

ALBION NEWS



WELCOMES LUTON TOWN

6p

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME VOLUME 65 No. 26

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

SATURDAY 27th APRIL 1974

Kick-off 3.00 pm

WEST BROMWICH ALBION FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED



THE HAWTHORNS
WEST BROMWICH
STAFFS B71 4LF
Telephone 021-553 0095
Ticket Reservations
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League Champions: 1920
Runners-up: 1925, 1954

F.A. Cup Winners:
1888, 1892, 1931, 1954, 1968
League Cup Winners: 1966

West Bromwich Albion have
appeared in 17 semi-finals and 10
finals of the F.A. Challenge Cup—
a current record aggregate number
of appearances.

All communications regarding
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GORDON'S GOSSIP



Welcome to The Hawthorns. It's very much a case of 'Hail and Farewell' this being our last League game for the 1973-74 season.

No doubt many of you have planned your holidays so do have yourself a good time and come back refreshed and ready for 17th August.

I feel that having concluded my first season with you all, I must give credit to those people to whom I have turned for assistance, including the contributors to the programme, Bob Blackburn, Bob Downing, Dave Harrison, Tony Matthews, Geoff Wright, yourselves for buying it regularly and, of course, Peerless Press Limited, who print it for us. Thanks to you all.

Last week I journeyed with our youngsters to Huddersfield for the F.A. Youth Cup semi-final, second leg, and thoroughly



enjoyed their company. No doubt most of you know the lads but perhaps are not as well acquainted with the trainer. Ralph Bailey has been around Albion for many years assisting as 'Sponge' man with both the second and third teams and enjoys the atmosphere immensely. Coming back Albert MacPherson, Ralph and I had a committee meeting as Mr Glidden put it, the only conclusion being that despite the fine attributes of a skilful Huddersfield side we were a little unlucky on the night not to have at least forced the issue to a third match, however, that's football.

Success has, however, come to Alan Smith of 15 Limes Avenue, Rowley Regis, Alan being the last of the season's competition winners. The line-up on the photograph, all of whom were correctly named by Alan, was as follows. Back row: Harry Kinsell, Cecil Shaw, Harold White, Jim Sanders, George Tranter, Len Millard. Front row: Billy Elliott, Ike Clarke, Bobby Newsome, Doug Witcomb, Eddie Connelly, Stan Butler.

Congratulations Alan hope you enjoy the view of today's match from your prize winning seats.

By the way, those of you who sponsored Tony for his goals please be assured that we would love to hear from you as soon as you've been to the bank. Thanks.

Although summer and the close season is now with us don't think that I and my colleagues will be off in search of the sun until August will you. I'll be around if you want to pop in and see me, or should you wish to drop me a line. Please feel free to do either or both. In the meantime keep an eye on the local press scene, if anything happens you'll be kept well informed so until I see you, enjoy yourselves. Bye.

INSIDE ALBION



Today sees us doing battle in the last League match for 1973-74 season and for me completes my sixth season here each of which has given me many moments of joy and of course a few of sorrow.

It doesn't seem all that long ago when I left my home village of Philpstown for the industrial Midlands. Now I feel one of you, even more so now that I have bought a house near Cannock, for myself and my newly acquired wife. Eileen and I were married at Abercorn another village neighbour to Philpstown and being Scottish we desired to tie the knot in our parish church.

I still owe Eileen a honeymoon, for the day following the ceremony I and my colleagues were back in action against Hull City, so it was really all go. Summer break will afford us the opportunity of putting that right.

Having moved in to a new estate like Pete, you know who, my chauffeur; there is much to be done to the house and garden although I am hoping to mix the chores with a little pleasure, as like so many of my profession, golf is a pastime that we enjoy, and Nizzer and I are looking to sharpen up our game as a prelude to the nitty gritty matches against John Wile and his selected partner before we report back for pre-season training.

Gordon gossiped about our visit to Birmingham Speedway recently. For me it was quite an experience never having seen the sport before. We had to admire the skill and daring of the riders and judging from the comments Joe Thurley will be

seeing some of us again. I'll certainly stick to football and golf, as will all of us I'm sure.

I've no doubt that many of you will have your mind on next Saturday and the Cup Final, which has all the promise of being a cracker.

To date I haven't seen the spectacle yet but I am really looking forward to seeing this one. The atmosphere should be terrific when one looks at the way that Newcastle and Liverpool's supporters back their respective favourites.

Having lost to Newcastle in the competition I'll be rooting a bit for them but as is natural I only wish that it was Albion opposing Liverpool.

It is one of my fervent ambitions to play on Wembley's hallowed turf and if it is with Albion then so much the better and as soon as possible too.

Having got that match over my homespun thoughts will be with my kinsmen in West Germany and their efforts to lift the World Cup. Naturally there has been a lot of jocular leg pulling amongst the lads with Scotland's success and England's sad misfortune but no one begrudges Scotland their chance as for me at any rate come June its 'Good Luck to Bonnie Scotland'.

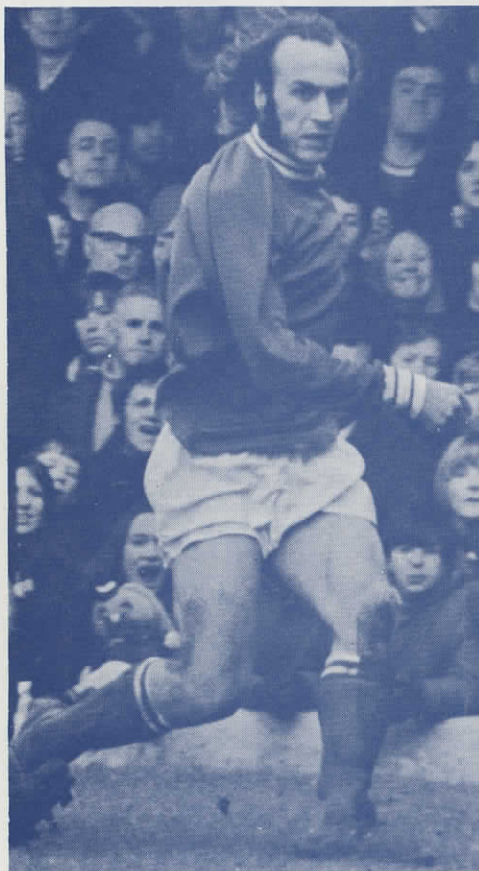
As I shall be having the last say as it were, can I hope that you will roll along a week Monday at 7-00 pm, in support of 'Bomber' and after having an enjoyable summer's break you will come back to The Hawthorns refreshed and ready for the off on 17th August. See you then.



ALBION
VOUCHER
1973-74

26

WELCOME LUTON TOWN



RODNEY FERN



BOBBY THOMSON



ALAN WEST



JIMMY HUSBAND

Congratulations Luton Town on a magnificent season. Those famous local hats will be raised to you . . . Eric Morecambe may even decide to rename himself Eric Luton, just to cause a flutter in *Who's Who* in whose hallowed pages he and Ernie Wise have qualified.

It is not so long ago, two years in fact that your main claim to fame, so far as soccer fans in many areas were concerned, was the transfer of Malcolm Macdonald to Newcastle United for £180,000.

There were many who shook their heads and said Luton would not be the same without the big, bustling striker, but Harry Haslam proved them wrong.

Talking about managers, it is interesting to recall that The 'Hatters' have been guided by a string of famous managers: Dally Duncan, Syd Owen, Sam

Bartram, Bill Harvey, George Martin, Allan Brown and Alec Stock.

Notes in the *Rothmans Football Year Book 1973-74* states "Seats can be booked one month before the game" and "ample parking facilities adjacent to the ground entrance in Maple Road". The signs are that both these facilities will be taxed to the full as the Luton Town image grows.

Season 1973-74 will be remembered for some memorable matches, and for the way Luton kept their cool under the pressures inevitable for a team pushing for promotion. While others cracked Luton pressed on—now they have their reward.

Their best ever placing in Division One was 8th in season 1957-58 . . . their biggest moment in the F.A. Cup, that Wembley appearance against Nottingham

Forest in 1959. There was however no glory finish.

One record they do cherish is Joe Payne scoring ten goals (a League record) in the 12-0 rout of Bristol Rovers in Division Three (South) in 1936.

Their honours include: Division Two Runners-up 1954-55, Division Three Runners-up 1969-70, Division Four Champions 1967-68, Division Three (South) Champions 1936-37, Division Three (South) Runners up 1935-36.

Now let's look at some of the men who have done so much to bring glory to Luton this season . . . goalkeeper Graham Horn, London-born and formerly with Arsenal, Bobby Thomson, so well known around the Midlands for his service with Wolves, Birmingham City and Walsall, and an ex-England international. He has made more than 400 League appearances.

The pen pictures of the full squad have been drawn many times, but one of Luton's best acquisitions must be John Aston, the twinkle footed winger who for so long thrilled the Old Trafford crowd when he pulled on Manchester United's colours. Jim Husband who played for Everton against Albion in the 1968 F.A. Cup Final has also added power to the Luton drive, plus Alan West, their record buy from Burnley.

Whatever the result this visit to The Hawthorns will be one the Luton fans will savour, so the welcome is on the mat for what must be one of the happiest band of fans in the country.

BOB BLACKBURN Birmingham Evening Mail

Pictures: Fotosports International

THROSTLE CLUB NEWS

SOCIAL MANAGER—GERRY HINGLEY

THE GOLDEN THROSTLE CLUB . . .

Public Relations Officer: Jack Yates

Entertainment . . . Saturday, 27th April: Mal Richmond, comedian. Susan Hayes, vocalist.
Sunday, 28th April: Revival. Gina Marsh, vocalist.

Saturday, 4th May: The fabulous Bobby Crush, TV, radio and recording star. Jimmy Whelan, comedian. Penny Day, vocalist.

Sunday, 5th May: The Applejacks. Roger Nash, vocalist.

Saturday, 11th May: The fabulous Malcolm Vaughan, TV, radio and recording star. Pam Shaw, comedienne. Marie Cheri, vocalist.

Saturday, 25th May: The fabulous Show Bandits.

Sunday, 26th May: Highway Four.

Monday, 27th May: Holiday Monday Dance—Dancing to Chapter III.

The Committee and all Members wish Dot and Keith Blackhan two of our oldest members every success for the future. They are moving down to Monmouth, to manage the *Somerset Arms*. Dot and Keith extend a hearty welcome to all Throstle Club members.

Congratulations to Nell and Jack Yates, long serving Committee Member, on their 39th wedding anniversary.

Best wishes to Ray Bolton, Committee Member, on his birthday.

Commencing Friday, 17th May, we shall be running concerts on Friday and Saturday (Sunday as usual). Bingo will be played in the lounge on Thursday night.

THE WARLEY CLUB . . .

Public Relations Officer: Ted Clarke

Entertainment . . . Saturday, 27th April: Johnny Guitar (not to be missed).

Sunday, 28th April: Dance and Cabaret with "Nicole".

Saturday, 4th May: The New Applejacks.

Sunday, 5th May: The Roy Mason Show.

Saturday, 11th May: "Maggie".

Sunday, 12th May: "Johnny Diamond".

Thursday, 16th May: "Annual Birthday Show" with Gavin Prime, Ora Pasco, Ted Manley, Mavis Robinson, Cleve Keys and Mel Thomas. Admission by ticket only.

Saturday, 18th May: "Satin Lace".

Sunday, 19th May: The Tony Arnold Show.

Saturday, 25th May: "Club Talk".

Sunday, 26th May: Dance and Cabaret with Johnny Only.

Monday, 27th May: Whitsun Dance with The New Applejacks.

Congratulations to Walter and Dot Ralph, married 33 years on 19th May.

Join our Angling Section now before it is too late. We require another 15 members. Please contact Barry Pell or Al Longdon.

● Membership subscriptions in respect of Warley, Hawthorns and Halfords Lane Throstle Clubs are due 31st May

THE HAWTHORNS CLUB . . .

Public Relations Officer: Charles Heath

Although this is the last column for the current season, we at The Hawthorns Club would like to remind all members, old or new, that top-line Shows will continue throughout the close-season (each and every week-end).

Entertainment . . . Forthcoming attraction—Sunday, 5th May: Black Country Cream, including outstanding Black Country Artists who have certainly made their mark in Clubland, namely . . . Tony and Keith, top-line vocal duo. Comedian Tommy Mundon, a real good 'un. Wes Johnson, great vocalist.

Sunday 12th May: The Dyno-Four and Bob Hatch, comedian—Yet another great night!

TIPTON CLUB . . .

Public Relations Officer: Malcolm Saxon

PRESENT

OLD-TIME MUSIC HALL

TO BE HELD ON

THURSDAY, 2nd MAY

ALL MEMBERS FREE
(Including Affiliated Members)

BONA FIDE GUESTS—10p

HALFORDS LANE CLUB . . .

Public Relations Officer: Alf Martin

Oh, what a night we had at the club on Easter Monday. The ladies certainly answered our call for a Grand Parade and Fancy Dress. The judging was excellently done by Mr Gordon Dimpleby, with the assistance of two ladies from the audience. May I take this opportunity on behalf of the Committee to thank everyone who helped to organise this wonderful night. Also thanks to Johnny James and His Band, they are great.

Ladies Easter Bonnet Winners . . . First—Mrs F. Stretton. Second—Mrs K. Bartram. Third—Mrs J. Collett.

Men's Fancy Dress Winners . . . Mr T. Ellis—First (as the tramp). Second—Mr R. Buckley (as the bandit). Third—Mr A. Murphy (as Madame Pimpernel).

Entertainment . . . Saturday, 27th April: Jimmy Watson, comedian. Ann Taylor, vocalist.
Sunday, 28th April: Bobby Midnight, vocal-guitarist. Plus Jackpot Bingo.

Saturday, 4th May: Andy Gold, musical entertainer. Christine Pardington, vocalist.

PIRESS VIEWS



BOB DOWNING
'EXPRESS & STAR'

Today's match with Luton Town brings down the curtain on a season when Albion cherished confident hopes of a quick return to Division One . . . but failed in the final run-in.

Their dreams of joining the aristocrats of Liverpool, Leeds United and Derby County were shattered at Oxford United's ground last week when Steve Aylott scored a seventh minute goal.

Albion, who needed a victory to keep the promotion light flickering, took the initiative in the second-half and it might well have been a different story had Roy Burton in the Oxford goal not saved well from Allan Glover, Willie Johnston and John Wile.

So Albion manager Don Howe will be preparing for another promotion push next season, taking note of the lessons that have been learned over the last months and planning for next season.

The *Sunday Telegraph* said: "If Albion had decided to take charge in the second-half, they could have won easily. When at last they did take the game to their opponents, near misses by Wile, Johnston and Hartford showed what might have been."

A large bulk of the national press, obviously placed the emphasis of their reports on Oxford and the fact this victory took them into their highest League position since September, and now they look certain of spending another season in the Second Division.

While being disappointed at the result, I am sure Albion fans are pleased that ex-player Gerry Summers has blown away relegation fears from Manor Road.

But, as Keir Radnedge pointed out in the *Birmingham Post*: "Even though Albion will not go up, they still have a part to play in the promotion struggle," obviously referring to this afternoon's game with Harry Haslam's Luton Town.

When I spoke to Mr Howe on Monday, he was already looking to next season—without losing sight of the fact that one match was left to play.

It now looks certain York City will join Bristol Rovers and Oldham Athletic in Division Two next season but who comes down from the First Division is still undecided—and will be until 4-40 pm.

It has been said this Division will be harder to leave next season, but no-one can look that far ahead with any confidence. Football is an unpredictable game, as this season has proved over and over again.

Looking back over the season, Albion have used 19 players, not including today's line-up, with two playing in every match, goalkeeper Peter Latchford and skipper John Wile.

During this campaign, Mr Howe has introduced Barry Donaghy, Joe Mayo and Trevor Thompson to first-team football. Donaghy has played four times, Mayo has had eight games, including the headline hitting part in the substitute trick with David Shaw, so effective a few months ago, and Thompson has matured in every game since making his debut against Bristol City.

I saw the youngsters draw with a much experienced Huddersfield Town side last week and there are a couple of players in that team who could make their mark next season.

So that's it for season 1973-74 let's hope in 12 months time, we are looking back on a season that heralds a return to First Division football.

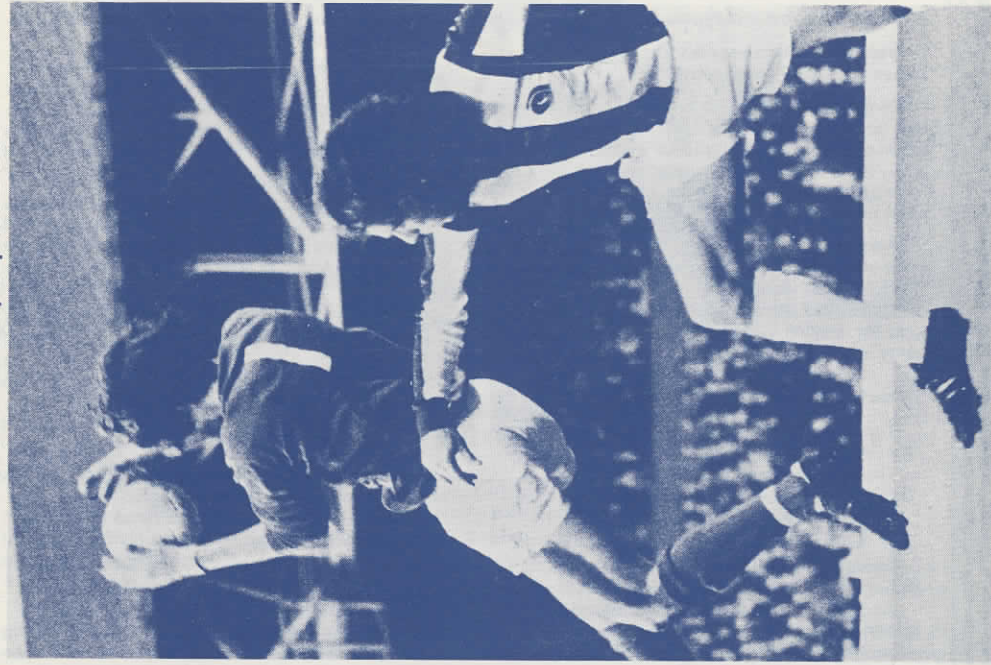
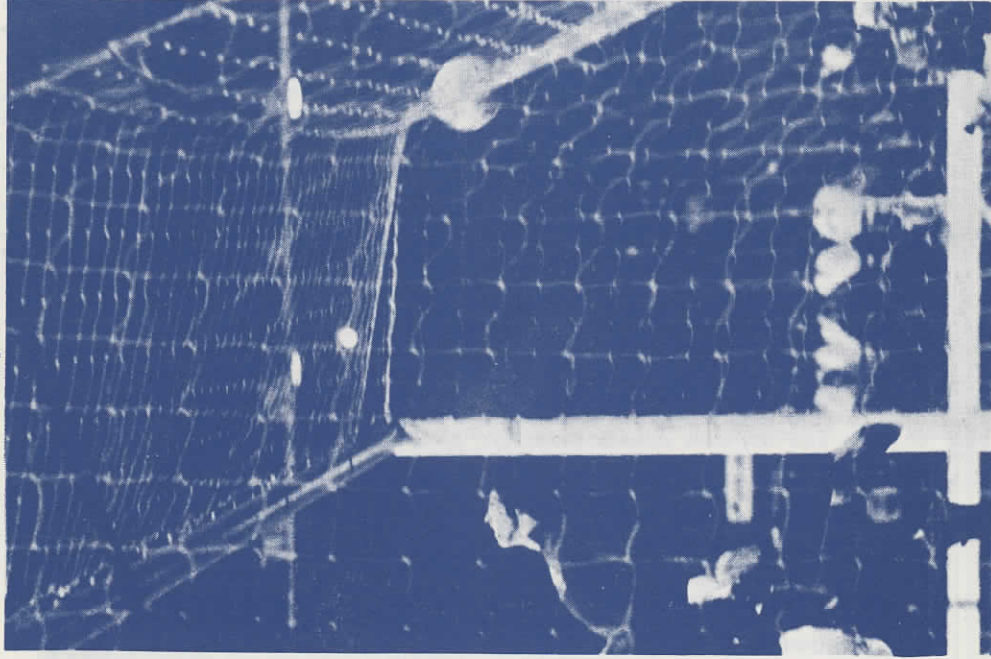
Football, of course, does not finish at The Hawthorns today. We have that very special night next week to look forward too when combined teams from Wolves and Blues take on Albion and Villa in Tony Brown's Testimonial Match. Over two million pounds of talent on show is something rarely seen and I hope all of you will support Albion's leading striker.

FACTION AT THE HAWTHORNS



ALBION 1, MILLWALL 1

ACTION PICTURES—
GEOFF WRIGHT, 'Express & Star'



JUNIOR JOTTINGS

Good afternoon everyone,

Well we have reached the end of yet another footballing season.

Things haven't always turned out the way we had hoped, but overall it's been pleasant and I do believe that a good many of you—if not all of you—have thoroughly enjoyed the articles which have appeared on this page of the *Albion News* at each home game.

Pride of place in our last 'jottings' for 1973-74 must surely go to John Homer, 25 Chelmar Drive, Corbyns Hall Estate, Pensnett, Staffs, who has compiled the following poem on Tony Brown and won for himself (and a friend) tickets for Albion's game with Orient a fortnight ago.

This was John's winning poem . . .

Ten years have passed,
And quickly gone,
The seasons have passed,
One by one,
But you have given your best to Albion:
Good old Tony Brown.
The goals you have scored,
Have raised a cheer,
And the 'Brummie Road' has roared
When 'Bomber's' gone near,
A one-hundred percenter who knows no fear:
Good old Tony Brown.
You have won Wembley medals,
Glory and fame,
And an England cap
Bears your name,
Your thrilling goals have won many a game:
Good old Tony Brown.
And Tony Brown,
It's your benefit year,
And it's known round the town
That your big match is near,
And all Albion fans should turn up and cheer
For good old (200 goal) Tony Brown!

That poem was one of over 30 we had sent in to us. Each and every one was carefully looked at before the final decision was made on the winning entry.

I feel that a mention should also be given to members, Tommy Foley and Barry Hughes, both of whom were very close seconds. Better luck next time lads.

Now during the past eight months or so literally hundreds of postcards (and some letters) have flooded into the offices here at The Hawthorns, answering the quizzes and competitions which have been set in the Albion programme. Obviously every single card submitted cannot be a winner, and therefore some of you must have been a little disappointed when you did not find your name in the lists of winners, when they were published.

Do not consider yourselves as losers. Everybody who sends a postcard in with answers on it gets a

fair crack of the whip along with everyone else, just like any other competition.

All the cards we receive are, believe me, scrutinised fairly and squarely. So if you have not been lucky this term, there is always 1974-75 to look forward to, when I hope we will have some more interesting and different competitions and quizzes.

Remember, all you J.T.C. members, in a few seasons' time, will be the senior supporters of Albion, and without a doubt your presence inside The Hawthorns is, and will be, very much appreciated.

So why don't you ask your pal at school, your mate down the road, or your friend at the local club, to join the J.T.C. Get them to come along to The Hawthorns, which will, I can guarantee, be one of the country's top grounds in years to come, and Albion will again be one of the leading teams in the land.

You are probably well aware of the fact that it is nearly time for you to renew your club membership. Now this time we want you to hand us (or send us) a current photograph of yourself (head and shoulders preferably) so that next season we can feature each week, a young J.T.C. member on the junior page.

Ask Mom or Dad to get one done of you during the summer—it will not cost much—and maybe one day soon you will be pictured alongside a top Albion star or a great international footballer from home or abroad. Do your best, won't you?

Have a good holiday, go and see some cricket, and then be back here in August for the start of a new era in the life of West Bromwich Albion Football Club. That is after you have attended Tony's Testimonial Match, of course!

The winner of the Derek Kevan Competition was Stephen Johnston of Oxhill Road, Handsworth, who said that 'The Tank' played in 262 League games, scored 157 goals and netted nine hat-tricks, which was quite correct. He received two tickets to today's match plus a bumper day out at The Hawthorns. Well done Stephen.

Note to all J.T.C. members . . . Over the past six months many letters have arrived here at The Hawthorns from school children, asking if they can possibly "come and have a look at Tony Matthews's Albion Room".

Well you can—but you must write to Tony direct and give him a list of dates available to you. Please include a stamped addressed envelope for a reply or failing that put in your telephone number.

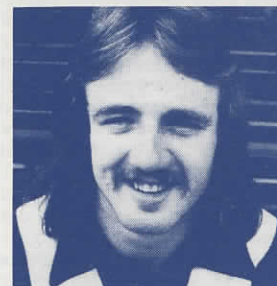
Get your letters or postcards off as soon as possible and send them here, to The Hawthorns, marked for the attention of Tony Matthews.

Good swimming,

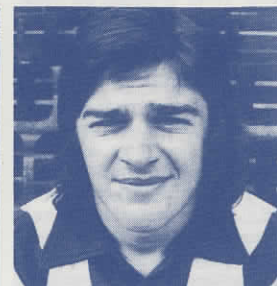


JUNIOR

2&J REVIEW



Billy Bulloch



Barry Donaghy

DAVID HARRISON, *West Bromwich Midland Chronicle*

After such an enjoyable season watching the escapades of the Albion youngsters, it would have been nice to be able to write this last review of the 1973-74 campaign on a note of success.

Unfortunately, I have to end on a note of failure for the youth-team were beaten in their two-legged F.A. Youth Cup semi-final against Huddersfield Town.

Having lost the first-leg at The Hawthorns 1-0, Albion faced an uphill struggle in the away leg, but what a magnificent fight they put up. Everyone I spoke to who saw the game was unanimous in praising the performance of both teams and Albion can feel proud to have taken part in such a magnificent Cup-tie.

Albion needed an early goal to wipe out the first-leg deficit and that's just what they got. Billy Bulloch was moved up to the attack following his recent short spell at centre-half and his switch paid immediate dividends.

An inswinging corner from Barry Donaghy was met at the near post by Billy who flicked his header past Taylor.

Within five minutes, however, Huddersfield had restored their lead. A lopping header by Mountain caught Malcolm Lake off his line and it sailed so slowly into the net.

That might have finished most teams but not Albion. Back they came and with a little steadier finishing would have snatched back the lead.

Graham Jones was guilty of an incredible miss after John Trewick had pressured Taylor into dropping a Pop Robson cross. It fell straight to Graham's feet and amazingly he balloned it high over the bar.

A dejected Graham told me later: "I probably had too much time to put it in. I lifted my head up and over the top it went."

But Albion by no means had it all their own way.

Huddersfield, using two wingers and the full width of the pitch, displayed some fine skills and the Albion defence was often stretched.

Barry Donaghy twice went close for Albion in the second-half but in the end it was the home side, roared on by a crowd of close on 5,000, who were making the running. While the final whistle brought nothing but disappointment for the Albion lads they certainly had no cause to feel at all demoralised.

Quite a few of the team will be around to form the nucleus of next season's side and I feel sure they will be glad of the experience gained from this year's competition when they make a fresh assault next season.

The lads quickly got the defeat out of their system just two days later when they were back on the rampage in the Midland Intermediate League. Coventry City were the unlucky side to feel the brunt of the Albion scoring power as they ran up a 6-0 victory—with Barry Donaghy helping himself to four of the six goals.

That left the 'A'-team needing only one point from their away game at Walsall (the result of which was not known at the time of writing) to clinch the title.

And to add to that they still have the two-legged League Cup Final against Derby County, so the disappointment of the Youth Cup defeat can soon be erased.

The Reserves rounded off their home programme with a 3-1 victory against Huddersfield Town. After failing to find their scoring touch in the first-half, Albion snatched the lead soon after the break with a header from Alistair Love.

Although Fairclough equalised, Love added his second soon afterwards and Alistair Brown made the points safe with a penalty near the end.

TOPICALITY

TONY MATTHEWS—ALBION STATISTICIAN

THE BOB PAILOR STORY

My final 'Topicality' story this season features a man who first played on the Hawthorns pitch in an Albion shirt more than 65 years ago, at the age of 21. His name is Bob Pailor, and he lined up at centre-forward for his Albion 'debut' in a Birmingham League match against Kidderminster Harriers on Saturday, 14th November, 1908, when he scored the opening goal in Albion's 3-1 success.

Bob is now nearly 87 and unfortunately he is slightly deaf and walks badly, but mentally he's very alert indeed and can remember an awful lot about his footballing days which sadly came to an abrupt end when he had to have a kidney removed in 1915.

According to my records Bob Pailor is the oldest ex-Albion League player alive today, and recently I was able to contact him at his Hartlepool home, where he has spent most of his life.

Born at Stockton-on-Tees on 7th July, 1887, Bob attended and played for Galley's Field School, Hartlepool, before joining St. Oswald's in 1902. From there he went to West Hartlepool Amateurs and stayed with the club until Albion signed him, on 31st October, 1908.

He turned professional on 5th February, 1909.

Bob's wages when he first arrived in West Bromwich were £2.00 per week, of which 15 shillings (75p) went on lodgings, and five shillings (25p) was sent back home to his parents. That left him with a £1.00 to spend on himself. When he got into the first-team his wages were then doubled to £4.00 per week. But this latter sum was not forthcoming until 30th January, 1909, when Bob, at 5 ft 11½ in and 12 st 4 lb, made his first League appearance for Albion, away at Bradford, when he replaced Bill Garraty. The game finished goalless.

As a matter of fact, in that season Bob suffered quite a few knocks which resulted in him missing several matches through injury. And in the end he only made two senior and 19 reserve appearances.

At the commencement of the 1910-11 season, which subsequently saw Albion as Division Two Champions, Bob was first choice centre-forward, having Sid Bowser and Freddy Buck as inside partners. He played in the opening fixtures and scored six goals before injury again forced him to miss a couple of games. He returned for an away game at Glossop, but took another 'hefty kick' and missed the next home game with Lincoln City. He was back in action within seven days and thus went on to play in 16 more League and Cup matches, collecting a Championship medal in the process for totalling 28 in the League (12 goals).

Bob's initial taste of First Division soccer was delayed slightly owing to new signing Stan Allan

getting the job as leader of the attack in the opening eight games of the 1911-12 season.

Then Bob got in against Oldham Athletic (away) and from then (21st October) until the season's end, he played in 20 League games (ten goals, including his first Albion hat-trick, against Newcastle United) and in seven Cup-ties (three goals), helping Albion to ninth place in the table and to the F.A. Cup Final for the sixth time in the club's history.

Bob relived some happy memories of that 1912 Cup run, notably the third round-tie at Sunderland when 44,902 fans packed into Roker Park to see Albion triumph 2-1. Both goals came from Bob, in the fifth and thirty-ninth minutes, and this after the game had commenced 30 minutes early by mutual agreement of the two clubs, owing to the vastness of the then record crowd. The gate receipts were £1,572.

In a report of the tie by *The Athletic News* it said: "Pailor, a Durham lad, placed out admirably to both wings and generally managed to be near to meet the return crosses. A most effective performer."

The semi-final, too, brought back some wonderful memories to Bob, who booked Albion their Final place when he slammed in an extra-time goal in the Sheffield replay to defeat Blackburn Rovers.

The Final itself, against the tough, rugged Yorkshire side, Barnsley, also went to a replay. The first clash at The Crystal Palace ended 0-0, and so the teams went to Sheffield for another go.

Said Bob: "Barnsley were a very hard and robust team. They couldn't match Albion for skill, but they beat us by brawn and 'dirty' play. Albion dominated the game straight from the start but just couldn't score. Barnsley grabbed one from a breakaway, and that was that. I felt sorry for Jesse Pennington, who slipped when trying to stop their scorer, Tufnell."

Bob told me that the referee in that Final, Mr W. Schumacher of London, was not a qualified League official, but he still got the honour of taking charge of the game, and really he didn't do the job too well.

As it was Bob collected a runners-up medal to go with his League winners medal and eagerly awaited the start of another term, which in the circumstances turned out to be one of fluctuating fortunes for him personally.

He began it well, hitting five goals in as many matches including a splendid hat-trick against Aston Villa before a 55,000-plus crowd at Villa Park.

Then he had to endure a series of nagging injuries which cut down his appearances to a minimum. In fact, he was out of the side for nearly three months before returning to play in the last ten games of the League programme.

TOPICALITY

TONY MATTHEWS—ALBION STATISTICIAN

Remembered Bob: "Halfway through that season, around the New Year, I was leading goalscorer in the whole of the Football League with 13 goals, and as a result I was selected for an England trial. But sadly for me I got hurt at Middlesbrough and missed the match and the chance of gaining a full cap. I never had another opportunity."

At the close of the 1912-13 season Bob and the Albion club were involved in a dispute.

Recalled Bob: "Sometime earlier I had been promised a benefit by Albion but the club would not put it in writing. Therefore, along with other minor things, it led to me leaving The Hawthorns for awhile."

Bob stayed away until 7th November, 1913, when he was persuaded to come back and re-sign. Things though were never the same, and he played in only two more first-team games, scoring one goal. He was then transferred to Newcastle United in the summer of 1914 for £1,500. He had been an Albion man for six years, appearing in 79 League games (40 goals), in 13 F.A. Cup-ties (seven goals), in three 'others' (one goal) and in 56 second-team matches (21 goals).

Bob actually received £300 from that deal with Newcastle but his move back to the North-East eventually led to him having to retire from the game he loved so much and played so sportingly.

He was doing reasonably well in the Newcastle first-team when he suffered a serious back injury

while playing against Chelsea on 17th March, 1915. It resulted in an operation for the removal of a kidney, and alas his footballing career was over—and he was only 27!

After a brief rest Bob started his own business in the Horse Racing game as a Commission Agent, and this line has been part of his life ever since.

Referring back to his days at Albion, Bob told me that his personal friends were Bobby McNeal and Jesse Pennington, whose house he lodged at before marrying a Dudley girl. Another close pal of his was Clem Stephenson, the former Huddersfield and Aston Villa player, who, on leaving football, became a professional backer in horse racing.

Bob said of Albion: "They were a good club, and I appreciate the way in which they have kept in touch with me over the years, especially when, along with other old players, I have been invited to their Cup Finals."

Bob added that the finest centre-forward he's had the pleasure of seeing—and he's seen a few, believe me—has been Tommy Lawton. "Such a wonderful header of the ball, and he wasn't bad on the ground, either."

That last sentence could be said of a good many players and from what I've heard and read, Bob Pailor comes into that category.

All the very best of health, Bob, and keep smiling.



ALBION'S 1912 CUP FINAL TEAM... (Back row): Mr Dan Nurse, George Baddeley, Hubert Pearson, Sid Bowser, Mr Billy Bassett, Bill Barber (trainer), Bob Pailor, Fred Everiss (secretary). (Front row): Arthur Cook, Mr Harry Keys, Jesse Pennington (captain), Bobby McNeal, Mr A. Seymour, Fred Buck. (Seated on floor): Claude Jephcott, Ben Shearman, Harry Wright.

STATISTICS

*Denotes Substitution

Date	Opponents	V	FA	Gate	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	S
1973																
Aug 25	Blackpool	A	3-2	14,328	Latchford	Minton	Merrick	Hughes	Wile	Robertson	Cantello	Shaw	Glover 1	Brown T2	Johnston	Brown A
Sep 1	Crystal Palace	H	1-0	17,898	Latchford	Minton	Merrick	Hughes	Wile	Robertson	Cantello	Shaw	Glover 1	Brown T	Johnston	Brown A
8	Swindon Town	A	0-1	11,583	Latchford	Minton*	Merrick	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Glover	Shaw	Brown T1	Hughes	Johnston	Brown A
12	Sheffield Wednesday	A	1-3	15,927	Latchford	Minton	Merrick	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Glover	Brown T1	Hughes	Shaw	Johnston	Brown A
15	Nottingham Forest	H	3-3	14,778	Latchford	Minton1	Merrick*	Hughes	Wile	Robertson	Glover	Brown A1	Brown T1	Donaghy	Shaw	Glover
18	Preston North End	A	0-2	11,722	Latchford	Nisbet	Merrick*	Hughes	Wile	Robertson	Glover	Brown A	Brown T	Shaw	Mayo	Woolgar
22	Hull City	A	0-0	7,089	Latchford	Nisbet	Merrick	Hughes	Wile	Robertson	Glover	Brown A	Brown T	Shaw	Mayo	Woolgar
29	Sunderland	H	1-1	17,024	Latchford	Nisbet	Merrick	Hughes	Wile	Robertson	Glover	Brown A1	Shaw	Donaghy	Shaw	Woolgar
Oct 1	Preston North End	A	1-3	15,419	Latchford	Nisbet	Merrick	Glover	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown A	Brown T1	Hartford	Shaw	Donaghy
6	Bristol City	A	1-1	14,328	Latchford	Nisbet	Merrick	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown A	Brown T1	Hartford	Shaw	Donaghy
8	Sheff. United (LC2)	A	1-1	10,482	Latchford	Nisbet	Merrick	Cantello1*	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown A	Brown T1	Hartford	Shaw	Donaghy
13	Carlisle United	H	1-1	12,556	Latchford	Nisbet	Merrick	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown A	Brown T1	Hartford	Shaw	Donaghy
20	Middlesbrough	A	0-0	16,987	Latchford	Nisbet	Merrick	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown A	Brown T	Hartford	Shaw	Donaghy
24	Sheffield Wednesday	H	2-0	12,667	Latchford	Nisbet	Merrick	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown A	Brown T	Hartford	Shaw 2	Glover
27	Bolton Wanderers	H	0-0	16,148	Latchford	Nisbet	Merrick	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown A	Brown T	Hartford	Shaw	Glover
31	Exeter City (LC/3)	H	1-3	10,719	Latchford	Nisbet	Merrick	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown A	Brown T	Hartford	Shaw	Glover
Nov 3	Cardiff City	A	1-0	10,668	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T1	Mayo	Hartford	Glover	Shaw
10	Notts County	H	2-1	15,564	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Mayo	Hartford	Glover*	Shaw 1
17	Orient	A	0-2	11,981	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Mayo*	Hartford	Glover*	Shaw
24	Fulham	H	2-0	12,606	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Mayo*	Hartford 1	Glover 1	Shaw
Dec 1	Luton Town	A	2-0	10,192	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Mayo*	Hartford 1	Glover	Shaw 1
8	Oxford United	H	1-0	12,277	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Mayo*	Hartford	Glover	Shaw 1
15	Portsmouth	H	1-2	11,574	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello1	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Shaw 1	Hartford	Glover	Shaw
21	Sunderland	A	1-1	18,389	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Shaw 1	Hartford	Glover	Merrick
26	Aston Villa	H	2-0	43,119	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T2	Shaw	Hartford	Glover	Hughes
29	Swindon Town	H	2-0	14,969	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Shaw	Merrick 1	Glover	Hughes
1974																
Jan 1	Crystal Palace	A	0-1	23,338	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson*	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Shaw	Hartford	Glover	Merrick
5	Notts County (FAC 3)	H	4-0	13,123	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T3	Shaw	Hartford	Glover	Hughes
12	Nottingham Forest	A	4-1	15,601	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T4	Shaw	Hartford	Glover	Hughes
19	Blackpool	A	1-1	17,008	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile 1	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Shaw	Hartford	Glover	Hughes
27	Everton (FAC 4)	A	0-0	53,509	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Shaw	Hartford	Glover	Merrick
30	Everton (FAC 4 R)	H	1-0	27,556	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T1	Shaw	Hartford	Glover	Merrick
Feb 3	Portsmouth	A	1-1	19,769	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Shaw	Hartford	Glover 1	Merrick
16	Newcastle (FAC 5)	H	0-3	42,747	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello*	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Shaw	Hartford	Glover	Donaghy
20	Bristol City	A	2-2	18,926	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile 1	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Astle 1	Hartford	Glover	Donaghy
25	Carlisle U	A	1-0	6,407	Latchford	Nisbet	Thompson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Astle	Hartford*	Glover	Donaghy
Mar 2	Aston Villa	A	3-1	37,323	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile 1	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T2	Astle*	Hartford	Glover	Shaw
9	Bolton W	A	1-1	17,760	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T1	Astle	Hartford	Glover	Shaw
16	Middlesbrough	H	0-4	24,178	Latchford	Nisbet*	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Astle	Hartford	Glover	Shaw
19	Hull City	A	2-3	13,712	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown A	Brown A1	Hartford	Glover	Hughes
23	Notts County	A	0-1	9,667	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Shaw	Hartford	Brown A	Merrick	Glover	Mayo
30	Cardiff C (1 O/Goal)	H	2-2	11,528	Latchford	Nisbet	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Shaw 1	Hartford	Brown T*	Glover	Donaghy	Astle
April 6	Fulham	A	0-0	9,494	Latchford	Nisbet	Thompson	Cantello	Wile	Merrick	Glover	Brown T	Shaw	Hartford	Johnston	Hughes
12	Millwall	A	0-1	8,752	Latchford	Nisbet	Thompson	Cantello	Wile	Hughes	Brown T	Shaw	Glover	Hartford	Johnston	Mayo
13	Orient	H	1-0	11,456	Latchford	Nisbet	Thompson	Cantello*	Wile	Robertson	Shaw	Hartford	Brown T	Shaw	Johnston	Mayo
17	Millwall	H	1-1	12,346	Latchford	Nisbet	Thompson	Brown T	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Shaw	Mayo	Hartford	Glover 1	Hughes
20	Oxford United	A	0-1	9,255	Latchford	Thompson	Wilson	Cantello	Wile	Robertson	Johnston	Brown T	Shaw	Hartford	Glover	Nisbet
27	Luton Town	H	W													
May 4	F.A. Cup/Final	H	W													

ALBION v LUTON—Facts and Figures . . .

This is League game number 20 between Albion and Luton. The previous 19 have resulted like this: Albion 12 wins, Luton 4 wins, with three draws. The goal-average is 34-18 in favour of Albion.

The initial games occurred in 1938-39, when Albion won 3-0 at The Hawthorns and Luton won 3-1 at Kenilworth Road. That 3-0 win was on the opening day of the season

and the goals came from Harry Jones (2) and Myneall Burgin. The attendance was 24,377.

The last time Luton visited Albion was in a First Division game on Saturday, 24th October, 1959. The score was a 4-0 win for Albion, whose goals came from Ronnie Allen (2), Derek Kevan and Brian Whitehouse. Some 22,445 spectators saw the match.

CENTRAL LEAGUE				INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE				MIDLAND YOUTH LEAGUE				DIVISION TWO			
Date	Opponents	V	FA	Date	Opponents	V	FA	Date	Opponents	V	FA	Teams	P	W	L
Aug 25	Aston Villa	H	0-0	Nov 3	Coventry City	H	1-0	Aug 27	Oxford United	H	2-2	Middlesbrough	41	16	4
29	Sheffield Wednesday	A	1-1	10	Bristol City	A	1-1	Sep 10	Oxford United	A	3-1	Luton Town	40	12	5
Sep 1	Derby County	A	1-2	17	Shrewsbury Town	A	2-0	20	Bristol City	A	2-1	Blackpool	41	11	5
8	Bury	H	5-0	24	Stoke City	A	1-0	26	Swindon Town	H	1-0	Orient	40	9	7
15	Liverpool	A	0-2	Dec 10	Leicester City	H	0-0	Oct 3	Wolverhampton W.	A	1-2	Carlisle United	40	12	5
19	Preston North End	A	0-0	19	Leicester City	A	3-4	10	Aston Villa	A	1-2	Sunderland	40	10	6
22	Manchester City	A	0-2	22	Wolverhampton W.	H	3-2	18	Birmingham City	H	1-2	Orient	40	9	7
29	Blackpool	A	2-0	24	Birmingham City	H	3-2	24	Coventry City	H	2-2	Carlisle United	40	12	5
Oct 13	Leeds United	A	2-2	Jan 5	Aston Villa	A	1-0	31	Leicester City	H	1-1	Sunderland	40	10	6
19	Coventry City	A	2-2	10	Walsall	A	1-0	Nov 13	Leicester City	H	3-1	Blackpool	41	11	5
26	Huddersfield Town	A	1-0	Dec 12	Derby County	H	0-0	Dec 12	Nottingham Forest	A	1-0	Bolton Wanderers	41	8	4
Nov 3	Bolton Wanderers	A	2-0	26	Manfield Town	A	3-1	Jan 23	Nottingham Forest	H	2-2	Fulham	41	11	4
10	Manchester United	A	1-1	Feb 2	Bristol City	H	1-1	Feb 8	Bristol City	H	4-1	Millwall	41	10	5
17	Stoke City	H	3-1	Mar 9	Wolverhampton W.	H	2-0	20	Wolverhampton W.	H	2-0	Hull City	41	8	9
21	Aston Villa	A	1-1	16	Birmingham City	H	1-1	27	Aston Villa	H	1-1	Portsmouth	41	9	8
24	Wolverhampton W.	A	0-2	23	Manfield Town	H	4-2	20	Nottingham Forest	A	0-3	Aston Villa	39	7	9
Dec 1	Nottingham Forest	H	4-1	30	Derby County	A	0-0	Mar 11	Northampton Town	A	1-0	Bristol City	41	9	5
15	Sheffield United	A	1-3	April 6	Shrewsbury Town	A	2-1	20	Notts County	H	0-0	Oxford United	40	8	6
22	Blackburn Rovers	H	1-0	20	Coventry City	A	2-1	Apr 4	Coventry City	H	0-1	Cardiff City	40	8	6
28	Manchester City	A	2-0	22	Walsall	A	1-0	30	Notts County	A		Sheffield Wed	41	8	6
Jan 1	Derby County	H	2-1									Crystal Palace	40	6	7
12	Liverpool	H	1-3									Preston N E	41	7	8
19	Bury	A	4-2									Swindon Town	41	6	7
26	Burnley	H	2-2												
Feb 9	Leeds United	A	1-1												
16	Coventry City	H	0-0												
23	Blackburn Rovers	A	1-0												
Mar 2	Sheffield United	H	3-1												
4	Newcastle United	H	1-1												
9	Bolton Wanderers	H	3-2												
12	Blackpool	H	3-2												
20	Sheffield Wednesday	A	1-2												
23	Everton	H	1-0												
April 3	Newcastle United	A	1-1												
6	Wolverhampton W.	H	1-0												
13	Stoke City	A	1-2												
15	Preston North End	H	1-1												
20	Huddersfield Town	H	3-1												
27	Nottingham Forest	A	1-0												
May 1	Manchester United	A													

MIDLAND INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP FINAL

Second Leg

DERBY COUNTY v ALBION

AT THE BASEBALL GROUND, DERBY

ON THURSDAY 2nd MAY 1974 Kick-off 7.30 pm



Tony, autographing some of the Balls which have been raffled by Mitchells and Butlers in their various Public Houses in the district. With Tony is Mr Peter Hadfield of M. & B.

Picture: Derek Millward, *Birmingham Evening Mail*.

AFTER THE MATCH COME OVER TO OUR TEAM.

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or ring your local branch

LINE-UP

Albion v Luton Town

Navy Blue and White Striped Shirts.
White Shorts.

Orange with White and Navy Vertical
Stripe Shirts. Navy Shorts.

Peter LATCHFORD	1	Graham HORN
Trevor THOMPSON	2	John RYAN
Ray WILSON	3	Bobby THOMSON
Len CANTELLO	4	Peter ANDERSON
John WILE	5	John FAULKNER
Alistair ROBERTSON	6	Alan GARNER
Willie JOHNSTON	7	Jimmy RYAN
Tony BROWN	8	Jimmy HUSBAND
David SHAW	9	Barry BUTLIN
Asa HARTFORD	10	Alan WEST
Allan GLOVER	11	John ASTON
	12	Gordon HINDSON

OFFICIALS AND HALFTIMES

Referee: Mr KEVIN McNALLY
Ellesmere Port, Cheshire

Took up refereeing when he was only 14 and progressed through local leagues, the West Cheshire and Cheshire County Leagues to the League Line and then the supplementary list in 1971. Owns a sweets, tobacco and newsagents shop, married with two children, he is a keen gardener specialising in roses.

Linesmen:

Mr R. Jones, Deganyrn, Wales
(Red Flag)

Mr H. Bishop, Rhondda, Wales
(Yellow Flag)

A	Cardiff City Orient	K	Swindon Town Crystal Palace
B	Carlisle United Aston Villa	L	Birmingham City Norwich City
C	Hull City Fulham	M	Chelsea Stoke City
D	Millwall Oxford United	N	Coventry City Arsenal
E	Notts County Bristol City	O	Derby County Wolverhampton W
F	Portsmouth Nottingham Forest	P	Queens Park Rangers Leeds United
G	Preston North End Middlesbrough	Q	Port Vale Charlton Athletic
H	Sheffield Wednesday Bolton Wanderers	R	Walsall Hereford United
J	Sunderland Blackpool	S	Nottm Forest Res Albion Reserves