

SEASON

1953-54



Official Programme

3d

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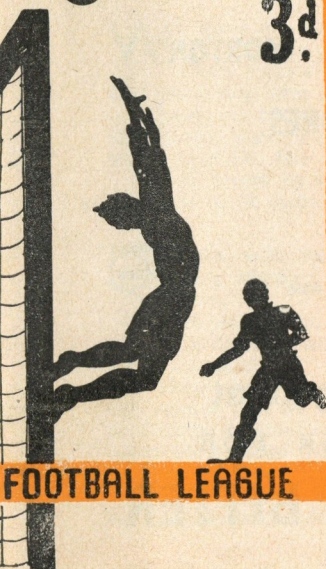
WINNERS F.A. CUP
1892-3 1907-8 1948-9

FINALISTS
1888-9 1895-6 1920-1 1938-9

WINNERS FOOTBALL LEAGUE
(WAR) CUP
1941-2

CHAMPIONS
Div. II - 1931-2
Div. III (North) - 1923-4
Central League 1931-2, 1950-1-2-3

RUNNERS-UP
Div. I - 1937-8-9 1949-50



FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION

Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Club (1923) Limited

MOLINEUX GROUNDS, WOLVERHAMPTON

SEASON 1953-54

Directors :

Chairman : J. S. BAKER, Esq.

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Telephone : 24053/4.

Telegrams : "Wanderers," Wolverhampton.

FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CUP — ROUND 3 (THIRD REPLAY)

AT

MOLINEUX GROUNDS, WOLVERHAMPTON

(Covered Accommodation for 30,000)

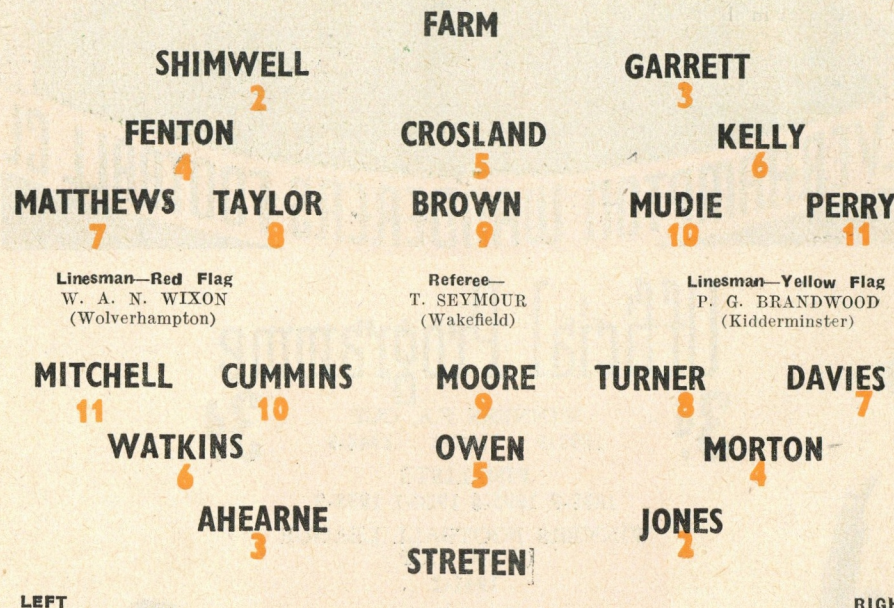
MONDAY, JANUARY 25th, 1954.

Kick-off 2 p.m.

Shirts :
Tangerine
RIGHT

BLACKPOOL

Knickers :
White
LEFT



LEFT

Shirts :
White

LUTON TOWN

THE TEAMS ARE SUBJECT TO ALTERATION

RIGHT

Knickers :
Black

NOTES BY "WANDERER"

AN ADDITIONAL ATTRACTION

WHEN they cannot settle their football arguments elsewhere they have to bring them to Molineux. That is what Birmingham City and Tottenham Hotspur did last season and that is what Blackpool and Luton Town are doing today.

Welcome from Wolves and Wolverhampton to both; to two gallant teams who have already had 5½ hours of each other's company in the third round of the F.A. Cup, and this afternoon are certainly in for at least another hour and a half.

This is one of the occasions when we can sit back and watch without fear of palpitation, because our own favourites are not involved, but that does not prevent us wishing that this may be a good game—and, may the better side win.

In any event it is an additional attraction to our own programme.

NOT ENTIRELY STRANGERS

BLACKPOOL, of course, as fellow members of the First Division are no strangers to us at Molineux but Luton are making one of their rare visits. If memory serves us right we think the last time we had a Luton Town team on this ground was during the latter part of the war when we were both in the War League South.

Nor have our recent associations with Blackpool been confined strictly to the Football League.

They come here as the cup holders—and worthy holders at that—and it reminds us of a time when we were the cup holders and were drawn against Blackpool in the fifth round.

The original game was played on this ground without a goal being scored and on the following Wednesday we went to Bloomfield Road for a somewhat hectic replay which we lost by the only goal.

A DAY TO REMEMBER

THERE is another, and more recent Blackpool visit which we in Wolverhampton are not likely to forget for a long time. It was just a couple of years ago and although we finished on the losing side by 5-2 on this very ground we had no really hard feelings for this was the day for the Maestro himself, the evergreen, "Wizard of Dribble," the one and only Stanley Matthews.

What he did that day is nobody's business but, truth to tell, we loved it for such individualism as we saw then can bring nothing but praise, even from disappointed and defeated opponents.

It is not we of Wolverhampton who have to worry about the inimitable Stanley today. That is something with which the Luton people must concern themselves.

A LINK WITH WOLVES

WE have not such memories of recent encounters with Luton but we have some definite associations with the club. One of the disappointing features about today's game indeed will be the enforced absence of Jesse Pye who was for a long time a favourite on this ground.

Jesse, on his day, was one of those players who sent people into raptures through his sheer artistry and his magnificent ball control. They still talk, here, about those two fine goals he scored in the 1949 cup final at Wembley.

This season he seems to have been out of luck with injuries but we hope he will soon be fit again.

RECORD NOBODY WANTS

ON then, with the battle to see who, of these two sides, shall have the task of seeing whether they can do better against West Ham than did Huddersfield Town.

Dare we suggest, as a final thought, that both clubs may be hoping that today will see a decider one way or the other before they get positively bored with each others company?

There are occasions, you know, when teams have played five times in the cup rounds but we cannot imagine that either Blackpool or Luton Town want particularly to emulate the Barrow and Gillingham teams who played for 9½ hours before they settled their cup tie argument in 1924-25.

One of those games took place, where do you think?

Yes, on this Molineux pitch where our friends from north and south meet for their fourth time today.



To COMPLETE enjoyment
ALL WOLVES FANS ASK FOR
BUTLER'S BOTTLED BITTER

Today's Topical Talk

ONCE upon a time a midget half-back in Rugby football so annoyed the other side that a burly forward muttered, "When I catch that little devil, I'll screw his neck off!" Soon he kept his word. But when he saw the little fellow running around with head askew, the giant grew so sick at heart that, next scrum, he tried to screw the neck back into shape. "Hold on! Hold on!" shouted the victim, "I was born that way."

So I can say of Luton: I was born that way. Once — just once — I wore their colours but that, I hope, is all forgiven and forgotten.

Luton Town, who appear at Molineux today to contest the right of famous Blackpool to retain the F.A. Cup, can be called pioneers of the South, inasmuch as they had the vision to join the Football League Second Division in far-away 1897. They haven't had a continuous membership, of course, but it was a courageous affair. So is this challenge to Stanley Matthews. & Co., whom they have now kept at bay for 5½ frantic hours.

THE LEAVE-IT-LATE LOT

AT Villa Park the other day, the "Strawhatters" — I can remember wearing a Luton straw-hat with fashionable one-inch brim! — must have thought they had beaten the Holders, as it was only a few short minutes from time when Harry Johnston equalised . . . and this with a lame leg.

Didn't they know that Blackpool are the Leave-it-Late team? Didn't they know that Manager Joe Smith's heart stopped beating four times last season — in the third round, the fourth round, the semi-final at Aston, and again in the Final at Wembley?

Didn't they know that Taylor, Garrett (full-back), Mudie, Mortensen and Perry (to say nothing of The Great Provider at outside-right) had each launched the lifeboat in turn when heavy seas had the good ship Blackpool with decks awash and signalling SOS?

Now Harry Johnston has done it — this time, a cripple; a hobbler moved from wing-half-back to centre-forward!

GENERAL JOHNSTON

REPORTS seem to suggest that Luton didn't give the man on one leg as much concentration as the rest when he found that hole and scored. Could be. It has happened before, quite often. Didn't Bell of Bolton, injured half-back, snatch a surprise goal from outside-left against this same Blackpool club in the aforementioned Final?

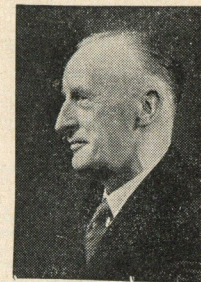
All this also suggests that a cripple can have more than nuisance-value when moved to centre-forward. This move into the middle is a development that's growing, anyway.

But Johnston, in any case, is a man and a half. He has accomplished enough to become one of the game's historic generals. There has been a series of them, from the great John Goodall (who finished up with Luton's near and dear neighbours at Watford) to Steve Bloomer (Derby County), Bob Crompton (Blackburn Rovers), Billy Gillespie (Sheffield United), Fred Keenor (Cardiff City), Stanley Cullis (Wolves), Joe Mercer (Arsenal) plus inspirationalists of the never-give-in type like Joe Smith, Billy Wright and Stanley Mortensen. More? Of course. Can't mention everybody.

SEE HOW THEY RUN

FIVE and a half hours is a long engagement. Courtships, marriages, divorces, marathon races, all sorts of triumphs and disasters have come and gone in shorter time — yes, even cricket matches. Will they get it over this afternoon? Ask me something easier. Barrow took 9½ hours in 1924-5 to get rid of Gillingham.

by Ivan Phadrig



This latest North-South Cup serial has involved such wear and tear that I cannot guarantee all the performers we mention to be on the field this afternoon, but here's a short survey:

Blackpool's goalkeeper Farm has Scottish caps. At back Shimwell, who only left Sheffield United because he wished to continue in the licensing trade, has since played for England, and so has quiet, genteel Garrett, who appeared against Wales at Cardiff only last October.

Among the half-backs Kelly's a Scotsman . . . Just as Spud Murphy of the Albion was a Welshman. Still is, in fact. Harry Johnston's an English International from Dukinfield, which is Manchester way, and Crosland's a good-looking handy-man with Cup Final experience from Lytham, where you don't need T.V. to see a windmill.

COLOURFUL FORWARDS

MATTHEWS (Stanley) is the marvel of modern Soccer; wee Taylor can make magical, match-winning passes and, in the mood, is a real surprise-item (for references apply Milburn, Newcastle); Mortensen might have been the man to inspire the immortal "On, Stanley, On"; Allan Brown is the unluckiest footballer from Scotland or any other country in the matter of missing honours at Wembley through injury; and Perry from South Africa has more than Springbok spurts to render his wing-play dangerous.

All in all, a likely lot, as Arsenal found when their Cup visions were broken at Highbury last season. But, when I've been around, their tangerine hasn't been quite so colourful as in 1952-53.

LUTON'S CHALLENGERS

LUTON, don't forget, were third in the Second Division table last season, and only six points removed from promotion. They totalled 84 goals and finished with an average of roughly 2-1 for the 42 League games. That's good. So it isn't so surprising that they've made Blackpool gallop.

Back into the limelight has come Bernard Streten, smallish goalkeeper who was capped by England against Ireland in 1949-50 while still an amateur. He comes from Gillingham but was really produced by Norfolk football. Another International in defence is Aherne, lively Irishman from Limerick who came out with Linfield and has played both for Ireland and for Eire. What's the difference? Oh, no; you're not getting me into Irish entanglements, though I could tell you in one word.

PIVOT FROM BIRMINGHAM

BUT the pivot of the team is from Birmingham — Sydney Owen was born in that fair city and played with the St. Andrew's club before travelling into Bedfordshire. A tall, conspicuous defender he is given to passing-back . . . back to the goalkeeper, I mean. It's not much to watch but there's no doubting its destructiveness.

At Owen's side, Bob Morton caught the eye at Villa Park: he's from Bucks, which, as his birthplace, Aston Clinton suggests, is more renowned for quiet countryside and the twitter of finches than for the noise and clatter of 30,000 football crowds.

In attack last season Jesse Pye, well-remembered at Molineux, was top scorer with 24 goals, aided and abetted with 13 apiece by Bernard Moore, go-ahead forward from Hastings, and Gordon Turner, who comes from football stock on Humberside.

That's a rough idea of Luton Town, the club for which "Dally" Duncan, between the wars Derby County's distinguished Scottish International wing-man, left the field of play to shoulder the panderings and ponderings and wanderings and wonderings of football management.

1st with the latest-SPORTING STAR

1953

FIXTURES

1954

1953 FIRST DIVISION			
Aug. 10	Burnley	0-0	a 1-4
" 22	Manchester City	1-2	a 4-0
" 26	Sunderland	2-5	a 2-3
" 29	Cardiff City	1-0	h 3-1
" 31	Sunderland	1-1	h 3-1
Sept. 5	Arsenal	3-5	a 3-2
" 7	Liverpool	3-0	h 2-1
" 12	Portsmouth	4-1	h 4-3
" 16	Liverpool	1-2	a 1-1
" 19	Blackpool	0-2	a 0-0
" 26	Chelsea	2-2	h 3-1
Oct. 3	Sheffield United	—	a 3-3
" 10	Newcastle United	1-1	a 2-1
" 17	Manchester United	6-2	h 3-1
" 24	Bolton Wanderers	1-2	a 1-1
" 31	Preston North End	0-2	h 1-0
Nov. 7	Middlesbrough	1-1	a 3-3
" 14	West Bromwich A.	2-0	h 1-0
" 21	Charlton Athletic	1-2	a 2-0
" 28	Sheffield Wednesday	3-1	h 4-1
Dec. 5	Tottenham Hotspur	2-3	a 3-2
" 12	Burnley (2)	5-1	h 1-2
" 19	Manchester City	7-3	h 3-1
" 24	Aston Villa	2-1	h 1-2
" 26	Aston Villa	1-0	a 2-1

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1953 CENTRAL LEAGUE			
Aug. 22	Newcastle United	2-2	h 4-0
" 24	Everton	0-2	a 0-1
" 29	Manchester City	3-1	a 2-1
Sept. 5	Bury	4-0	h 5-0
" 7	Aston Villa	3-3	a 1-1
" 12	Derby County	2-4	a 1-3
" 16	Aston Villa	2-1	h 5-0
" 19	Blackburn Rovers	4-0	h 2-0
" 21	Sheffield United	3-1	a 1-2
" 26	Blackpool	0-3	a 1-1
" 28	Everton	2-2	h 3-1
Oct. 3	Champion v. The Rest	—	h 3-2
" 10	Liverpool	4-0	h 3-0
" 17	West Bromwich A.	1-0	a 2-1
" 24	Leeds United	1-1	h 5-0
" 31	Sheffield Wednesday	2-0	a 3-1
Nov. 7	Chesterfield	2-2	h 4-1
" 14	Burnley	1-1	a 2-3
" 21	Preston North End	2-0	h 4-0
" 28	Stoke City	2-2	a 0-2
Dec. 5	Bolton Wanderers	3-2	h 1-0
" 12	Manchester United	1-0	a 1-3
" 19	Newcastle United	2-0	a 5-1
" 25	Huddersfield Town	2-2	a 0-5
" 26	Huddersfield Town	2-1	h 4-0

1954			
Jan. 2	Manchester City	3-2	h 2-2
" 16	Bury	0-0	a 4-2
" 23	Derby County	3-2	h
" 30	Manchester United	2-1	h
Feb. 6	Blackburn Rovers	0-1	a
" 13	Blackpool	3-1	h
" 20	Barnsley	1-0	a
" 27	Liverpool	2-0	a
Mar. 6	West Bromwich A.	1-1	h
" 13	Leeds United	1-3	a
" 20	Sheffield Wednesday	3-0	h
" 27	Chesterfield	1-0	a
April 3	Burnley	1-0	a
" 10	Preston North End	0-1	h
" 17	Stoke City	0-1	h
" 20	Sheffield United	1-1	h
" 24	Bolton Wanderers	1-1	a

To be arranged—
Barnsley (1-2) h

OTHER MATCHES

Sept. 30—Wolves 3, South Africa 1, (Floodlight) at Molineux.
Oct. 5—Bilston 0, Wolves 0 (Staffs. Senior Cup) at Bilston (Floodlight).
Oct. 6—Bury 3, Wolves 1 (Floodlight, at Bury).
Oct. 14—Wolves 2, Celtic 0 (Floodlight) at Molineux.
Oct. 22—Western Command 1, Wolves 1, at Oswestry.
Oct. 24—Wolves 7, Stoke City 0 (F.A. Youth Cup) at Molineux.
Oct. 28—Coventry City 1, Wolves 0 (Floodlight) at Coventry.
Nov. 4—Wolves 0, Saltley College 0, at Castlecroft.
Nov. 7—Wolves 8, Derby County 0 (F.A. Youth Cup, Round 2) at Molineux.
Nov. 9—Bilston 1, Wolves 7 (Staffs. Senior Cup Replay) at Bilston (Floodlight).
Nov. 21—Wolves 11, Spalding United 1 (F.A. Youth Cup Round 3) at Molineux.
Jan. 9—Notts. Forest 0, Wolves 1 (F.A. Youth Cup Round 4) at Nottingham.
Jan. 20—Saltley College v. Wolves at Saltley.
Mar. 24—Army v. R.A.F. at Molineux.

THE F.A. CUP

Top Score: Preston North End 26, Hyde 0.
Final Top Scorers: Townley (Blackburn Rovers) 3, 1890. Logan (Notts County) 3, 1894.
Mortensen (Blackpool) 3, 1953.
Record Final Win: Bury 6, Derby County 0, 1903.
Record Final Crowd: Bolton Wanderers v. West Ham United at Wembley, 126,047, 1923.
Highest Final Receipts: Blackpool v. Bolton Wanderers at Wembley, £49,900, 1953.
Wanderers won the Cup outright with three consecutive wins 1876-7-8, but restored it to The Football Association.
Original F.A. Cup was stolen in 1895, the second trophy was presented to Lord Kinnaird in 1911.
The present trophy was first played for in 1911, the first winners being Bradford City.
The chief Cup Winners are Aston Villa and Blackburn Rovers, six times each.
Blackburn Rovers won the Cup three times in succession 1884-5-6.
Cardiff City defeated Arsenal 1-0 in 1927 and were the first and only club to take the F.A. Cup out of England.
Wolves were the first team to win the Cup on a ground originally chosen out of London, by defeating Everton 1-0 at Fallowfield, Manchester in 1893.

F.A. CUP WINS

Aston Villa	6	Manchester City	2	Derby County	1
Blackburn Rovers	6	Manchester United	2	Huddersfield Town	1
The Wanderers	5	Old Etonians	2	Nottingham Forest	1
Newcastle United	5	Preston North End	2	Notts County	1
Sheffield United	4	Tottenham Hotspur	2	Old Carthusians	1
Arsenal	3	Barnsley	1	Oxford University	1
Bolton Wanderers	3	Blackburn Olympic	1	Portsmouth	1
Sheffield Wednesday	3	Bradford City	1	Royal Engineers	1
West Brom. Albion	5	Burnley	1	Sunderland	1
Wolverhampton W.	3	Cardiff City	1	Blackpool	1
Bury	2	Charlton Athletic	1		
Everton	2	Clapham Rovers	1		

APPEARANCES IN FINALS

Newcastle United	9	Manchester City	4	Notts County	2
Aston Villa	8	Oxford University	4	Queen's Park (Glasgow)	2
West Brom. Albion	8	Royal Engineers	4	Southampton	2
Blackburn Rovers	7	Sheffield Wednesday	4	Sunderland	2
Wolverhampton W.	7	Portsmouth	3	*Tottenham Hotspur	2
Arsenal	6	Blackpool	3	Birmingham	1
Old Etonians	6	Barnsley	2	*Blackburn Olympic	1
Sheffield United	6	Burnley	2	*Bradford City	1
Bolton Wanderers	6	*Bury	2	Bristol City	1
Everton	5	Cardiff City	2	Chelsea	1
Huddersfield Town	5	Charlton Athletic	2	Leicester City	1
Preston North End	5	Clapham Rovers	2	*Nottingham Forest	1
*The Wanderers	5	Liverpool	2	*Old Carthusians	1
Derby County	4	*Manchester United	2	West Ham United	1

* Denotes undefeated.

APPEARANCES IN SEMI-FINALS

Aston Villa	14	Burnley	5	Fulham	2
Blackburn Rovers	14	The Wanderers	5	Grimsey Town	2
West Brom. Albion	13	Tottenham Hotspur	5	Leicester City	2
Derby County	12	Birmingham City	4	Swindon Town	2
Everton	12	Manchester United	4	West Ham United	2
Newcastle United	11	Notts County	4	Bradford City	1
Bolton Wanderers	11	Portsmouth	4	Cambridge University	1
Sheffield Wednesday	10	Queen's Park (Glasgow)	4	Crewe Alexandra	1
Arsenal	9	Royal Engineers	4	Crystal Palace	1
Sheffield United	9	Cardiff City	3	Derby Junction	1
Wolverhampton W.	9	Clapham Rovers	3	Glasgow Rangers	1
Nottingham Forest	8	Millwall	3	Hull City	1
Preston North End	8	Old Carthusians	3	Marlow	1
Huddersfield Town	7	The Swifts	3	Old Harrovians	1
Sunderland	7	Blackpool	3	Oldham Athletic	1
Chelsea	6	Barnsley	2	Reading	1
Liverpool	6	Blackburn Olympic	2	Shropshire Wanderers	1
Manchester City	6	Bristol City	2	Stoke	1
Old Etonians	3	Bury	2	Swansea Town	1
Oxford University	6	Charlton Athletic	2		
Southampton	6	Darwen	2		

FOOTBALL AT MOLINEUX

CENTRAL LEAGUE — MATCH No. 27.

MANCHESTER UNITED RESERVES

SATURDAY NEXT, JANUARY 30th, 1954. Kick-off 3 p.m.

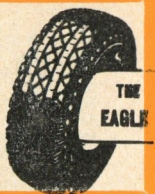
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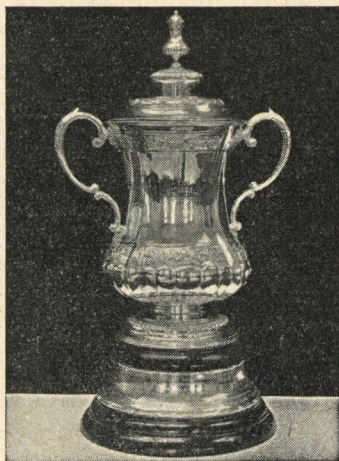
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GOOD YEAR



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1872 Wanderers 1, Royal Engineers 0.
1873 Wanderers 2, Oxford University 0.
1874 Oxford University 2, R. Engineers 0.
1875 Royal Engineers 2, Old Etonians 0.
1876 Wanderers 3, Old Etonians 0.
1877 Wanderers 2, Oxford University 0.
1878 Wanderers 3, Royal Engineers 1.
1879 Old Etonians 1, Clapham Rovers 0.
1880 Clapham Rovers 1, Oxford University 0.
1881 Old Carthusians 3, Old Etonians 0.
1882 Old Etonians 1, Blackburn Rovers 0.
1883 Blackburn Olympic 2, Old Etonians 1.
1884 Blackburn R. 2, Queen's Pk. (Glas.) 1.
1885 Blackburn R. 2, Queen's Pk. (Glas.) 0.
1886 Blackburn Rovers 2, W.B.A. 0.
1887 Aston Villa 2, West Brom. Albion 0.
1888 W.B.A. 2, Preston North End 1.
1889 Preston North End 3, Wolves 0.
1890 Blackburn Rov. 6, Sheffield Wed. 1.

1891 Blackburn Rovers 3, Notts. County 1.
1892 West Brom. Albion 3, Aston Villa 0.
1893 Wolves 1, Everton 0.
1894 Notts County 4, Bolton Wanderers 1.
1895 Aston Villa 1, West Brom. Albion 0.
1896 Sheffield Wednesday 2, Wolves 1.
1897 Aston Villa 3, Everton 2.
1898 Nottingham Forest 3, Derby County 1.
1899 Sheffield United 4, Derby County 1.
1900 Bury 4, Southampton 0.
1901 Tottenham Hotspur 3, Sheffield Utd. 1.
1902 Sheffield United 2, Southampton 1.
1903 Bury 6, Derby County 0.
1904 Manchester City 1, Bolton W. 0.
1905 Aston Villa 2, Newcastle United 0.
1906 Everton 1, Newcastle United 0.
1907 Sheffield Wednesday 2, Everton 1.
1908 Wolves 3, Newcastle United 1.
1909 Manchester United 1, Bristol City 0.
1910 Newcastle United 2, Barnsley 0.
1911 Bradford City 1, Newcastle United 0.
1912 Barnsley 1, West Bromwich Albion 0.
1913 Aston Villa 1, Sunderland 0.
1914 Burnley 1, Liverpool 0.
1915 Sheffield United 3, Chelsea 0.
1916-17-18-19 No Competition.
1920 Aston Villa 1, Huddersfield Town 0.
1921 Tottenham Hotspur 1, Wolves 0.
1922 Huddersfield Town 1, P.N.E. 0.
1923 Bolton Wanderers 2, West Ham Utd. 0.
1924 Newcastle United 2, Aston Villa 0.
1925 Sheffield United 1, Cardiff City 0.
1926 Bolton Wanderers 1, Manchester C. 0.
1927 Cardiff City 1, Arsenal 0.
1928 Blackburn Rovers 3, Huddersfield T. 1.
1929 Bolton Wanderers 2, Portsmouth 0.
1930 Arsenal 2, Huddersfield Town 0.
1931 West Brom. Albion 2, Birmingham 1.
1932 Newcastle United 2, Arsenal 1.
1933 Everton 3, Manchester City 0.
1934 Manchester City 2, Portsmouth 1.
1935 Sheffield Wednesday 4, W.B.A. 2.
1936 Arsenal 1, Sheffield United 0.
1937 Sunderland 3, Preston North End 1.
1938 P.N.E. 1, Huddersfield Town 0.
1939 Portsmouth 4, Wolves 1.
1940-45 No Competition.
1946 Derby County 4, Charlton Athletic 1.
1947 Charlton Athletic 1, Burnley 0.
1948 Manchester United 4, Blackpool 2.
1949 Wolves 3, Leicester City 1.
1950 Arsenal 2, Liverpool 0.
1951 Newcastle United 2, Blackpool 0.
1952 Newcastle United 1, Arsenal 0.
1953 Blackpool 4, Bolton Wanderers 3.

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