

BLUES *News*

SEASON 1952-53



The official Programme of

BIRMINGHAM CITY



FOOTBALL CLUB

PRICE THREEPENCE

BLUES FOR THE BEST

BREAD OF THE BEST

IS

WIMBUSH
AND WORTH WHILE

A. D. WIMBUSH & SON LTD., SMALL HEATH, B'HAM

BIRMINGHAM CITY

*—famous for
Football and*

**Hercules
CYCLES**

THE FINEST BICYCLE BUILT TO-DAY

**THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF THE
BIRMINGHAM CITY FOOTBALL CLUB**

Directors—H. MORRIS (Chairman)

D. F. WISEMAN (Vice-Chairman)

H. DARE, W. H. DARE, L. J. MORRIS, J. WOOLMAN, S. F. L. RICHARDS

Team Manager—R. E. BROCKLEBANK

Hon. Medical Officer—Dr. E. GREGORY.

Secretary—W. H. GRADY

Registered Offices—

Telephone:

Telegraphic Address:

St. Andrew's Ground, Birmingham 9

VIC. 0101

"Heathen Birmingham"

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd, 1952

THE OFFICIAL VIEWPOINT

GOOD EVENING—Having sampled everything in the 1-X-2 line of business during our three opening games, we are naturally keeping a weather eye on the league tables. Not that the present readings give us any real clue to the future. But a point-a-game average at this early stage is a useful little record to show for the preliminary skirmishes in which anything can and does happen.

Example (if you need one) was Fulham's victory here last Saturday. Not a happy experience by any means for our boys, and the 4-1 margin could not be said to have given a really accurate representation of the game. But there it is. A result which put our goal average in the red and enabled the Londoners to pull out of a very shaky start. Which all seems to confirm that age old suggestion that one man's meat is another's poison.

Inquests over, you quite naturally formed your own opinion on how it happened, and didn't forget that Manager Bob Brocklebank had plenty on his mind following a heavy crop of injuries at Luton in addition to casualties-in-training, Arthur Atkins and Billy Wardle. It was a tough home debut for the two young players, Johnny Watts and Geoffrey Cox, who will both be on winning sides without playing harder than they did against Fulham.

As we expected, the Football Combination team are finding the pace a little stiffer as a result of the move to Division One in which strong League Div. I teams operate. Blues reserves ran into a second half surprise at Reading where they were leading at the interval by goals scored by Lane and Cochrane. Hodges (2) and Vigar turned the scales in favour of the Elm Park side.

If to-night's return game with Luton is as interesting as last Wednesday's set-to at Kenilworth Road, and there's no reason why it shouldn't be, a good time will be had by all—here's hoping.

F.A. MAGAZINE

The Football Association invites supporters of Birmingham City F.C. to become readers of the F.A. Magazine published each month of the football season. Articles by well-known personalities and up-to-date information on all football activities including Inter-

national, Professional, Amateur and Youth football are included each month. A subscription of 9s. to The Secretary, The Football Association, 22 Lancaster Gate, London, W.2., will enable you to secure all editions from September 1952, to May, 1953.

TALKING POINTS

[BY THE EDITOR]

NICE guy is Bob Hope. We don't believe the stories Crosby puts around. But it was odd that his visit to St. Andrew's last Saturday should have coincided with a 4-1 defeat.

Latest crack from the Crosby camp: Who does that guy think he is, Tommy Trinder's stand-in?

Anyway it was good to see him. Pity we didn't halve the match for Bing's sake.

We like the spectator who can appreciate good work by our visitors as well as our own boys. Bobby Brennan and Eddie Lowe collected a few bouquets last Saturday when Fulham made it quite clear that they are going to have a say in the "getting out stakes."

It's a long time since Blues' rearguard came in for such pressure and the opposition found the answer to our defensive tactics. But we saw a different Fulham from the one that tumbled out of the First Division.

And Luton Town, who enjoyed one of their best campaigns last season, are going to test the best again if last Wednesday's experience is any indication. While we were feeling Fulham's weight, Luton were keeping the supporters happy with a 2-1 home win over Rotherham United.

Four away games for our seniors in the first half-dozen fixtures makes this season's opening no easy one. This week-end's trip to West Ham is followed by a visit to Leeds next Wednesday.

In reply . . .

BILL Robertson, who left us for Stoke City during the close season, and namesake Bill Robertson, the Chelsea goalkeeper are in no way related.

Odd that the first named, who served as Gil Merrick's deputy with such patience should have joined us from Chelsea. He came to St. Andrew's in December 1948, so at that time there were two Bill Robertson's at Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea's present 'keeper signed for them in 1946 when he left his native Scotland. He had to wait five years for a regular first team place. Chelsea fans are convinced he's next in line for a cap.

Picture Gallery



KEN GREEN

A lot of complimentary things have been said and written about Ken Green, one of the most consistent and reliable full-backs in the game today. A Londoner, Ken was an amateur on Millwall's books for a time before coming to St. Andrew's in November, 1943.

**Birmingham City's
"HIGHLIGHT"**



**CYCLE DYNAMO
LIGHTING SETS**



Made in Birmingham by:

H. MILLER & CO. LTD., ASTON BROOK ST.

SCORERS AND APPEARANCES

LAST SEASON

First Team Appearances :

League—Merrick 41, Badham 39, Boyd, Stewart and Warhurst each 37, Wardle 35, Briggs and Green each 33, Atkins 31, Martin, Purdon and Smith each 19, Murphy 15, Ferris 13, Rowley and Trigg each 12, Higgins 10, Hall 6, Dailey 5, Berry 4, Dorman 2, Newman, Watts and Robertson each 1.

Cup—Atkins, Badham, Briggs, Green, Martin, Merrick, Smith, Stewart, Wardle and Warhurst each 2, Murphy and Trigg each 1.

First Team Goalscorers :

League—Briggs 18, Smith and Stewart each 9, Murphy 7, Purdon 5, Higgins, Trigg and Wardle each 3, Badham and Rowley each 2, Dailey, Dorman, Ferris, Green and Warhurst each 1. Opponents (o.g.) 1.

Cup—Briggs 1.

Second Team Appearances :

Robertson 43, Watts 36, Blake 34, Dailey 33, Rowley and Hall each 30, O'Hara 29, Newman 26, McKee 24, Purdon 20, Ferris, James and Trigg each 19, Martin 16, Higgins 15, Lane 14, Smith (W.) 13, Bannister and Sütcliffe each 11, Hill 10, Chadband 7, Cox 5, Warhurst 4, Clarke, Dorman and Belcher each 3, Green and Smith (T.) each 2, Atkins, Schofield and Strawford each 1.

Second Team Goalscorers :

Rowley 15, Trigg 12, Dailey 9, Smith (W.) 7, Lane and Purdon each 4, Higgins and O'Hara each 3, Chadband, Cox, Ferris and Hill each 2, Clarke, James and McKee each 1. Opponents (o.g.) 1.

Established 1874

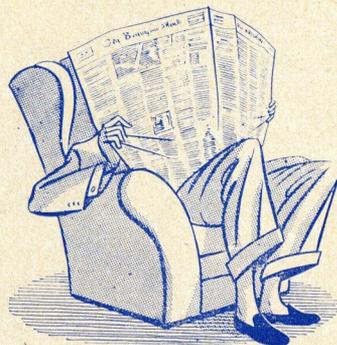
W. J. Greaves
Ltd.

THE BIRMINGHAM
HAIRDRESSER

Ladies only:
27 COLMORE ROW
CENTRAL 5233

Men only:
111A NEW STREET
MIDLAND 0373
BURLINGTON PASSAGE
18 CANNON STREET

You are always



right in the News with

The
Birmingham Mail

BEFORE AND AFTER THE MATCH—ENJOY
Mitchells & Butlers
"Good Honest Beer"

BIRMINGHAM CITY

	(1)	MERRICK	
	(2)	GREEN	(3)
			MARTIN
(4)	(5)		(6)
BOYD	NEWMAN		WATTS
(7)	(8)		(10)
STEWART	HIGGINS		MURPHY
			(11)
			COX
	(9)	BRIGGS	
			
		Referee :	Linesmen :
		MR. G. W. THORPE	Mr. F. B. COPE (Red Flag) and
		(Swindon)	Mr. H. F. WRIGHT (Yellow Flag)
		MOORE	
		(9)	
MITCHELL	SHANKS	TURNER	CULLEN
(11)	(10)	(8)	(7)
WATKINS	OWEN	MORTON	
(6)	(5)	(4)	
	AHERNE	DUNNE	
	(3)	(2)	
	STRETEN		
	(1)		

LUTON TOWN

Kick-Off 6-15 p.m.

Mitchells & Butlers "Good Honest Beer"
HOME OR AWAY ALWAYS A WINNER

WHO'S WHO at LUTON

Bernard Streten, a product of Norfolk junior football was an amateur with Notts County and Shrewsbury Town before going south in 1947-48 season. This very capable goalkeeper was capped against Ireland in 1949.

Billy Cooke, Chesterfield born, is one of Luton's long-serving stalwarts. As popular as he is versatile, Billy is a model skipper.

"Bud" Aherne, a reliable defender, has collected many caps for Ireland and Eire. Joined Luton from Linfield in 1949.

Bob Morton is a local product. A steady half-back and model club man.

Syd Owen needs no introduction. He left St. Andrew's in 1947 and quickly settled down. Toured Australia in 1951.

Charlie Watkins is a Scot who "grew up" with Rangers. He joined Luton in 1948, and is at home either in the middle line or at inside-left.

Jack Taylor, now in Wolves colours, was Luton's chief marksman (24) last season. **Mitchell** (17) came next with **George Stobbart** (12). The experienced Stobbart started with Middlesbrough, moved to Newcastle and moved to Kenilworth Road in 1949.

Hugh McJarrow is always likely to get among the goals. Formerly with Chesterfield he was Sheffield Wednesday's reserve centre-forward until last season when he joined Luton.

Bernard Moore was signed from Hastings in 1950-51.

Jesse Pye, of course, was a close season signing from Wolves with whom he gained his England cap.

Willy Davie, another Scot with characteristic native trickery. Paisley-born, he joined Luton in 1950-51.

FINAL HONOURS

INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Winners: England and Wales joint champions.

F.A. CHALLENGE CUP

Winners: Newcastle United. Runners-up: Arsenal.

F.A. AMATEUR CUP

Winners: Walthamstow Avenue. Runners-up: Leyton.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Division I. Champions: Manchester United. Runners-up: Tottenham Hotspur. Relegated: Huddersfield Town and Fulham.

Division II. Champions: Sheffield Wednesday. Runners-up: Cardiff City. Relegated: Coventry City and Queen's Park Rangers.

Division III (South). Champions: Plymouth Argyle. Runners-up: Reading. Re-elected: Exeter City and Walsall.

Division III (North). Champions: Lincoln City. Runners-up: Grimsby Town. Re-elected: Darlington and Workington.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

Division A. Champions: Hibernian. Runners-up: Rangers. Relegated: Morton and Stirling Albion.

Division B. Champions: Clyde. Runners-up: Falkirk.

SCOTTISH CUP

Winners: Motherwell. Runners-up: Dundee.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP

Winners: Dundee. Runners-up: Rangers.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Champions: Section 'A' Reading. Section 'B' Tottenham Hotspur.

CENTRAL LEAGUE

Champions: Wolverhampton W. Runners-up: Everton.

LEAGUE TABLES

DIVISION I

	P			Goals			
	W	D	L	F	A	P	
Blackpool	3	2	1	0	6	1	5
Middlesbrough	3	2	1	0	5	1	5
Wolverhampton W.	3	2	1	0	6	3	5
Liverpool	3	2	1	0	5	3	5
Arsenal	3	2	0	1	5	4	4
West Bromwich Albion	3	2	0	1	6	5	4
Sunderland	2	2	0	0	4	2	4
Burnley	3	2	0	1	5	4	4
Chelsea	3	1	1	1	3	3	3
Tottenham H.	3	1	1	1	5	5	3
Manchester United	3	1	0	2	4	4	2
Aston Villa	2	1	0	1	2	2	2
Manchester City	3	1	0	2	3	4	2
Bolton Wanderers	3	1	0	2	3	6	2
Preston North End	3	0	3	0	3	3	3
Cardiff City	3	1	0	2	4	4	2
Newcastle United	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
Charlton Athletic	3	0	2	1	5	6	2
Stoke City	3	1	0	2	6	7	2
Portsmouth	3	0	1	2	2	6	1
Sheffield Wednesday	3	0	1	2	2	7	1
Derby County	3	0	1	2	1	4	1

DIVISION II

	P			Goals			
	W	D	L	F	A	P	
Huddersfield Town	3	2	1	0	3	0	5
Hull City	3	2	1	0	5	2	5
Plymouth Argyle	3	2	1	0	6	4	5
Lincoln City	3	2	0	1	6	2	4
Leicester City	3	2	0	1	11	6	4
Sheffield United	3	2	0	1	3	3	4
Blackburn Rovers	3	2	0	1	6	6	4
Fulham	3	2	0	1	7	7	4
Brentford	3	1	2	0	3	2	4
Barnsley	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
Birmingham City	3	1	1	1	3	5	3
West Ham United	3	1	1	1	2	2	3
Nottingham Forest	2	1	0	1	3	2	2
Southampton	3	1	0	2	7	6	2
Luton Town	3	1	0	2	3	4	2
Swansea Town	3	1	0	2	5	7	2
Leeds United	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
Notts County	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
Bury	3	0	2	1	3	5	2
Rotherham United	3	0	1	2	3	5	1
Doncaster Rovers	3	0	1	2	3	6	1
Everton	3	0	0	3	1	6	0

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

	P			Goals			
	W	D	L	F	A	P	
Millwall	3	3	0	0	6	1	6
Cardiff City	3	3	0	0	6	3	6
Arsenal	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Plymouth Argyle	3	2	0	1	8	4	4
Norwich City	3	2	0	1	10	7	4
West Ham United	2	1	1	0	4	2	3
Fulham	3	1	1	1	10	6	3
Charlton Athletic	3	1	0	2	3	5	2
Portsmouth	3	1	0	2	6	8	2
Reading	2	1	0	1	3	3	2
Tottenham Hotspur	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
Chelsea	3	1	0	2	2	10	2
Southampton	2	0	1	1	3	6	1
Birmingham City	3	0	0	3	4	7	0
Coventry City	2	0	0	2	0	3	0
Northampton Town	1	0	0	1	4	6	0

LAST SATURDAY'S LINE-UP

Birmingham City 1, Fulham 4
BIRMINGHAM CITY — Merrick; Green, Martin; Boyd, Badham, Watts; Stewart, Purdon, Briggs, Murphy, Cox.

FULHAM — Flack; Dodgin, Lowe; Hill, Taylor, Lawler; Stevens, Robson, Jeppard, Brennan, Mitten.

Scorers: Briggs for Blues; Robson (2), Brennan and Stevens for Fulham.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Reading 3, Birmingham City 2
READING RES. — Kirkwood; Barton, Reeves; McLean, Livingstone, Leach; Grieve, Chung, Vigar, Hodges, Wheeler. BIRMINGHAM CITY RES. — Schofield; Hall, Brennan; Bannister, Smith, Ferris; Cochrane, Higgins, Smith, Lane, Rowley.

Scorers: Hodges (2) and Vigar for Reading. Lane and Cochrane for Blues.

NEXT MATCH AT ST. ANDREWS

SATURDAY NEXT Sept. 6th

FOOTBALL COMBINATION
FULHAM RESERVES

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

Ansell's
The Better Beer

Cheers!

SCORE BOARD

A FULHAM
LEICESTER CITY
B PLYMOUTH ARGYLE
SOUTHAMPTON
C BRENTFORD
HUDDERSFIELD TOWN
D CARDIFF CITY
MIDDLESBROUGH
E DERBY COUNTY
CHELSEA
F MANCHESTER UNITED
ARSENAL

G EVERTON
SHEFFIELD UNITED
H PORTSMOUTH
CHARLTON ATHLETIC
I LEEDS UNITED
BURY
J SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY
LIVERPOOL
K NOTTINGHAM FOREST
BARNLEY
L NORWICH CITY
IPSWICH TOWN

FIXTURES 1952-1953

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION II

Date	Name of Club	Grd.	Result
1952			
Aug 23	ROTHERHAM UNITED	A	1-1
" 27	LUTON TOWN	A	1-0
" 30	FULHAM	H	1-4
Sept. 3	LUTON TOWN	H	
" 6	WEST HAM UNITED	A	
" 10	LEEDS UNITED	A	
" 13	LEICESTER CITY	H	
" 17	LEEDS UNITED	H	
" 20	NOTTS COUNTY	A	
" 27	SOUTHAMPTON	H	
Oct. 4	BURY	A	
" 11	SWANSEA TOWN	A	
" 18	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	A	
" 25	SHEFFIELD UNITED	A	
Nov. 1	BARNLEY	H	
" 8	LINCOLN CITY	A	
" 15	HULL CITY	A	
" 22	BLACKBURN ROVERS	(1) A	
" 29	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	H	
Dec. 6	EVERTON	(2) A	
" 13	BRENTFORD	A	
" 20	ROTHERHAM UNITED	H	
" 25	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H	
" 27	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	A	
1953			
Jan. 3	FULHAM	A	
" 10	F.A. CUP—3rd Round		
" 17	WEST HAM UNITED	H	
" 24	LEICESTER CITY	A	
" 31	F.A. CUP—4th Round		
Feb. 7	NOTTS COUNTY	H	
" 14	SOUTHAMPTON	(5) A	
" 21	BURY	H	
" 28	SWANSEA TOWN	(6) H	
Mar. 7	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	A	
" 14	SHEFFIELD UNITED	H	
" 21	BARNLEY	A	
" 28	LINCOLN CITY	H	
April 3	DONCASTER ROVERS	A	
" 4	HULL CITY	A	
" 6	DONCASTER ROVERS	H	
" 11	BLACKBURN ROVERS	H	
" 18	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	A	
" 25	EVERTON	A	
May 2	BRENTFORD	H	

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Date	Name of Club	Grd.	Result
1952			
Aug 23	PORTSMOUTH	H	2-3
" 27	ARSENAL	H	0-1
" 30	READING	A	2-3
Sept. 6	FULHAM	H	
" 8	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	A	
" 13	CHARLTON ATHLETIC	A	
" 18	NORWICH CITY TOWN	A	
" 20	NORWICH CITY	H	
" 22	COVENTRY CITY	A	
" 27	NORWICH CITY	A	
Oct. 1	SOUTHAMPTON	A	
" 4	SOUTHAMPTON	H	
" 8	CARDIFF CITY	A	
" 11	WEST HAM UNITED	A	
" 15	CHELSEA	H	
" 18	CHELSEA	A	
" 25	COVENTRY CITY	H	
Nov. 8	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	H	
" 15	PORTSMOUTH	A	
" 22	CHARLTON ATHLETIC	H	
Dec. 6	READING	H	
" 13	ARSENAL	A	
" 20	MILLWALL	A	
" 25	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	A	
" 27	CARDIFF CITY	H	
1953			
Jan. 3	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H	
" 10	MILLWALL	H	
" 17	FULHAM	A	
" 24	WEST HAM UNITED	H	
" 31	†TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	H	
Feb. 7	NORWICH CITY	H	
" 14	LEICESTER CITY	H	
" 21	LEICESTER CITY	H	
" 28	NORWICH CITY	A	
Mar. 7	IPSWICH TOWN	A	
" 14	WATFORD	A	
" 21	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	A	
" 28	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	H	
April 3	IPSWICH TOWN	H	
" 4	COVENTRY CITY	H	
" 11	WATFORD	A	
" 18	LUTON TOWN	A	
" 25	†COVENTRY CITY	A	
" 2	†LUTON TOWN	A	

*—Cup Competition
†—Dates to be arranged

Hector's of Temple Street

The City's Leading Florist

Can arrange to have flowers for all occasions delivered to your friends in practically all parts of the world through the Interflora Association of which they are a member. Please contact HECTOR'S who will be pleased to furnish all particulars and have pleasure in executing your order.

Telephones:
MID 2662-3

Cables & Telegrams:
INTERFLORA, B'HAM



fit
LUCAS
CYCLE LIGHTING EQUIPMENT
& ACCESSORIES

OUR PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Name	Height	Weight	Name	Height	Weight
ATKINS, Arthur	5 10½	11 2½	MARTIN, Robert	5 10¾	11 4
BADHAM, John	5 10½	11 2	MERRICK, Gilbert	6 0¼	13 2
BANNISTER, Keith	5 9	11 3	MURPHY, Peter	5 10¼	11 8
BOYD, Leonard	5 11½	11 9	NEWMAN, John	5 9½	11 8½
BRENNAN, James	5 9½	10 6½	PLUMLEY, Edward	5 8¼	10 7
BRIGGS, Thomas	6 0	12 13	PURDON, Edward	5 10½	12 7
CHARLTON, John	5 10¼	11 1	ROWLEY, Kenneth	5 6½	11 8
CLARKE, John	5 8¾	10 7½	SCHOFIELD, John	6 0	11 4
COX, Geoffrey	5 7¼	10 2½	SMITH, William	5 10	11 8½
FERRIS, Raymond	5 7¼	10 10½	STEWART, John	5 6½	11 5½
GREEN, Kenneth	5 9¾	11 7	TRIGG, Cyril	5 10½	12 5½
HALL, Jeffrey	5 7	10 12	WARHURST, Roy	5 6¼	10 11½
HIGGINS, James	5 8½	11 4½	WARMINGTON, Peter	5 7	10 8
HILL, Dennis	5 7	10 7	WARDLE, William	5 6¾	11 2
JAMES, John	5 9	10 6½	WATTS, John	5 8¼	10 5
LANE, John	5 10¾	12 2	WHITEHOUSE, Ronald	5 9¼	12 2
LINNECOR, Albert	5 8	10 6			

You've a
**SEASON
TICKET**

to smartness



when you buy your clothes from

FOSTER BROTHERS

A British Family Firm, Established and Directed by Fosters since 1876

BRANCHES NEAREST THE
GROUND—

254-8, COVENTRY ROAD

5-7, ALBERT STREET

Everything in
CLOTHING and
OUTFITTING
for Man, Youth
and Boy