

NOTTS COUNTY

OFFICIAL MATCH-DAY PROGRAMME



Football League Division Two
Saturday 7th March 1981

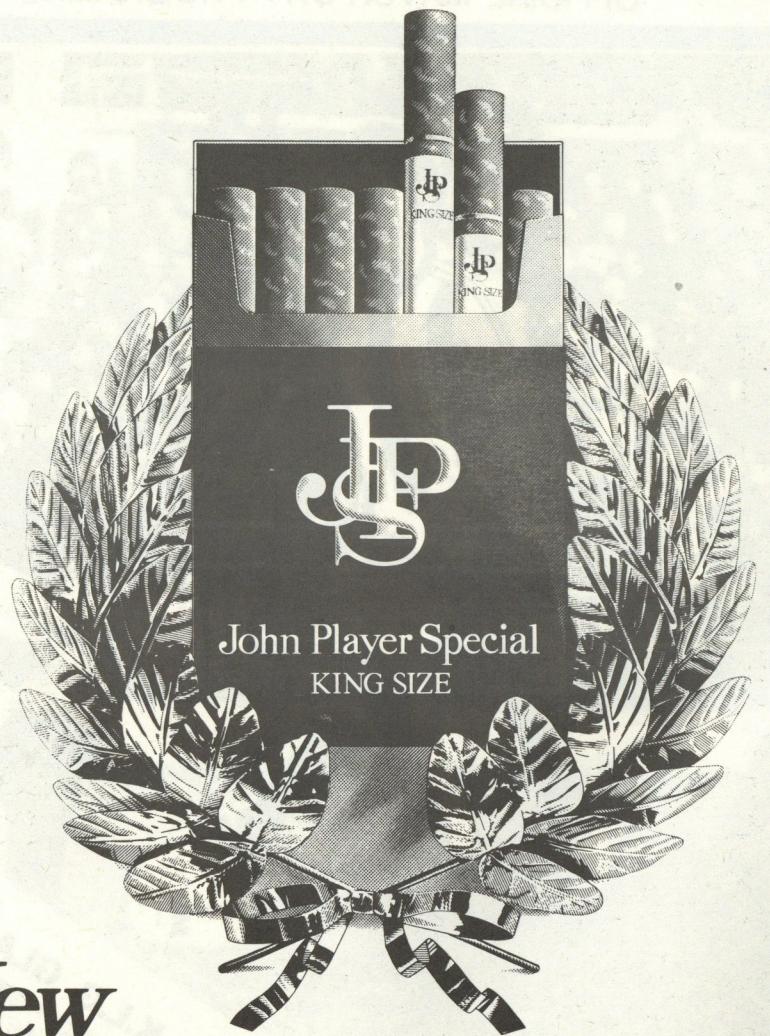
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NOTTS COUNTY FOOTBALL CLUB

Meadow Lane, Nottingham
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Information Desk 864152 County '75 Office 864718

DIRECTORS:

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LL.B (Cantab), MP.,

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Mr. J. Mounteney.

Accountant : Kenneth S. Kirk, FCA. Commercial Manager : Stuart Burgen, AinstM.
Res. and Youth Team Coach : Michael Walker. County '75 Director : John Carroll.

OFFICIALS:

Manager : Jimmy Sirrel.

Coach : Howard Wilkinson.

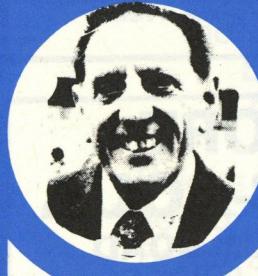
Secretary : Dennis Marshall.

FAA1, AMBIM.

Magpie

21

Voucher



THE MANAGER

It's been an immense source of satisfaction to me over the years that we consistently entertain and pick up points when we go away from Meadow Lane. That is a rewarding situation for any manager because it takes character and honesty on the part of the players to achieve it and, to some degree, a sense of ambition. From the club's point of view it's essential to claim your share of away points and if you doubt that, just consider our results over the past two

seasons. After starting last season promisingly, we had problems when we went a long time without winning a home ... yet we continued to consistently pick up away points. In fact, when I think of our performances and results at West Ham, Birmingham and Cambridge, they represent three of the highlights of the season for us. In all, we won seven away games and drew four and it's just as well we did because without that impressive points haul, we would have got tangled up in a battle to avoid relegation. The popular theory is that if you win at home and average a point a game away, you are on your way to promotion. And as we've currently taken 19 points from our 16 Second Division trips, I hope that's a promising sign. Apart from the 4-0 defeat at West Ham early in the season, we've always done well away from Meadow Lane. We could even have added to that points tally and it's important from my point of view that we've entertained as well as been successful. I have never been one for adopting defensive tactics. My philosophy is to ask the players to go out and play without pressure. I simply want them to be honest and experience has taught me that this is the best way to get results. When I reflect on last month and see that we picked up five points from three potentially very difficult away matches, that surely provides the proof. The games at Hillsborough and Loftus Road provided tremendous value for money for the spectators and although the same sparkle might not have been evident at Ninian Park, the players did their job competently. We've got people who are good at controlling and passing the ball and I felt we dominated from the start in terms of possession. Perhaps we didn't penetrate the Cardiff defence as much as I would have liked - but once was enough. We've got a few more testing away games to come - including Chelsea, Grimsby, Derby and Blackburn - but if we maintain our standards, we can tackle them with confidence. The more immediate problem is to make use of home advantage and we know enough about Luton to realise that we've got a tough job on this afternoon. This time last year they were one point off the top of the table and although they faded, many people felt they would be certainties for promotion this time. With the experienced players they have brought in and some talented youngsters, Luton are capable of beating any team on their day and we are well aware that they are dangerous opponents.

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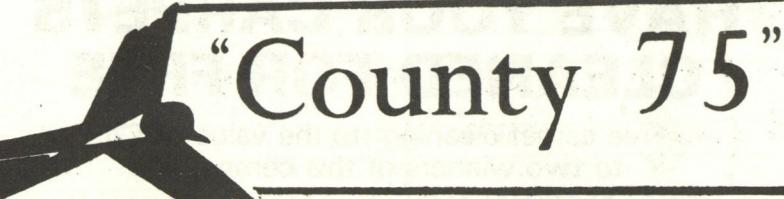
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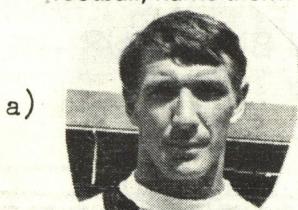
WHAT YEAR WAS IT?

Question 1) From the following work out the year.

- a) Notts County goalkeeper Gordon Bradley interviewed on TV after the win over Liverpool. Cecil McCormack scored twice.
- b) Bert Trautmann injured but his side Manchester City still win F.A. Cup.
- c) Sheffield Wednesday win the 2nd Division Title and Notts finish one place clear of relegation.

WHO ARE THEY?

The two pictures below are of ex-Notts players both still involved in football, name them.



a)



b)

Difficult? Yes, but with a little research you should come up with the answers which should be mailed to : Prize Quiz, Notts County F.C., Meadow Lane, Nottingham. Entries opened on Monday 17th March. First two correct with the prizes. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE ASHFORTH CLEANING CARPETS FOR SUPPLYING THE PRIZES OF THIS WEEK'S COMPETITION

NOTICE BOARD

BALL BOYS

The ball boys this afternoon are kindly provided by the Claremont Comprehensive School and we thank their teachers and parents for allowing them to be with us as well as hope the boys enjoy their visit.

REDMAYNE COUNTY SCHOOLS PENALTY COMPETITION

The Under 14 section of this popular competition continues this afternoon - ground conditions permitting - with Charnwood School against Ellis Guilford, the winners going through the semi-final stages.

ANGLO-SCOTTISH CUP FINAL (2nd leg)

This game is to be played at Meadow Lane on Tuesday 31st March, k.o. 7.30 p.m. Season Ticket holders (seating and standing) adults will be given reduced price admission. Juvenile (standing) season ticket holders and senior Citizens will be admitted free. Fuller details of prices will be advertised a little nearer the date. At this game we shall be presenting for your entertainment a display of gymnastics by the Oliver Hind Boys Club and in attendance will be the Dako 'Red Devils' Drum and Trumpet Corps. We also hope to add other attractions to make this, as it is, a special evening for all Notts County supporters. See our match programme v Orient.

NOTTS COUNTY v WREXHAM

This game will be played on Sunday, 5th April, at Meadow Lane at 3.00 p.m. and not Saturday as stated in our pre-season fixture lists. For details about admission (for non-season ticket holders) see our advertising a little nearer the game. See our programme v Orient.

CAMBRIDGE UNITED v NOTTS COUNTY

Intending travelling to this game on Easter Monday, 20th April? Then please note the k.o. is 3.00 p.m. The return game (postponed from Boxing Day) will be at Meadow Lane on Tuesday 5th May, k.o. 7.30 p.m.

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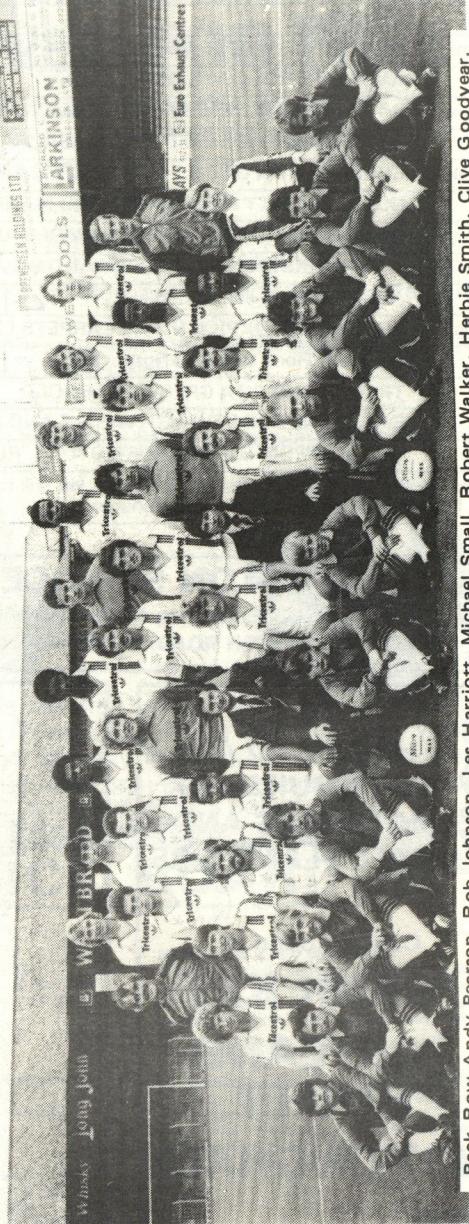


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LUTON TOWN



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MARK AIZLEWOOD : Luton nipped in smartly with a £50,000 cheque to bring defender Aizlewood out of the Fourth Division. Other clubs had made enquiries to Newport County about the Welsh Youth international, and at Luton he went on to be capped by Wales at under-21 level as well.

MIKE SAXBY : Luton's record fee of £200,000 persuade Mansfield to part with their star centre-half in the summer of 1979, and at 22 he looks well set for a long career as a defensive kingpin.

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. Inexperienced, and still only 20, He made such good progress at Luton that he became a Northern Ireland international last summer. **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. 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 the Spanish soccer Press.

WAYNE TURNER : A place in Luton's league squad last season was just reward for a player who has been nurtured at his home town club since becoming an apprentice in 1977. He is happy in midfield or defence, and is one of the youngsters at Kenilworth Road putting increasing pressure on the established names for a regular place in the Luton side.

JAKE FINDLAY : Luton's highest-ever fee for a goalkeeper changed hands when Scots-born Findlay was brought out of the shadows at Villa Park to be given the chance to prove that he is capable of winning international honours. He had been almost permanently in the reserves for nine years before he moved from Aston Villa to Luton for £100,000 in November 1978, but is now firmly established as one of the best goalkeepers in the Second Division.

ALAN JUDGE : Recruited from schoolboy soccer in Hertfordshire, Judge has the unenviable task of being understudy to Findlay. He joined Luton as an apprentice in 1976, and made his league debut at Newcastle last season.

PAUL PRICE : Club captain, and Luton's longest-serving player, Price's career had had more than its share of ups and downs. As a defender he was marked out as something as a schoolboy at Weymouth Garden City, in Hertfordshire, and Luton had to move swiftly to sign him as an apprentice. He was on the verge of winning a place in the league side when he was 20, but then broke his leg. Tragedy struck again when he made his comeback, because he broke it for the second time a year later. Last summer he became a Welsh international, qualifying for the country of his father's birth.

KIRK STEPHENS : Stephens was happily 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 straight into the Second Division. Quick in the tackle, and ever willing to raid down the flanks, Stephens rapidly became a firm favourite at Kenilworth Road, collecting the supporters' Player of the Year award in his first season.

TONY GREASH : Fans and officials of Orient were convinced that they had been robbed when Luton swooped to sign their midfield star in the summer of 1978. 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 of a tribunal Luton had the fee cut to £150,000, and it has looked a bigger bargain with each appearance the player makes.

PASQUALE FUCCILLO : Stark tragedy has been the over-riding feature of Fuccillo's career in the last couple of years. 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. He became firmly established as a midfielder with the knack of scoring goals, but broke a leg in a match at Brighton in December 1978. He missed the rest of that season, and six months later his comeback ended when he broke the leg again. His determination to fight back saw him working on his own for a further 12 months to be able to renew his challenge for a place in the Luton side.

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 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. They claimed he was not fit enough, but Luton had no doubts and their confidence has been more than justified by West's consistency.

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. His midfield elegance and explosive shooting made him outstanding at schoolboy level, but Luton beat the Hammers to sign him and give him his league debut in 1976, when he was still only 17.

DAVID MOSS : Fans often argue about which signing was a manager's best. He had spent nine years in the Third Division with Swindon when Luton bought him for £110,000 in the summer of 1978. A quicksilver winger, with the ability to cross a ball accurately from either flank, he soon made his mark with Luton. He was their 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 : An inspired move for a player Luton fans had never heard of transformed life for a 20-year-old centre forward in October 1977. Brian Stein was a local health authority clerk enjoy 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 and his sharpness in the box and quick ball control has made him a regular ever since.

GODFREY INGRAM : A former England schoolboy international, Ingram developed in Luton's schoolboy and reserve teams, and is a youngster of immense promise.

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

SNIPS

SNIPS

SNIPS
by Terry Bowles

THERE WILL BE no holiday atmosphere for Notts County and Luton Town this afternoon ... not like the last occasion they met.

By coincidence, both clubs were in Torremolinos at the same time last month - taking the chance of a break before tackling the last lap of the season.

And they were not the only English sporting celebrities enjoying the sunshine at the Spanish resort because former world champion boxer Alan Minter was staying in the Magpies hotel.

Said Jimmy Sirrel : "Alan was in training and attracted a lot of interest when he staged a few sparring sessions in the hotel. . .

"I found him very courteous and friendly and he did a tremendous P.R. job for what is a very hard sport. The way he conducted himself, he created the feeling that if anyone deserves to be successful - he does."

Watch EDDIE KELLY stroll across to the bench and hand something to Howard Wilkinson immediately before the kick off.

Revealed Kelly : "I give him my rings to look after. I always hang onto them until the last possible moment - it's just one of those little superstitions that have stayed with me.

"Howards gets a bit fed up but come to think of it, so did the coaches at Arsenal, Queen's Park Rangers and Leicester!"

Incidentally, although Iain McCulloch scored at Loftus Road while Kelly was off the pitch changing his boots, there's no truth in the rumour that the Notts players have asked him to try that every week!

TEN YOUNGSTERS - aged 8-14 - from Nazareth House in Dunkirk attended last Saturday match as guests of the club.

County were delighted to provide complimentary tickets when the request came from Nottingham University - whose students are treating the youngsters to a day out.

They also had the opportunity to meet the Notts players which should have completed a memorable visit to Meadow Lane for the youngsters.

NOTTS COUNTY could emerge as the last winners of the Anglo-Scottish Cup if they get the better of Chesterfield in this month's two-legged final.

Although the future of the competition has been in some doubt, it is in fact to continue in its present form for at least one more season.

But apparently the Football League are again looking for a sponsor which suggests a "Texaco Cup" situation will arise once more.

Notts, incidentally, stage the second leg on Tuesday March 31 and they are offering reduced admission prices to all season-ticket holders plus free admission to juvenile standing season-ticket holders and senior citizens.

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IT'S BECOME THE FASHION over recent seasons for more and more of the Press boxes on Football League grounds to be self-contained, cosy little greenhouses, separating the reporters from the noisier supporters and giving extra warmth in the chill winter months.

What a far cry from my early days in the trade when Press boxes came in all sorts of styles - the upper level of a double-decker bus at New Brighton perhaps being the most unusual. I remember the times when we used to sit out in the open in the Meadow Lane stand and my colleagues and I welcomed the change to our present enclosure.

When built it was quite spacious enough for the home and visiting journalists; indeed on many days we could stretch our legs at half-time without knocking a colleague's typewriter, spectacles, programme and refreshment over his, and others', laps. These days getting in and out of the box is like taking on an assault course.

Week by week as County's promotion chances increase we are joined by more and more national journalists. Why, I even stepped inside the box last week, for the match against Bristol City, to find Brian Glanville from one of the posh Sundays (the Times) already installed. Before kick-off time it was so overcrowded that a housing officer would have issued a prosecution for overcrowding.

It means that more journalists are now present when either Jimmy Sirrel or Howard Wilkinson, or both, hold court in the manager's office after the match, to give their opinions on the game and to answer questions.

These exchanges are neat exercises in verbal gymnastics between the Press and the management. It first happened a couple of weeks earlier at Queen's Park Rangers, and then was repeated last Saturday, that (unintentionally, of course!) the journalists laid a neat little trap into which Mr. Sirrel was expected to fall by producing a headline that "Notts are already as good as in the First Division and what's more we're looking forward to the challenge and, we hope, of lifting the title next season".

But our Jimmy is too wily to fall for these old tricks. He will not write these headlines because he knows the reality of the situation to be that Notts are not yet promoted, still need about a dozen more points, and could still be overtaken. The cat and mouse act will be repeated many times between now and the end of April. It's all part of the County manager's belief that feet must be kept on the ground. And no journalist is going to sweep HIM off his feet!



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Supporters Club Comment

by Peter Dennis

When travelling to the game at Cardiff recently I came across an article in the Daily Star which caught my eye. It was an interview with our own Don Masson and provided, in my view, the most heartening news I've heard in a long time. As as self declared Masson 'worshipper' I make no apologies for reprinting it in full. It went like this ...

I'm confident of tasting First Division football again with Notts County next season - in fact, it's my ambition to be playing in the top flight when I'm 40. And that would be something to tickle my old Q.P.R. mate Frank McLintock. Six years ago, when we were both at Loftus Road and I was a mere 28, he told me : "Wee man, you keep playing the way you're doing and I reckon you'll still be in the First Division when you're forty." I laughed then, but I really believe it's possible now. I'm still one of the fittest men on the County staff and I take good care of myself. Apart from training I have a special set of exercises I do not only at the club but also each day at home.

You might think I'm being just a little presumptuous when I talk of First Division football again because, though we lie second in the promotion race, we're not up yet. And I'm not suggesting we would be League Championship contenders if and when we do go up. But I'm 34, I've played against and alongside some of the best players in the world, and I reckon I can spot a star of the future when I see one. And I'm betting several of our players can become virtual overnight sensations if we do go up. Believe me, players like Paul Hooks, Iain McCulloch, Tristan Benjamin and Brian Kilcline all have what it takes to become stars. Personalities and big names are not normally associated by unfashionable clubs like Notts County. But I'm convinced these youngsters will be raved about just as long as we complete the job and climb into the top level. In fact, if Hooks, McCulloch and co. were with more glamorous Second Division sides, they would already be fare more widely appreciated than at present.

It annoys me that even now, having proved we are promotion contenders, people still don't seem to take us too seriously. But I think that will have changed by this time next year. I don't think County have anything to fear in the First Division - if we do go up we certainly won't do a Leicester. Because I think the sooner we get into the First Division the better it will be for us. The top League suits our style of skilful possession football far better.

STATISTICS

DIVISION II

(as at 23.8.1)

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-------------|---------------------------------|--------|-----|------------|-----------------------------------|--------|-----|
| 1,500 | 1.0 | Oct 18 Sat | Derby | 5,829 | 20 | Jan 24 Sat | Peterborough United | 11,714 | 0 |
| 1,700 | 1.1 | Oct 21 (ue) | Notton Athlete | 5,876 | 10 | Jan 31 Sat | Sheffield Wednesday | 22,449 | 2.1 |
| 7,402 | 0.1 | Oct 21 (ue) | Notton Athlete | 8,628 | 2.1 | | | | |
| 4,7118 | 3.0 | Oct 25 Sat | Blackburn Rovers | 13,500 | 2.0 | Feb 7 Sat | Swansea City | | |
| 2,711 | 2.1 | Oct 28 (ue) | Manchester City (L/C 4th Rd) | 26,000 | 1.5 | Feb 14 Sat | Queens Park Rangers | 11,457 | 1.1 |
| 7,459 | 2.1 | Nov 1 Sat | Wearham | 6,321 | 1.1 | Feb 20 Fri | Cardiff City | 4,926 | 1.0 |
| 17,572 | 1.1 | Nov 4 Sat | Kilmarnock (A/S Cup Semi Final) | 2,500 | 2.1 | Feb 28 Sat | Bristol City | 7,609 | 2.1 |
| 10,246 | 2.0 | Nov 11 Sat | Derby County | 16,560 | 0.0 | Mar 7 Sat | Luton Town | | |
| 20,20 | 2.0 | Nov 11 Tue | Newcastle U | 8,093 | 0.0 | Mar 14 Sat | Grimsby Town | | |
| 21,679 | 0.4 | Nov 18 Tue | Kilmarnock (A/S Cup S/Final) | 4,314 | 5.2 | Mar 21 Sat | Orient | | |
| 4,714 | 2.0 | Nov 22 Sat | Shrewsbury T | 5,352 | 1.1 | Mar 24 Tue | Chesterfield A/S Cup Final 1st L. | | |
| 7,087 | 2.1 | Nov 25 Tue | Bolton W | 7,344 | 0.3 | Mar 28 Sat | Blackburn Rovers | | |
| 10,921 | 1.1 | Nov 28 Sat | Swansea City | 14,419 | 1.1 | Mar 31 Tue | Chesterfield A/S Cup Final 2nd L. | | |
| 13 Sat | | Nov 28 Sat | Cheltenham | 11,113 | 0.2 | Apr 11 Sat | Derby County | | |
| 16 Tue | | Dec 6 Sat | Watford | 6,565 | 0.2 | Apr 18 Sat | Preston North End | | |
| Bristol City | | Dec 13 Sat | Blackburn Athlete | 3,562 | 1.1 | Apr 27 Sat | Cambridge United | | |
| 20 Sat | | Dec 19 Fri | Bristol Rovers | 6,561 | 2.2 | Apr 20 Mon | Oldham | | |
| 23 Tue | | Dec 27 Sat | Preston North End | 7,229 | 4.2 | Apr 26 Sat | Preston | | |
| Queen's Park Rangers | | Dec 27 Sat | Blackburn R. (FA Cup 3rd Rd) | 7,885 | 2.1 | May 2 Sat | Shrewsbury | | |
| 27 Sat | | Jan 3 Sat | Watford | 3,000 | 1.1 | May 5 Sat | Bristol C. | | |
| 29 Tue | | Jan 10 Sat | Chelsea | 7,139 | 0.0 | May 5 Tue | Bristol R. | | |
| 30 Tue | | Jan 10 Sat | Shrewsbury Town | | | | | | |
| 31 Sat | | May 5 Tue | Cambridge United | | | | | | |

GOALSCORERS

| | | | |
|-----------|----|----------|---|
| CHRISTIE | 15 | KELLY | 3 |
| MCCULLOCH | 10 | MASSON | 3 |
| HOOKS | 8 | KILCLINE | 2 |
| HARKOUR | 7 | MANN | 2 |
| O'BRIEN | 7 | MAIR | 1 |
| HUNT | 5 | Own goal | 1 |

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WEDDING BELL'S

Our own 'Match of the Day' takes place on Monday March 23rd, when Helen (N.C. Executive Assistant) and David (son of Manager Jimmy Sirrel) are to be married. An informal reception will be held at the Centre Lounge from 7 p.m. onwards on the day and all friends are invited to come along and have a drink with the happy couple.



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Match - Day details

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| A Bristol City Grimsby Town | F Sheffield W. Derby County | K Lincoln City Doncaster R. | O Leeds United Ipswich Town | S Norwich City Middlesbrough |
| B Cambridge U. Bristol Rovers | G Shrewsbury T. Oldham Ath. | L Mansfield T. Southend U. | P Leicester City Arsenal | T Southampton Everton |
| C Chelsea Bolton W. | HALF TIME SCORE BOARD | | | U Tottenham H. Stockton City |
| D P.N.E. Orient | H Watford Cardiff City | M Birmingham Wolves | Q Liverpool Manchester C. | V West Brom Crystal Palace |
| E Q.P.R. Blackburn R. | J West Ham Newcastle U | N Brighton Coventry City | R Manchester U. Nottingham F. | W |

IN CHARGE TODAY

REFEREE : JOHN D. HOUGH (Macclesfield)

Commenced refereeing in Macclesfield and District Leagues, and then via Mid-Cheshire and Cheshire County Leagues to the Football League line, supplementary and full lists. Has refereed Cheshire Senior Cup and Cheshire Premier Bowl Finals, also lined in European Cup quarter-final in Czechoslovakia and Anglo-Italian Cup matches in Italy, and refereed the Alliance Premier League Cup Final. A married man with two children, he runs his own business of plumbing and property repair and has spare time interests in squash and gardening. He is also President of the local Referees' Association.

INESMEN : Red Flan - P. Ranson - Yellow Flag : A.D. Topham.

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- 3 RAY O'BRIAN
- 4 EDDIE KELLY
- 5 BRIAN KILCLINE
- 6 PEDRO RICHARDS
- 7 IAN McCULLOCH
- 8 DON MASSON
- 9 TREVOR CHRISTIE
- 10 DAVID HUNT
- 11 PAUL HOOKS
- 12 RACHID HARKOUK

LUTON TOWN

White shirts and shorts with
Orange and Navy stripe

- 1 JAKE FINDLAY
- 2 KIRK STEPHENS
- 3 MAL DONAGHY
- 4 TONY GREALISH
- 5 MIKE SAXBY
- 6 PAUL RICE
- 7 RICKY HILL
- 8 BRIAN STEIN
- 9 GODFREY INGRAM
- 10 PASQUALE FECCILLO
- 11 DAVID MOSS
- 12 To Be Announced

RENAULT AT CLIFTON

RENAULT AT CLIFTON