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BLUES *News*

SEASON 1953-54



The official Programme of

BIRMINGHAM CITY



FOOTBALL CLUB

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

Directors—H. MORRIS (*Chairman*)

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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:—

St. Andrew's Ground, Birmingham 9

Telephone:

VIC. 0101

Telegraphic Address:

"Heathen Birmingham"

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th, 1953

THE OFFICIAL VIEWPOINT

GOOD EVENING—While we were forfeiting our first home points of the season last Saturday, our visitors this evening were registering their first victory—over Swansea Town.

That reverse at the hands of Leicester City was a bitter disappointment. There's no denying it. And while there's not much point in labouring it, it would be folly to ignore the fact that we lost a match we could and should have won.

The points could easily have been ours in the first half when half-a-dozen cleverly schemed openings went begging simply because nobody could add the finishing touch that makes all the difference. Luck was with Leicester on at least two occasions, however, and Peter Murphy and Ted Purdon were the sufferers.

Leicester are nothing if not opportunists, and after a series of escapes they grabbed their chance in the 25th minute when Arthur Rowley (no half measures) fired hard and true past Gil Merrick. Then two minutes after the interval Hines took full advantage of a long clearance by Jackson which Len Boyd appeared to misjudge, and slipped another past Merrick.

And all this while we were monopolising the situation as far as attacking movements were concerned. Nothing would go right for our forwards when it came to the final shot, and when Jackie Stewart reduced the deficit in 76 minutes, the visitors were still struggling desperately to hang on.

There is plenty of ability about Leicester, but they will never get two more fortunate points, and our attack will win many matches with only half the chances they had last Saturday.

While our seniors were wincing under this excruciating frustration, the reserves hit top form in their Football Combination game at Watford and Ken Rowley came back with a hat-trick.

TALKING POINTS

[BY THE EDITOR]

WASN'T it the absolute terminus. Did you ever see a forward line "enjoy" such frustration as Blues did against Leicester City. And did you ever see a defence take such a run-around and yet finish on the winning side. That's football.

Even after Arthur Rowley's goal we thought there was no danger. No team (we thought) could hammer away with such freedom without getting a few goals. We were wrong, and Manager Norman Bullock could be excused for smiling so generously.

And all that after the Plymouth victory in which our forwards seemed to have found perfect harmony, and enough shooting power to cause no further anxiety. What can we put it down to . . . bad luck, bad shooting, nerves, the lot. But we can believe anything because we saw last season's Cup Final, which proved

beyond all doubt that not only the impossible but miracles happen in football.

Our games with Luton Town, and the automatic association of Syd Owen's name invariably sets the gossip going, and the talk soon swings round to Blues heavy scoring matches.

For instance, do you recall October 6th, 1945. Syd Owen will never forget it because he was making his debut in our senior team and we swamped Tottenham Hotspur 8-0. Syd had a first-class debut from every angle, and he had a first-class view of a non-stop attack that overran the Londoners from start to finish.

Every Blues forward scored in this game, Dave Massart and Ambrose Mulraney each netting twice. This, incidentally, was our biggest victory since March, 1920, when we beat Nottingham Forest also by eight clear goals.

But these were not our biggest victories. Twice we have touched double figures—a round dozen in fact. But we have to go back a while. In 1892 season we beat Walsall Swifts 12-0, and in 1902 we had a twelve-goal margin over Doncaster Rovers.

Last Saturday was a good day for our juniors who all won. City colts beat West Bromwich Syrena 8-0; City 'B' beat Northfield Town 11-1; St. Andrew's Ath. 'A' beat Hall Green Amateurs 2-1 and St. Andrew's Ath. 'B' beat Kingstanding Corinthians 4-1.

LUTON TOWN'S RECORD

By their home success over Swansea Town last Saturday Luton brought their goal average even at 10-10. This was the Town's first win of the season. Their record so far is:—

Fulham (h) drew 1-1; Nottingham Forest (h) lost 0-1; Oldham Athletic (h) drew 4-4; Nottingham Forest (a) lost 1-2; Plymouth Argyle (a) drew 2-2; Swansea Town (h) won 2-0.

LOCAL BOY MAKES GOOD



SYDNEY WILLIAM OWEN

Another example of the local boy who made good. Syd, Small Heath born, signed for us in 1945 and made his senior team debut against Tottenham in that season. Was transferred to Luton in 1947, and has developed into one of the best half-backs in the Division. He won a South Birmingham "cap" as a schoolboy and played in the same team as Gilbert Merrick. Was included in the F.A. team that toured Australia in 1951.

**Birmingham City's
"HIGHLIGHT"**



**CYCLE DYNAMO
LIGHTING SETS**



Made in Birmingham by:
MILLER & CO. LTD., ASTON BROOK ST.

SCORERS AND APPEARANCES

First Team Appearances :

Govan, Kinsey, Merrick, Murphy, Purdon, Stewart and Warhurst each 6. Martin 5. Badham, Bannister, Boyd and Hall each 4. Green 3.

First Team Goalscorers :

Murphy 4. Kinsey and Purdon each 3. Govan and Stewart each 2.

(Up to and including 5th September, 1953)

Second Team Appearances :

Atkins 5. Brennan, Cochrane, Cox, James, Rowley, Schofield and Watts each 4. Lane, Smith and Wardle each 3. Clayton, Ferris, Metcalfe and Newman each 2. Hall, Hill, Plumley, Squires and Trigg each 1.

Second Team Goalscorers :

Rowley 5. Cox 2. James and Lane each 1.

Last Week's Line-up

Birmingham City 1, Leicester City 2
BIRMINGHAM CITY: Merrick; Green, Martin; Bannister, Boyd, Warhurst; Stewart, Kinsey, Purdon, Murphy, Govan.

LEICESTER CITY: Anderson; Lever, Jackson; Warner, Gillies, Dunne; Griffiths, Morris, Hines, Rowley, Webb.
Scorers: Rowley and Hines for Leicester. Stewart for Birmingham.

Watford Res. 1, Birmingham C. Res. 3
WATFORD: Saphin; Shipwright, Jones; Bateman, Nolan, Gallogly; Hapgood, Smith, Brown, Bennett, Evans.

BIRMINGHAM CITY: Schofield; Hall, Atkins; Watts, Newman, Clayton; Cox, Cochrane, James, Rowley, Hill.
Scorers: Rowley (3) for Birmingham. Bateman for Watford.

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"Good Honest Beer"

BIRMINGHAM CITY

(1) MERRICK
(2) GREEN
(3) MARTIN
(4) BANNISTER
(5) BOYD
(6) WARHURST
(7) STEWART
(8) KINSEY
(9) PURDON
(10) MURPHY
(11) GOVAN

Referee :

MR. A. W. SMITH
(Aldershot)



Linesmen :

Mr. H. W. PICKARD (Red Flag) and
Mr. G. D. SWINTON (Yellow Flag)

(9) PYE
(11) MITCHELL
(10) DOWNIE
(8) CUMMINS
(7) TURNER
(6) WATKINS
(5) OWEN
(4) MORTON
(3) JONES
(2) DUNNE
(1) STRETEN

LUTON TOWN

Kick-Off 6-0 p.m.

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

OUR VISITORS

LUTON TOWN

Ground: Kenilworth Road.

Manager: D. Duncan.

Colours: Shirts, white; Knickers, black; Stockings, black, white tops.

Attendance Record: 28,433 v. Arsenal, 1952

Division III (South) winners 1937.

Season 1952-53

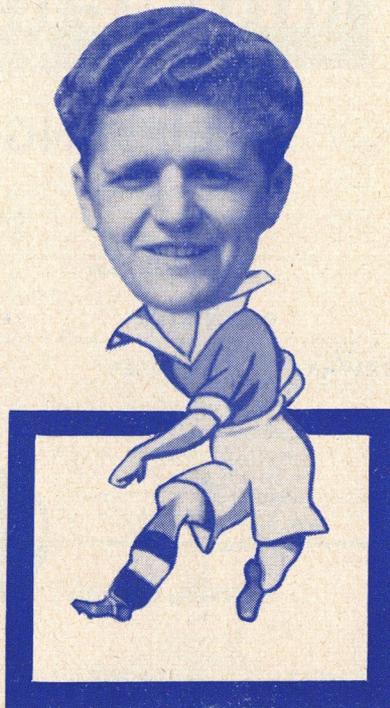
League matches: Played 42, won 22, drawn 8, lost 12; Goals 84-49; Points 52. League position 3rd.

F.A. Cup matches: (h) Blackburn 6-1; (a) Manchester City 1-1; (h) Manchester City 5-1; (h) Bolton W. 0-1.

League goalscorers: Pye 24, Moore 13, Turner 13, Mitchell 12, Davies 4, McJarrow 4, Watkins 4, Cullen 3, Jones 1, Pemberton 1, Scott 1, Opponents 4. Total 84.

Cup goalscorers: Pye 4, Turner 3, Taylor 2, Mitchell 1, Moore 1, Opponent 1. Total 12.

Blue Prints



ROY WARHURST

OUR LAST SIX GAMES WITH LUTON TOWN

1950-51—At St. Andrew's: Birmingham City 3 (Higgins (2), Smith), Luton Town 0.

At Luton: Luton Town 1 (Pemberton), Birmingham C. 1 (Warhurst).

1951-52—At St. Andrew's: Birmingham City 3 (Stewart, Briggs, Purdon), Luton Town 1.

At Luton: Birmingham City 4 (Warhurst, Stewart, Purdon, Smith), Luton T. 2 (Stobart, Taylor).

1952-53—At St. Andrew's: Birmingham City 2 (Briggs, Murphy), Luton T. 2 (Turner, Moore).

At Luton: Birmingham City 1 (Briggs), Luton Town 0.

LEAGUE TABLES

(Up to September 5th)

DIVISION I						DIVISION II					
	P	W	L	D	F A P		P	W	L	D	F A P
West Bromwich Albion	6	5	0	1	13 2 11	Doncaster Rovers	6	5	0	1	13 3 11
Blackpool	5	4	1	0	12 7 8	Nottingham Forest	6	4	1	1	14 7 9
Burnley	6	4	2	0	14 9 8	West Ham United	6	4	1	1	16 8 9
Wolverhampton W.	6	4	2	0	16 11 8	Everton	6	3	0	3	14 8 9
Tottenham Hotspur	6	4	2	0	10 7 8	Blackburn Rovers	6	3	1	2	13 13 8
Huddersfield Town	6	3	2	1	11 7 7	Birmingham City	6	3	2	1	14 5 7
Bolton Wanderers	5	3	1	1	11 8 7	Leicester City	6	2	1	3	13 10 7
Sheffield United	5	3	1	1	11 9 7	Derby County	6	2	1	3	11 9 7
Preston North End	6	3	3	0	18 9 6	Leeds United	6	3	2	1	17 14 7
Newcastle United	5	2	1	2	11 7 6	Stoke City	6	1	0	5	7 6 7
Aston Villa	6	3	3	0	8 6 6	Bristol Rovers	6	2	2	2	11 7 6
Charlton Athletic	6	3	3	0	12 12 6	Lincoln City	6	1	2	3	10 9 5
Cardiff City	6	2	2	2	6 8 6	Luton Town	6	1	2	3	10 10 5
Sheffield Wednesday	6	3	3	0	10 15 6	Bury	6	0	1	5	7 10 5
Chelsea	6	2	3	1	12 12 5	Notts County	6	2	3	1	9 17 5
Portsmouth	6	2	4	0	13 19 4	Rotherham United	6	2	4	0	10 15 4
Liverpool	6	1	3	2	10 18 4	Swansea Town	6	2	4	0	8 16 4
Manchester City	6	2	4	0	7 14 4	Plymouth Argyle	6	0	2	4	6 12 4
Sunderland	6	1	4	1	13 18 3	Brentford	6	1	3	2	7 15 4
Manchester United	6	0	3	3	7 13 3	Fulham	6	0	3	3	9 13 3
Middlesbrough	6	1	4	1	7 16 3	Oldham Athletic	6	0	3	3	7 13 3
Arsenal	6	0	4	2	4 9 2	Hull City	6	1	4	1	5 11 3

Keep up with the rules

The Penalty Area

At each end of the field of play, two lines shall be drawn at right angles to the goal-line, 18 yards from each goal-post. These shall extend into the field of play for a distance of 18 yards and shall be joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal-line.

Each of the spaces enclosed by these lines and the goal-line shall be called a penalty-area. A suitable mark shall be made within each penalty-area 12 yards from the mid point of the goal-line measured along an undrawn line at right angles thereto. These shall be the penalty-kick marks. From each penalty-kick mark an arc of a circle, having a radius of 10 yards must be drawn outside the penalty-area.

MUSIC

- Galop: GALOPADE arr. Eric Ball
- Valse: SEPTEMBRE Godin
- Selection: COMMUNITY LAND No. 1 arr. J. Ord Hume
- Intermezzo: AISHA Lindsey

PRE-MATCH SELECTION

Interval—

DEATH OR GLORY
EL ABANICO

Conclusion—

FRIENDS AND COMRADES
ORGANDBA

**NEXT MATCH AT
ST. ANDREWS**

SAT. NEXT FOOTBALL COMB. CUP

LEICESTER CITY RES.

Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

WED. NEXT FOOTBALL COMB. CUP

COVENTRY CITY RES.

Kick-off 5.45 p.m.

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A DERBY COUNTY BLACKBURN ROVERS	G WEST BROMWICH ALBION NEWCASTLE UNITED
B LINCOLN CITY OLDHAM ATHLETIC	H BOURNEMOUTH COVENTRY CITY
C BOLTON WANDERERS SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	I READING WATFORD
D HUDDERSFIELD TOWN MANCHESTER CITY	J IPSWICH TOWN GILLINGHAM
E MANCHESTER UNITED MIDDLESBROUGH	K NORWICH CITY COLCHESTER UNITED
F PRESTON NORTH END CHARLTON ATHLETIC	L EXETER CITY BRISTOL CITY

FIXTURES 1953-1954

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION II

Date	Name of Club	Ground	Result
1953			
Aug. 19th	HULL CITY	Home	2—0
„ 22nd	SWANSEA TOWN	Home	6—0
„ 24th	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	Away	2—2
„ 29th	ROTHERHAM UNITED	Away	0—1
Sept. 2nd	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	Home	3—0
„ 5th	LEICESTER CITY	Home	1—2
„ 9th	LUTON TOWN	Home	
„ 12th	STOKE CITY	Away	
„ 16th	LUTON TOWN	Away	
„ 19th	FULHAM	Home	
„ 26th	WEST HAM UNITED	Away	
Oct. 3rd	LEEDS UNITED	Home	
„ 10th	LINCOLN CITY	Home	
„ 17th	BRISTOL ROVERS	Away	
„ 24th	BRENTFORD	Home	
„ 31st	DERBY COUNTY	Away	
Nov. 7th	BLACKBURN ROVERS	Home	
„ 14th	DONCASTER ROVERS	Away	
„ 21st	BURY (1)	Home	
„ 28th	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	Away	
Dec. 5th	EVERTON	Home	
„ 12th	HULL CITY (2)	Away	
„ 19th	SWANSEA TOWN	Home	
„ 25th	NOTTS COUNTY	Home	
„ 26th	NOTTS COUNTY	Away	
1954			
Jan. 2nd	ROTHERHAM UNITED	Home	
„ 9th	F.A. CUP—3rd Round		
„ 16th	LEICESTER CITY	Away	
„ 23rd	STOKE CITY	Home	
„ 30th	F.A. CUP—4th Round		
Feb. 6th	FULHAM	Away	
„ 13th	WEST HAM UNITED	Home	
„ 20th	LEEDS UNITED (5)	Away	
„ 27th	LINCOLN CITY	Away	
Mar. 6th	BRISTOL ROVERS	Home	
„ 13th	BRENTFORD (6)	Away	
„ 20th	DERBY COUNTY	Home	
„ 27th	BURY	Away	
April 3rd	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	Home	
„ 10th	BLACKBURN ROVERS	Away	
„ 16th	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	Away	
„ 17th	DONCASTER ROVERS	Home	
„ 19th	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	Home	
„ 24th	EVERTON	Away	

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Date	Name of Club	Ground	Result
1953			
Aug. 22nd	LEICESTER CITY	* Away	2—4
„ 26th	IPSWICH TOWN	* Home	4—1
„ 29th	NORWICH CITY	* Home	0—4
Sept. 2nd	LUTON TOWN	* Away	0—4
„ 5th	WATFORD	* Away	3—1
„ 10th	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	* Away	
„ 12th	LEICESTER CITY	* Home	
„ 16th	COVENTRY CITY	* Home	
„ 21st	COVENTRY CITY	* Away	
„ 26th	WATFORD	* Home	
„ 30th	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	* Home	
Oct. 3rd	NORWICH CITY	* Away	
„ 7th	IPSWICH TOWN	* Away	
„ 17th	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	Home	
„ 21st	LUTON TOWN	* Home	
„ 24th	SOUTHEND UNITED	Away	
„ 31st	BRENTFORD	Home	
Nov. 7th	LEYTON ORIENT	Away	
„ 14th	WATFORD	Home	
„ 21st	BRIGHTON & HOVE A.	Away	
„ 28th	BRISTOL ROVERS	Home	
„ 28th	COVENTRY CITY	Away	
Dec. 5th	ALDERSHOT	Home	
„ 12th	SOUTHAMPTON	Home	
„ 19th	SOUTHAMPTON	Home	
„ 26th	BRISTOL CITY	Home	
1954			
Jan. 2nd	SWANSEA TOWN	Away	
„ 9th	CRYSTAL PALACE	Away	
„ 16th	QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS	Home	
„ 23rd	SOUTHAMPTON	Away	
„ 30th	SWINDON TOWN	Away	
Feb. 6th	CRYSTAL PALACE	Home	
„ 13th	BRISTOL CITY	Away	
„ 20th	SWINDON TOWN	Home	
„ 27th	QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS	Away	
Mar. 6th	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	Away	
„ 13th	SOUTHEND UNITED	Home	
„ 20th	BRENTFORD	Away	
„ 27th	LEYTON ORIENT	Home	
April 3rd	WATFORD	Away	
„ 10th	BRIGHTON & HOVE A.	Home	
„ 16th	SWANSEA TOWN	Home	
„ 17th	BRISTOL ROVERS	Away	
„ 19th	ALDERSHOT	Away	
„ 24th	COVENTRY CITY	Home	

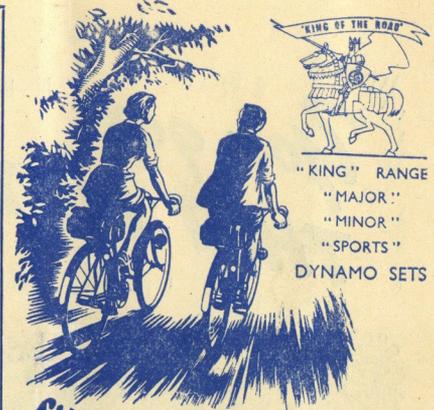
* CUP MATCHES

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& ACCESSORIES

OUR PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Name	Height	Weight	Name	Height	Weight
ALLEN, George	5 9½	11 0	MARTIN, Robert	5 10½	11 5
ALLEN, Ronald	5 7½	10 10	MERRICK, Gilbert	6 1	13 8
ATKINS, Arthur	5 11	11 6	METCALFE, John	5 7	10 3
BADHAM, John	5 11	11 10	MURPHY, Peter	5 10¼	11 8
BANNISTER, Keith	9 9¼	11 9	NEWMAN, John	5 10	11 8
BRENNAN, James	5 9½	10 8	NICHOLLS, John	5 5½	11 0
BOYD, Leonard	5 11½	11 9	PLUMLEY, Edward	5 8½	10 6
CANNING, Barrie	5 6	11 4	PURDON, Edward	5 10½	12 7
CHARLTON, John	5 10	10 10	ROBERTS, Thomas	5 9½	11 0
CLAYTON, Robert	5 10	10 10	ROWLEY, Kenneth	5 6	11 4
COCHRANE, James	5 7½	10 3	SCHOFIELD, John	6 0	12 0
Cox, Geoffrey	5 7	10 3	SMITH, Trevor	6 0	12 8
FERRIS, Raymond	5 7½	10 10	STEWART, John	5 5½	11 5
GOVAN, Alexander	5 5	10 10	SQUIRES, Barrie	5 8	11 5
GREEN, Kenneth	5 10	11 6	TRIGG, Cyril	5 10	12 6
HALL, Jeffrey	5 7½	11 6	WARDLE, William	5 6¾	11 0
HILL, Dennis	5 7	10 7	WARHURST, Roy	5 6¾	11 3
JAMES, John	5 8½	11 2	WARMINGTON, Peter	5 8	11 0
KINSEY, Noel	5 7	11 0	WATTS, John	5 9	10 6
LANE, John	5 10½	13 6	WHITEHOUSE, Ronald	5 11	11 6
LINNECOR, Albert	5 7½	10 10			

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