



THE ROYAL

The Match Magazine of Reading Football Club

League Cup 2nd Round 1st Leg

Reading v Luton Town

Wednesday 27th August 1980

Kick-off 7.30 p.m. Match Magazine 30p



ROYAL ACTION



KERRY DIXON ... in action against Walsall in our opening league game of the season.

• Photo: Stuart Robinson (Reading Chronicle)



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MAURICE EVANS

We have had mixed fortunes following our League Cup win at Northampton.

Defeat against Northampton in the second leg of the League Cup by 3-2, and in my book that was a ridiculous result. We had enough chances to have scored 6 but we paid the penalty for not taking them and Northampton won it in the last minute.

Our opening League game against Walsall looked as if it might go the same way. We had a lot of play in the first half and created chances but only had Mark White's goal to show for our efforts at half time.

In the second period it was Walsall that came into the game without really threatening but they certainly had a lot of the play. Fortunately Stuart Beavon wrapped it up with a fine goal 10 minutes from the end.

On the Tuesday we travelled to Gillingham where we have usually done quite well in the past but it was not to be.

It was a fine match with no quarter asked or given. The Gillingham crowd must have gone away thoroughly pleased with the entertainment.

Certainly in the first half it was the best that we have played and only the Gillingham keeper kept them in it. Steve Death also made a fine save in the first couple of minutes but after that he never had that much to do.

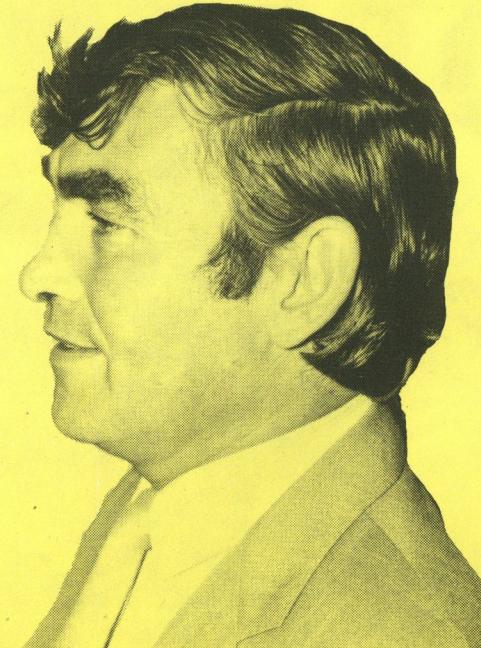
As very often happens it was Gillingham who took the lead after we had been the better side. In the second half, the game tailed off a bit but there was still plenty of goalmouth incidents at both ends and Gillingham made it 2-0 15 minutes from the end following a defensive slip.

On the day I was obviously disappointed at the end result but if we can keep up this form we shall be a force to be reckoned with. Every team are bound to lose games and although it hurts at the

time we shall bounce back. Of that I am sure.

To-night we entertain Luton in the Second Round of the League Cup. Those of you who watched our friendly game against them will have seen what a fine side they are. Last season they just failed in their bid for promotion but this season they could be closer.

I'm sure it will be a exciting game and I shall be looking to you to get behind us and cheer us through to victory. Remember the Wolves game in the League Cup - you did as well as the players that night. Lets hear you again right from the start tonight!



LUTON TOWN



We welcome back Luton Town who played here in a pre season friendly earlier in the month. Reading fans will not need reminding that Luton won the game 5-1 but no doubt the lads will be all out to make amends in this League Cup tie.

A lot has happened to Luton since their last league match here back in March 1970. At the end of that season they gained promotion to Division Two only two seasons after winning the Fourth Division championship. In season 1973/74 they finished runners up to Middlesbrough and so returned to Division One after a fourteen year absence. The following season got off to a bad start when, after twenty one games, they were rooted to the bottom with just nine points. However, in the other twenty one games they picked up twenty five more points and, although they were relegated, optimism was high for a quick return.

Back in Division Two they got off to a mediocre start when they were rocked by a financial crisis. Faced with debts of £740,000 the then manager, Harry Haslam, had to start selling players, and so acute was the state of things that if Peter Anderson, their talented midfield player, had refused to sign for Belgian club Royal Antwerp, Luton would have folded up. The £60,000 they received for him helped to pay the players wages but they still needed a lot more money to carry on. Andy King was sold to Everton for £40,000, followed by skipper Bobby Thomson, Jimmy Ryan and Gordon Hindson to North American League clubs. Despite selling all these players and bringing in youngsters to fill the gaps they ended the season in sixth place just five points behind promoted West Bromwich Albion.

The fact that the club survived at all is mostly due to Harry Haslam's shrewd transfer dealings and ability to produce good young players. In the spring of 1978 he left the club to take over struggling Sheffield United, leaving current manager David Pleat to take over. During his first season in charge the team struggled whilst being

rebuilt and they finished only two points clear of relegated Sheffield United. Last season saw a complete transformation with promotion nearly being gained. The fact that they finished sixth in one of the tightest promotion races ever known is due to their poor home record where they dropped no less than fourteen points.

During the close season, striker Bob Hatton was sold to Sheffield United for £75,000 whilst Yugoslavian International Radi Antic was signed from Spanish club Zaragosa. Antic can play either in midfield or in the back four and should prove a real asset to the team.

Season 77/78 will be of interest to Reading fans in that Luton played Manchester City in Round Three. After a 1-1 draw at Luton and a 0-0 draw at Maine Road the replay was at Manchester United's ground, Old Trafford. A certain player called Gary Heale scored twice but Manchester City scored three to go through to the next round.



JAKE FINDLAY

Luton's highest-ever fee for a goalkeeper. Had been almost permanently in the reserves for nine years before he moved from Aston Villa to Luton for £15,000 in November 1978.

PAUL PRICE

Club Captain, and Luton's longest serving player who has broken his leg twice. Been one of Luton's most consistent Second Division players for the past five seasons. Last summer he became a Welsh International.

KIRK STEPHENS

Stephens was playing as a part-timer at Nuneaton where Mr. Pleat was once Manager, when the Luton boss signed him in the summer of 1978 and pushed him

MAL DONAGHY

Football supporters in Larne, in Northern Ireland, are still smarting over the loss of this elegant defender. Luton snapped him up for a bargain £20,000. Made such good progress at Luton that he became a Northern Ireland International last summer.

PASQUALE FUCCILLO

Son of Italian parents and known as Lil to his friends and Luton fans, Fuccillo came up through Luton's junior teams to make his league debut as a 19-year-old in 1976 when he was 19. Broken his leg twice.

ALAN WEST

Now one of the most experienced players on Luton's books, West played his 250th league game for the Hatters last season - against

leading scorer in each of his first two seasons with them and started this campaign with the 100 league goal mark well in view - he notched 60 for Swindon and 37 in his first two terms as a Luton player.

BRIAN STEIN

Brian Stein was a local health authority clerk enjoying non-league football with Edgware Town in North London when Luton persuaded him to try his luck as a full-time pro. He made his debut within a month.

GODFREY INGRAM

A former England schoolboy International.

STEVE WHITE

A direct front-running attacker, White was making a name for himself as a goal-scorer at Bristol

PEN PICTURES

straight into the Second Division. Stephens rapidly became a firm favourite at Kenilworth Road, collecting the supporters' Player of the Year Award in his first season.

MARK AIZLEWOOD

Luton nipped in smartly with a £50,000 cheque to bring defender Aizlewood out of the Fourth Division. Capped by Wales at under-21 level as well.

MIKE SAXBY

Luton's record fee of £200,000 persuaded Mansfield to part with their star centre-half in the summer of 1979. His consistency, particularly his strength in the air, was a major reason for Luton's ability to stay in the promotion race for so long last season.

Burnley, where he began his career. Luton paid £100,000 in 1973 and West has been their Midfield inspiration ever since. An England under-23 International, he almost went to Sunderland from Turf Moor.

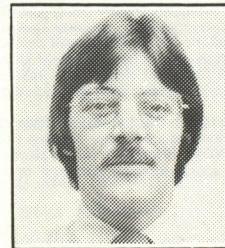
RICKY HILL

West Ham, famous for liking players of skill and flair, had their eye on schoolboy Hill in North London when he was still only 14. Made his league debut in 1976, when he was still only 17. He scored on his debut and has been regularly on target ever since.

DAVID MOSS

Spent nine years in the Third Division with Swindon when Luton bought him for £110,000 in the summer of 1978. He was their

Rovers when Luton started to take an interest in him early last season. He gave them an unwelcome reminder by scoring twice when Luton lost at Bristol and a couple of months later White was transferred to Luton for £175,000.



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STAR PLAYER

RADOMIR ANTIC

Luton's first excursion into the European transfer market brought Antic - pronounced Anteesh - to this country with five Yugoslav International caps to his name. He had been playing for Zaragoza in Spain and there was a public outcry when they decided to let him go. Luton signed him for a token fee, just a few weeks after the 30-year-old defender had been chosen "Foreign Player of the Year" by Spanish soccer Press.



TONY GREALISH

Fans and officials of Orient were convinced that they had been robbed when Luton swooped to sign their midfield star in the summer of 1979. An Eire International, he took advantage of freedom of contract to insist on a change of Club, and no-one was too surprised when Orient slapped a £350,000 price-tag on him. By taking the case to a tribunal Luton had the fee cut to £150,000 and it has looked a bigger bargain with each appearance the player makes.



FORM GUIDE

Results of Luton Town's last six matches

1979/80 SEASON

v. Chelsea (away) drew 1-1
v Shrewsbury (home) drew 0-0
v Birmingham (away) lost 1-0
v Wrexham (home) won 2-0
v Newcastle (away) drew 2-2

1980/81 SEASON

v West Ham (away) won 2-1



MEET THE REFEREE

DEREK W. LLOYD (Fernhill Heath, Worcs.) Commenced refereeing in 1956 and graduated through local Worcester and West Midland Regional Leagues to the Football League list. Lined the 1972 F.A. Amateur Cup Semi-Final and also U.E.F.A. Cup match - Hungary - in 1974, and refereed F.A. Trophy semi-final - 1978.

A married man, with two children, he is Training Safety Manager for a High Pressure Die Casting Company. Interesting in all sports he played amateur scorrer for Stoke City and as professional for Worcester City until a knee injury cut short his playing career. Played football and cricket for Worcester schools and football for Worcestershire F.A. at senior level. Is a qualified M.C.C. Cricket Coach to a local club and a qualified referee instructor taking a keen interest in helping young referees.



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ROYALS STATISTICS

READING FIRST TEAM Fixture Dates for Season 1980-81

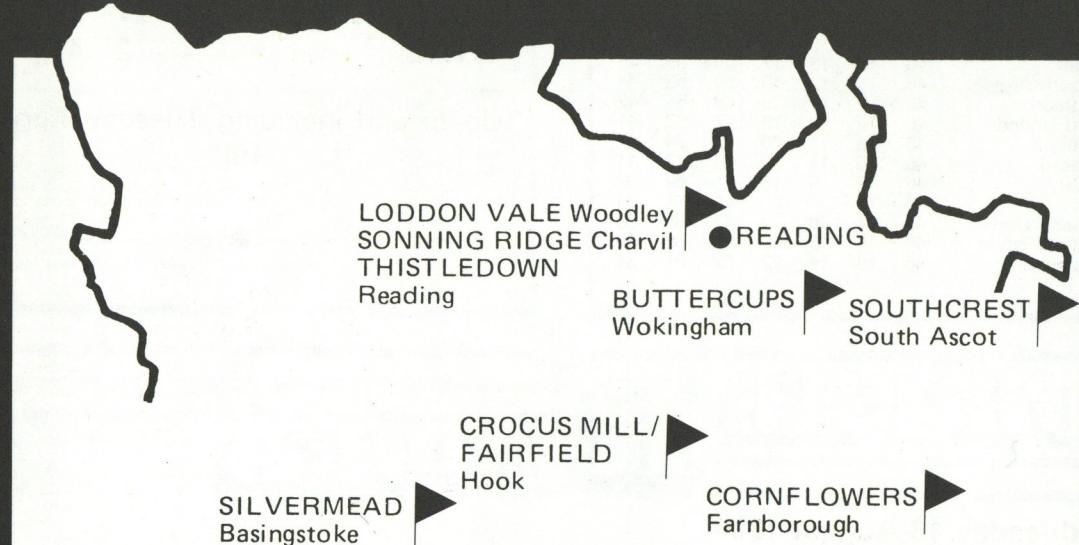
Date	Opponents	V	F	A	Att.	STEVE DEATH	ROGER JOSLYN	DAVE MORELINE	RICHIE BOWMAN	STEVE HETZKE	DAVE SHIPPERLEY	PAT EARLES	GARY HEALE	KERRY DIXON	LAWRIE SANCHEZ	STUART BEAVON	NEIL WEBB	MARK WHITE	POINTS	POSITION
		Appearances																		
		Sub Appearances																		
Goals						1	1	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Fri	Aug 8	Northampton (LC1)	A	2-0	3,294	1	2	3	4	5/1	6	7/1	8	9	10	11	12	12	12	—
Wed	Aug 13	NORTHTON (LC2)	H	2-3	4,357	1	2	3	4	5	6	8/2	9	10	11	12	12	12	12	—
Sat	Aug 16	WALSALL	H	2-0	4,369	1	2	4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	12	12	—
Tue	Aug 19	Gillingham	A	0-2	5,193	1	2	4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	12	12	3/1
Sat	Aug 23	Brentford	A	2-1	6,720	1	2	4	5	6	7/1	8	9/1	10	11	12	12	12	12	3
Wed	Aug 27	League Cup 2 (1L)																		
Sat	Aug 30	SWINDON T	H																	
Wed	Sept 3	League Cup 2 (2L)																		
Sat	Sept 6	Huddersfield Town	A																	
Sat	Sept 13	SHEFFIELD UTD	H																	
Wed	Sept 17	PLYMOUTH AGYL	H																	
Sat	Sept 20	Rotherham United	A																	
Wed	Sept 24	League Cup 3																		
Sat	Sept 27	BARNESLEY	H																	
Tue	Sept 30	Plymouth Argyle	A																	
Sat	Oct 4	MILLWALL	H																	
Tue	Oct 7	Newport County	A																	
Sat	Oct 11	Chester	A																	
Sat	Oct 18	CHESTERFIELD	H																	
Wed	Oct 22	COLCHESTER UTD.	H																	
Sat	Oct 25	Carlisle Utd	A																	
Tue	Oct 28	Charlton Athletic	A																	
Wed	Oct 29	League Cup 4																		
Sat	Nov 1	EXETER CITY	H																	
Wed	Nov 5	NEWPORT COUNTY	H																	
Sat	Nov 8	Burnley	A																	
Wed	Nov 12	GILLINGHAM	H																	
Sat	Nov 15	Walsall	A																	
Sat	Nov 22	F.A. Cup 1																		
Sat	Nov 29	BLACKPOOL	H																	
Wed	Dec 3	League Cup 5																		
Sat	Dec 6	Hull City	A																	
Sat	Dec 13	F.A. Cup 2																		
Sat	Dec 20	FULHAM	H																	
Fri	Dec 26	Portsmouth	A																	
Sat	Dec 27	OXFORD UTD.	H																	
1981	Sat Jan 3	Chesterfield (3)	A																	
Sat	Jan 10	CARLISLE UTD	H																	
Wed	Jan 14	League Cup SF																		
Sat	Jan 17	Blackpool	A																	
Sat	Jan 24	Swindon Town (4)	A																	
Sat	Jan 31	BRENTFORD	H																	
Sat	Feb 7	Sheffield United	A																	
Wed	Feb 11	League Cup SF																		
Sat	Feb 14	H'FIELD T. (5)	H																	
Sat	Feb 21	Barnsley	A																	
Sat	Feb 28	ROTHERHAM UTD	H																	
Sat	Mar 7	Millwall (6)	A																	
Sat	Mar 14	CHESTER (LCF)	H																	
Sat	Mar 21	Colchester United	A																	
Sat	Mar 28	CHAR. ATH.	H																	
Sat	Apr 4	Exeter City	A																	
Sat	Apr 11	Burnley (SF)	A																	
Fri	Apr 17	—																		
Sat	Apr 18	Oxford United	A																	
Mon	Apr 20	PORTSMOUTH	H																	
Tue	Apr 21	—																		
Sat	Apr 25	Fulham	A																	
Sat	May 2	HULL CITY	H																	
Sat	May 9	F.A. CUP FINAL	H																	

DIVISION 3 TABLE

FINAL PLACINGS 1979-80

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Grimsby	46	26	10	10	73	42	62
Blackburn	46	25	9	12	58	36	59
Sheffield Wed.	46	21	16	9	81	47	58
Chesterfield	46	23	11	12	71	46	57
Colchester U.	46	20	12	14	64	56	52
Carlisle U.	46	18	12	16	66	56	48
Reading	46	16	16	14	66	55	48
Exeter City	46	19	10	17	60	48	48
Chester	46	17	13	16	49	57	47
Swindon T.	46	19	8	19	71	63	46
Barnsley	46	16	14	16	53	56	46
Sheffield United	46	18	10	18	60	66	46
Rotherham	46	18	10	18	58	66	46
Millwall	46	16	13	17	65	59	45
Plymouth Argyle	46	16	12	18	59	55	44
Gillingham	46	14	14	18	49	51	42
Oxford United	46	14	13	19	57	62	41
Blackpool	46	15	11	20	62	74	41
Brentford	46	15	11	20	59	73	41
Hull City	46	12	16	18	51	69	40
Bury	46	16	7	23	45	59	39
Southend United	46	14	10	22	47	58	38
Mansfield Town	4						

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COMBINATION LEAGUE

			W	D	W	D	BRISTOL CITY	
Sat Aug	16	Queens Park Rangers	A	P	Sat Dec	20	Tottenham Hotspur	H
Wed Aug	20	OXFORD UNITED	H	2-0	Tue Dec	23	LUTON TOWN	H
Sat Aug	30	Crystal Palace	A		Sat Dec	27	Fulham	A
Sat Sept	6	Bristol Rovers	A		1981	7	HEREFORD UNITED	H
Sat Sept	13	Leicester City	A		Wed Jan	14	CRYSTAL PALACE	H
Sat Sept	30	Arsenal	A		Wed Jan	21	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H
Wed Sept	24	SWINDON TOWN	H		Wed Jan	28	LEICESTER CITY	H
Wed Oct	1	CARDIFF CITY	H		Wed Feb	4	Cardiff City (2 p.m.)	A
Sat Oct	4	Birmingham	A		Wed Feb	11	BRISTOL ROVERS	H
Wed Oct	8	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	H		Sat Feb	21	Swindon Town	A
Wed Oct	15	SOUTHAMPTON	H		Wed Feb	25	ARSENAL	H
Sat Oct	18	Chelsea	A		Wed Mar	4	BIRMINGHAM	H
Tues Oct	21	Bristol City	A		Sat Mar	14	Southampton	A
Sat Oct	25	NORWICH CITY	H		Wed Mar	25	CHELSEA	H
Sat Nov	1	Plymouth Argyle	A		Sat Mar	28	Norwich	A
Wed Nov	12	Oxford United	A		Wed Apr	8	FULHAM	H
Wed Nov	19	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	H		Sat Apr	11	West Ham United	A
Sat Nov	22	Hereford United	A		Tue Apr	21	Luton Town	A
Wed Nov	26	IPSWICH TOWN	H		Sat Apr	25	ORIENT	H
Sat Dec	3	WEST HAM UNITED	H		Sat May	2	Ipswich Town	A
Sat Dec	6	Orient	A					

S.E. COUNTIES

FIXTURES - 1980-81

Aug	16	Millwall	A	2-2	Dec	6	CRYSTAL PALACE	
Aug	23	Orient	H		Dec	13	Crystal Palace	H
Aug	30	Oxford United	A		Dec	20	MILLWALL	H
Sept	6	SWINDON TOWN	H		Dec	27	Orient	A
Sept	13	Bristol Rovers	A		Jan	3	OXFORD UNITED	A
Sept	20	PETERBOROUGH	H		Jan	10	Swindon Town	A
Sept	27	BRENTFORD	H		Jan	17	BRISTOL ROVERS	H
Oct	4	Charlton Athletic	A		Jan	24	Brentford	A
Oct	11	CHELSEA	H		Jan	31	CHARLTON ATHLETIC	H
Oct	18	Cambridge	A		Feb	7	Chelsea	A
Nov	1	LUTON TOWN	H		Feb	14	CAMBRIDGE UNITED	H
Nov	8	Peterborough United	A		Feb	21	Luton Town	A
Nov	15	WIMBLEDON	H		Mar	7	Wimbledon	A
Nov	22	TOTTENHAM	H		Mar	14	Tottenham H.	A
Nov	29	West Ham United	A		Mar	21	WEST HAM UTD	H

COMBINATION TABLE

1979-80								
Tottenham	42	27	9	6	96	46	63	
Arsenal	42	26	7	8	96	48	59	
Norwich City	42	24	11	7	80	40	59	
Chelsea	42	23	9	10	66	43	55	
Fulham	42	22	9	11	68	53	53	
Ipswich	42	19	13	10	69	48	51	
Bristol City	42	19	10	13	77	5748		
QPR	42	20	7	15	87	70	47	
Southampton	42	16	14	12	68	57	46	
West Ham	42	18	8	16	71	64	44	
Birmingham City	42	15	12	15	62	59	42	
Leicester City	42	17	7	8	66	65	41	
Luton Town	42	12	17	13	47	53	41	
Bristol Rovers	42	13	13	16	55	69	39	
Crystal Palace	42	12	13	17	63	71	37	
Oxford United	42	11	12	19	53	67	34	
Reading	42	13	7	22	65	114	33	
Cardiff City	42	11	9	22	48	68	31	
Swindon Town	42	11	7	24	52	79	29	
Plymouth Argyle	42	9	9	24	52	96	27	
Hereford United	42	7	9	26	48	88	23	
Orient	42	7	8	27	31	65	22	

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES

	JUNIOR LEAGUE								
Swindon Town	22	16	2	4	52	18	34		
Wimbledon	22	13	4	5	56	28	30		
Reading	22	11	2	9	41	32	24		
Tottenham	22	9	6	7	43	39	24		
Crystal Palace	22	9	6	7	35	38	24		
Oxford United	22	11	2	9	46	51	24		
West Ham United	22	9	5	8	47	37	23		
Cambridge Utd	22	8	6	8	44	39	22		
Peterborough	22	7	3	12	42	50	17		
Bristol Rovers	22	6	4	12	30	50	16		
Chelsea	22	3	8	11	28	47	14		
Charlton Ath.	22	5	2	15	36	71	14		



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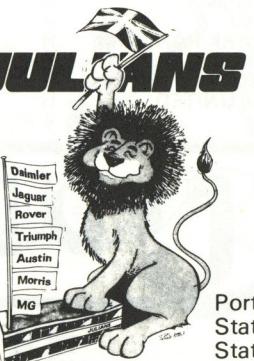
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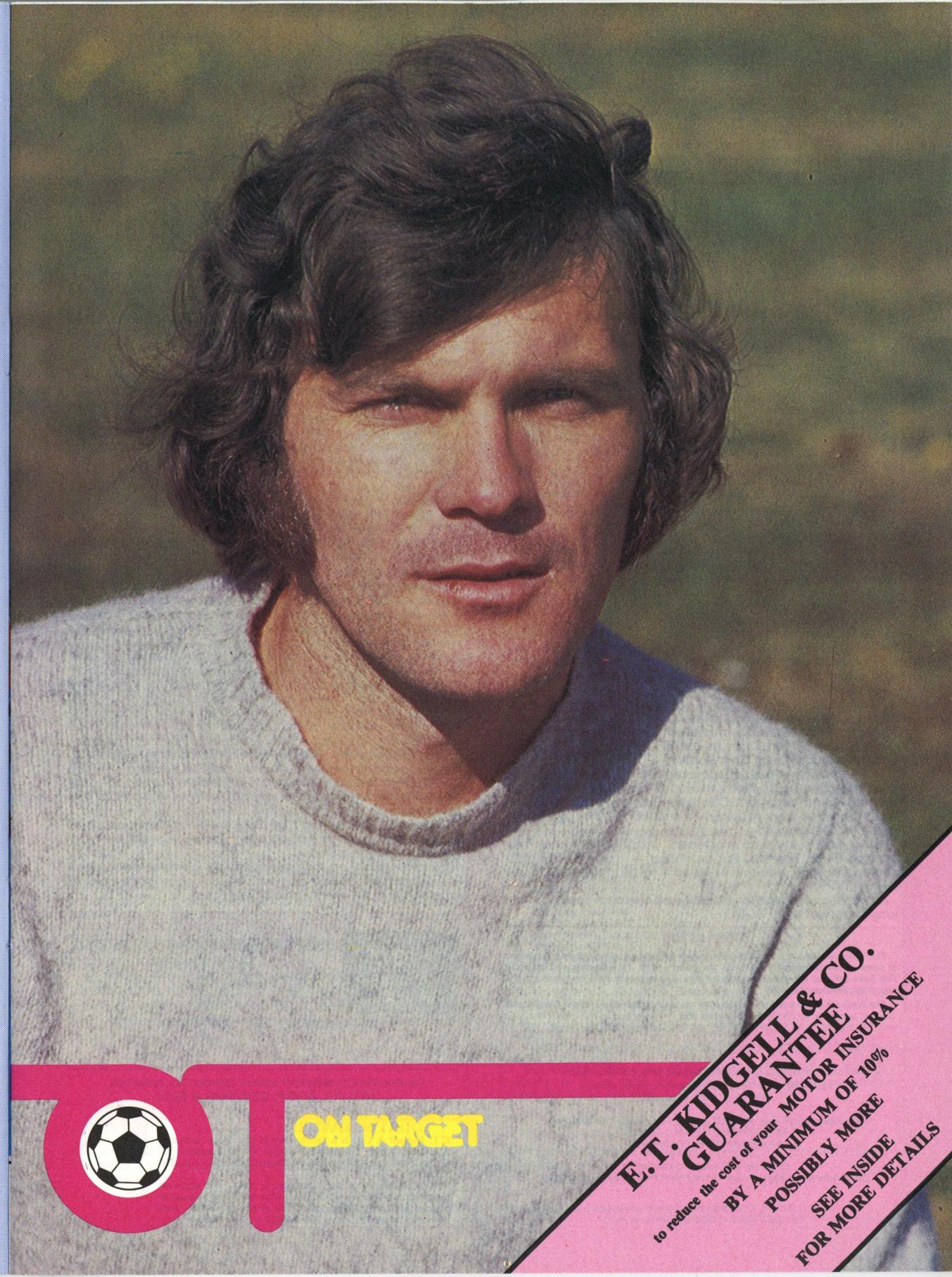
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MEMORY LANE

Compiled by
ALAN SEDUNARY

IN drawing Luton in this Second Round League Cup tie we have now been paired with new opponents for this competition for the fifth consecutive time. However, as with Southampton, Oxford, Mansfield and Northampton we have met Luton on many occasions in the League.

Ignoring friendlies (and in view of the result of our pre season game earlier this month we will definitely ignore friendlies!) our last meeting at Elm Park was in the Third Division on Wednesday March 11 1970. Both sides were battling for promotion with Reading having gone 15 games without defeat in a run that had taken us to the top of the table.

The game had originally been scheduled to be played in January but was postponed due to a flu epidemic at Luton and it was just as well the visitors had been given plenty of time to recover because the game was played in a continuous downpour.

Reading started the match with only 10 players as Steve Death had been delayed in the heavy traffic coming to the game. Full back Dennis Butler stood in for the first couple of minutes until "Deathie" arrived and no sooner had he taken over in goal than he was called on to make a great save from Matt Tees. Neseet Malcolm McDonald headed against the post but gradually Reading found their rhythm in the heavy conditions and began to take control. First a Dick Hobbin shot was headed off the line, then Dennis Butler had a powerful shot saved.

Although Luton were the physically stronger side it was Reading who did most of the attacking, forcing 12 corners to Luton's two. But, except when we had a penalty appeal for a foul on Les Chappell turned down, we rarely created a clear scoring chance.

As the game entered the Final minute a Reading attack was broken up by a hefty clearance from Tees which fell into the path of McDonald. Outpacing the Reading defence he drew Steve Death out of his goal before slipping the ball into the net with just 23 seconds remaining.

This win put Luton into second place behind Orient, a position they held to the end of the season, while Reading quickly regained their goalscoring touch to qualify for the Watney Cup as the Division's top scorers. Despite the atrocious weather the attendance was 18,782 a figure that has never been bettered in a League match at Elm Park since that day.

READING: Death, Dixon, Butler, B. Wagstaff, Allen, Sharpe, Cumming, Chappell, Hobbin, T. Wagstaff, Williams.

LUTON: Davie, Ryan, Jardine, Slough, Branston, Moore, Collins, McDonald, Tees, Keen, French, (sub Allen 38 mins).

Malcolm McDonald had not finished with Reading, unfortunately, for in the return match at Kenilworth Road he scored a hat-trick in Luton's 5-0 victory that finally ended our promotion hopes.

If our last meetings were disastrous for us then our first League meetings were even worse. We lost 1-0 at Elm Park on February 5 1921, then went down 6-0 in the away fixture the following week with Simms doing the damage with four goals.

After that initial home defeat we took control by winning nine of the next ten League games at Elm Park but the last of these, a 2-1 win on September 28th 1935 remains our last League victory over Luton.

In all our League record against Luton is:

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	16	9	3	4	29	14
Away	16	4	1	11	15	40

Our home record in the Second Round is quite good with five victories and 21 goals from seven games but on the other hand we have only won once in six away matches in this round. We have not had very much success against Second Division opponents in the League Cup so far with our 2-0 home win over Derby in 1965-6 being our only success in five attempts.

TODAY'S THE DAY - EVENTS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE ON 27TH AUGUST THROUGH THE YEARS

1927 NO JOY FOR BIG CROWD - 23,549 fans were at Elm Park for the opening game of the season against Chelsea and this produced receipts of £1397, but no points as Reading went down 2-1, despite a brilliant goal by Hugh Davey. Off the pitch controversy raged as the club had banned press photographs, claiming that pictures in the papers kept the gates down!

1938 MCPHEE'S DEBUT - 42 years ago Tony McPhee made his debut for us and scored the first of over 300 goals for the club with a typical header. His goal put Reading back in their opening game of the season against QPR by making the score 2-3 after Rangers had led by three goals at one stage. Our revival was squashed when former Reading winger Paddy Fitzgerald scored his second goal of the game.

1966 REF KNOCKS OUT WINNER - Pointless and goalless from their first two League games Reading were denied their first goal when Mick Travers appeared to have put us in the lead against Brighton. Unfortunately Denis Allen, who was lying unconscious on the goalline, having collided with the post, was given off side although how he could possibly be interfering with play in that state is difficult to imagine. In the second half we took the lead when Maurice Evans laid on a goal for Ron Foster but Brighton grabbed a late equaliser to rob us of our first victory.

DID YOU KNOW

KERRY MAKES IT 5-5. When Kerry Dixon made his League debut for us against Walsall he probably did not realise that he was making Dixon the most common name for Reading players, along with Smith. Five Smith's had already played for Reading but Kerry's appearance, when added to Cyril, Mike, Tommy and Will Dixon put his surname on level terms.



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(This chart will be reproduced in 'The Royal' on at least four occasions during the season).

PLAYERS	Shirt £10	Socks & Shorts £8.25	Training Boots £13.25	Rubber Boots £16.50	Football Boots £22
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ROGER JOSLYN	Ian & Angie Tilehurst				
MARTIN HICKS	G. Hiley T. Hartnett				J & M Keeping Denham
DAVE MORELINE					
JERRY WILLIAMS					
STEVE DEATH		Kevin, Kevin, Tony & Dick. Marlow P.S.			Mike Habbitts
JOHN ALEXANDER	Gary & Lynda				
LAWRIE SANCHEZ	Reading Schools F.A.	P. Brown D. Hedges			
PAT EARLES	Enjay Reprographics				
STEVE HETZKE		Bermic Cheese Specialists, Marlow			
MARK WHITE	Jackie West				
HUGHIE CHEETHAM					
GARY HEALE	Sue Ridout	Gill Roper Bob Burrows			Enjay Reprographics
WAYNE WANKLYN	Jackie West				
RON FEARON	Sue Ridout				
DAVE SHIPPERLEY					
ALAN LEWIS					
STUART BEAVON	R. Rockett Cookham				
KERRY DIXON		Abbey Grant			
OLLINE KEARNS					
JOHN CULLEN					
NEIL WEBB					
STEVE WOOD					
KEVIN BRIGHT					
MICHAEL BARNES					

JOHN CULLEN, NEIL WEBB, STEVE WOOD, KEVIN BRIGHT AND MICHAEL BARNES

LAFFORD AND LEVEY
Arrowhead Road, Theale.

CLUB HISTORY

The season of 1877-78 was a significant one for the club, as considerably strengthened by their alliance with the Hornets, the decision was taken that in addition to their list of friendly fixtures, the Reading club would also enter the Football Association Challenge Cup Competition.

There were forty-three entries for the F.A. Cup that season, and Reading's first-ever F.A. Cup tie saw the team drawn at home to play South Norwood in Round One. Reading's committee felt however that their small ground would be insufficient to accommodate the large crowd such an attractive and novel fixture would draw, and the decision was taken to switch the game to a neutral venue, the Dolphin Ground at Slough.

And so Reading's first cup-tie took place on Wednesday, November 7th., 1877, and the "Berkshire Chronicle" of the day contained a complete match report. Like the game, it bore little relation to the football one sees nowadays. The pitch had no penalty areas marked, while the goals had no nets, and just tapes in place of a crossbar. The referee used a handkerchief instead of a whistle to signal, and was assisted not by neutral linesmen, but by an umpire from each team. Both sides played with the orthodox formation of the day, of one goalkeeper, two backs, two half-backs, and six forwards. The attacking flavour of the tie was well captured by the "Chronicle" reporter:

READING VERSUS SOUTH NORWOOD

"On Wednesday afternoon last a match between these clubs was played on the Dolphin Ground at Slough. This being the first match the Reading Club has played for the Association Challenge Cup, a great deal of interest was evinced, and numerous lovers of this sport accompanied the team to Slough.

Reading won the toss and elected to kick down the hill and the game was started by the South Norwood captain kicking off. The Reading forwards, by dint of playing well together, soon drove the ball into the enemy's territory, and compelled the South Norwood backs to beat a retreat.

About ten minutes after play began Field got hold of the ball from the centre of the ground,



PART 3

This series of articles is being written by David Downs and will form the basis of a club history to be published in book form.

David, who is Deputy headmaster of Ranikhet Junior School in Tilehurst, and also Chairman of the Reading Schools Football Association, has been researching the club history for a number of years and would be pleased to hear from anyone who can supply additional information concerning the history of Reading Football Club. He can be contacted at 16 Kirton Close, Reading.

made a brilliant run down and by a clever kick scored the first goal for Reading amid much applause from the spectators.

The ball having been kicked off again, the game became very warm and the Norwood men did their best to retrieve their loss, which at one time they nearly succeeded in doing but for the handling of one of the Reading men, whereupon a free-kick ensued close to the Reading goal, which was cleverly charged away.

A good run by the Berkshire forwards, again threatened the Norwood goal, but the ball was quickly returned and White made a good shot at the Reading goal.

At half-time ends were changed, and soon afterwards, Sillence made a splendid shot for goal, the ball going just over the tape.

Although Reading were now playing uphill, it was pretty evident to all present that they had decidedly the best of the match, and that the Norwood team had become somewhat disorganised. At this period Marks made a good run down, which brought about a corner for Reading.

Rogers kicked off and landed the ball in front of the goal and Franklin neatly obtained a second goal (the ball having glanced off H.W. Wilson, one of the Norwood men).

The remainder of the game was played with vary fortune for each side, but no other goals were scored, thereby the Reading men were left masters of the situation by two goals to none.

The following were the teams.

READING: H.F. Rogers (captain), W.L. Franklin (backs), H. Ive, A.J. Richardson (Half-

backs), S. Hayward (goal), T.H. Turner, A. Wakeman (left wing), K.H. Mullens, D.C. Marks (right wing), G. Sillence and G.C. Field (centre). Umpire, Mr J.W. Martin.

SOUTH NORWOOD: W.H. White (captain), C.E. Leeds (backs), D. Renoldson, H.C. Stephenson (half-backs), E.A. Shears (goal), C. Wilson, H.W. Wilson, H. Bishop, F.O.S. Reade, A.W. Meers, and C.H. Mounsey. Umpire, Mr E.H. Bansbridge.

Referee. Mr J.H. Clark."

Sadly, Reading's run in the competition came to an abrupt halt in the next round, where they were drawn away to Upton Park, and were defeated by the only goal of the game.

Reading met with better fortune when they decided to enter the Berks & Bucks Cup. The Berks & Bucks Football Association was formed early in 1878, to include such local clubs as Maidenhead United (formed 1868), Marlow (1870), Abingdon Town (1870), Reading (1871), Wokingham Town (1875), and Burnham (1878). The initiative for the formation came from Mr. J. H. Clark of Maidenhead, and he was later to become the first President of the Berks & Bucks F.A., and also, until his death in 1887, a Vice-President of the Football Association. Under his guidance the Berks & Bucks FA made itself responsible for organising a hastily arranged cup competition in its first season, and Reading won their way through to the final, by beating Wallingford in the first round, then Maidenhead in the second round.

In the final Reading were due to play Marlow, already experienced in several F.A. Cup campaigns, and a most dour struggle ensued. The duration of a game of football had been fixed that same season at ninety minutes, and when that period of time was over, neither team had managed to score. So a period of thirty minutes of extra time was played, and it was not until the very last minute of this period that Reading scored the only goal of the game, and which made them the first winners of the Berks & Bucks Cup.

This was the club's first trophy, and they received generous applause as the solid silver trophy was presented at the conclusion of the game, particularly from the specially roped-off enclosure and marquee which had been provided for their lady supporters. The trophy cost £22, an

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enormous sum in those days, and this probably explains why the Berks & Bucks Association could not afford the additional expense of providing medals for the winning team and losing finalists.

The Reading team that contested the Berks & Bucks Cup Final of 1878-79 was: S. Hayward (goal); E. Field and J. R. Morgan (backs); A.J. Richardson and H.F. Rogers (captain) (half-backs); W. Holbrook, T. Lewis, G. Sillence, T.H. Turner, G.C. Field, and A.C. Bartholemew (forwards).

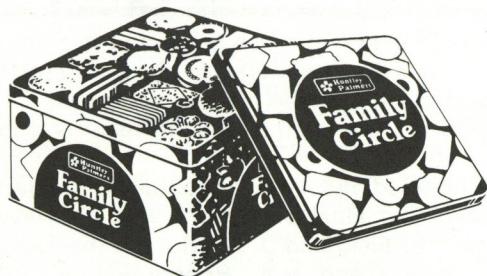
Reading's season ended with the respectable record of having played 23 games, of which 17 had been won, 1 drawn, and 5 lost. The team had scored 57 goals, and conceded just 9. However the following season began tragically, for in just the third match of the season, when Reading were playing a friendly fixture against the London Pilgrims, at Coley Park, the Reading captain, H.F. Rogers, collapsed and died on the field of play as a result of suffering an epileptic fit.

As a mark of respect, all scheduled fixtures until the Christmas period were cancelled.

Rogers' death was a tremendous blow to the club, for he had been an inspiring player and captain during the formative years. However there were other local young bloods ready and willing to take his place, and towards the end of the decade, the club prepared to play its most difficult match since its formation—an F.A. Cup-tie against the famous Old Etonians, at that time enjoying their most successful days, and one of the mightiest teams in the land.

IN PART FOUR ... AN F.A. Cup-tie narrowly lost ... the move to Reading Cricket Ground ... Coley Park ... international players at Reading.





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HALLOFNAME

AFTER remaining unchanged throughout the history of football the role of the full-back has changed dramatically over the last 20 years.

Up to the early sixties the full back's almost sole duty was to mark his opposing winger but as the use of conventional wingers declined full backs were left with space in front of them. This has resulted in backs taking over the role of wingers and so the modern back is more mobile and attack minded than his predecessor.

This fact is born out by the fact that Bert Eggo, probably the best right back to play for us, only scored twice in 289 league appearances and that these goals came early in his career when he played as a half back.

Bert was born in Brechin in 1895 and began his league career with Sheffield Wednesday. He won his regular place in the first team in 1920/21, playing 20 games before an attack of pleurisy cost him his place. While this was a blow for his hopes at Hillsborough it proved a boon for us since it would have been unlikely that Wednesday would have let him go had illness not kept him out of the first team.

He was regarded as a real capture

ALAN SEDUNARY recalls some of the greats from Readings Past

NUMBER 2
Right Back (part 1)

when he signed for us in June 1921 and for the next two seasons he was practically ever present at right half and occasionally centre half. Then in September 1923 he moved to right back from where he captained the side during our promotion season, missing just seven games in five seasons. He was also picked to play for the Southern League versus the Welsh National League in 1922. Only 5ft 9ins tall, Bert Eggo was swifter than most full backs of his day, a fact that accounted for much of his success during some of our best seasons.

• **PART TWO** continued in The Royal v Swindon. Featured in part two are Fred Gregory and Dave Bacuzzic.



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CAREER DETAILS

Introducing.... ROGER JOSLYN

ROGER was born in Colchester on May 7th 1950 and started playing football in both Junior and Senior School's locally. At the age of 17 he was approached by Leeds United and his local club Colchester United with a view to signing on for them. He eventually plumped for Colchester after assurances that he would stand a better chance of first team football, and indeed on December 23 1967 he made his debut at Layer Road in the match against Bristol Rovers. The match ended in a 2-0 win for Colchester but his season turned sour when they finished in twenty third position and were relegated to Division Four. Roger did not make many appearances during his first season but next season made up for it by making 36 League appearances plus 1 as substitute.

In October 1970 Jimmy Melia, the then Aldershot manager persuaded Roger to move to Aldershot where, after two seasons, he tasted his first success as a player. It was on his 23rd birthday that he scored the equalising goal at Stockport which clinched promotion for the Shots over Newport County by 0.129 of a goal difference.

During his time at Aldershot he developed a reputation as an aggressive midfield player who scored many important goals which obviously impressed the Watford manager Mike Keen, who paid £22,000 for Rogers services back in November 1974. It was not a happy season for Roger as the Hornets struggled badly and were

relegated at the seasons end.

In 1977 Graham Taylor was appointed manager and at last things looked up, for at the end of the season Watford finished as Champions of Division Four gaining 71 points and Roger got his first championship medal. The following season Watford clinched promotion to the Second Division and just for good measure reached the Semi-Final of the League Cup losing to holders and eventual winners Nottingham Forest.

After a brief taste of Second Division football Maurice Evans decided he wanted Roger's talents and signed him last November in time to play in the Millwall game here at Elm Park.

Off the field Roger still lives at Watford, is married and has a ten month old son. His hobby is collecting antiques and restoring them as well as visiting Sales and Junk Shops to add to his collection. When his playing career is over he would be prepared to stay in the game if the right offer came along.

APPEARANCES

	Lge	Lge	FA	Lge	Lge	
	Cup	Cup	Cup	Gls	Cup	
	Gls					
Colchester	91+5	5+1	3	4	—	
Aldershot	186	6	9	17	—	
Watford	178+421+1	9+1	17	4		
Reading*	30	2	4	1	0	
Grand Total	485+934+2	25+1	39	4		

(Up to and including Gillingham Game on August 1980)

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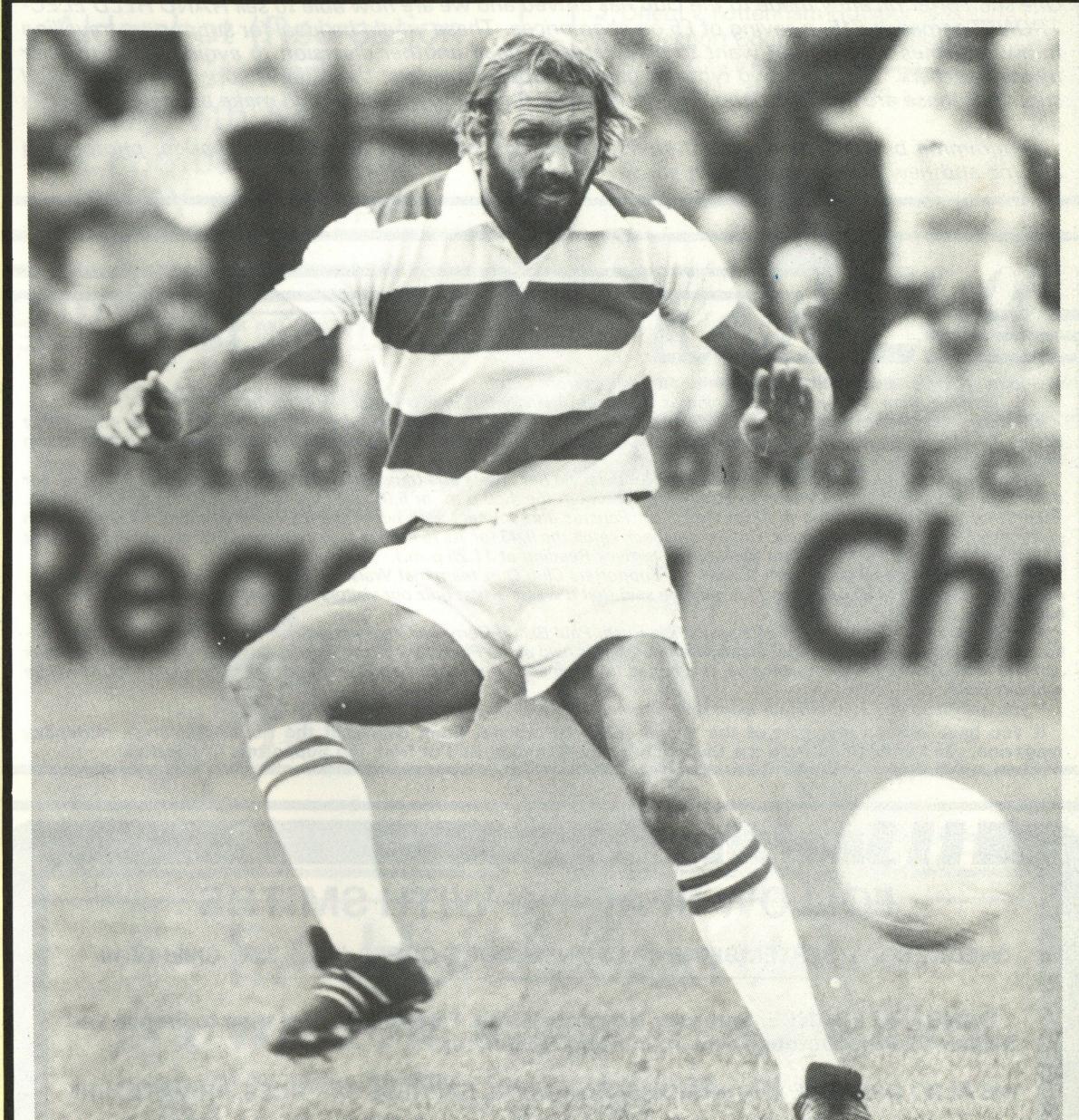
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PLAYER PROFILE



ROGER JOSLYN

COMMERCIAL CHAT

Albert Moss

Another opening, another show! So go the words of a well known song, and those same words apply equally as well to the football season. Who can foretell what the future has in store for us? All one can do is to make the most of every opportunity and we in the commercial department have every intention of doing just that.

During the closed season it is surprising how many companies send representatives around football clubs, some with very good ideas. Having shown interest it would be assumed that these companies would follow up any enquiries but more often than not that is the last one hears.

Occasionally we are offered items which on the surface have no connection with football at all. One such offer recently made to the club has arrived and we are now able to sell HAND HELD ELECTRONIC games at £15, a saving of £5 on shop prices. These would be ideal for supporters travelling to away games who do not want to play cards or need another diversion to avoid talking to their fellow travellers. There are two types of games—Space invaders, the other is soccer. A very limited supply of these are available, and if not purchased for your own use would make an ideal Christmas gift.

Programme binders, pens, sweat shirts, replica kit, small self adhesive car badge, photograph albums and new photos are now in stock.

FAN FARE

• Garry McGreevy.

Good evening and welcome once again to our visitors from Luton.

Hopefully the game will be as entertaining as the recent friendly but with a better result for us.

Transport has been arranged from Elm Park for the second leg at Luton and will depart at 4.30 p.m. We are hoping that quite a lot of Reading supporters will make the short journey and you can book your place at the Tilehurst End Club shop tonight or on Saturday.

Bookings are also being taken for the game at Huddersfield next week and transport departs from Elm Park at 8.45 a.m. For those who would rather go by train to Luton you can catch the 4.50 p.m. or 5.05 p.m. trains from Reading to Paddington. Take the Circle line from there to Kings Cross/St. Pancras and connect with either the 5.58 or 5.53 trains. These arrive in Luton at 6.39 and 6.53 respectively. On the way back catch the 9.43 (or 10.15 if there is extra time) which arrives in London at 11.32, and then get the 11.00 from Paddington (arrives Reading at 11.25 p.m.).

After the recent home game with Walsall the Supporters Club Quiz team met Walsall Supporters Club in a friendly match. Although we won by 206 points to 76 it must be said that it was the first quiz our visitors had ever been involved in and they had not prepared for it.

The Reading team was Denny Fullbrook, Willie Rush, Paul Black, Gerry McGreevy and Brian Dore, which was a combination of last season's successful quiz teams. The match was held at the Plasterer's Arms, Rupert St. and we would like to thank Jim and Jean Trinder for entertaining us. It is hoped to commence this season's quiz in late October, and entry forms will be sent out soon.

If you are interested in entering a team then contact Dave Hall on Reading 21526 for further information.

If you have missed any part of the above series of articles, back copies of the Royal, Reading's matchday magazine, can be obtained from the Club shop at the Tilehurst End or from the Supporters Club office.

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Football League
SWINDON TOWN
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●
Aldershot (Recreation
Ground
Friday, 5th September
Football League
BURY at 7.45 p.m.

HOW TO GET THERE

Throughout the season we will be giving details on how to get to opposition grounds for our away games. Details on how to get to Gillingham, our first opposition away from home in the League, will be given in the next issue of 'The Royal'.



HALFTIME SCORES

- A Aston Villa v Leeds United
- B Blackburn Rovers v Gillingham
- C Bradford City v Liverpool
- D Cardiff City v Chelsea
- E Lincoln City v Swindon Town
- F Manchester Utd. v Coventry (7.45)
- G Newcastle v Bury
- H Nottingham Forest v Peterborough Utd
- J Orient v Tottenham Hotspur (8.00)
- K Stockport County v Sunderland
- L Stoke City v Manchester City
- M York City v Bristol Rovers



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Reading

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- 2 Roger Joslyn
- 3 Mark White
- 4 Richie Bowman
- 5 Steve Hetzke
- 6 Dave Shipperley
- 7 Pat Earles
- 8 Gary Heale
- 9 Kerry Dixon
- 10 Lawrie Sanchez
- 11 Stuart Beavon
- 12

OFFICIALS

REFEREE: Mr. D.W. Lloyd (Worcester)

LINEMEN:

Red Flag: Mr. K.A. Cooper (Swindon)
Yellow Flag: Mr. M. Topping (Aldershot)

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Luton Town

Colours: *White with Orange & Black trim.*

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- 2 Kirk Stephens
- 3 Mal Donaghy
- 4 Tony Greathouse
- 5 Mike Saxby
- 6 Paul Price
- 7 Ricky Hill
- 8 Brian Stein
- 9 Steve White
- 10 Radomir Antic
- 11 David Moss
- 12

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