

CHARLTON ATHLETIC V SWINDON TOWN

VALLEY REVIEW

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26TH, 2009 KICK-OFF 1PM £3



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AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE IS NOT FOUR-GOT

As 2010 approaches, Charlton renewed hostilities with their local rivals last weekend – and although honours finished even, the club is hitting the season's halfway point in fine shape. MATT WRIGHT reflects on a memorable day

Charlton scored four goals against Millwall for the first time in the club's history last Saturday, but it wasn't enough as the Lions escaped with a point from an enthralling 4-4 draw.

In the 64 previous meetings between the clubs, the Addicks had never scored more than three times against their South-East London rivals.

But although Charlton extended their unbeaten home run to 17 games, and maintained a club best sequence of losing only twice in the opening 22 matches of a campaign, Millwall's last-gasp equaliser denied the home side all three points.

The two sides hadn't met for over 13 years, and it was an encounter worth waiting for as both clubs grabbed the initiative at different stages.

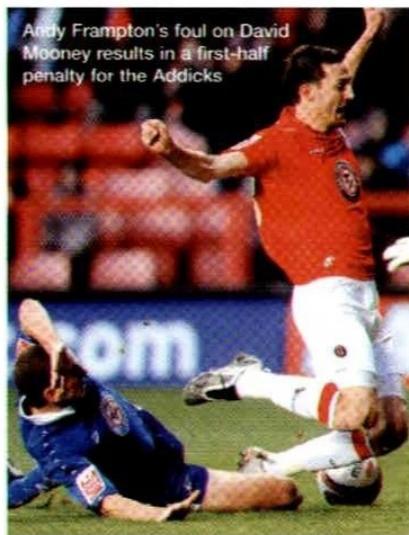
For the Addicks, Deon Burton's two first-half penalties took his tally for the season to 12 goals, and the club's top scorer has now notched seven in his last eight games, and 16 goals in his last 26 league matches, including the end of last season.

Despite the draw, Charlton remained four points above third-placed Norwich City in the League One table, which means the Addicks, who have yet to drop out of the automatic promotion places so far this term, are guaranteed to be second when the season

reaches the halfway stage.

Phil Parkinson will be forced to make two changes to his starting XI for today's game, however, after David Mooney picked up a knee injury against the Lions and Lloyd Sam earned a one-match ban.

And the future of the forward, whose second month on loan from



Reading expires after Monday's match against Brentford, could rest on the outcome of a midweek scan.

"We won't know the extent of the injury until we get the scan results," said Phil. "I'd like to take Dave for the rest of the season, but it depends. If he's out for six weeks or two months, then we wouldn't do it.

"Initially, we thought it was his medial ligament. But the Reading physio thinks it's his lateral ligament which is damaged and that he

suffered just an impact blow to his medial ligament. That's good, because out of the two, you'd prefer the lateral ligament to be damaged over the medial one."

Parkinson added: "Lloyd's suspended as well, so we've got a bit of a problem and we've been chopping and changing a bit.

"We didn't have to make a change earlier on this season, but it means other people are going to get an opportunity and we've got to keep things going."

Christian Dailly, Kelly Youga, Izale McLeod and Miguel Llera are all currently on four bookings, so if they are booked either today or against the Bees, they will receive a one-match suspension.

After the new year, players aren't banned until they reach 10 yellow cards during the campaign.

Two players nearing a return to action are Kelly Youga (knee) and Frazer Richardson (hamstring), with the full-back rated by a cautious Parkinson as 50/50 for this afternoon's match.

"Frazer trained on Tuesday morning, but the problem has lingered longer than we thought it would," he said. "It has been a concern, and it's important that we get him right because he's a key player for us.

"Kelly's not quite right yet – I would say it will be another 10 days until he's back." ■

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“THIS FIXTURE IS OUR LAST GAME HERE AT THE VALLEY IN 2009, AND WE GO INTO THE NEW YEAR FULL OF OPTIMISM. WE’VE GOT TO KEEP IMPROVING, BUT EVERYBODY AT THE CLUB IS PREPARED FOR IT”

Welcome back to The Valley for today's game, and I extend that welcome to the management and players of Swindon Town. I hope everyone had a great Christmas Day.

Christmas is an important time for football clubs, and the boys were all in training on Christmas Eve and again yesterday in preparation for this afternoon's match.

Last Saturday's game against Millwall was obviously an entertaining one, although I have to admit it was a bit too entertaining for our liking.

After going 2-0 down, we would have taken a draw, I know, but no one could have expected the contest to swing so many ways.

We should have gone on to win the game after leading 3-2 against 10 men. I certainly felt we took our foot off the pedal after we took the lead and, as a team, we subsequently sat back too deep.

As we showed at Yeovil Town last month, though, sometimes when a team is down to 10 men it can galvanise you, and Millwall worked that extra bit harder as it proved to be a real end-to-end battle.

Conceding four goals after we had let in just one – a freak effort against Stockport County – in our

previous three matches shows how football can be an unpredictable game, especially when you consider it was more or less the same defence and goalkeeper in all four matches.

However, it also demonstrates how important it is to remain focused at all times.

It was a real shame that Nicky Bailey's strike wasn't the winning goal, because if ever a goal deserved to prove decisive, then it was that one.

It was a terrific move; David Mooney did well to cushion a header back to Nick and it was a strike from the very top drawer. As soon as the ball left his boot, you knew it was going to end up in the back of the net.

On the subject of Dave, he came off with a knee injury against Millwall, and we were waiting to hear the extent of the damage in midweek.

Hopefully, the injury isn't too bad, because Dave has done very well for us since he arrived on loan from Reading. But his absence from the squad will give someone else an opportunity today.

This fixture against Swindon is our last game here at The Valley in 2009, and we go into the new year full of optimism.

We know we've got to keep improving as a side, in terms of both having a squad to cope with

the second half of the season and improving the players we've already got. We've got a lot of hard work ahead of us, but everybody at the club is prepared for it.

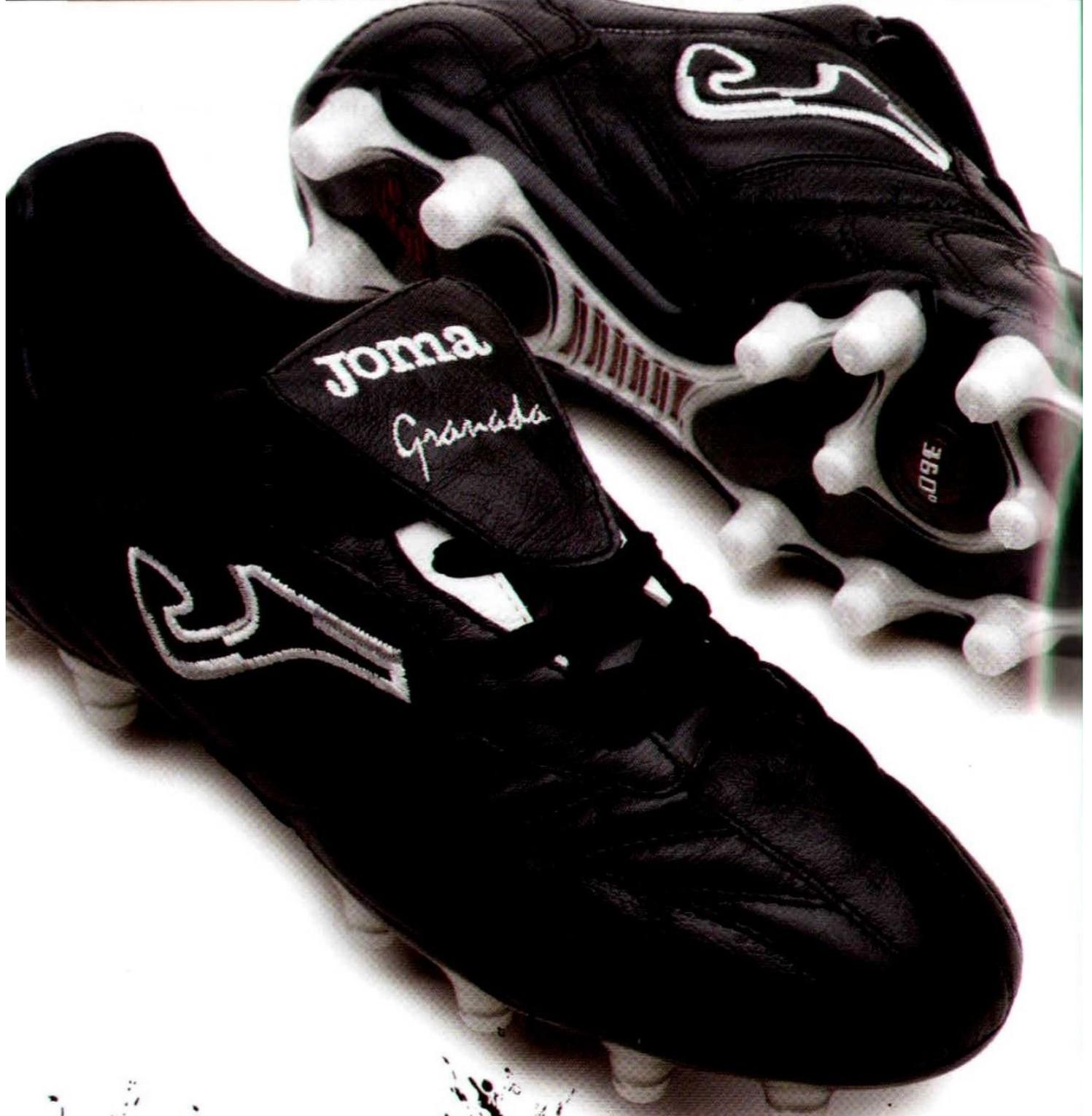
After this afternoon's fixture, we go to Brentford on Monday, and with two games in quick succession, the entire squad is going to be required.

The Brentford game represents another London derby for us. We had a good contest against them earlier this season which was live on Sky, and I'm sure it is going to be another interesting encounter.

Thanks for your support throughout 2009, and on behalf of all the players and staff, I'd like to extend our best wishes for 2010. ■



Fans can hear Phil Parkinson's post-match press conference
at www.calc.co.uk – and watch at www.calctv.co.uk



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LIONS AND LANE FINE, BUT IT'S SNOW GO FOR IZALE

While any fears that the bad weather would prevent last Saturday's match taking place were quickly allayed by Valley groundsman Colin Powell prior to the fixture against Millwall, the snow had a bigger impact on the Addicks this week.

On Tuesday, staff at the training ground – under the watchful gaze of first-team coach Mark Kinsella – grabbed shovels aplenty to clear an area to enable the players to train.

And the weather also stopped striker Izale McLeod, *right*, travelling north to take part in a training session with Heart of Midlothian.

Phil Parkinson confirmed that the Scottish Premier League side was interested in taking the striker on

loan, saying: "Hearts wanted to have a look at him and Izale was due to go up there this week for a couple of days, but his flight was cancelled.

"I don't know if he'll go next week; this week suited both us and them,



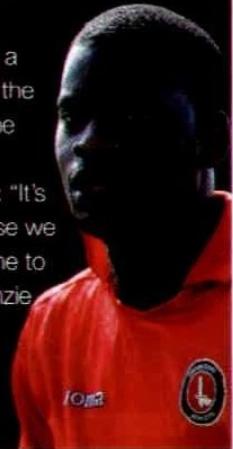
so we'll have to wait and see."

On the snow-clearing efforts at Sparrows Lane, the Charlton boss added: "We had all the staff out on the pitch – every physio and groundsman, the chef; even football secretary Chris Parkes was out helping to clear a quarter of the

pitch, although I noticed none of the press department helped!

"It was important we got an area to train on. We have got an indoor dome, but it's an artificial FieldTurf surface and a lot of players with knee problems don't like training there."

The weather also caused the postponement of a private friendly at the training ground the same day, and Parkinson added: "It's frustrating because we arranged the game to help Leon McKenzie and Chris Solly, but we had to call it off." ■



DICKSON OPEN FOR BOXING DAY

Chris Dickson is back in striking contention for the Addicks this afternoon – and could make a second appearance against Swindon Town this month.

Frontman Dickson was a second-half substitute as Bristol Rovers beat the Robins 3-0 on December 12th – and his three-month loan spell with the Pirates came to a conclusion last Saturday.

The forward, who struck four goals in his time away from The Valley, played an hour in his 14th and final game for Paul Trollope's side, and it was the Rovers of Tranmere who prevailed 2-0.



One striker who will remain away from SE7 until the end of the season is Stuart Fleetwood, who was an unused substitute as Exeter City defeated Southend United 1-0 in a feisty match that saw both sides end with 10 men.

The Grecians travel to Southampton this afternoon – when Fleetwood could face the man who signed him for the Addicks, Alan Pardew – and host Gillingham on December 28th.

The weather intervened to deny Dean Sinclair, Alex Stavrinou and Jack Clark the chance to play for Barnet, Ebbsfleet United and Bognor Regis Town respectively last weekend.

Sinclair and the Bees travel to Aldershot Town today and Northampton Town are due at Underhill in two days, while Ebbsfleet

host Grays Athletic at Stonebridge Road before visiting Hayes & Yeading on Monday.

Left-back Clark saw two away matches postponed this week after the Rocks' Championship Manager Cup clash with Leatherhead was called off on Tuesday. He will hope for more luck today when Sussex neighbours Horsham come to Nyewood Lane, and Bognor are due at Kingstorian in the Ryman Premier Division on December 28th.

North of the border, Yassin Moutaouakil, coming to the end of his loan spell at Fir Park, had an afternoon to forget as Motherwell were thumped 6-1 by Glasgow Rangers at Ibrox in the Scottish Premier League. The Steelmen host St Johnstone this afternoon and travel to Heart of Midlothian on Wednesday. ■

ROUNDING UP GANG OF 4-4s

Charlton's 4-4 draw against Millwall last time out at The Valley was the only time the Addicks have recorded that scoreline in a London derby.

According to research carried out by club historian Colin Cameron, it was the ninth occasion on which Charlton have drawn 4-4 in the league, but only one of those games was an all-London contest – against West Ham United in the Premiership in SE7 in November 2001.

Of course, the club's most famous 4-4 draw is the First Division

play-off final against Sunderland at Wembley in May 1998, when that was the score after extra-time.

For Millwall's part, the draw was their highest in a London derby, and after netting his eighth goal of the season against the Lions, Addicks skipper Nicky Bailey will this afternoon be looking to play the 200th league game of his career.

Last weekend's draw means Charlton have now lost just three of their last 30 league matches – and there is still time for fans to seal their place at The Valley for the second

half of a 2009/10 campaign which everyone hopes will end in promotion to the Championship.

Although the club's half-season tickets, which include the visits of Gillingham and Leeds United, start from this afternoon's match against Swindon Town, they remain great value for money, with places available from £160 for adults, £40 for U18s and just £30 for U11s.

More information is available on 0871 226 1905 or visit the commercial centre, which will be open after the final whistle today. ■



EXTRA FESTIVE SEASONING ONLINE

This may be the last *Valley Review* of 2009, but fans will be able to keep up to date on everything Charlton throughout the Christmas and new-year period via the club's official website, www.cafc.co.uk.

The club's video website, CAFC Player, will also be updated throughout the holiday season with highlights and interviews – and there is still an opportunity to see yesterday's personal festive message from the players to supporters.



Indeed, it's not too late to take advantage of a special Christmas offer for CAFC Player, with subscriptions currently just £19.99.

Supporters can also track the latest Addicks news via the club's Twitter service, @CAFCofficial, more details of which can be found on page 39.

A full list of festive opening hours for the commercial centre and Valley Superstore is on page 53. ■

TRIO'S CHRISTMAS PRESENCE

The festive plans of three Addicks youngsters changed at short notice on Wednesday morning when Tamer Tuna, Yado Mambo and Carl Jenkinson departed on work experience spells.

Tuna and Mambo, who have both made their Charlton first-team debuts, joined Staines Town, and could make their bows away at Hampton & Richmond Borough today.

U18s captain Jenkinson, meanwhile, could taste senior action for the first time for Welling United against Bromley at Park View Road. ■

REVENGE IS A DISH SERVED COLD

The Charlton women's team was unable to exact revenge on West Ham United when their league encounter at Erith Town on December 20th was postponed the day before

the game due to a frozen pitch.

The Hammers had defeated the Addicks the previous week in the FA Cup, and Charlton will not now return to action until January 17th,

when they face Wingate & Finchley in a London Cup tie.

The U18s are next in action on January 9th, when Damian Matthew's side travels to Portsmouth. ■

TWELVE GRAND-A-GIVING

There will have been plenty of excitement around Christmas trees yesterday morning, and Valley Gold members will be equally on edge at half-time today when one Charlton fan wins £5,000.

The grand prize draw is the conclusion of the '12 Days of Christmas' draws, which will see £15,000 handed out to supporters who support the club's youth set-up, which received a £70,000 donation earlier this month through the scheme.



Valley Gold, which costs £10 per month, offers benefits such as greater ticket priority and Superstore discounts, and more details are available on 020-8244 7771 or valleygold@cafc.co.uk. ■

VALLEY GOLD

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Jackpot Tickets

£1,028	Stephen Ricketts, of Erith (1228)
£100	Unclaimed (0283)

The Valley Gold scheme and Jackpot Tickets draw support the Charlton youth set-up. Get more details on 020-8244 7771 or valleygold@cafc.co.uk

FORMER FORWARD DIES

Charlton currently have two Sodjes in their squad, but one of Akpo and Sam's predecessors in the Addicks sibling stakes, Tommy Lumley, sadly passed away on December 17th after a long illness. He was 85.

The forward arrived at The Valley from non-League AFC Consett in December 1948, and played 38 games, scoring 10 times, before his departure to Barnsley in March 1952. Lumley's brother Robert played for Charlton six times but never alongside his brother.

Lumley will be remembered alongside all those with Charlton connections who have passed away in the last 12 months before the Hartlepool United game. ■

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Would like to wish everyone at The Valley a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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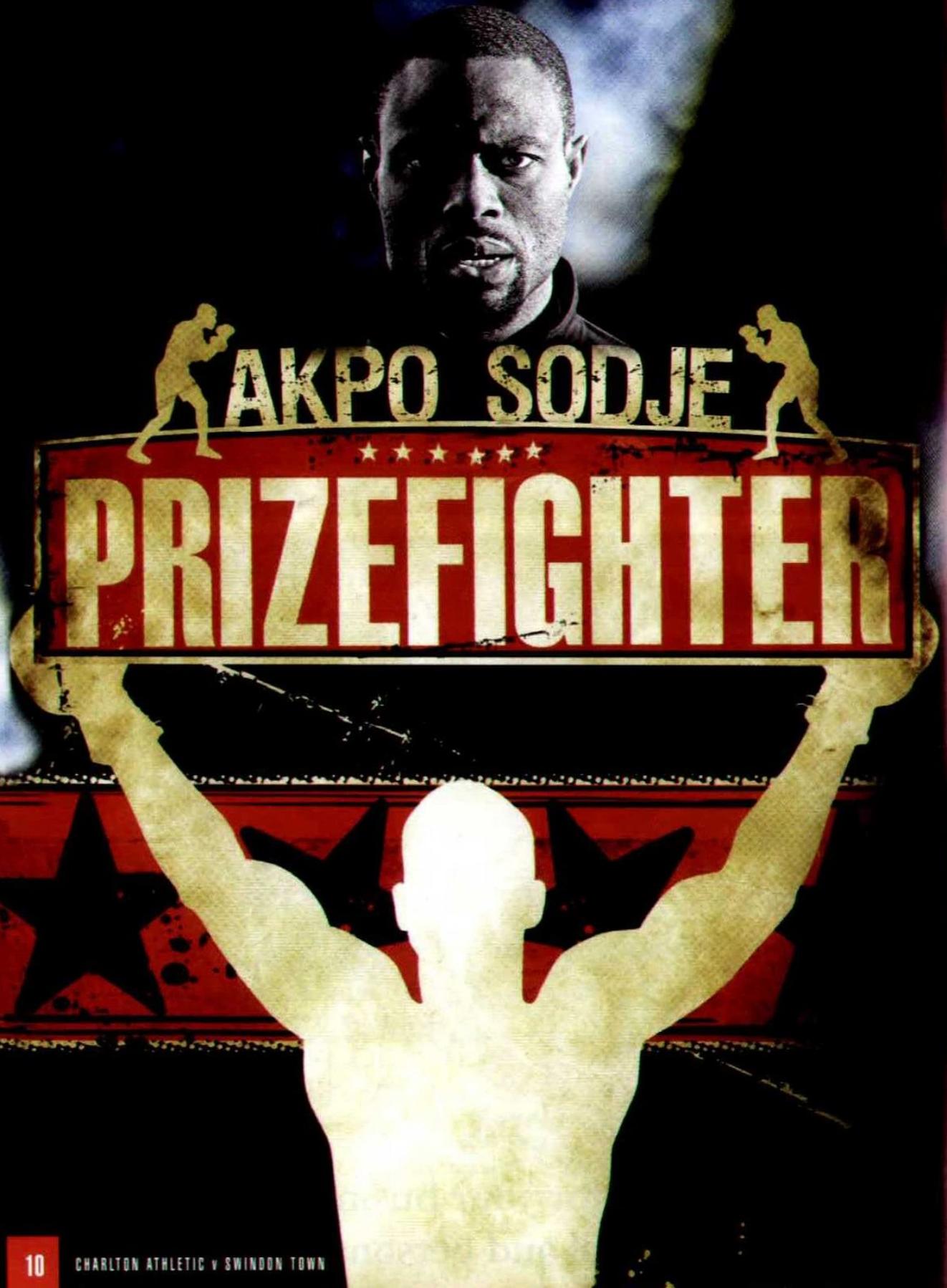
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There have been some Sodje circumstances at The Valley this season, and one Addicks forward tells GARY HAINES how he hopes to be able to deal a knockout blow if given a starting chance on today's festive occasion

This afternoon's game has a boxing theme – and Charlton's striking contender Akpo Sodje is hoping to make his full debut in the main event.

Patiently waiting for his chance to receive top billing, Sodje has delivered a series of effective performances on the undercard since relocating from Sheffield last month.

Two clinical shots have floored glovesmen from Yeovil Town and Bristol Rovers since he joined the Charlton stable, albeit on a short-term basis, from the Steel City.

But after joining big brother Sam a stone's throw away from where he grew up, Sodje is looking forward to linking up with another old sparring partner from the opening bell this afternoon.

An injury to fellow loanee David Mooney has opened the door for Sodje to finally make his full debut against the Robins after seven cameo outings from the bench.

And he is hoping to make his eighth contest one to remember as the Addicks aim to end the decade on a high.

"I'm wishing I get the chance to start against Swindon Town, but that's up to the manager," said Akpo, who is halfway through a second month's loan from Sheffield Wednesday.

"When you come to a club on loan, you

want to play, and I've spoken to the manager about it. But I understand that we have two strikers in Dave and Deon Burton who have been doing really well for us.

"I've been pleased with my contribution to the club since I've been here, and I think I've done my bit when I've come on. I've been patient and if I get my chance from the start, then I will take it and give 100 per cent."

Sodje signed for Charlton on November 14th, initially for a month, and later that afternoon emerged from the bench to play a part in the impressive 5-1 Valley win against Milton Keynes Dons.

His stock rose sharply seven days later when, despite his brother's sending off at Huish Park, he entered the fray in an attack-minded second-half change – and went on to crash home a magnificent equaliser amid atrocious conditions.

The powerful striker might have had a hat-trick but for the woodwork and inspired Yeovil goalkeeper Alex McCarthy. But a late hamstring niggle thwarted any plans to make a first start three days later against Rovers.

Instead, he watched from the bench as Mooney and Burton struck in the opening period against the Pirates – but there was still time for Sodje to make his mark when

he converted a curling corner from close range in the 4-2 win.

Sodje hasn't scored since then, but he continues to make his presence felt. And the chance to link up with Burton once more excites the big striker.

"Deon's having a fantastic season," added the 29-year-old. "He's been getting chances and converting them, and I'm really happy for him.

"When he left Sheffield Wednesday I was quite sad, but with him scoring as he is, there is no reason Charlton can't gain promotion.

"It's a big benefit to me [playing with Burton] as we played together for 18 months at Sheffield Wednesday and played many games. We complement each other really well and it should be good for the team, but I will happily play up front alongside anyone."

Born and raised in Greenwich, Akpo, the youngest of the 10-strong clan of Sodje siblings, went to Nigeria at the age of four, before returning to London with Sam in 2000.

He was at Queens Park Rangers – where he remembers working with current Addicks assistant manager Tim Breacker – as a teenager, but his first taste of senior football came at non-League Stevenage Borough on loan.

After leaving Rangers, Sodje played for Margate, Gravesend & Northfleet, Heybridge Swifts and Erith & Belvedere, playing in the same Erith team as a rookie keeper by the name of Rob Elliot.

And his free-scoring exploits earned him a dream move to Huddersfield Town in September 2004, when he joined older brother Ffe in Yorkshire.

Since then, he has regularly been on the move, representing Darlington

and Port Vale, where he was the Valiants' player of the year, before joining Wednesday in summer 2007.

Sodje admits his career has been a busy one, but he's never doubted his ability to push towards the highest level.

"It's been a hectic career, but I've played in every league right up to the Championship," he said.

"I never stopped believing in myself, even though I was told by a few managers that I wasn't good enough. I kept playing, even when I was as low as Erith, and I've never looked back."

During his time at The Valley, Akpo has seen his parent club struggle in the Championship, and just a couple of weeks ago, the Owls, for whom the striker has played 41 times, sacked manager Brian Laws.

"There's lots happening at Sheffield Wednesday at the moment, and I'm quite sad about the way everything has been going," he said.

"The future is not something I'm really talking about right now; all I'm thinking about is my time at Charlton and I'm focusing on the game against Swindon.

"I'll leave everything until people are ready to speak to me. I've not played a lot of games this season and I want to train and play as much as I can in my loan spell and score as many goals as possible."

With both of his older brothers, Efe and Sam, carving out professional careers in defence, how did Akpo end up playing up front?

"I started out as a right-back when I was younger," he explained. "My brothers were defenders so I began there, but when I was playing in Nigeria, my coach

converted me into a striker.

"When I was younger, I was taller and bigger and he pushed me forward. I'm glad he did and the move has certainly paid off for me."

There was plenty of confusion in some quarters when the Sodje surname was on the scoresheet at Huish Park last month even though Sam had been sent off in the first half, but Akpo still trails Sam in the scoring stakes, having netted one fewer than his brother's three goals.

"He's trying to make my job really hard," chuckled Akpo. "I've been telling him to stay at the back and



leave me to get the chances.

"But I think he's scared because he knows what I can do once I get on a run."

On the subject of runs, the brothers have certainly played their part in Charlton's impressive recent form, and both featured in the incredible eight-goal Valley derby draw with Millwall last time out in SE7.

Sodje, who scored a hat-trick for Darlington in a 4-4 draw at Chester in August 2005, replaced the injured Mooney in the second period against the Lions, and warmed the palms of keeper David Forde before narrowly failing to tee up Burton on a rapid break in the closing stages.

"It was quite a game; one of those derbies where there are goals all over the place," he reflected.

"We did really well to come back from 2-0 down, and although it probably felt like a defeat to the fans leaving the ground, we've got to look at the positives.

"It was very open and I'm sure it was thrilling for the neutrals; it could have been 6-6 at the end. The supporters might have been disappointed, but all is not lost because we are still second."

Sodje has never tasted victory the day after Christmas in three previous attempts, but he has pledged to change that this time around against the Robins.

"Trust me, this is a game we are going to win," he said. "We've got a great team and a great manager, and everything is going well.

"This is going to be the day that I'm going to win a game on Boxing Day; hopefully I'll get a goal, too, because I've never managed that either." ■



AKPO SODJE

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OFFSIDE



"Footballers have got a certain reputation, but not everyone is the same. I started playing football with no football boots, in just my bare feet, so my brothers and I go back to Nigeria every summer and take lots of football boots, kits and shin pads – everything youngsters need to help them start out.

Since I've played professionally, I have tried to give something back. At Sheffield Wednesday, I would donate my goal bonus to the local hospital, and last summer we launched the Sodje Foundation.

We held a charity game which attracted more than 5,000 fans and lots of donations, and hopefully we can bring it to London soon."

BORN & B-RED

IN... GREENWICH

"I was born in Greenwich and moved back to Nigeria when I was four years old, so I can only remember a little bit about it first time round. I came back over when I was 19.

I remember our big house in Nigeria with all my brothers and sisters, and playing football at school and with the family. When I look back now, it's been an amazing journey."

Also from Greenwich: Henry VIII, Liverpool's Glen Johnson, actor Dominic Cooper, Charlton teammates Rob Elliot and Sam Sodje



“MATCHES AND EMOTIONS SUCH AS THOSE WE EXPERIENCED LAST SATURDAY ARE EXACTLY WHY WE ALL LOVE THIS INCREDIBLE GAME”

As a mixed year comes to a close, the chief executive reflects on a fine start to the current campaign – which, backed passionately by the club’s devoted supporters, has seen Charlton begin to make amends for last term’s relegation

As we prepare for the first of three festive games in a period that is always a crucial part of the football calendar, it’s a good time to look back over the first half of the season and 2009 as a whole.

To use a well-worn football phrase, it’s been a year of two halves, and on behalf of all the directors and the playing staff, I would like to thank all our supporters who, following a bitterly disappointing 2008/09 campaign which saw the club relegated to the third flight of English football, have stayed loyal to their club.

We’ve sold more than 10,000 season tickets, and an average league gate of 17,214 so far this term makes us one of the best-supported clubs in League One.

Our away support has also been incredible, with some unforgettable trips already this season.

LOYAL SUPPORTERS

No one will forget the atmosphere created by our fans at Leyton Orient in August, when the wall of sound that was generated helped us overcome a one-goal deficit to win 2-1.

And even more memorable, albeit for completely different reasons, was the dedication shown on that bleak November day when our travelling supporters got absolutely drenched at Yeovil Town’s Huish Park.

It was some of the worst weather

you could imagine at a ground which provided no cover for most of our soaked fans, and when Sam Sodje was sent off and we conceded at the end of the first half, it looked like we were heading for our third away league defeat of the season.

But tremendous resilience on the pitch and on the terraces led to a concerted fightback and, had it not been for their outstanding goalkeeper, we would have taken all three points.

TAKING THE LONG VIEW

There was another great turnout at Brighton & Hove Albion this month, even though away fans need a pair of binoculars to see what is happening on the pitch at the Withdean Stadium.

And we cannot forget those who travelled to Northwich Victoria in the FA Cup, whose efforts were not rewarded by the team’s below-par display, which let themselves and the club down.

We have responded well, however, winning five and drawing two games since our cup exits to Northwich and Southampton, and one thing that is certain is that we will be in one of the automatic promotion spots at the halfway point of the season.

But we are well aware that the progress we have made thus far will count for nothing and will be quickly

forgotten if we are unable to achieve our main target this term.

So while the first half of 2009 will be remembered for relegation and all the wrong reasons, the second half has seen a sustained effort to put things right and remedy the situation.

I sincerely hope that 2010 will see us build on the solid platform of the first half of the campaign and result in the club regaining Championship status at the first time of asking.

I’m sure there will be many ups and downs on the way to the final game on May 8th, when we hope the season will end with our promotion, although whether they can live up to the match against Millwall last weekend remains to be seen.

HISTORIC DERBY

Few will ever forget the incredible 4-4 draw that encapsulated what this wonderful game is all about. I’m sure fans will be giving blow-by-blow accounts of the match for years to come.

Matches and emotions such as those we experienced last Saturday bond fans together, and are exactly why we all love this incredible game.

So, as the extended Charlton family comes together at The Valley this Boxing Day, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and healthy new year. ■

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GREENWICH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 2009

CHARLTON
ATHLETIC(BURTON (PEN) 30, (PEN) 37, BAILEY 46, MORISON
(06) 85)ELLIOT; OMOZUSI, BASEY, S SODJE, DAILLY; SAM
(SPRING 89), SEMEDO, BAILEY, WAGSTAFF (MCKENZIE 83);
MOONEY (R SODJE 66), BURTON. SUBS (NOT USED):
RANDOLPH, LLERA, SHELVEY, MCLEOD.BOOKINGS: SAM 16 (SCUFFLE WITH MARTIN), MOONEY 45
(HARDBALL), A SODJE 77 (KICKING BALL AWAY).

MILLWALL

(MORISON 12, 27, MARTIN 80, SCHOFIELD 90)

FORDE; DUNNE, SMITH, FRAMPTON (CRAIG 71), ROBINSON;
GRABBAN (SCHOFIELD 71), LAIRD (GOLDER 90), ABDOU,
FUSEINI, MARTIN; MORISON. SUBS (NOT USED): SULLIVAN,
WARD, GRIMES, PRICE.BOOKINGS: MARTIN 16 (SCUFFLE WITH SAM), SMITH 44
(FOUL ON S SODJE), LAIRD 54 (FOUL ON BAILEY).

SENT OFF: ABDOU 36 (PROFESSIONAL FOUL).

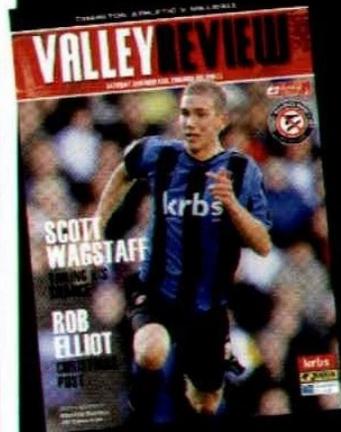


1





1. Fist of pure emotion: Deon Burton celebrates his second goal as Charlton draw level with fierce local rivals Millwall in a pulsating derby encounter at The Valley
2. Burton converts the first of two penalties inside eight dramatic first-half minutes
3. The visitors react with horror as referee Mike Jones flourishes a red card, dismissing Nadjim Abdou for a professional foul on Lloyd Sam with just 36 minutes on the clock



90 MINS

15:12

Steve Morison profits from Scott Wagstaff and Sam Sodje's mix-up (0-1) and then nets after a shot hits the woodwork 0-2

15:30

Deon Burton scores from the spot after a foul on David Mooney (1-2), and converts his second penalty after Nadjim Abdou is sent off after felling Lloyd Sam 2-2

16:01

Nicky Bailey's brilliant volley puts the hosts in front 3-2

16:35

David Martin fires Millwall level (3-3), but Morison's own goal puts Charlton back in the lead five minutes later 4-3

16:47

Lions sub Danny Schofield scores from a tight angle to earn the visitors a point at the end of a thrilling derby 4-4

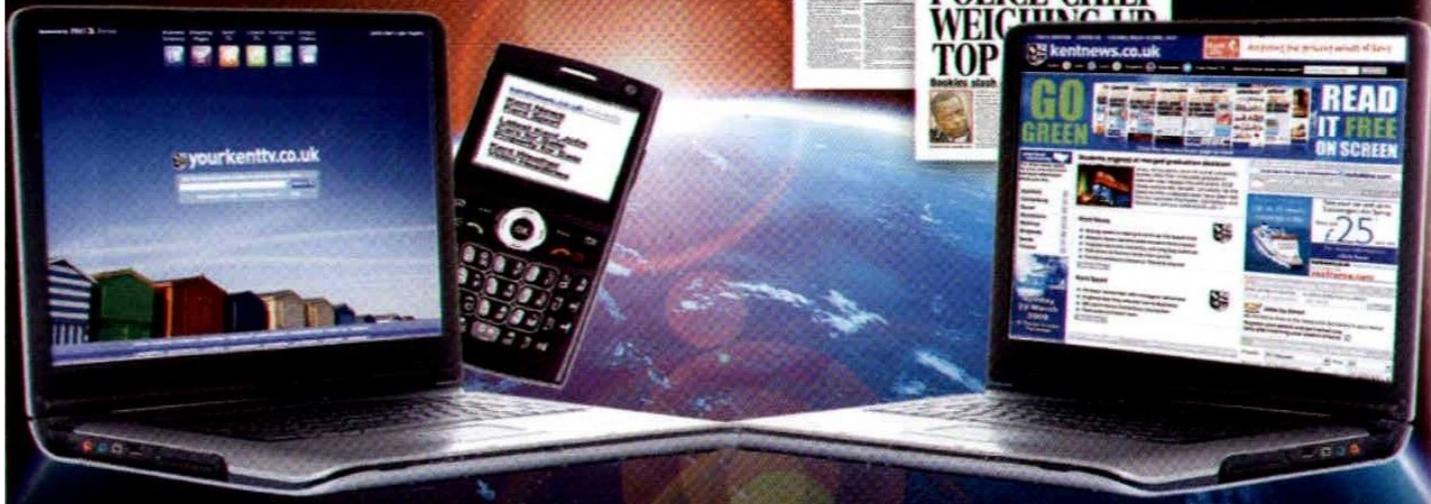
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ROBINS' NEST IS A MAGIC KINGDOM

With five wins in their last six league matches, Swindon are taking wing – and the Robins have promotion in their sights. GARY HAINES looks at the men from Wiltshire

Eyebrows were raised when the town of Swindon was recently twinned with Disney World, but there has been nothing Mickey Mouse about the Robins this season.

Danny Wilson's side pitch up at The Valley today occupying the fourth and final play-off place in League One, and harbouring a real chance of a fairytale return to the second tier in May.

A hard-fought 2-1 success against Brighton & Hove Albion last Saturday propelled them into sixth spot in the table and saw them leapfrog Bristol Rovers, who had beaten Town 3-0 a week earlier.

Following the summer departure of the prolific Simon Cox, there is a new striker on the block at The County Ground in Charlie Austin.

Snapped up from non-League Poole Town in October after striking 46 goals last term and a further 18 for the Dolphins at the start of the current campaign, Austin's contribution proved decisive in the battle of the birds, his 54th-minute winner against the Seagulls a fifth goal of his short spell with Swindon.

Strike partner Billy Paynter was also on target as Wilson's men won their fifth match in six in League One to further enhance the club's promotion stock.

The reverse against near neighbours Rovers was just a fourth league loss for Town this season, and that statistic looks even more impressive given the Robins were

thumped 5-0 at Gillingham on the opening day.

Indeed, having lost back-to-back matches against Hartlepool United and Norwich City in late October, Swindon have won seven and drawn one of their last nine matches in all competitions, the 0-0 draw achieved in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy against Norwich before the Canaries prevailed on penalties.

The proverbial 'bad day at the office' at the krbs Priestfield Stadium was followed by a far more palatable unbeaten 12-match run that moved Swindon into the upper echelons of the table.

And things are looking up for Robins fans, whose roller-coaster ride in the past two decades by far overshadows anything on offer in the Florida resort.

Having won promotion to the top flight via the play-offs in 1989/90, the Robins' joy was shortlived after financial irregularities saw them initially demoted two leagues before being allowed to remain at their existing level.

Premiership football was finally sealed under Glenn Hoddle three seasons later, but after a sole season in the top flight, Town were relegated again in 1994, and two relegations and two promotions have come since then.

On the bottom rung of the Football League ladder as recently as 2007, the Robins will be hoping their

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

You're in the happiest place on earth right now, and sentiments can be shared over the festive period with someone bobbing along equally serenely. Far from wilting, fresh optimism will see you boxing clever.

dreams come true at the start of the new decade, and a win today would set them up nicely. ■

Charlie Austin



4 TO WATCH



DAVID LUCAS AGE: 32
POSITION: GOALKEEPER

Six-foot-one custodian Lucas made 150 appearances during almost 10 years with Preston North End, featuring as the Lilywhites claimed the Second Division title in 1999/2000. A former England U21 international, he was a regular in the starting XI the following campaign, suffering a 3-0 defeat by Bolton Wanderers in the First Division play-off final in May 2001. After representing clubs including Sheffield Wednesday on loan, Lucas moved to Hillsborough permanently in June 2004, and played as Hartlepool United were defeated 4-2 in the League One play-off final the following May. He has missed just one league match since joining from Leeds United in July.



GORDON GREER AGE: 29
POSITION: DEFENDER

Centre-back Greer began his professional career with Scottish outfit Clyde, making 33 appearances before leaving the Bully Wee for Blackburn Rovers in May 2001. The six-foot-two defender featured just once for the Lancashire side, however, and moved to Kilmarnock in August 2003 following a loan spell with Stockport County. Greer scored four goals in 107 Scottish Premier League matches, also netting in a 5-1 defeat by Hibernian in the 2007 Scottish League Cup final before returning to England with Doncaster Rovers that July. After playing just 18 games across two seasons, the current Robins captain switched to Swindon in January, initially on loan.



JON-PAUL MCGOVERN AGE: 29
POSITION: MIDFIELDER

Winger McGovern failed to make his senior bow for first club Celtic, but 15 league appearances on loan for Sheffield United helped steer the Blades into the First Division play-offs in 2002/03. A solid campaign with Scottish top-flight side Livingston paved the way for a return to Sheffield in June 2004, but it was Wednesday with whom McGovern would achieve promotion; ever-present in 2004/05, he opened the scoring as Hartlepool United were beaten 4-2 in the League One play-off final. The five-foot-eight midfielder missed just two matches as Milton Keynes Dons reached the League Two play-off semi-finals in May 2007, before moving to Swindon that August.



BILLY PAYNTER AGE: 25
POSITION: FORWARD

Former Port Vale trainee Paynter netted 30 league goals in just under 150 matches during five and a half years at Vale Park. After spending time on loan with Hull City, the six-foot striker joined the Tigers permanently in January 2006, but switched to Southend United that August following a loan spell with the Shrimps. The forward enjoyed a temporary stint with Bradford City before moving to Swindon in August 2007, and his Robins goal tally currently stands at 32. Paynter's 10 goals this term include doubles in 4-1 wins at both Milton Keynes Dons and Tranmere Rovers, plus a penalty in a 2-1 victory over Brighton & Hove Albion last weekend.

BEST OF THE REST

Providing support between the sticks is ex-Crawley Town man **Phil Smith**, 30, who played 31 matches as Swindon won automatic promotion from League Two in 2006/07.

Poland U21 international **Jakub Jesionkowski**, 20, and former Southampton trainee **Mark Scott**, 18, are also available.

Normally operating in central defence is Scotland B international **Scott Cuthbert**, 22, who switched from Celtic in July. Ex-Bolton Wanderers

trainee **Hasney Aljofree**, 31, who can also play at left-back, claimed the Second Division championship with Plymouth Argyle in 2003/04.

Homegrown **Sean Morrison**, 18, featured at The Valley three weeks ago for loan club Southend United.

Regularly occupying the right-back berth is ex-Bristol City and Swansea City man **Kevin Amankwaah**, 27. On the left is Haiti international **Lescinel Jean-Francois**, 23, whose previous clubs include Paris Saint Germain.

Ex-Leicester City left-sider and Republic of Ireland U21 international **Alan Sheehan**, 23, joined on loan from

Leeds United last month, while former Reading youngster **Callum Kennedy**, 20, has featured 11 times this term.

Available in midfield is Irish international engine-roomer **Jonathan Douglas**, 28, who played as Leeds were defeated 3-0 by Matt Spring's Watford in the Championship play-off final in May 2006 and lost 1-0 to Doncaster Rovers in the League One equivalent 18 months ago.

Simon Ferry, 21, has featured 18 times since joining on loan from Celtic in August, and played as Scotland lost 2-1 to Spain in the 2006 U19 European Championship final.

INITIALLY SPEAKING

- S**am Allen was Swindon's first manager, from 1902-33
- W**ales – Rod Thomas played 30 international games for his home country, a club record
- I**n the 1926/27 campaign, Harry Morris plundered a club record 47 goals
- N**ine-one – Swindon's first Football League match on August 28th, 1920, against Luton Town, produced their record league win
- D**efeat – Swindon's record reverse is a 10-1 FA Cup loss to Manchester City in 1930
- O**xford United, located 34 miles away, are seen as fierce rivals by Robins fans
- N**apoli were the opponents when Swindon won the Anglo-Italian Cup final in 1970
- T**he Croft was Swindon's home for 15 years before the club moved to The County Ground
- O**ne hundred and two points – Swindon reached three figures when winning the Division Four title in 1986
- W**orld Cup-winning Argentinian Ossie Ardiles managed the club from 1989-91
- N**ever to be forgotten – Don Rogers' brilliant double against Arsenal at Wembley, which won the 1969 League Cup



DUGOUT 2 TUCJUD

Danny Wilson

...is the name of a Scottish band

The group named themselves after a film starring Frank Sinatra

Of Blue Eyes was born in Hoboken, New Jersey

Hoboken was the location of the first recorded baseball game in the United States

Baseball was an Emmy Award-winning documentary by Ken Burns

The show aired in 1994, the year Reading were skippered to the Second Division title by

Phil Parkinson



MEET THE MANAGER

NAME: Danny Wilson

BORN: January 1st, 1960 in Wigan

AGE: 49

SUCCEEDED:

Maurice Malpas (December 2008)

PLAYING DAYS:

Bury, Chesterfield, Nottingham Forest, Scunthorpe United (loan), Brighton & Hove Albion, Luton Town, Sheffield Wednesday, Barnsley, Northern Ireland

MANAGEMENT YEARS:

Barnsley, Sheffield Wednesday, Bristol City, Milton Keynes Dons, Hartlepool United, Swindon Town

TABLOID TIP 2006/10:

Where there's a Wil, there's a way

ANAGRAM:

Snowy inland

ROAD TO SOUTH AFRICA:

Robins defender Kevin Amankwaah qualifies for Ghana through his parents

Former Scotland U21 midfielder **Craig Easton**, 30, won automatic promotion to League One with Leyton Orient in 2005/06, and made his Swindon debut in a 2-0 Carling Cup defeat by Charlton in August 2007. Ex-Ireland U21 man **Michael Timlin**, 24, played 24 league matches on loan from Fulham in 2006/07 as the Robins clinched automatic promotion from League Two.

Alternatives on the wing include Ireland international **Alan O'Brien**, 24, who joined from Hibernian in July. Homegrown **Lloyd Macklin**, 20, became Swindon's youngest ever

player when he made his debut in September 2007.

Ex-Eastleigh wideman **Mark Marshall**, 22, is available, but former Watford trainee **Anthony McNamee**, 25, is out on loan. Ex-Nigeria U20 man **Kasali Casal**, 22, is injured.

Attacking options include **Charlie Austin**, 20, who fired 46 goals in 46 matches for Poole Town last term and has struck five times since signing in October. The hitman scored three minutes into his full debut and grabbed the winner in a 2-1 victory over Brighton & Hove Albion last weekend.

Lee Peacock, 33, helped Carlisle

United clinch automatic promotion to the Second Division in 1996/97 and played as Sheffield Wednesday won the 2005 League One play-off final.

Southend loanee **Alex Revell**, 26, previously played alongside Nicky Bailey, while Bolton Wanderers youngster **Daniel Ward**, 18, made his Premier League debut in August before joining on loan.

Celtic loanee **Ben Hutchinson**, 22, has featured in the top flight for Middlesbrough and in the Champions League against Manchester United for his parent club. ■

Ria Hopkinson

FIRST & LAST MEETINGS

FIRST

Saturday, April 29th, 1922
at The County Ground (5,000)

Third Division (South)

Swindon Town 0 (0): Nash; Coleburne, Macconachie; Rogers, Hawley, Wareing; Phillipson, Fleming, Cooke, Johnson, Turner.

Charlton Athletic 0 (0): Pleasant; Burton, Goodman; Jewhurst, Eggleton, Dowling; Castle, Whalley, Filliston, Thomson, Wilson. ■

Note: Charlton goalkeeper George Pleasant saved a penalty

LAST

Tuesday, August 14th, 2007
at The County Ground (6,175)

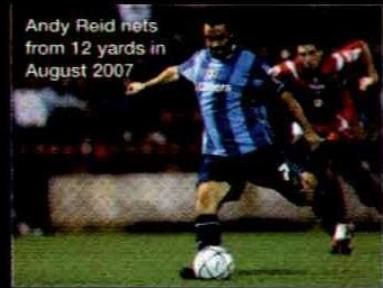
Carling Cup (first round)

Swindon Town 0 (0): Brezovan; J Smith, Ifil, Aljofree, Tozer; Roberts (Pook 59), Easton, Adams, Comminges (Zaaboub 59); Peacock, Sturrock (Arrieta 75).

Subs (not used): P Smith, Vincent.

Charlton Athletic 2 (0)
(Ambrose 52, Reid 62 (pen)):
Weaver; Moutaouakil, Bougherra, Fortune, Powell; Sam, Semedo,

Andy Reid nets from 12 yards in August 2007



Ambrose, Reid (D Sinclair 78); Bent (Iwelumo 78), McLeod (Dickson 81). Subs (not used): Randolph, McCarthy.
Ref: Andy Woolmer (Northamptonshire) ■

LEAGUE & CUP STATS

TOP SCORERS:

Addicks – Ralph Allen (1934), 5 goals; Robins – Peter Noble (1969-72), 5 goals.
Hat-tricks: Addicks – Wilson Lennox (3) 30.4.28 (h), Ralph Allen (3) 25.12.34 (h); Robins – Peter Noble (3) 30.8.69 (a), Jan-Aage Fjortoft (3) 27.9.94 (h) League Cup

LEAGUE DOUBLES:

Addicks 3 (1933/34, 1994/95, 1997/98); Robins none

BIGGEST WINS:

Addicks – 6-0 at The Valley (25.12.34); Robins – 5-0 at The County Ground (30.8.69)

GOALLESS MATCHES (3):

The Valley 1 (1980/81); Upton Park 1 (1991/92); The County Ground 1 (1921/22)

TOP CROWDS:

The Valley – 28,042 (28.1.56) FA Cup; The County Ground – 20,454 (30.8.69)

DISCIPLINARY:

Red cards: Addicks 1 – Colin Walsh 6.11.91 (h), Robins none; yellow cards – Addicks 22, Robins 20

ADDICKS DEBUTS v ROBINS:

Lee Bowyer (sub) 27.9.94 (h) League Cup; Ford Currie 5.9.25 (a); Frank Davies 16.10.26 (h); Chris Dickson (sub) 14.8.07 (a) League Cup; Keith Jones 17.9.94 (h); Tom McKenna 17.9.27 (a); John Minnock 30.8.69 (a); Albert Mitchell 6.5.22 (h), scoring once; Andy Petterson 17.9.94 (h); Jim Scott 5.3.27 (a); Dean Sinclair (sub) 14.8.07 (a); Norman Smith 3.3.23 (a); Andy Todd 23.11.99 (a); Simon Webster 25.8.90 (h)

CONNECTIONS

The comprehensive list of Charlton first-teamers connected with Swindon Town over the years is: Roy Bicknell (guest), Hameur Bouazza, Deon Burton, Tommy Dawson, Fred Ford (manager), Jimmy Gauld, Paul Gilchrist, Jimmy Giles, Nigel Gray, Baden Herod, Arthur Horsfield (right), Albert Lindon (scout), Mark McCammon, Alan McDonald (player, reserve coach), Garry Nelson, Gordon Pembery, Andy Petterson, Frank Peters, Dick Plumb, Roger Smart, Pat Terry, Carl Tiler, Andy Todd, Ray Treacy and Steve White. ■



SWINDON TOWN FORM GUIDE

Date	Competition	H/A	Opposition	Result	Score
Dec. 19th	League One	H	Brighton & Hove Albion	W	2-1
Dec. 12th	League One	A	Bristol Rovers	L	0-3
Dec. 5th	League One	H	Leyton Orient	W	3-2
Nov. 28th	FA Cup (R2)	A	Wrexham	W	1-0
Nov. 24th	League One	H	Huddersfield Town	W	2-1

RECORD AGAINST SWINDON TOWN

	P	W	D	L	F	A
LEAGUE						
Home	24	15	6	3	52	24
Away	24	6	10	8	28	36
CUPS						
Home	3	2	0	1	5	6
Away	2	2	0	0	5	1
TOTAL	53	25	16	12	90	67

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KILLER



Charlton remain among the Addicks legend's promotion favourites, despite the disappointment of a late equaliser seven days ago – and TOM HARVEY also talks to the former striker about the type of Christmas players used to enjoy

As we come to the halfway point of the season, I would say we're doing more than all right.

If you consider everything that was going on last year – both on and off the pitch – then we've responded well, and everyone can be pleased with their efforts so far.

There's still a long way to go, though, so it's not time to get the cigars out just yet.

We've had a couple of hiccups with the cup exits. Financially, we might have benefited from a cup run, but the defeats could actually help us as we don't need any distractions from what has always been our main aim – promotion.

In terms of the league, we should have won last Saturday. If you notch four goals at home, you should be winning. But then Millwall will think the same way – they would have expected to win after scoring four away.

People will also point to the fact that they only had 10 men for a large chunk of the match, but sometimes that can make things more difficult.

I was involved in a 4-4 draw at Burnley in October 1976. We led 4-1 at one stage and I remember our manager Andy Nelson being so disappointed to have gone all the way up north and scored four goals – but still only get a point.

In my eyes, it's between four clubs for the two top spots this season. Leeds United are strong and their squad has a lot of depth. Norwich City are going well and I've also been impressed by Colchester United, so Charlton need to keep turning it over.

If we lose two or three key players to injury, we might start to stumble. In an ideal world, I'd love to see us make a couple of signings in January and freshen things up. It sometimes gives a side a new impetus, but I know things are tight financially, so we may have to go down the loan route.

As a former striker, I take a particular interest in how our forwards are doing, and Deon Burton has done well to score 12 goals so far. We're sharing the goals around the rest of the team, too, which is good to see.

I used to enjoy playing around Christmas. The games certainly come thick and fast and we should be confident of picking up a few wins.

Back in my day, I wasn't afraid of tucking into the turkey and all the trimmings. I come from a family of butchers, so there was plenty of meat to go round. A couple of beers may have been consumed, too...

I was slim back in those days, though, so I could get away with it, and over a 20-yard dash, no one could catch me. ■

VALLEY REVIEWED

Charlton and Swindon Town were accustomed to one another when the two sides met for the third time in 11 days in late September 1994, with a home and away Coca-Cola Cup tie following a First Division encounter.

The big news in the 40-page programme, priced £1.50, was of striker Scott McLeish, who revealed he was an electrician with Camden Council before Charlton came calling. Unfortunately, he never sparked with the Addicks, and made just six substitute appearances.

The guest columnist was a familiar face in the shape of Football League marketing executive Steve Sutherland, and manager Alan Curbishley expressed his belief that the club was approaching its Target 10,000.

Fans had the opportunity to win an official Charlton pager, while the newest item in the club shop was an exclusive replica-shirt-shaped 'jam and sponge cake with fondant icing', priced a mere £25. ■



GT GREENWICH TIME

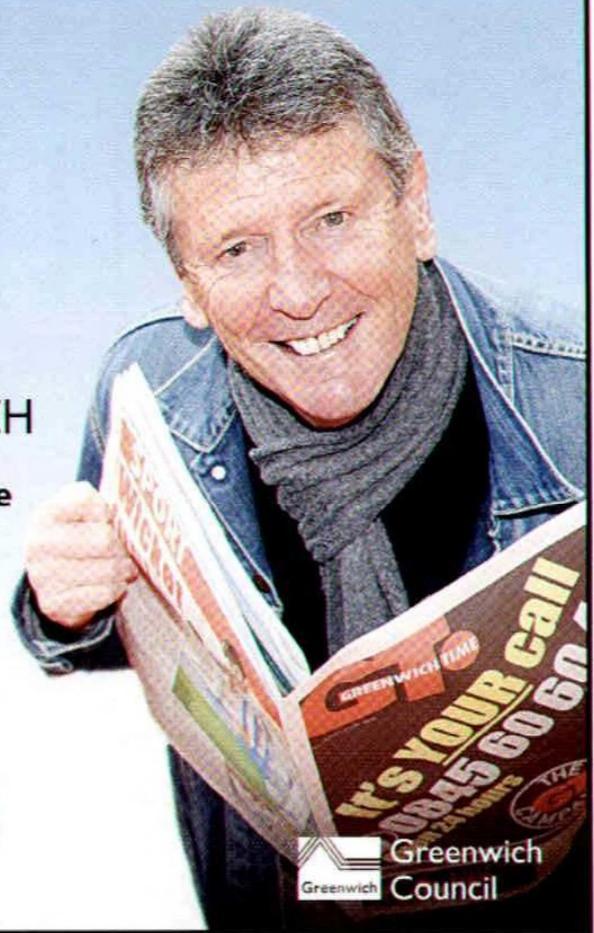
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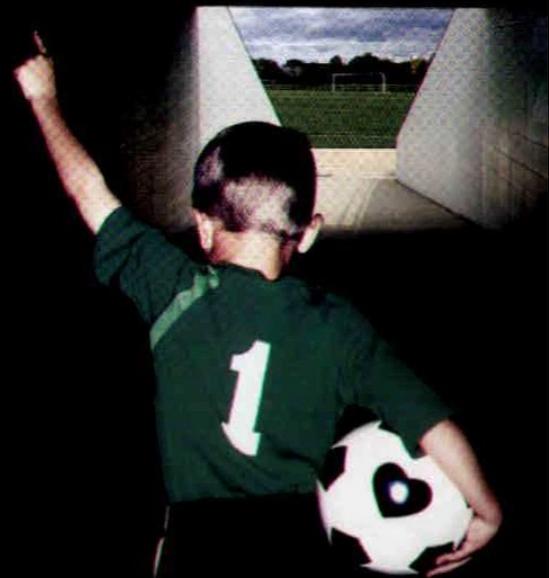
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WITH JONJO SHELVEY

Writing a Christmas list proved tricky for a serious shopper who already has everything, but is still gunning for more on the pitch. GARY HAINES meets a young midfielder who specialises in breaking windows as well as records

7. Are you handy at any other sports?

I like to play golf, but I'm not on Grant Basesy's level. I've always played since



I was a little kid, and golf is my main sport other than football.

I mainly play at Maylands, in Harold Hill, and I try to get out every Sunday. It's nice to turn your phone off and just chill out.

9. Who is your roommate?

Nicky Bailey. I roomed with Jose Semedo last year, but it's been Bails this season and it's brought us closer together. During the last couple of away trips, we've been playing *Football Manager* on my laptop. We were Newcastle United for a season and he's proper clued up. But I'm terrible and got the sack on the way home on the coach from Stockport County. Bails didn't come back on the coach, so I don't think he knows yet!

13. Which is your favourite band?

I've not really got a favourite. In my car at the moment are Ne-Yo and Chris Brown – R'n'B music. I do like my old-school

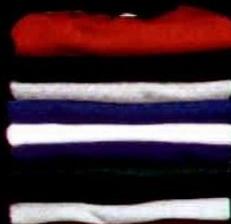


stuff, though, like The Temptations.

16. What did you want for Christmas?

I asked for clothes, but I always like to see what I've got before

Christmas. I'm a terrible shopper, so when people keep asking what I want, I've usually already got it. I had a pair of Calvin Klein pyjama bottoms on the other day and my mum came in and had a go at me because she had bought me some for Christmas.



17. Who is the worst dressed player at the club?

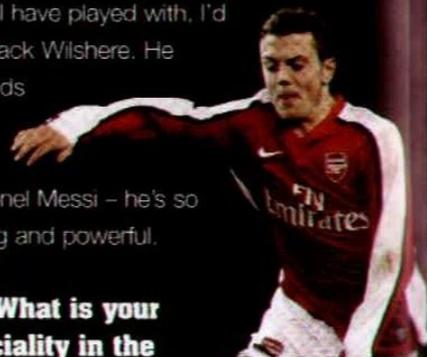
Waggy [Scott Wagstaff] – he hasn't got any style whatsoever. I've offered to take him to Bluewater to pick a few things out but he genuinely believes he's got good dress sense. In Spain once, we came down for a night out and I had on a pink shirt and a pair of grey trousers and shoes. He had his school tie on, his school trousers, school shoes and a school jumper, and looked



horrendous. He's got no defence.

23. Who is the best player you have played with?

Probably my brother George. He's so skilful and I just couldn't get the ball off him. His passing is great, too. He just plays with his mates on a Sunday now, and I think he's scored 14 goals in the last five games, but he hasn't got the desire; he works up in the City and wants to go out with his mates. Of the up-and-coming guys I have played with, I'd say Jack Wilshere. He reminds me a bit of Lionel Messi – he's so strong and powerful.



Star: Jack Wilshere

25. What is your speciality in the kitchen?

I'm not very good, but I cooked sweet and sour chicken once at school and won a prize. It was a *Ready Steady Cook*-style competition and I was doing it because I was house captain. My mum wrote down what I had to do in order and all the timings, though!

27. EastEnders or Coronation Street?

EastEnders, although I'm not a regular viewer.

32. What's the best practical joke you have played?

When I've been away with England youth, I've put shampoo on people's toilet seats.

35. Would you have a winter break?

I would like to take myself to a tropical island for a couple of weeks, just to switch my mind off. I love what I do, coming in and training, but it is nice to have some time off sometimes.

36. What's the best game you've ever seen?

Probably Liverpool v West Ham United in the 2006 FA Cup final, when Steven Gerrard scored those two beautiful goals. I was in Italy at the time, and it was just unreal. He's the complete article and the best player in the world in my eyes. It's a compliment to be compared to him, even though I've got a lot of things to do. Before I finish playing, I want to play with him and play against him; that's my goal.

37. Do you have a catchphrase?

'Deal with it'. And I say 'buzzing' quite a lot.

38. What is your biggest sporting ambition?

I hope to get promoted with Charlton back into the Championship – and hopefully back into the Premier League – and I want to play for

England at a World Cup. At the moment, though, I just want to get my head down and play for Charlton. It was tough being relegated, but this is the year to get back up and I think we're going to do it.

45. Who is your best friend in football?

Nicky Bailey and Lewis Perkins. I've got close to Nicky in the last year and we'll often play golf. I've known Lewis since I was about six, and used to play against him in youth football in Essex. It was good to see him in the first-team squad recently. He's a good player and deserves it.

60. Who is the vainest member of the squad?

Stav [Alex Stavrinou] has been mentioned a few times, and I'd have to agree. He's always looking in the mirror after training. He's got good dress sense, but he does fancy himself a bit.

62. What's your most prized possession?

Probably my laptop. I never let anyone else on it. I'm not on Facebook or anything like that, but whenever I go home I go on the internet, play games and do some shopping.

66. Did you ever collect football stickers, and did you complete an album?

I used to have the Premier League book and I went up to Chelsea one day with my mate to complete it. It was weird seeing myself on a sticker; when I was a little kid, I was the one

going out to the shops in the morning and spending 50p on them.

68. If you were writing a school report about yourself, what would it say?

'Should do better'. To be honest, I was never really in school due to my football and being at Charlton. But I remember I broke the school window at Brentwood County High with a misplaced shot one day. There were three different-sized windows where the dining hall was and I managed to break all three. After the first, I went to the headmistress and she said I might have to pay for it, but even though I did it twice more, I never got a bill. I think I was one of her favourites. I went back there the other day and signed an autograph for one of the teachers, who is a Charlton fan. That was weird.

70. What makes you angry?

My brother. He just sits indoors and winds me up, so I usually end up having a fight with him.

76. When did you last watch the news?

When I was in my room before the Stockport game. I watched the Manchester news to see what was happening in the local area.

89. Table for five. Who would be your four dinner guests and why?

My mum, my idol Steven Gerrard, my girlfriend and Megan Fox, because she is unbelievably pretty. If I had an extra chair, I'd invite Wayne Rooney. He's an amazing player. ■

SHAMPOO
MENS



CAN YOU SPOT THE SIX DIFFERENCES?



KIT REQUEST FORM

Charlton kitman Gavin Webster has been incredibly busy over the festive period, but he's still struggling to get to grips with some of the 'foreign players' requests. Can you help match the item of kit to the player in question?

NAME Jose Semedo

NAME Kelly Youga

NAME Therry Racon

NAME Miguel Llera

ITEM Chaussures de football

ITEM Caneleiras

ITEM Cortos

ITEM Gants

Answers: Jose Semedo (Portuguese) - caneleiras (shin pads), Kelly Youga (French) - Chaussures de football (football boots), Therry Racon (French) - gants (gloves), Miguel Llera (Spanish) - cortos (shorts)



WHO AM I?

Can you identify the current Addicks star from these five progressively easier clues?

1 My star sign is Taurus

5 points

2 I was born outside England

4 points

3 The recent trip to Brighton & Hove Albion brought back some good memories

3 points

4 I wear the number eight shirt

2 points

5 My initials are TR

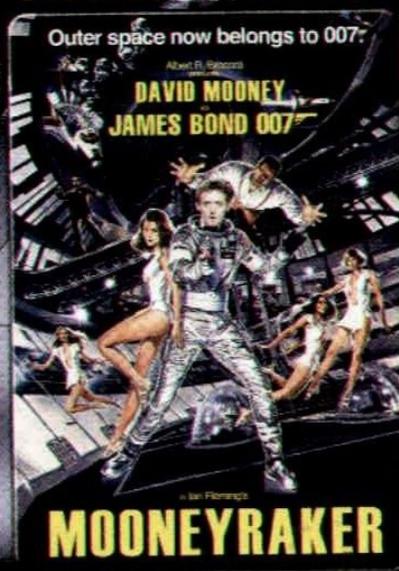
1 point

5

ANSWER: THERRY RACON

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BOXING CLEVER



Charlton are regularly in action the day after Christmas, but how much do you know about the Addicks' Boxing Day record?

1 Who did Charlton defeat on their first Boxing Day match in 1921?

a Norwich City, b Ipswich Town, c Peterborough United

2 Who scored two goals against Queens Park Rangers at The Valley on this day last year?

a Nicky Bailey, b Lloyd Sam, c Deon Burton

3 Charlton last lost on Boxing Day to which of these teams?

a West Ham United, b Chelsea, c Arsenal

4 Charlton last won on Boxing Day against which club?

a Portsmouth, b Chelsea, c West Ham United

5 The Addicks won 6-4 on Boxing Day in 1960 but then lost by the same scoreline to the same team a day later. Who was it?

a Southampton, b Reading, c Plymouth Argyle

Answers: 1 a, 2 a, 3 c, 4 b, 5 c



Today's Young Addicks mascot is Nathan Game, aged 10, from Dartford. Nathan plays at centre-half for VCD Football Club and also belongs to Dartford Harriers athletics club. His favourite Charlton player is Lloyd Sam



SCOTT WAGSTAFF



AGE: 19
POSITION: Midfielder
SHIRT NUMBER: 16
COUNTRY: England
DEBUT: Barnsley 26/04/08





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GOING RETRO FOR 2010

The busy festive period is barely over, but the club's retail operation is already teed up to receive new stock. Retail manager MICHAEL REA explains why the Addicks are looking to the past for the new year

As you'd expect, it's been a busy time for the retail department over Christmas, and we don't expect that to change as the new year approaches.

Plenty of new stock will be placed on the shelves of the Valley Superstore in the coming weeks.

In addition to a new golfing range, which will include balls, ball markers and Charlton-branded towels, we will also be receiving another delivery of the retro range.

The classic shirts and tracksuit tops from bygone seasons have been a big talking point among fans and proved very popular in the run-up to Christmas, to the extent that most of the items sold out.

But all of the jerseys will be back on the shelves soon, and we are also looking at widening the range to offer a variety of new designs.

With bad weather causing numerous transport problems in

recent weeks, making it difficult to get to The Valley, the launch of the club's new online Superstore at the start of the month has proved a huge boon, enabling fans to more easily browse everything the club has to offer.

The facts and figures are very impressive. At the start of the week, we had processed almost 600 orders – worth close to £20,000 – via the new website since

December 1st.

But the feedback and praise we've received from supporters regarding the new site has also been very rewarding, and we intend to continue making as much stock as possible available online.

With deliveries arriving all the time, however, there will sometimes be a delay before stock can be made

available to purchase via the online Superstore. At present, we have some knitwear that is on the shelves but not online – so it's always worth paying a visit to the Valley Superstore.

Another new item on the shelves is the *Championship Goals 2007-09* DVD, priced £20, while a range of new footballs is also planned.

There are a few things that supporters won't see in the new year, however.

We have no plans to have a new-year sale – although we will be discounting selected ranges in the coming months – and, one small delivery of away shirts apart, the Superstore will not be receiving any more batches of replica kit.

With stocks already limited in some sizes, anyone who wants to ensure they get their hands on a 2009/10 jersey is therefore urged to act swiftly.

● Fans can see the Superstore's festive opening hours on page 53. ■



Not just for Christmas: further supplies of retro shirts will be available in SE7 soon

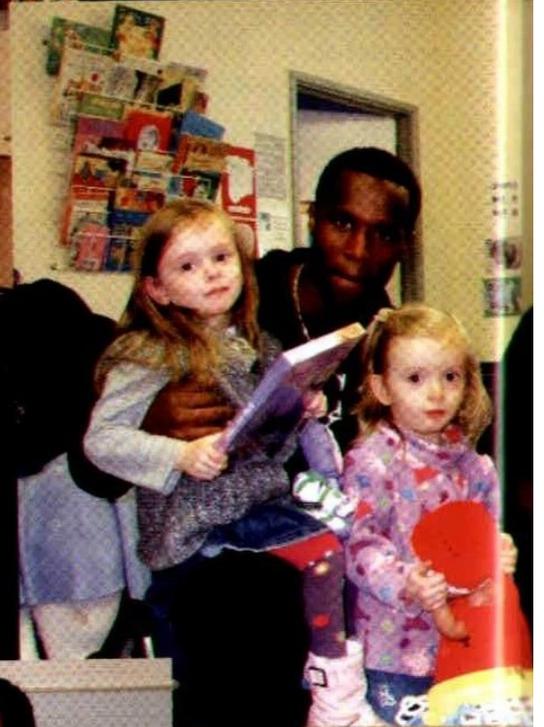
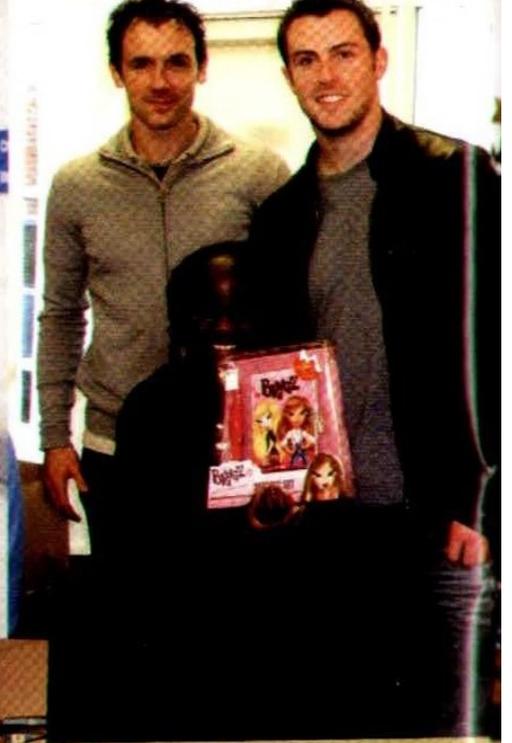


Home shopping network

Those wishing to salute Charlton's fine form may be tempted by a large club-themed flag, currently £4.88 on eBay, but we use the term 'club-themed' in the loosest possible sense. Essentially a red-and-white Formula 1 chequered flag, it's probably best used as an extra layer between you and climate change. Alternatively, buy in conjunction with fellow Addicks and make your patch of The Valley resemble a giant festive tablecloth.

SEE CHARLTON'S OFFICIAL EBAY AUCTIONS VIA WWW.CAFC.CO.UK







BIGGER PICTURE

Bringing some seasonal cheer – 15/12/09

Charlton's players, and the club's successful start to the 2009/10 campaign, have brought joy to thousands of Addicks supporters so far this season.

But there was much greater personal satisfaction for the members of the squad who visited two local hospitals earlier this month to give presents to children who were unable to go home for the festive season.

The Christmas visits are carried out every year by the Addicks to Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, in Woolwich, and Queen Mary's Hospital, in Sidcup.

And although few resembled Father Christmas, players such as Frazer Richardson, Miguel Llera, Leon McKenzie and Sam Sodje spent time chatting to youngsters, posing for pictures, signing autographs – and finding time to play with some Lego as well (*bottom right*).

Let's hope they were constructing a promotion bid... ■



ADDICKS



From a manager specialising in survival to a striker who stunned the red half of Merseyside – plus a midfielder who offered Charlton a ticket back to SE7 – GARY HAINES looks back at the club's heaven and L

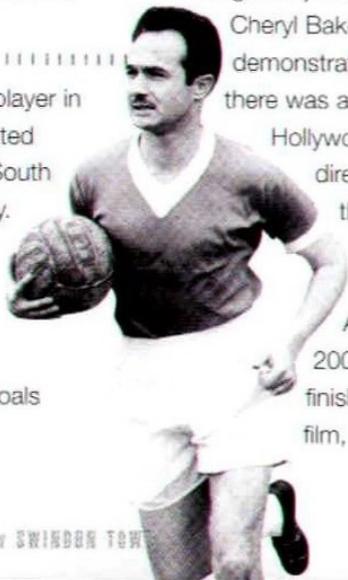
LAWRENCE, LENNIE A regular at The Valley in recent months to promote his autobiography, *Lennie*, as well as bring current club Bristol Rovers 'back home', former Addicks boss Lawrence remains hugely popular with the Valley faithful. Incredibly, he steered Charlton into the old First Division after a 29-year absence in 1986, an astonishing feat given that all but four of that

campaign's 42 games were played away from SE7, with Charlton lodging at Selhurst Park. He then earned the nickname 'Houdini' by managing to stave off relegation for four years despite the club's exile and limited resources.

The escapologist bossed the club on 411 occasions from November 1982 to July 1991



LEARY, STUART No player in Charlton's history has netted more league goals than South African-born hitman Leary. A deadly deep-lying forward, he scored 153 times in 376 league matches from 1951-62, and added a further 10 goals in the cups



LEE, ROBERT One-time turnstile operator at The Valley, Lee – always Robert, never Rob – gave stellar service across 10 seasons, and even his departure for £700,000 to Newcastle United in September 1992 contributed to the club's success, helping pave the way for the club's return to The Valley three months later. Although he would play for England as a central midfielder, Lee was a tricky winger in his younger days, making 343 Addicks appearances from 1984-92. He scored the last goal at The Valley before the seven-year exile, and was also applauded when he scored on his return to SE7 with Newcastle in the FA Cup in January 1997

LEE, SPIKE Charlton and celebrities are nothing new – as Bjorn

Borg, Andy Murray and Cheryl Baker demonstrate – but there was a proper Hollywood director in the Valley

crowd to see the Addicks face Arsenal in September 2002. Having just finished shooting a new film, *25th Hour*, Gunners



fan Lee (pictured with Ian Cartwright) was in England to record the musical score with the London Symphony Orchestra, and happily sat among fans in the lower west stand and then wore a Charlton shirt to meet the club's players – including an awestruck Chris Powell – in the home dressing room after the final whistle

LEEDS UNITED The Addicks famously took on the Yorkshire side, currently Charlton's League One promotion rivals, in the inaugural play-offs in May 1987. Having finished fourth bottom of the old First Division, the Addicks reached a two-legged showdown with Leeds that ultimately required a decider at a neutral St Andrews.



The Whites led 1-0 with seven minutes of extra-time remaining, but skipper Peter Shirtliff then scored twice to seal top-flight salvation. Last

October's 0-0 draw was the 46th meeting between the two sides, and there could be all to play for when The Valley hosts number 47 on May 1st

LISBIE, KEVIN A player who mixed the fantastic with the frustrating, Lisbie was a forward who split the Valley faithful. Prolific at youth and reserve level, the forward never translated that form to the Charlton first team, although he certainly left some fine memories, notably his



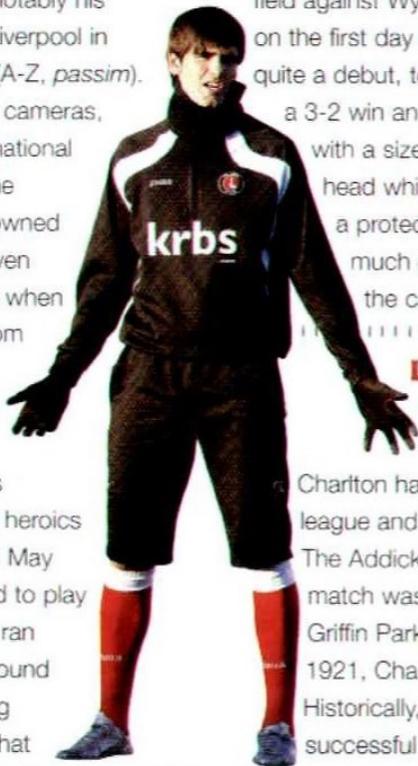
hat-trick against Liverpool in September 2003 (A-Z, *passim*). In front of the Sky cameras, the Jamaica international put Liverpool to the sword, and he crowned the 3-2 victory seven minutes from time when a slaloming run from the halfway line ended in a curling shot into the net.

He performed less headline-grabbing heroics against Chelsea in May 2005 when, forced to play alone up front, he ran himself into the ground despite an ongoing medical problem that saw him hospitalised in intensive care the following weekend

LIVERPOOL Charlton bowed out of the Premier League with a 2-2 draw at Anfield in May 2007, and the last time Liverpool fans watched anything other than top-tier football at home was when Charlton were the visitors on April 30th, 1962. Despite leading through Mike Bailey, Charlton were

beaten by two late goals as the Reds showed why they were champions, and the Anfield giants ended their Second Division days at Swansea Town four days later

LLERA, MIGUEL A towering defender snapped up on a free transfer from Milton Keynes Dons in the summer, Llera became the first Spaniard to play a first-team fixture for the Addicks when he took the field against Wycombe Wanderers on the first day of the season. It was quite a debut, too, as he scored in a 3-2 win and ended the game with a sizeable gash to his head which saw him sport a protective helmet for much of the early part of the campaign

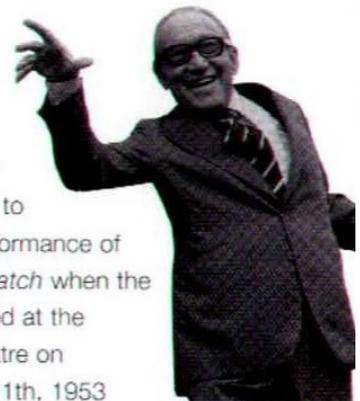


LONDON DERBIES

Including the Millwall draw last weekend, Charlton have played in 583 league and cup London derbies. The Addicks' first all-London match was against Brentford at Griffin Park on September 24th, 1921, Charlton winning 2-0. Historically, the three most successful clubs in London derbies are Arsenal, Tottenham Hotspur and Chelsea, in that order

LOVE MATCH, THE Scenes for *The Love Match*, a film starring comedian Arthur Askey, were shot at The Valley in September and October 1954, with Charlton player Kevin Barry acting as one of the linesmen. A year earlier, the Charlton chairman, directors, players and their

wives were invited by band leader Jack Hylton to the first performance of *The Love Match* when the show opened at the Palace Theatre on November 11th, 1953



LUFTWAFFE A total of 1,530 fans were at The Valley on September 7th, 1940, the start of the Blitz, when the game between Charlton and Millwall was halted after 89 minutes when enemy planes were seen, accompanied by heavy anti-aircraft fire. The players were soon recalled and the final whistle was blown as two enemy aircraft crashed to the ground



LUTON TOWN The Valley was the venue for Luton Town's first First Division match in August 1955, and the Hatters – now out of The Football League – held the Addicks to a 2-2 draw. More recently, the clubs have twice met in the League Cup, Charlton winning a Valley penalty shoot-out in September 2003 following an incredible 4-4 draw before the Hatters prevailed 3-1 at Kenilworth Road two seasons ago, with current Addick Matt Spring among their scorers ■

● Next issue: M. Send suggestions to gary.haines@cafc.co.uk

With thanks to club historian Colin Cameron and Graham Newson

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NEVER MISS A TWEET

Social networking is a new way for clubs to communicate with fans – and Twitter feed @CAFCofficial, a free interactive service offering the latest Addicks news and exclusive gossip, is growing fast. Editor MATT WRIGHT dives in

Regardless of last Saturday's draw against 10-man Millwall, there is no questioning Charlton's successful start to the season.

From the manager and player of the month awards for Phil Parkinson and Lloyd Sam in August to the club's current position in the automatic promotion places, plus the fact that no Addicks side has lost fewer games after 22 matches in the club's history, it's been a flourishing first half of 2009/10.

And the same is true of a free service to fans which was launched with little fanfare the day before the opening match of the campaign against Wycombe Wanderers.

Prior to Christmas, the number of followers of Charlton's Twitter service – @CAFCofficial – was approaching 1,000.

And while it would be nice to reach that landmark before the end of the year, numbers alone don't convey the success of the club's small foray into social networking.

For the uninitiated, Twitter allows users to post small messages of up to 140 characters. Anyone can search for the messages, but you can also sign up to be a 'follower' so you immediately receive every 'tweet' (message) on your computer or mobile phone.

Along with short messages, you can also tweet pictures and website links, or even resend messages from



Special tweet: Charlton's official Twitter feed keeps fans up to date with all the action against Millwall

people you are following to your own network.

If it sounds complicated, it isn't, and a real Charlton community has been born over the past few months.

From the club's perspective, the advantages are clear: it's another method by which we can quickly get information – ranging from match updates during games to injury news and ticket details – to supporters, many of whom probably belong to a different, younger demographic to those who regularly access the official website or read the *Valley Review*.

It helps drive traffic to www.cafc.co.uk, which should result in more advertising revenue, and it's also a useful device when www.cafc.co.uk is playing up...

But we're aware that simply transmitting information is not enough. Twitter has not been around

for long, but it's already clear that the most successful tweeters are those who engage with their audience, respond to questions and provide more than simply a one-way broadcast of information.

On @CAFCofficial, followers will hear gossip and fun from behind the scenes at Sparrows Lane and The Valley, not to mention which fast-food restaurant reporter Gary Haines has chosen to visit for his breakfast en route to away games.

It remains to be seen how things develop and, as former Addick Darren Bent (@DBthetruth) found out to his cost, there are pitfalls.

With the England striker keen to leave Tottenham Hotspur earlier this year, he angrily tweeted his frustration: "Do I wanna go Hull City NO. Do I wanna go Stoke NO. Do I wanna go Sunderland YES."

That's the edited version, but it still cost Bent a big fine from Spurs.

Whether we like it or not, clubs that do not embrace social networking and rely solely on old-fashioned methods of communication face being left behind, and increasingly ignored, as much as they might think they control the information they are putting out.

And while we might not be approaching Liverpool's (@LFCTV) tally of almost 60,000 followers just yet, like the first team, we're pleased with the way things are going. ■



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LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR SUCCESS

Since running amok against Southampton on a notable day in September, one Addicks youngster has catapulted himself into manager Phil Parkinson's thoughts. GARY HAINES sings the praises of a hard-working centre-forward

They say you come of age when you turn 18 – and second-year scholar Lewis Perkins would certainly concur.

The striker celebrated his landmark birthday in sensational fashion in late September, helping himself to a hat-trick against Southampton U18s.

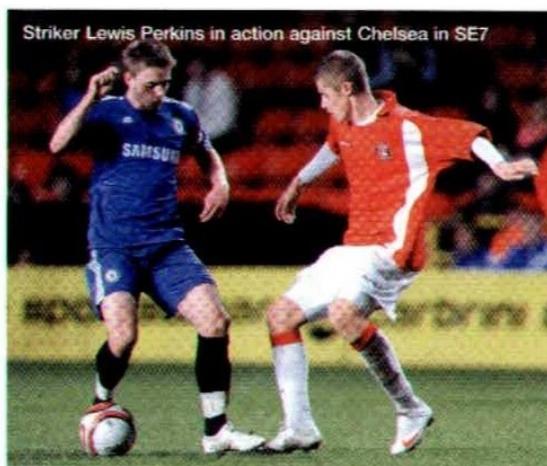
It quadrupled his tally for the season, beating last term's three-goal haul in the process, and paved the way for an incredible final three months of 2009.

What's more, just days after netting his ninth and 10th academy goals of the campaign at Ipswich Town, the Emerson Park-based teenager was called into Charlton's first-team squad for the first time.

"I wasn't expecting it at all," said Lewis of his promotion for the Stockport County trip. "I actually saw the gaffer earlier in the day to talk about speaking to a psychologist, who was coming in to discuss ways to improve my performance.

"Then, during a meeting, the gaffer popped his head round the door and said I was in the squad for Saturday's game. It was a real surprise."

Perkins, who is among nine Addicks youngsters aiming to seal a first professional deal at the end of 2009/10, travelled for a Friday training session at West Bromwich Albion before preparing for his big day with a spot of singing.



Striker Lewis Perkins in action against Chelsea in SE7

"I think I was more nervous about having to sing in front of the team," added Lewis of the pre-match initiation of new squad members.

"I knew what to expect, and I was speaking to Dave Mooney on the coach up, wondering what to do.

"I ended up singing *Build Me Up Buttercup* by The Foundations because the chorus was quite easy, and Dave joined in with a few others."

Having laid the foundations, Perkins' dream weekend continued at Edgeley Park the following day, and although he didn't make the bench, just pulling on a shirt with his name on the reverse made him hungry for more.

"You certainly feel like a real player when you turn up on the coach and sign autographs for the fans," he said. "It was certainly a taste of what life could be.

"When I saw the shirt hanging up with Perkins 34 on the back, I felt like

I was in a shop getting it printed.

"I've put myself on the map, but I've only travelled to one game and I haven't been on the bench or played yet.

"I'd love to get in the squad a few more times and maybe make my debut before the end of the season. Obviously, I'll be working hard to make sure I get my professional deal as well."

Perkins, who led the U18s line in the youth cup defeat to Chelsea at The Valley on

December 14th, has been with the club since U9 level, and earned Essex schoolboy honours in the same county side as Jonjo Shelvey, Liam Bellamy and Carl Jenkinson.

Indeed, he ended up replacing Jenkinson at right-back for his Essex debut in a county cup final, while he regularly played against Shelvey in junior football.

He trails teammate Tamer Tuna 2-1 in the pair's hat-trick challenge this term, but is still delighted by his progress.

"I set myself a target of 10 goals before Christmas, and that game at Southampton was amazing," he said. "To get one goal on my birthday made my day, but a hat-trick was fantastic.

"It certainly boosted my confidence after a shaky start to the season. I only got three goals last year, so I knew I had to do better and be more consistent. Now I just want to continue building." ■

NEIGHBOURS SHOW FAMILY VALUES

An incredible derby match against Millwall seven days ago proved a fitting legacy for two fans who lost their lives prematurely. MATT WRIGHT looks back at the powerful message spread nationwide on a ground-breaking day

Anyone watching Sky last Saturday, and aware of the drama unfolding in the match between Charlton and Millwall, would not have been surprised to hear the words 'and now we're going live to The Valley...'.
With eight goals, two penalties, a red card, an own goal and a last-minute equaliser, there was plenty of entertainment to make up for the 13-year absence of the South-East London derby.

But the words above were actually uttered by a presenter on the Sky News channel fully two hours before kick-off, as the Street Violence Ruins Lives message garnered further national publicity.

Following exclusive features in the *Sun* and the *Daily Mirror* the preceding Thursday, there was extensive coverage of the decision by the Addicks and the Lions to dedicate the fixture to two murdered supporters, Charlton's Rob Knox and Millwall's Jimmy Mizen.

Extensive media coverage included major articles in the *Daily Mirror*, left, and *Sunday Mirror*



From left: Barry Mizen, Sally Knox, George Mizen, Colin Knox and Margaret Mizen unite to greet the Valley crowd seven days ago

And there was widespread praise of the decision to replace the two clubs' usual sponsors' logos on the front of the players' jerseys with a special one-off anti-street violence logo.

"It means a lot to us that our son and Jimmy are being honoured like this," said Rob's mum Sally, speaking on the day.

"We want to use the power of

football and the media to get through to people, because dealing with street violence

is everyone's responsibility.

"I really believe that Rob is up there looking down, and is proud of the work that we're doing with his club."

Footage of the pre-match events, which saw the Knoxes and Mizens introduced to the crowd and the two teams, was broadcast by numerous BBC, ITV and Sky

programmes, with no fewer than four different camera crews present at The Valley.

And the coverage continued on the radio and in tabloid and broadsheet newspapers throughout the weekend.

Colin Knox said: "I would like to thank everyone who made the day possible and helped to ensure maximum coverage, from the players of both clubs to the sponsors, and the Charlton Community Trust in particular." ■



The special-edition shirts worn by both teams will be auctioned to fund the trust's campaign

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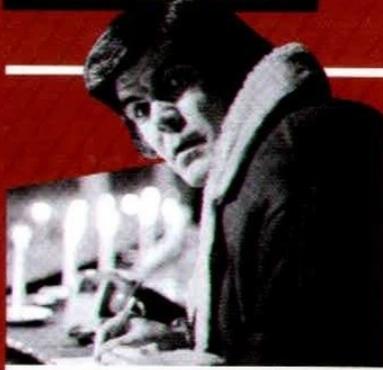
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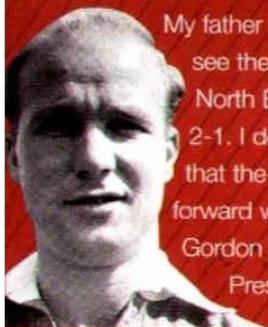




“NO PERSON ALIVE KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT CHARLTON – YOU NEVER STOP LEARNING SOMETHING NEW”

Club historian Colin Cameron is arguably the greatest living authority on the Addicks, and the former boxer and financial journalist tells GARY HAINES how his exhaustive research is fuelled by a lifelong passion for all things Charlton

FIRST CHARLTON GAME



My father first took me to The Valley when I was 10 to see the FA Cup sixth-round tie against Preston North End in March 1947, which the Addicks won 2-1. I don't remember much about the game, only that the crowd on the south terrace surged forward when either team attacked that end. Gordon Hurst's winner was disputed by Preston, who claimed the ball went out of play before it was crossed.

LAST BOXING MATCH

I boxed from junior to senior level for about 12 years, although I only fought around 40 times for Sidcup & District and Eltham & District boxing clubs. One of my proudest moments was at Eltham when I appeared on the same bill as Henry Cooper, and I treasure that particular programme. I was boxing at Lamorbey Drill Hall, Sidcup, when I first met a Charlton player – legendary skipper Don Welsh. He brought along the FA Cup, which Charlton had just won, and presented the prizes at the tournament.



LAST HAT-TRICK

I was captain of the school football team, and although I don't recall many individual matches, I did hit a hat-trick of penalties against the London Choir School. I was mainly a defender, but also scored a hat-trick as an emergency striker against the Cadets when I was stationed for two years at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

FIRST FOOTBALL RECORDS YOU KEPT

I started collecting programmes when I was at school. In Charlton's case, I read every word. Latterly, I had the good fortune to obtain the fantastic records of my predecessor as Charlton historian/statistician, Morley Farror, which probably saved me years of research. I checked the details of every first-team match from my own records, club records and newspaper libraries, and was able to add hundreds of items of relevant information.



FIRST THOUGHTS OF A CAREER IN JOURNALISM

I loved playing football, but soon after coming out of the army, I sacrificed playing for covering matches. Even when I was at school, the one thing I wanted to do was write on football. I saw an advert for junior staff at the Exchange Telegraph Company (Extel), a national news agency, and started work there, where I remained for almost 40 years before leaving to write a book on Charlton in 1992. Extel's sporting coverage meant they were always looking for people to cover sport, and after a couple of years, I got the job of covering Millwall. When the Charlton reporter retired in the early 1960s, I was invited to take over, although I covered for him as early as November 24th, 1956 when I reported on Charlton v West Bromwich Albion.

LASTING MEMORIES OF THE VALLEY PRESS BOX

The press box used to be situated in the centre of the old west stand behind the directors' box. Refreshments – tea, coffee, biscuits, a few beers and a bottle of whisky – were provided in the little room used for press conferences. When the press left, one of the Charlton staff used to mark the level of the whisky bottle to make sure no one treated themselves before the next match.

FIRST PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTION TIME

I once had one of the shortest interviews on record at a Millwall v Huddersfield Town match when I put a question to Harold Wilson and got a very brief, but polite, answer from the then Labour prime minister.



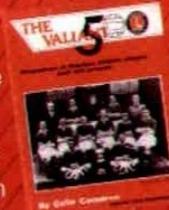
the entire first half completely unaware. I couldn't have been luckier because the half-time score was 0-0 – a very rare scoreline indeed. When I got home, I remember listening to Robin Marlar's summary of matches played that day and hearing my totally rubbish report.

LAST CHARLTON HOME MATCH YOU MISSED

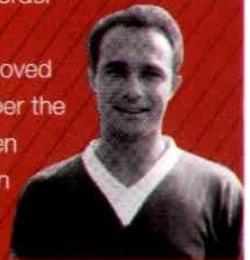
Since we returned to The Valley, I have missed just one match, when I had a nasty bout of sciatica. My car once broke down on the Sidcup bypass, causing me to miss a Full Members' Cup match against Chelsea at Selhurst Park.

FIRST BOOK

I have written and published three books, and another jointly, which was published by Extel. My main occupation at Extel was as a financial journalist, and when capital gains tax was introduced in 1965, my company started to produce huge books on the subject. My first football book, in 1991, *The Valiant 500*, sold out several years ago and was the first hardback 'who's who' ever published on a football club. The second, which I later updated, was *Home & Away with Charlton Athletic*, which is to this day the most extensive record of all first-team matches published by any of the long-established clubs.

**LASTING ADDICKS LEGENDS**

I've been very lucky to follow Charlton in every season since the war, and my all-time top three – in order – are Stuart Leary, Eddie Firmani and Charlie Vaughan. But there are a host of others I've loved watching from 1947 up to this day. I remember the first former Charlton player I interviewed, when I was almost in a trance. It was Benny Fenton when he was Millwall manager. I also felt honoured that the great Sam Bartram phoned me at home on occasion when he was working for the *Sunday People*.

**FIRST CAR**

A Mini, which was a pleasure to drive until I crashed it on the Sidcup bypass. It was in the early hours of New Year's Day after I had got engaged – the first of four engagements – the night before. I spent three weeks in Queen Mary's Hospital. It was my first accident, but I had several more in a short period, prompting my dad to take me off his insurance.

**LAST TIME YOU WERE STUMPED**

No person alive knows everything about Charlton – that's impossible! The truth is you never stop learning something new about the club and its players.

FIRST SPORTING MISHAP

I once covered a rugby match between Wasps and United Services Portsmouth. I covered the services team on many occasions and they always wore navy blue. This time, however, Wasps were in navy blue, and I covered

LAST TIME YOU WERE PROUD OF CHARLTON

Like all Charlton fans, I've had too many proud, as well as dreadful, moments to list. My best moment, however, was when Mr Justice Mervyn Davies approved Sunley Group's rescue bid at the High Court on March 8th, 1984. In terms of importance, it surpasses anything that has happened since the club was formed in 1905.

PER'S PLATE EXPECTATIONS

One devoted Addick may be thousands of miles from The Valley, but he has already registered his Charlton interest Down Under. GARY HAINES finds out how a driven man is teaching some Australians the real meaning of football

Hats, scarves and big coats will no doubt be required today – but on the other side of the globe, a far-flung fan in warmer climes will be following the action.

For the past six years, Per Clark has proudly driven a car Down Under with an exclusive CAFC numberplate.

Brought up in Chislehurst and a fan since watching the Addicks beat Aston Villa 3-0 at The Valley in 1967, he emigrated to Australia in 1982.

The 56-year-old remains a huge fan, and is part of an ever-expanding Addicks Down Under group which is approaching 100 members.

"I got the numberplate from my kids for my 50th birthday," he said. "Each state in Australia has its own vehicle registration system, so mine is the only one in Victoria. Other members of the Addicks Down Under club have the same plate in other states.

"Because I live in the Australian rules football homeland of Melbourne, most people probably think it stands for Carlton Football Club, even though their colours are navy blue and white!

"Not many people in Australia have heard of Charlton, to be honest, but we're spreading the word."

The group currently has 86 members in Australia and New Zealand, and that figure is growing.

"I see three members regularly, and



Addick
Per Clark

we go to see our local football team, Melbourne Victory – even though ex-Millwall player Kevin Muscat is their captain!" said Per, who used to be a season-ticket holder.

Clark, who is half-Danish, visited The Valley for the first time with the boyfriend of his sister. He watched Matt Tees score against Villa with just 90 seconds on the clock, and the victory left him thirsty for more.

"I don't remember much, but the old Valley and atmosphere really made an impression," he said. "I was hooked. I was a big fan of Keith Peacock and Lenny Glover in the early days, but the Hales/Flanagan/Powell era was the most exciting.

"My most memorable game was one of the first I saw – an FA Cup third-round replay in 1969 at Crystal Palace, which we won 2-0 with Ray Treacy scoring the best goal I've ever seen."

Clark was in SE7 to watch Charlton offer an indication of their impressive early-season form when

the Addicks defeated Ipswich Town in pre-season, and hopes to catch a couple of games in February.

He added: "It was disappointing to drop down to League One, but like most long-time fans, I'm used to the roller-coaster ride Charlton provide.

"I could see in pre-season that the players were up for it. Their work ethic is tremendous, and with the team spirit that a good run of victories brings, we should get back to the Championship straight away." ■

TODAY'S MASCOTS

ETHAN SMITH

Ethan, aged five, comes from Belvedere. He loves skateboarding, gymnastics and BMX riding, and his favourite player is Rob Elliot



SAFFRON SMITH

Saffron is Ethan's sister and is 11 years old. She plays for Parkwood Rangers U13 Girls and her favourite players are Nicky Bailey and Lloyd Sam



ALFIE CLARK

Alfie, aged five, lives in Northumberland. His granddad played for Charlton Rangers and his favourite players are Rob Elliot and Deon Burton



HARRY CLARK

Harry is Alfie's brother and is six years old. His grandparents met at The Valley in 1966 and his favourite players are Deon Burton and Nicky Bailey



SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

Along with Leeds United, Charlton have generally taken top billing when it comes to the League One section of the *Football League Show* on BBC1 every Saturday night this season.

Studio presenter Lizzie Greenwood-Hughes has been a regular watcher of the Addicks this term, most recently visiting The Valley to see the last home match against Millwall.

And supporters will soon be able to see even more coverage of the club on terrestrial television, courtesy

of a new Monday night regional magazine show starting next month.

Late Kick-Off will begin in mid-January, and is promising to give supporters a mix of discussion, opinion, interviews and match analysis regarding the Football League clubs in each of the seven regions.

Charlton will be covered by reporters from BBC London and BBC South East as part of the London and South East region, and the show will be screened at 11.15pm. The programmes will also be available on BBC iPlayer. ■

A FISHY BUSINESS

There was a familiar face on show at the Soccerex event in South Africa last month.

Ex-Addicks centre-half Mark Fish, now manager of Thanda Royal Zulu, is an ambassador for the 2010 World Cup.

And he was present in Cape Town, right, for the annual exhibition as part of his country's youth development programme, where he was snapped by Sean Powrie, who was part of the

PA Photos team visiting the exhibition.

Nothing unusual in that, you might think, except Powrie is Charlton's account manager rather than one of the professional photographers who cover the Addicks home and away. ■



Personals

DEATHS

• In memory of Les Durham – a season-ticket holder for many years, who always enjoyed a pre-match pint in the Bugle Horn – who has passed away, aged 89

BIRTHDAYS

- To Julie – wishing you a happy 34th birthday on December 30th. Love and best wishes from Andy, Katie and family
- Wishing Bernard Kerridge in the west stand a very happy birthday. All our love, Wendy, Lucy, Hannah and Gizmo
- Many happy returns to Maureen Smith, in

the lower west stand, from David and Jack

MESSAGES

• Addicks sponsor Kent Reliance Building Society is pleased to welcome the hard-working guys at Charlton bus depot, who work day and night in all weathers to carry passengers from A to B. We hope your journey to The Valley was a good one – merry Christmas to you and all Addicks here this afternoon

• A big welcome to Lucy Davies, who is enjoying her first ever visit to The Valley today, and also to Brian and Richard Vallely. Merry Christmas, from Kat

Send your personal messages for the *Valley Review* to Gary Haines, c/o The Valley, by fax to 020-8850 7867 or by email to gary.haines@cafc.co.uk. There is no charge but insertion is restricted by space and cannot be guaranteed – requests must be made by the Monday before a Saturday game. Public address announcements can be requested on a first come, first served basis via Valley reception on 020-8333 4000

FAN INFORMATION

CASC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIR Paul Nottage 07717 827666

c/o The Valley, Floyd Road,
London SE7 8BL
Email info@casc.org.uk
Website www.casc.org.uk

DISABLED SUPPORTERS' ASSOCIATION

CADSA Tony 01689 878626

CASC BRANCHES

BRIGHTON/W SUSSEX
Vernon 01903 812878

ESSEX
Tony 01375 858323

GREENWICH & BEXLEY
Steve 07717 827666

HASTINGS/BEXHILL
George 01424 439075

MAIDSTONE
Sue 01732 521691

WEST COUNTRY
Bill 01395 578892

WEST KENT
Laurence 07986 561135

FAN GROUPS

BROMLEY ADDICKS Tony 020-8462 1289
CITY ADDICKS City-addicks.blogspot.com
NW KENT ADDICKS Jean 01322 401775

FANS' FORUM

Independent group to represent supporters' views to Charlton directors
www.charltonfansforum.co.uk

FORMER PLAYERS' ASSOCIATION

LUCIANO things4u@uk2.net
Website www.addicks.biz

REMINISCENCE GROUP

This independent group of supporters, which meets at The Valley on Thursdays, welcomes new members. Contact Christine on 020-8244 5514

JUNIOR REDS FC

CLIVE 020-8302 1349

CHARLTON CHAPLAINCY

MATT BAKER matt.baker@cafc.co.uk

FAVOURERED CHARITY

Demelza Hospice Care for Children provides care for children with life-limiting conditions and their families
Website www.demelzahouse.org

LOST PROPERTY

Fans can enquire about property lost at The Valley by calling 020-8333 4000 or visiting Valley reception from 9am-5pm

On great saves

SO, TOMMY,
WHAT'S YOUR
FAVOURITE SAVE OF
THE SEASON SO FAR?



THE BOSS
NOT TURNING ON
THE HAIRDRYER
AT HALF TIME.

The goal of Great Saves is to help families reduce the amount of energy they use at home. There are lots of useful tips on our website and we're giving everyone the chance to win great football prizes. If you're an E.ON customer, you could also win Football League tickets, training day visits and signed shirts. To enter, play our 'A Question of Saves' game online. It's well worth a shot.

Helping you save energy

We're on it



For your chance to win,
visit eongreatsaves.com

e-on

COMMUNITY NEWS

A Charlton project which uses sport and the arts to help young people into education and employment was praised by children's secretary Ed Balls earlier this month.



Ed Balls, third left, visits SE7

The government minister joined Eltham MP Clive Efford, Greenwich Council leader Cllr Chris Roberts and former Addicks defender Paul Elliott, now a trustee of the Charlton Community Trust, at a Youth Impact Project conference at The Valley.

"Ed Balls said the programme was a great example of how sports and arts-based initiatives can be used to engage young people," said Charlton Athletic Race Equality (CARE) partnership manager Michael Seeraj.

"The event also highlighted the fact that the innovative partnership between a professional football club, a local authority and other key

agencies and organisations was crucial to the success of the programme."

The Youth Impact Project, which is partly funded by the London

Development Agency's opportunity fund, builds on highly successful programmes already being run by the trust, CARE and other local organisations across Greenwich.

The aim of the initiative is to create opportunities to equip young people with a range of skills relevant to the workplace or further education.

And among the speakers at the event was Liam Broughton, who left school without qualifications or prospects but, after successfully completing the programme, is now in full-time employment with Greenwich Council, and is hoping to eventually come back to the Charlton trust as a football coach and youth worker. ■

CONTACTS

Patron Sir Maurice Hatter



Trustees Roger Godsiff MP (chairman), Peter Varney (vice-chairman), Peter Cousins, Paul Elliott MBE, Karl Howman, Brian Jokat, Thomas Mackie

Chief executive Jason Morgan

Tel: 020-8333 4000

Email: jason.morgan@cact.org.uk

Community director Matt Parish

Tel: 020-8850 2866

Email: matt.parish@cact.org.uk

Website: www.cact.org.uk

Charlton women's team

Tel: 020-8850 2866

Email: charltonwomen@yahoo.co.uk

Dates to remember

January

4th

The new year begins with a new series of Charlton Challenge courses in Bexley, Greenwich, Sevenoaks and Swanley

17th

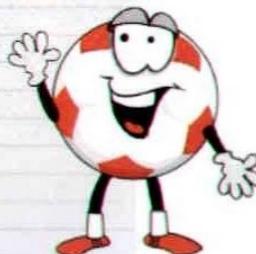
The Charlton women's team takes on Wingate & Finchley in the London Cup at Erith (2pm)

February

6th

The first day of a three-day Football Association Level One coaching certificate course at Sparrows Lane - applications now being taken

Call 020-8850 2866 for details

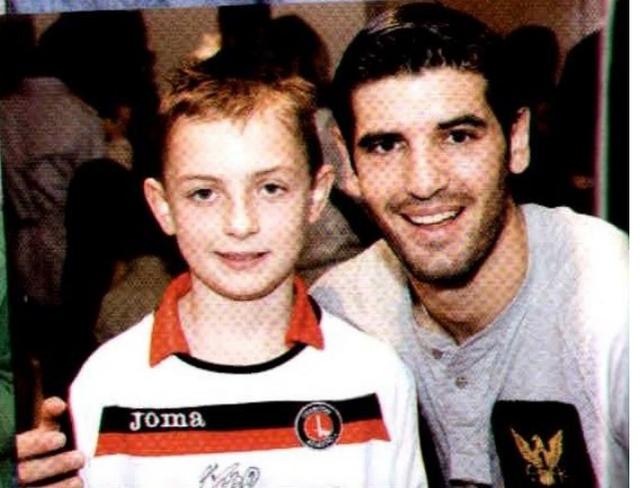
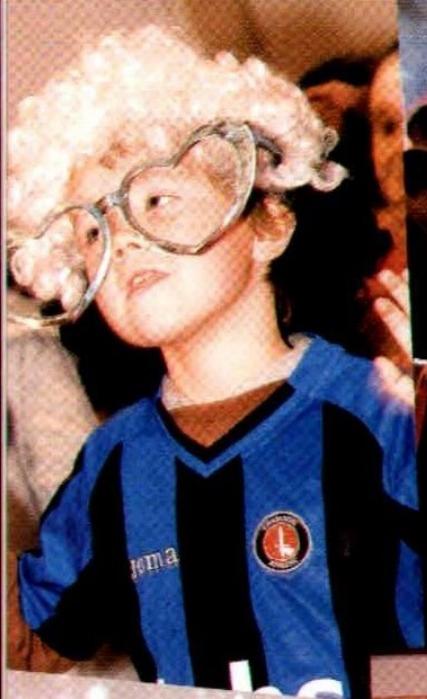


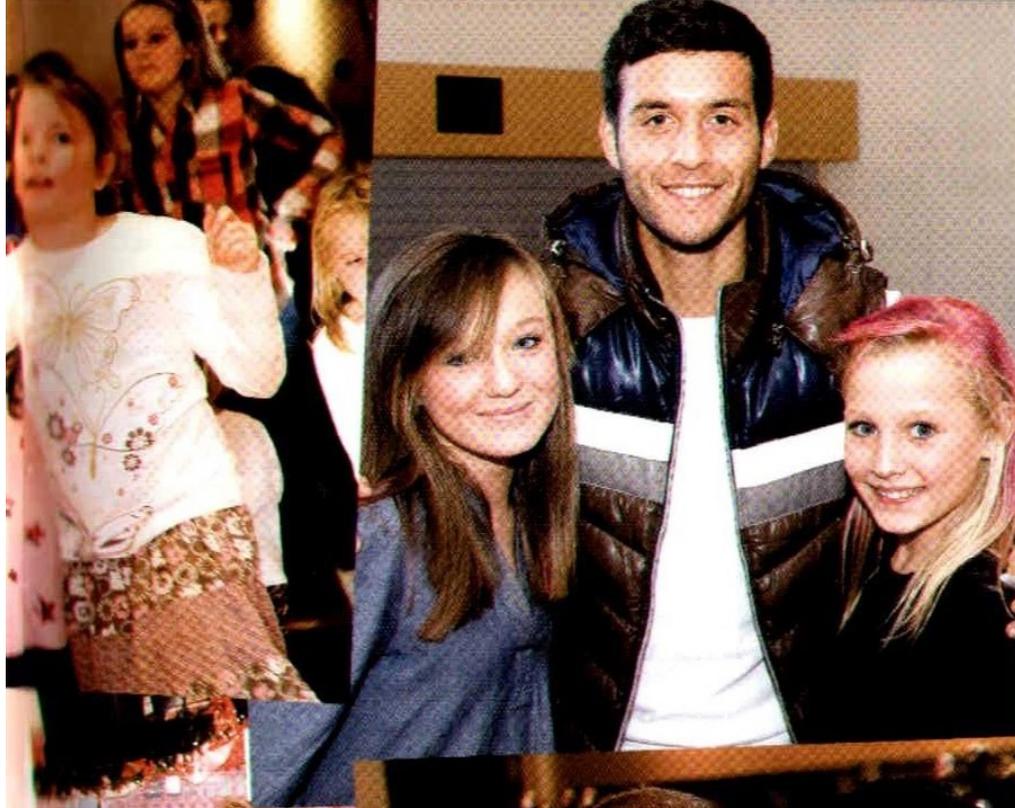
TEEN SPIRIT

The Charlton Community Trust is looking to recruit 20 people aged from 16 to 18 for a year-long junior coach apprentice programme which starts on January 1st.

Youngsters will spend four days per week working on a range of the trust's numerous projects across Greenwich, Bexley and Kent, with the fifth day dedicated to the education programme at Sparrows Lane, where participants can gain an NVQ in activity leadership or a BTEC first diploma in sport.

Interviews will take place for these positions, and anyone interested should contact the community office on 020-8850 2866. ■





FESTIVE FUN

Christmas came a little early for members of Young Addicks as they celebrated the coming holiday with the first team the day after the home game against Southend United.

Nearly 150 young supporters took up the invitation to party with the players in what was the first festive event arranged under the auspices of the new U14s organisation.

So keen were some that they were waiting patiently in the north-stand reception up to an hour before the party was due to get under way.

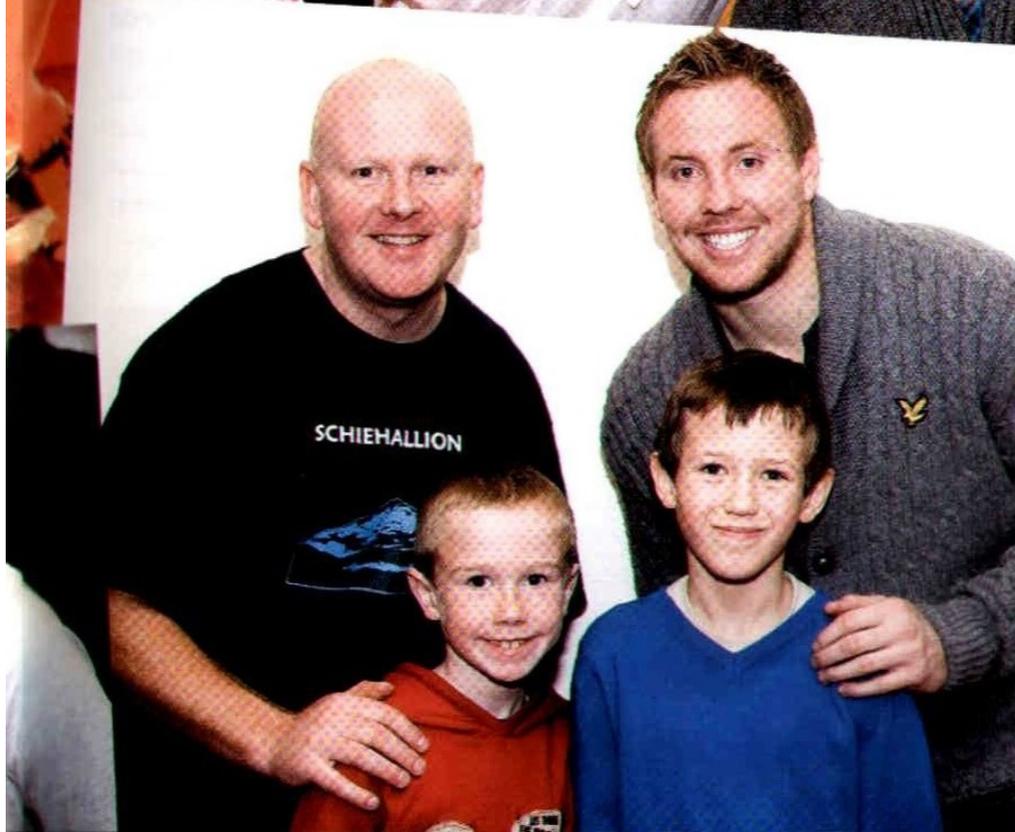
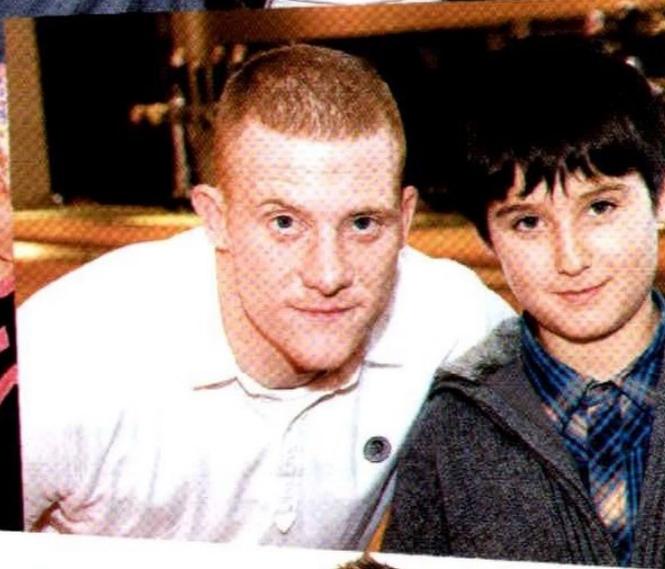
Armed with a specially commissioned team poster, members soon formed long queues to secure the autographs of their heroes and to capture a precious picture, with Nicky Bailey and Rob Elliot among those in particular demand.

The Funky Chicks entertainers also proved a big hit, keeping the kids – and Scott Wagstaff – on the dance floor throughout the two-hour session.

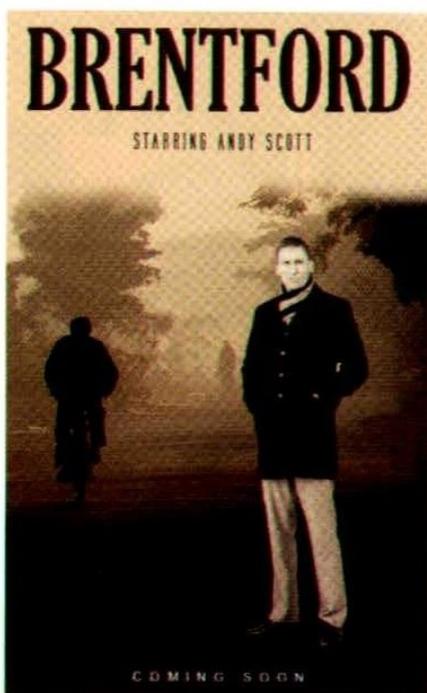
Head of club development Rick Everitt said: "On behalf of all the Young Addicks, I'd like to thank Phil Parkinson and the players for entering into the spirit of things so well.

"A lot of credit also goes to club development's Sharron Sherress and Lisa Squires for the work they put into organising the event, and to all the other staff who were involved on the day."

● For more information about Young Addicks, call 020-8333 4075 between 9.30am and 2.30pm weekdays, or email youngaddicks@cafc.co.uk. ■



PREMIERE DATE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 28TH (3PM) **RATING:** LEAGUE ONE
VENUE: GRIFFIN PARK, BRAEMAR ROAD, BRENTFORD, MIDDLESEX TW8 0NT **CONTACT:** 0845 3456 442



It could have been much worse – on the same day, Gillingham are going to Exeter City.

All tickets for Griffin Park are sold out, and the good news is that the away end is now covered, even if it's mainly sheltered by the seating area that overhangs the terrace.

We are located in the quaint double-decker Brook Road stand, which Bees fans affectionately refer to as 'The Wendy House', and it's a wee bit dated.

With seats above the terrace, stilts prove a bit of an obstruction, and given the number of fans travelling, this could be more of an irritant than normal.

The seating area is a bit steep and

the staircases are not the widest, so exercise a bit of caution. The OK facilities are shared between seats and terraces, with external loos. I am told that alcohol is available on a discretionary basis – we shall see.

Before home and away fans repeatedly switched ends, the best bet for a pub was probably The New Inn, and it's still the favoured option. The Royal Oak is quite small, while the Griffin is the most partisan but probably does the best beer.

Remember the bank holiday, so it will be a Sunday service on public transport, while there are numerous residents-only parking schemes around the ground. ■

Ian Cartwright

Prices: All tickets sold out; all wheelchair and disabled places sold out **Last visit:** 0-2 (07/11/1992) **Nearest station:** Brentford (Waterloo) **Go for:** A festive London derby

PREMIERE DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 2ND (3PM) **RATING:** LEAGUE ONE
VENUE: BANKS' STADIUM, BESCOT CRESCENT, WALSALL WS1 4SA **CONTACT:** 0971 221 0442

Walsall
 COMING SOON
 STARRING CHRIS HUTCHINGS



Walsall now play at the Banks' Stadium, named not after Gordon, but a local brewery, and we have been allocated an initial 1,000 tickets, which are on general sale.

The Saddlers moved to their current venue – formerly known as the Bescot Stadium – in 1990, but despite its relative youth, three sides of the ground seem a little dated because the ground is very similar to other identikit stadia.

The traditional home end boasts a large, state-of-the-art double-decker stand, which totally dwarfs the rest of the ground. It's nice to see that the large central glass frontage is for modern concourse facilities rather

than executive boxes, though.

Of course, we are in an undeveloped part of the ground, behind the goal in the Dains Stand, which you enter at ground level, and there is quite a climb to the rear seats.

What's more, if you are in the front row, beware the large recess in front should you celebrate a goal – as I once found out to my cost.

Given its out-of-town location, there are few pubs nearby, although a clubhouse at the ground selectively admits away fans. The King George V, opposite Morrisons, is about 15 minutes away, but avoid the Fulbrook.

There is a large car park at the away end for about £4. ■ IC

Prices: £18 adults, £12 over 60s and U18s (£20/£14 on the day); disabled – £18 and £12 (including free helper)
Last visit: 4-2 (07/03/2000) **Nearest station:** Bescot Stadium (Marylebone, via Birmingham New Street/Moor Street)
Go for: A potential first win of 2010

Hartlepool United (h)

Charlton are next in action at The Valley against Hartlepool United on Saturday, January 9th (3pm), and tickets are on general sale, priced £17, £22 and £25 adults, £17 over 60s and U21s, and £5 U18s.

Wycombe Wanderers (a)

Tickets for Charlton's first competitive trip to Wycombe Wanderers' Adams Park, on Saturday, January 16th (3pm), are currently on restricted sale.

Season-ticket holders who are Valley Gold members can purchase up to one adult or senior ticket plus one junior ticket, while season-ticket holders and other Valley Gold members who have bought tickets for more than one away match this season can buy up to the maximum number of tickets they have purchased for two previous away games.

Charlton have an initial 1,800 seats (250 more are subject to demand and police approval), priced £18 adults, £15 over 60s, £15 students (with a valid NUS card) and £6 U16s.

From Wednesday, December 30th, all season-ticket holders, Valley Gold members and fans who have purchased tickets for at least two away fixtures this season will be eligible, and, subject to availability, seats will go on general sale on January 6th.

Wheelchair disabled fans should contact Wycombe on 01494 441118.

Festive opening hours

Sunday, December 27th

Monday, December 28th

Tuesday, December 29th

Wednesday, December 30th

New Year's Eve

New Year's Day

Saturday, January 2nd

Sunday, January 3rd

Monday, January 4th

Commercial centre

Closed

Closed

9am-5pm

(skeleton staff)

9am-5pm

9am-1pm

Closed

9am-1pm

Closed

9am-5pm

Leyton Orient (h)

There is another London derby in SE7 on Monday, January 25th (7.45pm), when the Sky cameras will be accompanying Leyton Orient to The Valley. The match was scheduled to take place two days earlier, but was switched to be shown live by the satellite broadcaster.

Tickets for the match are on general sale, priced £17, £22 and £25 adults, £17 over 60s and U21s, and £5 U18s.

Group rail travel

Supporters who travel by train to Addicks away games outside Greater London can take advantage of discounted return rail fares thanks to special deals usually negotiated independently by Charlton fan Syd Cheeswright.

There is no group rail travel for Brentford and the deadline is 9.30pm tomorrow for Walsall.

Trains leave Marylebone at 10.18, arriving Birmingham Moor Street at 12.34. After a seven-minute walk to Birmingham New Street, trains depart at 12.17, 12.47 and 13.17 for the 21-minute journey to Bescot Stadium station near the ground.

Return trains depart at 17.04 and 17.34 from Bescot Stadium station, and 18.12

from Birmingham Snow Hill, arriving 20.37 at Marylebone.

The total adult group discounted return fare will be from

£21.50-£27, depending upon the actual number of adult passengers. Accompanied U16s, one per adult, can travel for £3.50 return.

Detailed group and away rail travel information can be found via www.cafc.co.uk. Fans requiring discounted group rail tickets should call 020-8688 3916 from 7-9.30pm Sundays to Thursdays, no later than the dates specified. No late requests or payments can be accepted.

Booking information

Tickets and information are available in person from the Valley commercial centre, via www.cafc.co.uk or on 0871 226 1905. Up-to-date details are at www.cafc.co.uk, in the email Bulletin and in the local press. ■

Commercial centre opening hours

- 9am-5pm weekdays
- 9am-1pm non-match Saturdays
- from 10am matchday Saturdays

VALLEY AWAY

	BRENTFORD (£10)	WALSALL (£16)	WYCOMBE (£12)
MAIDSTONE 1	11.30AM	9.00AM	11.00AM
MAIDSTONE 2	11.45AM	9.15AM	11.15AM
MEDWAY SERVICES	11.45AM	9.30AM	11.45AM
LARKFIELD	12.00PM	9.30AM	11.30AM
GRAVESEND	12.00PM	9.45AM	12.00PM
BROMLEY NORTH	12.10PM	9.40AM	12.15PM
DARTFORD	12.15PM	10.15AM	12.15PM
ELTHAM WELL HALL	12.30PM	10.00AM	12.00PM
BEXLEYHEATH	12.30PM	10.00AM	12.15PM
CHARLTON	12.45PM	10.15AM	11.45AM

THE MOBILITY COACH WILL RUN FROM BROMLEY WELL HALL AND CHARLTON TO BRENTFORD, WALSALL (MAIDSTONE PICK-UPS SUBJECT TO DEMAND) AND WYCOMBE

CALL 0871 226 1905. SEE WWW.CAFC.CO.UK OR BOOK IN PERSON AT THE COMMERCIAL CENTRE

*CALLS COST 10P PER MINUTE FROM A BT LANDLINE. CALLS FROM OTHER NETWORKS AND MOBILES MAY COST MORE

FULL ROAD AND RAIL TRAVEL AND TICKET INFORMATION IS AT WWW.CAFC.CO.UK



GRAVESEND
KM MESSENGER

DARTFORD
KM MESSENGER

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KIT SPONSORS 2009/10



NICKY BAILEY

Home: Addicksdownunder.freelforums.org
Away: North West Kent Addicks
Training: AVAILABLE

GRANT BASEY

Home: Hastings & Bexhill CASC
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

TIM BREACKER

Home: AVAILABLE
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

DEON BURTON

Home: Greg Stubley & Anthony
Wells-Stubley
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

CHRISTIAN DAILLY

Home: Graham Sadler
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

CHRIS DICKSON

Home: AVAILABLE
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

ROB ELLIOT

Home: Bromley Addicks
Away: Charlton Life

Training: AVAILABLE

MARK KINSELLA

Home: Maidstone & Weald CASC
Away: Mandy Connor & Tricia
O'Caravagh
Training: Alan & Sue Tyler

MIGUEL LLERA

Home: Carole & Geoff
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

LEON MCKENZIE

Home: AVAILABLE
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

IZALE MCLEOD

Home: AVAILABLE
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

PHIL PARRINSON

Home: Regular Cleaning Services
Away: Regular Cleaning Services
Training: John Copus Sports -
07510 281 669

TERRY RACON

Home: The Huelin family, Dartford
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

DARREN RANDOLPH

Home: AVAILABLE

Away: AVAILABLE

Training: AVAILABLE

FRAZER RICHARDSON

Home: Maidstone & Weald CASC
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

LLOYD SAM

Home: Charlton Life
Away: Medway Valley Express
Training: AVAILABLE

JOSE SEMEDO

Home: Diane & Terry Fletcher
Away: Greenwich Community
College
Training: AVAILABLE

JONJO SHELVEY

Home: Swedish Addicks -
www.addicks.se
Away: Charlton Life

Training: Gary Sargeant & Co

DEAN SINCLAIR

Home: AVAILABLE
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

SAM SODJE

Home: AVAILABLE
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

CHRIS SOLLY

Home: Kevin Thom
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

MATT SPRING

Home: AVAILABLE
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

ALEX STAVRINOU

Home: Burdett Metals - cash it
in - 020-7739 3951
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

TAMER TUNA

Home: Nspire Project
Management - www.nspire.ttd.uk
Away: AVAILABLE
Training: AVAILABLE

SCOTT WAGSTAFF

Home: Maidstone & Weald CASC
Away: Keith, Jamila and Olivia
Leitch

Training: AVAILABLE

KELLY YOGA

Home: Greenwich Community
College
Away: www.cmtlandscapes.com
Training: AVAILABLE

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COCA-COLA FOOTBALL LEAGUE ONE 2008/10



TODAY

(all fixtures 3pm unless stated)

- BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION v LEYTON ORIENT (1PM)
- BRISTOL ROVERS v WALSALL
- CARLISLE UNITED v HUDDERSFIELD TOWN
- GILLINGHAM v BRENTFORD (12.30PM)
- LEEDS UNITED v HARTLEPOOL UNITED
- MILTON KEYNES DONS v STOCKPORT COUNTY
- NORWICH CITY v MILLWALL (12.45PM)
- OLDHAM ATHLETIC v TRANMERE ROVERS
- SOUTHAMPTON v EXETER CITY
- SOUTHEND UNITED v COLCHESTER UNITED (1PM)
- YEovil TOWN v WYCOMBE WANDERERS

CONTINUED PAGE 56

	P	HOME					AWAY					GD	PTS
		W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A		
1 LEEDS UNITED	21	8	3	0	22	6	7	2	1	16	4	28	50
2 CHARLTON ATHLETIC	22	8	3	0	26	12	5	4	2	17	12	19	48
3 NORWICH CITY	22	8	2	1	29	13	4	4	3	19	14	21	42
4 COLCHESTER UNITED	21	8	1	1	18	7	3	5	3	17	12	16	39
5 HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	22	8	3	0	33	8	2	2	7	12	20	17	35
6 SWINDON TOWN	20	5	4	1	13	10	4	3	3	13	16	0	34
7 BRISTOL ROVERS	22	7	1	3	16	12	4	0	7	16	22	-2	34
8 MILLWALL	22	7	3	1	20	9	1	6	4	13	17	7	33
9 MILTON KEYNES DONS	22	5	2	4	16	14	5	1	5	13	17	-2	33
10 WALSALL	22	4	5	2	19	13	4	2	5	13	16	3	31
11 HARTLEPOOL UNITED	22	4	3	4	12	11	3	3	5	17	18	0	27
12 CARLISLE UNITED	21	5	1	5	14	13	2	5	3	14	17	-2	27
13 SOUTHEND UNITED	22	5	3	3	14	13	2	2	7	11	16	-4	26
14 BRENTFORD	22	4	5	2	14	12	2	3	6	6	13	-5	26
15 *SOUTHAMPTON	22	5	4	2	20	12	4	4	3	18	14	12	25
16 GILLINGHAM	22	7	3	1	20	6	0	1	10	8	26	-4	25
17 YEovil TOWN	22	4	5	2	20	16	1	5	5	8	16	-4	25
18 EXETER CITY	22	4	5	2	15	10	2	2	7	9	21	-7	25
19 OLDHAM ATHLETIC	22	3	4	4	11	14	3	3	5	8	13	-8	25
20 LEYTON ORIENT	22	4	3	4	16	15	2	2	7	11	24	-12	23
21 BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	22	2	1	8	11	21	3	4	4	14	20	-16	20
22 TRANMERE ROVERS	22	5	1	5	15	17	1	1	9	6	26	-22	20
23 WYCOMBE WANDERERS	22	3	3	5	11	13	1	3	7	11	23	-14	18
24 STOCKPORT COUNTY	21	1	2	7	9	22	2	3	6	9	17	-21	14

*Deducted 10 points for entering administration

FIRST-TEAM PLAYER RECORDS 2008/10

	L1E APPS	L1E GLS	FA CUP APPS	FA CUP GLS	L1E CUP APPS	L1E CUP GLS	JPT APPS	JPT GLS	CAF C APPS	CAF C GLS	Y	R
NICKY BAILEY	22	7	1	0	0(1)	0	1	1	70(1)	21	2	0
GRANT BASEY	6(4)	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	30(14)	1	1	0
DEON BURTON	22	12	0(1)	0	0(1)	0	0(1)	0	37(11)	17	2	0
CHRISTIAN DAILLY	22	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	25	1	4	0
CHRIS DICKSON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6(23)	2	0	0
ROB ELLIOT	18	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	46(1)	0	2	0
STUART FLEETWOOD	0	0	0	0	0(1)	0	0	0	0(1)	0	0	0
ANDY GRAY	0(2)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	32(15)	9	0	0
LUKE HOLDEN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0(1)	0	0(1)	0	0	0
CARL IKEME	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0
MIGUEL LLERA	12(1)	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	13(1)	2	4	0
YADO MAMBO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0(1)	0	0(1)	0	0	0
LEON MCKENZIE	0(3)	0	0(1)	0	0	0	0(1)	1	0(5)	1	1	0
IZALE MCLEOD	3(8)	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	15(24)	4	4	1
DAVID MOONEY	7(3)	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	8(3)	2	2	0
ELLIOT OMOZUSI	4(2)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5(2)	0	1	0
TERRY RACON	18	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	42(4)	3	3	0
DARREN RANDOLPH	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0
FRAZER RICHARDSON	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	1	0
LLOYD SAM	22	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	87(24)	7	5	0
JOSE SEMEDO	16(1)	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	62(17)	1	5	0
JONJO SHELVEY	13(1)	2	1	0	0	0	1(1)	0	34(5)	6	2	0
DEAN SINCLAIR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1(1)	1	0	0
WADE SMALL	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
AKPO SODJE	0(7)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0(7)	2	1	0
SAM SODJE	10(2)	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	31(9)	5	3	1
CHRIS SOLLY	0(2)	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2(3)	0	0	0
MATT SPRING	5(4)	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	20(5)	2	1	0
ALEX STAVRINOU	0	0	0	0	1	0	0(1)	0	1(1)	0	1	0
TAMER TUNA	0(1)	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1(3)	1	0	0
SCOTT WAGSTAFF	4(10)	3	0(1)	0	1	0	2	1	9(15)	4	1	0
KELLY YOUNG	18	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	69(2)	1	4	0

*2 own goals

ZOOM WITH A VIEW

Can fans guess what is the focus of the photograph below?



LAST TIME



STATISTICS

		SCORE	POSITION	ATTENDANCE	AWAY FANS	REFEREE					
Sat Aug 8	Wycombe Wanderers	3-2	2nd	16,662	1,001	D Deadman	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily 1	Liera 1
Sat Aug 15	Hartlepool United	2-0	2nd	4,408	505	C Boyeson	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	Liera
Tue Aug 18	Leyton Orient	2-1	2nd	7,376	3,119	P Crossley	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	Liera
Sat Aug 22	Walsall	2-0	1st	16,706	292	S Hooper	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	Liera 1
Sat Aug 29	Tranmere Rovers	4-0	1st	5,417	399	P Tierney	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	Liera
Sat Sep 5	*Brentford	2-0	1st	16,399	1,333	J Linnington	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	Liera
Sat Sep 12	Southampton	1-1	1st	19,441	2,062	K Wright	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	Liera
Sat Sep 19	Norwich City	2-2	2nd	24,018	1,630	S Tanner	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	Liera
Sat Sep 26	Exeter City	2-1	2nd	16,867	1,161	G Hegley	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	Liera
Tue Sep 29	Colchester United	0-3	2nd	7,098	2,066	M Russell	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	Liera
Sat Oct 3	Leeds United	0-0	2nd	31,838	1,448	S Mathieson	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	S Sodje
Sat Oct 10	Oldham Athletic	0-0	2nd	16,441	612	G Horwood	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	Liera
Sat Oct 17	Huddersfield Town	2-1	1st	16,991	1,378	R East	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	S Sodje 1
Sat Oct 24	Gillingham	1-1***	2nd	10,304	2,304	J Moss	Elliot	Richardson	Youga	Daily	S Sodje
Sat Oct 31	Carlisle United	1-3	2nd	6,077	646	M Haywood	Ikeme	Omozusi	Youga	Daily	S Sodje
Sat Nov 14	Milton Keynes Dons	5-1	2nd	17,188	953	K Hill	Ikeme	Richardson	Youga	Daily	S Sodje 1
Sat Nov 21	Yeovil Town	1-1	2nd	5,632	1,370	S Hooper	Ikeme	Youga	Basey	Daily	S Sodje
Tue Nov 24	Bristol Rovers	4-2	2nd	15,885	885	S Cook	Ikeme	Youga	Basey	Daily	Liera
Tue Dec 1	Brighton & Hove Albion	2-0	2nd	6,769	861	G Ward	Elliot	Omozusi	Basey	Daily	S Sodje
Sat Dec 5	Southend United	1-0	2nd	17,445	1,343	D McDermid	Elliot	Richardson	Basey	Daily	S Sodje
Sat Dec 12	Stockport County	2-1	2nd	4,277	534	E Ilderton	Elliot	Omozusi	Basey	Daily	S Sodje 1
Sat Dec 19	Millwall	4-4***	2nd	19,105	3,294	M Jones	Elliot	Omozusi	Basey	Daily	S Sodje
Sat Dec 26	Swindon Town (1pm)										
Mon Dec 28	Brentford (3pm)										
Sat Jan 2	Walsall										
Sat Jan 9	Hartlepool United										
Sat Jan 15	Wycombe Wanderers										
Mon Jan 25	*Leyton Orient (7.45pm)										
Sat Jan 30	Tranmere Rovers										
Sat Feb 6	Swindon Town										
Sat Feb 13	Bristol Rovers										
Sat Feb 20	Yeovil Town										
Tue Feb 23	Brighton & Hove Albion (7.45pm)										
Fri Feb 26	Southend United (7.45pm)										
Sat Mar 6	Stockport County										
Sat Mar 13	Millwall										
Sat Mar 20	Gillingham										
Sat Mar 27	Huddersfield Town										
Sat Apr 3	Milton Keynes Dons										
Mon Apr 5	Carlisle United (3pm)										
Sat Apr 10	Southampton										
Tue Apr 13	Colchester United (7.45pm)										
Sat Apr 17	Norwich City										
Sat Apr 24	Exeter City										
Sat May 1	Leeds United										
Sat May 8	Oldham Athletic										

Mon Dec 28	Brentford (3pm)
Sat Jan 2	Walsall
Sat Jan 9	Hartlepool United
Sat Jan 15	Wycombe Wanderers
Mon Jan 25	*Leyton Orient (7.45pm)
Sat Jan 30	Tranmere Rovers
Sat Feb 6	Swindon Town
Sat Feb 13	Bristol Rovers
Sat Feb 20	Yeovil Town
Tue Feb 23	Brighton & Hove Albion (7.45pm)
Fri Feb 26	Southend United (7.45pm)
Sat Mar 6	Stockport County
Sat Mar 13	Millwall
Sat Mar 20	Gillingham
Sat Mar 27	Huddersfield Town
Sat Apr 3	Milton Keynes Dons
Mon Apr 5	Carlisle United (3pm)
Sat Apr 10	Southampton
Tue Apr 13	Colchester United (7.45pm)
Sat Apr 17	Norwich City
Sat Apr 24	Exeter City
Sat May 1	Leeds United
Sat May 8	Oldham Athletic

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MONDAY

BRENTFORD v CHARLTON ATHLETIC
COLCHESTER UNITED v SOUTHAMPTON
EXETER CITY v GILLINGHAM
HARTLEPOOL UNITED v OLDHAM ATHLETIC
HUDDERSFIELD TOWN v MILTON KEYNES DON'S
LEYTON ORIENT v SOUTHEND UNITED
MILLWALL v BRISTOL ROVERS
STOCKPORT COUNTY v LEEDS UNITED (3:30PM)
SWINDON TOWN v YEOVIL TOWN
TRANMERE ROVERS v CARLISLE UNITED
WALSALL v NORWICH CITY
WYCOMBE WANDERERS v BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION

SATURDAY

LEYTON ORIENT v YEOVIL TOWN
MILLWALL v SOUTHEND UNITED
WALSALL v CHARLTON ATHLETIC
WYCOMBE WANDERERS v NORWICH CITY

Carling Cup											
Tue Aug 11	Hereford United (first round)	0-1****	-	2,017	323	A Bates	Elliot	Solly	Basey	Youga	Semedo
Johnstone's Paint Trophy											
Tue Oct 6	Barnet (area second round)****	4-1	-	4,522	561	D Phillips	Elliot	Solly	Youga	Daily	Basey
Wed Nov 11	*Southampton (area quarter-final)	1-2	-	13,906	655	P Taylor	Ikeme	Youga	Basey	Daily	Liera
FA Cup											
Sun Nov 8	**Northwich Victoria	0-1	-	2,153	272	D Webb	Randolph	Omozusi	Youga	Daily	Sodje

Home/away

NB: all fixtures subject to change (3pm kick-off unless stated)

*live on Sky **live on ITV

***og

****Charlton awarded a bye in first round

*****aet

1 SCORERS
21ST SUBSTITUTION
22ND SUBSTITUTION
23RD SUBSTITUTION
BOOKED
SENT OFF

Sam	Semedo	Racon	Shelvey	Bailey 1	Burton	Randolph	Basey	Spring	Wagstaff	Dickson	McLeod	Gray
Sam	Semedo	Racon	Shelvey	Bailey 1	Burton 1	Randolph	Solly	Spring	Wagstaff	Fleetwood	McLeod	Gray
Sam	Semedo	Racon	Shelvey 1	Bailey	Burton 1	Randolph	Solly	Spring	Wagstaff	Fleetwood	McLeod	Gray
Sam	Semedo	Racon	Shelvey	Bailey	Burton	Randolph	Solly	Spring	Wagstaff 1	Fleetwood	McLeod	Tuna
Sam 2	Semedo 1	Racon	Shelvey	Bailey 1	Burton	Randolph	Solly	Basey	Spring	Wagstaff	McLeod	Tuna
Sam 1	Semedo	Racon	Shelvey	Bailey	Burton 1	Randolph	Solly	S Sodje	Spring	Wagstaff	McLeod	Tuna
Sam	Semedo	Racon	Shelvey	Bailey	Burton 1	Randolph	Solly	S Sodje	Basey	Wagstaff	McLeod	Tuna
Sam	Semedo	Racon	Shelvey 1	Bailey	Burton 1	Randolph	Solly	S Sodje	Spring	Wagstaff	McLeod	Tuna
Sam	Spring	Racon	Shelvey	Bailey 1	Burton	Randolph	Solly	S Sodje	Basey	Wagstaff	McLeod 1	Tuna
Sam	Spring	Racon	Shelvey	Bailey	Burton	Randolph	Solly	S Sodje	Basey	Wagstaff	McLeod	Tuna
Sam	Spring	Racon	Shelvey	Bailey	Burton	Randolph	Solly	Liera	Basey	Wagstaff	McLeod	Tuna
Sam	Spring	Racon	Shelvey	Bailey	Burton	Randolph	Solly	Basey	Wagstaff	McKenzie	McLeod	Tuna
Sam	Spring	Racon	Bailey	McLeod 1	Burton	Randolph	Solly	Liera	Semedo	Wagstaff	Shelvey	Mooney
Sam	Semedo	Racon	Bailey	McLeod	Burton	Randolph	Basey	Liera	Spring	Wagstaff	Shelvey	Mooney
Sam	Semedo	Racon	Bailey	McLeod	Burton 1P	Randolph	Basey	Liera	Spring	Wagstaff	Shelvey	Mooney
Sam 1	Semedo	Bailey 1	Racon	Mooney 1	Burton 1	Randolph	Basey	Liera	Wagstaff	Shelvey	A Sodje	McKenzie
Sam	Semedo	Bailey	Racon	Mooney	Burton	Randolph	Omozusi	Liera	Spring	Wagstaff	Shelvey	A Sodje 1
Sam	Semedo	Bailey 1	Shelvey	Mooney 1	Burton 1P	Randolph	Omozusi	Spring	Racon	Wagstaff	McLeod	A Sodje 1
Sam	Semedo	Bailey	Wagstaff 1	Mooney	Burton 1	Randolph	Liera	Spring	Racon	Shelvey	McLeod	A Sodje
Sam	Racon	Bailey	Wagstaff	Mooney	Burton 1	Randolph	Omozusi	Liera	Spring	Shelvey	McLeod	A Sodje
Sam	Semedo	Bailey	Wagstaff 1	Mooney	Burton	Randolph	Liera	Spring	Racon	Shelvey	McKenzie	A Sodje
Sam	Semedo	Bailey 1	Wagstaff	Mooney	Burton 2P	Randolph	Liera	Spring	Shelvey	McLeod	McKenzie	A Sodje



Deon Burton and Sam Sodje celebrate a fourth Addicks goal after Millwall's Steve Morison finds his own net

Wagstaff	Stavrinou	Spring	Small	Gray	McLeod	Randolph	Mambo	Racon	Bailey	Fleetwood	Tuna	Burton
Wagstaff 1	Spring	Racon	Bailey 1	Tuna 1	McLeod 1	Randolph	Mambo	Stavrinou	Holden	Shelvey		
Wagstaff	Semedo	Spring	Sam	Shelvey	Mooney	Randolph	Omozusi	Holden	McKenzie 1	Burton		
Sam	Semedo	Racon	Bailey	Shelvey	McLeod	Binks	Basey	Liera	Spring	Wagstaff	McKenzie	Burton

NOTES:

DRESSING ROOM DIARIES

One Charlton striker has recently been laid low by injuries – but the hitman is biding his time and preparing to pounce. TOM HARVEY talks to a forward about fitness and festive resolutions



Since joining Charlton in September, my time here has been a bit stop-start due to a succession of injuries. They've not been anything serious, just annoying little niggles.

I suffered a ruptured Achilles at Coventry City last February, and sometimes when you're coming back from a long-term injury, you do pick up little knocks.

It's been frustrating but I'm battling on, and once I get a run of games, I'll be good. It's not down to ability; it's about getting the fitness side of things up to speed.

I still believe I can play a big part in what we're trying to achieve here. I'm determined to stay fit now, and hopefully be a good addition to the team. It would be great to go into the new year and make a big impact, and I believe that will be possible.

I'm at a great club and I'm still hungry to be a Charlton player. I'm not just here to muck about; I can't wait to get a few goals and be a force in the team. There's a lot of competition for places, but if I'm fit, I'm looking to play.

Let's put things in perspective, though. I've had a frustrating time but Dean Ashton, my former strike partner at Norwich City, has just had to retire due to injury at the age of 26.

I feel for him; he's a genuinely nice guy. It's really sad but some things you just can't control.

The Charlton fans have been really good to me despite my Crystal Palace past. I think they can see I work hard for the cause and as long as I'm pulling a shirt on, I'll be doing my best to give a good account of myself.

League One is a tough division to get out of. I've played at this level before, in my younger days, so I know what it's about, and I'll be going for what would be my third promotion. We need to tighten up a bit here and there, but there's no reason why we can't hang in there and get an automatic spot.

Last Saturday's Millwall game was a bit of a mad one. I was dying to get on earlier as I felt I might nick something, but in the end I only got 10 minutes.

I've played in a 4-4 draw before, though. I scored as Norwich came from 4-1 down to nick a point against Middlesbrough in the Premier League.

We're coming up to the time when people start making their new year's resolutions – mine is to be a better person and also to stay fit, but I've started going to church again recently so my character is strong, and I believe that what will be, will be. ■

5 QUICK QUESTIONS

Q. What is the nickname of today's opponents, Swindon Town? **A.** Can I have a hint? ("It's quite topical for this time of year. It's a bird with a red chest.") The Robins. **CORRECT** ("That was a massive clue!")

Q. During which hobby could you suffer from the bends? **A.** The what?! I have no idea. **WRONG** (Scuba diving)

Q. Which band is auctioning off its stage equipment and instruments on eBay? **A.** Oasis? **WRONG** (Coldplay)

Q. What kind of animal is a Wessex Saddleback? **A.** Horse? **WRONG** (Pig). I was close!

Q. Which band had this year's Christmas number one? **A.** Was it old matey from *The X Factor*? ("No.") Cheryl Cole? ("Nope. They're an American rap-metal band. There was a massive internet campaign to beat Joe McElderry.") I don't know. **WRONG** (Rage Against The Machine) I wouldn't have got that – I never read the papers.

1/5



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HARTLEPOOL UNITED

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*See festive opening hours on page 53

Calls cost 10p per minute from a BT landline. Calls from other networks and mobiles may cost more

TEAM SHEET



**CHARLTON
ATHLETIC**

MANAGER
PHIL PARKINSON



**SWINDON
TOWN**

MANAGER
DANNY WILSON

OFFICIALS



REFEREE
P Miller



ASSISTANT REFEREE
M Bristow



ASSISTANT REFEREE
J Hopkins



FOURTH OFFICIAL
T Mason

NEXT AT THE VALLEY

HARTLEPOOL UNITED

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9TH
3PM KICK-OFF



GENERAL STADIUM INFORMATION

- The Valley is a non-smoking stadium
- In the event of an emergency, please listen carefully to the safety message that will be broadcast over the public address system, and follow the instructions of staff and stewards
- Charlton will ban and prosecute anyone involved in anti-social behaviour, chanting or abuse
- Read Charlton's club charter at www.cafc.co.uk

1 ●	Rob Elliot (gk)	1 ●	David Lucas (gk)
2 ●	Frazer Richardson	2 ●	Scott Cuthbert
3 ●	Kelly Youga	3 ●	Alan Sheehan
4 ●	Nicky Bailey	4 ●	Jonathan Douglas
5 ●	Miguel Llera	6 ●	Gordon Greer
6 ●	Jose Semedo	7 ●	Jon-Paul McGovern
7 ●	Jonjo Shelvey	8 ●	Craig Easton
8 ●	Therry Racon	9 ●	Ben Hutchinson
9 ●	Leon McKenzie	10 ●	Michael Timlin
10 ●	Deon Burton	11 ●	Anthony McNamee
11 ●	Lloyd Sam	12 ●	Phil Smith (gk)
12 ●	Grant Basey	14 ●	Sean Morrison
14 ●	Matt Spring	15 ●	Kevin Amankwaah
15 ●	Izale McLeod	16 ●	Hasney Aljofree
16 ●	Scott Wagstaff	17 ●	Callum Kennedy
18 ●	Sam Sodje	18 ●	Alan O'Brien
19 ●	Dean Sinclair	19 ●	Lescinel Jean-Francois
20 ●	Chris Solly	20 ●	Billy Paynter
21 ●	Luke Holden	21 ●	Lee Peacock
23 ●	David Mooney	22 ●	Lloyd Macklin
25 ●	Darren Randolph (gk)	23 ●	Nathan Thompson
26 ●	Alex Stavrinou	24 ●	Danny Ward
27 ●	Yado Mambo	25 ●	Mark Marshall
28 ●	Tamer Tuna	26 ●	Jakub Jesionkowski (gk)
29 ●	Jack Clark	27 ●	Yinka Casal
30 ●	Ben Davison	28 ●	Mark Scott (gk)
31 ●	Elliot Omozusi	29 ●	Kurt Hammonds
33 ●	Akpo Sodje	30 ●	Simon Ferry
34 ●	Lewis Perkins	31 ●	Alex Revell
35 ●	Christian Dailly	32 ●	Charlie Austin

RESULT

**CHARLTON
ATHLETIC**

H/T

F/T

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H/T

F/T

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**SWINDON
TOWN**

ATTENDANCE

MAN OF THE MATCH

