

**The  
Pirate**

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME NO. 13

# BRISTOL ROVERS

v

## LUTON TOWN



**1992-93**

**SEASON**

**PRICE £1.20**



**BARCLAYS  
LEAGUE**

**DIVISION ONE**

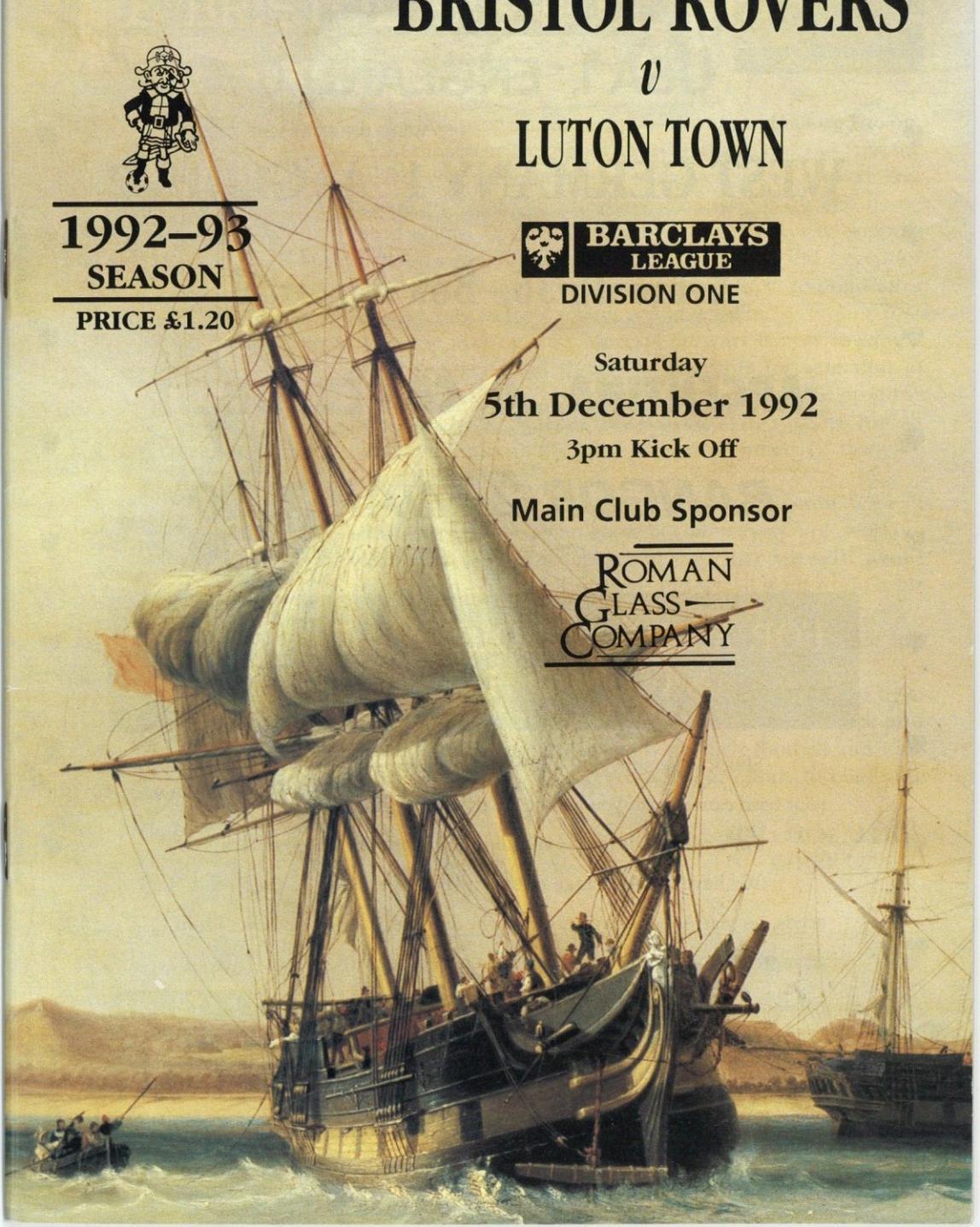
**Saturday**

**5th December 1992**

**3pm Kick Off**

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WORLD CUP FINALS 1982

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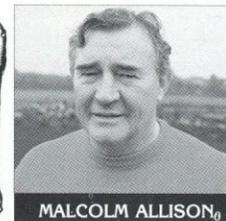
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Tel. 0272 352508 (Secretary), 0272 352305

(Commercial). **Stadium:** Twerton Park,

Bath. Tel. 0225 312327 (Match Day Office).

**The Pirate:** Bristol Rovers Match Day

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Chris Walker, Peter Jefferies, Bob Ford,

Alan Cassie, Keith Brookman,

Kevin Blackadder.

## FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Div. 1	Div. 2	Div. 3	Div. 3S
1992-93	1993-62	1962-74	1920-63
	1974-81	1981-90	
	1990-92		

## HONOURS

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of the Directors or Management.

My first programme notes for Rovers and before I go on, I must take this opportunity to thank you, our fans, for the marvellous support you have given since I arrived. You helped to create an excellent atmosphere for the home game against Derby followed by wonderful 'away' support at Peterborough and Leicester. The players did exceptionally well in all three matches and they respond in a positive way to the backing you give them.

On the playing side, **Marcus Stewart** is now making a quick recovery and should be available for selection in about a week. Two other pleasing aspects are the progress being made by **Marcus Browning** (I'm sure he has an excellent future in the game) and the 'comeback' made by **Vaughan Jones**.

We now know in which direction we are going. We will take every game as it comes. The players are working extremely well in training and, together we will avoid relegation. The spirit is there and we all want to do it for Rovers.

Keeper **Brian Parkin**, has regained his confidence and was delighted to keep a clean sheet last Saturday.

It is pleasing to see the way in which the three boys from Q.P.R. have settled in. **Andy Tillson, Gary Waddock and Justin Channing** are all enjoying their football and I am sure they will be an asset to us in our efforts to climb the table.

**MALCOLM ALLION  
CHIEF COACH**

**NEXT HOME FIXTURE**  
at Fry's Ground, Keynsham  
South East Counties League  
Division Two  
**BRISTOL ROVERS**  
v  
**LUTON TOWN**  
Saturday 12th December  
Kick Off 11.00am

N	Bristol Rovers	L
E	v	O
F	AFC Bournemouth	D
X	Wednesday	G
I	9th December	E
T	Kick Off 7.30pm	A
X		T
T		R
H		O
U		A
R		D
O		
M		
E		
	Neville Ovenden Combination	

## BRISTOL ROVERS F.C. 1992-1993

Back row (left to right): Gareth Taylor, Lee Maddison, David Mehew, Andy Gurney, Andy Reece, Carl Saunders, Marcus Stewart, Adie Boothroyd, Vaughan Jones, Richard Evans.  
Middle row: Roy Dolling, Bill Clark, John Taylor, Gavin Kelly, Marcus Browning, Steve Yates, Brian Parkin, Geoff Twentyman, Justin Skinner, Ray Kendall.  
Front row: Paul Tovey, Phil Purnell, Paul Chenoweth, Ian Alexander, Steve Cross, Dennis Rofe, Tony Gill, Tony Pounder, Paul Hardyman, Dave Wilson, Lee Archer.

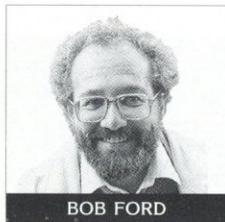


## LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 1992-1993

Back row (left to right): Darren Salton, Jamie Campbell, Des Linton, Alec Chamberlain, Marvin Johnson, Juergen Sommer, David Greene, John Dreyer, Chris Kamara.  
Middle row: John Moore (Coach), Julian James, Paul Telfer, Tim Allpress, Kurt Nogan (no longer with club), Richard Harvey, Trevor Peake, Brian Owen (Physiotherapist).  
Front row: Steve Claridge (now Cambridge), David Preece, Phil Gray, David Pleat (Manager), Ceri Hughes, Jason Rees, Scott Oakes.

(Not in photograph): Andrew Petterson.





BOB FORD

# ON BOARD TODAY

## RELYING ON YOUTHFUL PROMISE

When the new season kicked off at 3pm on August 15th at Filbert Street Leicester, Luton Town fielded seven players under 22 years of age. One of the seven put the Hatters in front, it was Jamie Campbell's first senior goal and it looked for much of the game that Luton's possession football would earn at least a point. Unfortunately, in the fourth minute of injury time, a poorly cleared corner kick was hit past Australian Youth International goalkeeper Andy Petterson for a 2-1 home win. The disappointment provided a foretaste of things to come as Luton's season struggled to find any consistency in much the same way as our own.

Naturally, with such a young

squad, there is much reliance upon the few experienced players. Trevor Peake is in his second season at Kenilworth Road and should have made his 500th league appearance last week. His glory days came at Coventry and included a cup winners medal in 1987 over David Pleat's Tottenham. I'm sure the manager will forgive him that indiscretion if he can marshal his troops towards safety this summer. David Preece is in his ninth season following his move from Walsall in December, 1984 shortly after completing a century of outings for the Midlands club. He has won three England "B" Caps and played in two League Cup Finals for the Hatters and brings a wealth of experience into the mid-field. Until a fortnight

ago the strike force lacked a wise head but some swift transfer dealings have changed all that.

Cambridge United sold winger Lee Philpott to Leicester, bought Steve Claridge from Luton, after only four months in Bedfordshire, and allowed Pleat the financial freedom to sign Ian Benjamin from Southend United. So the Nottingham born forward joined his tenth club. His most prolific scoring period came at Northampton Town in the mid Eighties with 58 goals over three seasons. Surprisingly he managed only 13 during the next three years, but the two successive promotion seasons at Roots Hall saw the return of the scoring touch. Although seen by many as the supporting act to

THE VISITING CREW						
IN GOAL	Age	Ports of Call	League Appearance Record for Luton Town (and Goals)			
			Career	This Season		
Andy PETERSON	23	Australian Institute of Sport	14	(-)	14	(-)
Alec CHAMBERLAIN	28	Everton, Colchester United	111	(-)	3	(-)
<b>AT THE BACK</b>						
Julian JAMES	22	ex-trainee, born Tring, Preston (loan)	86	(6)	17	(2)
Des LINTON	21	Leicester City	19	(1)	16	(1)
Trevor PEAKE	35	Coventry City, Lincoln City	50	(-)	12	(-)
John DREYER	29	Oxford United, Torquay United (loan)	145	(9)	9	(1)
Darren SALTON	20	Salvesen Boys Club (Edinburgh)	18	(-)	15	(-)
Marvin JOHNSON	24	ex-trainee, born Wembley	74	(1)	11	(1)
David GREENE	19	ex-trainee, born Luton	-	(-)	-	(-)
Richard HARVEY	23	ex-trainee, born Letchworth	104	(-)	-	(-)
<b>IN MIDFIELD</b>						
Scott OAKES	20	Leicester City	37	(4)	16	(2)
David PREECE	29	Walsall	241	(9)	16	(-)
Jason REES	22	ex-trainee, born Aberdare	51	(-)	11	(-)
Paul TELFER	21	ex-trainee, born Edinburgh	26	(2)	5	(1)
Ceri HUGHES	21	ex-trainee, born Rhondda Valley	40	(1)	4	(-)
<b>UP FRONT</b>						
Philip GRAY	24	Tottenham Hotspur, Barnsley (loan)	31	(11)	17	(8)
Jamie CAMPBELL	20	ex-trainee, born Birmingham	20	(1)	9	(1)
Ian BENJAMIN	30	Southend United, Exeter City	20	(1)	1	(-)
Martin WILLIAMS	19	Leicester City	1	(-)	-	(-)

## A Twerton welcome to LUTON TOWN

Formed 1885. Founder members of Division Three in 1920. Division Two Champions 1982. Sixteen seasons in Division One. Champions of Division Three South in 1937 and Division Four in 1968. League Cup Winners 1988 beating Arsenal 3-2 in Wembley Final. FA Cup Finalists in 1959 losing 1-2 to Nottingham Forest.



Ian Benjamin

Brett Angell, he did have the satisfaction of hitting the only goal at Bury in the final game of 1990/91 to put Southend into the Second Division for the very first time. Before his move to Luton he had already bagged six goals this season.

Ian's main strike partner will be Philip Gray who is beginning to make his mark in the Northern Ireland Full International squad having already gained representative honours at Schools, Youth and Under-23 level. He managed only 9 appearances at White Heart Lane over 5 seasons following his apprenticeship and joined Luton in August, 1991 hoping for regular first team football but was thwarted by injury. This season things have looked much brighter and he is ever-present. Since netting twice on the visit to Peterborough in October he has found the back of the net with regularity, scoring seven times in six matches.

It will be disappointing for Gray that his exploits up front have not been reflected in the points column of the First Division table, but Town have been too generous to their opponents, not as much as the Gas have been, but generous enough all the same. So Gray will be looking for his defensive and mid-field colleagues to "shut up shop" more effectively. Although young, they all have

some degree of top level experience in their lockers.

Julian James made his First Division debut as many as four seasons ago and has earned England Under-21 honours as a reward. He established himself in the side at the end of November last year following six appearances while on loan at Preston and has held his spot ever since. His full back partner last season, Richard Harvey, has struggled this time around giving Des Linton a chance. Des came to the Hatters in October 1991, along with Scott Oakes as part of the deal that took mid-fielder Steve Thompson to Leicester City. He was injured on his full debut against Manchester City and missed the remainder of the season. He will be looking to make up for lost time. Coincidentally, Oakes also suffered a set-back through injury last season missing a couple of months at the end of the campaign, after making an early impressive impact on the right wing.

Time will tell if the youthful promise, that was fuelled by that early season goal from Jamie Campbell four months ago, will grow quickly enough to rescue our visitors season before it is too late.



Phil Gray

## SIX SEASONS FORM

Our visitors away league record and final positions over recent seasons.

	W	D	L	F	A	Pos. (Div)
86/87	4	7	10	18	32	7 (1)
87/88	3	5	12	17	37	9 (1)
88/89	2	5	12	10	31	16 (1)
89/90	2	5	12	19	39	17 (1)
90/91	3	2	14	20	43	18 (1)
91/92	0	5	16	13	54	20 (1)
Total	14	29	76	97	236	

## THE ENGINE ROOM

David Pleat always brings back memories of his staccato run across the Maine Road pitch to congratulate his heroes as they achieved survival in last moments of the 1982/83 season. That was in Pleat's second spell at Kenilworth Road and was the first of many close calls for the club as they hung on for a decade to top flight status.

The success that David achieved with meagre resources was bound to attract lucrative offers from the "big boys" and in 1986 he succeeded Peter Shreeves as manager of Tottenham Hotspur. He guided them to third place in the Championship and an FA Cup Final appearance against Coventry City in 1987 but was removed from office early the next season. He took charge at Leicester City in December 1987 and remained there for three years before returning to Luton for his third spell in June 1991.

His first period at the club was as a player, joining them in 1964 from Nottingham Forest. In 1967 he moved on to Shrewsbury and later to Exeter and Peterborough before returning in 1971 when only 26 years old. He began his managerial career at Nuneaton Borough moving to Luton, firstly as coach, before taking the hot seat and winning the Second Division Championship in 1982.



MIKE JAY



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# 102



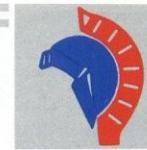
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Our very own **SCREEN SOCCER** have produced two new contrasting videos in time for Christmas. The first is **102 GREAT GAS GOALS** (£12.95 from the Club Shop). These goals are scored by 29 different Rovers players (including **STEVE YATES**), spanning the past seven seasons, on a video lasting almost one hour. The action includes Rovers' last Watney Cup and many more. Who could forget the **GARY PENRICE** cracker against Rotherham in 1987. The **PHIL PURNELL** special against Swansea in 1988. The skilful **IAN HOLLOWAY** goal against Fulham in 1989. **PAUL NIXON'S** rocket against Port Vale in 1990. **DEVON WHITE'S** effort against Ipswich in 1991 and **CARL SAUNDERS'** fourth v Plymouth in 1992. Re-live these and many more in this superb Screen Soccer video. To win a copy answer the two following questions and send to Gas Goals Comp (address opposite) by 12th December. (1) Who scored Rovers' last ever league goal at Eastville? (2) What number shirt did Devon White wear when he scored the winner v Blackpool in April 1989?

For the second we step back in time to 1972 for the Third **WATNEY CUP FINAL** tournament. This was the time when Rovers played in blue shirts with **BRIAN GODFREY** as captain and **DON MEGSON** was the new manager. Mark Spitz was winning seven gold medals at the Munich Olympics. Slade and The Sweet were topping the pop charts and Marcus Stewart had not yet been born! In the grounds were the unforgettable sideburns, tank tops, large round collared shirts and long hair.

Commentated by BBC's Barrie Davis it shows highlights of every match played in the 8 team pre-season tournament. The matches were Notts County 0 Sheffield United 3, Peterborough 0 Blackpool 0 (Boro won 7-6 on pens), **BRISTOL ROVERS 2 Wolves 0** and Lincoln 0 Burnley 1, in the first round. Peterborough 0 Sheff Utd 4 and **Burnley 0 ROVERS 2** in the semi-finals and **ROVERS 0 Sheff Utd 0 (Rovers won 7-6 on pens)** in the final at Eastville in front of 20,000 ecstatic fans. There are also interesting and reflective up-to-date interviews of **DICK SHEPPARD** – the final hero, and **FRANKIE PRINCE** – one of the goal scorers. This video costs £13.95 from the club shop but if you would like to win a copy answer the two following questions and send to Watney Cup Comp, 22 Oolite Grove, Bath BA2 2UF, by 12th December. (1) Who are the two players in the photograph? (2) Name three winners of the Watney Cup.



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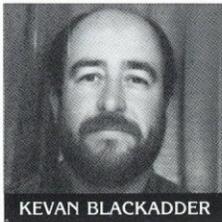
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KEVAN BLACKADDER

## PAST & PRESENT

### A Game to Remember

Bristol Rovers 3, Luton Town 2  
Division 2, 21st September 1979

The importance of this early season win for Rovers only became clear later in the campaign. Rovers completed the 1979-80 season in 19th place, just one spot above the relegation places. And Luton were to go on to win more games than they lost, finishing in an impressive sixth place. The result was never in doubt from midway through the second half and but for two Luton goals in the final five minutes, would have been more convincing. Rovers went into the game after a disappointing league cup defeat against Torquay United. Steve White had been criticised for missed chances in that game but hit back with two goals in this. White's first came after 64 minutes when he pounced on a mistake by Mike Saxby and five minutes later he headed a second from a Stewart Barrowclough cross. Rovers first goal had been scored in 57 minutes by former Eire international Miah Dennehy, who needed a score even more than White. It was Dennehy's first goal in 14 months at the club during which he had been converted from a left winger into a striker. The Luton goals both came from David Moss, the first direct from a free-kick and the second from the penalty spot after David Williams had fouled Tony Grealish.

### Eleven-a-Side

#### 11 Facts about Today's Visitors

- Ground capacity: 13,449
- Record receipts: £77,000 v Oxford United, Littlewoods Cup 1988.
- Nickname: The Hatters.
- Biggest league victory: v Rovers: 12-0 (1935-36 - home).
- Biggest league defeat: v Rovers: 0-5 (1920-21 - away).
- Most points: 3 for win = 88 (1981-82) 2 for win = 66 (1967-68).
- Most league appearances: Bob Morton, 494, 1948-64.
- Most league goals: Gordon Turner, 243, 1949-64.
- Most league goals in season: Joe Payne, 55, 1936-37.
- Record transfer fee received: £1.5 million, Kingsley Black.
- Record transfer fee paid: £850,000, Lars Elstrup.

### Current Form

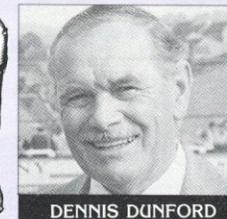
At the time of writing, Luton Town were the only Division One side without a home victory with only two away victories, at Brentford and Peterborough, they face a tough battle to avoid their second consecutive relegation.

### ALL-TIME LEAGUE MEETINGS

HOME						AWAY						TOTAL					
P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A
31	13	11	7	59	37	31	3	7	21	28	80	62	16	18	28	87	117



## AT THE HELM



DENNIS DUNFORD

### FROM THE CHAIRMAN

No one in the public view, and particularly the Chairman and Directors of a Football League Club, can ever, nor should be, free from criticism by those people who continually give the Club their loyalty and support.

It is true to say that by giving your loyalty and support, you are, with the directors taking part in the history of the Club and we are all contributors to its future success or failure.

After playing 16 matches we were galloping towards the moat, and the drawbridge was being raised, which only leaves us facing a big DROP.

I am reminded of an old Chinese proverb; to quote, "He who hesitates to take a new step can spend the rest of his life on one leg." Yes, decisions have to be made, and scrutiny and criticism of those making them is good, but it can be just as effective if it is delivered politely, with gentleness and understanding.

For the Board of Directors to provide the understanding is the most difficult part for us to convey. It could involve the release of personal discussions, that may in turn, be interpreted as a character assassination, which may then do irrevocable harm to a person's future career. That is a situation we very much wish to avoid.

Nevertheless, to be effective and successful in our job as custodians of this Football Club we have to be in touch with the heart of the Club, and be aware of all situations and practices where ever they occur, and then use our knowledge to steer the Club in the right direction.

No one person on the Board has a dictatorial influence, we make decisions purely in the best interests of the Club, the players and the supporters.

Thank you for all your letters. I read all of them, but my special thanks to those of you who wrote to give us comfort and support.

Yours sincerely

DENNIS DUNFORD



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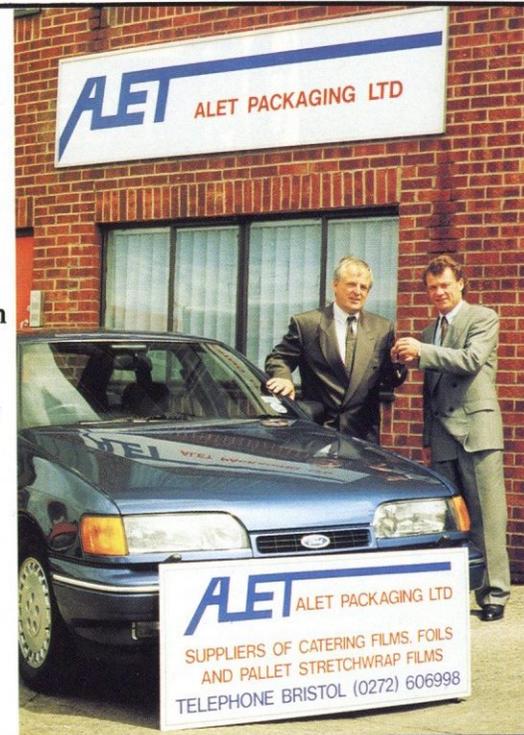
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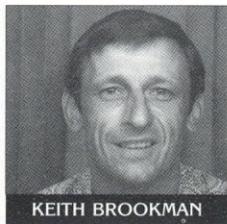
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KEITH BROOKMAN

## BURIED TREASURE

### A PAYNE IN THE NECK

CHURCHMAN'S CIGARETTES



J. PAYNE (CHELSEA)

Joe Payne

All the record books show that the most league goals scored in a single game by one player was achieved by John Payne, playing for Luton against Bristol Rovers on Easter Monday 1935. It is a record that is unlikely to be beaten, yet the record might easily have been set four months earlier, on Boxing Day 1934.

It was on that day that Robert 'Bunny' Bell scored 9 goals for Tranmere in a 13-4 defeat of Oldham. Bell had missed a penalty in that game – if only he had scored maybe we would not be constantly reminded of Payne's scoring record!

Payne had joined Luton two years prior to that game, beginning his football career as an amateur with Bolsover Colliery before being spotted by a Luton scout. He had been signed as a centre forward, but his first four senior games were played as a half-back. As far as the game against Rovers was concerned, Payne had arrived at the ground unaware that he was even playing. However, injuries to a number of first team players convinced manager Ned Liddell to give him an opportunity, by giving Payne a chance at centre forward. He was handed the number 9 shirt with the instruction to do his best and score a couple of goals if he could.

The rest, as they say, is history.

By half-time, he had scored a hat-trick and he struck again in the 49th and 55th minutes. Then came a goal that he was credited with, but not until after the game! Payne had shot and it was adjudged by the referee to have been over the

line before his colleague, Martin, touched the ball further into the net. Just goes to show they had 'dodgy' referees even in those days! He added four more goals to his final tally, the last one coming in the 86th minute. Luton also scored two more goals through Roberts and Martin and ran out 12-0 winners. Obviously they were delighted, as they were pushing for promotion. However, only one team were promoted in those days and they were pipped by Coventry who went up with 57 points, one more than Luton.

However, they made it the following season, clinching promotion in their final match against Torquay, with Payne scoring the winning goals and ending the season with a total of 55. **Following that, he won his only England cap, scoring twice in an 8-0 win over Finland.** In March 1938, he was transferred to First Division Chelsea. The war interrupted his career, although he did sign for West Ham in 1946 and Millwall a year later, and he ended his career with Worcester City in the 1950s. A total of 118 league games yielded an amazing 110 goals.

Payne was also a Minor Counties cricketer and a keen golfer. He developed a heart condition and died in April 1975 at the age of 61.

In Rovers' defence, it has to be said that the Luton game was the third in a sequence of four games over the Easter period. They had held Luton 2-2 at home on Good Friday, played another 2-2 draw against Aldershot at Eastville the following day and crashed 12-0 at Kenilworth Road on that Easter Monday. Amazingly, they returned to Eastville the following day and beat Torquay 3-0. Five Rovers players played in all four matches.

**As for Joe, his record is likely to stand for all time, but for Rovers fans, it remains a Payne in the neck!!**



## CAPTAINS LOG



VAUGHAN JONES

The first thing I would like to say in my first column for a while is a big "THANK YOU" to all you supporters for the great reception you gave me on my return to first team action against Derby County a few weeks ago. It really gave me a tingle in the spine and brought a tear of emotion to my eye. Things like that make all the hard work worthwhile and I must admit one of my big incentives while I was injured was the buzz you get when leading out **BRISTOL ROVERS** at Twerton Park. It was something I definitely wanted to experience again in front of superb supporters.

The past few weeks have been a traumatic time for the club. The appointment of **Malcolm Allison** for the near future has given the club some much needed stability and I assure you that contrary to some recent press reports Malcolm has the 100% backing of every player who pulls on a Rover shirt. Since his arrival we have looked a much better organised unit than a month or so ago and with the arrival of a few fresh faces the team has a different look about it. The self belief and total commitment are back and with supporters like ours home and away, I definitely think that combination will get this club out of the hole we have dug for ourselves. We did the same thing last year and got out of it and I firmly believe we have a squad of players definitely capable of getting out of this mess again.

To finish can I just say "Good Luck" from all the players to **Adie Boothroyd** who has left the club and is currently on trial with Hearts in Scotland. Even in his most frustrated time at the club he was always a real character to have around the dressing room and will be missed.

VAUGHAN JONES

## PRESIDENTS CLUB

A warm welcome to **Luton Town** our visitors this afternoon. **Congratulations to chief coach Malcolm Allison and the team for three splendid performances against Derby County, Peterborough United and Leicester City, long may it continue.**

If members haven't already returned their Xmas Draw Tickets could they please do so before our game against Bristol City next Sunday.

In the past members have kindly donated prizes for this event, your support again this year would be much appreciated.

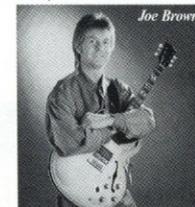
UP THE BLUES

EDWARD WARE

## HELPLINE SOCIETY

Helpline Members are reminded that the Christmas Spectacular takes place tomorrow evening at Spirals Nightclub in Yate. The star of the show will be **Joe Brown and The Bruvvers**, with **The Piggies** as supporting act.

For those members wishing to claim their **FREE** tickets, they may still be claimed at today's match, from Kate Radnedge who will be in the Presidents club after the game, additional tickets are also available for your guests at just £7.50 each.



## HOOLIGAN HOTLINE

If you have information about any person involved in football hooliganism, please call the National Criminal Intelligence Service, Football Unit on **freephone 0800 515495**. Your call will be treated in strictest confidence.

### • THANKS FROM NORWICH CITY •

Bryan and Susan Gun would like to thank all Bristol Rovers FC supporters for their cards and letters of sympathy they have received during the last few months since their daughter Francesca died from Leukaemia.

### • COMPETITION WINNER •

The aerial photograph of Millwall FC 'The Den' was won by **Mr P. Whelan of Greenwich, London SE10**. Answers to the competition in the Millwall programme were 4-2 to Rovers. Bruce Rioch (Bolton) and George Graham (Arsenal).

### • HAPPY BIRTHDAY PAUL •

Rovers young midfielder Paul Tovey celebrates his 19th birthday today.

### • JOCK MILESTONE •



Congratulations to **Ian Alexander** who completed 250 league appearances for Rovers following his appearance at Peterborough on 21st November. Jock now joins the elite band of 26 Rovers players to have exceeded 250 league games. These include current team mates Vaughan Jones and Geoff Twentyman.

### BRISTOL HOSPITAL BROADCASTING SERVICE

Would like to thank the following for sponsoring the live broadcast of today's match.

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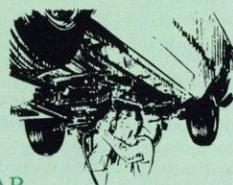
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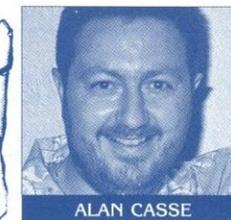
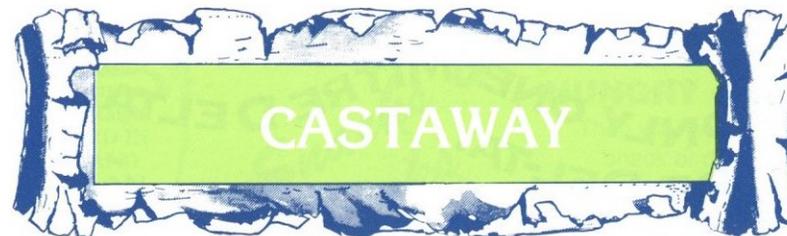


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ALAN CASSE

## HATS OFF TO LUTON TOWN FANS

My thanks to the respective Editors for sending me copies of all three passionate LUTON TOWN Fanzines.

### 30p THE HATTER Issue 5



### WHO'S NEXT?

"I launched 'THE HATTER' a year ago to campaign against the current mismanagement taking place behind the scenes at L.T.F.C." said SIMON. "Issue 6, will be out for the Rovers game and will contain an exclusive interview with new signing STEVE CLARIDGE" he added. Issue 5 includes '91-92 Review' - the club sold players after promising not to. 'Oh Mickey, Mickey' - HARFORD'S departure, 'Hatters Diary' - match reports, 'Cup Winners 88' - the road to Wembley and 'Letters Page'.

Normally 30p this Fanzine is expanding for Issue 6 so if you

would like a copy send 50p and an A4 SAE to 54 Osprey Road, Flitwick, Beds. MK45 1RU.

"We started writing D. PLEATED back in early 1990 because we were fed up with our club being the most despised in the land. We wanted everyone to know that we were against the plastic pitch, membership scheme and the ban on away games", said NEIL DEWAR "The title came about due to the sale of WEGERLE, FOSTER and DONAGHY and the departure of DAVID PLEAT" he added.

The current issue includes 'Who Really Cares' - will Luton follow Aldershot, 'Humbled Hatter' - is the writing on the wall already this season, 'Not for Sale' - the Luton squad, 'Kamara's Kenilworth Krackerz' - 'KAMARA v Vinny Jones, DAVID PLEAT interview' - part two, 'Mailbag'.



'What's in a Name' - the bouffant, salts and shag, plus cartoons and illustrations. Copies are available at £1 each plus an A4 SAE from 36 Swanston Grange, Dunstable Road, Luton, Beds. LU4 0HF.

"We had the idea of starting a Fanzine in January 1990, partly as a result of turmoil in which the club was in and also because the image of the club was very negative. We felt it was time to give Town fans a chance to air their views" said ANDY COLLON. "The first 'MAD AS A HATTER' appeared in April 1990, and the name was chosen because of the club's nick-name and that we must be insane to have kept faith" he added.

Issue 13 includes seven articles on the club's demise and dislike of DAVID KOHLER. 'Fair Cops' - Policing at football grounds, 'Media Watch' - how the media see Luton Town, 'Whatever Happend to Bobbin Dino' - sardonic cartoon, 'How to Avoid Promotion and Cup Runs' - match reports, 'Raving Mad' - letters page and 'Luton Town Blues' - poem including MORECAMBE, FUTCHER and KING. Good value at 50p plus an A5 SAE from 30 Linden Road, Dunstable, Beds. LU5 4NZ.

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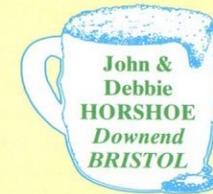
Maureen & Ralph  
**BIRD IN  
 HAND**  
 Saltford



Dave & Judy  
**GOLDEN  
 FLEECE**  
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Barry &  
 June  
**THE  
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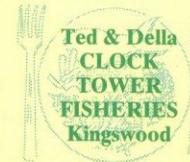
John &  
 Debbie  
**HORSHOE**  
 Downend  
**BRISTOL**



Spike & Fay  
**"SEAFOOD"**  
 FISH & CHIPS  
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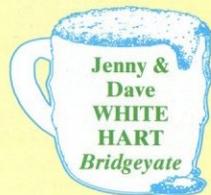
Spider  
**WHITE  
 HORSE**  
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Ted & Della  
**CLOCK  
 TOWER**  
**FISHERIES**  
 Kingswood



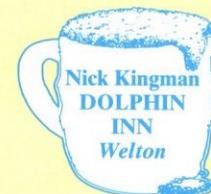
Derek & Di  
**FULL  
 MOON**  
 Twerton



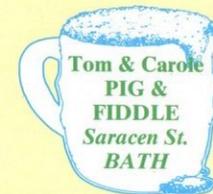
Jenny &  
 Dave  
**WHITE  
 HART**  
 Bridgegate



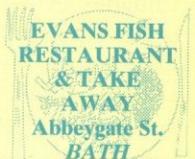
Tony &  
 Angie  
**FIRE  
 ENGINE**  
 Redfield



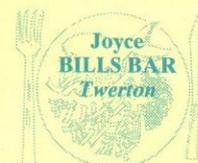
Nick Kingman  
**DOLPHIN  
 INN**  
 Welton



Tom & Carole  
**PIG &  
 FIDDLE**  
 Saracen St.  
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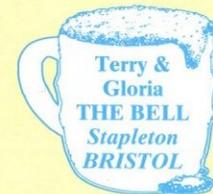
EVANS FISH  
 RESTAURANT  
 & TAKE  
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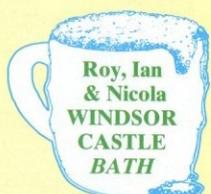
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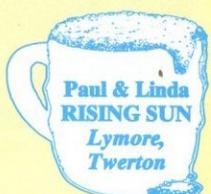
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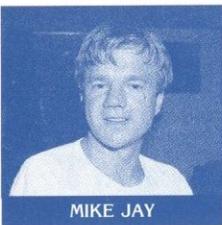
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MIKE JAY

## YESTERDAYS HEROES

### LINDSAY PARSONS



Lindsay Parsons  
Cheltenham Town Manager

Lindsay made his Rovers league debut as an 18-year-old on 18th April 1964 in a 4-0 victory over Notts County. A strong tackling and reliable defender, Parsons did not really establish himself as a first team regular until the late 1960s. However, Lindsay was a valuable ever-present in seasons 1971-73. He missed just four games in the clubs promotion winning team to Division Two in 1974. Other highlights of Lindsay's career at Eastville was the League Cup victory over Manchester United in 1972 and the fifth round League Cup ties with Aston Villa two seasons earlier.



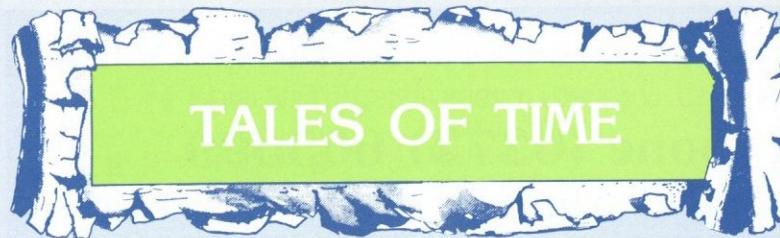
Lindsay Parsons in action in 1974.

Today, Beazer Homes Premier Division club Cheltenham Town entertain Bournemouth in an FA Cup Second Round tie. Manager of Cheltenham is former Rovers full back **Lindsay Parsons**. Bristol born Lindsay, besides spending 13 seasons as a player with Rovers, also had, and enjoyed a spell coaching Rovers Youth team in the late 1980s.

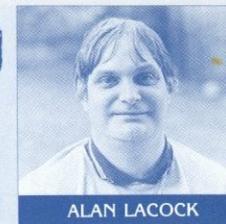
During the summer, Lindsay turned down the opportunity to link up with former Rovers team mate Tony Pulis as assistant manager at Bournemouth. David Williams however, accepted the position instead. Parsons took over the 'hot seat' at Cheltenham in January, initially as caretaker, but Town were relegated from the Conference.

Lindsay accumulated a grand total of 359 league appearances for the club but failed to find the net. But I will always remember those vital spectacular goal-line clearances he always managed to do, to guard Rovers' goalnet. There are just 13 other players who have made more league appearances in a Rovers shirt.

Lindsay spent two seasons with Torquay United after leaving Rovers in July 1977, chalking up a further 59 league games for 'The Gulls'. We wish him well in the future, and Cheltenham in particular in this afternoon's FA Cup tie.



## TALES OF TIME



ALAN LACOCK

### THE PIRATES v THE HATTERS

Rovers league meetings with Luton go back to the 1920-21 season with The Pirates completing the double, as they did the following season. The Hatters then completed a 14 game unbeaten run against the Rovers before losing 5-1 at Eastville in September 1930. Of the 34 pre-war meetings Luton had won 13 (including Rovers' record defeat 12-0 on Easter Monday 1936) against Rovers' seven wins.

The first post-war meeting was in October 1953 with Geoff Bradford scoring three and Freddie Pye two in a 3-3 draw at Eastville with the return ending in a 1-1 draw. Bradford the following season scored twice as Rovers won the Eastville encounter by the odd goal in five with Charlie Watkins repeating the feat as Town won the return 2-0. The 1960-61 season saw Rovers



Peter Sampson

slip to a 4-2 defeat at Kenilworth Road where Peter Sampson put through his own goal. Luton were also aided by an own goal this time from Ray Mabbutt as Rovers ran out 4-1 winners in the Eastville return, with Bradford yet again on the mark twice. The following season The Pirates won the Eastville fixture by the only goal while the game at Kenilworth Road, the last of the season, saw Luton win 2-0 and sealed Rovers' relegation to the Third Division. It was also the last in Rovers colours for Howard Radford and Peter Hooper.

The next meeting in the 1963-64 season John O'Rourke scored a hat-trick as Luton won 4-2 at Kenilworth Road and he also scored both goals in Town's 2-1 Eastville success. The next time O'Rourke, then at Middlesbrough, played at Eastville some 20 months later he was involved in the collision that ended goalkeeper Bernard Hall's career. The following season the Rovers completed the double over Luton (whose team contained present boss David Pleat) winning 2-0

at Kenilworth Road, their first since February 1922 and 3-2 at Eastville. Ian Hamilton netting all three for Rovers and Ray Whitaker on the mark twice for the Hatters.

Rovers old boy Laurie Sheffield was on the mark as Luton won the next meeting 3-0 in March 1969 at Kenilworth Road with the return ending goalless. The following season Luton won 4-0 at Kenilworth Road with Rovers winning the return 3-0 with both full backs Tony Ford and Alex Munro scoring from the penalty spot. The only time that both full backs scored in the same match for Rovers and the only time two different players had been successful from the penalty spot. Munro was sent off in the last minute for kicking an opponent at a drop ball situation.



Peter Aitken

The 1975-76 season saw the next meeting with Luton completing the double by winning 1-0 at Eastville and 3-1 (Ricky Hill scored on his league debut) in the return. The next season Ron Futcher scored twice as Town won 4-2 at Luton and Peter Aitken with his first goal for the club gave Rovers victory in the return. Luton again in the 1977-78 season won the Eastville fixture this time 2-1, with the teams sharing two goals in the return. The following season Rovers were 2-0 home winners while Steve White scored twice as Rovers lost the return by the odd goal in five. White was also on target twice as Rovers in the 1979-80 campaign won 3-2 at Eastville but were beaten 3-1 at Kenilworth Road. The Hatters again completed the double the following season, with Brian Stein scoring a hat-trick in their 4-2 victory at Eastville and a David Moss penalty in the return making sure that we would not be participating in the Second Division the following term. Today's encounter is our first ever meeting in Bath.

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# CENTRE SPOT

STATS & FACTS: SEASON 1992-93				FINAL SCORE	RESULT	ATTENDANCE	LEAGUE POSITION	HALF-TIME SCORE	REFEREE	PLAYERS													
DATE	OPONENTS									1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	
AUG 15	SAT OXFORD UNITED		1-2	L	7333	17	0-2	R. Lewis	Parkin	Alexander	Clark	Yates	Hardyman	Skinner	Mehew*	Reece	Taylor, J.(1)	Saunders	Pounder*	Stewart*	Cross*		
AUG 19	WED SWINDON TOWN*	8.00pm	3-4	L	6150	20	1-3	K. Burge	Parkin	Alexander	Clark	Yates	Hardyman(1)	Skinner*	Mehew(1)	Reece	Taylor, J.	Saunders	Pounder*	Stewart(1)*	Cross*		
AUG 22	SAT BRENTFORD		2-1	W	5779	10	2-0	D. Gallagher	Parkin	Alexander	Clark	Yates	Hardyman	Skinner	Mehew*	Reece	Taylor, J.(2)	Saunders	Pounder*	Stewart*	Cross*		
AUG 25	TUE CHARLTON ATHLETIC	7.45pm	1-4	L	4721	11	0-1	K. Morton	Parkin	Alexander	Clark	Yates	Hardyman	Skinner*	Cross	Reece(1)	Taylor, J.	Saunders	Pounder*	Stewart*	Twentyman*		
AUG 28	FRI TRANMERE ROVERS	7.30pm	1-2	L	5458	12	1-0	V. Callow	Parkin	Alexander	Twentyman	Yates	Hardyman	Maddison	Cross	Reece*	Taylor, J.	Stewart*	Pounder	Saunders*	Clark*		
SEPT 2	WED WEST HAM UNITED (AIC)	7.45pm	2-2	D	4809	-	0-1	R. Bigger	Parkin	Alexander	Twentyman	Yates	Hardyman	Maddison*	Cross	Skinner	Taylor, J.	Stewart (2)	Pounder*	Clark*	Browning*		
SEPT 5	SAT NEWCASTLE UNITED		1-2	L	7487	20	1-1	J. Martin	Parkin	Alexander	Twentyman	Yates	Wilson	Maddison	Cross	Skinner	Taylor, J.(1)	Stewart	Pounder*	Clark	Saunders		
SEPT 12	SAT SWINDON TOWN		2-2	D	10006	21	0-1	D. Ellery	Parkin	Alexander*	Twentyman	Yates	Hardyman	Clark	Cross	Skinner	Taylor, J.(1)	Stewart(1)	Wilson*	Saunders*	Pounder*		
SEPT 16	WED SOUTHEM UNITED (AIC)	8.00pm	3-0	W	3007	-	1-0	R. Gifford	Parkin	Alexander	Twentyman	Yates	Maddison	Wilson	Pounder*	Skinner	Taylor, J.	Stewart(1)	Hardyman(1)	Clark	Saunders(1)*		
SEPT 19	SAT GRIMSBY TOWN		0-3	L	5320	23	0-0	A. Ward	Parkin	Alexander	Twentyman	Yates	Maddison	Wilson*	Pounder*	Skinner	Taylor, J.	Stewart	Hardyman	Cross*	Saunders*		
SEPT 23	WED MANCHESTER CITY CCL CUP 2 (1)	7.45pm	0-0	D	9967	-	0-0	C. Trussell	Parkin	Alexander	Twentyman	Yates	Maddison	Wilson*	Cross	Skinner	Taylor, J.	Stewart	Hardyman	Clark	Reece*		
SEPT 26	SAT SUNDERLAND		1-1	D	15593	23	1-0	J. Key	Parkin	Alexander	Twentyman	Yates	Maddison	Wilson*	Cross	Skinner	Taylor, J.	Stewart(1)	Hardyman	Reece*	Saunders		
OCT 3	SAT NOTTS COUNTY		3-3	D	5031	23	3-2	G. Singh	Parkin	Alexander	Twentyman	Yates	Maddison	Wilson	Pounder*	Reece	Taylor, J.(1)	Stewart*	Hardyman(2)	Mehew*	Saunders*		
OCT 7	WED MANCHESTER CITY* CCL CUP 2 (2)	8.00pm	1-2	L	7823	-	0-0	D. Frampton	Parkin	Alexander	Twentyman	Yates	Maddison*	Wilson	Mehew	Reece	Taylor, J.(1)	Stewart	Hardyman*	Saunders*	Cross*		
OCT 10	SAT WATFORD		2-4	L	7624	24	1-2	D. Axcell	Parkin	Alexander	Twentyman	Yates	Maddison*	Wilson	Mehew	Reece	Taylor, J.	Stewart(1)	Hardyman	Cross	Saunders(1)*		
OCT 17	SAT WEST HAM UNITED*		0-4	L	6187	24	0-3	G. Ashby	Kelly	Alexander	Clark	Yates	Hardyman	Skinner	Mehew	Reece	Taylor, J.	Stewart	Cross	Saunders	Wilson		
OCT 24	SAT BIRMINGHAM CITY		1-2	L	9874	24	0-1	A. Wilkie	Kelly	Alexander	Moore(1)	Yates*	Hardyman	Skinner*	Channing	Reece	Taylor, J.	Saunders	Pounder	Cross*	Mehew*		
OCT 31	SAT MILLWALL		1-0	W	5378	24	0-0	M. Pierce	Parkin	Alexander	Moore	Clark	Hardyman	Wilson	Channing	Reece	Taylor, J.	Saunders(1)	Pounder*	Mehew*	Archer		
NOV 3	TUE BARNSELY	8.00pm	1-5	L	5019	24	0-1	K. Cooper	Parkin	Alexander	Moore	Clark	Hardyman	Wilson	Channing*	Reece	Taylor, J.	Saunders	Pounder*	Mehew(1)*	Archer*		
NOV 7	SAT WOLVERHAMPTON WNDRS		1-5	L	12163	24	1-2	J. Carter	Parkin	Alexander	Moore	Yates	Hardyman	Tillson	Channing*	Reece	Taylor, J.	Saunders(1)	Waddock	Browning*	Mehew*		
NOV 14	SAT DERBY COUNTY		1-2	L	6668	24	1-1	A. Ward	Parkin	Alexander	Tillson	Yates	Hardyman	Jones	Channing	Browning	Taylor, J.(1)	Saunders	Waddock	Twentyman	Mehew*		
NOV 21	SAT PETERBOROUGH UNITED		1-1	D	6120	24	0-0	M. James	Parkin	Alexander	Tillson	Yates	Hardyman	Jones	Channing*	Browning	Taylor, J.	Saunders(1)	Waddock	Twentyman	Mehew*		
NOV 28	SAT LEICESTER CITY		1-0	W	12848	23	1-0	C. Trussell	Parkin	Alexander*	Tillson	Yates	Hardyman	Jones	Channing(1)	Browning	Taylor, J.	Saunders	Waddock	Twentyman	Mehew*		
DEC 5	SAT LUTON TOWN																						
DEC 13	SUN BRISTOL CITY*																						
DEC 18	FRI CAMBRIDGE UNITED	7.45pm																					
DEC 26	SAT PORTSMOUTH																						
DEC 28	MONSOUTHEM UNITED																						
JAN 2	SAT FA CUP 3																						
JAN 9	SAT GRIMSBY TOWN																						
JAN 16	SAT SUNDERLAND																						
JAN 27	WED CHARLTON ATHLETIC	8.00pm																					
JAN 30	SAT BRENTFORD																						
FEB 6	SAT OXFORD UNITED																						
FEB 13	SAT NEWCASTLE UNITED																						
FEB 20	SAT TRANMERE ROVERS																						
FEB 27	SAT WATFORD																						
MAR 6	SAT NOTTS COUNTY																						
MAR 10	WED DERBY COUNTY	7.45pm																					
MAR 13	SAT WOLVERHAMPTON WNDRS																						
MAR 20	SAT LUTON TOWN																						
MAR 24	WED PETERBOROUGH UNITED	8.00pm																					
MAR 27	SAT BARNSELY																						
APR 3	SAT LEICESTER CITY																						
APR 6	TUE BRISTOL CITY	7.45pm																					
APR 10	SAT PORTSMOUTH																						
APR 14	WED SOUTHEM UNITED	7.45pm																					
APR 17	SAT CAMBRIDGE UNITED																						
APR 24	SAT WEST HAM UNITED																						
MAY 1	SAT BIRMINGHAM CITY																						
MAY 8	SAT MILLWALL																						

## BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION 1 (AS AT SUN 29th NOVEMBER)

HOME					AWAY					
P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A	
18	8	1	1	22 5	Newcastle	7	0	1	16 9	46
18	7	3	0	22 6	Tranmere	3	1	4	10 14	34
18	5	1	2	19 8	West Ham	5	2	3	17 9	33
18	7	2	1	22 11	Swindon	2	3	3	11 14	32
19	5	4	1	21 13	Wolves	3	2	10 7	32	
18	6	2	0	21 6	Millwall	2	4	4	7 10	30
18	7	0	1	18 2	Portsmouth	1	5	4	15 21	29
18	4	3	1	13 9	Grimsey	4	1	5	15 12	28
19	5	3	3	12 11	Leicester	3	1	4	10 12	28
19	4	4	2	13 8	Charlton	3	1	5	9 11	26
16	2	3	4	11 13	Peterboro	5	1	14 8	25	
18	2	0	6	12 15	Derby	5	3	2	16 9	24
18	5	3	2	16 14	Bristol City	2	0	6	11 24	24
18	4	2	4	10 8	Barnsley	3	1	4	12 9	24
18	3	5	2	16 10	Oxford Utd.	2	3	3	12 13	23
18	4	2	3	14 14	Watford	2	3	4	11 15	23
18	5	2	4	19 14	Brentford	1	2	4	7 9	22
18	3	2	3	10 9	Sunderland	3	1	6	7 18	21
17	4	0	3	9 11	Birmingham	1	4	5	5 16	19
19	4	1	4	12 15	Cambridge	0	5	5	8 22	18
19	1	4	3	7 11	Notts C.	2	2	7	14 28	15
18	2	3	3	8 9	Southend	1	2	7	9 19	14
19	2	1	6	12 24	Bristol R.	1	3	6	12 23	13
17	0	4	4	10 21	Luton	2	3	4	9 17	13

**NEXT MATCHES**  
**AT**  
**TWERTON PARK**

SUN 6th DECEMBER BATH CITY v NORTHAMPTON  
FA CUP SECOND ROUND - 3pm Kick-Off

SUN 13th DECEMBER ROVERS v BRISTOL CITY  
BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIV.1 - 3pm Kick-Off  
(All ticket match)

## MATCH FACTS - IN OPPOSITION

**Wolves Team:** Jones, Ashley, Edwards, Burke, Mountfield, Blades, Birch, Cook, Bull, Mutch and Dennison.  
**Subs:** Roberts for Mutch (58 mins) and Rankine (not used).  
**Rovers Subs:** Mehew for Yates and Browning for Taylor (both 63 mins).  
**Goalscorer:** Dennison (7 mins), Saunders (21 mins), Bull (27 and 61 mins); Burke (48 and 56 mins).  
**Match Facts:** Wolves' Steve Bull breaks his club's goal scoring record. Wolves equal their record victory over Rovers both home and away with the same scoreline. Last game in charge for Manager Dennis Rofe.  
**Derby County Team:** Sutton, Comyn, Forsyth, Short, Wassall, Pembridge, Johnson, Kuhl, Kitson, Gabbiadini and Simpson.  
**Subs:** (not used) Coleman and McMin.  
**Rovers Subs:** Mehew for Hardyman (84 mins) and Twentyman (not used).  
**Goalscorers:** Kitson (11 mins), Taylor (30 mins) and Johnson (90 mins).  
**Match Facts:** Derby record their sixth consecutive away win of the season and history is repeated as they score another injury time winner at Twerton in consecutive seasons. Fine return for Marcus Browning and Vaughan Jones after 14 months out through injury, while there are good home debuts for new signings Tillson and Waddock.  
**Peterborough United Team:** Bennett, Bradshaw, Robinson, Halsall, Howarth, Welsh, Sterling, Cooper, Adcock, Philliskirk and Ebdon.  
**Subs:** Iorfa for Halsall (61 mins) and Luke (not used).  
**Rovers Subs:** Mehew for Channing (73 mins) and Twentyman (not used).  
**Goal Scorers:** Adcock (77 mins) and Saunders (90 mins).  
**Match Facts:** Rovers maintain their record of scoring in every away league match so far by doing a Derby and Tranmere - scoring 2 mins into injury time. Excellent goalkeeping display by Brian Parkin.  
**Leicester City Team:** Poole, Mills, Platnauer, Smith, Grayson, Hill, Oldfield, Thompson, Davison, Ormondroyd and Philpott.  
**Subs:** Joachin for Ormondroyd (64 mins) and Gibson (not used).  
**Rovers Subs:** Mehew for Alexander 34 mins and Twentyman (not used).  
**Goalscorer:** Channing (25 mins).  
**Match Facts:** Rovers win for the first time ever at Filbert Street in 8 attempts. It is Rovers' first away victory since 4 April, a run of 12 matches before an away maximum was achieved. This was the longest non winning spell since 1987 when Rovers took 16 consecutive league matches before they won away from Bath.



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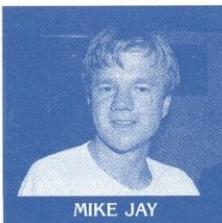
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MIKE JAY

## PRESS GANGED

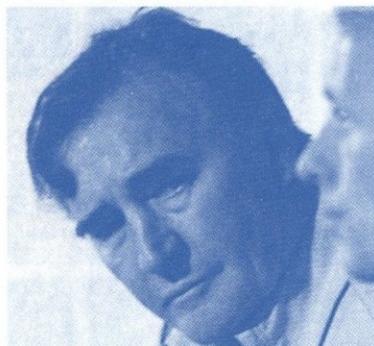
### Malcolm Alexander ALLISON

**Born:** Dartford, 5th September 1927.

**Educated** at Bexley Central School (worked briefly as a messenger at a Fleet Street photographic agency).

**Defender:** 6'0", 12st 0lb.

**Career:** Welling Civic; Danson Boys' Club; Erith & Belvedere; Charlton Rovers; *Charlton Athletic* 4.12.45 (serving two years' National Service in Austria); West Ham United (£7,000) 22.2.51 – retired as a League player Oct. 1958 following serious illness (tuberculosis); Sutton United (coach) 18.11.58; Romford (as a player) Aug. 1960 to cs 1962; Wembley (coach) 1962; Cambridge University (coach) 1963; Bath City (player-coach) 1.4.63; Toronto City 1964; Plymouth Argyle (manager) 14.5.64 – resigned 27.4.65; Manchester City (coach) Aug. 1965 – appointed manager Oct. 1971 and left Maine Road 30.3.73; Cape Town City F.C. (coaching commission) 1972 and 1973; Crystal Palace (manager) Mar. 1973 to May 1976; Galatsaray of Turkey (adviser and coach) May 1976; Memphis Tennessee (coach) Nov. 1977 to Feb. 1978; rejoined Plymouth Argyle (consultant) Feb. 1978 and appointed manager May 1978; Manchester City (coach) Jan. 1979 and appointed manager 6.7.79 leaving City 9.10.80; rejoined Crystal Palace (manager) 30.11.80 to 26.1.81; Yeovil Town (adviser) Jan. 1981, left after five weeks; Sporting Lisbon of Portugal (coach) 1981, left the following year; Middlesbrough (manager) Oct. 1982 to Mar. 1984; suspended from football worldwide in Oct. 1984 after failing to pay a £250 fine imposed by F.A.; eventually paid up and joined Willington F.C.; worked in Kuwait for a period up to Mar. 1986 as national coach; Vitoria Setubal of Portugal (manager) Feb. to May 1988; Farense of Portugal (manager) Jan. to Mar. 1989; Fisher Athletic (manager) June 1989, resigned 17.11.89. Bristol Rovers (consultant coach/caretaker Manager Nov. 1992).



**Honours/Rep:** Kent County (amateur); captained British Services Combined XI v Austrian International XI and the French Army.

**Charlton Record:** Senior debut (captain) v Manchester City 24.12.49 (conceding a penalty in 2-0 defeat); Final match v Portsmouth 26.12.49.

**West Ham United Record:** Senior debut v Chesterfield 17.3.51 final match v Sheffield Utd.

Malcolm was indeed a fine centre half at a club who yielded a great number of successful football managers

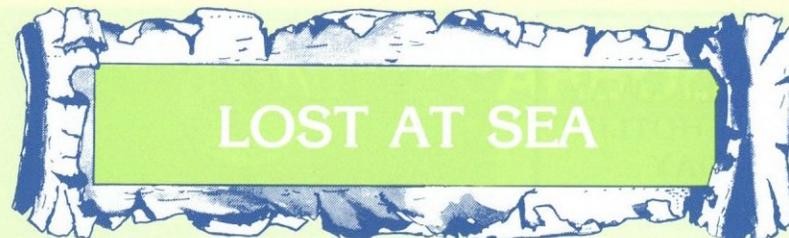
**Football League playing career: 240 matches, 10 goals.**

*"Just a glance at 'Big Mal's' career details will bring most to the conclusion that this man holds some kind of domestic, if not world, soccer record for the number of posts he has in our great game. The demand for his services for 45 years is a measure of his brilliant coaching and tactical ability in sport which carries little or no job security."*

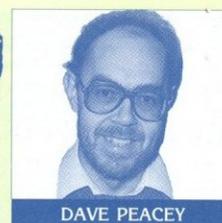
Colin Cameron

It was while Malcolm was coach at Manchester City to Joe Mercer that he enjoyed his greatest success, League Championship 1968, FA Cup Winners 1969, League Cup Winners 1970, and European Cup Winners Cup 1971.

*Editor's Note: The majority of this article has been reproduced from Colin Cameron's excellent book 'The Valiant 500', biographies of Charlton Athletic players published in October 1991.*



## LOST AT SEA



DAVE PEACEY

### "MORE PAYNE IN THE NECK??"

It'll probably be mentioned elsewhere in the programme so I'll get it out of the way now! One of the few 'records' associated with today's visitors, Luton Town, centres on a certain **Joe Payne** and the ten goals he put past Rovers on Easter Monday 1936. That win by Luton, yes, they went on to win the game surprisingly(!) by 12-0 remains their best win in all competitions and Rovers worst defeat. (Even in the 'good old days' things could be worse than now!)

I mentioned that Luton aren't associated with too many records within the game. That would seem to be the nature of the club. Never likely to set the football world alight and yet, doing a bit of research, their history (maybe not the 'official' type) contains more than a few interesting 'firsts'.



1986 is recent enough for us to recall **the ban imposed on visiting fans** at Kennilworth Road and how the debate rumbled on for some considerable time. This action had never been imposed by a club before, to my knowledge. In the past, clubs had had their supporters banned from attending away fixtures by the authorities but never before had a club imposed a 'blanket' ban and taken this 'initiative' – if that's the right word! (Interestingly, they were only followed in this by two other clubs; Torquay United and Colchester United.) Luton's decision not to admit visiting fans ensured that they became the first side to be banned from entering the League (at the time the Littlewoods), Cup competition. Following re-instatement the next season they went on to appear in two consecutive finals in '88 and '89. All of that must have seemed a lifetime away when, in 1945, at an Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the League the club actually suggested staging a League Cup competition based on the home and away principle but received little or no backing!



Although pipped by QPR, Luton were early 'champions' of the cause of **artificial pitches** and one was installed at Kennilworth Road in 1985. I appreciate that to a club of limited resources such an outlay can provide a tremendous boost to club finances but, eventually, it had to go – unlike the electronic scoreboard. In April 1981 after a foul by an Oldham player a message was flashed up that read 'Send him off!' The club were warned as to their future conduct! (The only other time that I've heard of the scoreboard taking over, as it were, was this season following Sunderland's 1-6 defeat at West Ham. Not surprisingly the incident was at St. James Park, Newcastle when the question was asked of supporters: 'What time did Sunderland kick-off last week?' Answer: 'Every 15 minutes!!')



1932 saw the demise of **Thames A.F.C.** having survived just two seasons in Division Three (South). Sixty two years ago this weekend, 6 December 1930, saw what is believed to be the lowest crowd attend a Saturday fixture in the Football League when 469 saw Thames beat Luton Town 1-0. That isn't the end of Town's connection with clubs joining and leaving the League, however. Recent visitors to Twerton, Altrincham of the G.M. Conference will vouch for that! At the 1980 AGM they were within one vote of replacing Rochdale but two 'promised' votes didn't materialise. As for Grimsby Town, their representative sat in the wrong area and couldn't cast his vote. Unfortunately, the other club was Luton Town whose Chairman at that time was delayed and arrived too late to make his vote count. Such is life . . .

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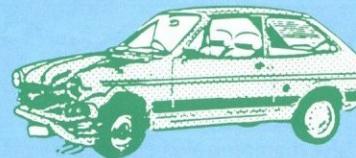
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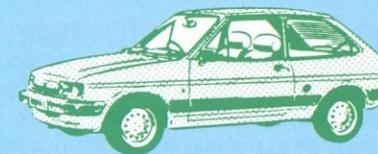
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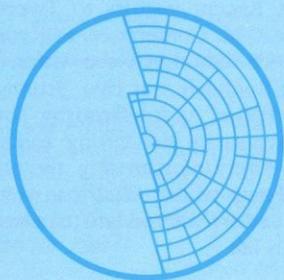
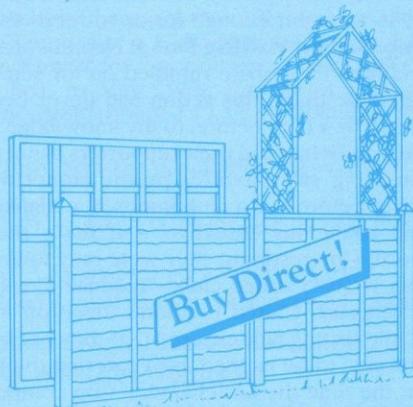
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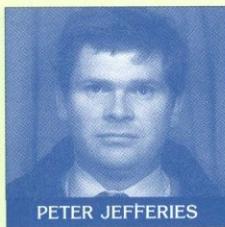
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PETER JEFFERIES

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Next Sunday will be a landmark in Bristol Rovers' history when our 'derby' match against neighbours **Bristol City** is televised 'live'. If nothing else it gives the players the chance to show that they are not a 'soft touch' and that there is still hope at Twerton Park. If you win then you could not have asked for better opposition but if you lose. . . . ?!



Making the short trip to Twerton Park has not been particularly rewarding for the team from Ashton Gate. Six visits have seen just two draws and four defeats. Indeed you have to go back twelve league

matches to 28th December 1974 for the last time The Robins won away at Rovers. Played in gale-force conditions The Pirates were 1-0 up at half-time with Gordon Fearnley scoring. But playing against the wind second half Rovers collapsed and were soundly beaten 4-1. Making an abortive come-back in goal that afternoon for Rovers was Dick Sheppard, who had suffered serious head injuries almost two years before in a match against Tranmere. Sheppard never played for Rovers again.

On paper, just as last season, Denis Smith's side has the look of a play-off place about it. But their poor form away from home is once again letting them down. After winning their opening two away league matches at Luton and Derby they have suffered six consecutive defeats. At the time of writing they have conceded even more goals away from home than Rovers!

With nothing seemingly going right for The Pirates this season let's hope that, at least The Robins barren run continues! For optimists Rovers best ever league win against City was 5-1 in 1933/4. However for pessimists Rovers worst home league defeat was 5-0 in 1926/7.

With Kevin Keegan's Newcastle receiving all the media attention with their incredible start to

the season (eleven straight wins) it was in fact Wolverhampton Wanderers who maintained the longest unbeaten run in Division I. Wolves went twelve matches before suffering their first defeat (2-0 at Millwall) but managed just five victories in their sequence. As the table below shows, with the exception of Charlton who managed to remain undefeated for ten matches (6 wins), the performances of the rest of the division appears poor.

Interestingly Wolves suffered 3 straight defeats before winning again. Newcastle's next 5 matches saw just 2 victories and Charlton lost 5 of their next 7 following their first defeat.

### First Defeat

	Date	Opponents		Un-beaten run
Barnsley	16/8	West Ham (H)	0-1	0
Birmingham	5/9	Portsmouth (A)	0-4	4
Brentford	15/8	Wolves (H)	0-2	0
Bristol City	12/9	Southend (H)	0-1	4
Bristol Rovers	15/8	Oxford (A)	1-2	0
Cambridge	15/8	Tranmere (A)	0-2	0
Charlton	10/10	Bristol City (A)	1-2	10
Derby	15/8	Peterborough (A)	0-1	0
Grimsby	15/8	Charlton (A)	1-3	0
Leicester	18/8	Wolves (A)	0-3	1
Luton	15/8	Leicester (A)	1-2	0
Millwall	15/8	Watford (A)	1-3	0
Newcastle	24/10	Grimsby (H)	0-1	11
Notts County	16/8	Birmingham (A)	0-1	0
Oxford	22/8	Millwall (A)	1-3	1
Peterborough	29/8	Notts County (A)	1-3	2
Portsmouth	29/8	Leicester (A)	0-1	2
Southend	15/8	Newcastle (A)	2-3	0
Sunderland	15/8	Swindon (A)	0-1	0
Swindon	5/9	Millwall (A)	1-2	4
Tranmere	22/8	Sunderland (A)	0-1	1
Watford	22/8	Grimsby (A)	2-3	1
West Ham	22/8	Charlton (H)	0-1	1
Wolves	25/10	Millwall (H)	0-2	12

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## ANCHORS AWAY

### THANK YOU DENNIS AND GOOD LUCK IN THE FUTURE



FLASHBACK: Dennis Rofe congratulates Manchester City player-manager Peter Reid, after one of Rovers better displays of the season in the Coca-Cola League Cup tie at Twerton (photo Alan Casse).

This is the first opportunity I have had to record the valuable contribution of former Manager, Dennis Rofe to the long and sometimes turbulent history of Bristol Rovers F.C. London born Dennis, aged 42, parted company with Rovers on 10th November after a period of thirteen months in charge; the first three months in the capacity as caretaker manager. Dennis was appointed following the departure of Martin Dobson.

It was Dennis' first managerial job and his early impact at the club involved the memorable Rumbelows Cup victory over Bristol City. Following on from that there were two captivating ties with Liverpool the eventual FA Cup Winners. More importantly Rofe guided Rovers away from the bottom of the Second Division

league table, where the club were when he took over the 'hot seat', to finish in a very creditable thirteenth position. Rovers under Rofe created an impressive home record at Twerton in his first season in charge which saw just one defeat in 21 league and cup matches. Rovers also scored the most number of home goals in the division but surprisingly scored the fewest ever in the club's league history away from home.

There is no doubt about it, the summer close season saw an optimistic expectation of the club's ability to challenge strongly for an improvement on last season's league showing. The emergence of young striker Marcus Stewart, the early promise of John Taylor's goal-scoring, plus the signing of captain Steve Yates and new recruit Paul Hardyman were other exciting factors. The question has been asked by every Rovers official and supporter; what went so badly wrong? Defensive frailties, so often the cornerstone of Rovers' recent success, were there for all to see. Poor team displays, lack of suitable replacement signings and untimely injuries to some key players have been offered as reasons for another poor start to a league season. However, some with longer memories will know this is the third consecutive season Rovers have started poorly.

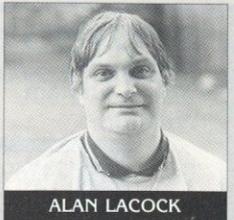
Dennis Rofe will be fondly remembered by all Rovers Directors, staff, players and supporters for his cheery nature, cheeky wit and wisdom; and for those magnificent cup displays against Liverpool. Everyone wishes Dennis well for his future career in football. I am sure he has learnt a great deal from his first position in the role as a professional football manager.

MIKE JAY

#### DENNIS ROFE'S FULL MANAGERIAL RECORD

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
League	53	17	15	21	70	89	66
FL Cup	4	1	1	2	5	6	-
FA Cup	3	1	1	1	7	3	-
Glos Cup	1	1	0	0	2	1	-
AI Cup	2	1	1	0	5	2	-

## ONE UP MANSHIP



ALAN LACOCK

### DIVISION ONE UPDATE

**Saturday 7th November** Pat Nevin scores the only goal as Tranmere move into second place after winning at Leicester for the first time. West Ham keep up the challenge after beating Notts County 2-0 at Upton Park. Charlton lose ground after going down to a Lee Luscombe double at Brentford. Millwall edge into the promotion race with a 2-1 win at Derby.

Bristol City eclipse Birmingham, who had Ian Clarkson and Darren Rowbotham sent off, 3-0 at Ashton Gate. Cambridge also finish with a man short, having Mike Norbury dismissed in a 3-0 defeat at



Guy Whittingham

Portsmouth for whom Guy Whittingham finds the net twice. Andy Hessenthaler scores the only goal, a Watford win for the second season running at Barnsley.

Despite fielding new recruits Andy Tillson and Gary Waddock, we suffer our first defeat at Molineux since April 1977 with Steve Bull and Mark Burke both finding the net twice. Paul Groves grabs a hat trick as Grimsby win 4-1 at Luton. Oxford's John Durnin scores twice as they record their fourth consecutive victory at Southend who suffer their 1,100th league defeat with a 3-0 victory. Sunderland's first league visit to Peterborough ends in a 5-2 defeat.

**Sunday 8th November** Swindon move back into second

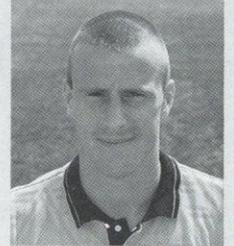
place after a goalless draw at Newcastle.

**Tuesday 10th November** Malcolm Allison takes charge of team affairs after Dennis Rofe leaves Rovers.

**Saturday 14th November** Gavin Peacock spoils Charlton's Upton Park leaving party by scoring twice as Newcastle win 3-1. Craig Maskell scores twice as Swindon Town hold off Southend's late comeback in their odd goal in five victory. Pat Nevin also scores twice as Tranmere come back from a two goal deficit to overcome Brentford by the same scoreline. Notts County also pulled back a two goal deficit to share the points with Wolves who were looking for their first league victory at Meadow Lane since February 1930.

John Durnin's goal spree continues as he scores all four in Oxford's demolition of Luton at the Manor. A Wayne Biggins double sees Barnsley with a 2-1 win record their first success at Cambridge. A last minute strike from Clive Mendonca gives Grimsby a 2-1 home victory over Bristol City while here at Twerton, Derby who score their 5,900th league goal, for the second season running pinch the points with a last minute strike. In the other game Portsmouth gain a goalless draw at Watford. Peterborough draw 1-1 at Kingstonian in the FA Cup.

**Sunday 15th November** Millwall move into third place after their 2-1 home victory over West Ham. Julian Joachim scores twice as Leicester win at Sunderland by the same scoreline. Ex-Rover Martin Thomas is dismissed as Birmingham bow out of the FA Cup by the only goal at Reading.



Steve Claridge

The week saw many moves in the transfer market with Luton buying Southend's Ian Benjamin and selling Steve Claridge back to Cambridge who in turn sold Lee Philpott to Leicester. Plymouth's Robbie Turner and Notts County's Richard Dryden swap clubs in loan deals.

**Saturday 21st November** Newcastle extend their lead at the top after enjoying a 2-0 home victory over Watford who had Gerrard Lavin sent off. Swindon twice squander the lead in being held to a 2-2 draw at Ashton Gate. Tranmere suffer their heaviest defeat of the campaign in going down 4-0 at Portsmouth. West Ham score five in the eight goal thriller with Oxford at Upton Park. John Byrne registers his first goal for Millwall in the 1-1 draw at Luton. Grimsby move to sixth after winning 3-1 at Brentford for whom record signing Joe Allon scores from the spot.

Meanwhile at the bottom Rovers, with an injury time equaliser collect a point on our first visit to Peterborough since September 1967. Southend beat fellow strugglers Notts County 3-1 at Roots Hall with on-loan Stan Collymore scoring twice. Don Goodman gave Sunderland breathing space in scoring the only goal at Derby.

To be continued in next weeks' programme

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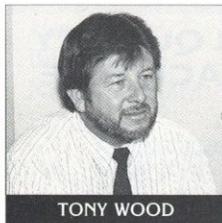
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### MAN OF THE MATCH AWARD FOR NEW "GASHEAD" ANDY



Home debutant Andy Tillson receives the Man of the Match Award (Champagne courtesy of the Bath Spa Hotel) together with runner-up Paul Hardyman, from Graham Withey of Hartley Wood Riding School, Clutton, after last month's visit of Derby County.

### SUPER CHRISTMAS DRAW

Will all supporters selling Super Christmas Draw Tickets on behalf of the Commercial Department and Supporters Club, please ensure that all monies and ticket stubs are returned by Friday of next week, as the draw will take place here at Twerton Park during the Bristol City match, Sunday the 13th of December.

THANK YOU

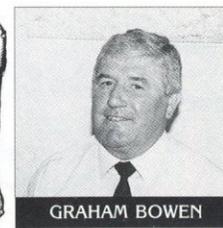
### DICK SHEPHERD SIGNS FOR ROVERS



**GASHEADS,** come along to Roversport in Kingswood next Saturday, the 12th of December and meet Rovers Watney Cup goalkeeping Hero Dick Shepherd, who will be autographing copies of the New **WATNEY CUP VIDEO** between 10 am and 12 noon. Relive one of the club's most glorious moments with Dick, who in front of a 20,000 Eastville crowd pulled off the Cup winning save, securing Third Division Rovers a 7-6 penalty victory over First Division opponents Sheffield United, back in the summer of "72".



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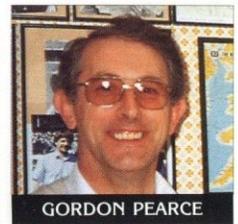
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## Twerton View THEY HAVE DONE THE LOT!

Many of the travelling 'Gas' may feel that they have covered vast distances seeing games especially in recent seasons when trips to **Newcastle, Sunderland and Middlesbrough** have been necessary, but these exploits could be considered as a mere warm-up by **David Priscott and his fourteen year old son John**, who not only have completed these trips but have now visited every ground in the League in the past 3½ years. Their achievement is all the more special in that every trip has been from their home at **Bishop's Tawton near Barnstaple**.

The only other person every connected with Rovers who has travelled as far would have been **John "Farmer" Brown** who lived in **Wadebridge** when he played for Rovers in the 1960's. He often had farther to travel home after he got off the coach at Eastville than he had already travelled to the away game!

David and John did not just restrict their travels to Rovers games although they did manage 89 at home and 67 away along the way. They did manage to see some 438 games in the last 3½ seasons. These have varied from a match between Torrington Res and Tiverton Res played in front of just 35 on 9/4/92 to some 53,428 just eight days later at Wembley to see England play Brazil.

David, born at Weston-super-Mare, is a Director of a Company that imports American Motorhomes and was first taken by his father at a very tender age on 14/1/50 to Ashton Gate to see Rovers beat the City 2-1. Both were also here on 2nd May '90 to see a repeat. John who was born in Bristol in 1978 is a pupil at Park School, Barnstaple, did not actually see his first game until 26/8/89 when he attended Maidstone United's first ever home League game v Scarborough.

Along the way they have of course accumulated some unique memories. David can recall a Rovers friendly v Manchester United played in snow in January '54, then there was the 4-0 FA Cup victory over them in 1956. This was later marred in the next round when Geoff Bradford broke his leg against Doncaster Rovers when losing 0-1. There were those eight goals at Brighton, a League Cup win at Manchester United

and of course the Watney Cup. More recent memories which were shared with John are of course the 2nd May, "Wembley"; Blackpool, Forest and finally Liverpool.

Their relatively isolated position has often meant that trips to the more northerly grounds have needed to be planned to avoid massive mileages. One classic trip over Easter 1991 meant a trip to Carlisle to see Cardiff City, followed by a car ferry crossing from Stranrear to Larne for a day visit to Dundalk, before returning to see Rovers win 2-0 at Newcastle, then onto Southend v Chester and finally Arsenal v Aston Villa before returning home - a round trip of 1,850 miles.

Some of the other memories which may jog your own are the England cup for Geoff Bradford, the Bribery Scandal, Bernard Hall's Injury, The South Stand Fire and such well known songs from the few travelling fans as "Send Bert Tann to Vietnam" and "What's it all about Alfie" and guess who composed those special words! - he went onto very special things with Rovers.

There have been some disappointments, three bad starts in seasons, Vic Callow, and recently excessive prices in the Premier Division especially for children.

The players who have been outstanding for Rovers over the years vary from George Petherbridge and Ray Warren to Carl Saunders and Steve Yates.

Well their travels reached a climax last weekend when they travelled north on Friday night to see Chester City entertain Wigan Athletic at their new Deva Stadium and then they crossed the country to see York City play Crewe Alexandra to make Bootham Crescent their qualifying ground for membership of The Ninety-Two Club as **Members Nos 828 and 829**.

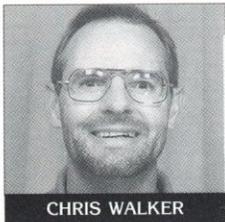
**Well done David and John**. You may not be the youngest or oldest to achieve this feat but you are the first Father and Son Rovers' fans to have "Done the Lot" - without a shadow of a doubt.



THE TERRACE PIRATE



David and John Priscott  
'The Barnstaple Gas' pictured at Peterborough



CHRIS WALKER

# SPECIAL RESERVE

## FIXTURES 92/93

Date	Opponents	Result
Aug 17	H Cardiff City	3-1
26	A Birmingham City	3-2
Sep 2	H Exeter City	3-2
9	A Yeovil Town	2-2
16	H Swansea City	2-2
23	A Exeter City	2-1
30	H Birmingham City	7-2
Oct 7	A Cardiff City	1-1
14	H Yeovil Town	1-3
21	A Swansea City	1-2
28	A Torquay United	4-1
Nov 4	A Yeovil Town (L. Cup)	3-0
11	H Torquay United	2-0
Dec 2	A Plymouth Argyle	
3	H Minehead (SCR2)	
9	H AFC Bournemouth	
16	H Cheltenham Town	
23	A Cheltenham Town	
30	H Exeter City	
Jan 6	H Plymouth Argyle	
19	A AFC Bournemouth	
26	H Cheltenham Town	
Feb 2	A AFC Bournemouth	
17	H Cardiff City	
24	A Torquay United	
Mar 3	A Birmingham City	
17	H Swansea City	

## APPS & GOALS 92/93

Player	Apps	Goals
Lee ARCHER	13	3
Tony BENNETT	1	-
Adie BOOTHROYD	11	1
Marcus BROWNING	4	3
Paul CHENOWETH	13	3
Billy CLARK	7	-
Steve CROSS	3	-
Richard EVANS	9	6
Tony GILL	7+1	-
Andy GURNEY	9+3	2
Scott IMPEY	4	-
Vaughan JONES	5+1	-
Gavin KELLY	9	0
Marcus LAW	2	0
Lee MADDISON	5+1	1
David MEHEW	4	4
Brian PARKIN	2	0
Tony POUNDER	2	3
Phil PURNELL	0	-
Andy REECE	1	1
Carl SAUNDERS	5	3
Justin SKINNER	1	-
Andy STEWART	0+2	2
Marcus STEWART	1	2
Gareth TAYLOR	9+1	1
Paul TOVEY	7+4	1
Geoff TWENTYMAN	6	-
David WILSON	3	1

## EVANS SHOOT DOWN GULLS

### BRISTOL ROVERS 2 TORQUAY UNITED 0

**R**ichard Evans scored twice to ensure a comfortable win against bottom placed Torquay.

After 2 minutes, good mid-field work by **Paul Chenoweth**, a fine right wing cross from **Lee Archer** and a crisp low shot by **Evans** saw us in front.

Big Mal's "whirl system", being tried out, saw the mid-field players adjust quickly and effectively. In the 36th minute, it was 2-0 when **Richard Evans** failed to hold onto an **Adie Boothroyd** cross.

Throughout the second half, Rovers worked hard in attack but could not breakdown the Torquay defence. One consolation was the keeping of a clean sheet for the first time in a league game this season. At least **Gavin** was smiling.

**Team:** Kelly, Taylor (G), Twentyman, Clark, Jones, Boothroyd, Tovey, Chenoweth, Maddison, Evans, Archer.

**Subs:** Cross, Andy Gurney for Twentyman.

Match report by David Bartle.

## DON'T LOSE HEART, ADIE



Adie Boothroyd

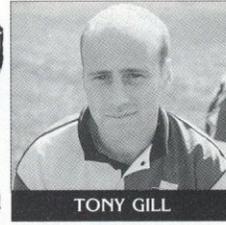
**A**drian Boothroyd accepted an offer from Rovers on 20th November to buy up the remainder of his playing contract.

He hopes to start a fresh with another club may be in Scotland.

Adie aged 21 joined Rovers in July 1990 from Huddersfield for £30,000 but due to the consistency of Ian Alexander was unable to establish himself in the first team squad. Adie made 10 full appearances and six sub games while with the club.

**We wish him well in the future.**

# NEW RECRUITS



TONY GILL

## MARK O' MAGIC BRISTOL ROVERS 2 OXFORD UNITED 2

**A** powerful header in injury time from **Marco Micciche**, from a quickly taken **Matt Hayfield** free kick, earned our youth team a deserved point. Sloppy defensive play enabled the visitors to hit the post twice and take a two goal advantage. Seven minutes before the interval a **Scott Impey** free kick was headed on by **Martin Paul** to **Tony Bennett** who finished in confident style.

In the second half we dominated territorially but did not compose ourselves, when on the ball, to create clear cut chances. Both **Tony** and **Martin** had shots well saved; one producing a corner while the other saw the keeper catch the ball with his knees. **Danny Rofe** came back from injury and played with zest and tenacity. On the left hand side, the consistent **Scott Impey** and **Ian Smith** combination looked solid. This was a point lost, not won. It was fitting that **Matt's** right hand raiding and **Marco's** battling produced the equaliser.

**Team:** Law, Hayfield, Impey, White, Stewart, Harrington, Crossey, Micciche, Bennett, Paul, Smith.

**Subs:** Simon Levett; Danny Rofe for Tom White.

## ROBBERY BY SAINTS SOUTHAMPTON 3 BRISTOL ROVERS 2



Mark 'Harry' Harrington

**"O**ur lads felt that this was one of the best games they have played", said Tony Gill. "Apart from a sloppy second goal, I felt that we passed the ball very well and did a fine job when in possession. Despite losing, I was more than pleased," added Tony. After a fine move involving **Mark Harrington**, **Scott Crossey** and others, **Martin Paul** put us in front when **Scott's** shot came back off the post.

We went 2-1 down before a superbly struck free kick by **Andy Stewart** from outside the box put us level.

With 12 minutes left, Southampton stole the points with a splendid free kick.

"At the end I felt sorry for the lads", said Tony. "**Harry** and **Andy Stewart** had particularly good games. In fact, all our lads did what I expect of them".

**Team:** Law, Hayfield, Impey, Micciche, Rofe, Stewart, Crossey, Harrington, Paul, Bennett, Smith.

**Subs:** Tom White, John French for Ian Smith.

## FIXTURES 92/93

Date	Opponents	Result
Aug 15	A Luton Town	0-8
22	H Swindon Town	3-0
29	A Bristol City	1-5
Sep 5	H Brighton & Hove	2-4
8	A Frome Town (FAYC)	4-2
12	H Wimbledon	3-2
19	H Crystal Palace (SECLC)	4-1
21	H Cheltenham (FAYC)	3-0
Oct 3	H Colchester United	5-2
10	A Tottenham Hotspur	1-3
17	H AFC Bournemouth	0-0
19	A Torquay Utd (FAYC)	4-2
24	H Arsenal (SECLC)	1-5
31	H Southampton	1-1
Nov 3	A Bristol City (FAYC)	1-4
7	H Oxford United	2-2
14	A Southampton	2-3
21	H Crystal Palace	0-1
28	A Oxford United	
Dec 5	A Crystal Palace	
12	H Luton Town	
19	A Swindon Town	
Jan 2	H Bristol City	
9	A Brentford	
16	A Wimbledon	
23	H Reading	
30	A Brighton & Hove	

Home matches are held on Saturday mornings at Fry's Ground, Keynsham.

Most matches start at 11.00am.

## APPS & GOALS 92/93

Player	Apps	Goals
Tony BENNETT	18	7
Scott CROSSEY	18	5
John FRENCH	0+3	-
Mark HARRINGTON	18	1
Matt HAYFIELD	17+1	-
Scott IMPEY	17	2
Marcus LAW	18	0
Simon LEVETT	4	-
Marco MICCICHE	17	3
Martin PAUL	18	13
Matt PARKINSON	1+3	-
Danny ROFE	13+3	-
Stuart ROGERS	1	-
Ian SMITH	17	3
Andy STEWART	18	2
Tom WHITE	4+3	-
Own goals		1



Paul Hardyman whips a cross into the Derby penalty area



Goalkeeper Steve Sutton saves from Marcus Browning in the unlucky 2-1 defeat by Derby County

OUR THANKS TO **BROOKS** PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES OF KINGSWOOD FOR DEVELOPING & PRINTING CANNON SHOTS

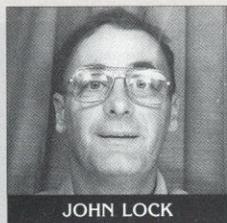


Carl Saunders and Marcus Browning cause panic in the Derby defence



Steve Sutton who was in superb form finger tips another Rovers effort away from goal.

PHOTOGRAPHS SUPPLIED BY CLUB PHOTOGRAPHER ALAN MARSHALL



JOHN LOCK

## YOUNG PIRATES



Hello Young Pirates and welcome to today's match against Luton Town.

## Christmas Party and Disco

Don't forget to purchase your ticket for the Young Pirates Christmas Party and Disco. The party is being held tomorrow December 6th, from 6.30pm to 9.00pm., in the Sheridan Lounge at Twerton Park. The price of the ticket is £2.00 which includes a buffet supper. There will be players attending to sign autographs, followed by a buffet, a Punch and Judy Show and Father Christmas. Tickets are on sale in the Young Pirates room before and after the match, you will also be able to pay on the night.

**THE YOUNG PIRATES ROOM WILL BE OPEN FROM 1.30pm until 2.45pm on SATURDAYS AND 6.30pm TO 7.45pm on WEEKDAY MATCHES, AND ALSO IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE GAME.**

### • GWR CHRISTMAS APPEAL •

Young Pirates are needed today to help with the collection for the **GWR Christmas Appeal**. Call into the Young Pirates room before the match to find out how you can help. GWR sponsors the Young Pirates each season with a generous donation, now it is our turn to thank them by helping with today's Christmas Appeal Collection.

## LUCKY MASCOT



David Cochrane

Today's lucky matchday mascot is 7 year old **DAVID COCHRANE** from Southmead in Bristol.

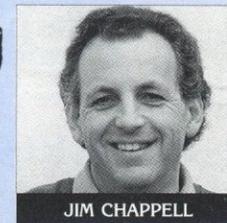
David attends Doncaster Road Infants School in Southmead where his favourite subject is Sport. David's hobbies are playing football and watching Rovers play.

His favourite players are Brian Parkin, Justin Skinner and Marcus Browning.

**ENJOY THE MATCH  
DAVID!!!**



## SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS



JIM CHAPPELL

468 Stapleton Road, Bristol BS5 6PA. Tel. 510828

**I**t has been a sensational three weeks since I last wrote for the 'Pirate' and another chapter in Rovers' amazing recent history has begun!

The events of that period in November, which began with the departure of the popular Dennis Rofe, are now best forgotten especially as so many of the people involved were shown up in rather a poor light, although little of the adverse publicity was fully justified. I particularly felt sorry for Malcolm Allison who received a very frosty reception when **he was invited** to help the Club out of a crisis. Not that 'Big Mal' needs any support from me as he obviously lacks neither self-confidence or, thank goodness, coaching ability! The performance of the team since he took over and the excellent first away win of the season at **Leicester** last week seem to have fully justified the Directors' actions, although it is early days yet. I would ask our members to remember who the people were that rescued the Club from near oblivion just a few years ago and to have faith in their judgement. **The support for the team at home and especially away has always been fantastic. Malcolm Allison is in charge of the team for at least the next three months so, get behind him and the lads and we can escape the big drop!**

One of the best things to come of of the recent situation has been **Andy Tillson** who was signed by the Club only a month ago but has already become a firm favourite with you fans. Andy had a great home debut against Derby and won your vote, just, in the Man of the Match award for the game. A very close runner-up **Marcus Browning** who is having a major influence in the new style of play since his loan spell with Hereford United. Well played to Andy and let's hope Marcus can get himself a long-awaited first goal for the 'Gas' this afternoon.

Twerton Park is the place to be over the next eight days. Following this afternoon's vital game, weather permitting, our landlords entertain **Northampton** in the FA Cup tomorrow. Come and give Bath a cheer – who knows, we may be drawn away to them in the third round! Surely you'll all be here next Sunday for the big one! If Rovers can maintain their improvement and the Reds' away form is up to scratch a very interesting match is in prospect. As there is no away travel to worry about we shall be concentrating on selling our allocation of tickets for the 'derby' at 468 Stapleton Road every evening next week and during office hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Luton's first home win of the season just 24 hours after our first away success means we need to win today to get back off the bottom of table so, get behind the team in the usual manner and perhaps we can leave the basement for good.

Enjoy the game.

**JIM CHAPPELL**

Shop at Stapleton Road is open 10am-4pm Mon/Wed/Fridays; 7.30-8.30pm Mon-Fri  
Shop in Twerton Park Car Park (Matchday only) – Two hours before Kick Off and immediately after game  
Selling wide range of Souvenirs (including other League Clubs) and Programmes, Old and New

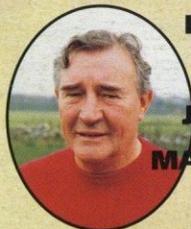
# ON THE TWERTON PARK

**Pirates Hotline 0891 66 44 22**

## BRISTOL ROVERS v LUTON TOWN

Blue and white quartered shirts

Orange shirts



Malcolm Allison

**BRIAN PARKIN**  
**IAN ALEXANDER**  
**ANDY TILLSON**  
**STEVE YATES**  
**PAUL HARDYMAN**  
**VAUGHAN JONES**  
**JUSTIN CHANNING**  
**MARCUS BROWNING**  
**JOHN TAYLOR**  
**CARL SAUNDERS**  
**GARY WADDOCK**  
**GEOFF TWENTYMAN**  
**DAVID MEHEW**

**1 ALEC CHAMBERLAIN**  
**2 JOHN DREYER**  
**3 JULIAN JAMES**  
**4 MARVIN JOHNSON**  
**5 CERI HUGHES**  
**6 TREVOR PEAKE (C)**  
**7 SCOTT OAKES**  
**8 IAN BENJAMIN**  
**9 JASON REES**  
**10 PHIL GRAY**  
**11 DAVID PREECE**  
**12 MARTIN WILLIAMS**  
**14 AARON SKELTON**

SUBSTITUTES



David Pleat

### OFFICIALS

Referee: **Mr Keren Barratt** (Coventry, W. Midlands)

Keren aged 46 is a maintenance foreman who took up refereeing in 1968. He was elected to league list in 1991. Took charge of 1992 FA Trophy Final. Last at Twerton Park on 20th October for ZDS Cup tie v Ipswich Town.

Linesmen



**Mr K. Hawkes**  
(Gloucester)



**Mr D. Richards**  
(Llanelli, Dyfed)

### TODAY'S MATCH SPONSORS

**A.F.S. Garages**  
**St. Andrews Road, Avonmouth**  
**Bathwick Tyres**  
**Bathwick Street and**  
**Lower Bristol Road, Bath**



### TODAY'S MATCHBALL SPONSOR

**Unit 2 Carbodies**  
**Stoke View Road**  
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**Bristol**  
**(0272) 656780**