chris Smith on 01952 604742.



### ALTERNATIVE AtoZ

Chris Smith takes a look at the places he's travelled to over the years.

Northampton Town

Cobblers. Of course that is Northampton Town's nickname. My first visit to the County Ground was on the 16th September 1989, Town lost 2 - 1 in front of only 3,131 fans. I have got vivid memories of getting soaking wet at this stadium and this may have been the day when that happened.

Memories of visits to Northampton do not come flooding back, as most of you fans will recall the Cobblers moved to the Sixfields Stadium some years ago and my first trip was during Ian Atkins's managerial reign and on a day when Town were not playing

I organised another of those trips just to enable me and other fans of a similar mind to visit the stadium. Naturally Town were not playing in the same league then, it was quite a good day out, we all had a meal in the restaurant before the game and Ian Atkins was kind enough to take us on a brief tour of the stadium before resuming his managerial duties.

I have of course visited the stadium on a couple of occasions since with the Town, it is not a happy hunting ground and with the Cobblers being promoted last year who knows when we will play them again.

### MET PREVIOUSLY

The today's visitors Swindon Town meet us in Football League action for the first time in seventeen years. Our last encounters were back in the old second division in 88/89 season ended in a single goal victories for our visitors, home and away.

Of the forty-two League encounters thus far played, Town have won just eleven to Swindon's nineteen, with twelve games ending all-square. Twice in those eleven victories we managed to score seven goals, the first time in 54/55 season when Weigh (4), O'Donnell (2) and McCue were our marksmen in the 7-0 rout on the final day of the season here at the Meadow. Two seasons later in 56/57 we again hit seven, Weigh, Russell (2), Whitaker (2), Price and an own goal securing a seven goals to three victory.

Town have scored fifty-eight times to Swindon's sixty-three. Only twice have meetings between the two in the League produced no goals, 65/66 at the County Ground and 78/79 at the Meadow. The best attendance for a match between the two was 20,471 who witnessed Swindon's single goal home win in 62/63.

Chris Smith

### ON THIS DAY

Our last outing on this date resulted in a 2-5 home reversal at the hands of Bristol Rovers back in 2002, something of a worrying trend since we have conceded a nap-hand on three previous occasions too, again versus Bristol Rovers (1-5) in 1972, by the same scoreline away to Coventry City reserves in 1905 and at Gillingham (0-5) in 1964, the match that represents our worst result ever on this date.

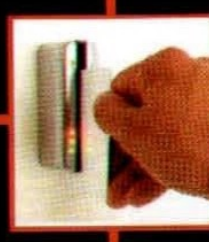
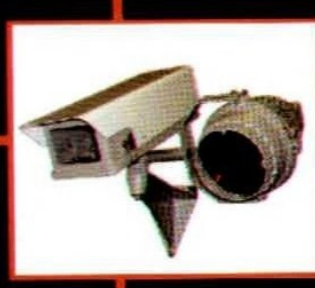
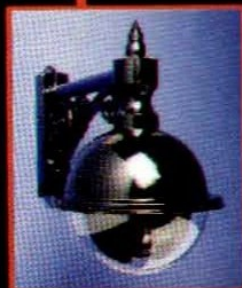
Of our eight wins on the 21st October one of two scorelines dominates, one goal to nil victories on four occasions, three goals to two on three, the sole game to buck this trend being the 2-1 away win at Worcester in 1933. We have only twice in twenty-two previous games on this date failed to score, the 1964 game at Gillingham mentioned previously, and the 0-1 defeat at Chesterfield in 1995. Thus far we have scored twenty-nine times to our opponents forty-seven.

Kevin Casper



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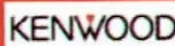
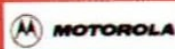
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## Pea Rattlers

Love them or loathe them the simple truth is without the men and women that officiate the beautiful game it would cease to exist as we know it. Always to blame when it goes wrong, rarely praised when it goes well they are without doubt the pivotal piece of the footballing jigsaw.

But the treatment they receive week in week out from the thousands of players, managers and lets not forget you Refs on the terraces makes you wonder why anyone would do it.

Now I love Association football and especially Shrewsbury Town, but try as I might I was never going to pull on the beloved blue and amber. To be honest I could just about make the first team of the Dog and Duck by the time my late 20s had arrived, realising the old bloke with the flat cap on was looking at me in amusement and not because he was a Town scout itching to collect my signature I decided to look to the future.

I was offered by pure chance a slot on an Army Referees course, it being free and involving time off work I jumped at the chance (not very high though its me knees you know), I knew all there was to know about football didn't I (ring any bells) this was going to be easy. The course was interesting and not surprisingly I learnt a great deal about laws and their interpretation, in short I doubled my knowledge of a game I had followed every week for years within days. I qualified as a Class 3 Referee and was sent out into the big bad world issued with my first whistle, ready to take on the forces of evil and defend the righteous.

Then of course life changes, from being one of the lads you are now firmly on the dark side. You begin to notice things about people, managers would be your best mate prior to the game asking how you were and "how's the family". Then after it one of them would normally be threatening to murder you and your kin

for failing to give Fat Bob that obvious penalty at the death, or for missing the mass karate attack on their keeper prior to the winning goal.

It quickly became apparent that players so innocent when viewed from the touchline would suddenly turn out to bend the rules to gain unfair advantage, in short they cheat. All of course vehemently claim innocence for any offence, you notice the clever ones, the nasty ones and the quiet ones. It dawns on you that these people who call themselves sportsmen will do anything to gain any advantage, from a throw in or free kick to the exalted penalty. Guilty parties are all too quick to blame and condemn the officials to the media whilst never admitting their own failings, pundits



Kids are the future

such as a certain balding Scottish Sky Sports commentator excel in picking fault by minute fault in an officials performance.

As I refed more I began to get better games, the likes of Guy Whittingham, Maik Taylor and Norman Whiteside amongst others have heard the sound of my particular pea in their dark and distant past. I have even made Alan Ball in his Portsmouth days try to scream, my personal highlight I suppose is officiating in the middle between two sides representing their countries in a run down eastern European National Stadium with more guns inside than supporters.

There is without doubt in the English game a rather concerning lack of respect for officials from the top to the bottom of the game. Recently whilst pea blowing in the local under 15s a young lad volunteered

to take an early bath after telling me to do something nasty with my mother, his father of course later offered to help me move house by threatening to set light to my present one.

Pub/local league football is even worse sadly physical violence to opposition players and officials is common place, with swearing and threatening behaviour universally accepted. Players and managers demand respect but so often fail to give any or understand its value.

So just why do people referee, well it isn't because they like upsetting the oh so old sages on the Wakeman End or giving the Riversiders a chance to utter little words they are not allowed to use in front of their

parents. They do it as we all do to try and put something back in the game. Its not for reward or personal gain, it takes a special kind of person to deal with the complexities involved and yet still perform. To shoulder the burden because managers and football commentators never will, and yet still turn out next week and be both professional and impartial.

Referees in most cases see more and certainly understand more than any fan on the terraces, they

take abuse from warm up to warm down. Yes they may make mistakes who doesn't but they remain impartial and are genuinely trying to maintain fair play, and look after the safety of the players whilst also ensuring all abide by the rules.

Finally, the game would benefit immensely and the officials job I assure you would be a great deal easier if players, managers and us the fans would learn a little about words such as "sportsmanship" and "respect". And to the fans that constantly berate I'll quote a saying from a friend "so many are moaners, so few are doers".

Then again will I be baying for blood this watching Town on Saturday... you can bet on it. Oi Ref !

Stuart Parton





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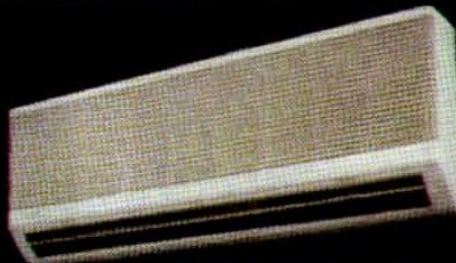
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## First Team

### West Midlands Premier Division Shrewsbury Town 3 AFC Telford 0

Shrewsbury Town Women won the Shropshire derby with a convincing 3 – 0 victory at SCAT. Despite having a large percentage of possession and creating several chances it took the home side 38 minutes to find the net, when Kerry Walker got on the end of a Kerrie Taylor pass and scored with a well taken shot from the edge of the penalty area. Town had a chance to double their lead 4 minutes later when Walker was brought down in the box, she took the penalty herself, but was denied a second goal by a fine save from the Telford keeper.

Half-time 1 – 0



The second half was just 8 minutes old when Town were awarded a free kick on the left edge of the Telford box, up stepped Taylor to hit a superb curling effort which beat the stranded Telford keeper, to go in off the far post.



With 2 minutes remaining Town deservedly added a 3rd when Emily Whitfield scored direct from a corner. Another good solid display, with the defence never really in any danger and the midfield creating lots of chances for the strikers.

Full-time 3 - 0

**Team** B Fryer, R Humphries, S Millerchip, P Brown, E Whitfield, G Goulding, S Kimm (cap), K Taylor, K Walker, A Cottam, J Jones.

**Subs** S Skelton for J Jones, A Robinson for G Goulding

**Scorers** : K Walker, K Taylor, E Whitfield



## STWFC Lucky Seven News

Last season we ran a weekly club fund raising game called 'Lucky Seven' to help cover some of the costs of running a club like STWFC.

The game comprises of seven fixtures and all you need to do is predict the result of each fixture: home win, draw or away win. Each sheet has facility for twenty entries, if you could fill a sheet that would be great, but all we ask is that each player sells a minimum of £2.00 each week. Every week we will pay out a minimum £50.00 cash prize to the entries with the highest correct predictions. In the event of more than one winner the prize fund would be equally shared and all winners would be published on our STWFC web site. All entries and monies must be back to me by Sat 12 noon on the date of the entry.

Gary Tomei – U16s Coach

## Are you interested in playing for STWFC?

To find out about training details & opportunities, please get in touch with the contact for your age group by visiting our web-site or phone Chairman Alan Brown 01743 240305.

## Record Visits in September!

During September, we again broke our record with 2,243 visits to our web-site. A big thank you to all the contributors to the web-site, and any feedback or ideas are very welcome.

Just a reminder that on-line purchases made via the links on the [www.buy.at/STWFC](http://www.buy.at/STWFC) web-site earns money for STWFC, and you pay exactly the same price as on the retailers main site. If you would like to receive regular e-mail updates on the current offers from the [buy.at/](http://www.buy.at/) web-site, please contact us: [info@stwfc.co.uk](mailto:info@stwfc.co.uk)

**www.stwfc.co.uk**

## Next home game

West Midland Regional League – Premier Division  
Sunday 29th October 2006  
v Coleshill  
SCAT at 2pm

Gary Bright



# league two roundup

There's been a few sides who have received beatings at home in League 2 this season, indeed we've handed out a couple of them.

Another of them came last Saturday at Underhill, as Barnet's leaky defence let in five more in a 5-0 home defeat to Lincoln City, who have now won 6 out of 7 of their away games. Just leaving the action at Underhill aside for a minute, out of the 120 won games in League 2 so far this season, 50 of them have been away wins which is a far higher percentage than usual. Back to Barnet and perhaps the only surprises of the day were that over 2,000 turned up and Mark Stallard didn't score. The goals instead coming from Beever, Mettam and a hat-trick for the division's joint leading scorer Jamie Forrester.

Boston's struggling season limps along and they remained in 23rd place after picking up only a point in their home game with Mansfield Town, who are one of only three teams yet to record an away victory this year. N'Guessan had given Steve Evans' merry men the lead in the first half before Ritchie Barker equalised in the last quarter of the match from the penalty spot.

A share of the spoils up at Hartlepool's Victoria Park as they drew 1-1 with visiting Stockport County. The goals both came in five minute period just before half time with Adam Griffin giving County the lead with Robson equalising for the hosts.

Hereford picked up their first home draw of the campaign with a 1-1 draw against visitors Darlington, for whom Alun Armstrong gave the lead in the 37th minute. The equaliser came with just under 20 minutes to go, as Mkandawire, who we have been linked with in the past, tied things up.

It's tough at the bottom as we witnessed a couple of weeks back with our injury time winner against Macclesfield Town. Last Saturday, despite taking the lead and scoring twice, Macc couldn't even take a point from their match with near neighbours Bury. Scott gave them the lead before two goals from Baker and yet another from Glynn Hurst gave Bury the points, with Weir-Daley getting Macc's second goal.

Bristol Rovers won away from home for the first time this season, simultaneously ending Notts County's unbeaten home record. Richard Walker who has found his scoring boots again after a disappointing start to the season, gave Bristol the lead and whilst Notts County did equalise via Mendes, parity lasted less than a minute before Haldane restored the one goal lead, and that was how it ended, with Notts County slipping a place to 6th.

At Peterborough, we missed an opportunity to climb into the top seven™ and leapfrog our opponents as we went down 2-1 at London Road against Peterborough. Goals from Trevor Benjamin and Daryl Crow meant that a late penalty from Ben Davies was only consolation, in a pretty poor match.

Speaking of poor matches, Rochdale continue to struggle at home with just one win at home so far, and they put on a dour display during their 0-0 against Chester, who continue to find goals difficult to come by, indeed they are the division's joint lowest scorers along with Macclesfield, averaging less than a goal a game.

Today's visitors Swindon Town got back to winning ways and returned to the top three after a 3-0 home win over struggling Grimsby Town. The goals came through Pook, Monkhouse and a late

Peacock strike.

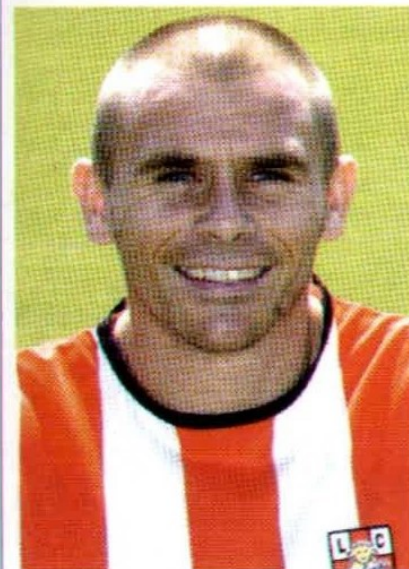
Torquay fell into the bottom half of the table after a disappointing 2-0 reverse against improving Accrington Stanley, who are now finding their feet in this division. The goals came from Michael Welch and Gary Roberts, however Roberts has now gone out on loan to Championship side Ipswich on a 3 month deal with a permanent deal likely to follow.

Walsall retain the only 100% home record in all four divisions, and their defence is still yet to be breached, as they beat Wycombe Wanderers with a goal in each half, courtesy of Hector Sam and Mark Kinsella. Wycombe drop to 4th swapping places with Swindon as a result.

Finally for this week, Wrexham's season continues to run into difficulties as they were beaten 2-1 at home by Milton Keynes Dons. They had taken the lead through Roberts but second half goals by McLeod and O'Hanlod sent them crashing into the bottom six. Just the way we like it.

See you all in two weeks time.

Gareth Hopkins



Jamie Forrester



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# town away

## TORQUAY - Saturday 14 October 2006 - kick-off 3pm - Coca Cola League 2

**Directions** - Get to the M5 so either use the M54, M6 and M5 or the sneaky cut through via Kidderminster and Worcester. Follow the M5 to the A38 and then A380 as far as Kingskerwell. Take the first exit at the roundabout and after a mile turn left following Babbacombe (A3022) signs. After one mile turn left into Westhill Road for Warbro Road.

**Pubs** - Torquay is good for a couple of drinks but if you go into the town centre or searfront the ground is a 30 minutes walk or a cab ride.

At the ground, the Boots & Laces is a great social club and is always packed and friendly. If you take the short walk down the hill, then there are several good pubs on the main road, and a couple with beer gardens if the sun is out. The Union on St Marychurch Road does a good pint of Courage Best and has a no-smoking room.

**Ground** - Plainmoor was wrecked by fire in 1985 and the ground had that temporary feel to it for a number of years, with offices and changing rooms being port cabins.

Redevelopment has happened over recent years and it's now a tidy little ground in the middle of sets of residential streets.

**Favorite recent memory** - Neville Southall getting sick from Town fans for 45 minutes. When he walked off a half-time, he smiled and then flicked a quick gesture to them. The Town fans reported him to the stewards. Also, the shot that hit the light at the back of the away end and knocked it off.

**Ticket prices** - Seating - Adults £15, OAP/Students £12, Child (under 16) £5  
Standing - Adults £14, OAP/Students £11, Child (under 16) £5  
Disabled - Wheelchair/ Ambulant £15

## MK DONS - Saturday 18 November 2006 - kick-off 3pm - Coca Cola League 2

**Directions** - From Shrewsbury take the A5 towards Telford then join the M54. Follow the m54 to the M6 and join it heading southbound. Leave the M6 and join the M1 southbound. Leave the M1 at junction 14 and follow the A509 towards Milton Keynes. At the first roundabout turn right onto Portway (A509) and then go straight over 8 roundabouts. At the ninth roundabout turn left and the ground is directly in front of you.

**Pubs** - Recent reports suggest that police have been directing away fans to a bar called 'Shout' which is above the bus station about 5 minutes from the ground. It doesn't seem to be the best choice although isn't that busy so if it's just a quick pint you're after it'll suffice. If you're there in Milton Keynes a bit earlier, then there is a Wetherspoon's just up Midsummer Boulevard (the road going up from the railway station towards the central shopping area). Further on up past here are a couple of more bars.

**Food** - There is a McDonalds and Burger King a couple of minutes walk away behind the North Stand. There are also burger vans around the ground.

**The Ground** - We've been to a rugby ground at Bristol, football grounds elsewhere, and now a hockey ground at Milton Keynes. We get an uncovered stand, which could be a bit bleak given that the game is being played in November. In Milton Keynes, apparently, umbrellas are also barred. Note that you will need to purchase a ticket before you go into the ground.

**Favourite recent memory** - I enjoyed both Wimbledon FC winning the 1988 FA Cup final and MK Dons suffering a second successive relegation, equally heartening.

**Tickets** - Early Bird Prices - Adults £15, OAP/Student £10, Junior (Under 16) £8  
On the Day - Adults £16, OAP/Student £11, Junior (Under 16) £9  
Disabled - Concession prices - Carers free for High/Medium disability

## Torquay Utd - Saturday 28th October 2006

Coaches depart

Wem 08:45 am, Crown, Abbey Foregate 09:15 am, Red Lion, Wellington 09:30 am

NB Weekend coach leaves Friday, 27th October

Wem 10:30 am, Crown, Abbey Foregate 11:00 am, Red Lion, Wellington 11:15 am

## Milton Keynes - Saturday 18th November 2006

Coaches depart

Wem 10:15 am, Crown, Abbey Foregate 10:45 am, Red Lion Wellington 11:00 am

To book your seat on the coaches to the above games please call at the travel window between 2:00 - 2:45 pm or immediately after the match.

Alternatively telephone Chris on 01952 604742 as soon as possible.


## Away travel with Chris Smith




# away kit sponsors

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# stats

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|    |                   | League |       | Cup   |       | Cards  |     |
|----|-------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-----|
|    |                   | Apps   | Goals | Apps  | Goals | Yellow | Red |
| 1  | Ryan Esson        | 6      | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 2  | Danny Hall        | 8 (1)  | 0     | 2     | 0     | 4      | 0   |
| 3  | Neil Ashton       | 13     | 0     | 1     | 0     | 5      | 0   |
| 4  | Stewart Drummond  | 10 (1) | 2     | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 5  | Richard Hope      | 12     | 0     | 1     | 0     | 1      | 0   |
| 6  | Neil Sorvel       | 13     | 1     | 1     | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 7  | Glynn Hurst       | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 8  | Kelvin Langmead   | 13     | 2     | 1 (1) | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 9  | Andy Cooke        | 5 (3)  | 4     | 0     | 0     | 2      | 0   |
| 10 | Derek Asamoah     | 11 (1) | 2     | 2     | 0     | 1      | 0   |
| 11 | Dale Williams     | 0 (2)  | 0     | 0 (1) | 0     | 1      | 0   |
| 12 | Ben Herd          | 11     | 1     | 2     | 0     | 1      | 0   |
| 14 | Ben Davies        | 12     | 5     | 1     | 0     | 2      | 0   |
| 15 | Gavin Cadwallader | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 16 | Gavin Cowan       | 0      | 0     | 1     | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 17 | Steve Hogg        | 0      | 0     | 2     | 0     | 1      | 0   |
| 18 | Steve Leslie      | 1 (2)  | 0     | 1 (1) | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 19 | David Edwards     | 8 (4)  | 2     | 2     | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 20 | Marco Adaggio     | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 21 | Chris McKenzie    | 7      | 0     | 1     | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 22 | Chris Humphrey    | 0 (3)  | 0     | 0     | 0 (1) | 1      | 0   |
| 24 | Michael Symes     | 3 (3)  | 3     | 2     | 2     | 0      | 0   |
| 25 | James Sharp       | 0      | 0     | 0 (1) | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 26 | Chris Neal        | 0      | 0     | 1     | 0     | 0      | 0   |
| 28 | Sagi Burton       | 10     | 0     | 1     | 0     | 2      | 0   |

## Key

■ Played ■ Home Match ■ Sub ■ Scorer ■ Yellow Card ■ Red Card

| Date |        | Opposition          | Time  | Comp.  | Result | A |
|------|--------|---------------------|-------|--------|--------|---|
| Sat  | Aug 5  | Mansfield Town      | 15:00 | League | 2-2    | 5 |
| Tue  | Aug 8  | Notts County        | 19:45 | League | 1-1    | 4 |
| Sat  | Aug 12 | Bury                | 15:00 | League | 2-1    | 2 |
| Sat  | Aug 19 | Boston United       | 15:00 | League | 5-0    |   |
| Tue  | Aug 23 | Birmingham City     | 19:45 | CC R   | 0-1    |   |
| Sat  | Aug 26 | Bristol Rovers      | 15:00 | League | 0-1    | 4 |
| Sun  | Sep 3  | Wrexham             | 12:00 | League | P-P    |   |
| Sat  | Sep 9  | Lincoln City        | 15:00 | League | 0-1    |   |
| Tue  | Sep 12 | Stockport County    | 19:45 | League | 3-0    |   |
| Sat  | Sep 16 | Hartlepool United   | 15:00 | League | 3-0    |   |
| Sat  | Sep 23 | Darlington          | 15:00 | League | 2-2    |   |
| Tue  | Sep 26 | Walsall             | 19:45 | League | 1-1    |   |
| Sat  | Sep 30 | Rochdale            | 15:00 | League | 1-1    |   |
| Fri  | Oct 6  | Macclesfield Town   | 19:45 | League | 2-1    |   |
| Sat  | Oct 14 | Peterborough United | 15:00 | League | 1-2    |   |
| Sat  | Oct 21 | Swindon Town        | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Oct 28 | Torquay United      | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Nov 4  | Wycombe Wanderers   | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Nov 18 | Milton Keynes Dons  | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Nov 25 | Chester City        | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Tue  | Dec 5  | Accrington Stanley  | 19:45 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Dec 9  | Grimsby Town        | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Dec 16 | Hereford United     | 12:00 | League |        |   |
| Fri  | Dec 22 | Barnet              | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Tue  | Dec 26 | Walsall             | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Dec 30 | Darlington          | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Mon  | Jan 1  | Stockport County    | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Jan 6  | Hartlepool United   | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Jan 13 | Lincoln City        | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Jan 20 | Rochdale            | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Jan 27 | Barnet              | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Feb 3  | Mansfield Town      | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Feb 10 | Bury                | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Feb 17 | Boston United       | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Tue  | Feb 20 | Notts County        | 19:45 | League |        |   |
| Sun  | Feb 25 | Wrexham             | 12:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Mar 3  | Bristol Rovers      | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Mar 10 | Macclesfield Town   | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Mar 17 | Peterborough United | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Mar 24 | Torquay United      | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Mar 31 | Swindon Town        | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Apr 7  | Wycombe Wanderers   | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Mon  | Apr 9  | Milton Keynes Dons  | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sun  | Apr 15 | Chester City        | 12:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | Apr 21 | Accrington Stanley  | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sun  | Apr 9  | Hereford United     | 15:00 | League |        |   |
| Sat  | May 5  | Grimsby Town        | 15:00 | League |        |   |

| Team | P              | W  | D | L | F | A  | W  | D | L | F | A  | GD | Pts |    |
|------|----------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|----|
| 1    | Walsall        | 14 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 0  | 2 | 4 | 1 | 8  | 7  | 19  | 31 |
| 2    | Lincoln City   | 14 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 10 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 17 | 6  | 13  | 29 |
| 3    | Swindon Town   | 14 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 4  | 3 | 3 | 1 | 9  | 6  | 10  | 28 |
| 4    | Wycombe        | 14 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 10 | 5  | 4 | 0 | 3 | 9  | 7  | 7   | 26 |
| 5    | MK Dons        | 14 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 9  | 4 | 1 | 2 | 13 | 11 | 4   | 26 |
| 6    | Notts County   | 14 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 8  | 6  | 3 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 8  | 4   | 24 |
| 7    | Peterborough   | 14 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 13 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5  | 5  | 1   | 24 |
| 8    | Shrewsbury     | 13 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 12 | 7  | 3 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 6  | 10  | 20 |
| 9    | Accrington     | 14 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 13 | 7  | 1 | 3 | 3 | 10 | 13 | 3   | 20 |
| 10   | Hartlepool     | 14 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 9  | 7  | 2 | 2 | 3 | 10 | 11 | 1   | 19 |
| 11   | Bristol Rovers | 14 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 7  | 5  | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5  | 12 | -5  | 18 |
| 12   | Rochdale       | 14 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3  | 6  | 3 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 4  | 4   | 17 |
| 13   | Chester City   | 14 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5  | 6  | 2 | 3 | 2 | 8  | 8  | -1  | 17 |
| 14   | Darlington     | 14 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 9  | 10 | -2  | 17 |
| 15   | Hereford       | 14 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 6  | 1 | 1 | 5 | 6  | 13 | -3  | 17 |
| 16   | Torquay United | 14 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5  | 7  | 2 | 3 | 2 | 9  | 10 | -3  | 17 |
| 17   | Mansfield Town | 14 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 14 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 4  | 12 | -5  | 15 |
| 18   | Stockport      | 14 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4  | 9  | -5  | 15 |
| 19   | Wrexham        | 12 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 9  | 6  | 1 | 1 | 3 | 5  | 15 | -7  | 15 |
| 20   | Grimsby Town   | 14 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 4  | 13 | -10 | 15 |
| 21   | Bury           | 13 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 9  | 10 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 7  | 9  | -3  | 14 |
| 22   | Barnet         | 14 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 16 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 9  | 12 | -7  | 12 |
| 23   | Boston Utd     | 14 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 8  | 8  | 0 | 2 | 5 | 8  | 17 | -9  | 12 |
| 24   | Macclesfield   | 14 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 9  | 14 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 4  | 15 | -16 | 4  |

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### Record

| Att  | Away fans | Pts | Pos |
|------|-----------|-----|-----|
| 5.0k | 842       | 1   | 11  |
| 4.3k | 421       | 2   | 14  |
| 2.3k | 603       | 5   | 12  |
|      |           |     |     |
| 4.4k | 311       | 8   | 10  |
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|           |            |        |          |          |             |           |          |            |              |             |              | Sub 1        | Sub 2        | Sub 3       | Sub 4 | Sub 5     |
|-----------|------------|--------|----------|----------|-------------|-----------|----------|------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------|-----------|
| Esson     | Hall       | Ashton | Hope (c) | Burton   | Herd (c)    | Davies    | DRUMMOND | Sorvel     | Langmead (c) | EDWARDS (c) | Aamosh (7)   | Williams (9) | Coates       | Symes (79)  | Sharp | Mackenzie |
| Esson     | Herd       | Ashton | Hope (c) | Burton   | Edwards     | DAVIES    | Drummond | Sorvel     | Langmead     | Aamosh      | Hall (74)    | Williams     | Symes        | Sharp       |       | Mackenzie |
| Esson     | Herd       | Ashton | Hope (c) | Burton   | Edwards     | DAVIES    | Hall (c) | Sorvel     | LANGMEAD     | Aamosh      | Williams (8) | Hogg         | Symes        | Sharp       |       | Mackenzie |
| Esson     | Herd       | Ashton | Hope (c) | Burton   | EDWARDS     | DAVIES    | Hall (c) | Sorvel     | Langmead     | Aamosh (7)  | Hogg         | Leslie (79)  | SYMES (74)   | Sharp       |       | Mackenzie |
| Mackenzie | Herd       | Hall   | Hope     | Burton   | Edwards     | Davies    | Hogg (c) | Sorvel     | Symes (c)    | Aamosh      | Langmead (7) | Caldwell     | Leslie (9)   | Sharp (8)   |       | Esson     |
| Esson     | Herd       | Ashton | Hope     | Burton   | Edwards     | Davies    | Hall     | Sorvel     | Langmead (c) | Aamosh      | Drummond (5) | Goble (45)   | Hogg         | Leslie (79) |       | Mackenzie |
|           |            |        |          |          |             |           |          |            |              |             |              |              |              |             |       |           |
| Esson     | Burton (c) | Ashton | Hall     | Langmead | Herd (c)    | Davies    | Drummond | Sorvel     | Coake        | Aamosh      | Hurd         | Hogg         | Edwards (45) | Murphy (79) |       | Mackenzie |
| Mackenzie | Hall       | Ashton | Hope (c) | Langmead | Herd        | Davies    | Drummond | Sorvel     | COOKE (c)    | Aamosh      | Coates       | Hogg         | Edwards (8)  | Symes       |       | Esson     |
| Mackenzie | Hall       | Ashton | Hope (c) | Langmead | Herd        | Davies    | DRUMMOND | Sorvel     | Coake (8)    | Aamosh (c)  | Hogg         | Edwards (74) | SYMES (78)   | Burton      |       | Esson     |
| Mackenzie | Hall (c)   | Ashton | Hope (c) | Langmead | Herd        | DAVIES P. | Drummond | Sorvel (c) | SYMES        | Aamosh      | Hogg         | Edwards (45) | Murphy (8)   | Burton      |       | Hall      |
| Mackenzie | Burton     | Ashton | Hope (c) | Langmead | Edwards     | Davies    | Drummond | SORVEL     | Symes (c)    | Aamosh      | Hall         | Coake (8)    | Herd         | Murphy (8)  |       | Hall      |
| Mackenzie | Burton     | Ashton | Hope (c) | Langmead | Edwards (c) | Davies    | Drummond | Sorvel     | Symes (c)    | Aamosh      | Hall         | COOKE (5)    | Herd         | Murphy (8)  |       | Hall      |
| Mackenzie | Burton     | Ashton | Hope (c) | Langmead | Edwards (c) | Davies    | Drummond | Sorvel     | Symes (c)    | Aamosh      | Hall         | COOKE (5)    | Herd         | Murphy (8)  |       | Hall      |
| Mackenzie | Burton     | Ashton | Hope (c) | Langmead | Edwards (c) | Davies    | Drummond | Sorvel     | Symes (c)    | Aamosh      | Hall         | COOKE (5)    | Herd         | Murphy (8)  |       | Hall      |



## KICK IT OUT WEEK OF ACTION

17th - 30th October 2006

Football is loved by billions of people all over the world. In the UK more than a million of us play the game every weekend, while millions more support their clubs from the stands or with friends and family on television.

From Plymouth to Carlisle, Brighton to Manchester, and Harrogate to Harrogate, the game touches all of us.

Every October Kick It Out co-ordinates a Week of Action that reaches out to communities of all ethnic, religious and national backgrounds to challenge racism and promote inclusion.

Hundreds of activities take place including specific match day events at all 92 professional clubs.

Community groups, young people and football fans across the UK are involved showing that we are part of One Game, as One Community.

**ONE GAME ONE COMMUNITY**

[www.kickitout.org](http://www.kickitout.org)

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# youth kit sponsorship

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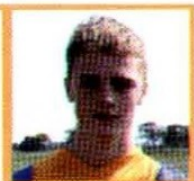
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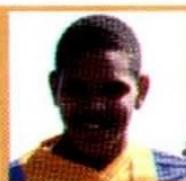
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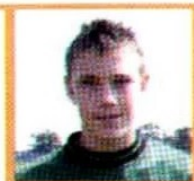
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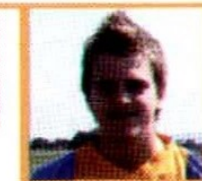
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 In memory of the late  
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# youth & reserves

| RESERVES - Pontin's Holiday League Division One Central |    |                            |                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>August</b>                                           |    |                            |                                    |
| Tue                                                     | 15 | Bradford City - A          | 0-1                                |
| Wed                                                     | 23 | Nottingham Forest - H      | 0-6                                |
| Mon                                                     | 28 | Stoke City - H             | 1-4 (M.Adaggio)                    |
| <b>September</b>                                        |    |                            |                                    |
| Mon                                                     | 4  | West Bromwich Albion - A   | 3-1 (S.Drummond, G.Hurst, A.Cooke) |
| Mon                                                     | 18 | Huddersfield Town - H      | 3-2 (M.Symes, C.Bond, OG)          |
| Wed                                                     | 27 | Chester City - A - PLC     | 1-0 (D.Williams)                   |
| <b>October</b>                                          |    |                            |                                    |
| Wed                                                     | 4  | Leeds United - A           | 1-2 (G.Cadwallader)                |
| Tue                                                     | 10 | Sheffield Wednesday - A    | 0-1 (2pm)                          |
| Mon                                                     | 23 | Walsall - H                | - (2pm)                            |
| <b>November</b>                                         |    |                            |                                    |
| Mon                                                     | 6  | Barnsley - A               | - (2pm)                            |
| Mon                                                     | 13 | Port Vale - H              | - (2pm)                            |
| Mon                                                     | 20 | Birmingham City - A        | - (7pm (Solihull Borough))         |
| Wed                                                     | 29 | Tranmere Rovers - A - PLC  | - (7pm)                            |
| <b>December</b>                                         |    |                            |                                    |
| Mon                                                     | 4  | West Bromwich Albion - H   | - (7pm)                            |
| Wed                                                     | 13 | Stoke City - A             | - (10)                             |
| Wed                                                     | 18 | Blackburn Rovers - H - PLC | - (7pm)                            |
| <b>January</b>                                          |    |                            |                                    |
| Mon                                                     | 8  | Bradford City - H          | - (2pm)                            |
| Tue                                                     | 23 | Nottingham Forest - A      | - (2pm)                            |
| Wed                                                     | 31 | League Cup - QTR           | -                                  |
| <b>February</b>                                         |    |                            |                                    |
| Mon                                                     | 5  | Leeds United - H           | - (7pm)                            |
| Wed                                                     | 21 | Huddersfield Town - A      | - (2pm)                            |
| <b>Marc</b>                                             |    |                            |                                    |
| Mon                                                     | 5  | Sheffield Wednesday - H    | - (2pm)                            |
| Tue                                                     | 20 | Walsall - A                | - (2pm)                            |
| Wed                                                     | 28 | League Cup - Semi          | -                                  |
| <b>April</b>                                            |    |                            |                                    |
| Mon                                                     | 2  | Barnsley - H               | - (2pm)                            |
| Mon                                                     | 16 | Port Vale - A              | - (7pm)                            |
| Mon                                                     | 23 | Birmingham City - H        | - (7pm)                            |

| Division One Central |                      |   |   |   |   |    |    |     |    |  |
|----------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|----|--|
|                      | Pld                  | W | D | L | F | A  | GD | Pts |    |  |
| 1                    | Birmingham City      | 7 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 5  | +5  | 15 |  |
| 2                    | Nottingham Forest    | 8 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 15 | 4  | +11 | 14 |  |
| 3                    | Sheffield Wednesday  | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 8  | 6  | +2  | 13 |  |
| 4                    | Stoke City           | 8 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 9  | 5  | +4  | 12 |  |
| 5                    | Leeds United         | 7 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 13 | 14 | -1  | 12 |  |
| 6                    | Walsall              | 7 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 13 | 7  | +6  | 11 |  |
| 7                    | Barnsley             | 8 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 15 | 16 | -1  | 11 |  |
| 8                    | West Bromwich Albion | 8 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 11 | -1  | 10 |  |
| 9                    | Bradford City        | 8 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 5  | 8  | -3  | 8  |  |
| 10                   | Port Vale            | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 8  | 15 | -7  | 7  |  |
| 11                   | Huddersfield Town    | 8 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 7  | 13 | -6  | 6  |  |
| 12                   | Shrewsbury Town      | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 8  | 17 | -9  | 6  |  |



My goals as commercial manager are clear; to generate sponsorship and raise the profile of our youth structure in a positive manner. Clearly maintaining the sponsorship deals we have in place is a must, and I would like to acknowledge the support and continued commitment to our programme from Greenhous, Shropshire Homes, Warmlife Windows and the Shropshire Star.

If our youth programme is to move forward, and it is vital that it does, then more investment is required. Therefore one of my first tasks was to design a brochure that would give a clear insight into our youth structure from the Centre of Excellence through to the youth team, including staff, training facilities, players, educational requirements and our new sponsorship packages.

I felt that this would enable potential sponsors to understand better what we are doing and why youth sponsorship is so important. Having a strong youth structure is vital for the club's long-term success and continued funding will allow us to maintain and develop our structure further, so we can develop more players to follow in the footsteps of Dave Edwards, Joe Hart, Marco Adaggio, Gavin Cadwallader and Steven Leslie; all have progressed through our youth structure and have played for the first team.

I am pleased to say that the brochure has been designed and printed on time. I have introduced ten areas of sponsorship, all designed to meet various financial budgets, therefore allowing both companies and individuals the opportunity to support our youth structure.

I am pleased to report that we have already received sponsorship from individuals and companies who have taken advantage of the new packages. I would like to thank Gallop Bookmakers of Whitchurch (casino night table and sportsman's evening table sponsor), Paul Dickin and driving instructor Ron Ingall (match game sponsor centre of excellence).

If you would like further information on our sponsorship packages or require our sponsorship brochure, please contact myself or Fiona on 01743 360111.

Our first ever casino evening will be held on the 11th November at the Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury; come along, have an evening out doing something different. There will be black jack, roulette, dice and horse racing. At the end of the evening, you can bid for prizes with the funny money you win.

The following have kindly donated prizes and are sponsors for the evening – Wolverhampton Windows, AB Waste, Gallop Bookmakers, Carports-4-U-Co.UK, James Pickstock Ltd, Hoar Cross Hall (spa resort), The Snow Dome, Incaraceltd, Dunstall Race Course, Severn Valley Railway, The Grand Theatre, SMC, The Lion Hotel, Iceland, Curry's (Telford), Asda (Shrewsbury), AMF Bowling, Boots, The Body Shop, Mr & Mrs Singh, Jean Fieldhouse, Mr Eaton and Mr Rayment. Many thanks for your support.

Ticket price is £10 per person, over 18s only. Please contact Fiona on 01743 360111 for ticket sales. All proceeds will go to our Centre of Excellence and youth programme. This is a fabulous way to support the



# youth & reserves

youth and have a great evening out. I look forward to seeing you there.

In March 2007, our second Sportsman's evening will be held at the Lord Hill Hotel with guest speaker John Aldridge; ticket price is £30 each or £300 for a table. For advance bookings, please speak to myself or Fiona on 01743 360111.

In September, I introduced for the first time with the help of Kimberly Powell team photographs of all the Centre of Excellence squads from U9s to U16s. I felt that this was a great opportunity for all our players and families to have a record of their achievements to date, and to look back on in the future. Each squad had team and individual photos taken in the grounds of Lilleshall, with all the players making sure their hair was just right and some using more hair gel than normal.

Kimberly certainly had her work cut out organising all the squads – smallest at the front, tallest at the back, shirt tucked in – you know how it goes. And I would like to thank her for giving up two Sunday mornings and for producing some fabulous photographs.

I would just like to wish the manager, players and staff the very best for today's game.

Steve Wheatley.

## Shrewsbury Town Youth & Centre of Excellence Department Presents a Fun Casino Night At the Lion Hotel On Saturday 11th November 2006

**7:30pm-8.00pm start**

**Tickets £10 which includes Funny Money.**

**Night includes: Black Jack, Roulette, Dice, Lottery, Play Your Cards Right & Horse Racing**

**Bid for great prizes with the funny money you win on the night**

**For further information or tickets telephone Fiona Hodgson on 01743 360111, call into the club, or email on [coe@shrewsburytown.co.uk](mailto:coe@shrewsburytown.co.uk)**

**All money raised goes to Shrewsbury Town Youth Development Fund**

### PUMA Youth Alliance - North West Conference

| August    |    |                        |                        |
|-----------|----|------------------------|------------------------|
| Sat       | 12 | Bury - A               | 2-2 S.Wallis (2)       |
| Sat       | 17 | Oldham Athletic - A    | 2-4 G.Ellison (2)      |
| September |    |                        |                        |
| Sat       | 2  | Blackpool - H          | 1-4 C.Morris           |
| Sat       | 9  | Accrington Stanley - / | 2-1 S.Sutton, R.Draper |
| Sat       | 16 | Carlisle United - H    | 1-2 T.Moss             |
| Sat       | 23 | Chester City - H       | 2-3 S.Sutton, S.Wallis |
| Sat       | 30 | Stockport County - A   | 1-1 D.Barnett          |
| October   |    |                        |                        |
| Sat       | 8  | Oldham - FAYC          | 1-5 T.Moss             |
| Sat       | 21 | Port Vale - H          | - 11am - Walford       |
| Fri       | 27 | Walsall - A            | -                      |
| November  |    |                        |                        |
| Sat       | 5  | Macclesfield Town - /  | -                      |
| Sat       | 18 | Wrexham - A            | -                      |
| Sat       | 25 | Tranmere Rovers - H    | - 11am - Lilleshall    |
| December  |    |                        |                        |
| Sat       | 9  | Port Vale - A          | -                      |
| Sat       | 16 | Stockport County - /   | - 11am - Lilleshall    |
| January   |    |                        |                        |
| Sat       | 6  | Macclesfield Town -    | - 11am - Lilleshall    |
| Sat       | 20 | Walsall - H            | - 11am - Lilleshall    |
| February  |    |                        |                        |
| Sat       | 3  | Tranmere Rovers - A    | -                      |
| Sat       | 10 | Wrexham - H            | - 11am - Lilleshall    |
| March     |    |                        |                        |
| Sat       | 3  | Chester City - A       | -                      |
| Sat       | 17 | Wigan Athletic - H     | - 2 noon - Walford     |
| Sat       | 31 | Rochdale - A           | -                      |
| April     |    |                        |                        |
| Sat       | 7  | Burnley - H            | - 2 noon - Walford     |
| Sat       | 14 | Preston North End - A  | -                      |

### Puma Youth Alliance Tables

| North West Conference - A     | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | GD  | Pts |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|-----|
| 1 Wigan Athletic U18          | 7 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 20 | 8  | +12 | 17  |
| 2 Oldham Athletic U18         | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 6  | +8  | 16  |
| 3 Bury U18                    | 8 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 13 | 9  | +4  | 12  |
| 4 Blackpool U18               | 7 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 13 | 7  | +6  | 11  |
| 5 Preston North End U18       | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 11 | 13 | -2  | 9   |
| 6 Rochdale U18                | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 7  | 11 | -4  | 8   |
| 7 Carlisle United U18         | 8 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 7  | 13 | -6  | 8   |
| 8 Burnley U18                 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 21 | -10 | 4   |
| 9 Accrington Stanley Under 18 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 4  | 16 | -12 | 0   |
| North West Conference - B     | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | GD  | Pts |
| 1 Chester City U18            | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 5  | +12 | 16  |
| 2 Walsall U18                 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 16 | 7  | +9  | 16  |
| 3 Stockport County U18        | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 14 | 8  | +6  | 13  |
| 4 Tranmere Rovers U18         | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 14 | 10 | +4  | 13  |
| 5 Port Vale U18               | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 8  | 11 | -3  | 10  |
| 6 Wrexham U18                 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 6  | 14 | -8  | 8   |
| 7 Shrewsbury Town U18         | 7 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 11 | 17 | -6  | 5   |
| 8 Macclesfield Town U18       | 7 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 5  | 15 | -10 | 2   |



A photograph showing two young men in a car, both with severe head injuries. The man in the foreground has a large, bloody wound on his forehead and is slumped over the steering wheel. The man in the background has a bloody forehead and is looking to the side. The image is used as a background for a public service announcement.

**OUT WITH  
YOUR MATES?**

**SPEEDING**  
**IT'S NOT IMPRESSIVE**



# the mighty shrew

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME SPONSOR - REDMAME DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Hello and welcome back to the Meadow for this afternoon's clash with Swindon Town who are going well under the guidance of Dennis Wise.

Speaking of Dennis he recently shared breakfast with our very own 'Little Miss Shrew' at the Swindon players training base, no doubt he enjoyed his 'double egg' that morning!

One of my favourite Town games against this afternoon's opposition was when I was still at school, oh how the years fly by! It was the season that Swindon won promotion having only lost one home game, and yes you guessed it that was to us, the Mighty Shrewsbury Town!

I remember being with my dad and the small band of travelling fans watching the match from the top of an ageing stand. Richard Scott went on an unbelievable run to eventually slide the ball home and embrace the support of the travelling fans. It's nights like this that really makes travelling away worthwhile, for all the defeats and let downs over the years, you get that special victory that will never be forgotten.

I'm sure Dennis is happy that I have reminded him about his breakfast meeting and the Town lads have been inspired by such a performance from their predecessors in blue and amber, so its time to look back at our last two outings.

After going ahead so early against Macclesfield, who ironically may have Paul Ince as their new Manager after he quit Swindon by mutual agreement, I thought that we would knock four or five passed the bottom of the league side. However we did not take our chances and it was no surprise when they came back into the game. You have to give the lads some credit through for the way they

battled back. In previous times we would have lost that match 2-1 when Tolley and co were pressing forward, but Kelvin has come up with a fantastic winner. What a transformation this lad has made from striker to centre-half, his dominating no-nonsense style has made 'gorgeous' a real hit in defence and is keeping Sagi out of his usual position.

After the home win over Macclesfield, Town made the trip to Peterborough - the home of Barry Fry and ex-Lincoln City



The infamous Richard Scott

manager Keith Alexander. Touching briefly on Keith, he asked me and Skally for directions on leaving the Meadow last season. We had just come out of the sponsors lounge, so the combination of a few pints of Guinness and the fact we had missed out of the play-offs meant that Mr Alexander had a longer journey home than he planned that evening!

I really thought that we were going to get something from the trip to Posh, a draw would have been acceptable before the game but after the first ten minutes all three looked on the cards! We really attacked them from the off creating chances and looking in control of the game. With Sagi returning to his former team it was always going to be a spicy affair and it certainly did not let the billing down. Sagi did 'what Gazza did to Vinnie Jones' in the Spurs versus Wimbledon match a few years ago and then proceeded to pick and push at nearly all their players! I was a bit worried at times when he was flying into tackles that he may get a card or two but it outlined the passion that this guy showed for us and wanting to win over his old team.

In the end Posh came back into the game in the second half and at 2-0 down we looked dead and buried. Another spot kick from Benny Davies gave us a slim hope but sadly we left empty handed.

I will leave you for this week with this: Did anybody else notice that we were playing at Posh with the goal netting away from the post after the first goal for nearly four minutes? Well done assistant referee, well done referee, and well done to the Peterborough ground staff who raced on to fix the problem. . . . . NOT!

Get behind the lads today, we really need this one and to get back to winning ways.

Enjoy the game,  
Up the Town!

Mark Fielden  
[www.themightyshrew.co.uk](http://www.themightyshrew.co.uk)

[www.shrewsburytown.com](http://www.shrewsburytown.com)





## Inflatable

We now have an inflatable goal shot which we are using to promote Football in the Community through sponsored events, fairs and fetes and club events. The goal has targets to aim for with points being scored when children hit the balls through the targets. The goal can also be used as a goal with a goalkeeper to stop the shots.

The sponsored events have proved popular with the schools, many of them booking a day/half day for the football in the community officers to take the inflatable goal into the school after the October Half Term. The money raised is then split 50:50 between the community scheme and the school taking part. The Football in the Community department provides the school with the sponsor forms, and then run the entire day bringing all the equipment. Everyone taking part receives a certificate. Winners and children raising the most money win prizes including medals, footballs and tickets to see Shrewsbury Town. If your school/club/group/workplace would be interested in hiring the inflatable goal for an event please contact us on [fitc@shrewsburytown.co.uk](mailto:fitc@shrewsburytown.co.uk) or call Brian/Lee on 01743 356623 or Fiona on 01743 360111.



The photos are from the inflatable goal's first event – the Open Day at the start of the season at Shrewsbury Town.

## After School Clubs

We are now coming to the end of our first term of after school clubs. We have been running coaching at: Radbrook, The Grange, Ellesmere, Woodside, Shawbury, Trinity Ford, Longden, Old Hall, Coleham, St Giles', Highley, Broseley, Clive and St Mary's. Also this term we have been covering PPA (planning, preparation and assessment) time at St Mary's, Clive and St Giles' Primary Schools.

## October Half Term Courses

This week we are running courses across Shropshire. If you are interested in taking part you can just turn up on the day – you will need to fill in a booking form on the day or take one with you (they can be collected from reception) and take along a cheque made payable to F.I.T.C.

The courses are as follows:

| Venue                                  | Days | Dates                          | Times              | Cost                             |
|----------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Belvidere Secondary School, Shrewsbury | 4    | 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th October | 10:30 am - 3:00 pm | £11.00 per day or £40 for 4 days |
| Bridgnorth Town F.C.                   | 4    | 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th October | 10:30 am - 3:00 pm | £11.00 per day or £40 for 4 days |
| Ellesmere Primary School               | 4    | 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th October | 10:30 am - 3:00 pm | £11.00 per day or £40 for 4 days |
| Shrewsbury Town F.C.                   | 1    | 27th October                   | 10:30 am - 3:00 pm | £11                              |



The thorny issue of the use of technology to assist referees has been in the news again thanks to a few high-profile incidents such as the Tottenham penalty that wasn't against Portsmouth and the Brazilian referee who missed that the goal scorer was in fact a ball boy.

Portsmouth manager Harry Redknapp correctly pointed out that he could see that the penalty should not have been given within ten seconds on his monitor in the dugout and there was thus no reason why the fourth official should not have been able to do the same. And there is no doubt that at that game the technology was available for that to have taken place – if it was allowed – and I suspect that it is also available in one form or another (please note this wording for later – it is deliberate) at all the grounds in the Premiership.

It would therefore be possible for the football authorities to pass a rule that would allow the referee to use such

technology. Doing so at this stage though raises more questions that it answers. Will the rule only apply to the Premiership? What about the Championship? How about League One? And League Two? I know Darlington has that technology, but I am not sure about the rest; maybe it will be a feature of the New Meadow next season. Then there is the Conference, and the Unibond League, and the thousands of other leagues up and down the country. Will Wern Town have it available next time they play Whitchurch Alport? And what about schools? And Shrewsbury's Away Supporters team?

Now you are being silly, I can hear you say. Well, am I? After all, other rules that directly affect the game are universal. Wayne Rooney and Co play to same rules as Ant Thomas and the rest of the Away Supporters team. And rightly so. If the technology is brought into the rules then we will have a core of the elite in football playing to different criteria than everyone else.

This also brings with it the problem of how you decide which clubs and which games should be obliged to use such

technology. I can envisage a big problem in the third round of the FA Cup when Arsenal versus Chelsea will have to use the technology but AFC Telford versus Kidderminster Harriers will not, yet under the rules of the FA Cup both games have equal status.

The next problem relates to what I mentioned earlier when I referred to the technology being "in one form or another". True, there is the technology to show replays at all the Premiership grounds, but I'd be very surprised if it is the same technology. It might do the same thing, but probably in different ways with equipment from different companies. How are the authorities going to decide if such a wide range of equipment is all

acceptable? Are there going to be technical standards laid down? Will there be a list of approved suppliers? What about clubs that have spend thousands of pounds installing equipment from a supplier not on the approved list? Will they have to rip it all out and put in new



There are some things that technology can't help the refs with!

equipment? Who will pay?

Then, as can happen with any equipment, it could break down on match day. If the floodlights fail during an evening game, the match has to be abandoned. If the rules say replay technology has to be available and that breaks down, then surely the same should apply. This would create the ludicrous situation of a game being abandoned for something that doesn't affect the players' ability to play or the fans' ability to watch.

No, I believe the problems are far too many at present even to consider bringing replay technology into the fold of the regulations governing games. I have to add though that I do think we will see it one day, maybe trialled at some one-off set-piece match, rolled out at a future World Cup, and then maybe trickling down into national leagues, maybe initially as an option rather than a requirement.

Until then we will just have to satisfy ourselves with shouting: "You don't know what you're doing!"

Steve Rogerson



## MANAGERIAL RECORDS

### Gary Peters

Played 88 Won 29 Drawn 28 Lost 31  
For 111 Against 98  
Av Pts/game 1.31  
Biggest Win(s) Won 5-0 on 2 occasions  
Biggest Loss(es) Mansfield 4 Shrewsbury 0 (07/10/2005).

### Dennis Wise

Played 14 Won 8 Drawn 4 Lost 2 For 20 Against 10  
Av Pts/game 2.00  
Biggest Win(s) Swindon 3 Grimsby 0 (14/10/2006).  
Biggest Loss(es) Wrexham 2 Swindon 1 (09/09/2006).

## MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ..0 | Gary Peters .....0 | Dennis Wise .....0  
Goals ..0 | Goals 0 | Goals 0

### Player with the most...

#### shots

Derek Asamoah  
32

#### shots on target

Derek Asamoah  
17

#### shots off target

Derek Asamoah  
15

#### assists

Ben Davies  
4

#### crosses

Ben Davies  
57

#### fouls

Richard Hope  
22

#### free-kicks-won

Derek Asamoah  
26



## GAMES SINCE

|    |                       |    |
|----|-----------------------|----|
| 1  | a win                 | 0  |
| 0  | a home win            | 0  |
| 2  | an away win           | 4  |
| 0  | a defeat              | 5  |
| 3  | a home defeat         | 2  |
| 0  | an away defeat        | 3  |
| 2  | a score draw          | 1  |
| 38 | a no score draw       | 17 |
| 0  | conceding a goal      | 1  |
| 0  | scoring a goal        | 0  |
| 0  | conceding > 1         | 7  |
| 1  | scoring > 1           | 0  |
| 5  | keeping a clean sheet | 0  |
| 7  | falling to score      | 5  |
| 5  | back to back wins     | 8  |
| 7  | back to back defeats  | 21 |
| 1  | gaining a point       | 0  |
| 0  | losing a point        | 1  |
| 5  | win by > one          | 0  |
| 14 | loss by > one         | 19 |

### Player with the most...

#### shots

Lee Peacock  
25

#### shots on target

Christian Roberts  
12

#### shots off target

Lee Peacock  
13

#### assists

Lee Peacock  
2

#### crosses

Andy Monkhouse  
17

#### fouls

Lee Peacock  
28

#### free-kicks-won

Lee Peacock  
22

## SHARP SHOOTERS

| Shrewsbury    | CCFL Cup | Tot | Swindon | CCFL Cup       | Tot |   |   |
|---------------|----------|-----|---------|----------------|-----|---|---|
| Ben Davies    | 5        | 0   | 5       | Lee Peacock    | 5   | 0 | 5 |
| Andrew Cooke  | 4        | 0   | 4       | Paul Evans     | 3   | 1 | 4 |
| Michael Symes | 3        | 0   | 3       | Andy Monkhouse | 2   | 0 | 2 |

## TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ...44 | Shrewsbury wins .....12 | Swindon wins .....20  
Draws ...12 | Goals 60 (1.4 per game) | Goals 65 (1.5 per game)  
0-0's .....3 | Times failed to score 13 | Times failed to score 8

### Biggest League win at Shrewsbury for each team:

06/05/1955 Shrewsbury 7-0 Swindon  
30/03/1962 & 07/12/1957 Shrewsbury 1-3 Swindon



## 2006/07 LEAGUE STATS



|    |               |    |
|----|---------------|----|
| 8  | Position      | 3  |
| 13 | Played        | 14 |
| 5  | Won           | 8  |
| 5  | Drawn         | 4  |
| 3  | Lost          | 2  |
| 23 | Goals For     | 20 |
| 13 | Goals Against | 10 |
| 20 | Points        | 28 |



### Record Against Top Half of Table

| W | D | L | RANK | W | D | L | RANK |
|---|---|---|------|---|---|---|------|
| 1 | 3 | 3 | 12   | 3 | 3 | 1 | 5    |

### Record Against Bottom Half of Table

| W | D | L | RANK | W | D | L | RANK |
|---|---|---|------|---|---|---|------|
| 4 | 2 | 0 | 7    | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2    |

### Record When Scoring First

| W | D | L | RANK | W | D | L | RANK |
|---|---|---|------|---|---|---|------|
| 4 | 1 | 0 | 13   | 6 | 3 | 1 | 5    |

### Record When Conceding First

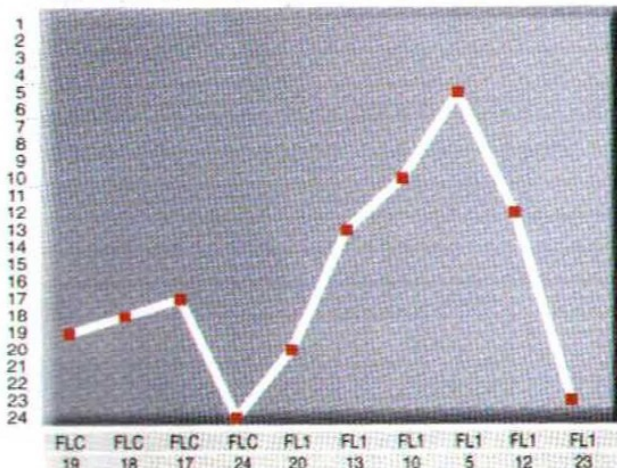
| W | D | L | RANK | W | D | L | RANK |
|---|---|---|------|---|---|---|------|
| 1 | 4 | 3 | 5    | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3    |

### Match Scores

Wins: 2-1[2], 3-0[2], 5-0[1], Losses: Wins: 1-0[2], 2-0[2], 2-1[3], 3-0[1], 0-1[2], 1-2[1], Draws: 1-1[3], 2-2[2], Losses: 0-1[1], 1-2[1], Draws: 1-1[4]

## SWINDON - TEN SEASON RECORD

96/97 97/98 98/99 99/00 00/01 01/02 02/03 03/04 04/05 05/06



\*up to and including 15/10/2006



The Football League's *Fans of the Future* initiative is aiming to attract the next generation of supporters to watch live football at their local club

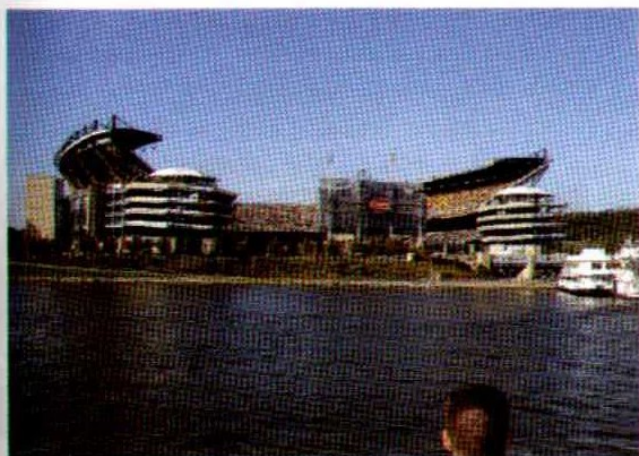
Find out more at [www.football-league.co.uk](http://www.football-league.co.uk)



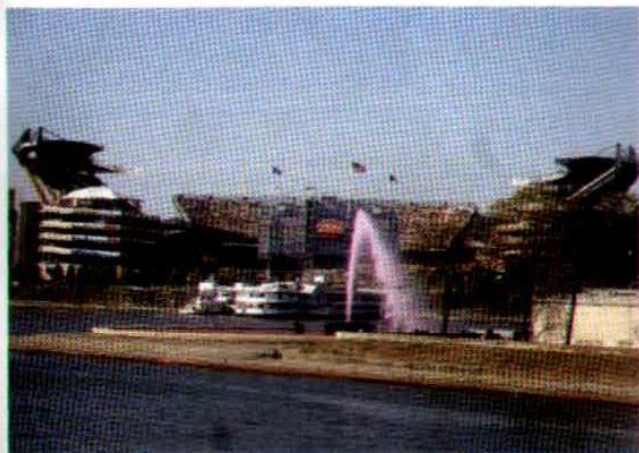


**Ex Town Assistant COE Director  
Danny Fisher is now coaching in America  
and brings us his views on life Stateside**

First of all I don't think I had the opportunity to publicly thank everyone at Shrewsbury Town FC for two great seasons I had with the club. Iain Sankey, Fiona Hodgson, Nigel Vaughan and all the staff were a pleasure to work with. In my time at STFC I was 9-12 years of age coordinator and then Assistant Centre of Excellence Director, I don't think one day went by when I didn't learn something new about the game.



Like anything in life, all good things come to end eventually but most of the time for the better. Back in March I got offered the chance of a life time to work in America for Major League Soccer Camps - my initial job would involve working at an elite club with their youth programme. This is a fantastic challenge for me as they have different ideas of how the game should be played, they also think nothing of travelling eight hours for a game either on coach



or plane. In the summer I took u15's, u16's and u17's girls team for a National League, a typical away day weekend would involve traveling Friday and coming back early hours Monday morning. I will use the 10 hour bus trip from Pittsburgh to Chicago as an example: Leave 9am Friday morning arrive hotel 8ish Friday night,

something to eat, bed by 10pm, up at 7am for breakfast, then games at 10am, 12pm and 2pm. Back to hotel for a swim, food and relaxing night. Sunday up at 8am, games at 12pm, 2pm and 4pm then travel back to Pittsburgh (and we use to moan about going to Stockport on a Sunday morning). The highlight of the summer was taking the girls to Virginia Beach for the Regional Tournament. We spent July 4th week there which happened to include my 30th birthday which I celebrated with some diet lager!!!

Over the summer it was apparent MLS Camps wanted to use me in a different role, so they asked me to be District Director of Coaching. My district includes Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland. This is a new role with in the company so I am still finding my feet a little bit and learning my job role. Pittsburgh is lovely city but their main passion is American football so it's hard getting soccer noticed. The Pittsburgh Steelers is their team and they are Super Bowl Champions - whenever they play the whole city shuts down. Typical games start at 4pm on



Sundays and people will be on the car park at 10:00am in the morning drinking and having Barbeques (imagine that 10am at Gay Meadow on a match day).

It is a completely different culture out here but one I am enjoying, I do miss proper football back home especially Saturday afternoons, we do get five live premier ship games on a weekend and Sky Sports once a day. If any one wishes to email me you can get me at [dfisher@miscamps.com](mailto:dfisher@miscamps.com)

I will be back in England for ten days in February so I will certainly pop down to a game and see everyone.

Good luck in today's game.

Danny Fisher



# the last word



**Match officials**  
**REFEREE:**  
 B Grant  
**ASSISTANT REFEREE (red/yellow):**  
 S Caste  
**ASSISTANT REFEREE (play):**  
 C Dunn  
**FOURTH OFFICIAL:**  
 J Collin



- Accrington Stanley v Walsall
- Bristol Rovers v Macclesfield
- Bury v Bristol Utd
- Darlington v Barnet
- Grimstey v Notts County
- Lincoln City v Rochdale
- Mansfield v Wrexham
- Milton Keynes Dons v Hereford
- Stockport v Torquay
- Wycombe v Peterborough



**Town v Wycombe Wanderers**  
 Coca Cola League 2

Saturday, 4 November 2006  
 Kick-off 3:00pm  
 Gay Meadow

**Town v Walsall**  
 Pontins Central League

Monday, 23 October 2006  
 Kick-off 2pm  
 Gay Meadow

**Town v Port Vale**  
 Puma Midlands Youth Alliance

Saturday, 21 October 2006  
 Kick-off 11 am  
 Willford

**Town v Coleshill**  
 West Mid Regional League - Premier

Sunday, 29 October 2006  
 Kick-off 2pm  
 Shrewsbury College of Arts and Technology

We've all seen the television adverts for Carling Beer, you the know the ones I mean, 'Carling don't do hotels, but if they did they'd be the best in the world'. And so on and so forth over a series of subjects, which would perhaps now incorporate football managers.

Now, I'm not having a go at managers either in general, or at anyone in particular since their job is difficult enough at the best times trying to get results and please an often cynical paying public, but sometimes, just sometimes you do wonder why their excuses for defeat smack at best of pathetic, and at worst of the downright ridiculous.

A few weeks ago during a European Champions League match, a certain manager blamed his side's away defeat firmly upon the ball boys, who he claimed gave the 'dead ball' back to the home side too quickly, thus rendering his defenders unready to resume play. Yeah, right!

The French national coach, Raymond Domenich, made similar comment a couple of weeks later when his side lost by a single goal to Scotland at Hampden Park, this time citing the ball boys once again, this time though stating the defeat was due to ball boys taking too long to return the ball to his side, and re-organise defensively. Ever heard of a referee's right to add time on at the end of each half to compensate for such circumstances Mr. Domenich?

The poor old groundsman too quite often has to take his share of the blame when a defeated manager's wrath is vented.

How many times have we heard the immortal phrase, the grass was too long, or perhaps that the pitch was too hard. On occasion we get into the realms of reverse psychology when far from being

too hard, the pitch was too soft, this due to the groundsman heavily watering the pitch just prior to kick-off. Sometimes of course the poor grounds men gets the blame for 'poor management' of the pitch, especially if he's had to use sand to protect bare soil or repair damage in the short term.

Grass surfaces are sometimes blamed as being too bumpy, synthetic surfaces for being too fast and too unpredictable. Surely the playing surface though was the same one used by both teams during the match!

Supporters to have much responsibility when it comes to victory and defeat.

One manager recently described the vocal support that the home side received as being intimidating and off putting to his visiting team, thus causing them to lose concentration which resulted in them conceding goals whilst another boss gave the excuse that their was insufficient support noise to raise his side's game.

The classic of course was the 'wrong colour shirts' as spouted by Alex Ferguson when he gave the poor first half display given by his Manchester United side as being down to the fact that they were unable to distinguish each other in their grey shirts from people in the crowd. That makes the perfect sense since no one ever wears red on the terraces do they!!?

So, Carling please create the best managers in the world, ones that are honest in front of the press when they lose, giving truthful explanations for their performances such as "unfortunately today we were rubbish, our opponents were much better, we'll try to do better next time." Yes Carling, if you could do that you would most probably be able to make pigs fly too!

Kevin Davies

## WILLENHALL PICKWICK

*Met just once, third of three friendlies played during October 1891. Met at Willenhall on October 24th, the home side defeating Shrewsbury & District's ninth placed club by three goals to one.*

## WILLENHALL SWIFTS

*First met 18th November 1911, away, Birmingham League, the home side being victorious by a two goals to one margin, the legendary Billy Scarratt netting for Town. Met a total of eight times in this League prior to World War I, Town winning three times to Swifts' four. The two shared*

## HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE

*Kevin Davies chronicles all the teams that Town have played*

*goals stats having each hit eleven.*

## WILLENHALL TOWN

*First Met - 3rd April 1920, Birmingham League at Gay Meadow, the visitors victorious by a four goals to two scoreline. Met a total of twenty-two times in this League, Town winning eleven times to Shrewsbury's six, five games ending in draws. Town scored forty seven goals to Willenhall's forty eight. The two have also met in the FA Cup and in friendlies down the years.*



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|                   |    |   |   |    |                     |
|-------------------|----|---|---|----|---------------------|
| Ryan Esson        | 1  | ■ | ■ | 1  | Peter Brezovan      |
| Danny Hall        | 2  | ■ | ■ | 2  | Jack Smith          |
| Neil Ashton       | 3  | ■ | ■ | 3  | Jamie Vincent       |
| Stewart Drummond  | 4  | ■ | ■ | 5  | Jerel Ifil          |
| Richard Hope      | 5  | ■ | ■ | 6  | Ady Williams        |
| Neil Sorvel       | 6  | ■ | ■ | 7  | Gareth Whalley      |
| Glynn Hurst       | 7  | ■ | ■ | 8  | Aaron Brown         |
| Kelvin Langmead   | 8  | ■ | ■ | 9  | Christian Roberts   |
| Andy Cooke        | 9  | ■ | ■ | 10 | Lee Peacock         |
| Derek Asamoah     | 10 | ■ | ■ | 11 | Andy Monkhouse      |
| Dale Williams     | 11 | ■ | ■ | 12 | Ricky Shakes        |
| Ben Herd          | 12 | ■ | ■ | 14 | Andy Gurney         |
| Ben Davies        | 14 | ■ | ■ | 15 | Andy Nicholas       |
| Gavin Cadwallader | 15 | ■ | ■ | 16 | Fola Onibuje        |
| Gavin Cowan       | 16 | ■ | ■ | 17 | Charlie Comyn-Platt |
| Steve Hogg        | 17 | ■ | ■ | 18 | Paul Evans          |
| Steve Leslie      | 18 | ■ | ■ | 19 | Michael Pook        |
| Dave Edwards      | 19 | ■ | ■ | 20 | Royce Brownlie      |
| Marco Adaggio     | 20 | ■ | ■ | 21 | Lukas Jutkiewicz    |
| Chris Mackenzie   | 21 | ■ | ■ | 22 | Gustavo Poyet       |
| Chris Humphrey    | 22 | ■ | ■ | 23 | Curtis Weston       |
| Michael Symes     | 24 | ■ | ■ | 24 | Ashan Holgate       |
| Chris Neal        | 26 | ■ | ■ | 25 | Phil Smith          |
| Sagi Burton       | 28 | ■ | ■ | 26 | Dennis Wise         |
|                   |    |   | ■ | 27 | Ben Wells           |
|                   |    |   | ■ | 28 | Andy Caton          |
|                   |    |   | ■ | 29 | Alex Rhodes         |