

Swindon Town FC  
League One

Play-Off Semi-Final 2010



The Official Matchday Programme of Swindon Town Football Club £3.00  
League One Play-Off Semi-Final 1st Leg 14.05.10

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# Good luck in the play-offs

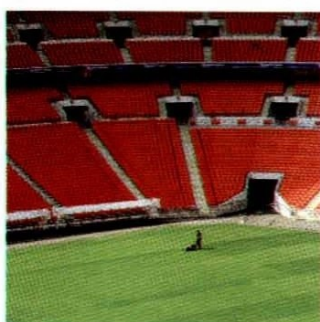
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Midfielder Jonathan Douglas on his final quest

**EDITOR:** Chris Tanner  
**DESIGN:** Derrick Johnson  
**CONTRIBUTORS:** Andrew Fitton, Shaun Hodgetts, Nick Judd, Anthony Marshall, John McClernon, Chris Smith, Nick Watkins

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** PA Photos, Leon Csernohlavek, Dave Evans, Lawrence Smith, Gareth Williams

**ADVERTISING:**  
Kay Wainwright 0844 880 1086

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** 0844 880 1085

**WRITE TO:** Matchday Programme, The County Ground, County Road, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN1 2ED

**EMAIL:** programme@swindontownfc.co.uk







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"It's about keeping  
your head when  
all around you are  
losing theirs."





# THE GAFFER

Good evening and welcome to **THE COUNTY GROUND** for the first leg of our play-off tie with Charlton Athletic.

**I'M SURE** everybody will be looking forward to Wembley already, but in my experience, the play-offs are all about preparing your side for one game, rather than three.

Obviously I might not have even needed to be writing these programme notes, had things gone our way at Millwall on Saturday afternoon but unfortunately it wasn't to be.

It was a good game between two different styles of teams, and we got it down and played some great stuff at times which I was very pleased with.

There was a great atmosphere inside the ground, and the fans were treated to a very good game of football, and most importantly everyone behaved themselves which was brilliant.

In terms of our performance, we really couldn't ask anymore of the players as they absolutely ran themselves into the ground.

We had a plan for the game and it worked pretty well for large parts of it.

They passed the ball around very well in what was a high pressure and pretty changeable atmosphere, as it varied massively depending on what was happening at Elland Road.

That was obviously a strange situation for the players to be reacting to and it noticeably affected both sides, but in the end it didn't matter anyway.

Overall I was pleased with the way we played, and hopefully we can take that sort of performance into this play-off campaign.

That starts tonight with the visit of Charlton, and having played each other twice already this season, it's fair to say that both teams will know what the other is all about.

We know that we'll have a tough test against Charlton both home and away, but we're underdogs and hopefully that can help us play with that sort of relaxation we saw on Saturday against Millwall.

Both the games against Charlton earlier in the season ended in draws, and obviously we were disappointed to have conceded late equalisers in both of those games when we'd probably done enough to win the games.

But results like that just prove how tough this league is and how resilient Charlton are, so we know we're in for two very difficult games over this weekend.

As I mentioned, I've been involved in the play-offs before, and I have to say the old adage of 'it's about keeping your head when all around you are losing theirs' sums it up for me.

It's just about keeping that little bit more composure at crucial times, because it's a very high pressure environment.

You do need to have that bit of competitiveness and fire in your belly during the game, but the most important moments in the games will come when you need to put your foot on the ball and have that bit of calmness that can create a goal.

So we'll go into it very

committed, but hopefully with a certain composure that will let us play our game and come away with the right result.

As I'm sure you can appreciate the general feeling is a mixture of nervousness and excitement going into it really.

We've got three games to get promoted. We want to get to the final and we want to win the final, it's as simple as that.

When we set out at the beginning of the season we were aiming to get to the play-offs, and having got here, this is part one of the job done.

You have to take your hat off to the players because to reproduce the form they have done on a regular basis and get the results they have done is outstanding, and they have shown immense character and psychological strength this year against some very good sides.

But we don't want to just let it peter away now, we want to see it through, and if we can perform as we have done for the majority of this season, then I think we stand a great chance.

Finally I'd like to thank you for your excellent support throughout the season, and here's hoping you can help us finish the job.

Enjoy the game,



DANNY WILSON

Danny Wilson  
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# Executive Insight

So we thought it might all be over but it is not, and so it is a very **GOOD EVENING TO EVERYONE** at The County Ground for tonight's League One semi-final 1st leg play-off fixture against Charlton Athletic.

"Control your own destiny or someone else will."

**FIRSTLY** allow me to extend to the Directors, the management, the players and the supporters of Charlton Athletic, a very warm welcome to Swindon Town; we are delighted to have you as our guests.

Last Saturday afternoon life in The New Den proved to be 90 minute rollercoaster of mixed emotions and tension. At various intervals throughout the afternoon, four of the five automatic promotion contenders all occupied the sought after second spot but at the final-whistle, Leeds "damned" United sneaked over the line and ascended to the Championship. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to them and wish them well. Our immediate play-off semi-final destiny became clear at 5pm on Saturday kicking-off with a home tie against The Addicks, and so here we are and what an exciting evening lies in wait.

I do not know about you but for me, an evening fixture under floodlights, with a sell-out crowd, creates the perfect atmosphere for football. Cast your mind back to those memorable evening fixtures this season against Leeds United and Southampton. You

made The County Ground rock on those two occasions and I am confident that you will make it rock even more tonight. After a week of preparation, Danny Wilson and his Reds are fully prepared for what lies ahead and a hope for a positive result tonight, to take them on with confidence to the second leg at The Valley on Monday evening. May 29th and Wembley await the overall winner!

On the subject of crowds can I just make reference to the 2,200 fans that travelled to The New Den for last Saturday's fixture against Millwall. Thank you, once again you were immaculate, great ambassadors for the club and you made for what was a terrific atmosphere. Well done Millwall too, because I thought that their professional management and crowd control contributed significantly to the day.

As I am sure you all appreciate, the demand for the play-off semi-final tickets has been huge and we have had limited time to sell both home and away tickets. The great majority of fans have been extremely patient and understanding of the demands that such an exercise places on our systems and I thank

you for that. We outsourced the telesales part of the home ticket sales to Ticket Zone and they have assisted us greatly but there have been some STFC Box Office phone issues which have made it frustrating for some fans to obtain tickets. Despite making outsourced telesales facilities available, a great many more fans than expected decided to turn up at the STFC Box Office and queue in order to obtain their ticket. This only served to compound an already overloaded system but I hope you all got there in the end.

Well that is it. The pen is now laid to rest until the start of next season and whatever that delivers for us. Your support this season has been wonderful and we thank you for that.

I hope you have enjoyed the journey and it is by no means over. We have all come a long way since August 8th 2009 and Gillingham, but as that old Peruvian proverb says: "little by little one walks far".

Come On You Reds!

**NICK WATKINS**



"I hope you have  
enjoyed the journey and  
it is by no means over."





# swindon

Swindon Town Football Club

Swindon Town Football Club  
The County Ground, County Road  
Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 2ED.  
Switchboard: 0871 423 6433  
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## Town to launch Membership scheme

**SWINDON TOWN FC** will be launching an official membership scheme this summer, with a range of benefits on offer for supporters.

Basic membership will be free to all STFC fans, whilst there will be further levels of annual membership available for purchase with benefits



including ticket priority, club shop and match ticket vouchers, priority invites to exclusive club events and a membership concierge service.

To be amongst the first to receive full information of the STFC Membership scheme, send an email to [membership@swindontownfc.co.uk](mailto:membership@swindontownfc.co.uk)

## ROUND-UP

### STFC Supporters Club Draw

**THE** STFC Supporters Club 50/50 draw will be operating tonight for the last time this season!

After a bonanza cash pay-out at the last home match with Brentford, another substantial sum will be on offer with Charlton Athletic the visitors this evening.

Tickets are priced at £1, so don't forget to look out for your favourite seller around the ground to be in with a chance of winning!

### In Loving Memory

**SWINDON TOWN FC**, directors, management, staff and supporters wish to acknowledge the sad passing of **Tracy Robinson**, a long time supporter of the club.

Tracy lost her long and brave fight against kidney disease and at the age of 37 passed away in February 2010.

Tracy left behind her husband Marc and two children, Aimee & Cameron, to whom we extend our sincere condolences. Memories of Tracy will live long in the hearts of many STFC supporters.

### Wembley Awaits

**THE WINNERS** of the play-off semi-final between Swindon Town and Charlton Athletic will face either Huddersfield Town or Millwall at Wembley Stadium on Saturday 29th May.

Last year's final was played out in front of 59,661 with Scunthorpe United beating Millwall 3-2.

Should The Robins be successful in making it to the League 1 final, then ticketing details will appear on the official club website at

## Pitch plans explained

**TONIGHT'S** game will not be the last at The County Ground this season, with the club's annual Play on the Pitch fixtures set to take place before the playing surface goes 'under the knife'.

The Play on the Pitch games are a popular part of the club's event schedule, offering supporters the chance to run-out at The County Ground and attempt to recreate their favourite Town moments.

Once the Play on the Pitch fixtures have taken place, Town groundsman Marcus Cassidy will get to work on the maintenance programme for the playing surface to prepare it for the 2010/11 season (hopefully in the Championship!).

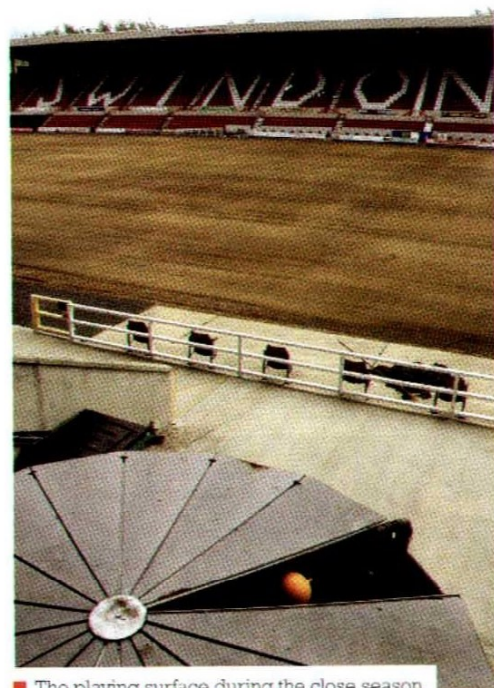
"The original plan was for the pitch to be taken up on 24th May, but if we make it to Wembley then the manager will use the pitch for training in the build-up to the final," said Cassidy.

"The top surface will be removed but we won't be doing the drainage work this year as the work we did last year has proved really effective. The money we have saved on not doing the drainage work will be used to apply 100 tonnes of sandsoil top-dressing mix, which will be mixed into the top 5cm of the pitch."

Cassidy continued: "After being leveled and flattened, then we will look at laser-grading the surface to make more of a natural camber. The pitch will then be verti-drained which decompacts the surface before being leveled

again and reseeded.

"It sounds a lot of work, but it's a process we have done before and the pitch should be in great shape again next season."



■ The playing surface during the close season

## Watch the second leg at STFC!

**SWINDON TOWN'S** play-off semi-final second leg will be shown live on Sky Sports in the Legends Lounge.

With an away allocation of 3,200 - many supporters will be unable to secure a ticket for the showdown at The Valley so why not join other Town fans at The County Ground and watch the game on the big screens in the Legends Lounge?

Doors will open at 6pm with no entry charge.



Kick-off is 7.45pm and the bars and kiosks will be open serving refreshments, including hot dogs and burgers.

Fans are advised to arrive early to secure their seat as there are only 500 places available.

Remember, make the Legends Lounge your number one World Cup venue this summer with drinks promotions on offer - including a £1 a pint deal until the first goal is scored - for all England games.





■ Victory at Southampton kept Town in the chase for automatic promotion



■ 1-1! Gordon Greer delays the Canaries celebrations







# CAPTAINS NOTES

Good evening and welcome back to The County Ground for this play-off match against **CHARLTON ATHLETIC**. We were hoping we wouldn't need to play here again, but things didn't go our way at Millwall on Saturday, and we're all looking forward to making a great start to our play-off campaign tonight.

It was a strange game on Saturday at Millwall what with the atmosphere changing all the time, and the promotion scenario still in the back of everyone's minds, but in the end none of it really mattered.

The atmosphere at The New Den was a bit bizarre really, but you just have to put that out of your head and get on with it, which I thought we did well.

From a personal point of view I was disappointed to score the own goal, but there wasn't really a lot I could do about it. The ball came across and big Dave came out to try and touch it away, and I thought he was going to get a touch so I checked my run.

But he didn't touch it and I've had a swing at it and it's hit my back leg and gone in which was really disappointing obviously, but I feel I did well other than that.

As it happened I was pleased Leeds won in the end, because it would have been really disappointing if we'd gone to Millwall and it would have been

either us or them that went up, because it would have been awful to lose out on the last game of the season.

All the boys have had a couple of days off now, and everyone's really looking forward to tonight's game, because it will be absolutely massive.

We're all bang up for it, and we feel like we've got a great chance to get to Wembley, but it's over two legs and everyone knows we'll have to perform over those two games to get through.

Charlton will give us a tough game we know that – we had two very tough tests against them earlier in the season, and even though we conceded late in both those games, I think we showed that we have enough to beat them.

It would be fantastic for us to take a lead into the second leg as that would mean they would really have to come at us, which would in turn give us a better chance of breaking them down.

Charlton play a similar style

of football to us, and I'm sure you'll see two really good games of football, and hopefully we'll come out on top from both of them.

Finally, and again from a personal perspective, having been to Wembley through the play-offs before, I can tell you it is a fantastic experience and one that puts everyone at the whole club on a massive high.

I wasn't involved through injury, but I travelled with the Doncaster squad and it was a brilliant atmosphere and a great stadium to play football in – especially when you're on the winning side as I was back then.

I'm really hopeful I can have that kind of experience again here at Swindon.

Enjoy the game,

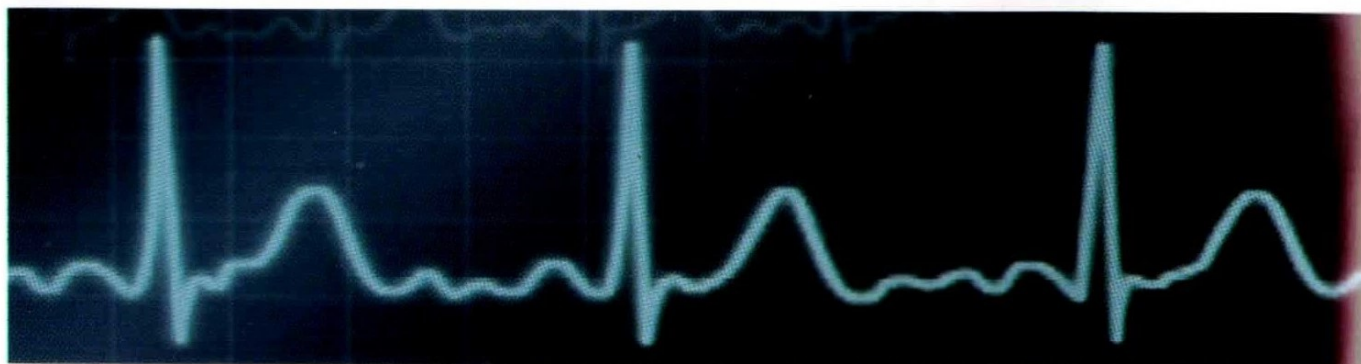


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# Commercially Speaking

Good evening and welcome to what we hope will be one of the greatest nights in Town's recent history!

## A WARM WELCOME

to all hospitality guests and sponsors who have come along to support The Robins tonight. Hospitality in all of our suites sold-out early in the week and there was quite a clamour to secure the last available places. This is fantastic news for the club – and also for all of you on the hospitality floor tonight as you will be watching the action from the best seats in the house!

Hospitality has been a real success this season and we have received some excellent feedback. However, as always, we will not be resting on our laurels. Over the summer months we will be looking to better the matchday experience and increase the number of seasonal hospitality memberships. There is availability on a seasonal basis for both the Sponsor's Suite and Member's Club. There really is no better way to watch the Town. For more details please call 0844 880 1094 or email adam@swindontownfc.co.uk

See you at The Valley – and hopefully Wembley!

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Emnico looks forward to this evening's game with Charlton Athletic and wishes the whole of Swindon Town Football Club the very best of luck!

Information about Emnico can be found at [www.emnico.com](http://www.emnico.com), call 01793 614700 or email [info@emnico.com](mailto:info@emnico.com)

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Call Paul Baker, senior manager for Lloyds TSB Commercial, on 07595 125362 or visit [www.lloydstsb.com/business](http://www.lloydstsb.com/business)

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## ROUND-UP

### Join The Members Club For 2010/11

**BOOKINGS** for the 2010/11 Member's Club are now being taken.

Limited to 75 places, benefits of being a member include pre-match food, half and full-time refreshments, a private pay bar with extended opening hours, a matchday host and a discounted matchday programme. Members will also be invited to exclusive events and be given complimentary STFC Membership.

Call Adam Wainwright on 0844 880 1094 or email [adam@swindontownfc.co.uk](mailto:adam@swindontownfc.co.uk) for details.

### STFC Awards Night Tickets On Sale

**TICKETS** are now on sale for the Swindon Town FC 2009/10 Awards Night.

The event will either take place on Thursday 20th May (play-off semi-finals) or Monday 31st May (play-off final).

Join the Board of Directors, Management and first team squad for what will be an evening to remember.

This year's event is being sponsored by the C&D Group.

The evening will be hosted by Shaun Hodgetts with a champagne reception, live music in a marquee, high-quality BBQ buffet and exclusive auction all part of the night.

Individual places can be purchased at £50 per person with a table of ten available at £450.

Call 0844 375 4345 or email [josear@swindontownfc.co.uk](mailto:josear@swindontownfc.co.uk) for more details or to secure your place(s).





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**The Sponsor's Suite** offers members and guests the opportunity to enjoy first class seasonal hospitality in a relaxed and highly convivial environment in which to enjoy the excitement of The County Ground match day atmosphere.

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**Dress code:** Smart, i.e. lounge suit, tie optional. No jeans, trainers or replica shirts

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Adults:	£1,590	£1,770
Juniors U16:	£790	£890

## \*Matchday Prices:

	League One	Championship
Adults:	£65	£75
Juniors U16:	£35	£40

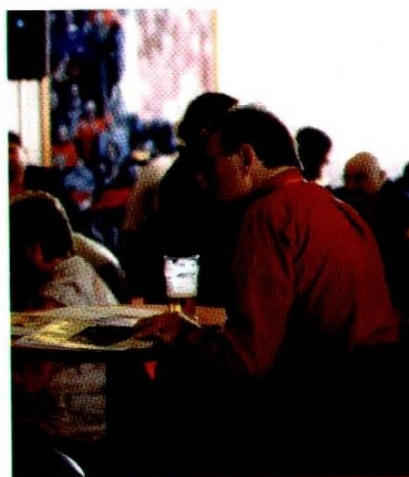
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[adam@swindontownfc.co.uk](mailto:adam@swindontownfc.co.uk)



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All Prices are inclusive of VAT.



# The Glory Days...



As **DANNY WILSON'S** men prepare to write their own history, we look back at Town's glory days with the help of a few old friends.

## PLAY-OFF PUSH

**TOWN** enjoyed a second successful season following promotion from Division Four 12 months earlier, but again Town lacked a killer instinct as the season drew to a close. They drew three games, but recovered to see off Wigan Athletic, then Gillingham...

### LOU MACARI

**Position:** Manager  
**Games managed/wins:** 270/132  
**Current club:** Unattached

- "We were on a run from the previous season and it became more and more difficult to lose. The power of the team

and everything they had going for them, the momentum carried them over. The players we signed came good and worked well as a team. More importantly, they were all prepared to work hard.

"Everyone ended up a winner. I became a winner because of the hard work the players put in, most of the supporters ended up winners, so our hard work was worth it.

"Once you've had one promotion you know the higher level is going to be more difficult – your priorities change. You start to think about avoiding relegation, or

consolidating as opposed to promotion – so to go up gave us even more satisfaction."

### STEVE WHITE

**Position:** Striker  
**League starts/goals:** 200/83  
**Current club:** Unattached

"I was lucky when I was here; in the five seasons I played for Swindon we were involved at the top end in four of them. We were in three play-off finals, three of which we won, in 1987, 1990 and 1993, so it's a great feeling to be involved at that level. It's what you play for.

"The play-offs are a great thing for English football. It

"The play-offs are a great thing for English football. It means that the teams down to halfway in the table are all involved until the end of the season."

### STEVE WHITE

**Town Apps/Goals:** 252/111

### MARK JONES

**Town Apps:** 49/10

### PHIL KING

**Town Apps/Goals:** 146/4

### DAVE HOCKADAY

**Town Apps/Goals:** 288/11

■ Town's promotion celebrations in full flow

means that the teams down to halfway in the table are all involved until the end of the season. It keeps all the teams interested; there's nothing worse than having nothing to play for at the end of a season."

## UPS & DOWNS

Town drew three times as the season came to an end before facing Blackburn Rovers in the play-offs. However, consecutive 2-1 wins saw Town face Sunderland at Wembley.



86/87

**FRASER DIGBY**  
Town Apps: 504

**CHARLIE HENRY**  
Town Apps: 236/30

**COLIN CALDERWOOD**  
Town Apps/Goals: 412/21

**TIM PARKIN**  
Town Apps/Goals: 142/6



**OSSIE ARDILES**  
Position: Manager  
Games managed/wins:  
101/38  
Current club: Unattached

"At the time Swindon were in the old Second Division and there were some big teams there – Leeds, Sheffield Wednesday, Blackburn and Sunderland. But gaining promotion in the play-offs was a wonderful, wonderful achievement for me and the club.

"Having promotion blocked was horrible. I was in Argentina on holiday when the Chairman rang me and told me we had been demoted to the Third Division. It wasn't fair that it just happened to us."

**DUNCAN SHEARER**

Position: Striker  
League starts/goals: 159/78  
Current club: Unattached

"That Wembley day was brilliant, an excellent buzz. Walking round afterwards – the Swindon fans knew what we had achieved.

"Even the Sunderland fans applauded us because they knew that although the winning goal was deflected – it was an excellent footballing performance from us. That was the way football should be played."

Town won 1-0, but the joy was infamously shortlived.

**ALAN MCLOUGHLIN**

Position: Midfielder  
League starts/goals: 101/19  
Current club: Unattached

"I was surprised no-one was on me, but they gave me quite a bit of room in the first half. I took the ball on a fraction and just concentrated on hitting it cleanly.

"It took a slight deflection off Bennett and seemed to take an eternity to go in the net, but after that all I remember was Ross MacLaren jumping on me."

89/90



■ Big Duncan Shearer tries to deliver the goods

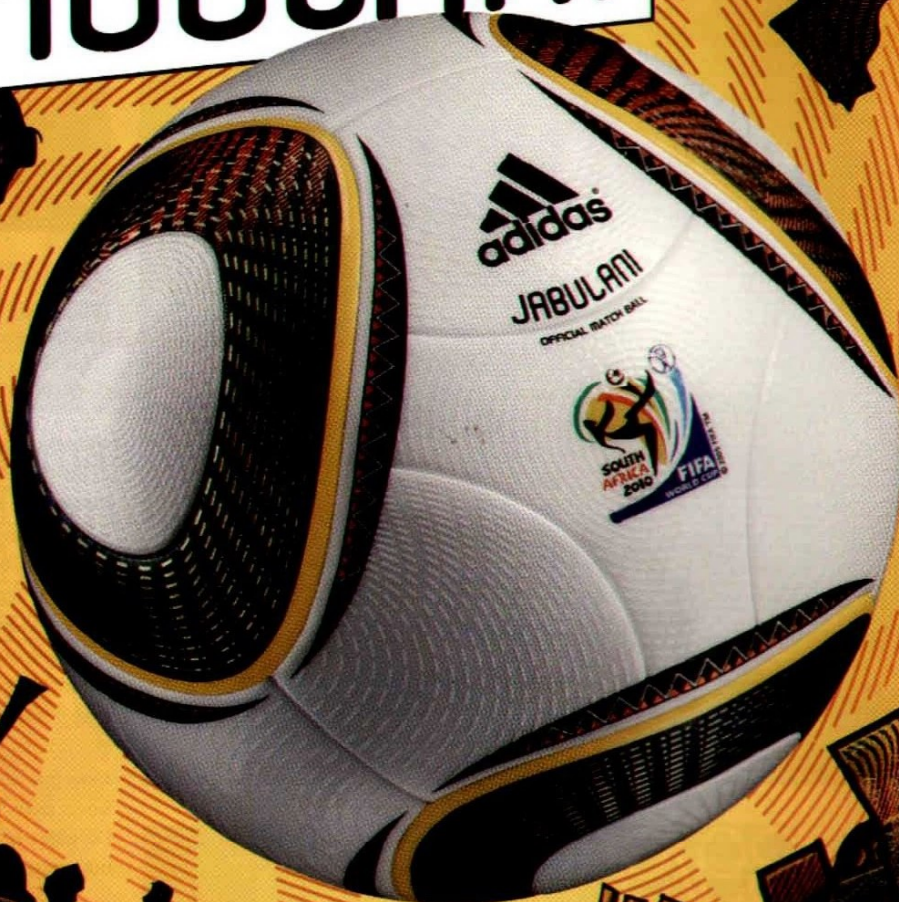


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**FRASER DIGBY**  
Town Apps: 504

**COLIN CALDERWOOD**  
Town Apps/Goals: 412/21

**MARTIN LING**  
Town Apps: 165/13

**CRAIG MASKELL**  
Town Apps: 49/26

**MICKY HAZARD**  
Town Apps: 134/18



■ Colin Calderwood enjoys the moment as Town secure promotion to the Premier League

## DREAM LAND

TOWN limped over the line with two defeats and two draws in the last four league games, but a victory over two legs set up a day out at Wembley and a 4-3 win against Leicester City. Here, we recall the run-in and the trip to the Twin Towers...

### MARTIN LING

**Position:** Midfielder  
**League starts/goals:** 132/10  
**Current club:** Cambridge United (Manager)

"The Birmingham comeback was a corker, or the game at Tranmere in the semi-final. I also remember playing Newcastle at home. Glenn [Hodde] couldn't play and



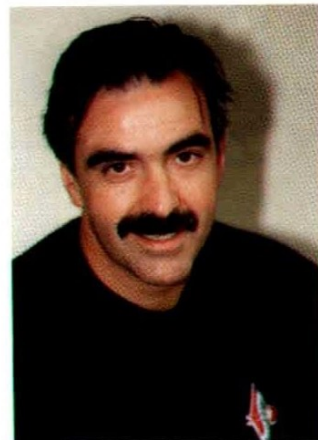
■ Glenn Hoddle

Adi Viveash came in – we had a few injury problems and to beat them was an incredible achievement. Of course, the Wembley final was good – probably one of the best matches at Wembley for many years – few games will beat that one for excitement, thrills and spills."

### MICKY HAZARD

**Position:** Midfielder  
**League starts/goals:** 121/17  
**Current club:** Retired

"The football we produced in that promotion season was equal to anything else in the country at that stage. We played a style that was on the floor, from the back to the front and with finesse and style. We had flair players like Glenn [Hodde] and John Moncur, excellent wing-backs in Bodin and Kerslake – it was an exciting team all over the pitch and we played great football at a level in which it was tough to do so. We proved we could be successful in the lower leagues playing the right way and it was a joy to be a part of."



### JOHN GORMAN

**Position:** Assistant Manager  
**League starts/goals:** n/a  
**Current club:** MK Dons

"We couldn't have got off to a better start [in the final]. In the second half it looked as though we were on course for the Premiership, but things can change so quickly during the course of a football match as were to find to our cost.

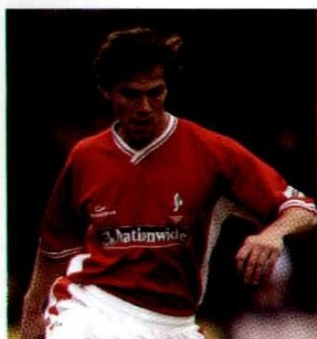
"Leicester somehow managed to score three goals in 11 minutes to change the complexion of the game. Brian Little was the Leicester manager at the time and he told me later that he couldn't believe how cool I seemed during a game, which was such a see-saw affair. With six minutes to go Steve White, who I'd sent on as a substitute for Craig Maskell, was fouled by the Leicester goalkeeper Kevin Poole, and we were awarded a penalty. If I'm honest I'd have to say that I wasn't really sure if it was a foul, but we got our spot kick and Paul Bodin stepped up to score what proved to be the winner.

"As the final minutes ticked away I turned to around to see out physio, Kevin Morris, crying his eyes out. He had been at the club for years and was Swindon through and through. The emotion was just too much for him and he couldn't believe his team were actually going to get into the Premiership."



## SO NEAR, YET SO FAR

**TOWN** were seconds from a local derby against Bristol City at The Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, when Brighton's Adam Virgo scored a goal that would take Andy King's men to penalties. You don't need reminding of the rest...



### STEFANI MIGLIORANZI

**Position:** Midfielder  
**League starts/goals:** 111/8  
**Current club:** Philadelphia Union, MLS

"We were so close to big things. You look at that team and I think only now you appreciate how good it was. There was Sam [Parkin], of course, but also Brian Howard, look at what's happened to him. We were very unlucky.

"Personally, I had bad luck with injuries, but the club was really unlucky – it was a good season."

### STEVE ROBINSON

**Position:** Midfielder  
**League starts/goals:** 127/5  
**Current club:** Retired

"There were many ups and downs, but we never really achieved what we set out to do, which was get out of that division. We came close and in that season we had a good team, a good spirit. I think when you go through as much as we did as a club you tend to bond closer as a group. The quality of the squad was high, too. Sam Parkin, Brian



SWINDON  
TOWN  
F.C.

# 03/04



**MATT HEYWOOD**  
Town Apps/Goals: 183/8

**MATTHEW HEWLETT**  
Town Apps/Goals: 196/7

■ Heads up! Matt Hewlett & Matt Heywood try to get the better of Chris Iwelumo



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**SWINDON DOWN'S**



**SYNDROME GROUP**

Our aim is to support people with Down's syndrome, their families and carers and also anyone with an interest in Down's syndrome by providing information, advice and support as well as raising general awareness. We are a parent-led support group run by a committee of 14 volunteers and a registered charity - 1096089 - affiliated to the National Down's Syndrome Association. All our work is funded by our Group and the money is raised through jumble sales, sponsored walk, donations and grants from local companies and businesses.

The group provides opportunities for parents to support each other by organising trips to the theatre, theme parks, a Christmas party, barbecues, activity sessions and monthly baby/toddler support meetings. We aim to provide training and information through an annual training day aimed at teachers and teaching assistants and through seminars throughout the year. We also support pre-schools, primary

and secondary schools by providing school resource packs containing manuals, flash cards, software, DVD's, numeracy resources and books aimed at educating a child with Down's syndrome.

The Group also provides some specialist sporting activities – football training run in conjunction with Swindon Town Community Team. This training session is open to all children with a disability between the ages of 5 – 18. Tennis lessons with a specialist coach and fortnightly swimming lessons with a specialist swimming coach and working towards nationally recognised qualifications. The Group also runs weekly speech and language therapy sessions.

These sessions are attended by children with Down's syndrome, their parents and, in most cases, a teaching assistant from the child's school.  
**Visit: [www.swindondownsgroup.org.uk](http://www.swindondownsgroup.org.uk)**





**PAUL BODIN** was a key member of Town's 1992/93 play-off winning campaign. He featured in both of the play-off semi-final games against Tranmere Rovers before scoring the decisive penalty at Wembley to secure promotion to the Premier League with victory against Tranmere Rovers.

Now Under 18's Manager here at The County Ground, the official matchday programme caught up with the 45-year old ahead of today's play-off semi-final first leg to get his views on the road to Wembley.

*Looking back on Town's 1993 run to Wembley in the play-offs, the semi-*

*finals against Tranmere Rovers were predictably tight weren't they?*

Well at home we managed to come out of it with a 3-1 win. Dave Mitchell and Craig Maskell took advantage of a couple of mistakes at the back, and Steve Vickers notched an early own goal. We expected

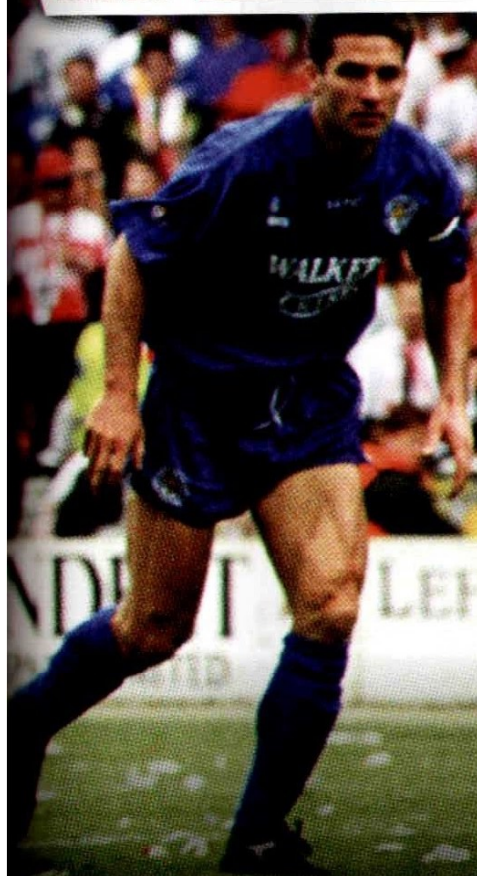
a very tight game at home and were delighted to take a 3-1 cushion back up to Prenton Park.

There was a tremendous atmosphere for the return leg. We wanted to keep it tight at the back but they managed to get back in it but thankfully Craig Maskell and John



# WEMBLEY

Having played a key part in Town's previous successes in the play-offs, **PAUL BODIN** is well-placed to offer his views on coping with the Wembley way.



4-1 down to win 6-4; that was important. I managed to score a couple in the final run of games against Peterborough, Luton and Notts County. The key to the season was a settled squad with continuity throughout the side.

***What do you recall of the football played at the final and how do you look back on the day itself now?***

The way we played in the final was fantastic. That game must be one of the best Wembley finals ever seen. It was like the Ossie days, we were 3-0 up and then it went back to three all. I think the experience of 1990 helped us through –

we'd had our time in the top flight taken away and it was good to reach it after all.

The fans deserved that. The play-off games were fantastic and there are probably better players than me that never got to play at Wembley – so I'm honoured to have been a part of it all. Even against Sunderland, we were all over them and won 1-0 – they're proud moments and no one can take them away from you.

Moncur came up trumps to get us through to the final.

***How did the players deal with the promotion pressure that season?***

We went into the play-offs on the back of a great run. The Birmingham game was significant having come back from



## BILLY PAYNTER

may have scored 29 goals already this season but he insists unless Town are playing Championship football next season, his individual success will count for nothing.

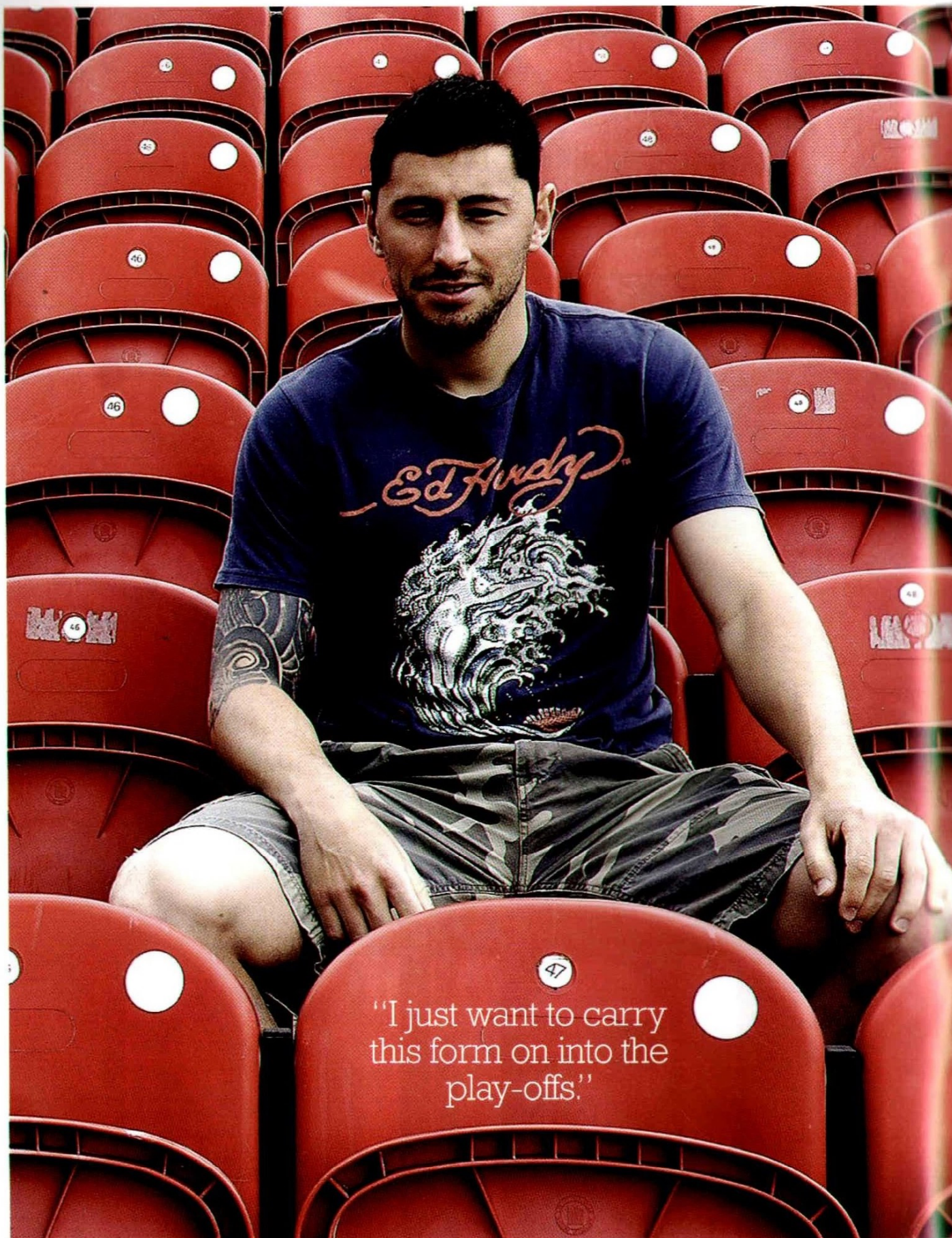
WORDS: CHRIS SMITH

# SUPE









"I just want to carry  
this form on into the  
play-offs."





"It is the best goal scoring return I've had from a season."

**WHEN** compiling their own lists of possible replacements for Simon Cox at the start of the season, few Town fans would have pinpointed Billy Paynter as the man most likely to fire their team into the play-offs.

However, what supporters have been treated to this season from Paynter has been nothing short of revelatory, with the once enigmatic front man's sensational goal scoring form striking fear into every defence that lines up against him.

And the 25-year-old, who notched his 29th goal of the season in the 3-2 defeat at Millwall last Saturday, admits he is as delighted as the Town faithful with his remarkable transformation.

"It is the best goal scoring return I've had from a season so I'm really pleased," he said.

"Obviously it's been a massive improvement from last season, but I feel I've improved steadily since I've been here, and it feels like I'm back to the sort of form I was in during my Port Vale days.

"But I've not let it go to my head or faze me throughout the season, which has probably been part of it – and now I just want to carry this form on into the play-offs."

There have been numerous factors attributed to Paynter's sensational form this season, with everything from improved levels of fitness to the influence of Danny Wilson being cited.

But the man himself puts it down to a combination of near flawless service from



his teammates and his own upbeat, never-say-die attitude.

"I've been doing alright this year, but the rest of the squad have been brilliant – J-P especially with the amount of assists he's got," he said.

"He and the other lads have given me the chances and luckily I've been in the right place to put them away.

"I always think if you miss a chance, you've just got to get on with it, because the next one will come along before you know it and

you'll put that away.

"People can dwell on it if they like, but personally if I've missed a chance I just laugh it off really, because you've got to be fully focused on sticking the next one away when it comes.

"If you do dwell on it, you won't be ready, you won't be in the right frame of mind, and you'll probably go through the whole process again."

Paynter's name has been one of the most boisterously hollered from the stands this





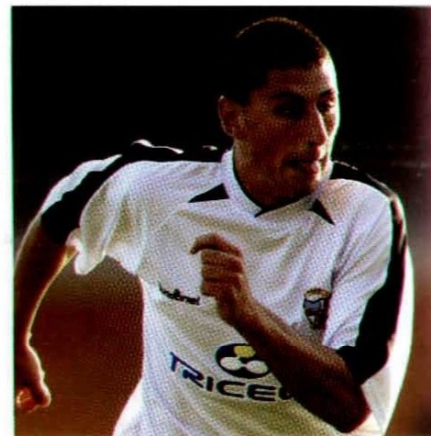
"It's a cliché but they are our 12th man, and we need them on our side."

term, and the striker is delighted to have become a favourite amongst the supporters – who he believes can still play a significant part at the crux of Town's season.

"It's a cliché but they are our 12th man, and we need them on our side," he said.

"Throughout the season they have been tremendous and it's definitely helped a great deal. We're just hoping for a few more of those great turnouts from them and hopefully that can spur us on through the play-offs."

In spite of his plentiful Football League experience, the end of season top six lottery is something Paynter is going into



as a complete novice – although he admits this might not have been the case had it not been for his current employers.

For Paynter was part of the Port Vale squad that missed out on the play-offs on the final day of the 2003/04 season, thanks in the main to Town's 1-1 draw with Hartlepool United at The County Ground – a result which saw both sides go into the top six in place of Vale.

"This is the first time I've been in the play-offs, as I just missed out when I was at Port Vale," he said.

"I think it was the Swindon v Hartlepool conspiracy season, when they drew 1-1 on the last day to make sure they were in the play-offs."

"We went down to Rushden and we won 3-0 and we were thinking that Swindon had won, but apparently it was a draw and they both went into the play-offs!"

"I think they just stood in the corner for the last five minutes at 1-1! But I'm over that now!"

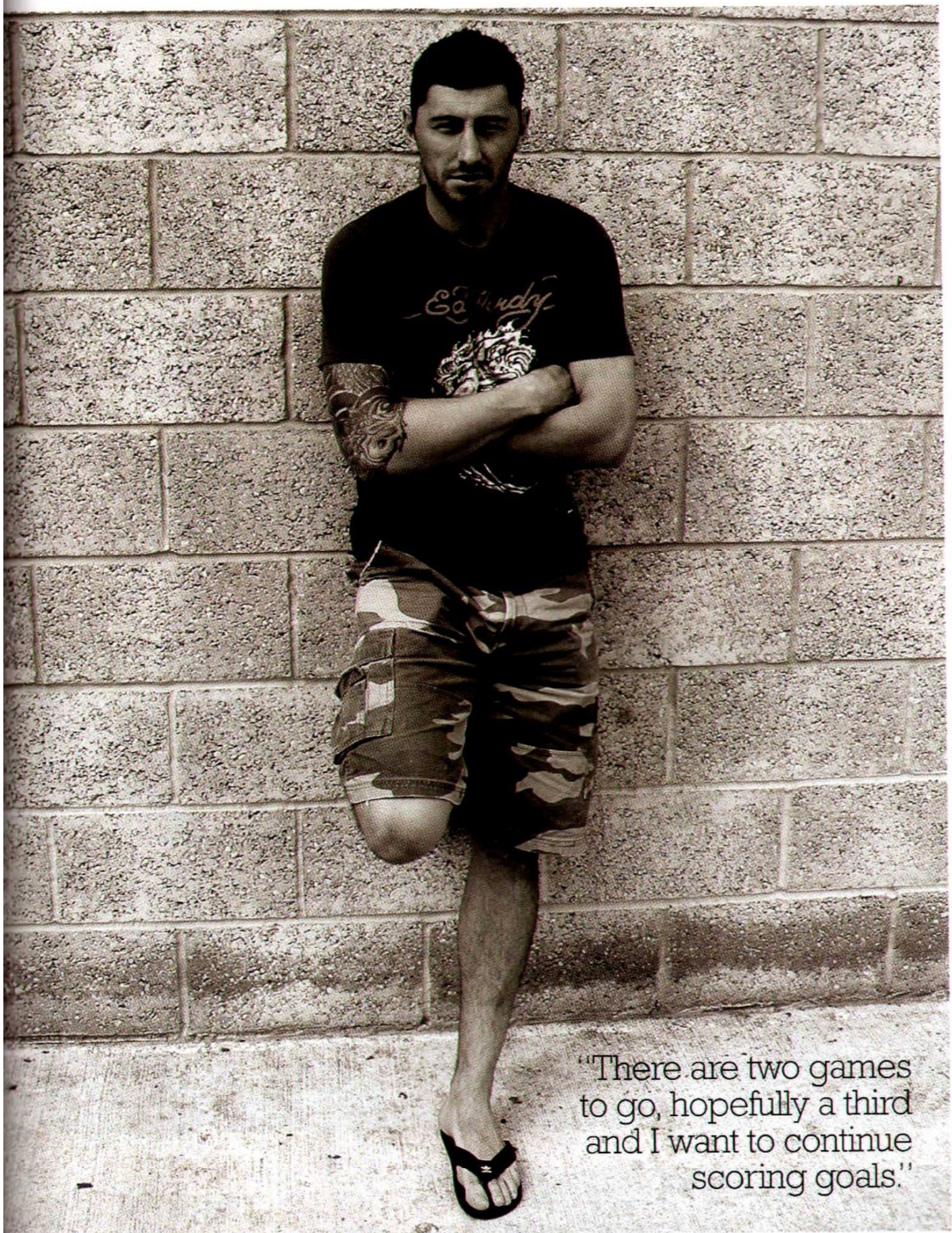
The Scouse hitman is understandably delighted with the most productive season of his career so far, but is adamant that his personal achievements will pale into insignificance unless he can fire Town to Wembley and into the Championship – starting with this evening's clash with Charlton Athletic.

He said: "It's been a good season for me personally, but if we don't achieve a Play-Off Final win, then all of it will come to nothing."

"It would be a great achievement for the players, fans and staff to have a trip Wembley, as everyone more than deserves it."

"There are two games to go, hopefully a third and I want to continue scoring goals. I'm delighted to have got the total I have, but the really hard work starts now."





"There are two games to go, hopefully a third and I want to continue scoring goals."

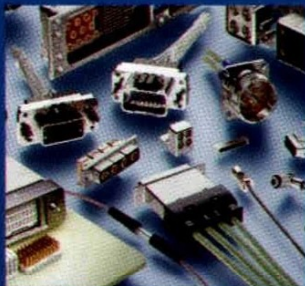




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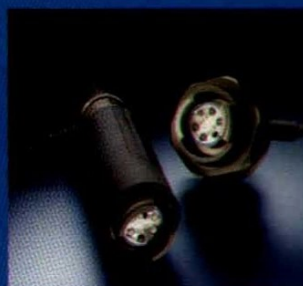
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"If we can go to The Valley with any sort of lead then we will be buzzing."





# CELTIC SPARK

Picture the scene. It's pre-season at Celtic and time for the kit stash to be handed out to the burgeoning squad at Celtic Park. **FERRY, NUMBER 53**, is amongst them. Without a competitive first team appearance for The Hoops the campaign looked like being a long one for the 22-year old – and so it proved.

**THE PHONE CALL** from Town boss Danny Wilson changed everything. Bags were hastily packed before Ferry linked up with fellow Celtic reserve team regular Ben Hutchinson for a journey into the unknown. SN1 2ED; to be more precise.

Ferry was quickly thrown into the rough and tumble of League 1 life with a starting slot against Southend United at the end of August. Part of a Town squad which included the now departed trio of Anthony McNamee, Tope Obadeyi and the aforementioned Hutchinson.

Wilson, himself a former midfielder, has seen Ferry's partnership with the guile and class of Jonathan Douglas at the heart of the Town engine room blossom. The midfield duo were paired together once again last weekend for the trip to Millwall.

"It was a bit of a weird day wasn't it?" recalls Ferry, looking back on the frantic final day at The New Den. "We knew what was happening at the other grounds as the crowd were jumping about when Bristol Rovers scored.

"We got back into the game

but didn't manage to take anything out of it in the end.

I must say fair play to Leeds though, they went behind with ten men and came back to win. They probably deserve to go up for that."

Off the field, Ferry's fashion sense may be open to discussion but his form on the pitch has been unquestionable during what has been Town's best League 1 season in six years.

Now he is hoping to shine once again as Swindon try to get the better of Charlton to secure a place at Wembley. Home advantage, according to the man himself, could be a blessing.

"I quite like being at home first because if we can go to The Valley with any sort of lead then we will be buzzing. When we were there in the league on Boxing Day we fancied our chances and should have got a result.

"If we can take a result there on Monday night then I think we will be more than capable of holding out.

"These are two big games that we have to look forward

to. We know what Charlton are about having played them twice in the second half of the season and I thought we could have won both games."

Being part of a large SPL squad does have its advantages though. Ferry was afforded a rare taste of life in the Celtic first team in a friendly against Tottenham Hotspur in the Wembley Cup last summer. The midfielder is now hoping to line up a second trip to the home of English football in less than a year.

"I never thought I would get this sort of experience coming down here," he says, with an FA Cup third round date at Fulham and a first senior goal at Tranmere Rovers added to his portfolio this term. "Going to Millwall last weekend was an experience in itself. Now we have the play-offs and the chance of going to Wembley.

"It has been a really great season and I couldn't have asked for much more."

If he can help Town to Wembley success this term, then his season at Swindon will have been the journey of a lifetime, even if it did start at 53.

## VITAL STATS



**NAME:** Simon Ferry  
**POSITION:** Midfielder  
**DOB:** 11.01.88  
**CURRENT CLUB:** Celtic  
**TOWN APPS/GOALS:** 43/2  
**FAVOURITE PLAYERS:** Paul Scholes & Zinedine Zidane  
**SUPPORTS:** Celtic



**CHARLIE AUSTIN'S** rise from bricklayer to professional footballer has been one of the most remarkable and well documented stories of the season. So, having scored 19 goals in 23 starts, what are Austin himself's most memorable moments of his first season as a professional in 'the beautiful game'?



# Charlie's Check P

## SIGNING FOR SWINDON TOWN

An extraordinary run of 46 goals in 46 games for Poole Town alerted both Town and AFC Bournemouth to the youngster's talents, and with a transfer embargo preventing the Cherries from signing him on, Town pounced to seal one of the deals of the season.

"It was a dream come true for me to sign here," he said.

"I worked really hard at Poole and thankfully my chance came. I thought my opportunity had gone first time round when I was released from Reading, but I was determined to make the most of my second chance as soon as I got here."

## PROFESSIONAL COMFORTS

Having previously plied his footballing trade at the likes

of Thatcham Town, Kintbury Rangers and Hungerford Town, Austin was well-versed in the art of washing his own kit every weekend.

So imagine his surprise upon leaving the pitch at St. James Park, Exeter having made his debut in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy first round clash, when Town Kit Man Roger Jones packed Austin's shirt and shorts away and told him not to worry about it.

"I'd gone from Poole Town where I took my own kit and boots, still clogged in mud from the game before, to having someone cleaning my boots for me and all my kit being laid out," he said.

"Rog (Jones, Town Kit Man) just said make sure you put the right stuff in the right baskets at the end of the game. It was a bit ridiculous considering I'd been washing it myself up until then!"

## SCORING ON HIS FULL DEBUT

Six goals in five reserve games after arriving at the club heightened calls for his inclusion in the first team squad, and the fans' wishes were granted on November 21st, when Danny Wilson selected the youngster for the mammoth away trip to Carlisle.

It was a dream start for Austin, who scored what proved to be the winning goal within three minutes of his full debut.

"I knew it was in as soon as I'd hit it - I didn't even see it hit the net! I just ran away to celebrate with the boys as soon as I could. It was a dream start."

## SIGNING HIS FIRST AUTOGRAPH

The fact that fans want his name written on a piece of paper still baffles the striker,

and he admits the feeling of being asked for the first time is something he'll never forget.

He said: "People ask me for autographs now and I think to myself: 'Are you sure?'"

"The first one was for a young lad before Brighton game at The County Ground. It was a bit weird I have to say, but I guess it comes with the territory and I'm used to it now."

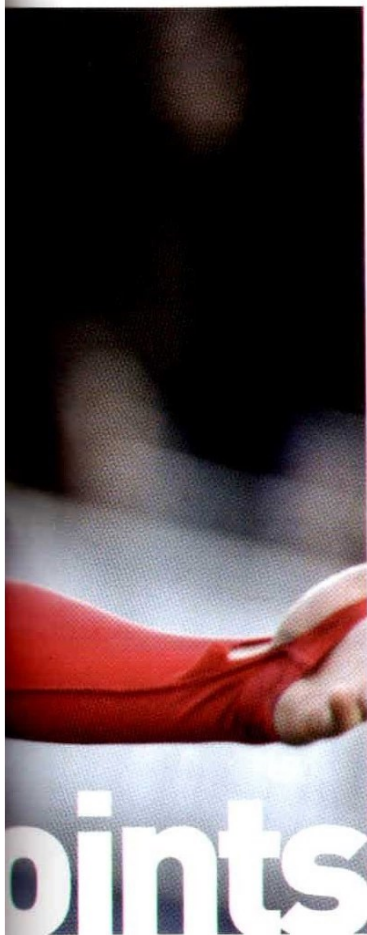
## COVERAGE IN THE NATIONAL PRESS

Austin's 'Roy of the Rovers' tale caught the imagination of the national press early on in the piece, with both The Mail on Sunday and The Observer wanting a piece of the action.

He said: "The national journalists were all really nice guys, and were pretty well researched.

"They had all done pieces





with other higher-profile players before, so they made me feel at ease early on.

"My family showed me the articles in the flesh and it was pretty unreal to see my face in the national papers!"

#### 6-0 ON AGGREGATE!

The 3-0 double over Leeds United will go down as many Town fans' most memorable matches of Season 2009/2010, and Austin was instrumental in both victories; bagging a brace in the first at The County Ground, and scoring once at Elland Road.

"It was a sell out at The County Ground, and everyone was up for it and we got a great result," he recalled.

"The ball ran loose for me on the edge of the box and I reacted and hit it and it went in.

It was an unbelievable feeling and it gave us a brilliant start and we went on to win which was amazing.

"Then the game at Elland Road was a massive game, I couldn't tell you how many people were in there, but everyone knew what they had to do, and we did it.

"Bill scored just before half time, and then again straight after which was half the job done. Then for my goal, Darbs did well on the right, Bill chipped it into me and I just nodded it in."

#### SIGNING HIS CONTRACT EXTENSION

Having initially signed on a short term deal until the end of the season, Town fans were keen to see Austin's services secured for the foreseeable future as the rumours of higher division interest began to surface.

But the youngster put pen to paper on a two-and-a-half year extension to the deal in early February, quelling any anxiety in the process.

"I was over the moon when the offer first came about," he said.

"It had started to play on my mind after I'd made such a good start I must admit, but I was relieved to have got it all out of the way. I think it helped me concentrate on my game and help Swindon towards promotion – which hopefully we can achieve in the next few weeks!"

#### CHANGING HIS CAR

During the first few months of his time at the club, Austin would drive to training in an '04 registration silver Vauxhall Corsa every morning.

However, soon after sealing his new contract, the youngster began to arrive in slightly more stylish fashion.

He said: "To be honest I wasn't really bothered about driving into training in a Corsa before, but it was nice to get a bit of a nicer car.

"I'd always planned to change it, but I was just waiting for the right time and I suppose that was after I got the new contract!"

#### SCORING THE WINNER AT ST. MARY'S

Tuesday March 16th saw one of the most impressive of Town's many away victories this season, with a resilient performance seeing Danny Wilson's side leave Hampshire with all three points.

The sight of Austin rolling the ball home after rounding Kelvin Davies and charging over to celebrate with the 2,000 strong away following is one of the most iconic of Town's season, and the striker admits it was a special moment.

"Wardy played a great ball, and I saw the keeper set himself, so I knew if I knocked the ball past him I'd have a decent chance. I did that and it was just a matter of rolling it in after that," he said.

"I ran over our fans' corner afterwards and they were going mad which was great. It was great result and another brilliant all round team performance."

"I knew if I knocked the ball past him I'd have a decent chance. I did that and it was just a matter of rolling it in."



■ Celebrating victory at St. Mary's



# the story of the season



■ Saturday 8th August 2009  
**Gillingham 5**  
**Swindon Town 0**



■ Saturday 15th August 2009  
**Swindon Town 0**  
**MK Dons 0**



■ Tuesday 18th August 2009  
**Swindon Town 1**  
**Southampton 0**



■ Saturday 12th September 2009  
**Swindon Town 1**  
**Colchester United 1**



■ Saturday 22nd August 2009  
**Oldham Athletic 2**  
**Swindon Town 2**



■ Saturday 29th August 2009  
**Swindon Town 2**  
**Southend United 1**

■ Saturday 5th September 2009  
**Yeovil Town 0**  
**Swindon Town 1**



■ Saturday 19th September 2009  
**Walsall 1**  
**Swindon Town 1**



■ Saturday 26th September 2009  
**Swindon Town 1**  
**Wycombe Wanderers 1**



■ Tuesday 29th September 2009  
**Exeter City 1**  
**Swindon Town 1**



■ Saturday 3rd October 2009  
**Brentford 2**  
**Swindon Town 3**



■ Saturday 10th October 2009  
**Swindon Town 1**  
**Millwall 1**



■ Saturday 17th October 2009  
**Swindon Town 0**  
**Hartlepool United 2**



■ Saturday 24th October 2009  
**Norwich City 1**  
**Swindon Town 0**



■ Saturday 31st October 2009  
**Tranmere Rovers 1**  
**Swindon Town 4**



■ Saturday 21st November 2009  
**Carlisle United 0**  
**Swindon Town 1**



■ Saturday 19th December 2009  
**Swindon Town 2**  
**Brighton & Hove Albion 1**



■ Saturday 24th November 2009  
**Swindon Town 2**  
**Huddersfield Town 1**



■ Saturday 5th December 2009  
**Swindon Town 3**  
**Leyton Orient 2**



■ Saturday 12th December 2009  
**Bristol Rovers 3**  
**Swindon Town 0**



■ Saturday 26th December 2009  
**Charlton Athletic 2**  
**Swindon Town 2**



■ Monday 28th December 2009  
**Swindon Town 3**  
**Yeovil Town 1**



■ Saturday 16th January 2010  
**Swindon Town 3**  
**Gillingham 1**



Swindon Town Football Club scored 73 goals, chalked up 22 wins, used 30 players and accumulated 82 points during the regular League One season. Here is how the 2009/10 season unfolded. The play-offs will determine how it ends.



■ Saturday 19th January 2010  
Stockport County 0  
Swindon Town 1



■ Saturday 26th January 2010  
Swindon Town 3  
Leeds United 0



■ Saturday 30th January 2010  
Southend United 2  
Swindon Town 2



■ Saturday 20th February 2010  
Swindon Town 2  
Carlisle United 0



■ Saturday 6th February 2010  
Swindon Town 1  
Charlton Athletic 1



■ Tuesday 9th February 2010  
Swindon Town 4  
Oldham Athletic 2



■ Saturday 13th February 2010  
Huddersfield Town 2  
Swindon Town 2



■ Tuesday 23rd February 2010  
Swindon Town 4  
Stockport County 1



■ Saturday 27th February 2010  
Leyton Orient 0  
Swindon Town 0



■ Saturday 6th March 2010  
Swindon Town 0  
Bristol Rovers 4



■ Tuesday 9th March 2010  
MK Dons 2  
Swindon Town 1



■ Saturday 13th March 2010  
Brighton & Hove Albion 0  
Swindon Town 1



■ Tuesday 16th March 2010  
Southampton 0  
Swindon Town 1



■ Saturday 20th March 2010  
Swindon Town 1  
Norwich City 1



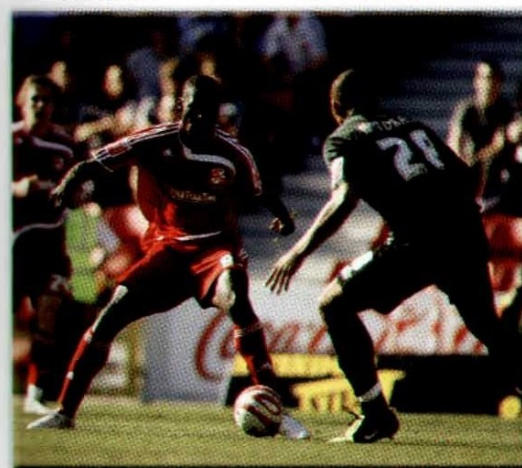
■ Saturday 27th March 2010  
Hartlepool United 0  
Swindon Town 1



■ Saturday 3rd April 2010  
Leeds United 0  
Swindon Town 3



■ Monday 12th April 2010  
Swindon Town 1  
Exeter City 1



■ Saturday 17th April 2010  
Swindon Town 1  
Walsall 1



■ Monday 5th April 2010  
Swindon Town 3  
Tranmere Rovers 0



■ Saturday 10th April 2010  
Colchester United 3  
Swindon Town 0



■ Saturday 24th April 2010  
Wycombe Wanderers 2  
Swindon Town 2



■ Saturday 1st May 2010  
Swindon Town 3  
Brentford 2



■ Saturday 8th May 2010  
Millwall 3  
Swindon Town 2



# WEMBLEY WAITING?

**TOWN** can point to many contributing factors in what has been the most satisfying season since the days when Ossie Ardiles and Glenn Hoddle brought a touch of international class and ultimately Premiership football to The County Ground.

**WORDS: JOHN McCLERNON**

Don Rogers Stand Season Ticket Holder



**AFTER** a traumatic decade away from the top two divisions which saw the very existence of the club threatened on at least two occasions, the leadership of Danny Wilson, a cool-headed, vastly-experienced manager, and Andrew Fitton, a passionate, ambitious chairman very much in touch with the supporters, has stirred echoes of those early 90s successes.

Amid a growing sense of optimism, the stadium has veered gradually towards capacity crowds as Swindon recovered from a 5-0 opening day defeat at Gillingham to shuffle quietly towards mid table, before accelerating towards a play off place in mid-season.

And while automatic promotion was narrowly missed out on after final day disappointment, the fact that Town's play-off place was secure with three games of the season left illustrates just what a successful season it has been at The County Ground.

Danny Wilson made astute pre-season signings with the likes of Celtic graduate centre-back Scott Cuthbert and the ex-Leeds duo of midfielder Jonathan Douglas and goalkeeper David Lucas.

All three have been supremely consistent and formed what has at times been an impenetrable defensive unit along with new captain Gordon Greer.

National headlines have been made with the fairytale story of former bricklayer Charlie Austin, who has emerged from non-league football to instantly project himself to the legendary status of modern day Town goal scoring heroes Sam Parkin and Simon Cox.

Austin has won the hearts of the fans not only with his goals, but also through his hard working, down to earth approach to the game. For supporters, local lad Austin represents their own dashed hopes of making the big time, and the fans have been in raptures witnessing that dream unfold before their eyes.

However one must not forget the equally impressive contribution of Austin's strike partner Billy Paynter. Still only 25 years old, Paynter had carved out a successful career in the lower divisions acting more as foil for the likes of Cox, whilst contributing steadily to the goal tally.

This season however, has seen Paynter blossom into a prolific goal scorer in his own right, admirably leading the line as a lone striker until the emergence of Austin transformed Swindon's strike force into the most feared in League One.



**"Danny Wilson made astute pre-season signings with the likes of Celtic graduate centre-back Scott Cuthbert and the ex-Leeds duo of midfielder Jonathan Douglas and goalkeeper David Lucas."**

Their prolific partnership has propelled Town into the upper echelons of the league table, with many of those goals having come since Austin's debut in November.

Perhaps the biggest success of Swindon's season however has been Wilson's forays into the loan market. Whilst early season candidates to accompany Paynter in attack such as Bolton's Tope Obadaye, Celtic's

Ben Hutchinson and Southend's Alex Revell ultimately failed to make a huge impression, the acquisition of four other temporary signings has proved vital to the club's achievements this season.

The January additions of full back Alan Sheehan from Leeds and teenage forward Danny Ward from Bolton added steel and flair to the left side, with Ward in particular earning huge plaudits for his mature performances and impressive goal return in an unfamiliar role.

Liverpool youngster Stephen Darby has grown in confidence with each game since his arrival in March, adding to his already polished positional sense and passing game from right back.

But the most special praise is reserved for 21 year old Scottish midfielder Simon Ferry, whose loan move from Celtic in August was swiftly extended to the end of the season.

Ferry has been a virtual ever present since and in pulling the strings in tandem with Douglas, his energetic displays have injected a creative spark long missing from the heart of the Swindon midfield.

For supporters, one of the biggest delights has been the impact this squad overhaul has had on players left over from previous regimes.

The likes of Jon Paul McGovern, Kevin Amankwaah and Lescinel Jean-Francois were considered steady back up players at best under the stewardship of Maurice Malpas, yet all three have been revitalised by the extra quality Danny Wilson has installed alongside them, and can now count themselves as firm fans' favourites.

Behind the scenes, Mr Fitton's business acumen and visionary strategies have seen the club successfully re-engage with supporters, wary after years of unfulfilled promises under various consortiums and investors.

A sensible pricing structure made season tickets affordable to a much wider element of the fan base, and a similar offer, coupled with the possibility of Championship football at The County Ground, has generated strong sales for next season already.

With Town having narrowly missed out on an automatic promotion place, it remains to be seen whether they can cap what has been an incredible season with a play-off victory.

But whatever the outcome, it has been a season which will live long in the memory for all connected with the club.





## ***SAY NO TO BAD LANGUAGE IN OUR FAMILY AREAS***

Show some respect for  
our younger fans.

Pledge your support at:  
**[www.enjoythematch.co.uk](http://www.enjoythematch.co.uk)**





# CHARLTON ATHLETIC



**CHARLTON ATHLETIC** were one of the teams with a shout of automatic promotion on the final day of the season, and despite victory at Oldham Athletic, they finished two points adrift of second place, and must now 'do it the hard way'.

**HAVING** been relegated from the Championship last season, Charlton Athletic were many people's favourites to return to the second tier of English football automatically.

However, an indifferent run of form in early 2010 saw The Addicks drop off the automatic promotion pace, and despite a late upturn in form, Phil Parkinson's side left themselves too much to do and find themselves at The County Ground this evening as a result.

It was an impressive start to the season for tonight's visitors, winning their first five games and remaining unbeaten in nine - cementing their credentials

at the top of the table in the process.

They suffered their first defeat at the hands of Colchester United in late September, and then enjoyed decent runs of form either side of a shock 1-0 FA Cup Third Round defeat at the hands of Northwich Victoria.

It was over the Christmas period that Parkinson's side began to lose ground on their automatic promotion rivals, as three consecutive draws against Millwall (4-4), Town (2-2) and Brentford (1-1) saw The Addicks drop into the dreaded third position - a standing upon which they never improved.

Inconsistency dogged tonight's

visitors for the remainder of the season, as they failed to register more than two consecutive wins during their run-in, and despite winning on the final day at Oldham Athletic, they finished two points adrift of promoted Leeds United in the final standings.

Town fans will remember the previous meetings between the sides with mixed emotions, as The Addicks snatched late equalisers on both occasions, with Miguel Angel Llera making it 2-2 in the last minute at The Valley, and Nicky Bailey levelling the scores at 1-1 at The County Ground seconds before the final-whistle.

## VITAL STATS

**NICKNAME:** The Addicks

**EST:** 1905

**GROUND:** The Valley

**CAPACITY:** 27,111

**RECORD VICTORY:**

8 - 1: vs Middlesbrough

12/09/53 Division 1

**RECORD LOSS:**

1 - 11: vs Aston Villa

14/11/59 Division 2

**RECORD FEE RECEIVED:**

£10,000,000: Scott Parker

Chelsea 30/01/04

**RECORD FEE PAID:**

£4,750,000: Jason Euell

Wimbledon 04/07/01

**GOALS IN A SEASON:**

Ralph Allen: 32 1934/35

Division 3S

## THE SQUAD

- 1 Rob Elliot
- 2 Frazer Richardson
- 3 Kelly Youga
- 4 Nicky Bailey
- 5 Miguel Llera
- 6 Jose Semedo
- 8 Therry Racon
- 9 Leon McKenzie
- 10 Deon Burton
- 11 Lloyd Sam
- 12 Grant Basey
- 14 Matt Spring
- 15 Izale McLeod
- 16 Scott Wagstaff
- 17 Chris Dickson
- 18 Sam Sodje
- 19 Dean Sinclair
- 20 Chris Solly
- 22 Stuart Fleetwood
- 23 David Mooney
- 24 Kyel Reid
- 25 Darren Randolph
- 26 Alex Stavrinou
- 27 Yado Mambo
- 28 Tamer Tuna
- 29 Jack Clark
- 30 Ben Davisson
- 33 Akpo Sodje
- 34 Lewis Perkins
- 35 Christian Dailly
- 36 Carl Jenkinson
- 38 Gary Borrowdale
- 39 Nicky Forster
- 40 Tony Warner
- 41 Matt Fry

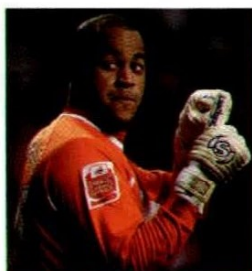


■ Former Town loanee Deon Burton returns to The County Ground tonight





A series of shrewd summer and mid-season loan signings have given **THE ADDICKS** one of the most formidable squads in the division, and their fans will be hopeful the players can come up with the goods this evening.



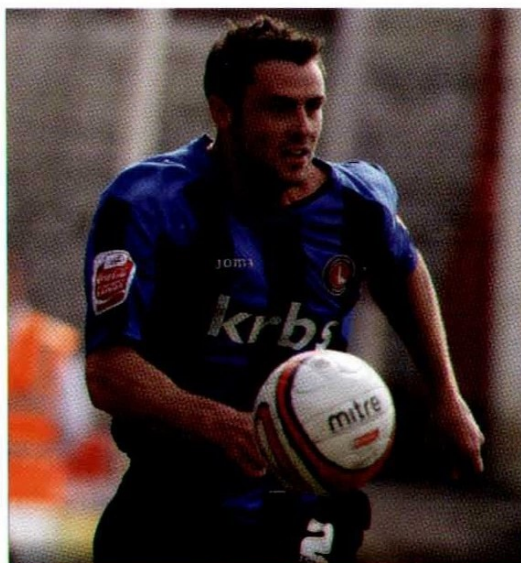
**DARREN RANDOLPH 25**

Irish stopper who has been a regular in between the sticks since late March. The Dubliner has been at The Valley since 2003 and made his debut in an away encounter at Liverpool four years later. He has kept clean sheets in Charlton's last two games against Leeds United and Oldham Athletic.



**ROB ELLIOTT 1**

A boyhood Charlton fan, Elliott was a regular in between the sticks this term until conceding six in two March fixtures which saw him dislodged from the starting 11 by Darren Randolph. Born in Greenwich, Elliott has spent loan spells away from The Valley at Accrington Stanley and Notts County.



**FRAZER RICHARDSON 2**

**CHARLTON'S** second signing of the summer, right-back Richardson arrived at The Valley having skippered Leeds United last term.

The defender was previously the longest-serving player on the books at Elland Road, and played 173 times in seven seasons, making his debut in a UEFA Cup tie in November 2002.

However he was released by Leeds at the end of last term and will this evening come up against his former Whites teammate, Jonathan Douglas.

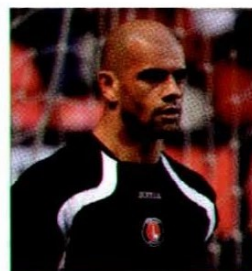
Solid, mobile, and keen to forage forward at every possible opportunity, Richardson, like fellow new signing Miguel Llera, saw last season end in League One play-off semi-final agony.

He featured 23 times in the league in 2008/09 and Simon Grayson was the seventh manager he had played under in his seven years as a first-teamer.



**CHRISTIAN DAILY 35**

Christian Dailly signed last summer after the defender had impressed on trial. The former Scotland international had been a surprise inclusion in Phil Parkinson's starting XI in the Valley friendly with Ipswich Town just days before. A fine display prompted Parkinson to snap up the veteran centre-half.



**TONY WARNER 40**

Warner signed a two-month contract just before the March transfer deadline. Following a month-long injury to Rob Elliott, 35-year-old free agent Warner was drafted in to provide competition to Darren Randolph for Charlton's number one spot. The stopper played three games on loan for Swindon in November 1997.



**THERRY RACON 8**

Therry Racon began his career with Marseille but played just one match for the French giants, departing for Lorient on loan and then Guingamp before his switch to SE7 in the summer of 2007. He played against Swindon in Brighton colours during a loan spell at The Withead in March 2008.



**JOSE SEMEDO 6**

Former Portugal U21 international Semedo could only watch from the sidelines as Charlton were relegated from the Championship last term. The midfielder returned to the first team fold at the beginning of the season and established himself as a regular, collecting 12 yellow cards en route to the play-offs.



**CHRIS DICKSON 17**

Striker Dickson returned to The Valley after finishing the season with relegated Gillingham. He spent the opening months of the campaign with Bristol Rovers and made a rare Charlton appearance off the bench against Swindon on Boxing Day. Dickson has now scored 12 goals in 64 league starts as a professional.



**LEON MCKENZIE 9**

The experienced striker McKenzie joined The Addicks on the final day of the August 2008 transfer deadline. The paperwork for former Coventry City forward McKenzie, who was a free agent, was completed with less than two hours of the window remaining, and the 31-year-old has signed a one-year deal.



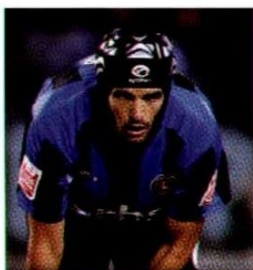
**TAMER TUNA 28**

The Bexley-based striker was first spotted by community coaches at Crook Log Leisure Centre as a nine-year-old. After rising through the ranks, he signed schoolboy terms last summer, and his promising start to senior academy football was supplemented by his introduction to the reserve ranks.




**GARY BORROWDALE 38**

The left-back is on loan from Queens Park Rangers and signed an emergency 28-day loan on Thursday, March 18th, a deal that was later extended until the end of the season. The defender was a Championship regular earlier this term and spent time in League One with Brighton & Hove Albion last season.


**MIGUEL LLERA 5**

Influential defender Llera became the first Spanish player to play for The Addicks first team after signing from MK Dons last summer. He made 37 appearances for the Dons and scored a penalty in the play-off semi-final against Scunthorpe United at the end of the 2008/09 campaign.


**CHRIS SOLLY 20**

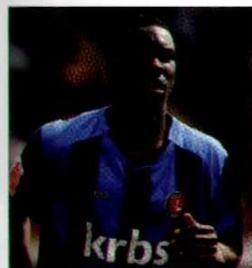
The versatile Solly made his long-awaited Charlton debut on the final day of the 2008/09 Championship season. He has featured on ten occasions for The Addicks so far this term, including a 40-minute outing off the bench at The County Ground during the 1-1 draw here at SN1 in February.


**SAM SODJE 18**

The Nigeria international, noted for his aerial ability, scored two goals in 20 games for The Addicks in their first season in the Championship in the 2007/08 season before returning to Reading at the end of the campaign. He returned to The Valley for a second loan spell in September 2009.


**MATTHEW SPRING 14**

A vastly experienced midfielder, Spring has over 400 league appearances to his name after spells with Leeds United, Watford and Luton Town. He joined the Charlton ranks in January 2009 although his involvement last weekend at Oldham was his first outing in the first team since December.


**LLOYD SAM 11**

A tricky winger able to play on either flank, Lloyd Sam can cause opposition defences a plethora of problems on his day. The Leeds-born ace, a product of Charlton's academy, has now made 95 league starts for The Addicks and has spent loan spells at Leyton Orient, Sheffield Wednesday and Southend United.


**KYEL REID 24**

An out and out left winger, Reid is on loan from Championship side Sheffield United. The 23-year old joined the Bramall Lane outfit after being released from West Ham United in the summer of 2009. Reid has scored four goals for Charlton so far this term, including a stunning drive against Yeovil Town.


**SCOTT WAGSTAFF 16**

A hard-working wideman who skippered the U18s to the quarter-finals of the FA Youth Cup in 2007/08, Wagstaff can also operate up front. He was used off the bench in the meeting between tonight's teams at The Valley on Boxing Day and started the reverse fixture at The County Ground in February.


**NICKY FORSTER 39**

**CHARLTON** beat the deadline day transfer window in March to sign Brighton & Hove Albion's experienced striker Forster.

Surrey-born Forster started his career at non-League Horley Town, before joining Gillingham in May 1992. He went on to represent Brentford, Birmingham City, Reading, Ipswich Town and Hull City - where Phil Parkinson was manager - before switching to Brighton in 2007.

A willing runner who is also good in the air, the 36-year-old has already scored at The County Ground this season. He notched for Brighton in their 2-1 defeat in Wiltshire back in December.

Forster is out of contract in the summer, but will hope to finish his extended League 1 campaign by using his experience to help The Addicks reach Wembley.


**DEON BURTON 22**

60-cap Jamaica international Burton was named his country's Sportsman of the Year in 1997 for his efforts in helping the Reggae Boyz qualify for the 1998 World Cup. He is now with his 11th club and had previously spent a loan spell at Swindon during the 2003/04 play-off campaign against Brighton & Hove Albion.


**DAVID MOONEY 23**

Currently on loan from Championship side Reading, Dublin-born striker David Mooney did not feature in either of the two fixtures against Swindon earlier this season but has faced The Robins before, in one of only two appearances for Stockport County during a loan spell in January 2009.


**AKPO SODJE 33**

The youngest of the 10-strong Sodje clan, Akpo, who was born in Greenwich, started his career with QPR, before representing Huddersfield, Darlington and Port Vale and Championship side Wednesday. He is currently on loan from the Hillsborough club, after making 44 appearances, scoring nine times.





# PHIL PARKINSON

Having seen his side's hopes of automatic promotion dashed on the final day of the League One season, **PHIL PARKINSON** now has to help navigate The Addicks through unpredictable play-off waters.

**CHARLTON** were in action at Oldham Athletic last weekend and ran out 2-0 winners, although the result was not enough to secure an automatic spot after Leeds saw off the challenge of Bristol Rovers at Elland Road.

The Addicks have recent play-off experience, having missed out on a final spot in 1996 before securing their place at Wembley two seasons later against Sunderland. The final saw Charlton defeat

Sunderland 7-6 on penalties after the game had finished 4-4 at the end of extra-time.

Parkinson has tasted promotion to the Championship before with Colchester United at the end of the 2005/06 season, in what was his first spell as a manager after finishing 11 seasons as a player with Reading. The U's finished the campaign in second spot, although Parkinson departed Layer Road to take up the offer of the

manager's chair at Hull City.

After a short spell at the KC Stadium, he was appointed as assistant to Pardew in January 2007. The pair had worked together previously, when Parkinson was Pardew's captain during a glittering career at Reading.

Initially lined up as a potential replacement for Alan Curbishley in the summer of 2006, Parkinson finally became manager at The Valley in November 2008.



■ Parkinson plots

He was installed as caretaker boss when Alan Pardew left the club by mutual consent following a 5-2 home defeat against Sheffield United, and was handed the job on a full-time basis on the final day of 2008.

After eight games in caretaker charge, Parkinson was finally named Charlton's 19th permanent manager, and



# One To Watch



Tough-tackling **NICKY BAILEY** was a rare highlight for Charlton during the disappointing 2008/09 season, finishing the campaign - his first with The Addicks - as the club's top scorer with 13 goals.

**HIS TALLY**, coupled with a never-say-die attitude and all-action displays, led to the flame-haired midfielder deservedly being named Charlton's Player of the Year.

It's a title Bailey is becoming used to winning, having scooped Southend United's equivalent accolade in 2007/08 and Barnet's in 2005/06, when he also won The Bees' young player gong.

After being released by

Fulham as a youngster, Bailey was snapped up by non-League Sutton United, hitting 31 goals in two seasons to catch the eye of Barnet, who paid just £10,000 for his services.

Bailey helped Barnet into The Football League in 2005 and earned international recognition for the England C side, but after three seasons at Underhill, he departed for Roots Hall in a £175,000 switch.

Charlton signed Bailey in

mid-August in a package that could yet reach £750,000, and the Hammersmith-born ace, who prospered on the left flank following Phil Parkinson's appointment, took just four games to net his first goal, a sign of things to come.

Along with teammate Frazer Richardson, Bailey was recently named in the 2009/10 PFA Team of the Year and with 13 goals to his name this campaign, it's not hard to see why.



although he was unable to stave off relegation, The Addicks lost just one of their final eight games in 2008/09.

Charlton now have a chance to make an instant return to the Championship, although Parkinson will know from personal experience the ups and downs which professional football can deliver.



■ Nicky Bailey celebrates his goal at Oldham Athletic last weekend



# FINAL

## Destination

After losing out in the play-offs three times before, **JONATHAN DOUGLAS** is determined to help The Robins reach the Championship with victory at Wembley.



**DOUGLAS** has played a huge part in Town's captivating transformation from relegation strugglers to promotion contenders and has made 43 League One starts for the club in what has been his first season in Wiltshire.

The experienced middleman has already landed three Player of the Year awards and will surely be amongst the frontrunners at the club's official end of season presentation night once the season comes to a close.

However, Douglas knows more than most about the contrasting emotions a play-off campaign can bring. The Irishman captained Leeds United against Doncaster Rovers at Wembley in May 2008 and cut a forlorn figure on the

Wembley turf whilst watching Leeds' rivals Doncaster – who included Gordon Greer amongst their ranks – lift the League One play-off trophy.

Douglas, who made 16 appearances in the Premier League for Blackburn Rovers, is determined to help The Robins win promotion to the Championship which would put local derbies against Bristol City and Reading back on the fixture list.

**You are becoming pretty familiar with the end of season play-offs now aren't you?**

This is the third consecutive year that I have been involved in the play-offs and they are exciting

games. Winning at Wembley is a great achievement for any player but I have lost in two finals so am yet to achieve that. Hopefully this will be third time lucky for me.

**What did you make of Charlton when you played against them earlier in the campaign?**

Charlton are good side and were rightly one of the favourites to go up at the start of the season. They are a big club with a decent manager and have some good players. However on our day we are capable of beating any side in the division and that's why we have reached the play-offs ourselves.

They are not a side that will sit back and let us attack them, that's

just not the way they play so it should be a good, open game. I think we play better when teams come here to attack.

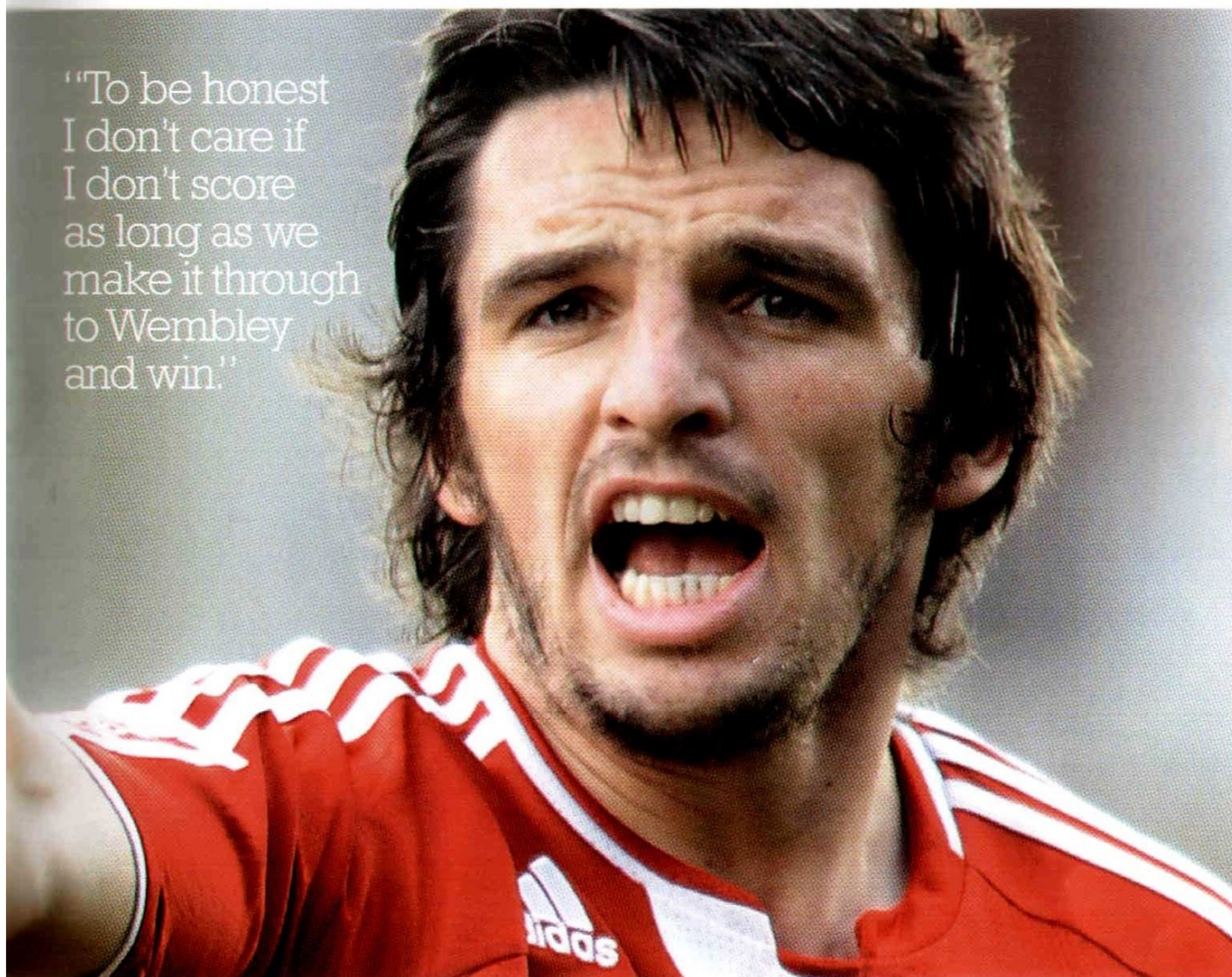
**Your old club Leeds United were promoted last weekend, it seems quite ironic that yourself and Frazer Richardson left last summer yet are now going head to head in the play-offs!**

Leeds finished the season as the second best team in the division and well done to them. They have done well and are another big club who will be delighted to have secured a return to the Championship.

Frazer is a good mate of mine and we were together at Leeds for four years. He is a good lad



"To be honest I don't care if I don't score as long as we make it through to Wembley and win."



and a good player and I have had some decent games with and against him over our time in football. Hopefully we can get the better of Charlton over the two legs though.

**You have experienced the play-off final before as Captain. What do you recall of the 2008 final?**

It's not nice getting all the way to the final and losing, especially by a single goal. 'Gordy' was at Doncaster at the time and I saw him after the game and he was buzzing and rightly so. Hopefully the two of us can be celebrating together at the end of the season. Charlton are up first though and we have to get past them.

**How difficult is it to focus purely on the semi-finals knowing that a place at Wembley is only 180 minutes away?**

It's not difficult at all. If we go into the games thinking that we are already at Wembley then we will get quite a shock because Charlton are a good side. It's going to be difficult over two legs but these are games that we should be relishing. We have to be confident and look forward to the fixtures.

**What are your views on playing at home first? Can being at The County Ground on Friday night prove to be an advantage before going**

**back to The Valley?**

It doesn't really bother me too much. Last year with Leeds we had home advantage first but then went away to Millwall and lost out, so it doesn't really make a difference. For me the important thing is to perform well in the two games and come out on top.

**The beauty of a two-legged semi-final is that should either side take an advantage from the first game, then there is still everything to play for in the return leg...**

That's right. Both teams will know that whatever happens on Friday night the tie isn't over. We will go to Charlton

knowing we can go there and play having drawn 2-2 there on Boxing Day. We have played well against them over the two games and we won't have anything to fear going into the second leg.

**And finally, breaking your goalscoring duck for the club in the play-offs would be great wouldn't it?**

It would be perfect, even nicer if it came at Wembley! To be honest I don't care if I don't score as long as we make it through to Wembley and win. It would be nice to get a goal in the play-offs but I wouldn't be greedy. The most important thing first of all is that we get past Charlton.

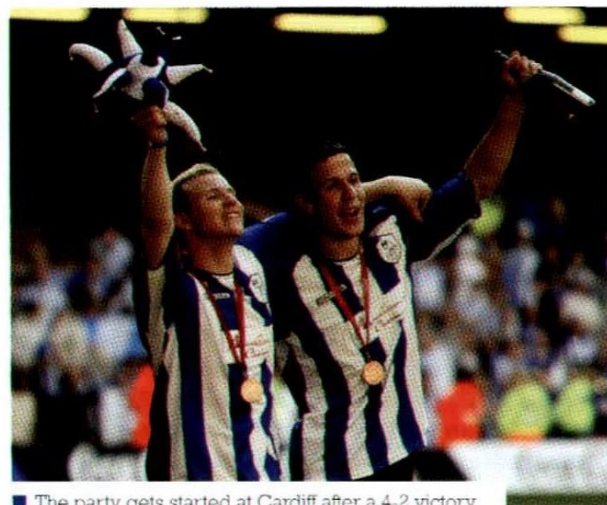




■ Celebrations at The Millennium Stadium in the 2005 play-off final



■ J-P takes flight down the right against Hartlepool



■ The party gets started at Cardiff after a 4-2 victory







# PLAY-OFF PERFORMER

With a League One play-off winner's medal in the trophy cabinet, **JON-PAUL MCGOVERN** is hoping to use his experience to ensure The Robins' road to Wembley ends in success.

**MCGOVERN** was one of the key cogs in Sheffield Wednesday's play-off winning side during the 2004/05 campaign and he played in every fixture that season. His performances this term have made him one of Town's most improved players and his consistency and inventiveness on the right hand side of midfield have attracted praise from the Town management and fellow players.

And the midfielder will be hoping his recent award at the STFC Supporters Club presentation evening will not be the last he collects this season.

"It's always nice to get an award, but this one was voted for by members of the away travel club and they are what you would consider the real hardcore supporters. I was delighted to receive it from them because those fans have really put some miles in this season.

"The award was nice but it's promotion that we after and I am sure most of the lads would swap any other awards for that at the end of the season."

McGovern was part of the Sheffield Wednesday side which went on a ten-game unbeaten run during the 2004/05 campaign with the season ending in victory in the League One play-off final at The Millennium Stadium. He was a key cog in the Wednesday side that season and played in every game of the season.

Now in Swindon colours, the 29-year old Glaswegian made his 100th Town start in the final home game of the season against Brentford and has made 51 appearances during 2009/10 – the highest racked up by any Swindon player this term.

"I didn't realise my hundred was up against Brentford – it's always nice to play so many games for the one side. It feels like quite a while ago that I joined Swindon and it was a few regimes ago too. When I came in the club was under a bit of a financial cloud.

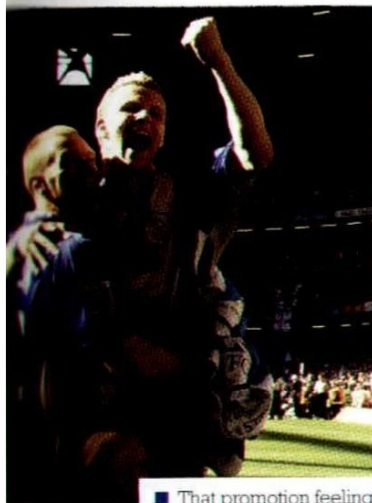
"A lot has changed since those days and the club is now moving forward in a very positive direction. The likes of Nick (Watkins) and Jeremy (Wray) have come in and worked wonders throughout the club."

McGovern also pitched in with vital goals during Sheffield Wednesday's promotion campaign, scoring twice in three play-off fixtures. He scored the only goal of the game in a 1-0 home win over Brentford in front of a 29,000 Hillsborough crowd before notching another in the final in Cardiff.

Now preparing to help The Robins navigate their way through the play-offs, McGovern is hoping to call upon his success at Sheffield Wednesday to help ensure Town are in the Championship when the new campaign gets underway.

"I would have preferred automatic promotion, but the play-offs are a great experience. The coverage you get and everything that goes with it is fantastic.

"We have players in the dressing room that have been there and done it. In some cases they have achieved success at higher levels and ahead of the play-offs I am more than comfortable that we can go through and win it."



■ That promotion feeling!





# COME ON ENGLAND!

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# STFC SUPPORTERS CLUB

I was hoping that my programme notes for the Brentford game would have been the last of the season, but tonight we face Charlton Athletic in the play-off semi-finals so **GOOD LUCK** to Danny Wilson and the boys tonight.

**THIS EDITION** does give me the opportunity to reflect on our End of Season Dinner where Nick Watkins, Danny and a number of first team players attended to see the presentation of our members vote, for the player of the season. There was plenty of time to reflect on the very satisfactory season we have had (we hope it gets even better!). The awards night featured nine players but the winner by a short head was Jonathan Douglas, who many fans will recognise as an integral part of our season. Thank you to everyone who attended and made the evening a thoroughly enjoyable one.

There was another award made that night. The SAS Away Travel Away Player of the Season. This award is voted for immediately after games, by those travelling with SAS. The winner of this trophy was J-P McGovern, who has had a terrific season. The award was made by Sandra Pinnegar and Sally Anne Carter on behalf of SAS travel.

With the regular League One season now at an end, the Pounds for Points fund has generated the sum of £4,551 which will be used by the Centre of



Excellence. Indeed the Supporters Club from its general funds have topped the figure up to £8,000 and a presentation was made to Karen Ainscow, youth co-ordinator on the night. We understand this will help finance the club's participation in the prestigious Northern Ireland Milk Cup competition.

With the excitement of the play-offs now upon us, it leaves me now to thank everyone who has helped the Supporters Club through another successful season in terms of fund raising to help Swindon Town FC. Indeed tonight we fully anticipate that we will break our record sales for the half-time draw for any season in its 10-year plus history.

When the excitement of this season passes, the new season will be quickly upon us. We look forward to seeing you then - members will receive their Supporters Club renewal forms with summer newsletter in July.

Have a great summer, hopefully we will still be celebrating victory!

**Roger**



■ Jonathan Douglas - Supporters Club Player of the Season



■ Jon-Paul McGovern - SAS Travel Player of the Season

## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Away to **MK DONS**



Away to **YEovil TOWN**



Away to **WALsall**



Away to **EXETER CITY**



Away to **BRISTOL ROVERS**



Away to **SOUTHAMPTON**



# thanks for your support



■ Malcolm Davies had a snap taken by the 60163 'Tornado' train on The Torbay Express.



■ James (left) & Colin (right) in front of Mount Vesuvius while holidaying in Italy.



■ Hannah, Nathan and Emma making the most of the heavy snowfall in January.



■ Ardent Town fans serving in the 600 Signal Troop, 10 Signal Regiment in Afghanistan had an unexpected moral boost when a Hollywood star Ray Winstone paid them a visit.



■ Don Rogers & family supporting the Generation Game promotion against Wycombe W.



■ Phoebe and Elizabeth - Grandad Barry Scott is looking forward to taking them to football!



■ Callum Guy (right) & his brother Brandon (left) pictured ready for the big match.



■ Valerie Johnson shows her Town colours during a winter break to Canada.



■ Stef Burzynski packed his Town shirt for a trip to Remetske Hamre - Eastern Slovakia.



■ Jamie Jenks is seen here during a holiday in Cyprus, on an off-road quad bike.



■ Swindon fan Malcolm Davies is pictured here at a very windy Perranporth beach in Cornwall.



■ Jody Smith took time out during a trip to see The Colosseum in Rome.



■ Leoni Robertson's wedding cake featured her wearing a Swindon town strip!



■ Alec, Greg and Skid returning home after a 12-week's service in Afghanistan.



■ Gary Stanley bumped into DJ Brandon Block earlier this year during a holiday in Ibiza.



■ Alun Farrimond managed a snap of himself at Carrow Road in the build-up to kick-off.



■ Ollie and Alfie Barker attended their first Swindon Town match against Stockport County and after a chance meeting with the Town boss Danny Wilson, they managed a quick snap too!



■ Town fan Ben Gleed travelled to Australia and saw Celtic take on Brisbane Roar!



■ Euan and Patrick Walsh are pictured here enjoying a Junior Robins trip to the training ground.



■ Aidan Bramwell is seen here relaxing during a fishing trip in Antigua.



■ Peter Farrington is showing off his Swindon colours at Camp Bastion in Helmand province.



■ Thomas Haworth and Joshua Kostuk with the top brass, Andrew Fitton and Danny Wilson!



■ Chris Kirkland is (left) seen here presenting a strip to Wilkly Primary School in Antigua.



**A BIG THANK YOU** to all those supporters who have submitted pictures for the matchday programme this season. Remember, if you are heading away on holiday this summer then pack your camera and Swindon Town shirt!



■ Gemma Pickford pictured with Danny Ward outside the ground before the Exeter City game.



■ Bob Allaway and Grandson Dan Cater are pictured here at the Nou Camp, Barcelona.



■ Harrie, Emma, & Katie Wilson are pictured with their nine-week old baby cousin George Pell.



■ Junior Robins members Emma, Hannah and Nathan Clinch are seen here enjoying a holiday to Florida where they met a few well known faces!



■ Harry Edwards remembered to take his Swindon shirt for a recent trip to Euro Disney.



■ On a trip to Barcelona, Joshua & Lewis were snapped with the Champion's League Trophy!



■ Reece Winney was pictured whilst on a tour of Australia and New Zealand.



■ Caitlin Rose Adrienne Smith is pictured here aged just two weeks old.



■ Greg (right) took out a shirt to his friend Dave in Canada, who is a Swindon Town supporter!



■ Adam Pound took this snap during cruise to Italy, featuring the Colosseum in Rome.



■ Richard Sandwell is spreading the good word of STFC during a summer break to Solier in Spain.



■ Claire Pasternakiewicz & Father, Mark, during a trip to the Great Wall of China last summer.



■ Sharon Franklin showed her support for The Robins during a trip to an Chelsea FA Cup game!



■ Neil, packed his Town away shirt for a recent trip to Las Vegas, and pictured with his girlfriend.



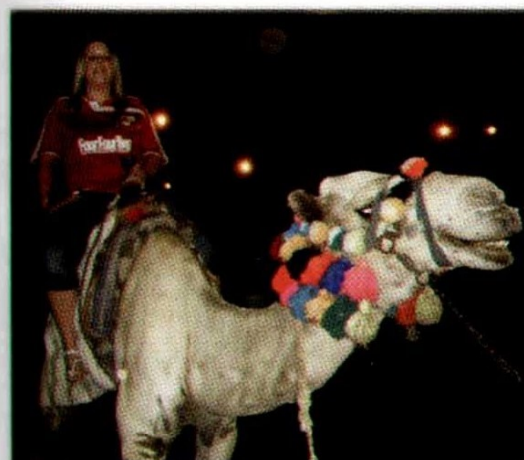
■ Lena and her partner Hamish are seen here about to ride over the Golden Gate Bridge.



■ Simon Dyson enjoyed his honeymoon in Paris and like any loyal supporter, took his shirt!



■ Swindon Advertiser Chief Sports Writer Anthony Marshall in the Nou Camp, Barcelona!



■ Swindon supporter Gemma Collins enjoyed a recent trip to Sharm el Sheikh in Egypt where she enjoyed a camel ride. With Town in the end of season play-offs there could be another bumpy ride in store!



■ Mark & Derek crossing the Tees on the Middlesbrough Transporter Bridge.



■ Peter Hennell sent in this photo of his Granddaughter celebrating Town's win at Southampton!



■ Malcolm and Sue Seagroatt's grandson Lucas Cole Seagroatt was born on 10th April 2010



■ Swindon Town fan Dave Stock, from Carterton, is seen here enjoying a night out in Phuket.



■ Sarah Drewe is pictured at the Kingsmead Stadium in Durban when attending the second test.



# From The Press Box

## Swindon Advertiser

**WORDS:**  
ANTHONY MARSHALL

**HOW** do you even begin to sum up a season which has exceeded almost everyone's expectations (apart from possibly those of Danny Wilson and Andrew Fitton)?

**FROM** Billy Paynter and Charlie Austin's goals – 48 combined and counting – to some heroic defensive displays from Gordon Greer, Scott Cuthbert & Co.

Afternoons and evenings at Craven Cottage, St Mary's Stadium and Elland Road, which will forever live long in the memory, and only the odd 90 minutes at places like Gillingham and Bristol Rovers which will quickly be erased.

Before writing this column, I was asked to select my five defining moments of the season. It would have been too easy to rattle off Southampton home and away, Leeds home and away, and the signing of Jonathan Douglas – although all have played a huge part in shaping Town's success.

So instead, I decided to plump for situations which

may have slipped under the radar (much like the team) but in my opinion were just as instrumental in their push for the promotion.

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

Town travelled to MK Dons in the first round of the Carling Cup on the back of a 5-0 thumping by Gillingham.

Jon-Paul McGovern had been an unused substitute at the Priestfield Stadium and was seemingly behind the likes of Mark Marshall and Lloyd Macklin for the right-wing berth. But the Scot was handed a start at Stadium:MK and caught the eye with a stunning long-range strike in a 4-1 win.

The rest, as they say, is history, with McGovern going on to hold down a place in the starting line-up all season, rack up the most assists in League

One and come second in the Player of the Year award.

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Just a handful of fans were at the Madejski Stadium as Town's Reserves recorded a 4-1 victory against their Reading counterparts.

But those present witnessed something special with the first glimpse of the prolific Billy Paynter-Charlie Austin partnership.

The strikers bagged two each and laid the foundations for their fruitful link-up at first team level. And boss Danny Wilson was clearly equally impressed – handing the duo a start only a couple of weeks later at Carlisle.

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

The highly-rated but disappointing Tope Obadeyi had already returned to Bolton

at the end of his loan spell, when Danny Wilson swooped on the Reebok Stadium once more.

This time arriving was Danny Ward, another striker with a glowing reference at reserve team level. The youngster had to be patient for a chance, but was handed a start in the FA Cup game at Fulham and has been an ever-present since.

Deployed on the left-wing, Ward's enthusiasm and attacking instincts have been hugely effective, but crucially different from predecessor Anthony McNamee, he possesses the willingness to muck in with the defensive side of the game and provides Swindon with a real balance to their side.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 13

Town's promotion bid appeared to be stalling







■ Anthony Marshall presents the Swindon Advertiser Player of the Season Award to Town Midfielder Jonathan Douglas

following two defeats in four days at the hands of Bristol Rovers and Milton Keynes Dons.

But they went to Brighton's Withdean Stadium and ground out a dogged 1-0 victory thanks to Charlie Austin's goal.

It wasn't pretty – in fact it was arguably one of the poorest games of the season – but it reignited their charge and proved Swindon could dig in with a plan B when they were unable to play their normal passing game.

#### MONDAY, APRIL 12

The Sky cameras were in

town for what looked like being a comfortable home win for Danny Wilson's side against struggling Exeter.

But the Grecians took a first half lead and looked to be holding on for all three points until almost the final kick of the game when their skipper Matt Taylor bundled the ball into his own net.

The result left many people grumbling at a sense of two points lost, but that late, late drama kept Swindon's push alive and was crucial in maintaining confidence and focus for the final few matches.



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# On the Mic

WORDS: SHAUN HODGETTS

The play-offs are a wonderful Wembley day out, as long as you win!

We have, of course, experienced the highs and lows of the end-of-season fixtures.

In 1986/87, I was in the scrum on the touchline here at The County Ground as Charlie Henry was chaired off after a spectacular goal against Gillingham which took us to a replay at Selhurst Park. What a night! Our BBC Wiltshire pundit Phil King was among the half-naked players to come back out from the dressing-room for a celebratory lap of honour. What a sight!

Two years later came disappointment at the same stadium, beaten by a Wright and Bright-inspired Crystal Palace. The game proved to be Lou Macari's last match as Town manager.

Enter Ossie Ardiles and we were Twin-Towers-bound at the end of his first campaign in charge. I remember interviews after a semi-final with Blackburn where the press room was in a hut across the cobbled streets from Ewood Park. This was before investment from Jack Walker! Then, a deflected shot from Alan McLoughlin (from the front of the diamond formation) clinched victory over Sunderland in what must be the most one-sided 1-0

success ever! Chris Kamara was my co-commentator. I should have been his agent for a subsequent career in the media!

The final with Leicester City in 1993 looked equally comfortable at 3-0 – the rest is history. Steve White can dine out on the foul which led to Paul Bodin's penalty and the jubilant journey home, with the players taking it in turns to appear out of the roof of the team bus en route to Swindon.

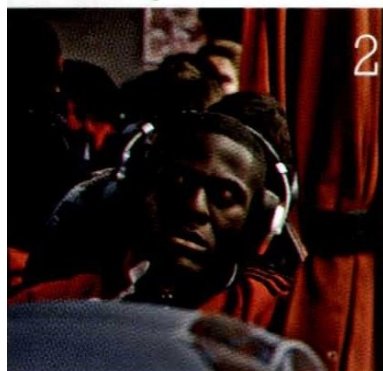
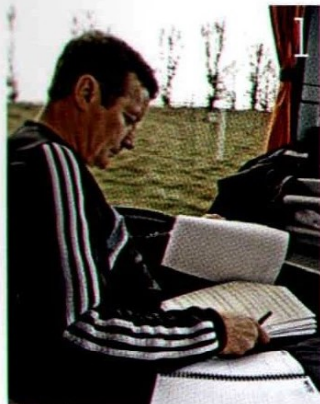
Eleven seasons later, a complete contrast at a wet Withdean Stadium in Brighton. I was pitchside tracking Rory Fallon, waiting to pounce on the man who'd netted the goal which secured a place at Wembley when the Town conceded at the last-minute – again, the rest is history.

And so to 2009/10, a fifth-place finish, for the most part under the national radar. Locally, we've enjoyed the highs and (very few) lows and look forward to The Valley, Wembley and the Championship.

**COME ON YOU REDS!**







- 1. Danny Wilson makes the most of the spare time on the bus
- 2. Frank Nouble crashes out
- 3. Conversation killer
- 4. 'Dougie' and Dave
- 5. Town players take a walk on the wild side at the team hotel

# CAUGHT ON CA

When Town travelled to Leeds United **FourFourTwo** went behind the scenes. Read the

**FourFourTwo**  
THE ULTIMATE FOOTBALL MAGAZINE







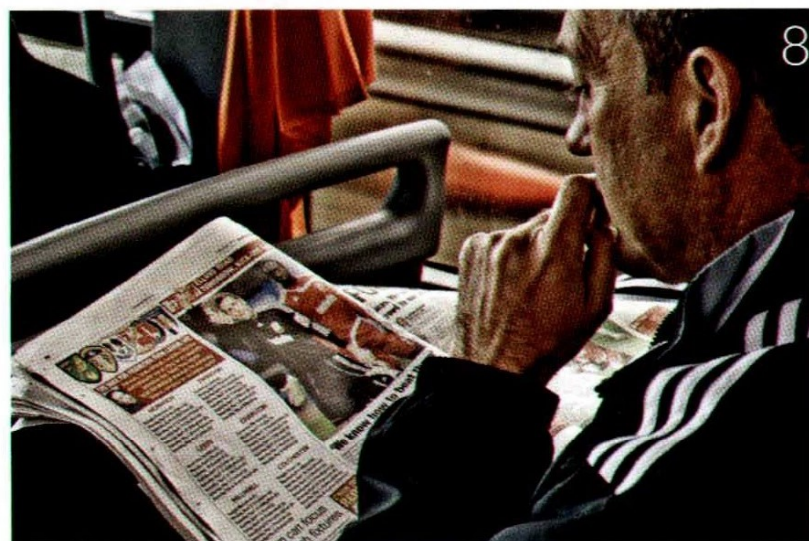
■ 6. 'Dougie' dreams about his first Town goal

■ 7. Can I have my ball back?

■ 8. Who writes this rubbish?

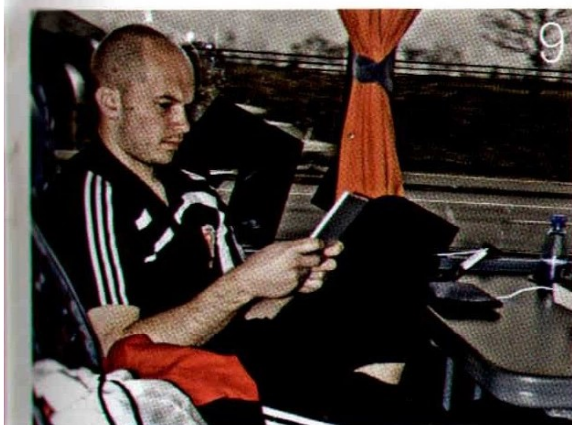
■ 9. Phil Smith takes time out

■ 10. Spot the hoodies in the background causing trouble



# MEERA

full feature in the June issue.







12. Charlie spots something more interesting to look at

13. Billy Paynter signs an autograph for Andrea Wookey

14. Do The Robinettes have competition?

15. Town train in the rain close to Hillsborough stadium

16. Keep the ball away from 'The Gaffer'!







17. Gordon Greer tries to escape 'the circle'

18. Before the 'fire drill'

19. 'The Gaffer' takes control

20. Michael Timlin with the tricks

21. Wet, wet, wet

22. If you want to get to the Championship, take a right at Millwall - pass Charlton and then win at Wembley!





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# Blood, Sweat & Tears

Anyone privy to the Championship's final day relegation showdown between Sheffield Wednesday and Crystal Palace will have seen exactly how fired up professional footballers can get when **THE STAKES ARE HIGH** enough.

**BOOTS IN FACES**, clashes of heads and dislocated toes gave both Owls and Eagles physios a hectic afternoon at Hillsborough as both sides played with a level of commitment indicative of the importance of the match.

So what should 'Town 'magic sponge man' Dick Mackey expect from this evening's hugely important play-off clash with Charlton Athletic?

While the official answer is: 'Nothing different to any of the previous 46 League One matches,' Mackey has been in the game long enough to know that there is always a special edge to crucial matches – something which makes him more prepared than normal to be called into action.

"I think it would be dishonest to say that these sort of games don't bring out extra passion in players," he said.

"I should say that they are as committed for one game as they are the next, but in reality things can become desperate in these sorts of games.

"I think it's part of the human condition that in such an important game, no-one wants to be responsible for something going wrong in the game, and where there is such absolute commitment, it does make it slightly more worrying from my point of view."

During his time at the club, Mackey has treated players in some of the most high octane atmospheres, not least during

Town's last foray into the play-offs in 2004 when they slugged it out with Brighton & Hove Albion over two heartbreaking ties – with one event in particular etched upon his memory.

"Those games were very keenly fought indeed, although we were too good for Brighton for the majority of the tie," he recalled.

"I can remember Sam Parkin having a tooth knocked out, and we were trawling around the pitch after the game trying to find it!

"We managed it in the end, and we stuck it in some milk, took it to the dentist and Sam got it shoved back in with matchsticks and drawing pins!

"That may give you a flavour as to the competitive nature of these sorts of games."

So a potentially frantic night lies in wait for one of Town's longest serving members of staff, but he is hopeful a heightened sense of awareness on his part will see the match pass off as peacefully as possible.

"The tempo will be fantastic right from the start until the end, but it's going to be quite a nerve wracking time as we've got to be vigilant with injuries in mind.

"Hopefully it will pass without us picking up anything bad – it's certainly something I've been mulling over for the last couple of days!"



## DICK'S SEASON

"We've had patches where I've had five or six people in my office regularly, but when you do have numbers like that it allows you to get them out quite quickly.

"We've had one or two who have sort of hung around for longer than I would have liked, but in the main it's not been too bad.

"As a physio you are implicated when you get too many players hanging around your office, so you want to get them out playing as soon as possible.

"In my experience it's usually the one the manager wants who is in your office, but thankfully this year the manager has been able to put out pretty much the team he would have wanted to."



"Gordon's head injury was fairly moderate in the last match against Charlton here, so it wasn't too much to worry about, though head injuries are always a concern because there can be other problems associated with them.

"But provided there is no concussion or anything then they're usually ok to deal with.

"To say the season and the injuries I've had to deal with have been straightforward is not quite accurate because we've had a few strange ones, not least Callum Kennedy with his pelvic problem.

"But thankfully, bar one or two incidents with opposing sides on the pitch where I've had to lend a hand, we've avoided any major catastrophes."



■ Charlie Austin feels the pain against Charlton



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# 2009/10 AWARDS NIGHT

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- Hosted by BBC Wiltshire's Shaun Hodgetts
- Champagne Reception & Canapés on arrival in the Marquee
- Awards Presentation Ceremony & Exclusive Auction in the Legends Lounge
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Ahead of tonight's play-off semi-final first leg encounter with Charlton Athletic, Town Chairman **ANDREW FITTON** spoke to the official matchday programme about the trials and tribulations experienced following the takeover, and his hopes as the road to Wembley continues.

# A VIEW FROM

**Two and a half years have now passed since the takeover. How quickly has that period passed for you?**

That's a really interesting question - I suppose that the time's passed quickly and we've already done and achieved a great deal. On the other hand, sometimes the last ten minutes of a game can seem incredibly slow!

**The ten point plan published soon after the takeover pledged Championship football within five years. That target is tantalisingly close now isn't it?**

I think I said at the outset that if we achieved Championship football within three years, we would have succeeded and that if we didn't achieve it within five years, we would have failed. It is tantalisingly close now and maybe it's come a little bit

earlier than we expected, but history shows it's really difficult to get out of League One and into the Championship and we need to grab the opportunity while it's there.

**Reaching the play-offs has certainly given the town of Swindon another wake-up call. Do you think people are now realising the good work that is going on?**

I hope so, though it's not always obvious and it's easy to get disheartened when, for instance, crowds are low. But, with the quality of football that we've been playing under Danny's stewardship and the fact that we've shown ourselves to be a force to be reckoned with, I hope that people are beginning to realise that they don't need to travel to Reading, Southampton, Bristol and Aston Villa in order to enjoy a great atmosphere and good football.

**How much, in terms of finance and reputation, would reaching Wembley benefit the club?**

I think the really important thing is probably reputation - Swindon is back! We're a force to be reckoned with and people now hold us up as an example of how a club should be run rather than us being a bit of a 'joke'. And we haven't got there by accident - we haven't sneaked into the play-offs at the last game, we've really been showing our ability since Christmas. From this perspective, if you asked me which was the most important achievement, the financial or the reputational, I would have to say it's the reputation because we can build from here and our reputation will help us to attract the right players, etc.

Having said all of that, the financial aspects are important, but the play-offs are not

the financial bonanza that everybody thinks they are (that comes later if you get promoted). With the way the cash is pooled and split, and the amount that The Football League take out of the 'pot' to spread across the League, it's very dependent on the quality of the clubs you have in the play-offs because they bring the big crowds. For instance, if we were playing Millwall in the play-off final at Wembley, I suspect that we would get a crowd of over 75,000 so, the fact that we've got four big teams in the play-offs will make a big difference to the overall gate. With football finance so precarious, any additional money is helpful and certainly appearing in the play-off final would enable us to get a little bit closer to balancing the books.

**What games have you been to at Wembley before and**





### **what do you think of the new Wembley itself?**

I've been to many games at both the old and the new Wembley – mostly Cup Finals and I also went to the League One play-off final last year between Millwall and Scunthorpe when Scunthorpe were promoted.

I think the new Wembley, as a piece of architecture, is fabulous – it can be seen from all over London, it's a fantastically iconic stadium, and in this regard, much better than the old stadium. But, somehow, it lacks the atmosphere of the old stadium – then again, that's said about many modern football grounds versus the older 'tighter' grounds.

With regard to the pitch, I don't want to jump on the 'band wagon' of everything that's been said over the last few weeks and months, but it's obvious there's a problem.

I went to the League Cup Final between Manchester United and Aston Villa earlier in the season and the most obvious thing was that the pitch seemed slow and almost heavy and that's ridiculous for a pitch of that quality. It's something that they need to sort out because, frankly, I think that good players want to play on good fast surfaces. The problem we all have is that every time there's a series of complaints, they decide to re-lay the pitch and I don't think that anybody has any faith in the latest one being any better than the last one.

**Now onto tonight's game... you commentated on the game between Swindon and Charlton at The Valley on Boxing Day. Did you enjoy the experience and will you be 'behind the mic' again on Monday night?**

There is a rumour that I might

be 'behind the mic' on Monday night, but I haven't decided yet whether to do it or not!

Look, at the end of the day, I enjoy the experience and I think the BBC has done a great job for us this year and they deserve great credit for the coverage, not only of the games, but the coverage of the club in general. I said at the beginning of the season that I would do a couple of games a season for them, probably based around festive holidays (so I did Boxing Day and Easter which happened to be Charlton and Leeds) and I'll do the same next year. With regard to Monday night, it's a question of 'wait and see', but I'm sure I won't be far away from the microphone at some stage!

**Town have to play first leg at The County Ground and the second leg away. Does that give either side the edge?**

A lot is said about this and the natural assumption is that you want to play your first leg away from home, but I'm not sure it's going to make a great deal of difference on this occasion. I expect both games will be very tight and nobody will want to make a mistake, so it may be reliant on a moment of class from a player in order to separate the teams. Having said this, if we play like we did against Leeds (either at home or away), then anything can happen.

A number of teams that we've played this season have said that we play some of the best football in the League – it was Paul Lambert at Norwich who said that, from a footballing perspective, we were the best team that they had played during the season. They say that the cream always rises to the top – let's hope that's true tonight.



# On Demand



## PREMIER PICK



**You're 21-years old and preparing for a two-leg play-off semi-final with**

**Charlton Athletic – excited?**

Definitely – Friday night will be one of the biggest games of my life and everyone is looking forward to it. The play-offs are a massive opportunity for all the players here and it's a really exciting time. Hopefully we can get a result in the first leg and take that to The Valley on Monday night.

**Last weekend at Millwall must have been quite an experience for you too?**

Definitely an experience! It was a good game but to be honest with you we were a little bit disappointed not to have got the win. We scored the early goal through 'Wardy' which was well-taken but to be fair Millwall got back into the game and kept coming at us. They will be geared up for the play-offs too.

Looking back though it was a decent display to take us into the play-offs and hopefully we can build on that tonight and get the win we need to take into the return fixture.

**Your season has gone on longer than Liverpool's – you probably didn't expect that when you signed here did you?**

**Swindon boss Danny Wilson has made full use of the loan system this term. Five members of tonight's squad are with The Robins on a temporary basis, but are fully committed to making sure the season finishes with promotion.**



**FRANK NOUBLE**  
On Loan From: West Ham United  
Joined STFC: March 2010  
Games/Goals: 7/0



**SIMON FERRY**  
On Loan From: Celtic  
Joined STFC: August 2009  
Games/Goals: 39/2

You're right, I didn't! When I came here I knew Swindon had a good chance of fighting for promotion and hopefully we can give that a really good go now. Friday is the next step and we are all concentrating on getting the victory.

**Did You Know?** Stephen Darby played 90 minutes for Liverpool in the Champions League in December 2009, lining up alongside the likes of Steven Gerrard, Dirk Kuyt and Fernando Torres.

## THE SUPER HOOP

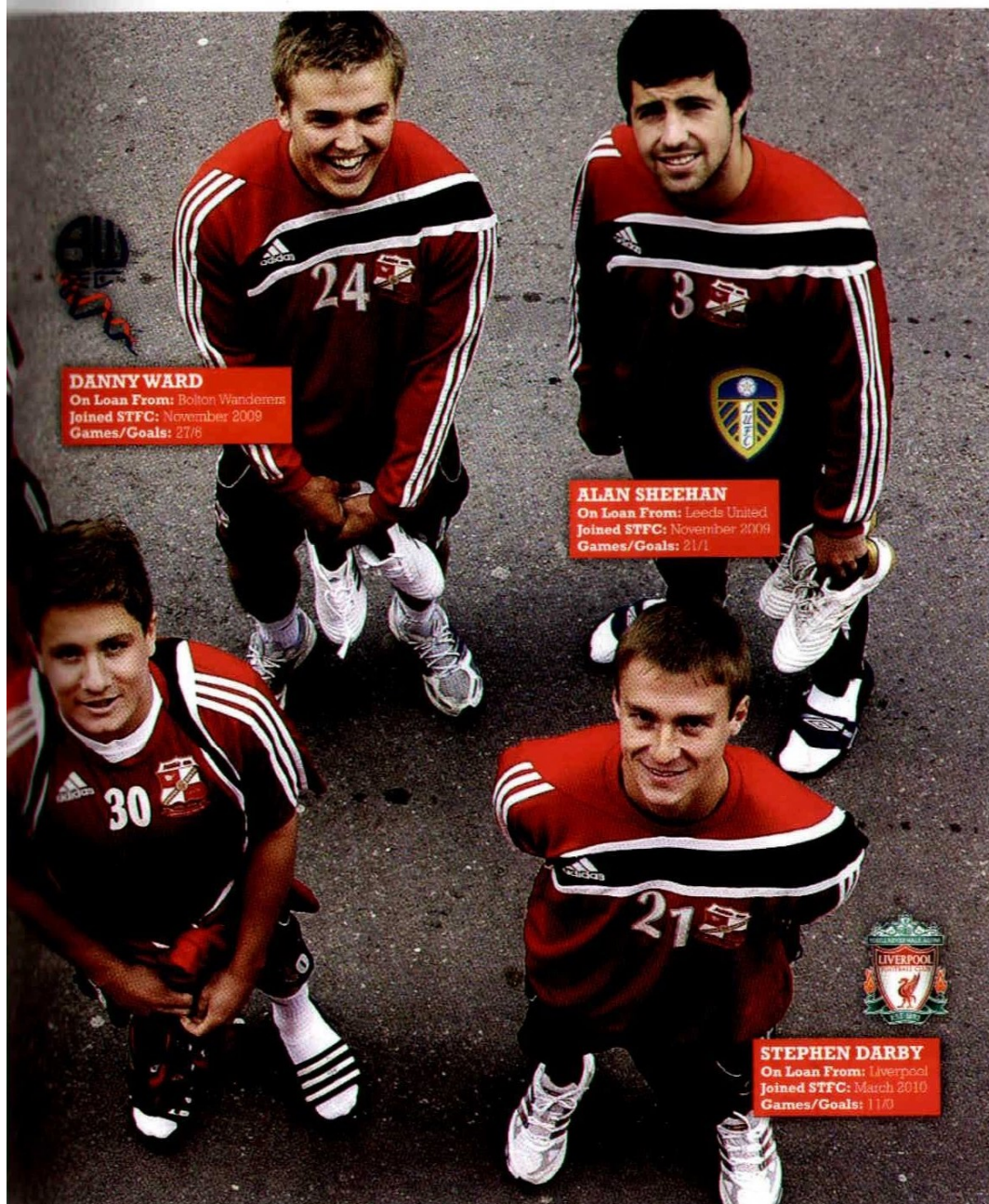


**You have played in a few night games here already. Are you looking**

**forward to the big game atmosphere?**

I'm really looking forward to it. It's the semi-finals of the play-offs and the games are going to be televised on Sky Sports as well. All the boys are really excited about it. The





**DANNY WARD**  
On Loan From: Bolton Wanderers  
Joined STFC: November 2009  
Games/Goals: 27/6

**ALAN SHEEHAN**  
On Loan From: Leeds United  
Joined STFC: November 2009  
Games/Goals: 21/1

**STEPHEN DARBY**  
On Loan From: Liverpool  
Joined STFC: March 2010  
Games/Goals: 11/0

move away to get some games. My spell at West Brom was good and I played a couple of times in the same side as Simon Cox – who told me all about Swindon!

**The play-offs present the squad with a big opportunity – what are your thoughts ahead of the semi-finals?**

As long as we get to where we want to be, that's the main aim. For me personally it would be great to get on and score that all-elusive goal, but it doesn't matter who plays because it is a squad game and we all want to do well.

**Wembley would be a fantastic finish to the season too don't you think?**

Our place in the play-offs was secured quite a few games ago so the lads have had quite a bit of time to think about it. To play at Wembley is a special moment for any player and for me it would be a dream come true – especially if I could get a goal there in the play-off final.

**Did You Know?** In July 2009 Frank Nouble rejected the offer of a professional contract with Chelsea to sign a five-year contract with West Ham United for an undisclosed fee.

## HOT TROTTER



**You have scored twice in the last two games - can you make it three in a row?**

It would be nice to do that but the most important thing is to try and get a win in the first leg and take that to Charlton in a few days time.

**The goal at Millwall was quite special. Which goal would you pick out as your best?**

I enjoyed the Millwall one – probably because of what was riding on the game and the

atmosphere at The County Ground for the visit of Leeds back in January was fantastic – everyone was bouncing! Hopefully the crowd can get right behind us again and we can get a victory.

**During your 40 games here you have scored twice... do you fancy your chances of banging in another over the two legs?**

Not really! I've got a couple but am not normally the best when it comes to shooting.

We'll see what happens.

**Will this game be the last time Town fans see you in action at The County Ground?**

I don't know, you'll need to ask the manager here or the boss up at Celtic. It's been a great season here and hopefully I can sign off with a Wembley win.

**Did You Know?** Ferry made his first-team debut for Celtic on a pre-season tour of Poland, playing against Wisla Kraków and Legia Warsaw in 2006.

## CAPITAL CAPTURE



**With games for West Ham United, West Bromwich Albion and Swindon it's been a busy season for you hasn't it?**

It was good to get involved straight away. Things had been a bit frustrating for me at West Ham – I had a few games for them in the Premier League but the manager brought in a few reinforcements so I had to



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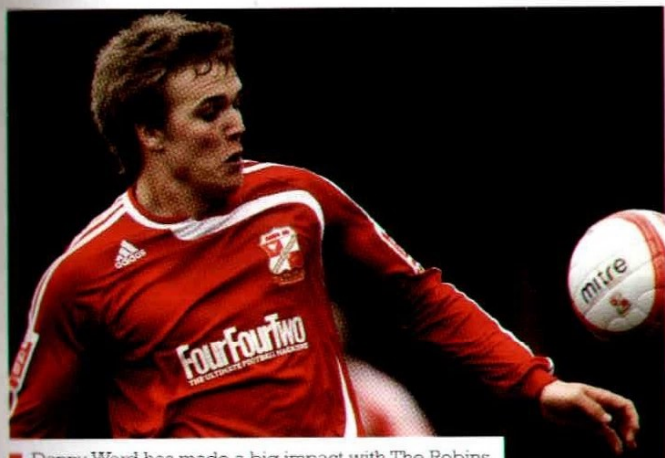
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■ Danny Ward has made a big impact with The Robins

build-up to it. Unfortunately it didn't count for much as Leeds won their game and secured promotion on the day. In terms of my favourite goal, the one against Yeovil at The County Ground is definitely top of my list.

**What will your abiding memory be from your time here?**

It's hard to pick out one thing, but Swindon is a great club and everyone has been fantastic. There are some great players here. I have got on really well with the likes of Billy, Dave and 'Darbs' but everyone gets on well here. I'm looking forward to the play-off games and hopefully we can make the most of it.

**Did You Know?** A former Leeds United player, Danny Ward is actually a Bradford City fan and would like to finish his career at Valley Parade. In 2005 he left The Bantams to join the ranks at Elland Road.

## LEFT FIELD



**Leeds United won promotion last weekend, how determined are you to help**

**Swindon join them in the Championship next season?**

Yes, of course. We had a glimmer of chance of being promoted last weekend at Millwall but we just have to

focus on these two games against Charlton now. It would be a great achievement to have a day out at Wembley and hopefully go up to the Championship.

**Having played plenty of Championship football, do you think the Town squad have what it takes to cut it a division higher?**

I would like to think so. The majority of players here could play in the Championship, but there are some Premier League clubs in the next division. However on our day I think we are a match for anyone.

**Would reaching Wembley be the biggest game of your career so far?**

I reached the final with Leeds United in 2008 but was suspended for the semi-finals so only made the bench for Wembley. It was great to be involved on the day though and it was an experience I won't forget. These two games for Swindon are massive because it's all about getting back into the Championship because that's the place that everybody wants to be.

**Did You Know?** Sheehan once scored eight goals in one game – including two from behind the half-way line – for Irish junior club St. Francis FC. The performance caught the eye of Aston Villa scouts.

## THE LOAN RANGERS



**TOPE OBADEYI** arrived from Bolton Wanderers soon after the start of the campaign and was a regular fixture in the Town matchday squad in the opening months, netting twice on home turf with goals against Southend United and Colchester United. After leaving Town in November, he spent the second half of the season helping Rochdale win promotion from League Two.



Striker **BEN HUTCHINSON** joined The Robins at the end August as part of a double-deal which also brought Simon Ferry to the club from Celtic. However, after ten games and one goal, he returned North of the border in January and later linked up with Dundee.



Danny Wilson bolstered the Swindon attacking options at the start of September with the signing of striker **ALEX REVELL**. The hardworking frontman scored twice in seven League One starts – both of which came in the away win at Brentford. After a move away from parent club Southend United, Revell joined Wycombe Wanderers and scored six goals in 11 starts and was this week offered a new deal by The Chairboys.



With established loan stints with Dagenham and Notts County under his belt, Portsmouth winger **MATT RITCHIE** arrived in February but never made a League 1 start for The Robins. Substitute appearances were made at home to Stockport County and Bristol Rovers and on the road at Leyton Orient and Southampton, before he returned to Fratton Park. Ritchie ended the season as part of the Portsmouth matchday squad and made appearances against Wigan Athletic and Aston Villa.

## THE DEPARTED



**JEREL IFIL'S** six-year association with The Robins came to an end in September when he signed for Scottish Premier League side Aberdeen. 'The Beast' took up the option of a move away with Gordon Greer and Scott Cuthbert ahead of him in the defensive pecking order.



**YINKA CASAL** made just six appearances in a Town shirt after a move from Dutch outfit Cambuur Leeuwarden in the summer of 2008 but departed for Romania with CFR Cluj announcing his signature in January.



**ANTHONY MCNAMEE** is one of only two players to have flown the nest yet still enjoy promotion this term. The hot-footed winger joined Norwich City for an undisclosed fee in January, making his November loan switch a permanent one in January.



Grimsby Town added **LEE PEACOCK** to their ranks at the end of January, with the 33-year old signing a deal with The Mariners until the end of next season. The striker made 17 appearances in League Two but was unable to prevent his new club from slipping out of the Football League.



**HASNEY ALJOFREE** left The County Ground in March after a making 55 League One starts in two and a half years at SN1. After battling back from a knee injury, he joined Oldham Athletic on a short-term contract but was released at the end of April.



## Final League One Table 2009/10

CLUB	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	GD
Norwich (P)	46	29	8	9	89	47	95	+42
Leeds (P)	46	25	11	10	77	44	86	+33
Millwall	46	24	13	9	76	44	85	+32
Charlton	46	23	15	8	71	48	84	+23
Swindon	46	22	16	8	73	57	82	+16
Huddersfield	46	23	11	12	82	56	80	+26
Southampton	46	23	14	9	85	47	73	+38
Colchester	46	20	12	14	64	52	72	+12
Brentford	46	14	20	12	55	52	62	+3
Walsall	46	16	14	16	60	63	62	-3
Bristol R	46	19	5	22	59	70	62	-11
MK Dons	46	17	9	20	60	68	60	-8
Brighton	46	15	14	17	56	60	59	-4
Carlisle	46	15	13	18	63	66	58	-3
Yeovil	46	13	14	19	55	59	53	-4
Oldham	46	13	13	20	39	57	52	-18
Leyton Orient	46	13	12	21	53	63	51	-10
Exeter	46	11	18	17	48	60	51	-12
Tranmere	46	14	9	23	45	72	51	-27
Hartlepool	46	14	11	21	59	67	50	-8
Gillingham (R)	46	12	14	20	48	64	50	-16
Wycombe (R)	46	10	15	21	56	76	45	-20
Southend (R)	46	10	13	23	51	72	43	-21
Stockport (R)	46	5	10	31	35	95	25	-60

## STFC Player Appearances

	2009/10 SEASON			STFC		CAREER		
	LGE	CLP	GLS	APP	GLS	APP	GLS	
1 Lucas	41	4	0	45	0	314(7)	0	
2 Cluibert	39	6	3	45	3	81(2)	4	
3 Sheehan	22	2	1	24	1	94(6)	6	
4 Douglas	43	6	0	49	0	252(24)	16	
5 Pericard	2(12)	0	0	2(12)	0	138(70)	26	
6 Greer	42(1)	7	1	68(1)	2	231(14)	9	
7 McGovern	45	7	2	117(12)	7	248(46)	22	
8 Easton	2(10)	2(1)	0	36(21)	8	369(82)	37	
9 Nouble	3(5)	0	0	3(5)	0	10(11)	0	
10 Timlin	6(14)	3(2)	0	90(28)	4	114(28)	8	
12 Smith	5(1)	3	0	87(1)	0	197(1)	0	
14 Morrison	8(1)	1	1	31(2)	2	31(4)	2	
16 Amankwaah	33(3)	7	3	68(8)	5	215(45)	11	
17 Kennedy	4(4)	2(1)	0	10(0)	0	10(6)	0	
18 O'Brien	3(6)	(1)	0	3(7)	0	28(49)	1	
19 Jean-Francois	27(6)	4	0	33(9)	0	33(9)	0	
20 Paynter	37(5)	6	29	114(21)	51	279(64)	93	
21 Darby	12	0	0	12	0	14(4)	0	
22 Mackin	1(8)	1(1)	0	2(12)	0	2(12)	0	
23 Thompson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
24 Ward	24(4)	1	7	25(4)	7	25(6)	7	
25 Marshall	1(6)	(1)	0	2(21)	0	2(21)	0	
26 Jesonkowski	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
28 Scott	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
29 Hammonds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
30 Perry	40	3	2	43	2	43	2	
32 Austin	29(4)	(2)	19	29(6)	19	29(6)	19	
- Ritchie	0(4)	0	0	0(4)	0	52(10)	1	
- Aljofree	0	0	0	62(2)	3	261(26)	15	
- Okadeji	9(3)	2	2	11(3)	2	11(6)	2	
- Revell	7(2)	2	2	9(2)	2	125(73)	30	
- McNamee	14(3)	4(1)	2	65(19)	4	118(81)	7	
- Casal	0	0	0	5(1)	0	5(1)	0	
- Hutchinson	6(4)	4(1)	1	10(3)	1	11(19)	2	
- Peacock	(4)	(3)	0	113(25)	22	473(99)	138	

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DATE	OPPOSITION	KO	ATT	VIS	POS	REFER
Sat Aug 8	Gillingham	A	0-5	6,852	788	22 G Horwood
Tue Aug 11	Milton Keynes Dons CC1	A	4-1	4,812	531 →	R Booth
Sat Aug 15	Milton Keynes Dons	H	0-0	6,692	533	21 G Ward
Tue Aug 18	Southampton	H	1-0	11,007	2,995	13 S Cook
Sat Aug 22	Oldham Athletic	A	2-2	4,229	246	12 M Haywood
Tue Aug 25	Wolverhampton W. CC2	A	0-0 6-5 pen	11,416	1,280	X K Hill
Sat Aug 29	Southend United	H	2-1	6,417	407	8 M Russell
Sat Sep 5	Yeovil Town	A	1-0	4,807	1,069	6 J Singh
Sat Sep 12	Colchester United	H	1-1	6,621	275	5 K Evans
Sat Sep 19	Walsall	A	1-1	4,148	735	7 D Webb
Sat Sep 26	Wycombe Wanderers	H	1-1	6,929	421	7 A Hall
Tue Sep 29	Exeter City	A	1-1	5,337	609	8 K Stroud
Sat Oct 3	Brentford	A	3-2	6,471	1,244	6 O Langford
Tue Oct 6	Exeter City JPT2	A	1-1 3-4 pen	2,006	189	→ R East
Sat Oct 10	Millwall	H	1-1	7,222	552	7 K Wright
Sat Oct 17	Hartlepool United	H	0-2	7,096	160	7 T Kettle
Sat Oct 24	Norwich City	A	0-1	24,959	819	11 G Hegley
Sat Oct 31	Tranmere Rovers	A	4-1	5,811	251	8 A Bates
Sat Nov 7	Woking FA CUP 1	H	1-0	4,805	756	→ F Graham
Tue Nov 10	Norwich City JPT AQF	H	0-0 3-5 pen	4,978	848	X G Horwood
Sat Nov 21	Carlisle United	A	1-0	4,339	203	9 C Webster
Tue Nov 24	Huddersfield Town	H	2-1	6,630	434	7 A Penn
Sat Nov 28	Wrexham FA CUP 2	A	1-0	3,011	426	→ C Salisbury
Sat Dec 5	Leyton Orient	H	3-2	6,815	347	6 G Sutton
Sat Dec 12	Bristol Rovers	A	0-3	7,613	1,231	9 P Walton
Sat Dec 19	Brighton & Hove Albion	H	2-1	7,068	664	6 J Moss
Sat Dec 26	Charlton Athletic	A	2-2	17,977	867	7 P Miller
Mon Dec 28	Yeovil Town	H	3-1	8,509	638	6 K Stroud
Sat Jan 2	Fulham FA CUP 3	A	0-1	19,623	5,996	X A Taylor
Sat Jan 16	Gillingham	H	3-1	6,773	439	6 S Tanner
Tue Jan 19	Stockport County	A	1-0	3,281	213	5 C Salisbury
Tue Jan 26	Leeds United	H	3-0	14,508	3,336	5 P Gibbs
Sat Jan 30	Southend United	A	2-2	6,669	523	5 P Phillips
Sat Feb 6	Charlton Athletic	H	1-1	9,552	1,073	6 A Hall
Tue Feb 9	Oldham Athletic	H	4-2	6,183	132	5 D Deadman
Sat Feb 13	Huddersfield Town	A	2-2	14,610	443	5 S Rushon
Sat Feb 20	Carlisle United	H	2-0	7,704	297	5 D Shepherd
Tue Feb 23	Stockport County	H	4-1	7,063	83	5 R East
Sat Feb 27	Leyton Orient	A	0-0	4,574	983	5 C Pawson
Sat Mar 6	Bristol Rovers	H	0-4	10,341	1,432	5 P Taylor
Tue Mar 9	Milton Keynes Dons	A	1-2	8,764	929	6 J Linnington
Sat Mar 13	Brighton & Hove Albion	A	1-0	6,946	333	6 G Hegley
Tue Mar 16	Southampton	A	1-0	20,752	2,046	4 K Hill
Sat Mar 20	Norwich City	H	1-1	11,972	2,826	4 S Matheson
Sat Mar 27	Hartlepool United	A	1-0	3,536	269	4 S J Bratt
Sat Apr 3	Leeds United	A	3-0	27,881	1,709	2 M Russell
Mon Apr 5	Tranmere Rovers	H	3-0	9,495	246	2 O Langford
Sat Apr 10	Colchester United	A	0-3	5,111	998	4 A Penn
Mon Apr 12	Exeter City	H	1-1	8,753	594	4 N Swarbrick
Sat Apr 17	Walsall	H	1-1	8,467	196	4 S Cook
Sat Apr 24	Wycombe Wanderers	A	2-2	7,459	2,026	4 S Attwell
Sat May 1	Brentford	H	3-2	10,190	860	4 A Woolmer
Sat May 8	Millwall	A	2-3	17,083	2,196	5 K Stroud

### WHERE WE SCORED FROM



### WHERE THEY SCORED FROM





											SUBS USED	
1	Cuthbert (1)	J-Francois	Morrison	Greer	Douglas	Timlin	Amankwaah	O'Brien (2)	McNamee	Paynter	Macklin (1), Marshall (2)	
2	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Morrison	Greer	Douglas	Timlin	McNamee (1)	McGovern 1	Macklin	Paynter 2 (2)	Kennedy (1), Marshall (2)	
3	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Morrison	Greer	Douglas	Timlin (2)	McNamee	McGovern	Macklin (1)	Paynter	Obadeyi (1), O'Brien (2)	
4	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Morrison 1	Greer	Douglas	Timlin	McNamee (1)	McGovern	Obadeyi (2)	Paynter	Macklin (1), Kennedy (2)	
5	Amankwaah	J-Francois (1)	Morrison	Greer	Douglas	Timlin (2)	McNamee (3)	McGovern 1	Obadeyi	Paynter 1	Kennedy (1), Macklin (2), O'Brien (3)	
6	Amankwaah	Kennedy	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Easton	McNamee (1)	McGovern	Obadeyi (2)	Paynter (3)	Marshall (1), Macklin (2), O'Brien (3)	
7	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert 1	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (3)	McNamee (2)	McGovern	Hutchinson (1)	Paynter	Obadeyi (1) 1, O'Brien (2), Timlin (3)	
8	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (3)	McNamee (1)	McGovern	Hutchinson (2)	Paynter	Obadeyi (1), Macklin (2), Timlin (3)	
9	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (3)	Hutchinson (1)	McGovern	Obadeyi 1	Revell (2)	McNamee (1), Paynter (2), Timlin (3)	
10	Amankwaah	J-Francois (1)	Cuthbert	Morrison	Douglas	Ferry (2)	McGovern	Obadeyi	Revell (3)	Paynter 1	Kennedy (1), McNamee (2), Macklin (3)	
11	Amankwaah 1	J-Francois (3)	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (1)	McGovern (2)	Obadeyi	Revell	Paynter	Timlin (1), McNamee (2), Kennedy (3)	
12	Amankwaah 1	Kennedy	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McNamee (3)	McGovern	Obadeyi (1)	Paynter (2)	Hutchinson (1), Revell (2), Timlin (3)	
13	Amankwaah	Kennedy	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McNamee (2)	McGovern	Hutchinson 1 (1)	Revell 2 (3)	Macklin (1), Timlin (2), Paynter (3)	
14	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Timlin	McNamee 1	McGovern	Hutchinson (2)	Revell (1)	Peacock (1), Austin (2)	
15	Amankwaah	Kennedy	Cuthbert 1	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McNamee (2)	McGovern	Hutchinson (1)	Revell (3)	Timlin (1), J-Francois (2), Paynter (3)	
16	Amankwaah	Kennedy (1)	Cuthbert	Greer	McGovern	Ferry	McNamee	Obadeyi	Hutchinson (3)	Revell (2)	J-Francois (1), Peacock (2), Paynter (3)	
17	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	McGovern	Ferry	McNamee	Timlin (1)	Obadeyi (2)	Revell (3)	Hutchinson (1), Austin (2), Peacock (3)	
18	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	McGovern	Ferry 1	McNamee 1	Timlin (1)	Obadeyi (2)	Paynter 2 (3)	Easton (1), Austin (2), Peacock (3)	
19	Amankwaah	Kennedy	Cuthbert	Greer	McGovern	Ferry (3)	McNamee (2)	Timlin	Obadeyi (1)	Paynter 1	Hutchinson (1), Easton (2), Peacock (3)	
20	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Easton	McGovern	Hutchinson (1)	Revell (2)	Paynter	Austin (1), McNamee (2)	
21	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McNamee (2)	McGovern	Austin 1 (1)	Paynter	Revell (1), Timlin (2)	
22	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McNamee (2)	McGovern	Austin 1 (1)	Paynter 1	Revell (1)	
23	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer 1	Douglas (3)	Ferry	Sheehan (2)	McGovern	Hutchinson (1)	Paynter	Peacock (1), O'Brien (2), Timlin (3)	
24	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	Sheehan	McGovern	Austin 2	Paynter 1 (1)	Ward (1)	
25	Amankwaah	J-Francois (1)	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (3)	Sheehan	McGovern	Austin (2)	Paynter	O'Brien (1), Ward (2), Macklin (3)	
26	Amankwaah (1)	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	O'Brien (2)	McGovern	Austin 1	Paynter 1	J-Francois (1), Timlin (2)	
27	Amankwaah	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (2)	J-Francois (1)	McGovern	Austin 1 (3)	Paynter 1	O'Brien (1), Hutchinson (2), Ward (3)	
28	Amankwaah	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	O'Brien (1)	McGovern	Austin 1 (2)	Paynter 1	Ward (1) 1, Peacock (2)	
29	Amankwaah	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Hutchinson (1)	Ward (2)	Paynter	Macklin (1), Timlin (2)	
30	Amankwaah	Sheehan (1)	Cuthbert 1	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Ward	Austin 1 (2)	Paynter 1 (3)	J-Francois (1), Pericard (2), Hutchinson (3)	
31	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Ward	Austin	Paynter 1		
32	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Ward	Austin 1 (1)	Paynter 2	Pericard (1)	
33	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Ward	Austin 1 (1)	Paynter 1	Timlin (1)	
34	Amankwaah 1	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Ward	Austin (1)	Paynter	Macklin (1)	
35	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern (2)	Ward 1	Austin 1 (1)	Paynter 2 (3)	Pericard (1), Easton (2), Marshall (3)	
36	Amankwaah	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (2)	McGovern	Ward 1	Austin 1 (1)	Paynter	Pericard (1), Easton (2)	
37	Amankwaah	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Greer (3)	Douglas	Ferry (1)	McGovern	Ward	Austin 1	Paynter 1 (2)	Easton (1), Pericard (2), Morrison (3)	
38	Amankwaah (2)	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Morrison	Douglas	Ferry 1	McGovern	Ward 1 (1)	Austin (3)	Paynter 2	Ritchie (1), Easton (2), Pericard (3)	
39	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Morrison	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (1)	McGovern	Ward (3)	Austin (2)	Paynter	Easton (1), Pericard (2), Ritchie (3)	
40	Amankwaah	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (2)	McGovern	Ward	Austin (1)	Paynter	Pericard (1), Ritchie (2)	
41	Amankwaah (3)	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Morrison (2)	Douglas	Ferry (2)	McGovern	Ward 1	Pericard (1)	Paynter	Austin (1), Greer (2), J-Francois (3)	
42	(1)	Darby	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Ward (3)	Austin 1	Pericard (2), Smith (1), Marshall (2), Easton (3)	
43	1	Darby	Sheehan	Cuthbert (1)	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Ward (3)	Austin 1	Marshall (2), J-Francois (1), Ritchie (2), Timlin (3)	
44	1	Darby	Sheehan	J-Francois	Greer 1	Douglas	Easton (2)	McGovern	Ward (3)	Austin (3)	Marshall (1), Timlin (2), Pericard (3)	
45	1	Darby	Sheehan	J-Francois	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Ward (3)	Austin 1 (2)	Nouble (1), Paynter (1), Timlin (2), Easton (3)	
46	1	Darby	J-Francois	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Ward (1)	Austin 1	Paynter 2 (2), Easton (1), Nouble (2)	
47	1	Darby	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (3)	McGovern	Ward (2)	Austin 1	Paynter 1 (1), Nouble (1), Marshall (2), Timlin (3)	
48	1	Darby (1)	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Ward	Austin (2)	Paynter	Pericard (1), Nouble (2)
49	1	Darby (1)	Sheehan	Cuthbert (2)	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern	Ward	Austin	Paynter	Amankwaah (1), Pericard (2)
50	1	Darby	Sheehan	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (1)	McGovern	Ward (3)	Austin 1 (2)	Paynter	Timlin (1), Nouble (2), Pericard (3)
51	1	Darby (3)	Sheehan 1	Cuthbert	Greer	Douglas	Ferry (2)	McGovern	Ward (1)	Austin	Paynter 1	Marshall (1), Easton (2), Amankwaah (3)
52	1	Darby	Sheehan	J-Francois	Greer	Douglas	Easton	McGovern	Ward 1	Nouble	Paynter 2	Austin (1)
53	1	Darby (2)	Sheehan	J-Francois	Greer	Douglas	Ferry	McGovern (1)	Ward 1	Austin (3)	Paynter 1	O'Brien (1), Amankwaah (2), Nouble (3)

#### HOW WE SCORED

HEADER	LEFT FOOT	RIGHT FOOT	OWN GOAL	FREE KICK	PENALTY
17	12	40	4	1	8

#### STARTING RECORD 2009/10

	LGE	CUP
Jon-Paul McGovern	45	7
Gordon Greer	43	7
Jonathan Douglas	43	6
David Lucas	41	4
Simon Ferry	40	3
Scott Cuthbert	39	6
Kevin Amankwaah	33	7

#### IN THE BOOK 2009/10

	Y	R
Jonathan Douglas	6	1
Simon Ferry	1	1
Lecsinel Jean-Francois	7	-
Gordon Greer	6	-
Alan Sheehan	5	-
Michael Timlin	4	-
Kevin Amankwaah	4	-





# Matchday Extras

## Sponsor's Suite Action

**AGAIN** the atmosphere in the Sponsor's Suite for the visit of Brentford was a great one, with everyone including our Sponsors having a thoroughly enjoyable day out at The County Ground. A big thank you to **Richard Ball** and his colleagues from **LANDesk** who sponsored the match. Here Richard is pictured presenting the LANDesk Man of the Match **Danny Ward** with his bottle of bubbly.



Another party enjoying their day in the Sponsor's Suite was our Matchball Sponsors **Advance Insurance**.



Advance are certainly no strangers to the suite and this was their fourth sponsorship of the season! A big thank you to **Carlo Frijia** and everyone at Advance for their super support! Here two employees from the Swindon branch look very happy with their day's work, receiving a fully signed matchball from Danny.

Finally, our Programme Sponsor **Kevin Titcombe** from **Swindon Steel Supplies** is caught on camera in the Suite! Kevin is a very big supporter of the club, and you will have more than likely seen

lots of his advertising boards around the ground. Here Danny is seen presenting Kevin with his signed commemorative Programme Cover.



## Thank You...

**SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB** would again like to take this opportunity to thank all the voluntary staff, who have dedicated their time to the club throughout the course of this season. Thank you to the following people, you are all very much appreciated (and a big thank you to anyone we may have accidentally missed off!):

**George & Brenda Chadwick** (Mascot hosts)  
**Peter Jones** (Matchday Hospitality Assistant)

**Joe Prinzi** (Ball Kids Coach)  
**Sharon Franklin** (Junior Robins Coordinator)  
**Nicky Wilkes** (Rockettes Coach)  
**Geoff Exton** (Stadium Tour Host)  
**Marion Childers** (Members' Suite Host)  
**Chris Scott** (Matchday Press Officer)  
**Paul Plowman** (Matchday Press Officer)  
**Adrian Smith** (Matchday Reporter)  
And lastly our very own 'Mr Tea' –  
**The Tea Man Curly Withers**

## MASCOTS

### Thomas Starr



**Age:** 4  
**Interesting fact:** Thomas is following in the footsteps of his brother, Steven, who was mascot back in 1993 when Town were promoted to the Premier League!  
**Favourite player:** Billy Paynter

### Jamie Rayner



**Age:** 6  
**School:** Catherine Wayte Primary School  
**Likes:** Ben 10, Star Wars & Indiana Jones  
**Favourite players:** The great Don Rogers and Fernando Torres

### Jake Moss



**Age:** 7  
**School:** Chilton Primary School  
**Plays for:** Harwell & Hendred Under 8's  
**Likes:** All sports and is crazy about football  
**Favourite players:** Billy Paynter and Charlie Austin

## Happy Birthday!



Happy 40th Birthday to our very own club photographer, **Lawrence Smith**.

Happy 37th Birthday for Friday 21st May **Gary Hill**

Happy belated birthday to **Vicky Gallon** who sits in the Don Rogers Stand. Love from your son Haydon and partner Neil.

Best wishes to **Glen Waite** for his 17th birthday tomorrow. With love from Dad, Mum, Jeannette, Adam and all the family.





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**REACH**  
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LIFETIME CHANCE TO CELEBRATE WITH THE PLAYERS  
ON THE PITCH IF YOUR TEAM WINS\***

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**Swindon Town vs  
Charlton Athletic 14.05.10**

**SWINDON TOWN**

**Danny Wilson**

David Lucas	1
Scott Cuthbert	2
Alan Sheehan	3
Jonathan Douglas	4
Vincent Pericard	5
Gordon Greer	6
Jon-Paul McGovern	7
Craig Easton	8
Frank Nouble	9
Michael Timlin	10
Phil Smith	12
Sean Morrison	14
Kevin Amankwaah	15
Callum Kennedy	17
Alan O'Brien	18
Lecsinel Jean-Francois	19
Billy Paynter	20
Stephen Darby	21
Lloyd Macklin	22
Nathan Thompson	23
Danny Ward	24
Mark Marshall	25
Jakub Jesionkowski	26
Mark Scott	28
Kurt Hammonds	29
Simon Ferry	30
Charlie Austin	32

**CHARLTON ATHLETIC**

**Phil Parkinson**

1	Rob Elliot
2	Frazer Richardson
3	Kelly Youga
4	Nicky Bailey
5	Miguel Llera
6	Jose Semedo
8	Therry Racon
9	Leon McKenzie
10	Deon Burton
11	Lloyd Sam
12	Grant Basey
14	Matt Spring
15	Izale McLeod
16	Scott Wagstaff
17	Chris Dickson
18	Sam Sodje
19	Dean Sinclair
20	Chris Solly
22	Stuart Fleetwood
23	David Mooney
24	Kyel Reid
25	Darren Randolph
26	Alex Stavrinou
27	Yado Mambo
28	Tamer Tuna
29	Jack Clark
30	Ben Davisson
33	Akpo Sodje
34	Lewis Perkins
35	Christian Dailly
36	Carl Jenkinson
38	Gary Borrowdale
39	Nicky Forster
40	Tony Warner
41	Matt Fry

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**OFFICIALS**

Referee:	J J Linington
Assistant 1:	J G Adcock
Assistant 2:	A Davies
Fourth Official:	A M Penn

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Swindon Town Football Club

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