



Nº 18578

SEASON 1968 - 69

# NORTHAMPTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIV. III

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 1/-

# Today's Visitors

**KEITH ALLEN** (centre forward). Was signed from Stockport County in exchange for Derek Keaven and has previous spells with Portsmouth and Grimsby Town.

**TERRY BRANSTON** (centre half). Born at Rugby, where he still lives, Branston spent nine seasons with Northampton Town, accompanying them in their rise from Division IV to Division I.

**MAX DOUGAN** (right back). First signing made by Allan Brown shortly after he rejoined the Club. A fee of about £7,000 changed hands when he left Leicester City.

**GRAHAM FRENCH** (outside right). Born at Wolverhampton. Joined Luton in Oct., 1965. Has several Youth International Caps for England

**MIKE HARRISON** (outside left). Born at Ilford, Harrison began his first-class career with Chelses, from which club he moved on to Blackburn Rovers where he established a first team place.

**BRUCE RIOCH** (inside left. Without doubt the Town's biggest asset as a player and he will not be 21 until Sept. Was born in Aldershot, but spent most of his schooldays in Luton and has been with the Town since he was 15.

**ALAN SLOUGH** (right half). Is a true local product because he was amateur and apprentice with the Town before signing as a full-time player.

**JOHN MOORE** (left half). In the opinion of many people was the most improved player on the books and he fell naturally into the task of being a member of the back four.

**BRIAN LEWIS** (right half). At the moment, it is by no means clear where the Town's most expensive signing for years—from Coventry City—will finally play.

**LAURIE SHEFFIELD** (centre forward). One of the Town's big close season signings from Oldham Athletic Born in Swansea has previously been with five League clubs.

## THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION 3

	P	HOME					AWAY					Pts.
		W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	
Watford ..	22	6	3	2	13	4	6	3	2	17	9	30
Bournemouth ..	21	11	0	1	24	3	2	3	4	12	13	29
Stockport ..	21	9	2	1	35	16	2	4	3	4	9	28
Swindon ..	19	8	1	0	17	2	4	2	4	14	13	27
Tranmere ..	22	8	1	3	19	12	4	2	4	15	17	27
Luton ..	21	10	1	0	30	7	1	2	7	4	13	25
Barrow ..	21	7	3	1	18	10	4	0	6	15	20	25
Torquay ..	22	8	1	1	21	6	2	3	7	9	17	24
Reading ..	22	8	0	3	22	8	1	5	5	12	18	23
<b>Northampton</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>23</b>
Plymouth ..	23	7	3	3	19	13	2	2	6	5	13	23
Rotherham ..	22	6	3	1	15	8	1	5	6	9	17	22
Walsall ..	23	5	5	1	19	7	1	4	7	7	17	21
Southport ..	22	7	2	1	26	11	2	1	9	13	26	21
Bristol Rovers	22	7	2	2	22	14	1	3	7	13	24	21
Barnsley ..	23	5	4	2	18	11	1	4	7	8	24	20
Mansfield ..	22	6	2	2	17	8	1	3	8	12	22	19
Hartlepool ..	22	3	7	2	13	15	2	2	6	6	20	19
Orient ..	21	4	5	1	13	8	1	3	7	12	25	18
Gillingham ..	22	5	3	2	20	9	2	0	10	9	28	17
Crewe ..	21	6	1	4	20	15	0	4	6	8	22	17
Brighton ..	23	4	3	3	18	11	2	2	9	10	28	17
Shrewsbury ..	22	5	4	2	10	7	1	1	9	8	24	17
Oldham ..	21	2	2	6	9	14	1	1	9	5	29	9

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## Club Notes

The Cobblers had no home game for the holiday period, but we could not have had a better match for this Saturday than our old friends and nearby neighbours from Luton.

But first we must say that we trust our supporters have had an enjoyable time with the Christmas festivities, and wish them a Happy New Year. We are hopeful that 1969 will see better fortunes for the Cobblers.

The first game of the new year will be in the F.A. Cup when we visit Bolton. This is a hard game, as any away cup tie is. And Bolton are a famous cup fighting team with many triumphs in the past.

The Cobblers, however, will be fighting all the way for victory, if possible, and a draw, at least. After the performance at Brighton we can be sure the team will not let down the fans who travel with them to Burnden Park.

If there is a draw the replay will be on the County Ground on Tuesday, January 7th, with the kick-off at 7.30 p.m.

Season ticket-holders will be able to claim seats for the replay from Sunday up to the morning of the match. Those not sold will be on sale before the game. No postal applications will be considered.

We offer a specially hearty welcome to Luton today, for games between the two clubs from neighbouring counties have been played over a very long period indeed.

But it is also a long time since Luton last played a league match on the County Ground. The last visit was in the season 1936-7. Since then both teams have enjoyed spells in the two top divisions, but not at the same time.

Since the war, though, the Cobblers have visited Luton three times, in the F.A. Cup the Football League Cup, and in the league last October. Each time Luton won, so we must hope that today's game will turn in our favour.

Luton are bound to bring a good following. Our own supporters will be glad to see Luton again in another "Derby" game. If the weather is fine, the gate should be the best of the season.

Among old-time followers one of the favourite topics of the past is the memorable game between the sides on the 1927 Boxing Day when Luton led 5-1 at half-time and the Cobblers ended 6-5 victors.

Our last home match saw a 4-1 win over the Orient. This was the first time the Cobblers had scored that number this season, and there was a rousing finish with three goals in the last 18 minutes.

Our scorers were Graham Felton, Clive Walker, Frank Rankmore (penalty) and John Fairbrother. Taken all round this was a very satisfactory performance considering the treacherous ground conditions.

Last Friday we went down by a 2-1 margin at Tranmere in a close match. The Cobblers were on top in the first half, but the home side put in more pressure after the break. The Minister of Sport Mr. Denis Howell was at the match to open Tranmere's new £85,000 stand.

We scored the first goal through Frank Rankmore following a corner. But before the interval our former player George Hudson seized a chance of equalising. And in the second half he laid on the pass that brought the deciding goal.

Saturday, 28th December

15,161

## (c) NORTHAMPTON TOWN v LUTON TOWN(2)

Football League Div. III

Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

MORRITT	1	BULLER PLASTICS St. James Mill Road Northampton  The match ball was donated by	1	DAVIE
FAIRFAX	2		2	DOUGAN
WALKER	3		3	BANNISTER
TOWNSEND	4		4	SLOUGH
RANKMORE	5		5	BRANSTON
KIERNAN	6		6	MOORE
FELTON	7		7	FRENCH
FAIRBROTHER	8		8	LEWIS
HATTON	9		9	ALLEN
ROBERTS	10		10	RIOCH <sup>2</sup>
HAWKINS LINES	11		11	HARRISON
LINES HAWKINS	12		12	SHEFFIELD

Referee: R. CAPEY, Madeley Heath (Cheshire)

Linesmen: (Red Flag) D. W. JACKSON (Watford)

(Yellow Flag) R. MATTHEWS (Wanborough, Wilts.)

## Half Time Scores

A—Bournemouth v. Rotherham .....	H—Stockport v. Southport .....
B—Bristol Rovers v. Mansfield .....	I—Swindon v. Oldham .....
C—Crewe v. Barrow .....	J—Walsall v. Tranmere .....
D—Hartlepool v. Orient .....	K—Watford v. Brighton .....
E—Plymouth v. Gillingham .....	L—Coventry v. Sunderland .....
G—Shrewsbury v. Torquay .....	

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# Cobblers Statistics

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE, DIV. III			Date	Opponents	Ground
Date	Opponents	Ground			
Aug. 14	League Cup I Crewe A. ...	1	April 4	Bristol Rovers ...	Away
16	Reading ...	0	5	Plymouth Argyle ...	Home
27	Stockport County (9,622) ...	1	8	Shrewsbury Town ...	Home
31	Walsall ...	1	11	Hartlepool United ...	Away
Sept. 7	Bournemouth ... (7,812)	1	16	Shrewsbury Town ...	Away
10	Watford ... (6,824)	2	19	Crewe Alexandra ...	Home
14	Crewe Alexandra ...	2	<b>THE FOOTBALL COMBINATION</b>		
17	Bristol Rovers ... (8,002)	2	<b>COMBINATION CUP</b>		
21	Hartlepool Utd. (6,749)	0	Aug. 10	Walsall ...	2 3
28	Plymouth Argyle ...	1	24	West Ham ...	0 3
Oct. 5	Rotherham Utd. (8,602)	1	27	Birmingham ...	0 2
7	Stockport County ...	0	Sept. 3	West Ham ... (1,290)	4 1
19	Tranmere Rovers (7,359)	2	7	Leicester ...	1 3
26	Luton Town ...	1	11	Q. P. Rangers ... (756)	1 4
Nov. 2	Torquay United (7,279)	1	14	Luton ... (439)	2 3
5	Gillingham ... (5,545)	0	21	Peterborough ...	1 3
9	Mansfield Town ...	2	24	Walsall ... (911)	1 2
16	Margate (F.A. Cup) (7,672)	3	Oct. 1	Leicester ... (1,077)	0 0
23	Brighton & Hove ...	1	<b>COMBINATION FIXTURES</b>		
26	Swindon ... (6,827)	2	Oct. 5	Gillingham ...	1 3
30	Barnsley ... (6,195)	3	15	Leicester ...	1 0
Dec. 7	Brighton (F.A. Cup) ...	2	19	Luton ...	3 1
9	Orient ...	0	29	Southampton ...	0 3
14	Orient ...	4	Nov. 2	Oxford ...	0 3
20	Tranmere Rovers ...	1	19	Birmingham ...	4 1
26	Rotherham United ...	Away	30	Swansea ...	1 4
28	Luton Town ...	Home	Dec. 3	Fulham ...	1 3
Jan. 4	Barrow ...	Home	7	Tottenham ...	0 2
11	Torquay United ...	Away	11	Reading ...	2 2
18	Mansfield Town ...	Home	18	Bristol City ...	1 4
25	Gillingham ...	Away	21	Ipswich ...	1 4
Feb. 1	Southport ...	Away	28	Arsenal ...	Away
8	Brighton & Hove ...	Home	Jan. 7	Bristol Rovers ...	Home
15	Barnsley ...	Away	14	Chelsea ...	Home
22	Oldham Athletic ...	Home	28	Walsall ...	Away
Mar. 1	Swindon Town ...	Away	Feb. 4	Q. P. Rangers ...	Home
3	Barrow ...	Away	15	West Ham ...	Away
8	Reading ...	Home	Mar. 4	Plymouth ...	Home
11	Southport ...	Home	8	Bournemouth ...	Away
14	Watford ...	Away	18	Norwich ...	Home
18	Oldham Athletic ...	Away	22	Cardiff ...	Away
			April 1	Peterborough ...	Home
			15	Crystal Palace ...	Home
			19	Swindon ...	Away



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Tuesday, January 7th

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Tuesday, January 14th

### CHELSEA

FOOTBALL COMBINATION DIV. I KICK-OFF 7.30 p.m.

Saturday, January 18th

### MANSFIELD TOWN

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIV. III KICK-OFF 3.0 p.m.

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## Players, Appearances and Scorers

	F.L. App. Goals	F.L. CUP App. Goals	F.A. CUP App. Goals	F.C. App. Goals
BARRON .. ..		2		19
BROWN .. ..	4	2 I		12 3
BYRNE .. ..	18 I	2	2	4
CHATWIN .. ..				9
CLARKE .. ..	6	2		12
CREAMER .. ..				
FAIRBROTHER .. ..	20 9	2	I I	5 2
FAIRFAX .. ..	22	2	2	3
FAULKES .. ..	11		2	8
FELTON .. ..	7 I		I	10
FLOWERS .. ..	17 2	I	I	
HATTON .. ..	11 4		2 I	
HAWKINS.. ..				18 10
KIERNAN .. ..	6			15 I
KNIBBS .. ..				2
KNOX .. ..	3	2		15 3
LINES .. ..	17 3		I	6 I
MACKIN .. ..	9		I	13
MORRITT.. ..	22		2	
NEAL .. ..	4		I	14
PERKINS .. ..				9
PRICE .. ..				6 2
RANKMORE .. ..	19 3	2	2	I
ROBERTS .. ..	18 3	I	2 2	I
TOWNSEND .. ..	7		I I	15 I
TREACY .. ..				3
WALKER .. ..	11 I	2		8
WEAVER .. ..	14	2	I	9 I
WORTHINGTON .. ..				4 I
YOUNG .. ..				3

F.C. APPEARANCES DAVIES M. 5, DAVIES A. 3, MILLS I.

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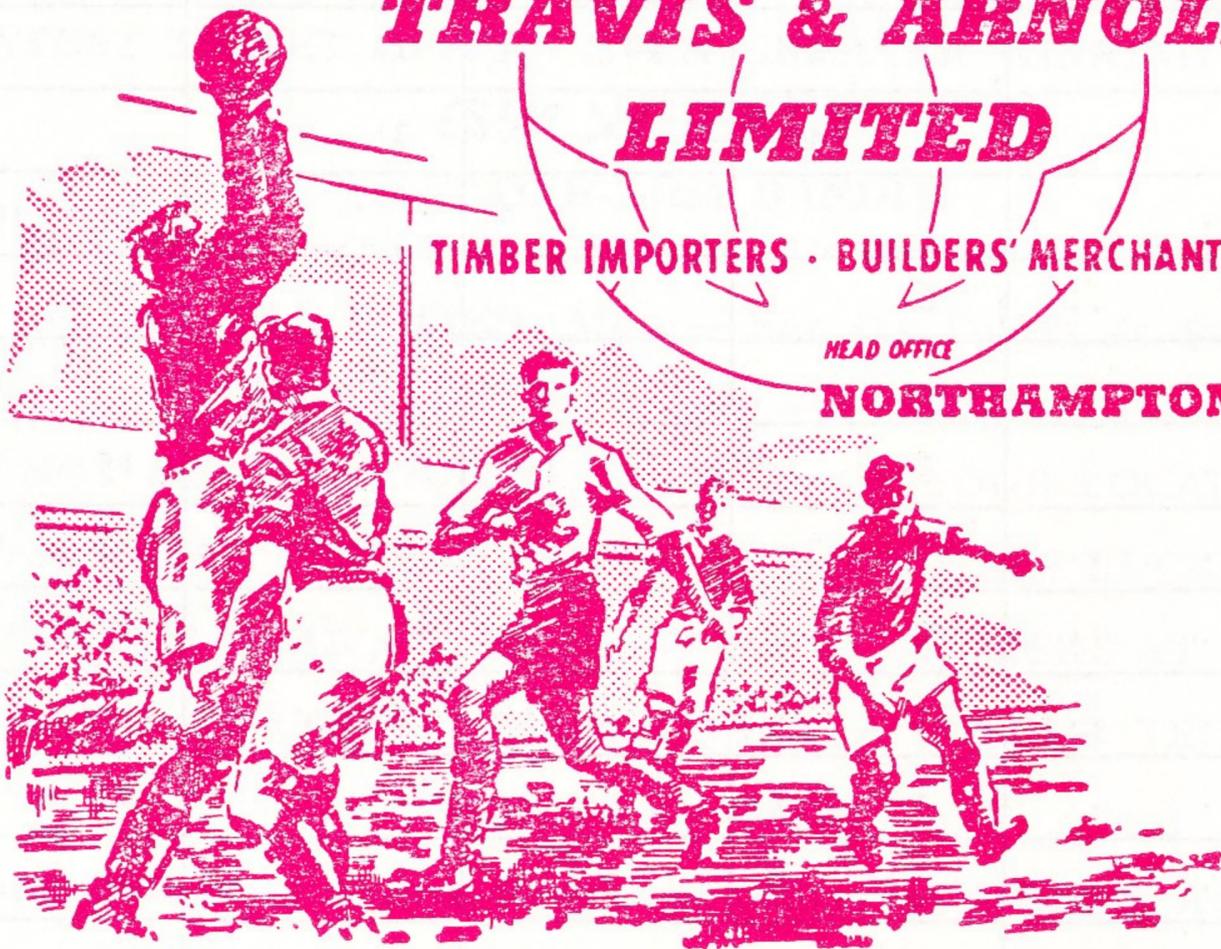
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