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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th, 1979



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MR. GEORGE HULBERT

We are sorry to report the death of long standing Notts County supporter Mr. George Hulbert, who passed away on August 30th last, aged 58.
Condolences to all relatives.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP

In the event of our 3rd Round Tie at Grimsby being a draw, the replay will take place at

MEADOW LANE ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2nd

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

NOTE: This will be a **Cup Tie — All Pay.** Full details of arrangements for season ticket holders from the Secretary's Office.

OUR VISITORS TODAY — LUTON TOWN

Past games by Keith Warsop

We first met Luton Town on September 2, 1896, in a friendly match at the Dallow Lane ground, Luton, and lost 1-2. Our next clash was in a F.A. Cup tie first round match, this time at Dunstable Road, on January 13, 1912, and we ended up 4-2 winners. Our first Football League encounter was not until December 20, 1930, the first season we had spent in the Third Division South.

Since regaining Second Division status in 1973, our League record against Luton is as follows:

	H	A
1973-74	1-1	1-1
1975-76	1-0	1-1
1976-77	0-4	2-4
1977-78	2-0	0-2
1978-79	3-1	0-6

The complete League record, from our point of view, is:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Home	17	6	6	5	27	29	18
Away	17	1	3	13	15	48	5
Total	34	7	9	18	42	77	23

We have suffered some heavy defeats at Luton, losing 0-6 in 1951-52, 1-5 in 1952-53, 1-5 in 1965-66, and 0-6 last season, yet we won there 5-2 in 1966-67 when we finished 20th in the Fourth Division. At Meadow Lane there has been only one really high-scoring game — and that brings us to this week's:

Memory Match: at Meadow Lane, January 5, 1952. Notts County 5, Luton Town 4. Attendance 22,808.

Following some poor results there had been a "frank discussion between directors and players in mid-week. In addition we were looking to avenge that 0-6 defeat at Luton earlier in the season which had put paid to an unbeaten run at the start of the campaign. Tommy Deans returned after injury but was soon a passenger again after a kick in the back. He went off for treatment on the touchline, came back on the left wing and eventually recovered sufficiently to take his usual position in the

defence. There was a lot of early excitement with County pressing hard but it was Luton who scored after 20 minutes through a breakaway goal by TURNER. Two minutes later the Magpies were level. Tommy Lawton made the opening and Cecil McCormack, at No. 9 with Lawton at No. 8, gave Stretton no chance in the Luton goal. The visitors had a series of amazing escapes as County displayed some vintage soccer and after 42 minutes Ian McPherson broke away with an unstoppable burst of speed to latch on to Lawton's long downfield pass to score. Turning round 1-2 down, Luton rallied in fine style and after 60 minutes Taylor put them level. Stobart sent over a dangerous centre and three Notts defenders all missed the ball completely as Taylor gave Roy Smith no chance from close range. Two minutes later Moore came through the middle at top speed, eluded Leon Leuty's challenge and swept the ball past Smith.

Luton leading 3-2! County powered back into the game and in the 69th minute a great effort by McCormack got the ball over for Bobby Crookes to head home. Six minutes later the Magpies were leading 4-3 as Frank Broome scored from another McCormack pass. Now Luton packed everything into attack and the pressure told. As Smith came out of his goal to attempt to clear a Stobart centre, he missed the ball and Taylor made it 4-4 after 77 minutes. With only two minutes to go and Luton looking like earning a point, Owen, attempting to evade pressure from McCormack, turned a Crookes centre past his own goalkeeper.

Notts County: Roy Smith; Southwell, Deans, Robinson, Leuty, Adamson, Ian McPherson, Lawton, McCormack, Broome, Crookes.

Luton Town: Stretton; Dunn, Aherne, Morton, Owen, Watkins, Stobart, Turner, Moore, Taylor, Mitche.

Referee: Mr. H. Ball (Worcester).

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On The Inside



Spina Stutter

Imagine my feelings when I woke up on a sunny Sunday morning a couple of weeks ago and began recalling the previous day's events.

We had beaten Queen's Park Rangers to go top of the Second Division and quite naturally, Meadow Lane was alive with excitement.

But I had ruined a special day by getting myself sent off early in the second half and although it might have been easy for others to forget this amid the celebrations, it's not something that a professional footballer can disregard.

I don't want to dwell too long on this subject but it's only right that I make my apologies to everyone concerned through this column.

What I did was sheer stupidity — there's no other way to put it. It was a spur of the moment reaction which I regretted instantly but that's not an acceptable excuse for a player who has been involved in the game as long as I have.

It's a dreadful feeling when the referee pulls a red card from his top pocket and you know he is looking in your direction.

But my greatest punishment was the knowledge that I had let my colleagues, the manager and myself.

Things had started to go wrong for me the previous Saturday at Burnley when a clash of heads left me with an ugly gash over an eye which needed stitches.

Then I had two front teeth knocked back during the League Cup tie against Torquay United three days later — and my troubles continued when I got home.

My son David, who's nearly two, drank half a bottle of something he shouldn't and he had to dashed off to hospital as a precautionary measure.

In fact, it was not a problem but no sooner had he got back in the door than he fell down the stairs and collected a nasty bump on the head.

Then came the incident against Queen's Park Rangers to cap everything

I'm told they were tremendous during that last half hour and people still haven't stopped talking about the two late saves Raddy Avramovic made.

My only answer to that is that I told you so. He's a tremendous goalkeeper and deserves a lot of the credit for us reaching the top of the Second Division.

From a defender's point of view, it's great to know that you have a chap with his ability waiting behind you and there's no doubt in my mind that he's played a considerable part in putting confidence back into the team.

When we blew our promotion chances with defeats at Sheffield United and Sunderland last season our confidence took a battering but there's nothing like a run of wins and a place on top of the table to make it come flooding back.



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Colin Slater's Scrapbook From 20 years at meadow lane

It was a bitter-sweet afternoon a couple of weeks ago when Notts were chiefly grateful to a good Don Masson goal and a stunning Raddy Avramovil double save for the win over Queen's Park Rangers which preserved the unbeaten record and pushed the Magpies a point clear at the head of the Second Division.

I'm not thinking about the sending off of captain Brian Stubbs as the factor which gave just a sour note to one of the happiest of post-war days at The Lane.

Off the field were happenings which brought both joy . . . and a touch of sadness.

First of all some of us who have been his friends at Notts for many years were delighted to celebrate the 81st birthday of the former club doctor, Dr. Frank. Although he retired from his official duties here more than ten years ago he's still a devoted follower and an ever-welcome guest.

But then there was news that former club secretary Chick Heath and his wife Mary were in (separate local hospitals, suffering from quite different illnesses, he in the City Hospital with lung trouble and she at Harlow Wood Orthopaedic unit. Chick, too, has been retired for some years but it doesn't quite seem like Meadow Lane on a match day without both of them around.

There are some people who are like indispensable 12th men to any football club. They don't put on the substitute's jersey or sit on the touchline awaiting the dramatic summons to action but of their value there can be no doubt.

Doctors and other medical advisers come high on such a list. Notts have always been fortunate in this respect, for Dr. Andrew Clarke has long been a worthy successor to Dr. Frank and both have served alongside the surgeon Mr. J. P. Jackson.

I put coach drivers to away matches in the same special category. For years Notts were driven with complete safety by a man with an unerring instinct for the right route and location of hotel or football ground. The late Albert Dawson (or Major as he was once dubbed by a player and it stuck every after) made it a pleasure to be aboard the Notts team bus.

And the same is true of his no-long-serving successor, Geoff. I'll wager he knows every corner of England and I marvel at his ability to pull up outside an away stadium "just a little after two o'clock" as Jimmy Sirrel asks.

They don't score good goals or make stunning double saves, these sort of people. But they, too, are worth a standing ovation for years of loyal and outstanding service.

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MATCH - DAY CHECK VAUXHALL AT CLIFTON

VAUXHALL AT CLIFTON

NOTTS COUNTY

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----|---------------------|
| Radojko AVRAMOVIC | 1 | Jake FINDLAY |
| Pedro RICHARDS | 2 | Kirk STEPHENS |
| Ray O'BRIEN | 3 | Mel DONAGHY |
| David HUNT | 4 | Tony GREALISH |
| Brian STUBBS | 5 | Mike SAXBY |
| Jeff BLOCKLEY | 6 | Paul PRICE |
| Iain McCULLOCH | 7 | Ricky HILL |
| Don MASSON | 8 | Alan WEST |
| Trevor CHRISTIE | 9 | Brian STEIN |
| Paul HOOKS | 10 | Bob HATTON |
| Gordon MAIR | 11 | David MOSS |
| Sub. Tristan BENJAMIN | | Sub: Mark HAZELWOOD |



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in charge today

REFEREE
MR. ARNOLD CHALLINOR
 (Maltby, near Rotherham)
 Commenced refereeing in 1955 with Rotherham Leagues. Officiated in a U.E.F.A. Cup match in 1977. Married with a married daughter and younger son. Holds a preliminary badge in coaching and also a first aid certificate.

LINESMEN
MR. K. C. FERGUSSON
 (Red Flag)

MR. M. G. PULLEY
 (Yellow Flag)

half-time scoreboard

A	Arsenal Middlesbro	.	K	Watford Cardiff C.	.
B	Leeds Utd Liverpool	.	L	West Ham U Sunderland	.
C	Man Utd Derby C.	.	M	Blackpool Rotherham U	.
D	Norwich C: Forest	.	N	Colchester U Sheff Wed.	.
E	Birmingham Charlton A.	.	O	Mansfield T. Oxford Utd.	.
F	Fulham Burnley	.	P	Sheff Utd. Barnsley	.
G	Newcastle U Leicester C.	.	Q	Swindon T. Chesterfield	.
H	Shrewsbury T Chelsea	.	R	Lincoln C. Doncaster	.
J	Swansea C. Q.P.R.	.	S	Newport C. Bradford C.	.

fixtures

1979	Aug.	18 S	CARDIFF CITY.....	H
		21 T	Shrewsbury Town.....	A
		25 S	Burnley.....	A
		26 T	League Cup 2 (1L).....	
	Sept.	1 S	QUEENS PARK RANGERS.....	H
		4 T	League Cup 2 (2L).....	
		8 S	Leicester City.....	A
		15 S	LUTON TOWN.....	H
		22 S	SWANSEA CITY.....	H
		29 S	Wrexham.....	A
	Oct.	6 S	Bristol Rovers.....	A
		9 T	SHREWSBURY TOWN.....	H
		13 S	OLDHAM ATHLETIC.....	H
		20 S	Fulham.....	A
		27 S	WEST HAM UNITED.....	H
	Nov.	3 S	Cardiff City.....	A
		10 S	PRESTON NORTH END.....	H
		17 S	Sunderland.....	A
		24 S	CHELSEA.....	H
	Dec.	1 S	Watford.....	A
		8 S	BIRMINGHAM CITY.....	H
		15 S	Orient.....	A

VAUXHALL AT CLIFTON

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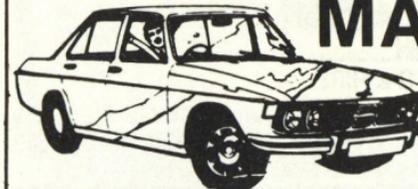
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FACTS AND FIGURES

RESULTS — FIRST TEAM

Tue. Aug. 7 A/S Cup. H v Sheffield U. 0-1.
Sat. Aug. 4. A/S Cup A v Mansfield T. Att. 4,340. 0-1. **Scorer:** Christie.
Sat. Aug. 11. A/S Cup H v Cambridge U. Att. 2,533. 1-3. **Scorer:** Hooks.
Sat. Aug. 18. League H v Cardiff C. Att. 7,157. 4-1. **Scorers:** P. Richards, McCulloch, Masson, Mair.
Tue. Aug. 21. League A v Shrewsbury T. 1-1. **Scorer:** Christie.
Sat. Aug. 25. League A v Burnley. Att. 7,005. 0-1. **Scorer:** Mair.
Tue. Aug. 28. L. Cup H v Torquay U. Att. 5,865. 0-0.
Sat. Sept. 1. League H v Q.P.R. Att. 8,745. 1-0. **Scorer:** Masson.
Wed. Sept. 5. L. Cup A v Torquay. Att. 4,531 0-1. **Scorer:** Hooks.
App. Avramovic, P. Richards, O'Brien, Hunt, Blockley, McCulloch, Masson, 9; Christie, Hooks, Mair, Stubbs, 8; Benjamin, 3; Manns, 2.
Subs. (Appearances). Benjamin, 2; Mair, Doherty, 1.
Goalscorers. Christie, Masson, Mair, 2; P. Richards, McCulloch, 1.

RESULTS — RESERVE TEAM

Mon. Aug. 20. N.M. L. Cup H v Middlebrough 3-2. **Scorers:** L. Richards, Manns 2.
Tue. Aug. 28. N.M. L. Cup A v Middlesbrough 3-0.
Mon. Sept. 3. N.M. League A v Darlington 1-1. **Scorer:** L. Richards.
Goalscorers. Manns, Richards, 2 each.

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Focus On...

Gordon Mair



Remember when Gordon Mair first arrived on the senior scene with Notts County as a 17-year-old apprentice three years ago?

It was a dream start for the young Scot when, as substitute, he joined in the 5-1 destruction of a Fulham side who included George Best and Bobby Moore.

That was at Craven Cottage and at Meadow Lane three days later, Mair played during the final half-hour as Burnley were crushed by the same scoreline.

The youngster fairly sparkled with his neat control and class and confidence suggested that here was a star in the making.

But perhaps, on reflection, that was the worst possible introduction for Mair. He completely lost his way, disappointed into relative obscurity

and more than once there has been talk of him drifting away from Meadow Lane.

Mair's skill did not desert him but confidence did and it's taken two years of Jimmy Sirrel's own brand of doctoring to put him back on the right course.

He's not there yet, by any means, but no one can deny that he has made an important contribution to the Magpies' heartening start to the season.

A goal in the opening match against Cardiff, the winger at Burnley seven days later and an assist for Trevor Christie at Shrewsbury sandwiched in between are the type of positive actions Sirrel has been wanting to see from him.

And at the same time, his individual skills have been used for the benefit of the team —

something which has not always been the case.

"I know I am under pressure to justify my place in the side and if I don't do well, I'll be out", said the Lanarkshire born youngster.

"But perhaps that's not a bad thing because it was complacency which caused my problems a few years ago. I came into the team at a time when they were doing well anyway and everyone made a fuss of me.

"I thought I had made it and began to take things for granted. That attitude could have cost me my career when I should have been telling myself I hadn't even started. "I know the score now though. I'm beginning to understand what it's all about and I realise that these days I am a much more

effective player.

"To begin with, I'm much stronger. In the past I have been guilty of playing in little bursts but I'm now doing a job which demands involvement all the time and I like to think I am responding to it.

"The other major difference has been confidence. I stopped believing in myself because I couldn't see any future in plodding along in the reserves.

"But that's changing now. If you can't draw confidence from the sort of start to the season that we've had then you never will.

"I know I've got the pace and skill to get past people. Now I just want the chance of an extended first-team run so that I can prove this — but it's up to me whether I get that chance, isn't it?"

A Profile by Terry Bowles

PRIZE QUIZ



1. NAME THE PLAYER:

From these clues find the name of the former Notts County favourite: Once given a free transfer from Bury after just four appearances, this popular striker was born in Ashton-under-Lyme. He went on to play over 250 times for Chesterfield scoring 97 times in the League before coming to Meadow Lane in 1972. After 119 League appearances for the Magpies in which he hit the target 38 times our mystery player joined his present club, York City, after a spell at Mansfield.

2. WHICH CLUB IS IT ?

Since the War, which club has had the following as its Managers: Bob Hewison, Bob Wright, Pat Beasley, Peter Doherty and Fred Ford ?

3. GROUNDS

Which Football League clubs play at the following grounds:

(A) Dean Court; (b) Boundary Park; (c) Oakwell; (d) Gresty Road; (e) Vetch Field.

4. BIRTH-PLACES

Which current Notts County players were born in the following places: (A) Coatbridge; (b) Wallsend; (c) Corby; (d) St. Kitts.

5. SUNDAY FOOTBALL:

The first Football League game to be played on a Sunday took place on the morning of January 20th, 1974. Which two sides were involved ?

6. END OF A RUN.

Brazil set up a record for undefeated matches in the World Cup in the 1958 and 1962 finals playing 13, winning 11 and drawing two. Their run ended in the 1966 competition. Who beat them and what was the score ?

Compiled by Brian Tansley of Radio Trent



NOTTS COUNTY F.C. SUPPORTERS CLUB

By Roger Hill

Well what about it then, just a month into the season and (as I write these notes) one point clear at the top of the Division, undefeated, and everyone walking around Meadow Lane with a smile on their face's. How long will it last is the question the doubting Thomas' are asking (and answering in most cases) I don't know the answer I'm just enjoying it and saying a little prayer each day that the smiles will still be here next May.

They say in this game you make your own luck and if that's true then Notts worked overtime in the closing minutes against Q.P.R. with that save of Raddy's. In all the years I have been watching

football I have never seen a goalkeeper given a standing ovation like the one Raddy received (and deserved). And the way Jimmy ran onto the pitch to congratulate him at the end of the game was, to me, reminiscent of Bob Stokoe, the then Sunderland manager, at the end of the 1972 Cup Final. To say it wasn't a great game, that match will live in my memory for a long time.

BRANCHES

Looking through my collection of old Notts County programmes I came across one of the early 69's which listed supporters club branches. It is apparent that there were dozens of active branches throughout the Nottm. area and we boasted a total membership of many thousands. A different story today I'm afraid. Even though

our membership is increasing steadily, thanks mainly to the opening of "The Magpie Club" and the hard work put in by Tony Hales and his team, we are still "under strength" for a top second division team. As far as branches go we have seven in operation at the moment and obviously we would like to see many more for various reasons not least for the social benefits branch activities bring. If you would like information on how to start and run a branch in your area Tony Hales will be delighted to hear from you and will give you all the help and assistance you need. Tony can be contacted in the Magpie Club on match days or drop him a line c/o Meadow Lane.

SUPPORTERS FOOTBALL

Our newly formed Under

12's made their debut in the league last Sunday against Sherwin at Derby. The result unfortunately went against us 1-4. But the lads enjoyed it and once they settle down and become used to the pace of league football things I'm sure will be a little different.

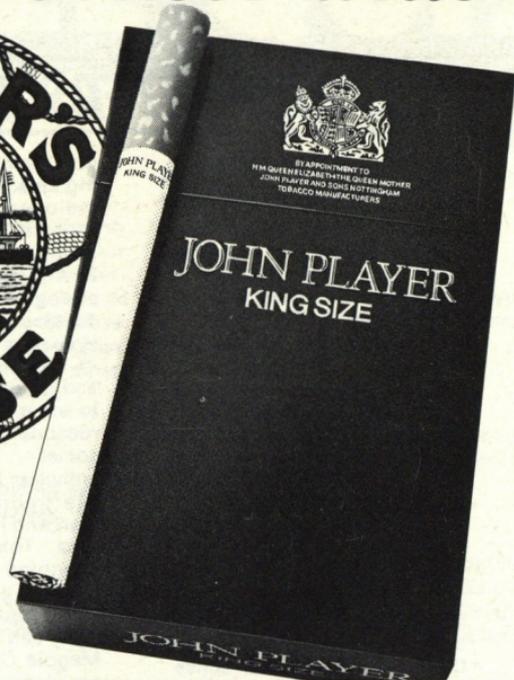
In the meantime congratulations to Grieg Matthews who scored the first league goal for the young Magpies.

DIARY DATES

September 21st—Beeston Branch Dance at the Western Club, Lenton. Tickets £1.00 from any committee members or phone Nottm. 22265.

Friday, 5th October—First round Magpie Mastermind to be held in the Magpie Club 8.00 pm. (Incidentally we have a few vacancies for members wishing to take part in future rounds. Interested? Just leave your name at the Magpie Club on match days).

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