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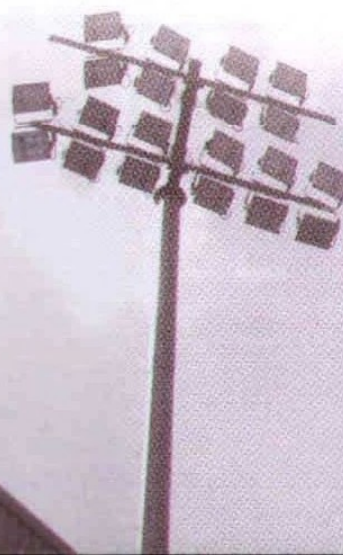
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# WELCOME TO EDGELEY PARK



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## INSIDE TRUEBLUE

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### EVACUATION PROCEDURES

In the event of an emergency at Edgeley Park requiring evacuation of the ground in part or whole, spectators are requested to remain where they are and listen carefully to announcements over the public address system. The announcements may direct spectators in a specified area of the ground and require evacuation through exit gates to the outside of the ground or through perimeter exit gates onto the pitch. Club stewards and police officers will assist in directing spectators to the safest locations. If requested to evacuate a specified area of the ground, spectators should do so as calmly and quickly as they can to assist in a safe and speedy evacuation. All emergency announcements will be preceded with a chime.



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# JIM GANNON

I would like to welcome Paul, his staff and players and all those here to support Swindon Town.

Swindon are rightly one of the promotion favourites and it is great to have them visiting Edgeley Park at this exciting time of the season.

From what I have seen of the Robins this season we are in for a great game of football, played by two teams that try to play the game in the right manner.

Our last home game was a real test of our promotion credentials and today's game will be every bit as big a challenge.

## FANTASTIC

What a fantastic night of football entertainment here at Edgeley Park last match out against the then league-leaders Walsall.

Once again the players lived up to the occasion. The game came to life in the second half,

after the players rose to the challenge of having more courage to get on the ball, drive into space and attack defenders with dribbling attacks.

The attacking

surges from the front players during the second half brought the game to life and really got the fans on their feet.

It generated the type of performance, atmosphere and result that makes football the entertainment industry it is.

The three points were well deserved and once again moved us closer to the top three positions.

It was also a fantastic achievement by the players to create Football League history here at Edgeley Park last Tuesday - eight straight wins with eight straight clean sheets.

It is a great credit to the commitment, professionalism and ability of all those players that have been involved.

We have a chance to break that record here today, and therefore there has been intense media coverage over the last week and this has continued to build as we have approached today's game.

I guess there will be some special interest in the result here at Edgeley Park today by many football fans throughout the country, and it is great for the town and the club that Stockport County is linked with such success and achievement.

## DEBACLE

A lot of media interest has also surrounded the postponement of our

League match against Bristol Rovers last Saturday.

I was not only disappointed but also disgusted to arrive at the Memorial Ground just after 1.20pm and find a perfectly playable pitch.

The circumstances surrounding the postponement and the conduct of the individuals involved was questionable, if not extremely erroneous.

The Football League regulation 28.1 is very clear - a club is guilty of misconduct if it does not take reasonable precautions to protect a pitch, prepare a pitch and remedy a pitch to fulfil a fixture.

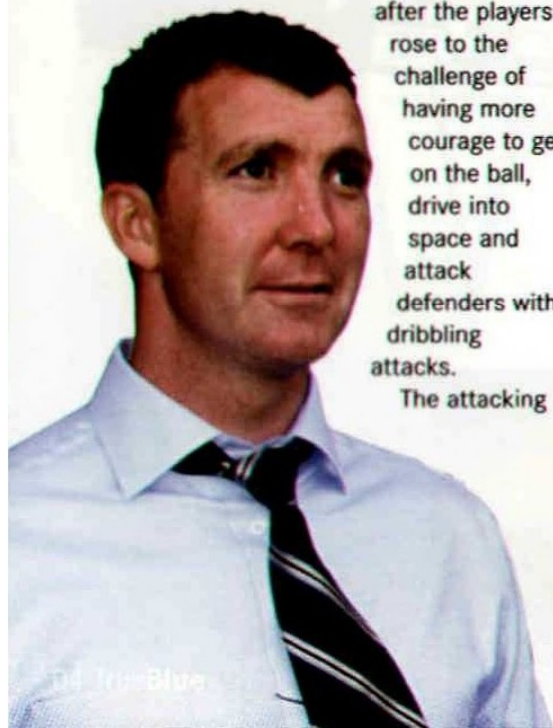
It is clear that neither Bristol Rovers nor the referee did everything in their power to ensure that the game was played.

We have made the necessary formal complaint to the Football League requesting a full investigation into the misconduct of the club and officials involved.

This situation has not only stirred my anger and disdain for those involved but also my strong determination to ensure that the truth of this matter is fully revealed and this type of conduct is not allowed to go unnoticed or unpunished.

## INEVITABLE


Every run comes to an inevitable end, so at some point our current



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and we have started to feel the difference. I must give great thanks to all my staff for the diligent and determined work they undertake to provide the environment for players to thrive. We will continue to work hard to improve the development structures and I believe we will see further progress in the players over the coming years.

I believe that this team is on the verge of greatness. As someone who witnesses daily the competitiveness, commitment and spirit of the players as they prepare for matches it is no surprise that we have remained unbeaten.

Watching the application of skill and the attacking teamwork of the players in every session I understand why teams cannot stop us scoring.

I see it every day and see it every match. It would be no surprise if this team achieves history here today and the plaudits they achieve will be truly deserved for the great work they have done.

Enjoy the game

great run of form will end and we will come to reflect on an incredible period of the season if not the club's history.

The players have shown great form throughout the last months but I believe the players are not playing above themselves. They say 'form is temporary but class is permanent'. I believe what we are witnessing with our players is far from temporary form. We are seeing the growth of individuals whose consistent high level of performance and their dedication to the game leads me to believe that they have genuine professional class.

I am delighted to have placed my trust in the principles of education and empowerment, and realise that all that players need is direction and support to fulfil what is often an immeasurable amount of potential.

Over the last year a lot of changes have been made to the way we work at the club



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# FROM THE BOARD

THE THOUGHTS OF DIRECTOR MARK MAGUIRE

It's been a hectic few weeks off the pitch as we continue the work to create the structures we've promised.

We held a workshop the day after the Walsall game, where we spent a whole day planning the strategy for next season and indeed for the next five years.

We have in place a detailed five-year business plan, every eventuality in terms of finance has been accounted for, regardless of the division we are in we have a plan and it gives us the opportunity to become more strategic, along with Jim and Wardy, and just as importantly the managers of the Commercial and Media areas, we can all identify the area where there is most opportunity for improvement and growth.

It is quite possibly the first time in the history of the club that such planning has taken place, and certainly the first time that people like Des Hinks and Martin Booker have been involved in the decision making, which is pretty ridiculous when you come to think of it.

After a recent meeting with a long established sponsor of the club, who frankly have been treated pretty badly by County over the years, the gentlemen concerned commented that he'd been associated with the club for 50 years, and that is the first time that anybody had spoken in a business like fashion to him.

The workshop was incredibly productive, we came up with a season ticket initiative, which

will be launched shortly, and which will potentially see discounts for Season Ticket Holders next year compared to this, even if we get promoted, there will also be the chance to pay over a few months.

In addition we worked on how we can grow the whole experience of coming to Edgeley Park, so far it's been down to the fans but the club will be carrying out various initiatives to make sure that the reputation of our fans and of EP continues to grow.

We agreed how we are going to deliver better value to our sponsors and work with them going forward.

Financially we have committed ourselves to publishing a full financial review on an annual basis which will be available to anybody who wants it, and will demonstrate everything financially – the only thing we won't publish will be (understandably) individuals wages, this will underline the complete transparency of how we operate.

We've addressed the merchandising side of the business and next season will see a full colour catalogue with a fantastic range of products available directly or by mail order.

There's so much more I could cram in, but I can tell you there are likely to be some major announcements over the coming weeks with regard to kit, tickets and the profile of the club will continue to grow.

We are not content with just being a trust run club, we are determined to create a new model for trust run clubs and the professionalism and progress demonstrated by Jim and Wardy will be matched by an entrepreneurial spirit off the pitch.

This is a very special football club, and the job is to put in place structures which will ensure it fulfils its potential!





# A STROLL IN **THE PARK**

TRUE**BLUE** BRINGS YOU ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM EDGELEY PARK

## SIMPLY THE BEST

Stockport County are delighted to announce that True Blue has once again been recognised in the latest Programme Monthly annual awards.

The magazine considers the County publication to be the Best Read in League Two, which follows a similar award when we were in League One in 2004-05.

Last season we also received a special Merit Award for Continued Excellence.

On behalf of the editorial team we'd like to thank our army of contributors for supplying superb copy throughout the season and of course the Blue & White Army who purchase the 68-page publication every matchday.

## BIGGEST GATE EXPECTED

Don't forget our next game here at Edgeley Park is another mouth-watering promotion clash against table-topping Hartlepool.

With Pool expected to bring around

1,000 travelling fans we are expecting our biggest gate of the season so far for what is sure to be another fantastic occasion.



So what a great opportunity to introduce new fans to the awesome atmosphere generated by the Blue & White Army.

With that in mind all True Blues, our 3,000-strong legion of loyal Season Ticket Holders, are

able to bring a friend along for half the normal admission price.

And better still, a youngster (Under-16) can come with them free of charge!

Demand for these special offers will be intense so tickets will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis and must be purchased in advance.

Voucher D will be required for the Bring a Friend offer, with Voucher E used for the Bring a Child Free offer.

The closing date to take advantage of these fantastic offers is Friday, March 16th at 5.30pm.

But, with a huge

crowd expected we strongly advise all True Blues to purchase their extra tickets as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

## HAZEL GROVE ANNIVERSARY

Hazel Grove Football Club, members of the Lancashire & Cheshire League, will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary with a dinner at the Alma Lodge Hotel on Buxton Road, Stockport on Friday, May 11th.

The event will be mixed and tickets cost £25 each.

Anyone requiring further information or to order tickets contact Peter Howarth (01260 280502), Dave Callaghan (0161 485 8820) or Roger Wilson (0161 483 8424).

## SOCIAL EVENTS

The County 'bandwagon' hits the road over the next few weeks with two special events in London and Stalybridge kindly organised by the Hatters Independent Supporters Club.

On the eve of our game at Barnet next Saturday southern-based Hatters will get the chance to meet Jim Gannon and club representatives at the The Masons Arms, on 51 Upper Berkeley Street - see Page 40 for more details.

Then, on March 27th, the Stamford Arms will host a





special 'County Night' when we hope Jason Taylor and Adam Griffin will be amongst the Hatters contingent.

Check out [www.stockportcounty.com](http://www.stockportcounty.com) and our local media partners for further information as soon as it's available.

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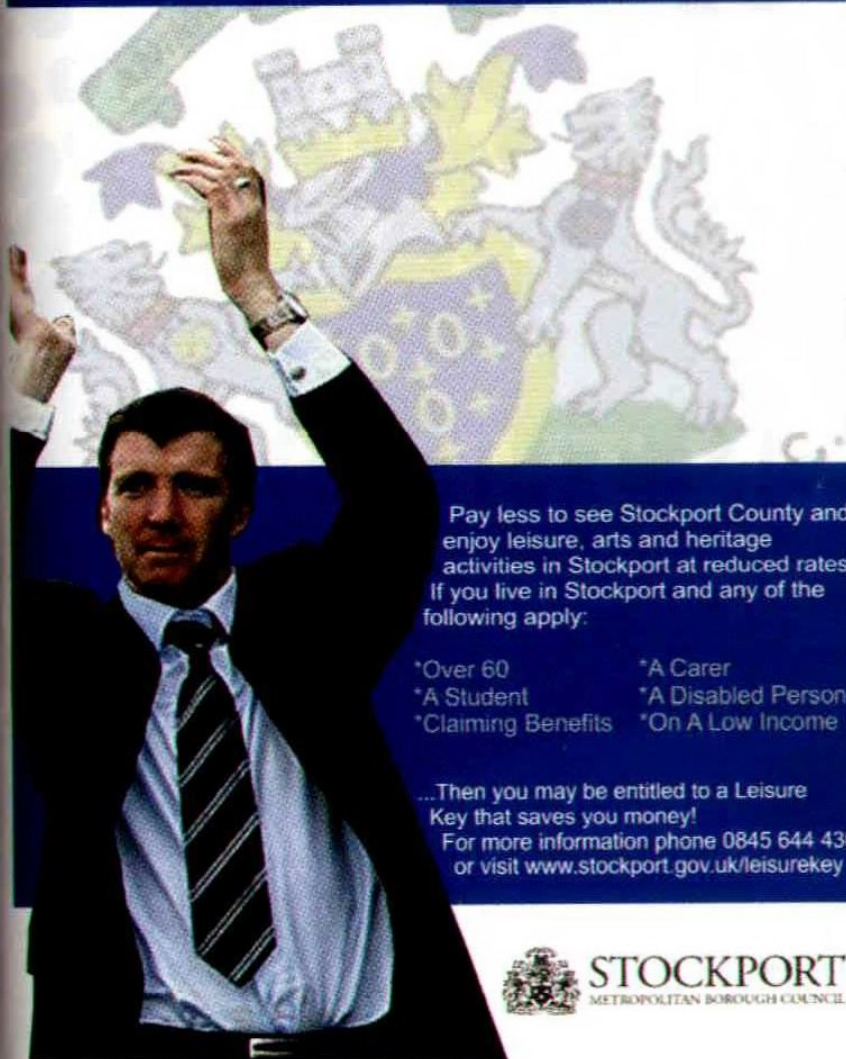
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For more information telephone 0161 286 8890.

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DIVISION THREE (NORTH) RUNNERS-UP 1929, 1930  
DIVISION FOUR CHAMPIONS 1967  
DIVISION FOUR RUNNERS-UP 1991  
DIVISION TWO PLAY-OFF FINALISTS 1994  
DIVISION THREE PLAY-OFF FINALISTS 1992  
AUTOGLASS TROPHY FINALISTS 1992, 1993  
DIVISION THREE (NORTH) CUP WINNERS 1935  
DIVISION THREE (NORTH) CUP FINALISTS 1934  
MANCHESTER SENIOR CUP WINNERS 1898, 1899, 1915, 1923  
CHESHIRE MEDAL WINNERS 1923, 1925, 1929, 1930, 1931  
CHESHIRE BOWL WINNERS 1934, 1949, 1953, 1956, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1963  
CHESHIRE FRIENDLY TROPHY WINNERS 1966, 1967  
CHESHIRE PREMIER CUP WINNERS 1970, 1971

## STOCKPORT COUNTY HALL OF FAME

Brett Angell	Bill Atkins
Danny Bergara	Billy Bocking
Joe Butler	Sean Connelly
Jack Connor	Brendan Elwood
Mike Flynn	Kevin Francis
Jim Fryatt	Jim Gannon
Harry Hardy	Dave Jones
Alf Lythgoe	Bobby Murray
Frank Newton	Alan Ogley
Trevor Porteous	Johnny Price
Micky Quinn	John Rutter
Jimmy Stevenson	Tommy Sword
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# ON THE AIRWAVES

THE VIEWS OF IMAGINE FM COUNTY COMMENTATOR JON KEIGHREN

**J**im Gannon clearly feels a genuine sense of injustice over the events at Bristol Rovers last weekend. For the Memorial Ground to be the only place in the country that fell victim to bad weather certainly warrants further investigation.

Des and I, along with Brian Clarke from Radio Manchester, got as far as Worcester when we received a call from County's ever-reliable kit man Richard Landon to tell us that the game had been postponed. Sadly, many Hatters fans were already there.

The ramifications of Jim's protest to the Football League will no doubt rumble on, although the chances of any action being taken lie somewhere on the scale between 'slim' and 'non-existent'.

However, what it has done is take a lot of pressure off the players this week. Without the Bristol debacle, Jim Gannon knows that the spotlight would have fallen squarely on his young players as they prepared for one of County's biggest games since the turn of the century.

Jim is well aware that his squad is standing on the verge of history, but by lodging his complaint with the Football League, he has cleverly drawn attention away

from the players themselves, allowing them to prepare thoroughly for today's game. There have been a number of occasions this season when Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho has done exactly the same, drawing the spotlight away from his players and allowing them to focus fully on the job in hand.

Another pleasant consequence of the Bristol postponement is that County now have the opportunity to set a new Football League record in front of the Blue & White Army here at Edgeley Park, which will probably have a good number of neutrals around the place this afternoon, following Jim's call for the people of Stockport to come along and hopefully see history in the making.

But the players, no doubt aided by Jim's meticulous eye for detail, are refusing to get carried away. It was great to hear Gareth Owen in midweek when he declared: "The gaffer has talked about various records, but we'll be just as happy with another three points even if it comes through a 2-1 victory."

Yes, the record books are important and we can all celebrate at 4.45pm this afternoon if the players manage to rewrite history once more, but there is a much greater prize at stake and be under no illusions that this current squad has a steely-eyed determination not to allow promotion to slip through their fingers this season.



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# THE **BIG** INTERVIEW

KEITH EAST WAS A CENTRE FORWARD WHO, DURING A CAREER WHICH BROUGHT HIM AROUND 100 GOALS, PLAYED FOR BOTH THIS AFTERNOON'S CLUBS.

TRUE BLUE RECENTLY HAD THE PLEASURE OF TALKING TO A MAN WHO ONCE NETTED FIVE GOALS IN ONE MATCH WHILE AT SWINDON TOWN, NINE IN SUCCESSIVE WEEKS, BEFORE HIS ARRIVAL AT EDGELEY PARK IN DECEMBER 1966, AND PLAYED HIS PART IN COUNTY'S WINNING OF THE FOURTH DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP.

"I think we won the title with five or six weeks to spare," said Keith. "It was hard work and, especially in away matches, we often played with one up front. Jimmy Meadows was the manager and he used to tell me not to come back over the halfway line.

"I have many fond memories of my time at County - Chairman Victor Bernard and his supporters' train. I've been lucky enough to play with so many top men during my career, such as Lenny Allchurch, Albert Quixall, Matt

Woods, Eddie Stuart and Ken Mulhearn in goal while I was at Edgeley Park.

"I returned to Stockport on the occasion of the club's centenary. It was a fantastic evening and I had the pleasure of meeting so many of County's former players."

We had been tipped off that Keith once dated Miss United Kingdom and he confirmed: "Yes, I met her while I was at Stockport. Her name was Jennifer Lowe and she was both Miss UK and Miss

England. I think she came from the Wigan area."

Keith was born in Southampton in October 1944 and attended Oak Park School in Havant, near Portsmouth. He played for and captained Hampshire Boys two years running and, in the English Schools Shield, represented South East Counties.

"We reached, I think, the quarter final before losing to Brierley Hill."

Straight from school, Keith joined Portsmouth as an apprentice, but never made the first team.

He joined Swindon in May 1964, and scored on his debut in a 4-1 Second Division defeat at Middlesbrough. It was while at the County Ground that Keith scored his nine goals in eight days, a pretty unique achievement.

Although he had the two feats mixed up, we can confirm that on the 13th and 20th of November 1965, he first scored four times in a 5-1 FA Cup win over Merthyr Tydfil and followed that up by going "nap" in a 6-2 league victory over Mansfield Town.

"There were some great players at Swindon - Ernie



Keith (third-left) with Miss UK, Jennifer Lowe, at County's Christmas Dance in 1966



Hunt, Mike Summerbee and Don Rogers. It was a pleasure to be in the same team as them."

Keith had scored 21 goals in 45 League games for the Robins prior to his move to County - to replace the outgoing Frank Lord - for a big fee of £7,000,

And he made an instant return on that investment by scoring on his debut in the 1-1 draw at Aldershot on December 10th, 1966.

He took his County tally to eight in 28 appearances before leaving for Bournemouth in November, 1967.

Asked about his main memory from his time at Dean Court, Keith replied: "I remember a cup tie against Liverpool, when we led 1-0 and I had a goal disallowed. Then Ian St John equalised.

"In the replay at Anfield we lost 4-1, but we had them on the wrack until Douglas Bader came on as a substitute and scored two goals."

(Douglas Bader was the nickname of Tony Hateley. We won't repeat how he got his name).

34 goals in 94 league games was Keith's record at Bournemouth before moving to Northampton Town under manager Dave Bowen.

"We were unlucky not to get promotion while I was there. We had a squad of only 14 or 15 and when three or four good players were out injured, we missed out. We really should have gone up.

"Dennis Viollet took me to Crewe in 1971 and, while there, I played in the same team as Stan Bowles, but I did not have such a successful time there."

Keith did, though, score a hat-trick as Crewe beat County 3-1 at Gresty Road on the opening day of the 1972-73 season!

"I then spent five years playing in South Africa. Since then I have worked for Volkswagen and have just retired full time, although I spend two days a week delivering cars to customers. It keeps me out of trouble."

How does Keith now spend the rest of his time? "When I retired, they bought me a superb set of golf clubs (shortly

after talking to us, he would be on the course playing a round).

"I also play the guitar and like watching football on TV. It's great that County, Swindon and Portsmouth are doing well.

"I now live on Epsom Downs, two or three minutes from the racecourse. I never go to the Derby, it's bedlam that day, but there are one or two good other meetings I quite enjoy. It's nice in summer."

Married to Liz for 20 years, Keith had this message to both sets of fans at this afternoon's game: "It's good to see both teams doing so well. I hope you all enjoy the game and may the best team win."





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# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

BASED ON AN IDEA BY THE LATE JON HALL

**S**ince last week's notes some of the players mentioned have signed on for new clubs.

Goalkeeper Alan Blayney must have impressed in his training sessions at Oldham Athletic as he was given a contract until the summer. He missed his first chance to make his debut when Les Pogliacomì was sent off on Tuesday night last week as Oldham had already used three substitutes. With Pogliacomì suspended Blayney was in goals for the League One promotion chasers when they went down to a surprise home defeat by AFC Bournemouth last Saturday.

We mentioned two other players' contracts were cancelled in the January transfer window and both now have new clubs. Andrew Smith has been taken on by Bristol City after a week on trial. The Northern Ireland striker has signed on for two-months.

Danny Adams failed to earn a contract at Bradford City, where he was training, but the fullback has now signed for Conference side Morecambe. This will make the third club where he has played under the charge of former County manager Sammy McIlroy.

Meanwhile Aidan Collins short-term contract at Cambridge United has been extended to the end of the season by manager Jimmy Quinn.

Following their defeat at Edgeley Park 11 days ago Walsall moved quickly to strengthen their side by bringing two players in on loan.

One was winger Kevin Cooper

who was of course part of County's promotion side back in 1997. Coops is on a second loan spell of the season from Dave Jones' Cardiff City side having earlier turned out for another League 1 side in Yeovil Town. Also in the news was another player from County's 1997-promotion season. Keeper Paul Jones has been out of the first-team picture since October and Queen's Park Rangers have told him he can leave on a free transfer. Presumably this means the Welsh International's contract will be cancelled if he can find himself another club before deadline day next month.

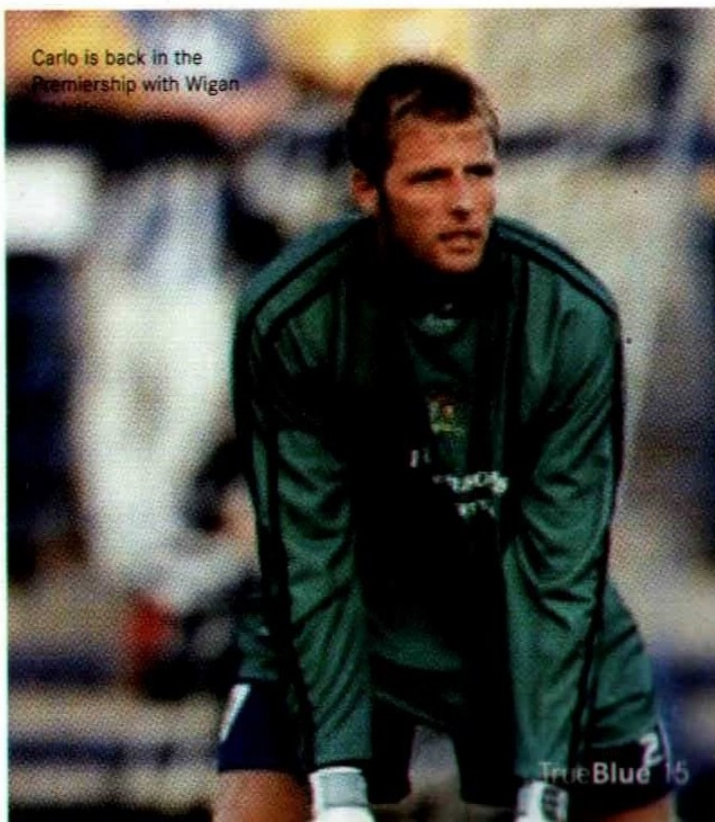
Three other former County goalkeepers have made their own minor headlines since True Blue was last published. Andy Dibble had moved from his position as Goalkeeper Coach with Accrington Stanley to a similar role at Coventry City last November.

This month he was out of work as Coventry cleared out their backroom staff following the appointment of Iain Dowie as manager. Dibble has been replaced by another keeper who had a less than impressive County career. Tim Flowers is now in charge of the Midland side's 'keepers

and will also act as Assistant Manager to Dowie. Until his move just under a fortnight ago Tim was coaching the Manchester City keepers. The third man in the news is Carlo Nash who returned to the Premier League with a loan move from Preston North End to Wigan Athletic. This came a couple of weeks after a proposed permanent move to Fulham fell through.

Damien Allen is of course still a County player but is out on loan at present to Belgian second tier side Royal Antwerp. Damien made his debut for them a fortnight ago playing at KVK Tienen. The match report on the Antwerp site describes it as a promising debut, but with no reward. By the end of the game former County coach Warren Joyce, the Antwerp manager, was left unhappy with a 2-3 defeat.

Carlo is back in the Premiership with Wigan



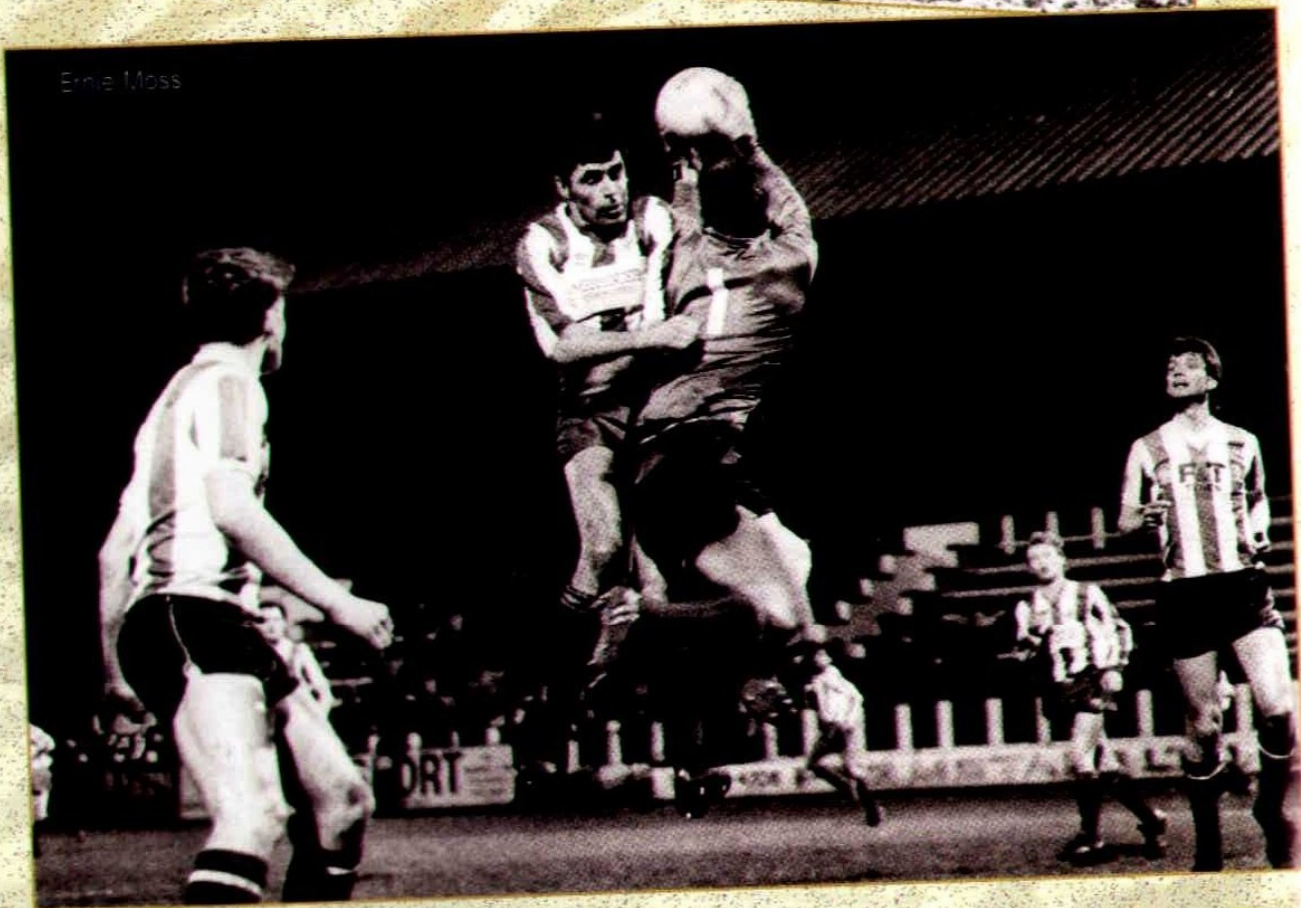


In 1963, Simon Myers, a 15-year-old schoolboy, began an exhaustive project to compile the very first extensive history of Stockport County.

Three years later, in May 1966, all his hard work came to fruition with the publication of a 163-page book that is still a major reference point for many County historians to this day.

Now 58, Offerton-based Simon, a lifelong Hatters fan, has donated his marvellous collection of historical photographs to the club.

And, in each issue of this season's TrueBlue, we aim to take a trip down Memory Lane and reproduce a selection of Simon's pictures in this brand-new feature, County Memory Vault. We hope you enjoy the journey.





# COUNTY MEMORY VAULT

This afternoon we take a look at three County strikers from the 1980s.

The description 'journeyman footballer' could have been invented for Steve Taylor.

When Eric Webster brought him to Edgeley Park in March 1984 the Hatters were his 8th club!

The 28-year-old had an immediate impact in County Blue, though. He scored on his debut - a 2-0 victory over Chesterfield at EP - and then netted another in his next game, a 2-1 win at Wrexham.

By the end of the campaign he'd increased his tally to an impressive six in just 12 starts.

However, the 1984-85 season wasn't as productive and, following a 4-1 defeat at Blackpool in the November, he packed his boots and headed for Rochdale where he enjoyed the best spell of his career, scoring 42 times in 84 appearances for Dale.

Soon after Taylor's departure Webster secured the services of Mark Leonard on a free transfer from Cheshire neighbours Crewe Alexandra.

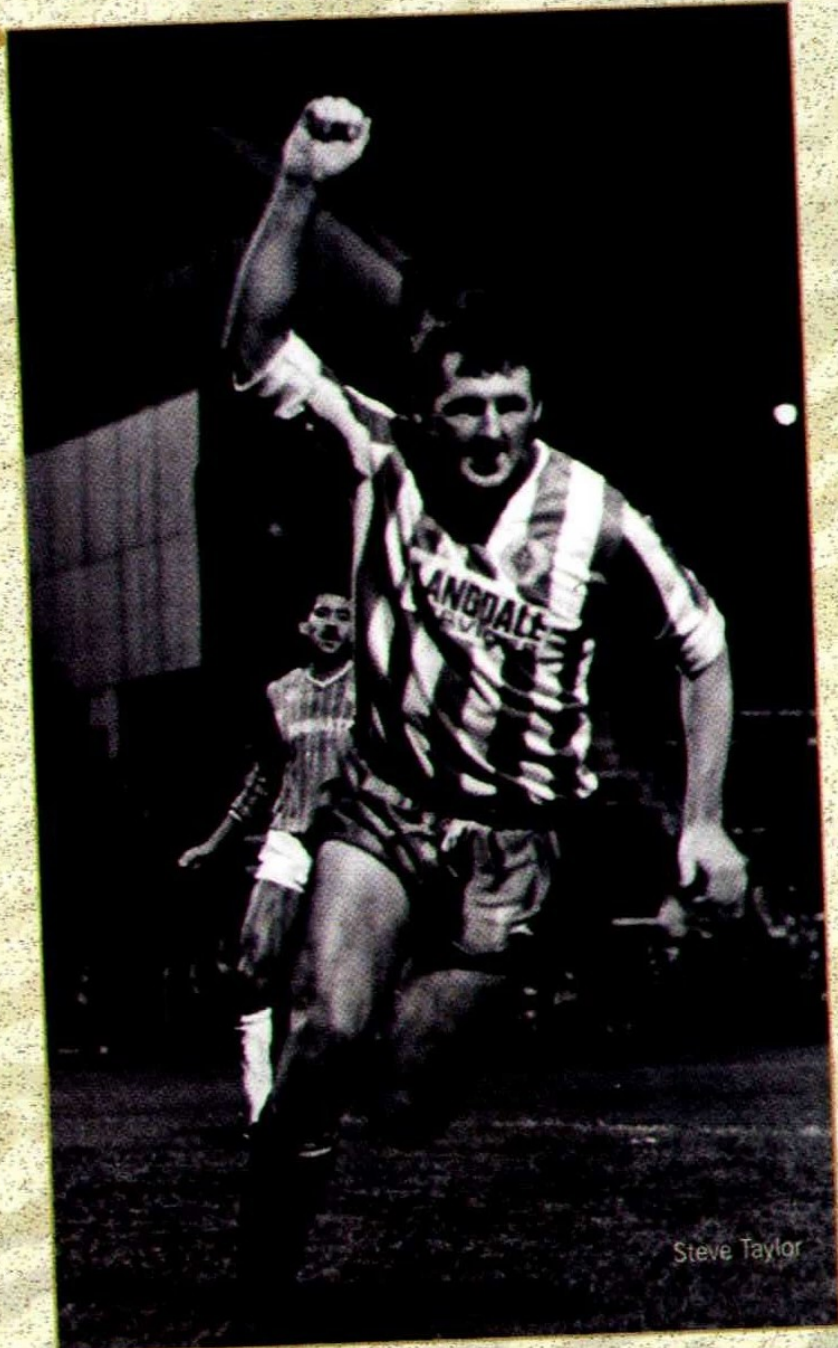
After a fairly undistinguished spell at Gresty Road the Blue & White Army weren't too impressed with his early performances for his new club either.

It took him six games to get off the mark, ironically against the Alex, and by the season's end he had notched just four times in 23 games.

The following year, though, his career took off under Les Chapman who had replaced Webster in the October.

Thanks largely to Leonard's 19 goals the Hatters mounted a serious promotion push but, although they were in fourth spot at Easter, they eventually fell away to finish 11th.

Chappy's reward for County's best season in 12 years was the sack ... and to rub salt in the wound for the Edgeley faithful, he was replaced by Jimmy Melia! Six games into Melia's disastrous reign Leonard was sold to Bradford City for £52,000.



Steve Taylor

With County cut adrift at the bottom of Division Four, Melia's reign ended with the inevitable bullet in November 1986, which heralded the return of 'The Messiah' Colin Murphy.

From a seemingly impossible position he masterminded the greatest of all escapes in the first season of automatic relegation to the Conference.

And one of the key figures in that survival bid was a certain Ernest Moss who arrived at Edgeley Park just before Christmas at the grand old age of 37!

The battering-ram of a centre-forward had made no fewer than 688 League appearances for six clubs, including three

stints at his hometown Chesterfield, when he answered Murphy's SOS.

But in just 26 games for the Hatters Ernie earned a place in County folklore with seven priceless goals.

Those present will never forget his overhead kick in the 2-1 win at Hereford or the 25-yard volley that screamed into the Swansea net to secure the 3-1 victory that all but secured our League status.

After County he played on for another season, adding another 32 games to his fabulous career total first at Scarborough and then a loan spell at Rochdale, his final club.



# Coca-Cola

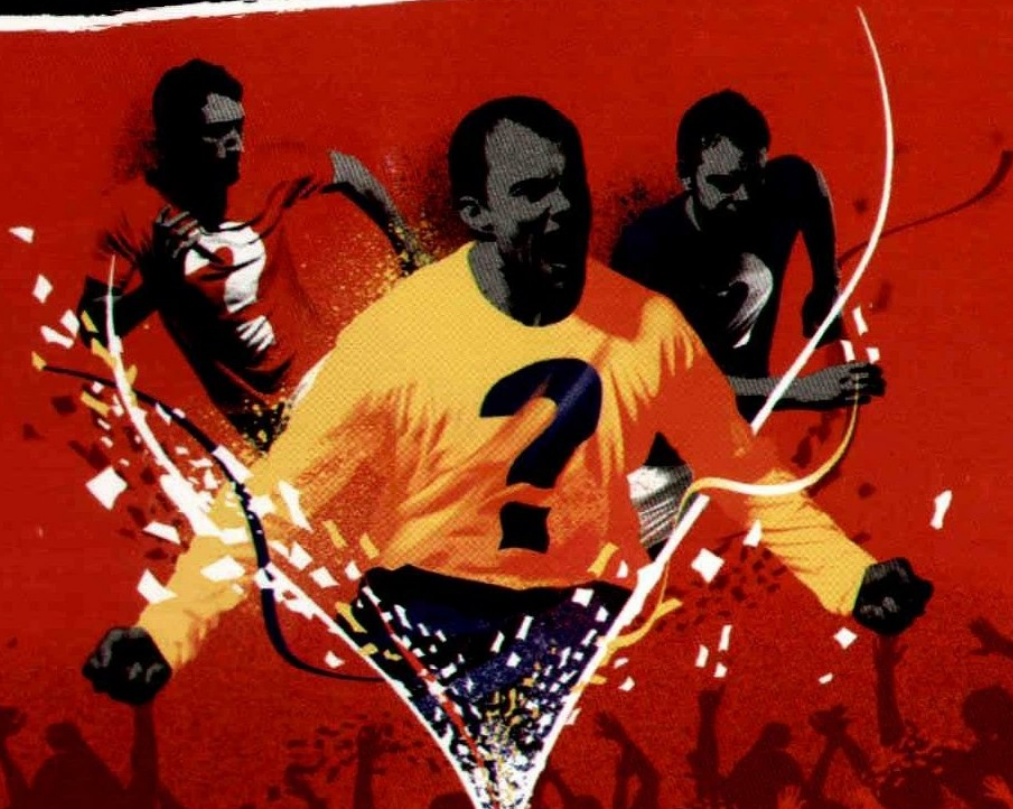
Stockport County F.C.



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# READ ALL ABOUT IT

THE VIEWS OF STOCKPORT EXPRESS SPORTS EDITOR, SIMON SMEDLEY

**W**e could be about to experience a truly historic day here at Edgeley Park today.

The magnificent Hatters have been winning all these games back-to-back, and keeping clean sheets too of course, and to smash a Football League record would be just brilliant.

Can we do that, and can we smash two other significant club records today? We'll know by 5pm, but in the meantime I've been so excited and just so delighted to have played a tiny part in all what's been going on around the club and the training ground.

There's been a bit of a media circus circling around County this last week or two hasn't there? It's been a great news story, it's so positive, and it's richly deserved.

The County fans have been lapping it up, and so they should. It's been a down right miserable spell since the back end of the last decade; you fans have had to put up with plenty.

Let's hope this amazing run can be extended today, but it won't be easy against a tough Swindon side who are bossed by the shrewd Scot Paul Sturrock.

They will be dead keen to burst County's bubble today, they've probably seen enough of us on Sky Sports just lately, but I'm confident

that the lads have enough to beat them today and take another giant stride towards that top three.

The atmosphere inside the ground today promises to be absolutely electric. I'm sure the Blue & White Army will be doing their bit once again.

Doesn't time fly still, another month has passed again, Jim's been nominated yet again for the top manager in League Two, although Hartlepool's Danny Wilson just pipped him at the post, and it's time for the Express Player of the Month award.

I feel I had a slightly easier job on my hands this time around.

Yes, the defence have been superb once again in not conceding a goal all month, but I was left with a choice from two players this time.

Wayne Hennessey's magical start to his Football League career goes on of course, and he has saved us quite a few times [particularly against Mansfield], but I've plumped for Anthony Elding.

Since joining County from Boston, Anthony

has proved to be every inch the striker I expected, and some.

He's enjoyed a great start to his Hatters' career, and he's full of confidence.

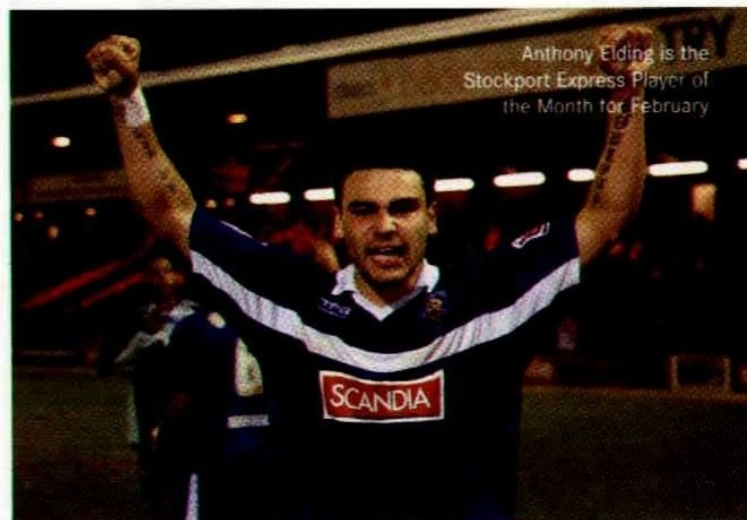
He's got everything - hustle, bustle, a neat touch, and he's been banging the goals in, which is what he's been brought here to do.

His winning goal here against Walsall eleven days ago typified a striker in great form and absolutely bursting with confidence.

He's a great lad too, and I know he's settled in to life at County really well. Long may his excellent run of form continue.

So enjoy the day today, and get behind the lads as you always do.

See you at Barnet.



Anthony Elding is the Stockport Express Player of the Month for February

Stockport  
**Express** every  
Wednesday  
42p





# COUNTY'S YOUNG GUNS

**Name**

Michael Bowler

**Born**

08/09/87

**Position**

Right Back

**Year Joined County**

1997

**Strengths**

Power, strength, heading

**Weaknesses**

Agility, shooting

**Honours**

None

**Biggest influence on your career so far**

My Dad, Alan Lord and Peter Ward

**Nickname**

Buster

**Best mate at County**

Briggsy

**Who gets ripped for their dress sense**

Briggsy with his grey coat

**Which team would you like to see County beat**

6-0

Man United

**Team supported**

Man City

**What was the first game you saw live**

Man City v Newcastle

**Heroes**

Zidane

**School Report - Good and Bad Points**

Cheeky!

**Wheels**

Peugeot 207

**What's in your CD**

Stone Roses

**Who was your last text message from**

The Girlfriend

**If you won the lottery how would you spend it**

Buy a Ferrari 360

**Chicks**

Sienna Miller

**Flicks**

Scarface

**Telly**

Top Gear

**Corrie or Eastenders**

Corrie

**Nosh up/washed down by**

Nandos and Fanta

**Tea or Coffee**

Tea

**Other sports**

Golf

**Favourite holiday destination**

Like to travel the world

**Would you consider going on Big Brother**

No

**Mark yourself out of 10 for dancing**

10

**Mark yourself out of 10 for your DIY skills**

11

**What would you sing on karaoke**

I'd never do it!

**Superstitions**

I don't like people wishing me luck before games

**Would you ever consider becoming a referee**

No way!

**Describe yourself in five words**

Cheeky, Impatient, Loud, Funny, Genuine







# BLUE Passion

County's unique home shirt is now on sale.



County's official kit supplier TFG  
are proud to support The Hatters.



# COUNTY

# CLUB SHOP

THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE HATTERS' SUPERSTORE

**H**ello and welcome back to Edgeley Park for this afternoon's mouth-watering game against promotion-rivals Swindon Town.

What a fantastic season so far, let's hope Jim and the boys can get another result today and make Football League history by getting that 9th straight win without conceding.

This week the County Club Shop have had a delivery of mugs in the shop, these are white with the club crest printed on the side they are priced at £4.99.

There are not too many items left now in our sale and those still available are;

**Warm Up Tee**  
Sizes S, YTH, LB, SB

**Training Tee**  
Size LB

**Travel Suit**  
Sizes MB, SB

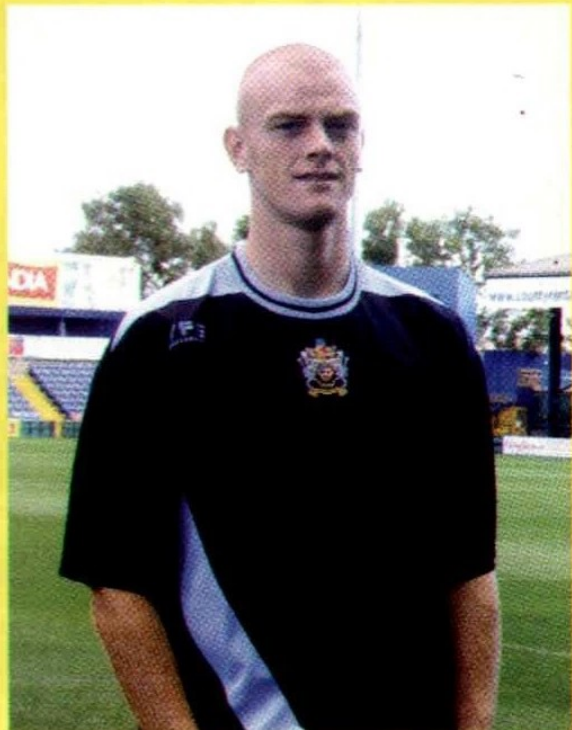
**Sweatshirts**  
Sizes MB, SB

**Polo Shirt**  
Size S

**Bench JKT**  
Sizes LB, MB, YTH

**Kids Fleece**  
Sizes 3-4, 5-6

**Kids Hoody**  
Size 5-6



These items are all selling fast so get yourself down to the County Club Shop and pick up a bargain.

If you would like to see a full list of special DVD's available to order then call into the shop and just ask one of the members of staff.

As always the County Club Shop will be open Monday - Friday from 1.00pm to 5.30pm. If you can't make it then visit [www.stockportcounty.com](http://www.stockportcounty.com) where you can shop 24/7.



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# YOUNG Hatters

**H**ello again and welcome back to Edgeley Park for this afternoon's tough encounter with Swindon Town who are lying third in the league at the time of writing and with our own form, and possibly a record for straight wins with clean sheets a possibility, we should be in for a cracker of a game.

A warm welcome to our guests from the Junior Robins who have made their way north to join us today.

Before lunch we have played football with them down at Power League before lunch in our Family Lounge. We hope they have enjoyed their visit and have a safe journey back home to Wiltshire.

In our last game at home we gained another great three points against the then top of the league Walsall. That was a real boost leading up to today's game.

Unfortunately our match at Bristol Rovers was postponed at about 12.30pm just as we were halfway down the M5, 40 miles from the ground.

More annoying was the fact that fans were told that they didn't want the pitch ruined before the Bristol derby on the Tuesday night.

What a pity they didn't take into account the travelling County fans!

The day was not completely wasted, though, as some of our party went shopping in Cheltenham centre while the rest joined the crowd at the Cheltenham v Carlisle game where we were extremely well looked after by police, club and stewards. We will be writing to Cheltenham Town to send

our thanks.

Don't forget our Family Lounge will be open before today's game from 1.00 till just before kick-off.

That's all for now, enjoy the game.

Ian Butterworth  
Junior Hatters

## MEETINGS

Our March meeting will be held here at Edgeley Park on Sunday March 11th, usual start time of 10.45am leaving for football at Power League at 11.00am.

Please note that our April meeting has been put back a week to Sunday April 15th as Sale Sharks are at home on Easter Sunday, our usual meeting Sunday.

## AWAY TRAVEL

Our next away travel is Saturday March 10th for the trip to Barnet.

We leave the Crown in Great Moor at 8.30am picking up at 8.45am and, at the time of writing, there are still seats available on this coach.

To book please contact Brenda on 0161 487 2766 or myself on 0161 456 7606 as soon as possible after today's game.

## JUNIOR HATTERS BOWLING NIGHT

On Tuesday March 20th you are invited to take part in a Ten Pin Bowling challenge at Parrswood Mega Bowl.

50 members will take part in 10 teams of 5 players with the 6th player being one of your favourite County players.

The cost is £5, which includes two games of bowling and a kid's meal.

Tickets are on a first come first served basis and are available in the Family Lounge on matchdays.

Mums and Dads are welcome to come along and watch the fun.

Arrival time is 6.45pm at Mega Bowl.

## MASCOTS

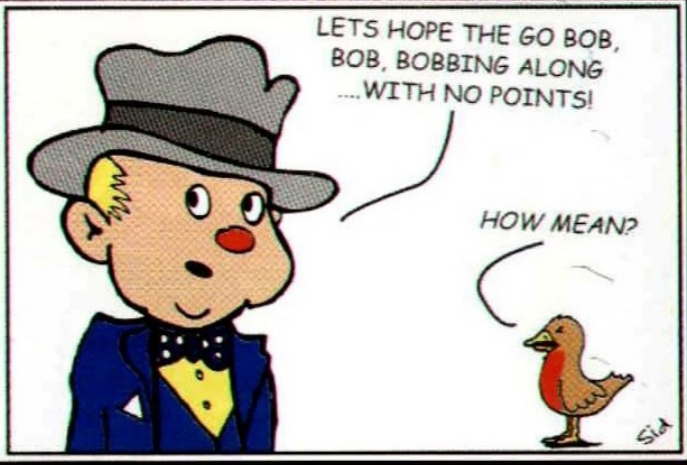
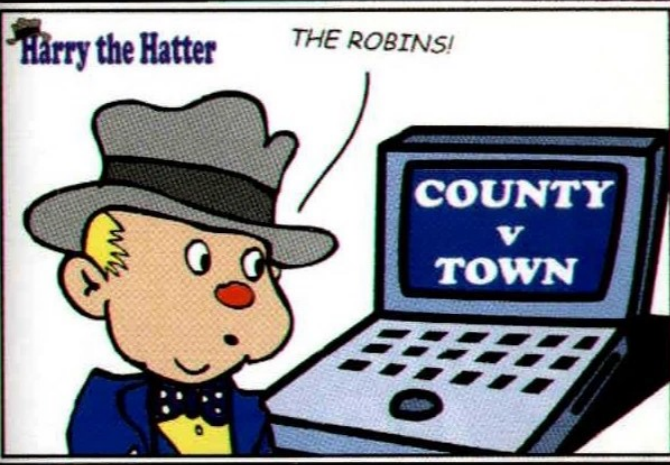


Name: Joe Allen  
Age: 10  
School: Lostock Hall, Poynton  
Favourite Players: Tes Bramble  
Hobbies: Playing football, tennis, computer gaming.



Name: Lucy Anne O'Connell  
Age: 9  
School: Dean Valley, Bollington  
Favourite Players: Adam Proudlock and Adam Le Fondre  
Hobbies: Karate, football, swimming, drama.





# WHO IS IT?

THESE LEAGUE ONE TEAMS HAVE BEEN SCRAMBLED UP! WHO ARE THEY?

- SEAFRONT MIGHT NOT
- OAT HILL MATCHED
- TIE ONLY VOW
- SHE LEFT CIDER

# GO FOR GOAL!

Can you find all the England players?

- LAMPARD
- COLE
- ROBINSON
- TERRY
- LENNON
- ROONEY
- NEVILLE
- CROUCH





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\*Model shown SEAT Ibiza Cupra 1.8 20V T at £14,425 RRP. Offer available for SEAT Ibiza models only registered and sold on or before 31st December 2006. Retail Sales only. Subject to vehicle availability. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available to over 18's in the UK only. SEAT Finance is a trading name of Volkswagen Financial Services (UK) Ltd, Brunswick Court, Yeoman's Drive, Blakelands, Milton Keynes MK14 5LR. Participating dealers only. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Official fuel consumption for the SEAT Ibiza Range in mpg (litres/100km): urban 25.7 (11.0) - 48.7 (5.8); extra urban 45.6 (6.2) - 68.9 (4.1); combined 35.3 (8.0) - 60.1 (4.7). CO2 emissions 127-192g/km.



# HE'S CRACKERS

## THE CRAZY WORLD OF JAMES MCCRACKEN

**O**ccasionally I sit at my computer screen and nothing comes out.

I have always enjoyed writing, even from a young age I would sit down with a pad of paper from my dad's case and scribble down a story.

I found one of them the other day, and I have to admit it was a bit of an epic. For the scribbles of an eight-year-old boy, some of it was absolute genius. This one story revolved around a storm (I am guessing this was the bad storm of 1988) and quite violently a tree fell on a car and killed a family. They then came back to haunt the stretch of road.

Child psychologists would say that I either watched too much television, or I was disturbed in the head. To be fair, it was probably both of these things.

Like all child's stories you could almost tell the moment that I got really bored. I would go from the most descriptive dialogue possible to suddenly conclude with '...and then they all died.' Or in this case '...but suddenly it was all a dream. The End.'

What is the point of this story? Well I have now officially written nearly 100 columns and ideas are starting to become stale, in need of 'freshening up', 'inspiration' if you like. Sometimes I wonder where that imaginative 8-year-old has gone.

I thought of a number of subject matters for today's column, but instantaneously scrapped each of

them. The first was to write a column about the 1997 team versus the 2007 team. Then I thought that this would be unfair on the grounds that a) this is a much younger team, b) the game has changed a lot, c) we have used more players and d) this is a different league.

I then decided that I would congratulate Jim and Peter for bringing the pride back to our football club- but I have done this 20 times already this season, and praising can get rather tedious.

I then decided to have a moan- but how can I when I am in such a good mood?

Finally, I thought I could talk about the behaviour of the Chelsea and Arsenal teams on Sunday. But do I actually care? And more importantly do you?

The problem is I am not used to writing about a good team. Writing about a crap team can spawn thousands of footballing topics and ultimately can prove quite entertaining.

When you go on holiday, nobody wants to see your tedious pictures of you, The Eiffel Tower and a random French wine. They want to know the good bits-i.e. losing your case at Paris de Gaulle Airport and stories of how you were mugged in some seedy French café.

As pessimistic as it may sound, people love a bit of bad news. Take football phone-ins. They are never full of fans praising their team when they are on the verge of promotion. Lose 3-0 to Shrewsbury Town and



Do you really care about the behaviour of the Chelsea and Arsenal teams on Sunday?

extra people are drafted in to take the calls.

People love a moan and sometimes you have to hear it to believe it. There is one guy who sits next to me each game and all he does is moan. 'No movement', 'no passion', 'they haven't got a clue'. I wouldn't have minded-but this was against Walsall. Quite possibly one of the best performances from a County side in years!

Another guy next to me commented that the County performance recently was like watching Coffee malt! Some people are never happy...unless they are unhappy.

'And then they all died. The End.'  
Come on County!

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# TWO REVIEW



## NEW BOYS CAN'T HALT SHAKERS SLUMP

Bury have signed Walsall winger Tony Bedeau and Crewe defender Darran Kempson on one-month loan deals.

Bedeau, who joined the Saddlers during the close season after 10 years with Torquay United, had scored one goal in 20 appearances for the Bescot club so far in 2006-07.

Kempson, who arrived at Gresty Road in the summer from Nationwide Conference side Morecambe, has made just 10 appearances for the Railwaymen.

There was no immediate improvement for the Shakers last Saturday, however, as despite both new boys starting the game at home to Peterborough United, Bury slumped to a 3-0 defeat.

Following a 4-0 home loss to Wycombe the previous Tuesday, these are worrying times for the Gigg Lane faithful.

## GULLS APPOINT NEW CHAIRMAN

Torquay United appointed Torbay businessman Keith Richardson as their new chairman on the eve of last Saturday's match against Darlington at Plainmoor.

The Coca Cola League's bottom club confirmed Richardson's appointment with immediate effect and his intention to be at Saturday's game with other directors of the club.

Richardson, who owns a string of hotels in the region, including the Grand Hotel on Torquay sea front, took over with the blessing of former owner Mike Bateson, who sold the club to Chris Roberts in October.

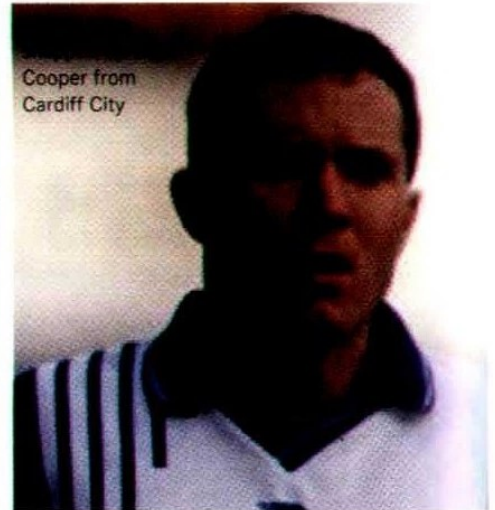
Following Roberts' resignation earlier last week Richardson will take over as Gulls chairman.

Bateson said: "I have no doubt he will be very, very good for the club. He is a highly successful businessman and perfectly fits the profile of what the club needs.

"I don't wish to make any further comment other than to wish him well and hope that everybody at the club now gets behind the team and do everything they can to get the Gulls off the basement of the Football League.

"This is a step in the right direction off the field, now hopefully the team can do it where it matters most."

A late Julian Joachim goal however condemned Torquay to yet another defeat and the Conference now looms large for a second Devon club, following Exeter City's demise four years ago.



Cooper from Cardiff City

## SUPER COOPER JOINS SADDLERS

Walsall have completed the month-long loan signing of Cardiff City winger and County hero Kevin Cooper.

The 32-year-old has struggled to make an impact for the Bluebirds this season and follows former Stoke City winger Kevin Harper as a new recruit to the Bescot.

Saddlers boss Richard Money told the club's official website: "It's an exciting signing for the team, the club and the fans.

"Kevin has played at a higher level and has the experience, ability and quality that we need.

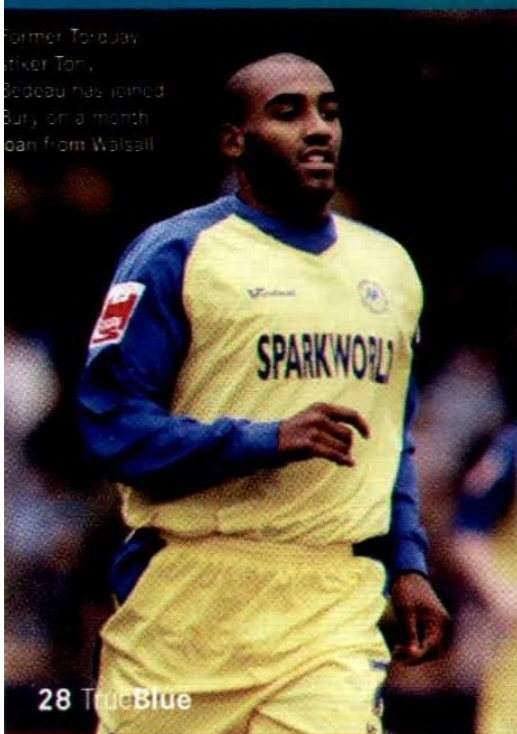
"We are only too aware that we need something extra in the final third and both Kevin Cooper and Kevin Harper will provide it."

Reuben Reid's loan spell at Rochdale has been terminated and the striker suspended by parent club Plymouth Argyle. The 18-year-old made just two substitute appearances for Dale before being sent back to Home Park for reasons neither club were prepared to make public.

Dale boss Keith Hill told Rochdale's official website: "His return to Plymouth is an internal issue and will be treated as such by us."

His Plymouth counterpart Ian Holloway told the Argyle website: "Rochdale did not want him there any more which is very disappointing because he is representing me, my team and my club. "I do not take kindly to people not behaving properly and then making excuses.

"He has been sent home to Bristol and comes back a week on Monday with his dad to see me."



Former Torquay striker Tony Bedeau has joined Bury on a month loan from Walsall



## SHARP SHOOTERS

Player	Team	Lge	Cup	Ttl
Jermaine Easter	Wycombe	15	7	22
Izale McLeod	MK Dons	17	3	20
Andy Bishop	Bury	11	6	17
Jamie Forrester	Lincoln City	16	0	16
Jason Lee	Notts County	14	1	15
Richard Walker	Bristol Rovers	9	6	15
Mark Stallard	Lincoln City	12	1	13
Michael Symes	Shrewsbury	8	4	12
Paul Mullin	Accrington S	10	2	12

## WHERE TO SEE GOALS (By Ground)

Ground	Home Team	M	Gls	G/Mt
London Road Ground	Peterboro	17	61	3.59
The Moss Rose Ground	Macclesfield	18	59	3.28
Fraser Eagle Stadium	Accrington S	17	55	3.24
Field Mill Ground	Mansfield	17	53	3.12
Blundell Park	Grimsby	17	51	3.00
Underhill Stadium	Barnet	16	47	2.94
Sincil Bank	Lincoln City	17	50	2.94
National Hockey Stad	MK Dons	16	46	2.88
Gay Meadow	Shrewsbury	14	39	2.79
Gigg Lane	Bury	18	50	2.78
York Street	Boston Utd	18	49	2.72
Meadow Lane	Notts County	18	46	2.56
Edgeley Park	Stockport	17	43	2.53
96.6 Darlington Arena	Darlington	17	42	2.47
Bescot Stadium	Walsall	18	43	2.39
Spotland Stadium	Rochdale	16	36	2.25
The Deva Stadium	Chester	16	35	2.19
County Ground	Swindon	18	39	2.17
Victoria Park	Hartlepool	17	35	2.06
Racecourse Ground	Wrexham	18	36	2.00
Edgar Street	Hereford	18	35	1.94
The Memorial Stadium	Bristol Rvs	17	32	1.88
Plainmoor Ground	Torquay	18	32	1.78
Adams Park	Wycombe	16	28	1.75

## TEAM LEADERS

Team with the most..

shots on target 216 Rochdale. shots off target 215 Wycombe. corners 233 Hartlepool. hit woodwork 12 Rochdale. offsides 160 Boston Utd. fouls 550 Boston Utd. yellow cards 71 Chester. red cards 7 Boston Utd.

## PLAYER POWER

Player with the most..

Shots 89 Tommy Mooney (Wycombe). Shots on target 44 Glenn Murray (Rochdale). Shots off target 55 Tommy Mooney (Wycombe). Assists 10 Jamie Forrester (Lincoln City). Crosses 134 Ben Davies (Shrewsbury). Offsides 84 Gregg Blundell (Darlington). Fouls 121 Jason Lee (Notts County). Free-kicks won 82 Anthony Grant (Wycombe).



2006/07 SEASON

actim  
STATS

## GOAL COUNTER 1044

RIGHT FOOT 578 goals



LEFT FOOT 254 goals



HEADERS 186 goals



Own goals 22 (2.1%), Other body part 4 (0.4%)

## QUICK-FIRE GOALS

From the start of a match

Ben Herd (Shrewsbury vs Macclesfield) 0:19

By a substitute after coming on

John Fitzgerald (Bury vs Lincoln City) 0:38

## DISCIPLINARY



2.7 cards per match

0.2 cards per match

## QUICK-FIRE CARDS

From the start of a match

Kevin Hill (Stockport vs Torquay) 0:24

By a substitute after coming on

Andrew Cooke (Shrewsbury vs Walsall) 2:07

## SUB TOTALS

Subs used .....1910

Offsides .....2627

Corners .....4550

Shots Off Target .....4121

## BEAT THE TRAFFIC

Total number of goals you would have missed by leaving every match ten minutes early

1 6 2

In the Coca Cola Football League Two this season there have been 4224 shots on target, goals constitute 24.7% of all shots (doesn't include own goals). The woodwork has come to the rescue of the defending side on 171 occasions (the biggest beneficiaries being Stockport 13). There have been 128 penalties awarded this season and of those 92 have been scored (a success rate of 71.9%). Milton Keynes Dons have been awarded most penalties - 11. Barnet have given most penalties away 11. The team to score the most penalties is Macclesfield 8. Hartlepool missed 5 penalties in the Coca Cola Football League Two this season.

## RESULTS

How many times each result has occurred this season - home sides score shown first

0-0	22
0-1	40
0-2	24
0-3	8
0-4	2
0-5	2
0-6	1
1-0	46
1-1	55
1-2	28
1-3	12
1-4	2
1-5	-
2-0	40
2-1	40
2-2	18
2-3	6
2-4	1
2-5	-
3-0	11
3-1	9
3-2	10
3-3	6
3-4	1
3-5	1
4-0	5
4-1	6
4-2	2
4-3	1
4-4	-
4-5	-
5-0	5
5-1	-
5-2	4
5-3	-
5-4	-
7-1	1

\*up to and including 25/02/2007



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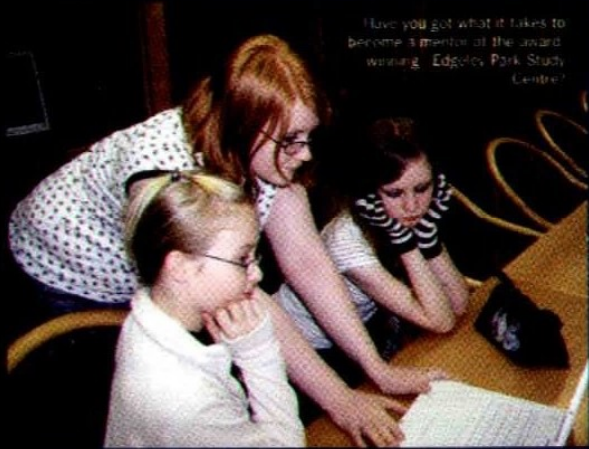
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*Friendly*  
*Reliable*  
*Committed*  
*Enthusiastic*

For an application form please contact me on:

0161 477 2959  
or via email at [edgeleyparkstudycentre@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:edgeleyparkstudycentre@hotmail.co.uk)

Gary Richards  
Study Centre Manager



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# THIS WEEK IN TIME

## 1948

Goals by Albert Dainty and Tommy Barkas gave Stockport County a 2-0 Third Division (North) win over Hartlepool United at Edgeley Park on 6th March 1948: Jack Bowles, Ron Staniforth, John Monks, Vic Walker, Colin Gleave, Bev Glover, Jimmy Morris, Harry Stock, Albert Dainty, Tommy Barkas, George Glaister.

Two goals from Jack Marsh gave Notts County a 2-1 Third Division (South) victory over the following Swindon Town side in front of 27,767 at Meadow Lane: Frank Boulton, Albert Young, Don Emery, Eddie Painter, Jimmy Ithell, Gordon Williams, Teddy Maguire, Billy Lucas, Morris Jones, George Paterson, Jimmy Bain.

Ronnie Rooke scored twice as title-chasing Arsenal hammered Wolverhampton Wanderers 5-2 at Highbury ... England international centre-forward Jack Rowley scored in Manchester United's 3-1 victory at home to Sunderland ... Freddie Steele netted two goals as Stoke City defeated Manchester City 3-0 at the Victoria Ground.

## 1955

Leading marksman Jack Connor scored to give Stockport County a 1-1 Third Division (North) draw with Bradford City watched by 6,402 at Edgeley Park on 5th March 1955: Joe Turner, Joe Jarvis, Fred Kenny, Bob Murray, Gordon Wilmott, Frank Clempson, Ken Finney, Ron Ward, Jack Connor, Arnold Jackson, Gene Wilson.

Goals from Dave Gibson and Harry Williams gave Swindon Town a 2-2 Third Division (South) draw with Walsall in front of 5,148 at the County Ground: Sam Burton, George Hunt, Peter Hilton, Jimmy Cross, Garth Hudson, Stewart Williamson, Dave Gibson, Ray Sampson, Maurice Owen, Harry Williams, Gordon Williams.

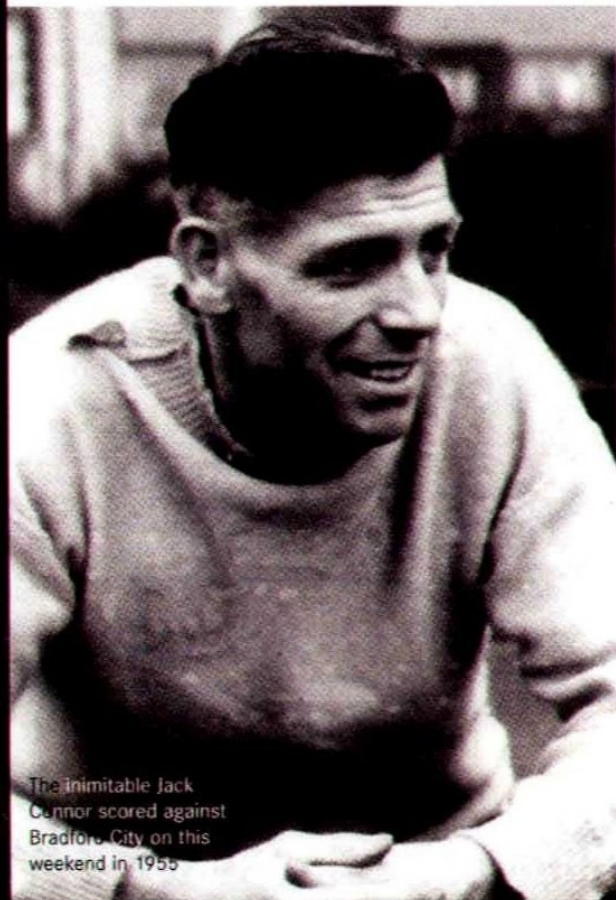
Dave Walsh netted two goals as Aston Villa defeated title-chasing Chelsea 3-2 at Villa Park ... Johnny Hancocks scored twice as Wolverhampton Wanderers trounced Leicester City 5-0 at Molineux ... Strikes by Johnny Gordon, Jackie Henderson and Derek Rees gave Portsmouth a 3-1 win at home to Newcastle United.

## 1962

Charlie McDonnell's goal failed to prevent the following Stockport County team from a 3-1 Fourth Division defeat to Barrow in front of 5,099 at Holker Street on 3rd March 1962: Graham Beighton, Trevor Porteous, Billy Webb, Bob Murray, Ken Hodder, Graham Ricketts, Jack Bentley, Derrick Ward, George Whitelaw, Charlie McDonnell, Micky Davock.

Leading marksman Ernie Hunt scored to give Swindon Town a hard-fought 1-1 Third Division draw with local rivals Reading watched by 14,052 at Elm Park: Mike O'Hara, Terry Wollen, John Trollope, Roger Smart, Peter Chamberlain, Bobby Woodruff, Mike Summerbee, Ernie Hunt, John Smith, Bill Atkins, Cliff Jackson.

Alf Ramsey's Ipswich Town maintained their title-challenge with an emphatic 4-0 win at home to Sheffield United ... Ian Towers and Jimmy Robson scored two goals apiece as Burnley hammered West Ham 6-0 at Turf Moor.



The inimitable Jack Connor scored against Bradford City on this weekend in 1955



**LEIGH EDWARDS** turns back the clock to this week in time to discover what was happening to County, Swindon and the rest of footballing world.

## 1976

Goals from Wyn Davies and Mick Hollis gave Stockport County a 2-1 Fourth Division victory over Exeter City in front of 2,440 at Edgeley Park on 5th March 1976: Paul Hopkinson, Graham Smith, Ian Buckley, Alan McNeill, Richard Dixey, Ken Fogarty, Johnny Price, Lee Bradley, Wyn Davies, Mike Cross, John Hughes (Mick Hollis).

Swindon Town faced fellow strugglers Southend United in the Third Division and the following side was held to a 0-0 draw watched by 5,585 at the County Ground: Jim Barron, Joe Butler, John Trollope, Kenny Stroud, Frank Burrows, Colin Prophet, David Moss, Will Dixon, Peter Eastoe, John McLaughlin, Trevor Anderson (Dave Syrett).

Bruce Rioch netted twice as Derby County gained a 4-2 FA Cup sixth round win at home to Newcastle United ... Jim McCalliog's goal gave Lawrie McMenemy's Southampton a 1-0 victory at Bradford City ... Alan Whittle netted to give Malcolm Allison's Crystal Palace a 1-0 win over Sunderland at Roker Park.

## 1983

Two goals by Brian Pollard plus another from Gary Ford gave York City a 3-1 Fourth Division win at home to the following Stockport County team on 5th March 1983: Brian Lloyd, John Rutter, Steve Sherlock, Dean Emerson, Tommy Sword, Andy Thorpe, Nigel Smith, Mick Wardrobe, Mick Quinn, Mike Power, Tony Coyle. Micky Power netted for County.

John Dungworth's second-half penalty gave Mansfield Town a 1-0 Fourth Division win over the following Swindon Town team watched by 2,101 at Field Mill: Jim Allan, Charlie Henry (Martin Blackler), Kevin Baddeley, Gary Emmanuel, Russell Lewis, Mike Graham, Jimmy Quinn, Brian Hughes, Paul Rideout, Andy Rowland, Leigh Barnard.

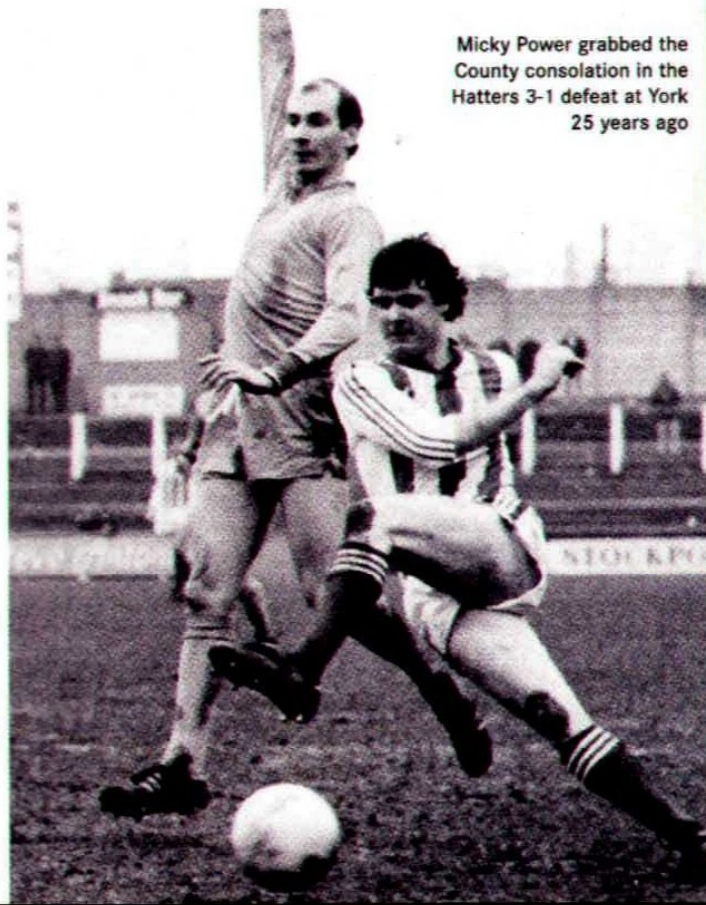
Kenny Dalglish scored twice as title-chasing Liverpool trounced Stoke City 5-1 at Anfield ... Frank Stapleton netted two goals as Manchester United defeated rivals City 2-1 in front of 45,400 at Maine Road ... Flying winger John Chiedozie scored twice as Notts County beat Tottenham Hotspur 3-0 at Meadow Lane.

## 1990

Brett Angell scored to give Stockport County a 1-1 Fourth Division draw with Colchester United watched by 3,452 at Edgeley Park on 2nd March 1990: Carl Muggleton, Malcolm Brown, Steve Bullock, Chris Downes, Andy Thorpe, Paul Jones, Chris Beaumont (John Cooke), David Frain, Keith Edwards, Ian McInerney, Brett Angell.

Strikes by Colin Calderwood, Steve White and Duncan Shearer gave Swindon Town a 3-0 Second Division win over Port Vale at the County Ground: Fraser Digby, David Kerslake, Paul Bodin, Alan McLoughlin, Colin Calderwood, Jon Gittens, Tom Jones, Duncan Shearer, Steve White, Ross MacLaren (Dave Hockaday), Steve Foley (Fitzroy Simpson).

Goals from Ray Wilkins and Roy Wegerle gave QPR a 2-0 victory over Arsenal at Loftus Road ... Gary Gillespie's goal gave leaders Liverpool a 1-0 victory over Millwall at Anfield.



Micky Power grabbed the County consolation in the Hatters 3-1 defeat at York 25 years ago





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SPG 13/2/01



# adam GRIFFIN

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**Squad Number:** 24

**Date of Birth:** 26/08/82

**Height:** 5' 7"

**Weight:** 10st 5lb

**Signed for County:** 11/08/06

**First County Debut:** v Rushden & Diamonds, home, League 2, January 21st, 2006; drew 2-2

**Second County Debut:** v Mansfield Town, away, League 2, August 12th, 2006; drew 1-1

**First County Goal:** v Rushden & Diamonds, home, League 2, January 21st, 2006; drew 2-2

**County Career:** 54 games, 5 goals

**Previous Clubs:** Oldham Athletic, Oxford United (loan), Chester City (loan), Stockport County (loan)



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# FROM THE HOME DRESSING ROOM

DINDO TELLS TRUE BLUE THAT THE LADS LOVE KICKING TOWARDS THE CHEADLE END AND IT REALLY DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHEN THE FANS ARE IN FULL VOICE

## **Are you frustrated being on the bench at the moment?**

I am on a personal basis but it's great that the lads have been unbeaten. Obviously it's hard to get back to fitness sitting on the bench because I want to get back playing. But for the team it's brilliant to be fair, the lads have been fantastic.

## **Are you still able to play a part in the dressing room even though you're not out on the pitch?**

I'd like to think so. I'm still encouraging people to do the right things in training. I just try and use my experience to help everyone out, and help myself out at the same time actually. I'm learning a lot off the Gaffer to be fair and I feel as good as ever to be honest. I feel strong, I feel fit and I feel a better player than two or three years ago.

## **You've been promoted with County before. Can you bring that experience to the table?**

Yes, because I've been involved with Stoke and Wigan as well when Division Two storm a few years ago. After a difficult couple of months people were asking me why I'd gone back to County but I said we weren't a million miles away. It's no coincidence that we're now in the top seven. We're now looking to get in the top three because we've cut out the individual errors. I was a big part of that, all players have given a goal away at some part in their life but we've stopped doing that now and everyone's believing in themselves. We've took on board everything the Gaffer's said in training and taking it out onto the pitch. And it's no coincidence that we've started to win games.

## **Only three teams have ever gone eight games without conceding. You were in the Wigan team that achieved it in 2002-03 so you're now the only player to do it twice?**

That's right. John Filan was the keeper at Wigan and we went eight games without conceding and I think in the ninth game we were a minute away from winning and keeping another clean sheet. It didn't stop us going on a run because we won eleven games on the trot and that was on the way to us winning the league. Once you get on a good run it breeds confidence and we feel like we can win every game at the moment. Over the last eight games that's been the case.

## **It will be nice to break the record at home in front of our own fans won't it?**

If we were given the choice of where we wanted to break the league record we'd definitely want to do it at home. It would be nice for Wayne if he can do it on a personal level and for the club as well to get back in the record books. Given the chance I'm sure everyone would choose to do it at Edgeley Park where we've been in fantastic form recently. We've been going at teams right from the off and teams have found it very difficult to come here.

## **You were around in 96-97 and the vocal support is even better these days isn't it?**

It really does make a difference when that Cheadle End is in full voice and the lads love kicking towards there. We seem to play better attacking the Cheadle End. I'm sure Saturday will be big crowd and we couldn't have a bigger test than Swindon, one of the best teams in the league, but the lads will be looking to make it nine wins on the trot. Not just for Wayne and the back four but everybody really.





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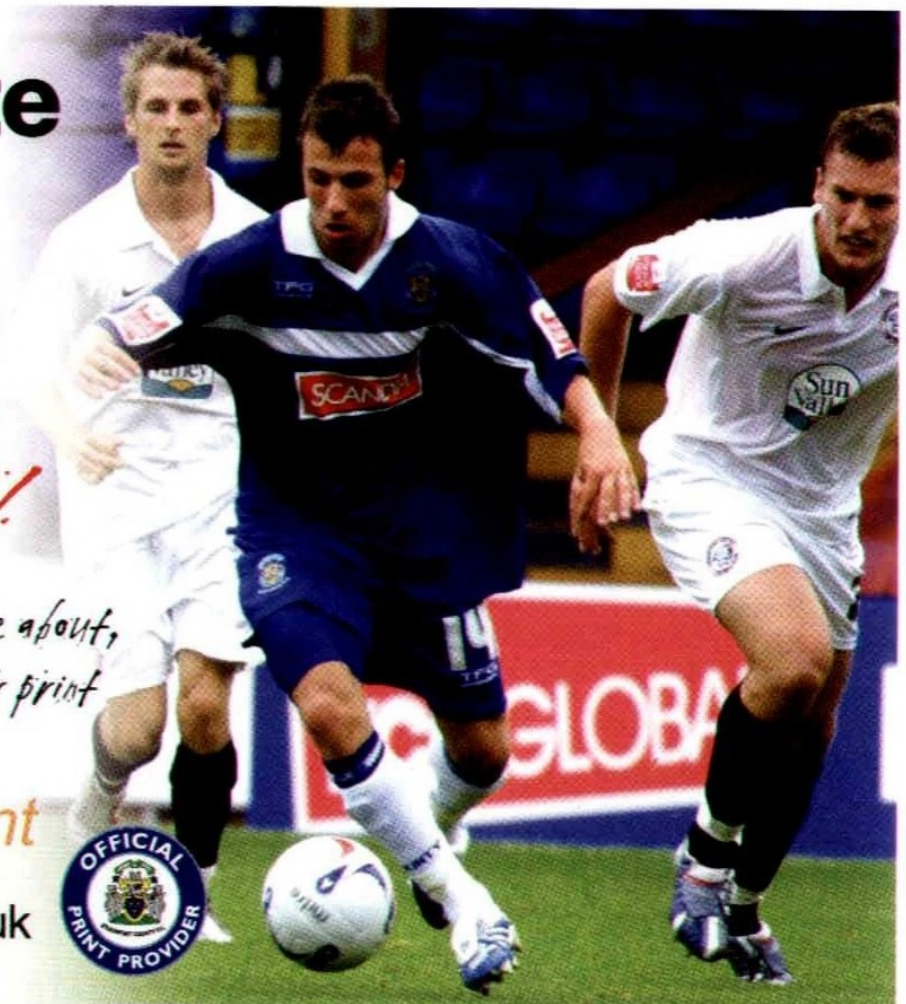
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# SUPER FANS

THE LATEST NEWS FROM OUR FANTASTIC SUPPORTERS CLUBS



**W**elcome back to Edgeley Park for what could be a history-making day for Stockport

County. With the postponement of last Saturday's game down at Bristol Rovers County have since had a well-earned break in preparation for today's eagerly-anticipated game.

So lets recap, the Hatters have now played, won and not conceded a goal for eight consecutive matches - or if it will sound better 720 minutes of sheer excellent football.

I just hope today that the whole of Stockport turns out to lend their support for not only this potential record breaking feat, but to also support a local club that is certainly on the rise.

We felt the fantastic atmosphere a 6,000+ crowd produced against Walsall, and that was a midweek game.

So hopefully with the arrival of a few Swindon fans today, the crowd may nudge nearer the 7,000 mark - Jim and the team certainly deserve it.

#### BRISTOL ROVERS

Last Saturday witnessed another miserable trip towards the South West - and no it wasn't down to the performance!! This trip ended in many County supporters being extremely disappointment following the early postponement of the game

at Bristol Rovers.

Luckily this time many fans found out about the game's predicament whilst still travelling down the M5 and the trusted Supporters Club coach were told of the bad news at Frankly Service Station.

That was down to club officials kindly keeping supporters updated on the situation and finally confirming the news people didn't want to hear.

I'll leave the inquest as to why it was called off to the many who have already discussed it on the message boards over the past week.

But it does seem strange that game was the only one called off in the whole of the Football League and Bristol Rovers just happened to have on their horizon a big game against Bristol City due to be played last Tuesday!

Never mind, a nice Tuesday night trip to Bristol later this month will be nice - it's just a shame the Blue & White Army will be a bit depleted compared to a weekend visit.

#### FANS FORUM

The Supporters Club held another successful Fans Forum here at Edgeley Park a couple of weeks ago. Once again it was a well-attended event as our guests Jim Gannon and Peter Ward answered an array of

questions for a good couple of hours. For the first time the Forum was recorded and available to be downloaded via the Stockport County website which was much appreciated by the many exiled supporters that live across the globe.

Many thanks therefore to Jim and Peter for their attendance along with Kenny Boxshall who again ensured the night ran smoothly with his dulcet tones.

Also, thanks to the people who sorted out the recording of the evening and the editing for listening on the web. We'll hopefully try and sort out another Fans Forum towards the end of the season - so watch this space.

#### CAR BOOT SALE

The Supporters Club are organising another Car Boot Sale here at Edgeley Park tomorrow (Sunday 4th March). We will again have an array of stalls selling both old 'n' new items. Stalls cost £6 if pre-booked or £8 on the day, with a start time of 8 o'clock.

For further details please contact 07944 089374 or [sfcclub@hotmail.com](mailto:sfcclub@hotmail.com).

Your support for this event would be very much appreciated.



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# JIMMY GANNON'S

## PLEASE BE UPSTANDING FOR THE COUNTY ANTHEM

### VERSE ONE

We are everything in football,  
That people say is sad and wrong.  
But when we go to Edgeley Park,  
We will sing our County song,  
We will raise our voice in cho-orus,  
As we did in times before,  
And at Edgeley Park our greatest pride,  
Is the scarf my Father wore,

### CHORUS

It's forever being beautiful,  
And the colours white and blue,  
I wore it proudly round my neck,  
At Chester-field and Crewe,  
My father was a County fan,  
Like my Grandfather before,  
And at Edgeley Park I love to wear,  
The scarf my Father wore!

### VERSE TWO

We will always follow County,  
To all games far and near,  
And at Edgeley Park we'll sing those songs,  
That my Father loved to hear,  
We will raise our pints in mem-ory,  
Of the games he loved to seeeee,  
And at Edgeley Park I'll always wear,  
The scarf he left to meeeee!

### CHORUS

### VERSE THREE

It's passed down the gen-erations,  
Through my fam-ily,  
Oh my Grandad gave it to my dad,  
And my dad gave it to me,  
And when my time is over,  
And when life's long race is run,  
I will take the scarf from 'round my neck,  
And I'll pass it to my son!

### CHORUS

### VERSE FOUR

Aaaaa I walked up those gallows steps,  
I looked down at that trap door,  
Then he pulled the switch,  
He made me twitch, and I knew I was no more,  
And as I swung from to and fro,  
My body's now a wreck,  
But there was no rope that strung me up,  
'Twas the scarf around my neck!

### CHORUS

### BRISTOL ... OR NOT!

I never made it to this match last season thanks to being ill. I was doubly annoyed as it is a new ground for me so I was determined to get there for this one. In fact, I had myself booked on the Bobby bus as soon as the fixtures were announced! So I was quite looking forward to this day out. A fairly full Bobby coach set off at 9:30. At around 11am we got a phone call to tell us that there was to be a pitch inspection at midday and that it was not looking good. You've got to be kidding me! We prepared ourselves for the worst and discussed amongst ourselves what to do if it did get called off. People studied the fixture list for other games to go to - Walsall being one contender so we could go and cheer on Coops (but could we really cheer on our promotion rivals with any amount of gusto?) but by the time the worst was confirmed and the game was indeed called off, we were a mere 45 miles outside Bristol. Nice. We did what any self-respecting thirsty County fan would do. Forget the football, take the very next turn off (it happened to be Gloucester) and go and sit in a pub for three hours! Actually, we did have a cracking time in "The Famous Pint Pot", the cider was excellent, they had a nice bitter - albeit it a little pricey, they had SKY Sports on and it broke up the journey for us, but it is a nuisance that we now have to go back on a Tuesday night. Oh well, on the bright side it now means that we get the chance to break this record in front of the Cheadle End. So let's get behind the lads today and try and get another three points in the bag.

### FANS FORUM IN LONDON

The Hatters Independent Supporters Club has received confirmation that Jim Gannon, and one or more of our directors, can attend a Fans Forum in London on the eve of the Barnet game.

We have managed to find a venue so the event will take place at The Masons Arms, on 51 Upper Berkeley Street. There is a link to the pub details on the Beer in the Evening website at [www.beerinthevening.com/pubs/s/71/7133/Masons\\_Arms/Marylebone](http://www.beerinthevening.com/pubs/s/71/7133/Masons_Arms/Marylebone)

The pub is close to Marble Arch underground station on the Central Line. A search on the Transport for London journey planner gives the following 10-minute walking route; turn right out of Marble Arch station, right onto Great Cumberland Place, when this meets Upper Berkeley Street turn left to reach the pub.

The plan is to start at about 7.30pm (subject to when the top table guests arrive) and run through until 9.30pm at the latest - to give those from more outlying districts a chance to head home. It will be a fairly standard format with you getting the chance to ask the football management and directors questions from the floor. I'm sure there will be a chance to drink and chat a little longer although not necessarily with the top table guests.

We look forward to meeting up with anyone who can make it to the Masons Arms in a couple of weeks.

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### FINGERPOST TRAVEL CLUB

Departs the Fingerpost at 09.00am and costs £22.

To book contact Lou Spalding on 07970 549194.

### COUNTY SUPPORTERS CLUB

Departs Edgeley Park at 09.30am and cost £19 (adults) and £16 (Under-16's).

Coach bookings must be made at the ticket office and paid for when

booking or by Friday prior to departure.

You can also ring 0161 286 8888 (ext 251), e-mail [awaytravel@stockport-county.com](mailto:awaytravel@stockport-county.com) or come into the Supporters Club Bar on a matchday.

### JUNIOR HATTERS

Departs from the Crown in Great Moor at 08.30am picking up from Edgeley Park at 08.45am.

To book contact Brenda Williams on 0161 487 2766 or Ian Butterworth on 0161 456 7606.

### TICKETS

It's pay on the gate for the Blue & White Army at Underhill where we have been allocated the East Terrace Southern Section.

Prices are £15 (adults) and £11 (concessions).

Please note, though, that if you wish to gain entry at the concessionary price (Over-60s, Students with a valid NUS card and Under-18's) you must first visit the ticket office at Underhill where they will give you a voucher which can be presented at the turnstiles to receive the £4 discount.

Under-12s can gain entry for just £5.00 but they must also collect a voucher from the ticket office.



# SCANDIA

## MAN OF THE MATCH

This season you can vote for your Scandia Man of the Match and be in with a chance of winning a case of Scandia Gold for yourself.

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# AT THE HEART OF STOCKPORT,

OUT AND ABOUT WITH OUR FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY TEAM

**G**ood afternoon and welcome back to Edgeley Park for the top-of-the-table clash with Swindon Town.

Let's make sure we get right behind the lads and cheer them on to a new Football League record of nine consecutive wins with nine consecutive clean sheets.



## FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY GUESTS

In the smile Family Block for this afternoon's fixture are participants from our two FA Charter Standard holiday courses held at New Mills Football Club and Kingsway High School in Gatley.

Our ballboys today are Norbury Moor Rangers Junior Football Club from Hazel Grove who play their football in the Stockport Metro League.

We are also joined by guests from Edward Mellor Estate Agents, sponsors of our 'Community Cup'.

It's been a long time since they were last at Edgeley Park for a match, but they are back and we are delighted to welcome them to Edgeley Park.

Our Senior Citizens Bingo Club members are also joining us this afternoon to cheer the team on.



THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE COMMUNITY CUP FOR GIRLS - UNDER-13S  
Thursday saw us hold the 'Area Finals' of the Football League Community Cup at The Power League Complex in Heaton Mersey.

Our school, Astley Sports College from Dukinfield, competed on the day, their scores were -

**Game 1 -**  
Stockport County 0 v 4 Rochdale

**Game 2 -**  
Stockport County 0 v 2 Oldham Athletic

**Game 3 -**  
Stockport County 0 v 3 Carlisle United

**Game 4 -**  
Stockport County 0 v 2 Bradford City

**Game 5 -**  
Stockport County 1 v 3 Bury

**Game 6 -**  
Stockport County 1 v 2 Burnley

**Game 7 -**  
Stockport County 0 v 3 Leeds United

Unfortunately, it wasn't to be this year for Astley Sports College or Stockport County.

Carlisle United FC were the winners, playing 7 and winning 7, which sees them take the place in the 'Regional Finals' to be held at Barnsley this coming Wednesday.

Both the Football League Community Cup for Under-11s and Under-13s will be back again next season.

Our thanks go to The Football League, Puma, Sportsmatch and the Football in the Community support office for giving children the opportunity to

compete against other schools and clubs on a local, regional and national basis.



## EDWARD MELLOR COMMUNITY CUP 2007

As mentioned in previous notes, the Edward Mellor Community Cup 2007 will take place at our Manor Farm Training Ground in Timperley during the May Bank Holiday.

The cup is open to Junior Football Clubs who play in Leagues affiliated to the Cheshire FA, Lancashire FA and Manchester FA.

**Saturday 5th May -**  
Under-7s 9.30am

**Saturday 5th May -**  
Under-8s 1.30pm

**Sunday 6th May -**  
Under-9s 9.30pm

**Sunday 6th May -**  
Under-10s 1.30pm

**Monday 7th May -**  
Under-11s 9.30pm

**Monday 7th May -**  
Under-12s 1.30pm

Application forms are available from the Football in the Community Office on 0161-286-8888 ext 262.

Cost per team is £40.00 or two teams for £70.00; the deadline for entries is Tuesday 1st May 2007.

## SOCCER COURSE - EGG ... SPLOSIVE EASTER!

Our next FA Charter Standard Holiday Courses take place during the Easter Holidays as follows -

**Venue:** Moorfield Primary, Lyndhurst

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# AT THE HEART OF FOOTBALL



Avenue, Hazel Grove

**Date:** Monday 2nd to Thursday 5th April 2007

**Ref:** FITC 94

**Venue:** Stockport School, Mile End Lane, Heaviley

**Date:** Tuesday 10th April to Friday 13th April 2007

**Ref:** FITC 95

**Cost:**

**6/7 years old**

Daily - £7.00

Pre-Booked - £25.00

On Day - £30.00

**8/16 years old**

Daily - £12.00

Pre-Booked - £40.00

On Day - £45.00

**Times:**

6/7 years old - 10am to 12 noon

8/16 years old - 10am to 3pm

**Required:** Football Kit, Trainers, Football Boots, packed lunch, drinks, and warm clothes.

Application forms are available from the Club Shop and Reception here at Edgeley Park or from the Football in the Community Office on 0161-286-8888 ext 262.

**CURRENT ACTIVITIES**

We are busy this half term visiting the following schools -

Banks Lane Infants (Offerton)

Woodley Primary

North Reddish Juniors

Meadowbank Primary (Cheadle)

Hursthead Junior (Cheadle Hulme)

Greenside Primary (Droylsden)

Hayfield Primary (High Peak)

Banks Lane Junior (Offerton)

Lumhead Primary (Gatley)

Great Moor Infants

The Fairway Primary (Offerton)

Greave Primary

St. Joseph's Primary (Stockport)

St. Ambrose Primary (Adswold)

Moorfield Primary (Hazel Grove)

St. Anne's Primary (Audenshaw)

Lostock Hall Primary (Poynton)

Chinley Primary (High Peak)

Alexandra Park Juniors (Edgeley)

Cheadle Primary

We will be holding our popular After School Sessions, In Term Coaching Sessions, Skills Challenges and Curriculum Coaching in the above schools, keeping ourselves busy spreading the word and encouraging children and their families to get involved in football and come along to Edgeley Park and watch Stockport County.

**'GO FOR GOAL!'**

Once again, we have been asked by the Mayor of Stockport to hold our 'Go for Goal!' tournament for local Stockport Schools.

Application forms for the event have gone out to each and every school in the Borough, giving them the chance to enter one or two teams.

The tournament will be held at The Power League Complex in Heaton Mersey during

March/April with the final being played during half time at our fixture versus MK Dons on Saturday 21st April 2007.

As we are carrying out the tournament on behalf of the Mayor, all proceeds from the event will be donated to the Mayor's Charity, The Wellspring Kitchen, based in Stockport.

**And Finally**

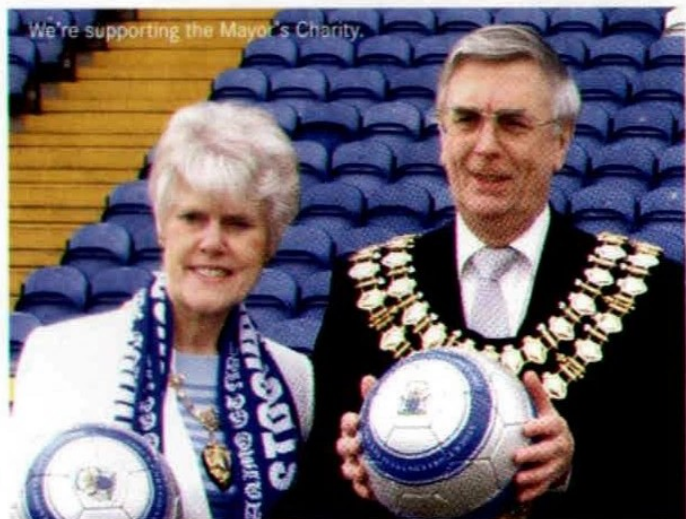
That's all for now folks, before I go I would like to thank Aaron Kelly and Nicholas Wrigley, who have been with us recently as part of our Work Placement Scheme, for their help and support for our Football in the Community Project here at Stockport County.

Keep cheering the team on and hope we have another three points at 4.45pm today, enjoy the game and have a safe journey home.

Yours in the Community

Mike Smith

Football in the Community Officer



# Citizen

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# GIRL POWER

TRUEBLUE BRINGS YOU ALL THE NEWS FROM THE COUNTY LADIES CAMP

## LIVERPOOL LADIES 4 COUNTY LADIES 0

Last Sunday County visited promotion-chasing Liverpool who had only played one league game since November.

With Liverpool looking to catch up on their title challengers, the Hatters were in for a difficult afternoon.

County introduced forward Caroline Price who had been signed hours before the recent transfer deadline from Crewe Alexandra.

The visitors made a poor start to the game as Liverpool put them under pressure from the outset. As early as the 3rd minute keeper Krystal Parker made a reaction save as a Liverpool free kick came through a crowded goalmouth.

County could not get out of their own half and mounted a rearguard action. Parker was kept busy and required treatment on two occasions when she collided with Liverpool forwards as she collected the ball.

The home side couldn't believe their luck when in the 38th minute a long range shot hit the cross bar and Kelly Davies headed the rebound into the arms of Parker.

Price was getting little service but did enjoy a shot on goal on 42 minutes that was pushed wide for a corner.

The second half continued with the County defenders Clarke, Cummins, Harrop and Spencer working overtime.

However, on 57 minutes the County defence was finally breached with a speculative shot from Chantelle Parry. Parker managed to get an outstretched hand on the ball but could not prevent it crossing the line.

The Ladies remained battling as a unit but were hit by two goals in three minutes.

Parry was again causing major problems and scored when through one-on-one with Parker in the 75th minute and on 78 minutes she crossed for Tammy Byrne to score a simple goal.

On this form Liverpool looked the strongest side in the division and kept the visitors attacks to minimum.

The fourth goal came on 84 minutes when a corner fell nicely for substitute Danielle Sheen to volley home.

County: Krystal Parker, Hannah Clarke (Racheal Davies 78), Chloe Spencer, Nicola Doig (Abbie Wynn 69), Claire Harrop, Jennie Cummins, Sue Hunt, Charlotte Higginson, Caroline Price, Krystle Johnston, Amanda Goodwin (Tracey Sloane 69).

Subs not used: Emma Jenks, Jane Fox.

### NEXT GAME

County's next game takes place tomorrow, March 4th, when Newcastle United visit Woodley Sports. Kick-off is 2.00pm.

## FA Women's Premier League Northern Division

POS	TEAM	PL	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1	Lincoln City	15	9	4	2	36	18	31
2	Crewe Alexandra	18	9	4	5	31	31	31
3	Liverpool	11	8	1	2	32	12	25
4	Tranmere Rovers	17	6	4	7	37	30	22
5	<b>Stockport County</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>19</b>
6	Nottingham Forest	12	5	3	4	25	23	18
7	Aston Villa	14	4	5	5	28	30	17
8	Wolverhampton	15	4	5	6	24	28	17
9	Manchester City	14	4	5	5	19	24	17
10	Newcastle United	10	4	2	4	20	14	14
11	Preston North End	13	3	5	5	15	28	14
12	Curzon Ashton	17	4	2	11	17	41	14



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# JUST FOR LAUGHS

TRUEBLUE TAKES A LIGHT-HEARTED LOOK AT THE WORLD OF FOOTBALL

## WEMBLEY HOODOO

Whether or not Wembley Stadium will be ready in time to stage this season's FA Cup Final in May, Bolton Wanderers, after recently losing to Arsenal in a fourth round replay, will not be there. Gone is the chance to be the first winners at both the old and new stadiums. So chairman Phil Gartside and friends drove down to the adjacent arena to watch local whiz-kid Amir Khan take on French super featherweight champion Mohammed Medjadi and the fight lasted ... precisely 55 seconds! Khan, a Wanderers fan, then produced an awesome right cross which left his opponent in a heap. And must have left Phil and his pals wondering if their journey was really necessary.



## NOT DONE THING

At County we pride ourselves on having a balanced, uncontroversial team of programme contributors. But what about a paragraph which recently appeared in an official matchday publication, not from our division we hastily point out - "If you don't mind I'll not talk about today's visitors as I've found an unnecessary number of their fans to be unpleasant, violent half-wits." Not surprisingly there were many complaints, a swift apology was issued by the home club and the columnist axed. His column for the next programme was consequently ripped out of the already printed issue, meaning a jump from Page 44 to 47. Thankfully, we're never likely to have that problem. Fans of all clubs are warmly welcomed to Edgeley Park.

## FATHERLY SUPPORT

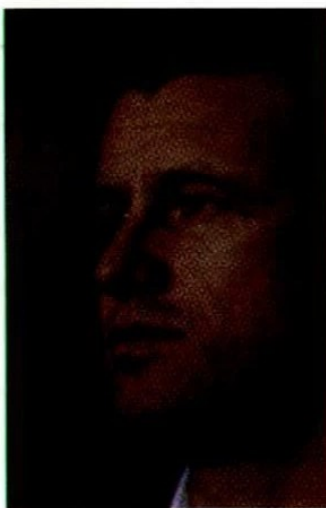
Did you spot Brazil coach Dunga's unconventional attire when watching his team's recent friendly match against Portugal at Arsenal's Emirates Stadium? No traditional tracksuit or jacket and tie for him, but a natty black and white patterned shirt, which he afterwards explained was designed by his fashion student daughter and he just wished to help her by showing it off. On a freezing cold night in North London, now that's what we call fatherly support. But we doubt if the "new look" will ever catch on.

## JUST COINCIDENCE?

It is well known that two owners of Championship clubs are the best of enemies. Was it pure coincidence that when the two recently clashed, the home club had removed the comfortable sofas and armchairs from their boardroom hospitality area and vice presidents' club and replaced them with canteen style table and chairs?

## CALYPSO BOY

Theo Walcott may be something of a rarity - an Englishman in an Arsenal shirt. But Theo's family originate from Barbados - remember the great West Indian cricketer, Clyde Walcott, a member of the "Three W's"? - and now many of the calypso islanders,



believing Theo to be one of their own, are taking an increasing interest in the game and taken to wearing replica Arsenal shirts. How they must have celebrated the young man's first ever Arsenal goal in the Carling Cup final!

## 'DARK FORCES' AT WORK

It appears controversy concerning referees is now simply confined to England and other

top footballing countries. From Australia, that hotbed of the world game, we hear the story of John Kosmina, coach of Adelaide United, pretending to award his runners-up medal to the whistle blower after his side had lost the grand final to Melbourne Victory ... by 6-0! While he claimed "dark forces of the universe" had been at work, it sounds like the best team won to us. Quite a controversial character our friend, Mr Kosmina - he once allegedly grabbed Melbourne skipper Kevin Muscat, once of Wolves and Millwall, around the throat during an altercation back in October. Not surprisingly, he has been told by the authorities to improve his conduct.





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# NEXT IN LINE

TRUEBLUE KEEPS YOU UP TO DATE WITH NEWS ON COUNTY'S RESERVE AND YOUTH TEAMS.

## COUNTY YOUTH 1 PRESTON NORTH END 0

The young Hatters progressed to the Area Semi Finals of the Puma Youth Alliance Cup Northern Section with this hard fought victory at our Manor Farm training ground last Saturday.

The youngsters created several chances with North End keeper Andrew Murray making two excellent saves from Paul Ennis.

The only goal of the game came after 34 minutes when Ennis pushed the ball through to Ryan Crowther to slot the ball past the advancing keeper.

As the visitors looked for an equaliser the back line held firm and the midfield worked hard to ensure we qualified for the semi final against Scunthorpe United next Saturday.

Grimsby Town will play Chester City in the other semi on the same day.

County: Jason Astbury, Jake Wood, Rob Molyneux, James Vincent, Lee Williams, Alex Elliott, Ryan Crowther, Paul Turnbull, Chris Coward (Neil Holmes), Martin Smeaton (Danny Ellis), Paul Ennis. Subs not used: Matthew Bell, Lee Jackson, Robert Vincent.

With Gian Luca Havern going on work experience with Radcliffe Borough and Gregg Tansey and Tommy Rowe in the first team squad Craig Madden had to call on six schoolboys from the Centre of Excellence.

Madden was pleased with the

performance and the work rate of the whole squad which only included three second years.

## BOLTON WANDERERS 1 COUNTY RESERVES 0

A second-half goal from Jaroslaw Fojut was enough to give Wanderers a narrow victory in our penultimate Manchester Senior Cup tie on Wednesday.

A full report on the game which was switched from Edgeley Park to the Trotters training ground in Euxton will appear in the next edition of True Blue.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

This week's youngster in the spotlight is first year striker Martin Smeaton.

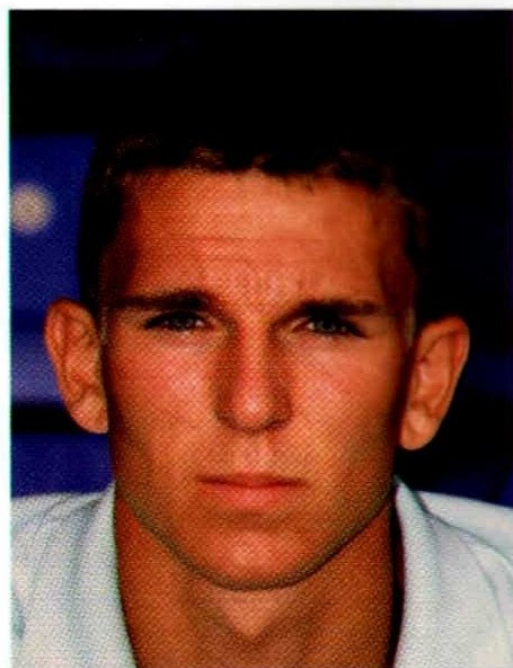
Martin is from Liverpool and was born on October 12, 1989.

He represented Sefton and District Schoolboys, joining our Centre of Excellence at 12 years old.

Martin was a regular in the youth team squad last season whilst he was still at school after making his debut against Bury in August 2005, playing 21 games scoring one.

Martin signed as an apprentice in the summer and he has now played forty youth games, scoring eight goals.

His reserve team debut came at Northwich Victoria in the UniBond Cheshire Senior Cup when he came off the bench in the second half to replace Chris Coward.



## PUMA YOUTH ALLIANCE NORTH WEST B DIVISION

Sat Aug 12	Carlisle United	A	4-0
Sat Aug 19	Preston North End	H	2-0
Sat Sep 2	Bury	A	2-0
Sat Sep 9	Wigan Athletic	H	2-5
Sat Sep 16	Oldham Athletic	H	0-1
Sat Sep 23	Macclesfield Town	H	3-1
Sat Sep 30	Shrewsbury Town	H	1-1
Sat Oct 7	Burnley (LC1)	A	8-2
Sat Oct 21	Tranmere Rovers	A	0-1
Sat Oct 28	Wrexham	A	2-2
Sat Nov 4	Chester City	H	1-0
Tue Nov 7	Rotherham (FAYC1)	H	5-3
Sat Nov 11	Carlisle United (LC2)	A	1-0
Sat Nov 18	Port Vale	H	3-2
Wed Nov 22	Darlington (FAYC2)	A	2-1
Sat Dec 9	Tranmere Rovers	H	5-2
Sat Dec 16	Shrewsbury Town	A	6-0
Sat Jan 6	Chester City	A	0-4
Wed Jan 10	Southampton (FAYC3)	H*	0-2
Sat Jan 20	Wrexham	H	4-1
Sat Feb 3	Walsall	H	4-3
Sat Feb 24	Preston NE (LC3)	H	1-0
Sat Mar 3	Macclesfield Town	A	
Sat Mar 10	Scunthorpe United (LC4)	H	
Sat Mar 17	Burnley	H	
Sat Mar 31	Accrington Stanley	A	
Sat Apr 7	Blackpool	H	
Sat Apr 14	Rochdale	A	
TBA	Walsall	A	
TBA	Port Vale	A	

\* Played at Southampton

## MANCHESTER SENIOR CUP

Tue Sep 5	Manchester United	H	1-1
			Won 2-0 on pens
Wed Sep 13	Oldham Athletic	A	0-1
Tue Nov 28	Manchester City	A	1-3
Wed Feb 28	Bolton Wanderers	H	0-1 *
TBA	Bury	H	

\* played at Bolton

## CHESHIRE SENIOR CUP

Tue Sep 19	Nantwich Town	A	4-2
Tues Nov 14	Northwich Victoria	A	1-2



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the 100 Club the better for the club as we seek to maintain or even increase sponsorship and investment in the future from the town's business community.

Between now and the end of the season we will feature some of our members businesses to let you know what they can offer our supporters and other companies in the area.

This afternoon we feature the **County Business Club** who are hosting a business-to-business event at Edgeley Park on Thursday 15th March.

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# END

## MARTIN BOOKER BRINGS US ALL THE NEWS FROM THE HATTERS BUSY COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT

**W**hat a week it's been in the County Commercial Department. It's a busy time with the run we are on right now with a number of local businesses and supporters getting in touch for sponsorship and hospitality packages for the remainder of the season.

Success breeds success and with everything going so well on the field we are determined to build on this to the benefit of the club financially.

Today's Match Sponsors are Big Apple Car Hire. From their offices and depot in Stockport just a few miles from Manchester Airport they are able to deliver vehicles to all areas of South Manchester and Cheshire. Whether it is a short weekend hire, a commercial vehicle, a 4x4's off roader or corporate customers requiring car hire from 1 day, 1 month or 1 year they are able to meet all requirements.

Big Apple have a large range of vehicles available at Manchester Airport and Stockport, from small 5-door cars, family saloons, estate vehicles, 7-seater people carriers up to prestigious automatic Mercedes and BMW's including a selection of 4x4 vehicles, sports cars and commercial vehicles if required.

Big Apple have sponsored some of our promotional cars, including Jim Gannon's Mercedes, so our sincere thanks go to Rob Bellamy for his terrific support.

I hope County fans can take advantage of some great offers on car and van rental from Big Apple Car Hire.

Call them today on 0161 4952020 for a great deal on Car and Van Hire.

Match Ball Sponsors are Vendman Systems. Vendman is a complete

integrated vending control system developed since 1993.

Designed by the vending industry, developed by Vendman Systems, the Vendman Family is unrivalled.

It all began over ten years ago with a partnership formed between Vendman and a local vending company. The vision was to develop a Vending system designed to meet the needs of the industry.

More than ten years on the product Vendman continues to evolve, as do the needs of the Vending industry.

The success of Vendman has been a continuing desire to understand the needs of their customers and develop systems accordingly.

If you require any vending solutions talk to Vendman Systems on 0161 487 5999 or check out their website [www.vendman.com](http://www.vendman.com)

Thanks to Rob Little and Martin Hilton from Vendman systems who are also here today supporting their sponsored player Michael Rose.

### NEW SIGNING FOR COUNTY!



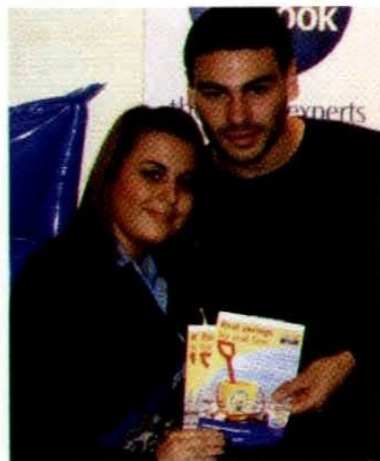
I'd like to welcome Rachael Moss as our new Commercial Executive. Rachael joins us from Didsbury

Golf Club and will be looking after a number of our existing sponsors relationships including 100 Club Members, hospitality guests and seasonal sponsors over the coming months.

With the County Commercial Department experiencing a high level of enquiries thanks to the fantastic form of late, Rachael will add some much needed strength to the team.

Please give her a warm Edgeley Park welcome.

### COUNTY HOLIDAY CLUB PROMOTION



During the half-term holiday six County starts popped in to Thomas Cook Merseyway to promote the fantastic County Holiday Club,

It was great to see so many young Hatters support the event and our congratulations goes to Martyn McGlone, the lucky fan who won a £100 Holiday Voucher which he will receive today on the pitch at half time!

Thomas Cook are the official Holiday supplier to Stockport County and the Blue & White Army.

Just call into the Thomas Cook branch on Merseyway to receive some fabulous holiday discounts!





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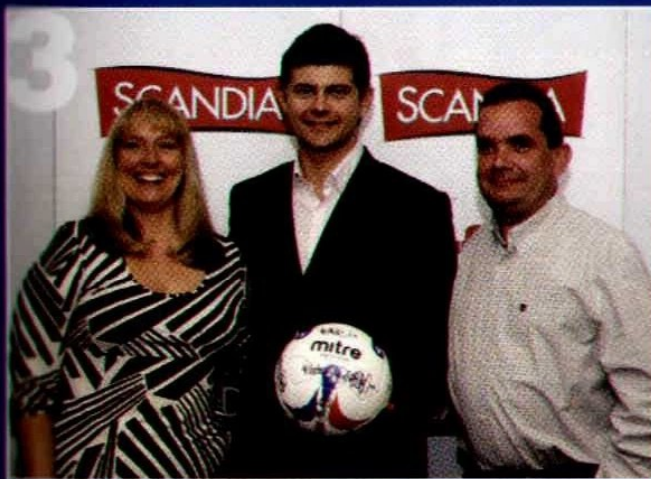
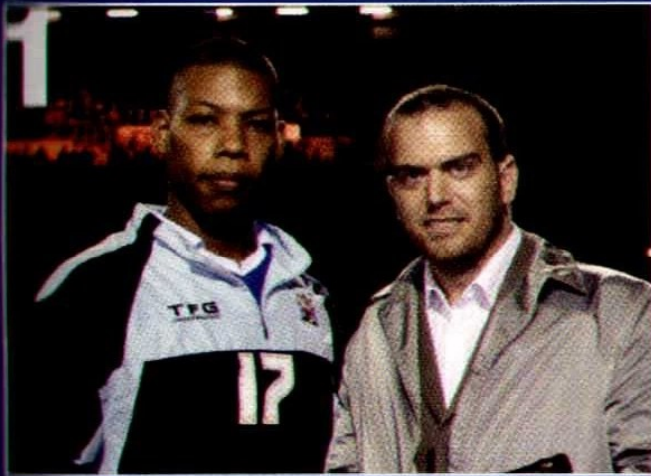
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# SPONSORS GALLERY

TRUEBLUE TAKES A LOOK AT SOME OF THE SPONSORS FROM OUR RECENT HOME GAME AGAINST WALSHALL



- 1 - Paul Crevillen, from Match Sponsors Promotions 81, presents Tes Bramble with a bottle of champagne for his man-of-the-match performance
- 2 - Our mascot, Callum Eaves, lines up with the skippers and match officials
- 3 - Linda Wilson and Marc Staples, from Matchball Sponsors Tailored Office Solutions, are presented with an official match ball by Tom Bennett
- 4 - Chris Cope, from Match Sponsors Promotions 81, receives a signed shirt from Tom Bennett to mark the occasion

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**Craig Madden**  
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**Rodger Wyld**  
Available for Sponsorship



**Richard Landon**  
RESB Ltd



# THEY PLAYED AT THE PARK

Over the summer months stockportcounty.com, the club's official website, asked fans to nominate the best players they've seen line-up against County here at Edgeley Park.

Some of the greatest names in world football have been nominated and, over the course of the season, we aim to feature a different star in each edition of True Blue.

This afternoon we feature Bob Paisley MBE, the former Liverpool player who succeeded the legendary Bill Shankly in the Anfield hot seat to emerge as, arguably, the most successful manager in football history.

**THE OCCASION**  
FA CUP FIFTH ROUND  
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11 1950  
COUNTY 1 (ALEX HERD)  
LIVERPOOL 2 (JOE FAGAN, ALBERT STUBBINS)  
ATTENDANCE: 27,833

## THEY PLAYED AT THE PARK

- Uwe Seeler
- Bobby Moore
- Roy McFarland
- Matt Le Tissier
- Danny Blanchflower
- Raich Carter
- Billy Liddell
- Alan Hansen
- Kieron Dyer
- Neville Southall
- Tom Finney
- Roger Hunt
- Dixie Dean
- Jimmy McIlroy
- Bill Shankly
- Karl Heinz Riedle
- Paul Gascoigne
- Nat Lofthouse
- Eddie Hapgood
- Bob Paisley

Yes, it's that game again, and while our previous focus highlighted the career of one of football's great players in the Liverpool team which somehow triumphed that day in Scottish international left winger, Billy Liddell, this week we throw the spotlight on a man better remembered for his exceptional managerial career.

Bob Paisley, as a player, was once on schoolboy forms with Wolves, had an unsuccessful trial with his first love, Sunderland, and then helped Bishop Auckland beat Wellington 3-0 after extra time in the FA Amateur Cup Final at Roker Park in 1939.

In May of that year, Bob signed for Liverpool. But his career was then interrupted by World War II, during which he had a distinguished record serving under General Montgomery in the desert.

Back in Civvy Street, Bob played 33 times all at left half in helping Liverpool win the First Division championship in the 1946-47 season. Between 1946 and '53, he played in 253 League games for the Anfield giants and scored 10 goals.

The biggest disappointment must have been in 1950 when, having played in the County game and, in fact, scored a vital goal in the semi final success over Everton at Maine Road, Bob was omitted from the FA Cup Final team.

Bob joined the coaching staff in 1954 and was a key member of Bill Shankly's "Boot Room" during the Scotsman's inspirational tenure of the managerial chain.

After 20 years behind the scenes, Bob took over from Shanks in July 1974. A difficult act to follow?

Undoubtedly, but can anybody even suggest he did not make a success of it?

Bob's record as Liverpool manager:

- European Cup winners in 1977, 1978 and 1981
- UEFA Cup winners in 1976
- First Division champions six times
- League Cup winners three times
- Super Cup winners in 1977
- Charity Shield winners on five occasions (once shared)
- Manager of the Year on six occasions
- Top signings: Kenny Dalglish from Celtic in 1977, to replace Kevin Keegan, and two years later Ian Rush from Chester.

A record most bosses can only dream about!

Bob may have come across as a quiet man, some said uncommunicative and unexcitable, but his teams did the talking for him on the field.

He insisted that the short, swift passing game, the search for space and the application of intelligence were the route to victory. Who could argue with that?

Graeme Souness, himself a strict disciplinarian, said of his time on Merseyside: "Let me tell you, Bob ruled Anfield with a rod of iron. He

was a commanding man and there were few who dared mess around with him."

There were tales of his love of carpet slippers, morning tea at a local garage and picking horses from the paper to have a flutter, but one could not doubt a keen footballing brain which never missed a trick.

Attention to detail and accumulation of information all contributed to Bob's successful reign in the hot seat at a time when only the champions of one's country qualified for the European Cup and Liverpool's absence was a rarity indeed.

Bob retired as manager in May 1983 and sadly died in February 1996 at the age of 77.



True Blue



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edgeley welcomes ...  
**SWINDON**





During his playing career, Paul Sturrock was a Dundee United legend who won 20 caps and scored three goals for Scotland.

In management, he became boss at Tannadice before moving to England and guiding Plymouth Argyle to promotion, briefly took over at then Premiership club Southampton and, in 2004, Sheffield Wednesday before being appointed to the Swindon Town hot seat this season following the departure of Dennis Wise and Gus Poyet to Leeds United.

The Robins got back on the winning road last Saturday and have headed north this afternoon for what is another episode between two teams eyeing promotion.

## SWINDON CLUB FACTS

Founded: 1881  
Stadium: County Ground  
Capacity: 15,728  
Nickname: The Robins  
Manager: Paul Sturrock

### GOALKEEPERS

13 Jon Stewart  
25 Phil Smith

### DEFENDERS

2 Jack Smith  
3 Jamie Vincent  
4 Sofiane Zaaboub  
5 Jerel Ifil  
6 Ady Williams  
12 Ricky Shakes  
15 Andrew Nicholas  
16 Patrick Noubissie

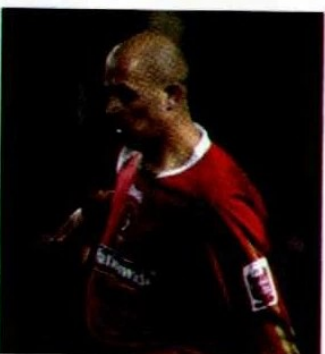
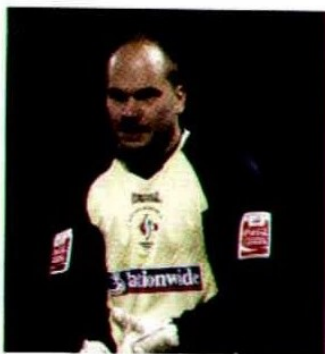
### MIDFIELDERS

7 Gareth Whalley  
8 Aaron Brown  
18 Paul Evans  
19 Michael Pook  
23 Curtis Weston  
34 Michael Timlin

### STRIKERS

9 Christian Roberts  
10 Lee Peacock  
20 Royce Brownlie  
21 Lucas Jutkiewicz  
22 Blair Sturrock  
28 Andy Caton

phil smith  
jack smith  
michael timlin  
christian roberts



TrueBlue now takes a brief look at Swindon's likely squad.

## IN GOAL

**Phil Smith** has spent the last two seasons playing for Crawley Town in the Conference, while his understudy, Jon Stewart, is still the youth team keeper at the County Ground.

## IN DEFENCE

**Jack Smith**, whose ninth-minute penalty accounted for Chester City seven days ago, and **Jerel Ifil** both were juniors at Watford and are now in their second and third seasons respectively at Swindon. Ifil's partner in central defence is likely to be **Jamie Vincent**, a summer arrival from Yeovil Town and a former Crystal Palace trainee who has over 300 senior games behind him for a number of clubs including Portsmouth and Derby County. Left back **Andy Nicholas** was a Liverpool trainee, now in his fourth season with the club. January signing **Patrick Noubissie** is a French right back who joined from Crewe Alexandra, but a definite absentee this afternoon will be **Adrian Williams**, who played over 300 games for Reading and last season with former manager Dennis Wise at Coventry City. He was due to undergo knee surgery this week.

## IN MIDFIELD

Swindon played a 4-3-3 formation last Saturday and their midfield trio was **Michael Timlin**, on loan from Fulham, local boy **Michael Pook** and **Sofiene Zaaboub**, a second Frenchman signed from FC Brussels. On the bench were **Aaron Brown**, who once played over 150 games for Bristol City and joined in 2005 from QPR, along with **Curtis Weston**, who became the youngest player at 17 years 119 days to appear in an FA Cup Final when he came on as a substitute for Millwall in 2004. Right winger **Ricky Shakes**, capped by Trinidad & Tobago and in his second season at Swindon after joining from Bolton Wanderers, is expected to recover from an ankle injury in time for today's game.

## IN ATTACK

Welshman **Christian Roberts** was a trainee with Cardiff City, his hometown club, and has been capped at under-21 level. Manager's son **Blair Sturrock** made his first Swindon start last week, while the front three was completed by **Lucas Jutkiewicz**, a Southampton born teenager who made his League debut at the end of last season. Experienced Scots striker **Lee Peacock**, with over 100 goals to his credit, will be remembered from his short spell at Manchester City, while just setting out on his career is **Luke Hopper**, whose appearance on the bench last week was his initial first team involvement.

## STAT ATTACK

**BIGGEST ATTENDANCES** At County 10,465 (1958-59) At Swindon 15,062 (1995-96)

**LOWEST ATTENDANCES** At County 1,680 (1984/85) At Swindon 2,657 (1984-85)

**BIGGEST WIN** At County County 3 Swindon 0 (1999-00) At Swindon Swindon 2 County 3 (1998-99)

**BIGGEST DEFEAT** At County County 2 Swindon 5 (2002-03) At Swindon Swindon 4 County 0 (1984-85)

**MOST APPEARANCES** For County Sean Connelly & Mike Flynn 8 each For Swindon Leigh Barnard & Alan Reeves 7 each

**MOST GOALS** For County Stuart Barlow & Luke Beckett 3 each For Swindon Alan Mayes 4



## A PEEP INTO THE AWAY DRESSING ROOM

# SWINDON THIS SEASON IN WORDS

This afternoon County return to action following last weekend's scandalous postponement and entertain Paul Sturrock's Swindon Town side who got back to winning ways by ending a sequence of four games without a win which had damaged their automatic promotion hopes and had led the manager to issue a get tough clarification call vowing to clear out any players not fully committed to the club's promotion push.

The Robins' promotion push has been based on an excellent home record which has seen 36 points picked up from the 54 competed for and this has helped to attract additional spectators through the gates, the Swindon board will be pleased that gates are up just under 1,000 on last season. They boast the division's only five-figure gate to date. 10,010 in attendance when they entertained our good friends from Bristol Rovers - good job it wasn't away as there was a heavy dew in the Bristol area!

County will be looking to avenge our 2-0 defeat in Wiltshire back in late August, when goals from Aaron Brown and Christian Roberts did the damage. They are not the most free scoring of sides but have built their success on a solid defence which kept its 10th clean sheet in their 1-0 win against Chester on Saturday, Jack Smith's 9th minute penalty proving to be the game's only goal.

The Robins blasted out of the blocks this season winning their first six home and away games under then boss Dennis Wise. Their first home defeat came in mid-September when a Trevor Benjamin strike on the stroke of half time earned Peterborough United a 1-0 victory at the County Ground. Three other visiting sides have also picked up maximum points, the successful trio being Lincoln City (1-0), Hereford United (2-1) and our next visitors here at EP, Hartlepool United who triumphed 1-0. Three home games have finished all square, honours being even against Boston United, Notts County and Darlington - all three games ended up 1-1.

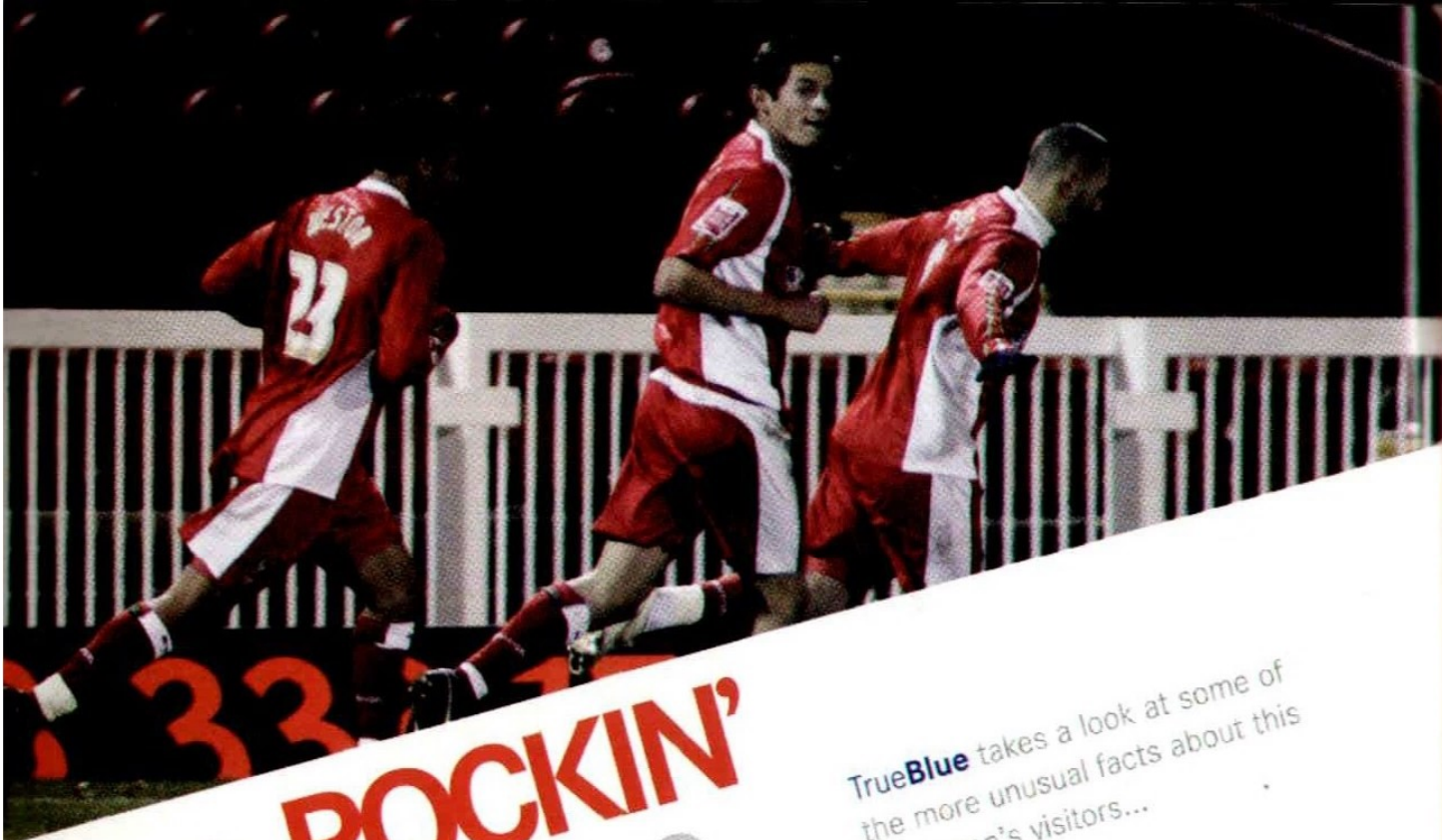
Their most comprehensive home victory was a 3-0 success over Grimsby Town back in October. The other teams to leave the County Ground licking their wounds have been Barnet (2-1), Rochdale (1-0), MK Dons (2-1), Bury (2-1), Bristol Rovers (2-1), Wycombe Wanderers (2-1), Wrexham (2-1) and Macclesfield Town (2-0).

It's been a case of honour even in four of their away fixtures, and rather peculiarly, all their away draws to date have also ended in 1-1 scorelines, these stalemates having come following outings to Notts County, Wycombe Wanderers, Accrington Stanley and Peterborough United. Last time on the road they slipped to a damaging 1-0 defeat at our next away venue Barnet, a result which left boss Sturrock less than best pleased! Their other three away defeats have come following unsuccessful trips to Wrexham (1-2), Mansfield Town (0-2) and Paul Ince's Macclesfield Town (1-2).

Away from home, points have been slightly harder to come by for the Robins, although they have still managed to secure 28 points on their travels from a won 8, drawn 4 and lost 4 record. Swindon fans did not have to wait long to see their first away win, it coming on the season's opening day, former Manchester City man Lee Peacock scoring the game's only goal at Hartlepool after 11 minutes. They have since added a further seven away wins, these coming following trips to Darlington (2-1), Chester City (2-0), Shrewsbury Town (2-1), Torquay Utd (1-0), Walsall (2-0), MK Dons (1-0) and Boston United (3-1).

The Robins blasted out of the blocks this season winning their first six home and away games under then boss Dennis Wise. Their first home defeat came in mid-September when a Trevor Benjamin strike on the stroke of half time earned Peterborough United a 1-0 victory at the County Ground. Three other visiting sides have also picked up maximum points, the successful trio being Lincoln City (1-0), Hereford United (2-1) and our next visitors here at EP, Hartlepool United who triumphed 1-0. Three home games have finished all square, honours being even against Boston United, Notts County and Darlington - all three games ended up 1-1.





# ROCKIN' ROBINS

TrueBlue takes a look at some of the more unusual facts about this afternoon's visitors...

## AT THE START

Historians will associate the name of William Pitt with that of a conservative Prime Minister from way back at the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries. But it was his namesake many years later, and a Reverend at that, who had much to do with the formation of Swindon Town Football Club, probably in 1881. It was then that the Spartans (an offshoot of a cricket club), captained by the Rev. Pitt, amalgamated with St Mark's Young Men's Friendly Society.

Wiltshire Cup success was taken for granted, so much so that one season the final was contested between Town's first and second teams. They were founder members of the Southern League Division One in 1894, along with the likes of Millwall and Southampton, and in 1920 all three

were original members of the Football League's Division Three (South).

Town made a sensational start when winning their opening fixture at the County Ground, their home since 1896, by 9-1 against Luton Town, nine times capped by England inside forward Harold Fleming scoring four of the goals. They finished fourth in the table.

Before that, Swindon had twice reached the FA Cup semi finals, in 1909-10 having Spurs and Manchester City among their victims before losing 2-0 to eventual winners Newcastle United and two years later accounting for West Ham United and Everton before missing out by the only goal in a replay when facing Barnsley. They remain Town's best FA Cup performances.

## TEENAGE DEBUTANT

Grenville Morris was a teenage debutant for the fledgling Town in 1897. Top scorer in successive seasons, he was one of many players sold to Nottingham Forest by necessity and there the inside forward enjoyed a lengthy career and won 21 international caps for Wales, which saw him score nine goals.

## LONDON BOY

Winger Bertie Denyer was the first London boy to win schoolboy international honours against Wales in 1907. After serving in the Sportsmen's Battalion in World War I, he spent nine years with Swindon.

## GOAL RECORDS

Harry Morris holds both the seasonal and career league goalscoring records for Town - 47



in Division Three (South) in 1926-27 and 216 overall between 1926 and 1933. He also scored five times in a match on two occasions, with former County striker Keith East doing so twice, against Mansfield Town in November 1965. Morris also netted in six successive FA Cup matches over two seasons.

#### CUP FINALIST

George Mansell was a 1931 FA Cup finalist with Birmingham, for whom he made 250 League and cup appearances at centre half. He joined Swindon in August 1936 and was outstanding in their 2-1 FA Cup replay win over Grimsby Town in January 1938.

#### FOUR FIGURE TRANSFER

The first player signed by Town for a four figure fee was Ben Morton, who arrived from Torquay United on October 30 1937 in a £1,000 move. The following season, he was top scorer for them with 28 League goals.

#### DRAMATIC IMPACT

Maurice Owen made a dramatic impact with Swindon in 1946-47. The wartime ex-Chindit scored on his Colts debut, hit four goals in one reserve game against Cardiff City, one against Leyton Orient and a hat-trick on his League debut against Watford on January 11. He netted 150 League goals during his 16 years with the club.

#### 12TH MAN SIGNED

In August 1952 Town manager Louis Page signed wing half Ralph Prouton from Arsenal, the transfer forms being completed when the player was acting as 12th man for Hampshire against Sussex in a County Cricket championship match.

#### HIGH AVERAGE

In their successful 1968-69 season, when they finished as Division Three runners-up for the second time in seven years, this time only behind champions Watford on goal difference,

Town enjoyed an average League attendance of 17,856. Seven times the crowd exceeded 20,000. They were particularly strong at home and goalkeeper Peter Downsborough and his defence conceded only seven goals there.

#### BEAT MIGHTY ARSENAL

Swindon beat mighty Arsenal 3-1 after extra time in the 1969 League Cup Final at Wembley (see page 65). They also won the Anglo Italian Cup a year later.

Seven days before their epic Wembley victory the Robins travelled to Edgeley Park for a Third Division game. County won 2-1 thanks to goals from Danny Campbell and Johnny Price in front of 6,647.

#### RAPID RISE

Starting with the 1985-86 season, when Town were crowned Fourth Division champions with a record 102 points, right through to 1992-93 when Glenn Hoddle guided the Robins into the Premiership via the play-offs, they had jumped through the four divisions in the space of eight seasons.

#### TEETOTALLER

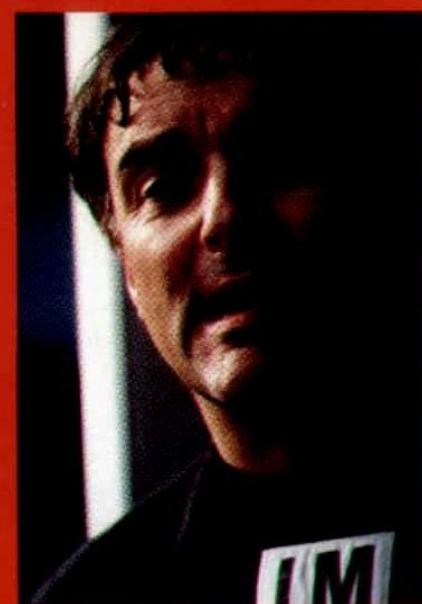
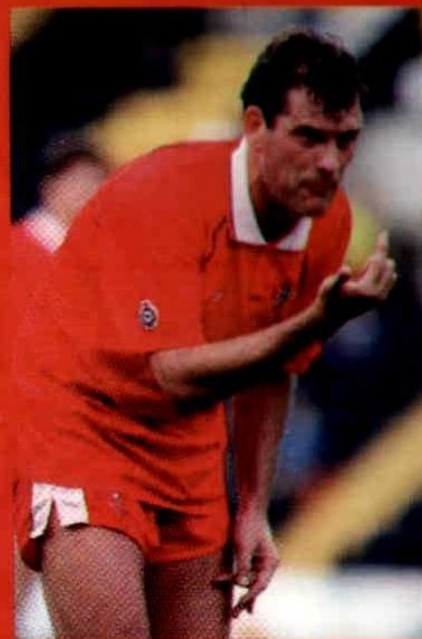
Man of the Match award for Swindon's Lou Macari during the 1986-87 promotion season brought him five gallons of Bell's whisky - but this teetotalter did not drink one drop of it (allegedly!).

#### TWO IN A DAY

On September 25 1996 Peter Thorne, a 78th minute substitute for Town, scored an extra time Coca Cola Cup goal at QPR in a 2-1 win. Earlier that afternoon, he had scored for the reserves.

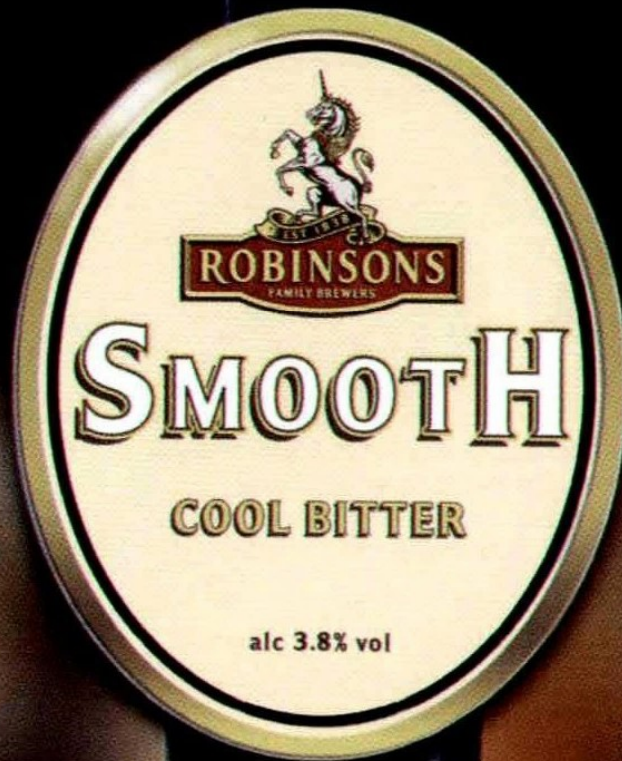
#### BEAT LEADERS

On March 11, 2000, bottom club Swindon defeated First Division leaders Charlton Athletic 1-0 at The Valley at a time when 54 points separated the two clubs in the table. Steve Cowe scored the goal.

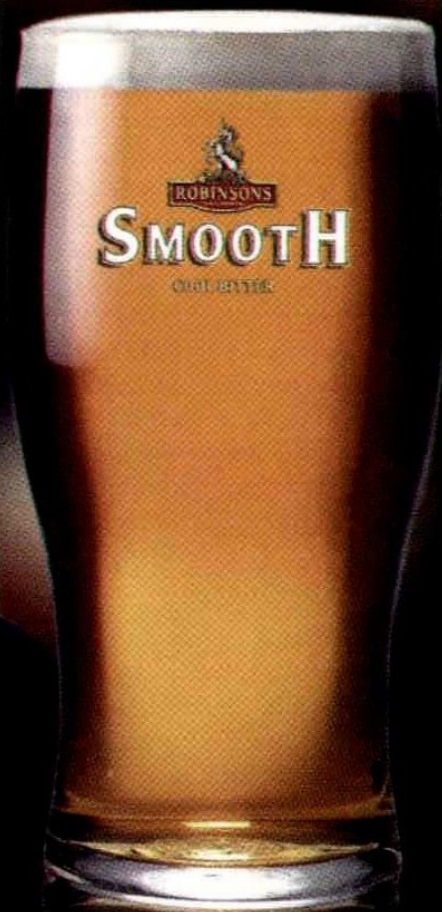




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# TERRACE HEROES

TrueBlue takes a look at some Swindon greats.

**T**he stories of Swindon Town's No.1 Cult Hero of all time and one of the two greatest days in the Robins' history go hand in hand.

Coupled with Town's promotion to the Premiership via the play-offs in 1993 must be that day at Wembley 24 years earlier when, against all odds, the then Third Division side beat the mighty Arsenal 3-1 after extra time to lift the League Cup.

And the name that stands out as a Swindon hero, and a man with an assured presence in club folklore, is left winger Don Rogers.

The Gunners, complaining about flu in the camp and the poor state of the pitch following the Horse of the Year Show the previous week, went 1-0 down to a Roger Smart goal, but equalised in the second half through Bobby Gould. And that's the way the score remained after 90 minutes.

Then Don took over. Towards the end of the first period of extra time, Swindon got a corner. The ball floated through to their skilful No.11 and, in a flash of brilliance, he brought it down with his right foot and cracked it past Arsenal keeper Bob Wilson with his left.

The fans celebrated and their day was made complete when, in the closing seconds, Don burst out of his own half, ran virtually the length of the pitch and then cunningly swerved past Wilson to clinch one of the greatest footballing shocks of all time.

Is he the finest player ever to pull on a Swindon shirt?

No doubt Don would get a few votes.

The teams on that unforgettable day in North London were:

**SWINDON:** Downsborough, Thomas, Trollope, Butler, Burrows, Harland, Heath, Smart, Smith, Noble (Penman), Rogers.

**ARSENAL:** Wilson, Storey, McNab, McLintock, Ure, Simpson (Graham), Radford, Sammels, Court, Gould, Armstrong.

George Armstrong, of course, later played for County.

Don, who progressed to the Swindon first team, via the apprentice ranks, played 400 League games for the Robins, in which he scored 146 goals, before later going to Crystal Palace, QPR and returning to Town in March 1976 when he played a further 12 games with two goals.

Representative honours came his way when he was capped by England at youth and under-23 level, in addition to representing the Football League at Coventry on March 18, 1970, when he and Jeff Astle (2) scored in a 3-2 win over the Scottish League.

Shaun Taylor and Steve White completed the nominated trio conducted among the Swindon fans to find top club legends.

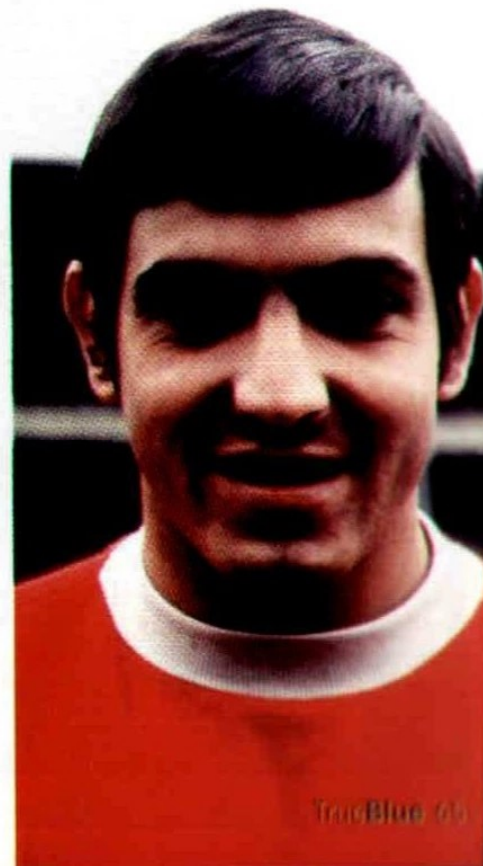
Shaun was a central defender who joined the Robins in July 1991 from Exeter City. He played his part in their elevation to the Premiership and, as during his time with the Devon club, had over 200 appearances to his name before his move to Bristol City in

September 1996. He also chipped in with 30 League goals.

If Shaun's main role was defending, Steve's was hitting the back of the net at the other end. And he proved a more than useful marksman during his eight years at the County Ground.

Steve had already chalked up 91 League goals for Bristol Rovers, Luton Town and Charlton Athletic before arriving at Swindon in July 1986, and in 244 League games while with the Wiltshire club he scored a further 83 times, including seven in their promotion to the Premiership season when Craig Maskell's 19 topped the charts.

Steve later played for Hereford United and Cardiff City and in all scored 223 career goals in 646 League games.





# HATTERS' MATCH STATS 2006-07

Opponents	Result	Scorers	Pos	att	vis
<b>AUGUST</b>					
Sat 05 Hereford	0-2		22	5,297	1,147
Tue 08 Walsall	0-2		24	4,877	487
Sat 12 Mansfield	1-1	Briggs	20	3,856	637
Fri 18 Accrington St	1-1	Murray	21	5,291	369
Tue 22 Derby (CC1)	0-1		-	3,394	1,184
Sat 26 Swindon	0-2		22	6,868	261
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>					
Sun 03 Bristol Rovers	2-1	Murray 2	20	4846	467
Sat 09 Boston Utd	1-2	Taylor	22	1796	374
Tue 12 Shrewsbury	0-3		23	4089	333
Sat 16 Wrexham	5-2	Le Fondre 4, Robinson (p)	20	4884	879
Sat 23 Grimsby	1-0	Briggs	16	4708	363
Tue 26 Notts County	0-1		20	4021	415
Sat 30 Peterborough	0-1		22	4775	255
<b>OCTOBER</b>					
Sat 07 Barnet	2-0	Poole, Le Fondre	19	4133	129
Sat 14 Hartlepool	1-1	Griffin 30	18	4,372	380
Tue 17 Macclesfield (JPT1)	1-0	Malcolm	-	1,792	1017
Sat 21 Torquay	1-0	Le Fondre	16	4,663	166
Sat 28 Rochdale	3-1	Williams, Robinson(p), Bramble	12	3,709	1,871
Tue 31 Chester (JPT2)	0-3		-	1,229	620
<b>NOVEMBER</b>					
Sat 04 Lincoln City	2-0	Rose, Malcolm	10	5497	954
Sat 11 Exeter City (FAC1)	2-1	Bramble, Proudlock	-	4454	508
Fri 17 Chester	1-1	Poole	10	3624	1685
Sat 25 Macclesfield	1-1	Proudlock	11	6575	750
<b>DECEMBER</b>					
Fri 01 Wycombe (FAC2)	2-1	Proudlock 2, 1p	-	3821	155
Tue 05 MK Dons	0-2		14	4564	241
Sat 09 Darlington	5-2	Bramble 2, Proudlock, Dinning, Gleeson	10	4564	353
Sat 16 Bury	0-2		13	4466	2238
Sat 23 Wycombe	0-2		15	4559	282
Tues 26 Notts County	2-0	Pilkington, Dickinson	11	5823	428
Sat 30 Grimsby	3-0	OG, Dickinson, Malcolm	9	5032	461
<b>JANUARY</b>					
Mon 01 Shrewsbury	2-4	Pilkington 2	11	4569	759
Sat 06 Watford (FAC3)	1-4	Poole	-	11745	2818
Sat 13 Boston Utd	2-0	Proudlock, Bramble	8	4568	105
Sat 20 Peterborough	3-0	Elding, Rose, Griffin	7	4330	337
Sat 27 Wycombe	2-0	Elding, Bramble	7	5353	242
Tue 30 Wrexham	1-0	Dickinson	6	4060	1007
<b>FEBRUARY</b>					
Sat 03 Hereford	2-0	Bramble, Elding	6	3313	563
Sat 10 Mansfield	1-0	Elding	6	5656	324
Sat 17 Accrington St	1-0	Griffin	6	3004	1510
Tue 20 Walsall	1-0	Elding	6	6006	336
<b>MARCH</b>					
Sat 03 Swindon					
Sat 10 Barnet					
Sat 17 Hartlepool					
Tues 20 Bristol Rovers					
Sat 24 Rochdale					
Sat 31 Torquay					
<b>APRIL</b>					
Sat 07 Lincoln City					
Mon 09 Chester					
Sat 14 Macclesfield					
Sat 21 MK Dons					
Sat 28 Bury					
<b>MAY</b>					
Sat 05 Darlington					

## WHERE WE STAND 2006-07

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Hartlepool United	35	21	7	7	47	27	20	70
2 Walsall	35	19	10	6	54	27	27	67
3 Swindon Town	34	19	7	8	45	28	17	64
4 Lincoln City	35	19	6	10	62	47	15	63
5 Milton Keynes Dons	34	18	7	9	57	44	13	61
6 COUNTY	34	18	5	11	47	34	13	59
7 Wycombe Wanderers	34	15	9	10	40	29	11	54
8 Darlington	35	14	10	11	44	41	3	52
9 Hereford United	35	13	10	12	40	41	-1	49
10 Shrewsbury Town	31	12	11	8	50	32	18	47
11 Notts County	35	12	11	12	46	44	2	47
12 Chester City	34	12	10	12	34	33	1	46
13 Peterborough United	35	13	7	15	46	48	-2	46
14 Bristol Rovers	32	12	8	12	34	35	-1	44
15 Mansfield Town	34	11	9	14	48	48	0	42
16 Barnet	34	11	9	14	41	53	-12	42
17 Grimsby Town	35	12	5	18	41	60	-19	41
18 Rochdale	33	10	9	14	43	37	6	39
19 Bury	34	10	7	17	38	50	-12	37
20 Macclesfield Town	34	9	9	16	42	53	-11	36
21 Accrington Stanley	34	8	10	16	50	60	-10	34
22 Boston United	35	8	8	19	38	64	-26	32
23 Wrexham	34	7	10	17	30	56	-26	31
24 Torquay United	35	5	10	20	27	53	-26	25

## HATTERS' ROLL CALL 2006-07

	League		Cup		County League	
	Apps	GS	Apps	GS	Apps	GS
ALLEN, Damien - Midfielder	1 (6)	0	3	0	28 (22)	1
BLIZZARD, Dominic	3	0	0	0	3	0
BOWLER, Michael - Midfielder	4 (1)	0	1	0	4 (1)	0
BRAMBLE, Tes - Forward	16 (10)	5	2 (2)	1	49 (14)	10
BRIGGS, Keith - Midfielder	16 (4)	2	2 (1)	0	116 (19)	10
CLARE, Rob - Defender	22 (1)	0	5	0	160 (14)	5
CROWTHER, Ryan	1	0	0	0	1 (1)	0
DICKINSON, Liam - Forward	6 (19)	3	4	0	18 (28)	10
DINNING, Tony - Midfielder	20 (2)	1	6	0	179 (34)	26
ELDING, Anthony	8	5	0	0	8	5
ELLIS, Dan - Forward	0 (2)	0	0 (4)	0	0 (5)	0
LE FONDRE, Adam - Forward	12 (3)	6	1 (3)	0	27 (30)	17
GLEESON, Stephen	14	2	3	0	14	2
GRIFFIN, Adam - Midfielder	19 (11)	3	3	0	39 (12)	5
HENNESSEY, Wayne	8	0	0	0	8	0
KANE, Tony	4	0	0	0	4	0
MALCOLM, Michael - Forward	10 (7)	2	4 (1)	1	20 (20)	5
MURRAY, Glenn - Forward	11	3	0	0	11	3
OWEN, Gareth - Defender	2	0	3	0	27	0
PILKINGTON, Anthony	10 (2)	3	0	0	10 (2)	3
POOLE, David	20	2	3 (1)	1	20	2
PROUDLOCK, Adam - Forward	11 (6)	3	2 (1)	3	11 (6)	3
RAYNES, Michael - Defender	5 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	43 (7)	1
ROBINSON, Mark - Defender	11 (2)	2	2 (1)	0	57 (1)	4
ROSE, Michael - Defender	17 (3)	2	4 (1)	0	17 (3)	2
ROWE, Tommy	0	0	0 (1)	0	0	0
RUDDY, John	11	0	0	0	11	0
SPENCER, James - Goalkeeper	15	0	6	0	90 (1)	0
TANSEY, Greg - Midfielder	0	0	2	0	0	0
TAYLOR, Jason - Midfielder	32 (1)	1	5 (1)	0	41 (1)	1
TREACY, Keith	2 (2)	0	0	0	2 (2)	0
TUNNICLIFFE, James - Defender	4 (1)	0	1	0	4 (2)	0
TURNBULL, Paul - Forward	0	0	0	0	0 (1)	0
WILLIAMS, Ashley - Defender	34	1	4	0	121 (3)	3
OWN GOALS	-	1	-	-	-	-



## MANAGERIAL RECORDS

**Jim Gannon**

Played 57 Won 27 Drawn 13 Lost 17  
 For 78 Against 63  
 Av Pts/game 1.65  
 Biggest Win(s) Stockport 5 Wrexham 2  
 (18/09/2006). **Biggest Loss(es)**  
 Torquay 4 Stockport 0 (25/04/2006).

**Paul Sturrock**

Played 17 Won 10 Drawn 3 Lost 4 For  
 22 Against 14  
 Av Pts/game 1.94  
**Biggest Win(s)** Boston Utd 1 Swindon  
 3 (20/01/2007). **Biggest Loss(es)**  
 Mansfield 2 Swindon 0 (05/12/2006).

## MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ..0 | Jim Gannon.....0 | Paul Sturrock.....0  
 (Draws ..0 | Goals 0 | Goals 0)

**Player with the most...**
**shots**

Tony  
 Dinning 29

**shots on target**

Jason  
 Taylor 16

**shots off target**

Tesfaye  
 Bramble 18

**assists**

Adam  
 Griffin 5

**crosses**

Adam  
 Griffin 53

**fouls**

Jason  
 Taylor 59

**free-kicks-won**

Tesfaye  
 Bramble 63


**Player with the most...**
**shots**

Christian  
 Roberts 59

**shots on target**

Christian  
 Roberts 30

**shots off target**

Christian  
 Roberts 29

**assists**

Lee  
 Peacock 5

**crosses**

Jack  
 Smith 21

**fouls**

Lee  
 Peacock 68

**free-kicks-won**

Lee  
 Peacock 58

### GAMES SINCE

0	a win	0
0	a home win	0
0	an away win	2
8	a defeat	1
12	a home defeat	2
4	an away defeat	0
17	a score draw	2
41	a no score draw	41
8	conceding a goal	1
0	scoring a goal	0
8	conceding > 1	8
3	scoring > 1	5
0	keeping a clean sheet	0
12	failing to score	1
0	back to back wins	5
8	back to back defeats	20
0	gaining a point	0
8	losing a point	1
3	win by > one	5
8	loss by > one	15

## SHARP SHOOTERS

Stockport	CCFL Cup	Tot	Swindon	CCFL Cup	Tot		
Tesfaye Bramble	5	1	6	Christian Roberts	8	3	11
Adam Proudlock	3	3	6	Lee Peacock	9	0	9
Anthony Elding	5	0	5	Paul Evans	3	1	4

## TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played.....29 | Stockport wins.....10 | Swindon wins .....14  
 Draws .....5 | Goals 36 (1.2 per game) | Goals 50 (1.7 per game)  
 0-0's .....1 | Times failed to score 10 | Times failed to score 5

**Biggest League win at Stockport for each team:**

24/04/2000 Stockport 3-0 Swindon  
 18/01/2003 Stockport 2-5 Swindon



## 2006/07 LEAGUE STATS



6	Position	3
34	Played	34
18	Won	19
5	Drawn	7
11	Lost	8
47	Goals For	45
34	Goals Against	28
59	Points	64



### Record Against Top Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
7	1	9	8	8	5	4	3

### Record Against Bottom Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
11	4	2	4	11	2	4	7

### Record When Scoring First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
17	4	0	3	14	4	2	7

### Record When Conceding First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
1	1	11	20	5	3	6	1

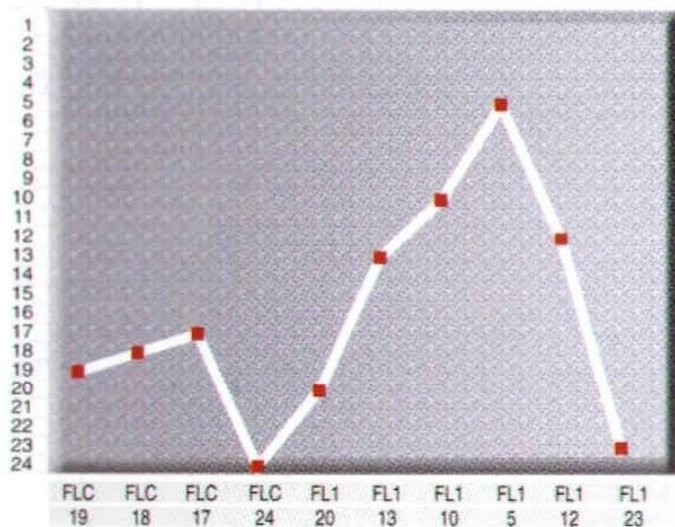
### Match Scores

Wins: 1-0[6], 2-0[6], 2-1[1], 3-0[2],  
 3-1[1], 5-2[2], Losses: 0-1[2], 0-2[6],  
 0-3[1], 1-2[1], 2-4[1], Draws: 1-1[5]

Wins: 1-0[5], 2-0[4], 2-1[8], 3-0[1],  
 3-1[1], Losses: 0-1[4], 0-2[1], 1-2[3],  
 Draws: 1-1[7]

## 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 25/02/2007



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# ON THE PARK



## COUNTY

JAMES SPENCER	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
ROBERT CLARE	2	<input type="checkbox"/>
MICHAEL ROSE	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
TONY DINNING	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
MICHAEL RAYNES	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
ASHLEY WILLIAMS	6	<input type="checkbox"/>
KEITH BRIGGS	7	<input type="checkbox"/>
DAMIEN ALLEN	8	<input type="checkbox"/>
TES BRAMBLE	9	<input type="checkbox"/>
LIAM DICKINSON	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
DOMINIC BLIZZARD	11	<input type="checkbox"/>
BLUE & WHITE ARMY	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
ADAM LE FONDRE	14	<input type="checkbox"/>
JAMES TUNNICLIFFE	15	<input type="checkbox"/>
GARETH OWEN	16	<input type="checkbox"/>
GREG TANSEY	17	<input type="checkbox"/>
DAN ELLIS	18	<input type="checkbox"/>
MICHAEL MALCOLM	19	<input type="checkbox"/>
JASON TAYLOR	20	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANTHONY PILKINGTON	21	<input type="checkbox"/>
TIM DEASY	22	<input type="checkbox"/>
MICHAEL BOWLER	23	<input type="checkbox"/>
ADAM GRIFFIN	24	<input type="checkbox"/>
RYAN CROWTHER	25	<input type="checkbox"/>
DAVID POOLE	26	<input type="checkbox"/>
GIANLUCA HAVERN	28	<input type="checkbox"/>
WAYNE HENNESSEY	29	<input type="checkbox"/>
ADAM PROUDLOCK	31	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANTHONY ELDING	32	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOMMY ROWE	33	<input type="checkbox"/>



## SWINDON

<input type="checkbox"/>	1	PETER BREZOVAN
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	JACK SMITH
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	JAMIE VINCENT
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	SOFIANE ZAABOUB
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	JEREL IFIL
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	ADY WILLIAMS
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	GARETH WHALLEY
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	AARON BROWN
<input type="checkbox"/>	9	CHRISTIAN ROBERTS
<input type="checkbox"/>	10	LEE PEACOCK
<input type="checkbox"/>	12	RICKY SHAKES
<input type="checkbox"/>	13	JON STEWART
<input type="checkbox"/>	15	ANDY NICHOLAS
<input type="checkbox"/>	16	PATRICK NOUBISSIE
<input type="checkbox"/>	18	PAUL EVANS
<input type="checkbox"/>	19	MICHAEL POOK
<input type="checkbox"/>	20	ROYCE BROWNLIE
<input type="checkbox"/>	21	LUKAS JUTKIEWICZ
<input type="checkbox"/>	22	BLAIR STURROCK
<input type="checkbox"/>	23	CURTIS WESTON
<input type="checkbox"/>	24	ASHAN HOLGATE
<input type="checkbox"/>	25	PHIL SMITH
<input type="checkbox"/>	27	BEN WELLS
<input type="checkbox"/>	28	ANDY CATON
<input type="checkbox"/>	34	MICHAEL TIMLIN

## NEXT GAME AT THE PARK

### COCA-COLA LEAGUE 2

County v Hartlepool United  
Saturday, March 17th, 2007  
Kick-Off 3.00pm

*Tickets now on sale.*

Matchball Sponsor

**Vendman**

### Match Officials

Referee J Moss  
Assistants A N Smith, R J Steans  
Fourth K J Mattocks

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