

LUTON TOWN FC

v PLYMOUTH ARGYLE

FOOTBALL LEAGUE
DIVISION TWO

Saturday 12 March 1977

KICK-OFF 3.00pm

Official Programme 15p



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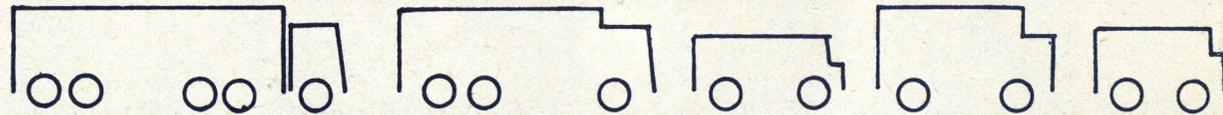
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HARRY'S



games. Roy McCrohan takes a lot of credit for the way the League team has shaped, and I was particularly pleased last week to see that all three of our teams won.

While we were putting it across Wolves, the Reserves went to Crystal Palace and came away with both points with a 2-1 win. David Pleat has worked hard with the Football Combination side, and although we have often been short of experience he is putting together a good side.

On the same day Danny Bergara was giving the youth team the help of his experience as well as his coaching ability. They beat Hertford 3-0, and Danny was our "over age" player.

So last Saturday was a perfect day for us, with all three coaches being with winning teams. I hope it happens again today.

The other nice surprise last week was to be named Bell's "Manager of the Month" for the Second Division. Naturally I was very pleased - but I look upon it as recognition for what the team has done.

Football is still all about team-work and I honestly believe we have one of the best organised clubs in the country now.

Add to that the sort of supporters we have, and you can see why I'm a happy man. I hope today's result against Plymouth sends us all home happy this afternoon.

I'M HAVING to write this column before Tuesday's game against Oldham, and as we have our third home game in eight days today I'm hopeful that we are still going strong with our winning streak.

Two more points from Plymouth today would do us a power of good, and the way things have been all through our club in recent weeks has brought a great atmosphere.

It goes right through all departments. When the lads are winning, it's not only the team that gets a lift. I do as well, and the same goes for all the staff.

Often the coaches are forgotten when things are going well, so perhaps this is a good time to remind everyone that the results on the field are due to a lot of hard work done between

TOWN

Plymouth Argyle

PAUL BARRON: A good goal-keeping prospect standing 6'2" signed from Slough Town during the close season. This player was a great favourite at Slough and has played for the Football Association select XI in representative matches.

GEOFF BANTON: Signed by Plymouth after being released by Bolton in the summer of 1975. Has made good progress in the Combination side.

PHILIP BURROWS: Full back signed from York City in June 1974 as a replacement for Colin Sullivan who was sold to Norwich City. Has made 81 League appearances for Argyle.

DOUG COLLINS: Signed from Burnley during the summer. This busy and skilful midfielder's First Division experience should prove a big asset to the Club.

PETER DARKE: Signed as an apprentice straight from the Exeter Schools team by former manager Billy

Bingham. Made 27 first team appearances during Plymouth's promotion season and a further 25 last season — becoming a regular member of the first team squad.

JOHN DELVE: Signed from QPR in June 1974 for £25,000 and played a prominent part in Plymouth's promotion side of 1974/75. Made 38 appearances last season and is club captain.

GEORGE FOSTER: A local boy signed as an apprentice professional in July 1972 progressing to the first team through the youth and combination sides. A strong player determined to secure a regular first team place.

MIKE GREEN: A centre back who began his career with his home club of Carlisle, moving on to Gillingham and Bristol Rovers before joining Plymouth in June 1974. A strong defender who made 40 League appearances last season.



BACK ROW: (left to right) Alan Rogers, Micky Horswill, Colin Randell, Doug Collins, Graeme Hurn, Brian Hall. **MIDDLE ROW:** (left to right) Jim Hamilton, Nigel Menhenick, Neil Ramsbottom, Mike Green, Paul Barron, Jeff Banton, Brian Johnson. **FRONT ROW:** (left to right) George Foster, Dave Sutton, Chris Harrison, John Delve (Captain), Tony Waiters (Manager), Phil Borrows, Paul Mariner (now Ipswich), Peter Darke, Hugh McAuley.

BRIAN HALL: Signed from Liverpool during the close season for a record £50,000. His ability, skill and speed will be a great asset added to his First Division experience.

JIM HAMILTON: A Scot signed from Sunderland in November 1975, he has so far played only in the combination side but is fighting for a first team chance.

CHRIS HARRISON: A local find who is a regular in the combination side. Is versatile and shows enough promise for possible first team inclusion.

MICK HORSWILL: Signed from Manchester City in July 1975 having previously been with Sunderland and played in their Cup-winning team of 1972/73. A player who can adapt himself to various positions, he played some of his best football last season.

GRAEME HURN: A local lad who joined Plymouth in July 1974 and has become a regular member of their combination team. Another player with a promising future.

BRIAN JOHNSON: Signed as an apprentice in July 1972 and became a full time professional in August 1973, this London lad scored 8 goals for Plymouth last season. Is quickly maturing into a first class player.

HUGH McAULEY: Signed from Liverpool in October

1974, this winger soon became a crowd favourite. Has made 72 League appearances for Plymouth.

NIGEL MENHENICK: Another local lad who signed full time professional forms during the close season after some promising youth and combination displays. Has performed the roles of defender, midfield and striker all with equal success.

NEIL RAMSBOTTOM: An experienced goalkeeper who has served Bury, Coventry and Sheffield Wednesday before joining Plymouth in the close season. A capable replacement for Jim Furnell who retired last season.

COLIN RANDELL: Signed from Coventry City in August 1973, this midfielder player has made 103 League appearances and is an under-23 Welsh international.

ALAN ROGERS: Signed as an apprentice professional in June 1970 and became full time two year later. Injury has prevented him from securing a regular first team place, but his skill and ability should ensure the regularity once he has recovered.

DAVE SUTTON: Signed as an apprentice in October 1973 and became a full time professional in July 1974. Made 22 first appearances for Plymouth last season and is another good prospect for the future.

Floral displays in the Club room this season have been kindly donated by Raymond Fox of Bishopsgate Road, Luton

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LUTON REPORTING

All Our Yesterdays

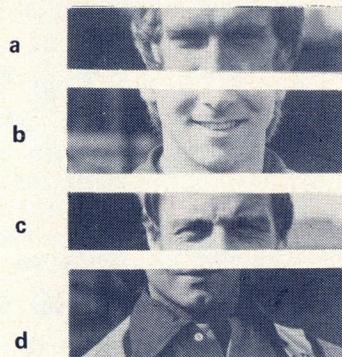
ANSWERS

THE answers to the questions in our last weeks programme were (a) Bristol Rovers, April 13th 1936 Score 12-0. (b) Joe Payne, season 1936/37 - 55 goals (c) Gordon Turner, seasons 1949-64, 243 goals. The winner will be announced over the speakers at today's game and in our next programme on the 26th March.

MANY happy returns of the day to the following members. Richard Gates 16th, Paul Smith 17th, Timothy Varney 18th and Simon Wells and Joseph Kelly on the 19th March.

COMPETITION

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THE LUTON PLAYERS FROM THESE REDUCED PHOTOGRAPHS?



The first correct entry opened on Friday 18th March will receive a Luton scarf of his or her choice. Send your entry to: G Rogers, Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road, Luton. Entries to reach the club by Thursday 17th March. MEMBERS ONLY.

REGRETS

WE REGRET the inconvenience caused to the supporters by the erection of the fencing at the Kenilworth Road and Oak Road end of the ground. This has cost the club a lot of money and this would have been much greater but for the hard work put in by FRED BUNYAN and CHRIS ELLIS of the Luton ground staff. The small number of supporters who caused these fences to be fitted make it bad for all concerned.

SUPPORTERS

LAST Tuesday, we welcomed the CRANFIELD SUPPORTERS as our ball donors. There are several such groups of loyal and enthusiastic supporters who, unheralded and unsung, give valuable help to the club in many ways and we are pleased to have the opportunity of giving some publicity to them on this occasion.

If you are a member of such a group we will be delighted to hear from you.

THE LUTON AWAY TRAVEL SUPPORTERS continue to keep up their good work in fund-raising and have made two further presentations to Harry Haslam recently. So far this season they have donated over £70 and I have no doubt that they are aiming for the ton by May 14th.

PLYMOUTH

LONDON BRANCH - PLYMOUTH SUPPORTERS CLUB

This branch organises travel and social activities for all Argyle supporters in the London area. Details from: BOB FRASER, 14 Smithfield Close, Victoria Drive, Wimbledon, London SW9.

BALL DONOR - FRANK PREISS, 49 Shackleton Road, Tilgate, Crawley.

Every Saturday is an away match for members of the Preiss family who regularly travel from their home in Sussex. They also support the Hatters to the away games, we are therefore very happy to take this opportunity of thanking them for their loyal support and for providing our match ball for today's game.



MASCOT - GARY AYRES, 17 Homedale Drive, Luton

Gary attends Beechwood Road school and is 11 years of age. He plays in the No 3 shirt for his school and has been a season ticket holder for 2 years. His favourite player is John Aston.

WELCOME

TODAY we welcome BEDFORD COMMERCIAL VEHICLES as our match sponsor and we would like to offer our congratulations to them for attaining the No 1 position in the United Kingdom for truck sales. We hope that the directors, management and staff, who are with us today, will find the occasion an enjoyable one and that we can soon join them in the number one spot.

SEE PAGES 10 & 11

A look back at Luton Town a decade ago

By Brian Swain, Sports Editor, Luton News

ONE OF THE most surprising transfer deals Luton Town had done for years grabbed the headlines ten years ago this week, and at the end of a hectic seven-day period supporters once more had something to cheer about.

Transfer talk was rife on all fronts. Bruce Rioch and David Pleat were both already on the list, but the only sign of interest came from Bristol Rovers, who sent chief scout Bill Dodginton to look at Rioch.

Manager Allan Brown and Tom Hodgson announced that they expected to sign a top centre-half from a First Division club shortly to tighten up a defence that had let in 55 goals in 32 League games.

They were quick to add that Max Dougan, who had arrived in December, was not under fire - they wanted to turn him into a wing half, where he had done a good job with Leicester City, his previous club.

Then Gordon Riddick, aged 23, who had been with the Town since he was a boy, was transfer-listed at his own request. A lot of us sympathised with him, because the Town had used him in a variety of roles and given him little chance to specialise. By coincidence, Gordon was in the news again last week, when he finally gave up professional football by leaving Brentford.

But the biggest transfer shock of the lot came out of the blue on March 9th, when Derek Kevan, idol of the Oak Road end, was transferred after only three months on the Town's books. Jimmy Meadows of Stockport County took him for £2,000 plus an inside forward named Keith Allen.

The cash meant that the Town had recouped the money they had paid to Peterborough for Kevan, and they knew they were getting a better than average player in exchange.

Allen, then 25, had been a club-mate of Allan Brown's at Portsmouth seven years previously. The Town also remembered him well because in the previous season Allen had notched a great hat-trick as Stockport beat us 4-0 at Edgeley Park.

And for those Town fans who had forgotten that, the six-foot figure of Allen dominated the game when he made his debut on March 11th 1967. He had a dream of a game, heading a glorious debut goal as the Town swamped Exeter 4-0. Gordon Riddick, Gerry King and Graham French were the other scorers, and with their second successive League win collected, the threat of re-election at long last seemed to be lifting.

And the mysterious First Division centre-half? It turned out to be Ken Brown of West Ham, who had once been capped by England. He refused to come to Kenilworth Road because he didn't fancy playing in the Fourth Division.

ACTION



THE Wolves defence discovered last Saturday that we had more bite than they had. We let them stay in the game for the first 35 minutes, then hit them with a quick one-two to chalk up our eighth win in a row.

TOP LEFT: Jimmy Husband was too sharp for Munro and McAlle after Ron Futchler laid the ball back to him. The picture shows the scene a split second after Jim had rifled in the first goal, with the defenders on the spot but powerless to do anything about it.

TOP CENTRE: Brian Chambers finds a gap and gets airborne to crack in another attempt at goal.

FAR RIGHT: even "Maxie" Faulkner joined in the attacks. He outjumped his opposite number, but goalkeeper Pierce held on to the ball.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Ron Futchler swivels and shoots for goal, and once more the defenders are too late with the challenge.

BOTTOM CENTRE: Lil Fuccillo, who scored the second goal, chats up the referee. One or two of our lads were tempted to say something rude because Wolves had just escaped when a full-back should have given away a penalty with a stupendous save, but Lil shows that even penalty appeals can be quite cheerful.

Pictures: Luton News

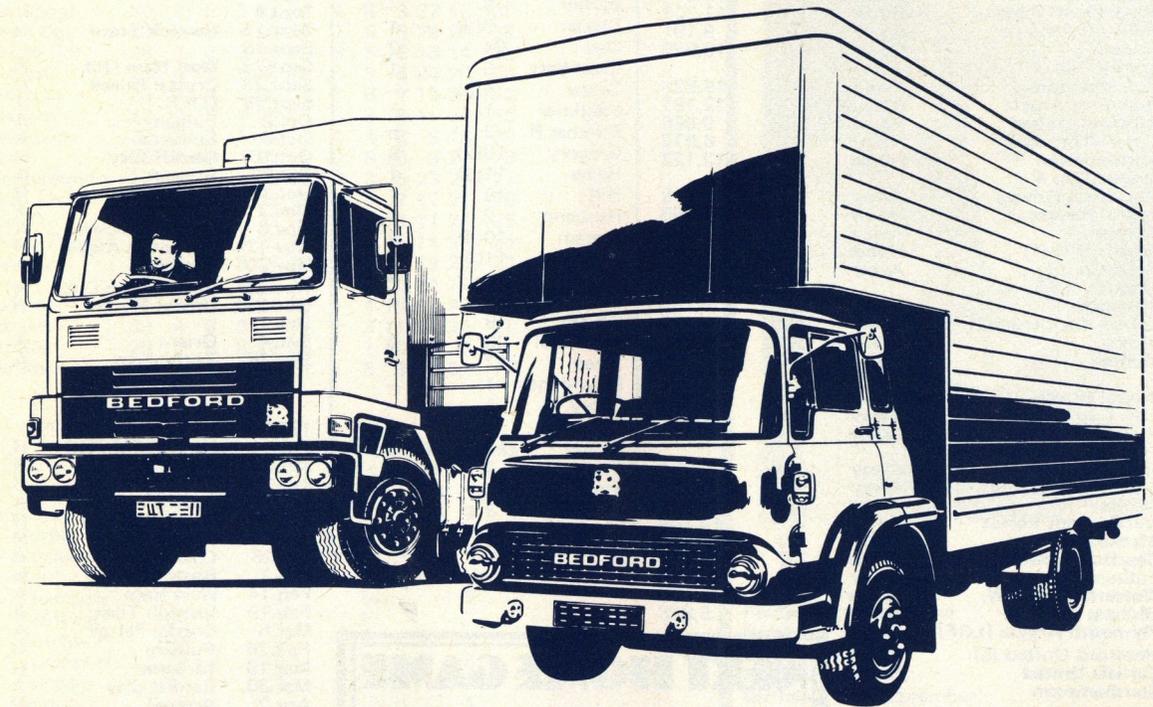
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LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

Date	Opponents	Ground	Result	Attendance
1976				
Aug.21	Sheffield United	Home	2-0	10,687
Aug.24	Hull City	Away	1-3	5,499
Aug.28	Burnley	Away	2-1	12,262
Sept.1	Sunderland	Away	1-3	22,390
Sept.4	Nottingham Forest	Home	1-1	11,231
Sept.10	Charlton Athletic	Away	3-4	9,191
Sept.18	Fulham	Home	0-2	19,929
Sept.22	League Cup 3			
Sept.25	Wolverhampton	Away	2-1	19,826
Oct.2	Plymouth Argyle	Away	0-1	12,187
Oct.9	Hereford United	Home	2-0	9,895
Oct.16	Carlisle United	Away	1-1	6,972
Oct.23	Southampton	Home	1-4	12,123
Oct.27	League Cup 4			
Oct.30	Blackburn Rovers	Away	0-1	8,719
Nov.6	Bristol Rovers	Home	4-2	7,066
Nov.13	Millwall	Away	2-4	10,380
Nov.20	Cardiff City(1)	Home	2-1	8,845
Nov.27	Notts County	Away	4-0	10,009
Dec.1	League Cup 5			
Dec.4	Blackpool	Home	0-0	9,183
Dec.21	Bolton Wanderers(2)	Away	1-2	17,475
Dec.27	Orient	Away	0-1	8,356
Dec.29	Chelsea	Home	4-0	14,625
1977				
Jan.1	Bristol Rovers	Away	0-1	7,185
Jan.8	F.A. Cup3(Halifax)	Away	1-0	5,519
Jan.15	Hull City	Home	2-1	8,455
Jan.19	League Cup SF			
Jan.22	Sheffield Utd	Away	3-0	16,257
Jan.29	Chester (F.A. Cup)	Away	0-1	10,609
Feb.5	Burnley	Home	2-0	8,638
Feb.12	Nottingham Forest	Away	2-1	18,255
Feb.15	Blackburn	Home	2-0	9,044
Feb.19	Charlton Athletic	Home	2-0	11,625
Feb.26	Fulham (5)	Away	2-1	11,894
Mar.5	Wolverhampton W.	Home	2-0	19,200
Mar.8	Oldham Athletic	Home	1-0	5,628
Mar.12	Plymouth Argyle (LCF)	Home		
Mar.19	Hereford United (6)	Away		
Mar.26	Carlisle United	Home		
Apr.2	Southampton	Away		
Apr.8	Chelsea	Away		
Apr.11	Orient	Home		
Apr.12	Millwall	Home		
Apr.16	Cardiff	Away		
Apr.23	Notts County (SF)	Home		
Apr.30	Blackpool	Away		
May 7	Bolton Wanderers	Home		
May 14	Oldham Athletic	Away		
May 21	F.A. Cup Final			

COMBINATION		
Appearances	Goals	
Aston	2	1
Barber	8	—
Brown	9(3)	1
Carr	24	2
Chambers	5	1
Driver	4(5)	—
Faulkner	1	—
Fletcher R	3	3
Gregory	18(2)	8
Heale	11(3)	1
Hill	18	1
Husband	2	—
Ingram	10(4)	3
Johnson	11(4)	—
Judge	1	—
Jones	24	—
Knight	19	—
McNichol	28	2
Mead	27	—
Mawhinney	1	—
Pacey	1	—
Ryan	11	4
Simon	15	5
Sisman	1	—
Smith	25	—
Turner	3	—
West	1	—

NEXT HOME GAME

v
CARLISLE UNITED
 Saturday March 26th 1977
 Kick-off 3.00 pm

COMBINATION

Date	Opponents	G	R
1976			
Aug.21	Oxford United	A	1-1
Aug.24	Southampton	H	0-1
Aug.28	Bristol City	A	1-2
Sept.1			
Sept.4	Ipswich Town	H	0-2
Sept.11			
Sept.18	West Ham Utd	H	2-3
Sept.22	Crystal Palace	H	1-3
Sept.25	Q.P.R.	A	1-3
Sept.28	Fulham	A	1-5
Oct.2	Leicester	A	1-4
Oct.9	Cardiff City	H	0-0
Oct.16	Heale	H	1-1
Oct.23	Tottenham	H	1-2
Oct.30	Chelsea	A	0-4
Nov.3	Swindon Town	A	P
Nov.6	Plymouth Argyle	H	1-3
Nov.13	Reading	A	P
Nov.20	Birmingham City	A	0-0
Nov.27	Bristol Rovers	H	2-0
Dec.1	Orient	A	P
Dec.4	Tottenham	A	0-2
Dec.18			
1977			
Jan.1	Hereford United	H	3-1
Jan.8	Norwich	H	2-2
Jan.15	Q.P.R.	H	2-1
Jan.18	Southampton	A	1-3
Jan.22	Oxford United	H	1-2
Jan.25	Orient	H	3-1
Jan.28	Chelsea	H	4-4
Feb.1	Bristol City	H	1-2
Feb.14	West Ham	A	2-2
Feb.19	Ipswich Town	A	1-2
Mar.5	Crystal Palace	A	
Mar.12	Fulham	H	0-4
Mar.19	Leicester	H	
Mar.30	Cardiff City	A	
Apr.2	Arsenal	H	
Apr.8			
Apr.9	Birmingham City	H	
Apr.12			
Apr.13	Hereford United	A	
Apr.16	Swindon Town	H	
Apr.23	Bristol Rovers	A	
Mar.12	Plymouth Argyle	H	
Apr.30	Reading	A	
May.7	Norwich City	A	

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO - AS AT 9/3/77

	HOME			Goals AWAY			Goals	Pts				
	P	W	D	L	F	A						
Chelsea	30	9	6	0	34	20	5	5	17	21	39	
Bolton	28	11	2	1	31	12	5	4	5	22	23	38
Wolves	28	10	1	3	35	15	4	8	2	28	19	37
Luton	30	11	2	2	27	11	6	1	8	23	22	37
Blackpool	30	7	5	3	22	14	4	8	3	22	18	35
Notts Co	29	8	2	4	20	14	7	3	5	29	29	35
Nottm For	28	7	3	3	36	19	5	5	5	18	14	32
Millwall	29	6	4	5	24	18	5	5	4	20	20	31
Charlton	29	9	4	2	36	21	1	6	7	15	25	30
Oldham	27	9	3	1	27	12	3	3	8	11	24	30
Blackburn	29	9	2	3	22	11	3	4	8	9	26	30
Hull	28	7	6	1	27	12	0	8	6	9	21	28
Southampton	27	6	6	3	25	21	3	3	6	23	24	27
Sheff Utd	28	5	7	3	22	18	3	3	7	17	21	26
Cardiff	29	6	4	5	22	20	3	3	8	17	24	25
Bristol Rovers	30	7	5	3	23	19	2	2	11	15	34	25
Plymouth	30	3	7	5	20	19	2	6	7	15	29	23
Orient	25	3	3	5	11	12	4	5	5	14	19	22
Fulham	30	5	5	5	24	20	1	4	10	13	32	21
Burnley	30	4	8	3	19	17	1	3	11	13	35	21
Carlisle	29	5	6	5	22	25	2	1	10	9	30	21
Hereford	27	3	4	5	16	22	1	5	9	18	34	17

APPEARANCES

	Total league	Cup	1976/7 League	Goals
Aleksic	44	2	12	—
Aston	295	3	21(1)	8
Barber	142	1	15	—
Buckley	86	3	29	3
Carr			(5)	
Chambers	101	3	24	2
Faulkner	164	3	27	—
Fletcher P.	106	3	29	1
Futcher R.	71	2	22(2)	8
Fuccillo	41	3	29	3
Geddis	2		2(3)	1
Hill	6	1	5(11)	3
Husband	261	3	24(3)	12
Jones	3		2(1)	—
Knight	2		2	—
Price	34	3	29	1
Ryan	194		10(2)	—
West	174	2	24	2

PLAYER PROFILE



Full name: Peter Mead
Height: 5' 6½"
Weight: 10st 5lbs
Birthplace: Luton
Birthday: 9th September
Star sign: Virgo
Family: Pop, Mum, Sister, Brother
Hobbies: records, coaching local village side.
Favourite foods: steak, shepherd's pie.
Favourite recording stars: Marvin Gaye, Paul McCartney, Stevie Wonder
Favourite holiday resort: Torquay
My greatest moment: Sub twice for first team: Notts Co. reserve first win, Chelsea after 15 games.
My biggest disappointment: not getting on when sub
When I finish playing: wait till it happens.
My aim is: to play League football consistently well.



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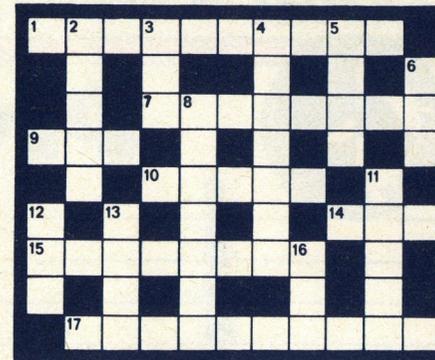
- 1 Division Two side in
Scotland (10)
7 In May 1963 referee Jim
Finney had to abandon their
'friendly' against Austria after
two Austrians had been sent
off (8)
9 & 16 down. Score worth one
point in the League but two in
the pools (3-3).
10 Rochdale manager (5)
14 Graydon or Goddard (3)
15 Former Chesterfield for-
ward who made a summer
move to Millwall (8)
17 League of Ireland club
based at Turners Cross (4,6)

Answers to Crossword No 13.

Across. 1 Portsmouth (1939). 7 Paul. 8
Give. 9 Eric. 14 Pele. 15 Bray. 16 Alan.
17 Gordon Hill.

Down: 2 O'Hare. 3 Tyler. 4 Marinello. 5
Tait. 6 Les. 10 Heath. 11 Lyall. 12 WBA.
13 Mayo.

Crossword NO.14



CLUES - DOWN

- 2 Portsmouth utility de-
fender (5)
3 ---- Bremner (Hibernian
& Scotland)(3)
4 Roberto ---- (Juventus
& Italy)(7)
5 Wrexham manager (4)
6 Former West Ham for-
ward ---- Coker is now with
Minnesota Kicks (3)
8 Bristol City international
(7)
11 West Ham included
Reipas ---- among their Cup-
Winners' Cup victims last sea-
son (5)
12 Nick Deacy went from
Hereford to Holland to join
this club last season (1,1,1)
13 Grzegorz ---- (Stal
Mielec & Poland) (4)
16 See 9 across

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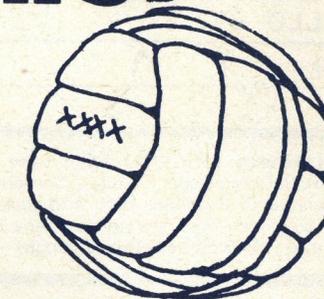
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R FUTCHER

P FUCCILLO

J ASTON

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12

N RAMSBOTTOM

C RANDELL

P DARKE

M HORSWILL

D SUTTON

J PEDDELTY

B HALL

C HARRISON

T AUSTIN

B BANNISTER

A ROGERS

OFFICIALS: Referee: Mr Reginald Robinson (Norwich). Started refereeing in 1960 and progressed through junior and local leagues to the Eastern Counties League and Football Combination to the Football League list. Was senior linesman at the 1974 FA Amateur Cup Final, and has officiated in Sardinia, Italy and Spain in Anglo-Italian and UEFA Cup matches. A married man, he has two children and is a Maintenance Engineer. He likes photography and is interested in all sports; coaches and trains young footballers and is a qualified youth leader. Linesmen: Mr B Hill (Wellingborough) - red flag; Mr A W Ward (London) - yellow flag.

SCOREBOARD

Blackburn Rovers Orient	Burnley Sheffield United	Oldham Athletic Notts County
Blackpool Bolton Wanderers	Cardiff City Chelsea	Wolverhampton Hereford United
Bristol Rovers Millwall	Nottingham Forest Hull City	Halifax Town Watford