



# versus luton town

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# hawthorns

news

with Geoff Owen

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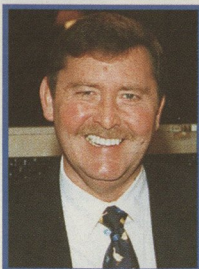
web address=<http://www.wba.co.uk>

email address=[baggies@wba.co.uk](mailto:baggies@wba.co.uk)

**Good evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to tonight's game. Albion fans will not need reminding that our recent record in this competition is a pretty shocking one but we have already negotiated a tricky hurdle in defeating Cambridge United.**

**We are in a strong position tonight after a good result at Kenilworth Road but the Cambridge fixture showed us that the home leg is not necessarily an easy fixture — despite our great home league form this season.**

**Thanks for your support tonight, let's hope you can all cheer the lads on to victory and continue on the road to Wembley.**



## ITCHIE JOINS STAFF

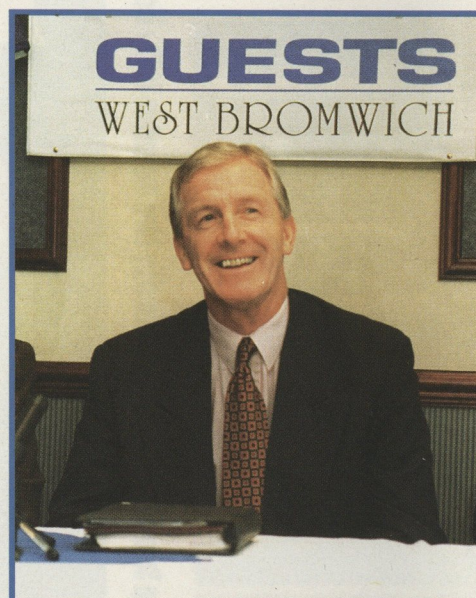
Boss Ray Harford has appointed ex-Shrewsbury Town and Stoke City manager Ritchie Barker to his back-room staff, and Ritchie will take up his duties of Chief Scout as from October 1st.

Albion's management team are delighted that a man who is so well respected in the game has accepted the offer and Chief Executive John Wile told me, "Ritchie has been involved in football for a long time at all levels, and it's important that someone who fills this role has knowledge of all aspects of the game, not only in this country but also abroad."

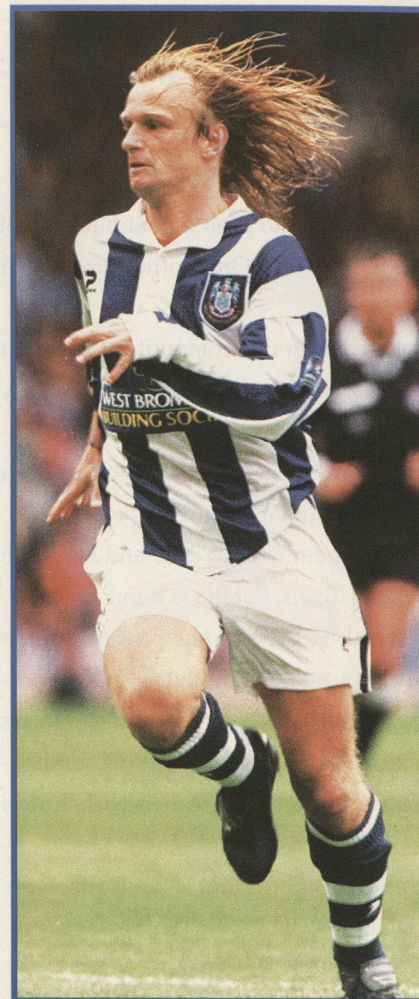
The Chief Executive went on to say. "It's a big task to take on this job, and depending on how we eventually structure his time, he could also be involved in the organisation of the junior scouting as well, but to start

with, his priorities have got to be with the first-team."

Ray Harford will rely on Ritchie assessing future opponents, and also possible future transfer targets and I am sure that everyone involved at The Hawthorns hopes that the new Chief Scout will have a long and successful career at the club.



**JOHN WILE — DELIGHTED TO WELCOME RITCHIE BARKER ON BOARD**



**RICHARD SNEEKES — TALKS HAVE BEGUN IN EARNEST TO KEEP HIM AT THE CLUB WHEN HIS CONTRACT RUNS OUT IN THE SUMMER**

## CONTRACT TALKS

In these days of freedom of movement for players when they reach the end of their contracts, clubs are now planning further into the future than they ever did before and Albion are no exception.

John Wile is fully aware of what needs to be done and said: "We are very conscious of the fact that the Bosman ruling has dictated that the freedom of movement for players has changed, and as such is going to change the face of any future negotiations. Players are going to be negotiating contracts long before their current contracts expire, because the club has to be in a position to know what the player wants to do.

"It is certainly going to bring problems to an awful lot of clubs because players may decide to wait until the end of their contracts, and then see what is available elsewhere.

"As a club we will be endeavouring to make sure that the players that the manager feels are important to the club for the future, are tied up on contracts before that stage arises."

One such player at The Hawthorns is Richard Sneekes whose existing contract expires in the summer next year, and John Wile has already had talks with the Dutch midfielder. Because Richard could move on a free transfer next year his personal position is a strong one, John said, "He's in a very strong position to negotiate from, and although we would like to extend his stay at The Hawthorns, there is always a limit to what we can offer anyone, but we are still talking".

— I'm sure that Albion supporters hope that both parties can reach an agreement!

## AWAY SUPPORT

Here are details of Albion's away support so far this season:

<b>CAMBRIDGE UTD</b>	<b>CCC R1</b>	<b>1,667</b>
<b>CREWE ALEXANDRA</b>		<b>1,009</b>
<b>IPSWICH TOWN</b>		<b>2,213</b>
<b>STOKE CITY</b>		<b>3,842</b>
<b>QPR</b>		<b>3,253</b>
<b>LUTON TOWN</b>	<b>CCC R2</b>	<b>978</b>

## ALBION'S RECORD IN THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP (1965 TO 1997)

The Football League Cup was introduced in 1960-61, but Albion did not enter immediately. In fact, they did not participate during the opening five seasons, yet when they did take part for the first time, in 1965-66, they went on to win the star prize, beating West Ham United 5-3 on aggregate in the last of the two-legged finals and duly qualified for the Fairs Cup competition.

- Their best wins and heaviest defeat has been 6-1.... the victories coming versus Aston Villa and Coventry City both at home and the reverse at Nottingham Forest. Albion have also lost 5-0 at Tottenham.
- The Baggies have appeared in three finals, winning in 1966, but losing in 1967 and 1970. They also lost to Spurs in the semi-final.
- Albion and QPR played in the first Wembley League Cup Final in March 1967.
- Albion's first League Cup tie in 1965 saw them beat Walsall 3-1 at The Hawthorns and Tony Brown scored their first goal.

## ALBION'S FULL LEAGUE CUP RECORD:

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	57	31	14	12	107	63
Away	64	20	19	25	79	95
<b>Totals</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>158</b>

*Tony Matthews, Club Historian*



**G**ood evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to tonight's Coca-Cola Cup fixture. Our 0-0 draw against Swindon was a little disappointing, but everyone worked tirelessly and we can have no complaints about the attitude and commitment of the players involved.

The nature of the game would have changed dramatically had we managed to grab a goal but we will have to be happy with the clean sheet and defensive strength shown throughout. On another day one of the early chances would have gone in and a victory earned.

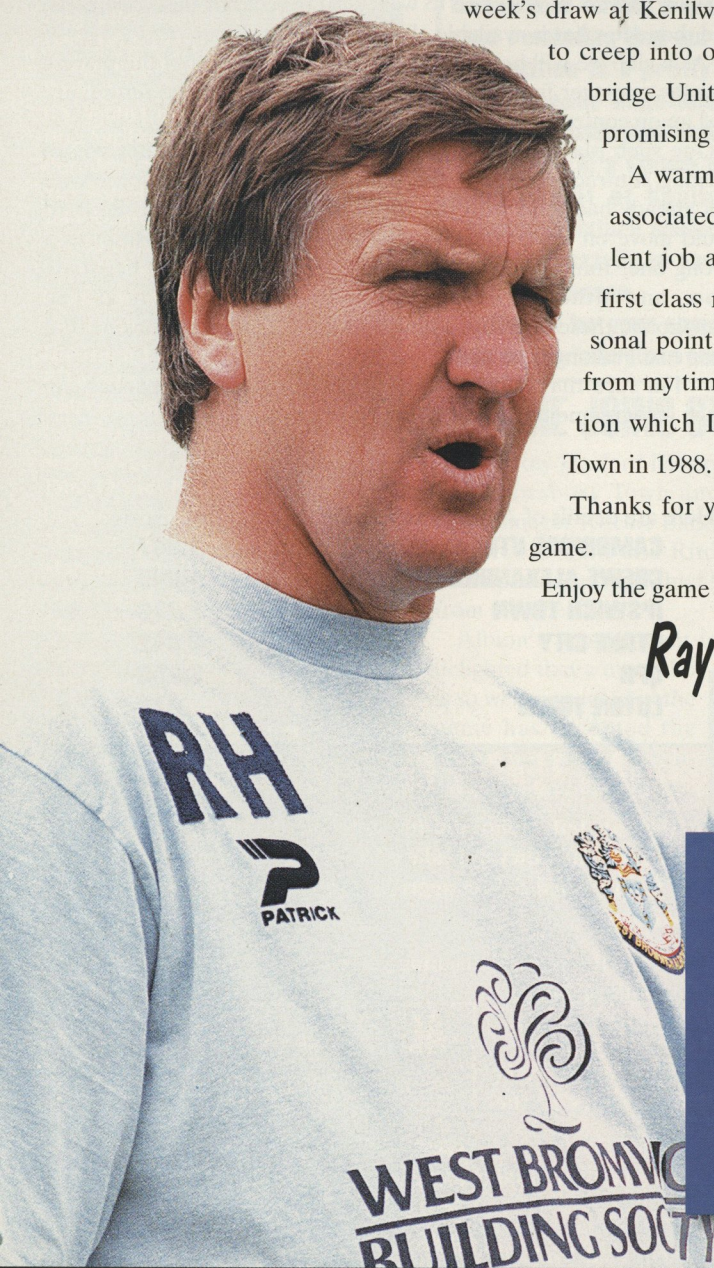
Regarding tonight's game, we will obviously be looking to progress further in this competition after last week's draw at Kenilworth Road. We cannot afford complacency to creep into our game — the home fixture against Cambridge United proved how awkward it can be to turn a promising position into ultimate victory.

A warm welcome to Lennie Lawrence and everyone associated with Luton Town. Lennie is doing an excellent job at Kenilworth Road and has proved to be a first class manager at a number of clubs. From a personal point of view, I have some very happy memories from my time at Luton and in particular of this competition which I was fortunate enough to win with Luton Town in 1988.

Thanks for your support tonight, and indeed for every game.

Enjoy the game

**Ray Harford**



from the  
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# visitors

## Luton Town

**As is often the case, since winning this competition in 1988 — and then reaching the final the following year — Luton Town haven't had the most distinguished of cup records.**

Last season, however, they went on a mini-run — beating Derby County before going out, after extra-time, to Wimbledon — that kick-started their league campaign, and saw them charge to the top of the Second Division. In that purple patch, they were everyone's favourites for promotion — and generally regarded to be playing the classiest football in their division.

In the end, they reached the play-offs — only to go out to Crewe, 4-3 on aggregate, at the semi-final stage. The bitter irony there was that they had walloped the Railwaymen, 6-0, earlier in the season.

There haven't been huge changes in personnel at Kenilworth Road since last term. Ceri Hughes has departed for Wimbledon and Kim Grant — a scorer at



**Lennie Lawrence — developed an attractive style of play at Kenilworth Road**

The Hawthorns when last the Hatters' visited — has joined Millwall. The only major acquisition has been Simon Davies — £200,000 from Manchester United.

Luton haven't had the most auspicious start to this campaign. However, they're notoriously poor starters — last season they were bottom of the table after the first three games. So three draws and one win from the first games may not be good, but it won't cause widespread panic. Goals have been hard to come by. However, with the prolific Tony Thorpe in the side, that is almost certain to change.

An extensive injury list hasn't helped continuity. To compensate, there have been a couple of loan signings — although they won't be available tonight — and goalkeeper Andy Dibble is back on a short-term contract, as cover for the injured Ian Feuer.

The Hatters should not be underestimated. They are, perhaps, a First Division team in all but name. And it's not likely to be long before that anomaly is attended to.

### Lennie Lawrence, Manager

Lennie Lawrence was appointed manager of Luton Town in December 1995, following the departure of Terry Westley. A player with non-League Croydon, Carshalton Athletic and Sutton United, he was assistant-manager at Plymouth and Lincoln, before becoming manager of Charlton Athletic in 1982, having initially joined the Addicks as reserve team coach. Charlton finished as runners-up in Division Two in 1985/86 earning promotion to the top flight after an absence of 29 years. The following season saw them involved in the first promotion/relegation play-offs, overcoming second division Leeds United after extra-time to stay up but relegation came in 1990. He left Charlton in 1991, after nine years and headed north to Middlesbrough, where he took the Teeside club into the FA Premier League in 1992 in his first season at the helm. They returned to Division One

in 1993, and he departed in 1994, when Bryan Robson took over. Bradford was his next port of call in May 1994, but his spell at Valley Parade did not last as long as anticipated and he became the 21st manager in the history of Luton Town in December 1995.

### Kelvin Davis, Goalkeeper

Born: Bedford 29.9.76

Highly-rated 'keeper who made his league debut for the Hatters on the final day of the 1993/94 season in a 2-2 draw at Stoke.

Kelvin was selected for the England Under-21 squad for the Toulon Tournament in June 1995 and was again in England Under-21 squads throughout the '95/96 season. He was farmed out on loan to Hartlepool at the start of the current campaign but made a swift return to Kenilworth Road following an unfortunate injury to the big American, Ian Feuer.

### Steve Davis, Defender

Born: Hexham 30.10.68

Steve joined the Hatters in the summer of 1995 after making over 160 league appearances for Burnley. He joined the Turf Moor side in August 1991 for £60,000 from Southampton, and captained Burnley during their rise up the league into Division One. Steve was a commanding figure for the Hatters in '95/96, but again suffered the agony of relegation as Luton, like Burnley the previous season, dropped out of Division One. A reliable performer in the heart of the defence, Steve will be looking for another consistent season.

### Julian James, Defender

Born: Tring 22.3.70

Arrived at Luton as a trainee, and was introduced to First Division football in 1988. A former England Under-21 international, he was a regular at left-back in the 1993/94 season, but made the right-back position his own in 1994/95 with a string of consistent displays which earned him the Player of the Year award from the Loyal Luton Supporters Club. Granted a benefit match in 1996, he was a regular at right-back last term.

### Marvin Johnson, Defender

Born: Wembley 29.10.68

Marvin made his Football League debut against Wimbledon in 1988, and quickly established himself as a versatile defender. Started the 1994/95 season at left-back, but then switched to the centre of defence to form a reliable partnership with current reserve team coach, Trevor Peake. Marvin was one of only three players to play in every first-team match in the 1994/95 season, and was awarded the Players' Player of the Year trophy. He has been a consistent performer for the past two seasons, doing an efficient job for the club.

### Mitchell Thomas, Defender

Born: Luton 2.10.64

The former England Under-21 international made over 100 appearances for Luton before following David Pleat to Spurs in 1986. He played in the 1987 FA Cup



**Marvin Johnson — a seasoned campaigner in the Hatters defence**

final, and later moved to West Ham. Returned to Luton in 1993/94 after a successful loan spell, and was a regular at left-back in the 1994/95 campaign. Given a new lease of life by new manager Lennie Lawrence, he responded with an ever-present record until the end of the season. Did a good job at left-back last term as the Hatters made the play-offs.

### Darren Patterson, Defender

Born: Belfast 15.10.69

Darren signed for the Hatters in August 1995 from Crystal Palace for £150,000. The Northern Ireland international started his league career with Wigan, and joined Palace for £250,000 in 1992. An achilles injury ruled him out of the first two months of last season, and kept him out of the Northern Ireland squad. Made his first Luton appearance in the Anglo-Italian Cup defeat in Cesena in November 1995, but was allowed to go out on loan to Preston in October 1996. Came back into the Northern Ireland frame last season after some good displays.

### Paul McLaren, Midfielder

Born: High Wycombe 17.11.76

Paul made his debut in the Town first-team on the final day of the 1993/94 season. He is an England youth international who began his career as a centre-half but was converted into a central midfielder. Was an able squad member last season, grabbing his first-team chances with both hands, and as such he will be looking forward to cementing a regular place in the starting X1 in the months to come.

### Simon Davies, Midfielder

Born: Middleswich 23.4.74

Joined the Hatters from Manchester United in the



# the hatters



summer of 1997, after limited chances to prove himself in the Red Devils' first-team. In fact he made 11 league appearances for United, finding the net once, in a European Cup tie no less as Galatasaray were beaten 4-0. Luton will be hoping that the youngster will bring some of his good United habits with him and prove to be a vital cog in the wheel.

## Gary Waddock, Midfield

Born: Alpertown 17.3.62

Gary completed a free transfer move from Bristol Rovers in December 1994, after a three-month loan spell at Kenilworth Road. Started his career with QPR making over 200 appearances, before a serious knee injury saw him quit the English game and move to Charleroi in the Belgian league. He defied many by overcoming his injury and headed back home to try his luck in the Football League once more. He had spells at Millwall, QPR again, and Swindon, before moving to Bristol Rovers. Gary missed only one game after joining the Hatters in 1994/95. His consistent displays in '95/96 were rewarded with the Players' Player of the Year Trophy, and his vast experience was used to full effect last season by him being made skipper of the side.

## David Oldfield, Midfielder/Forward

Born: Perth, Australia 30.5.68

David returned to Kenilworth Road in the summer of 1995, six years after leaving the club. He started his career with the Hatters, progressing through the junior ranks to a two-goal senior debut in a 2-1 Simod Cup win at Everton in February 1988. He also scored on his full

league debut in a 2-1 home win over Watford in May 1988, and went on to make 29 league appearances for the Hatters, scoring four goals. Australian-born Oldfield, who played for England Under-21s, joined Manchester City for £600,000 in March 1989, before moving on to Leicester City.

## Dwight Marshall, Forward

Born: Jamaica 3.10.65

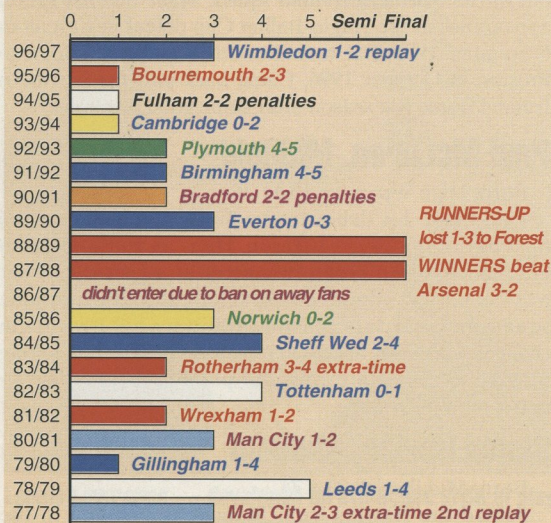
Dwight signed in the summer of 1994 from Plymouth for £150,000, after scoring 14 goals for Peter Shilton's side the previous season. Started well for Luton, with two goals in a 5-1 win over Middlesbrough and despite being troubled by a shin injury late in the season he finished as the Hatters' leading scorer with 13 goals in league and cup. Scored 13 goals in '95/96, but suffered a broken leg in February 1996, ruling him out for the rest of the season. Returned in November 1996, and proved that he is still sharp in front of goal.

## Tony Thorpe, Forward

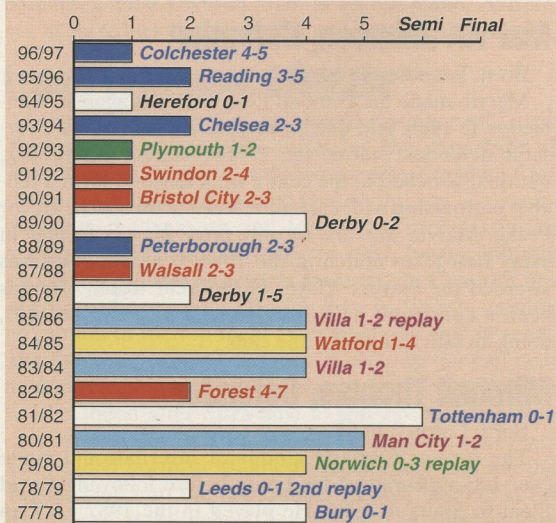
Born: Leicester 10.4.74

Tony made an immediate impact in the Town side when he scored for the Hatters on his full debut at Newcastle United, in the fourth round of the FA Cup in January 1994. He joined the club following a spell at Leicester, but found it difficult to initially gain a regular place in the team. However he has gone on to prove his worth in no uncertain terms and put pen to paper on a new contract in the summer of 1996. He went on to enjoy a record-breaking season, becoming the first Luton player since Malcolm MacDonald in 1970/71 to reach 30 goals.

## Hatters' last 20 Years in the Cup



## .. and The Baggies' record



## Trust us to help the game

The Football Trust has been providing support for the game at every level throughout the UK for over 22 years. Its present priority task is to help League clubs to complete the implementation of the Taylor Report recommendations.

Thanks to the Government and to the Football Association, the FA Premier League and the English Sports Council, a major new funding package to secure the future of the Trust has been put in place.

These funds will be in addition to income derived from the football pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters, and will enable the Trust to complete its Taylor task, carry on its essential safety work and continue to grant aid football at every level. The Government's commitment to the Trust has the support of everyone who cares about our national game.



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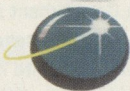


# albion people

**G**ood evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to tonight's Coca-Cola Cup game with Luton. I would like to say a special welcome to tonight's joint match sponsors, Britannia Hygiene PLC and Grass UK. I hope that Brian Chappell from Britannia Hygiene and Dave Connolly of Grass UK have a great day at The Hawthorns and, of course, all of their guests.



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## INSIDE THE HAWTHORNS WITH TOM CARDALL

### New Community Team

As you probably know former Community Officer Mark Ashton has joined us in the Commercial Department. Taking over joint responsibility for the Community Department are Brett Bensley and Clint Roberts. Brett and Clint formed part of a very successful team with Mark Ashton in the past, and I'm sure they will continue the good work. Assisting them with the Community work are Dave Turton and Jemma Gibbard who have also played their part in developing the Community Department. I would like to wish them all the very best of luck. Pictured left to right are Clint, Jemma, Brett and Dave.



### WBBS Rave About Dave

Albion star David Smith won a well deserved Man of the Match award for his performance against Reading from Club Sponsors West Bromwich Building Society. Karen Walther who is the Senior Branch Manager at the High Street Branch, West Bromwich presented David with his bottle of champagne. Also pictured on the far left, front row is Julian Screen. Julian does a lot of work for the West Bromwich Building Society on match days, and we finally persuaded him to appear on one of the photographs.



### Happy Birthday Julian

Celebrating a birthday at the Wolves game was Julian Whitehouse, his day was arranged for him by his sister Alex. Julian received a signed ball from Lee Hughes with Alex and Andy Hunt looking on.



### Hughes A Lucky Boy Carl

Carl McQuire also celebrated his birthday at the Wolves game. A "Birthday Surprise" package was organised for him by his girlfriend Jane. Jane and Carl are pictured with Albion's striker Lee Hughes.

### Nice One Cyril

Cyril Brookes celebrated his 70th Birthday on September 8th. Cyril's son Paul forms part of the team who do a superb job looking after our Executive Members and Club Special Guests on matchday, and Paul arranged this special surprise for his dad at the Reading game. Albion star Ian Hamilton was on hand to present an autographed football to Cyril.



### Craig Meets His Hero

You may have seen in our programme for the Cambridge game a poem about Richard Sneekes sent in by Craig Harris who is eight years old and a mad keen Albion fan. Craig and his dad Peter came along to the Reading game and Craig got the chance to meet Richard after the game. Richard was delighted to sign Craig's programme for him and have a chat.



### Supporter Of The Month

A new public relations initiative we would like to start is "Supporter of the Month". Can I ask Albion fans to write in to me at the club nominating someone they feel should be "Supporter of the Month", who along with a guest of their choice will be the special guests of Chief Executive John Wile and the Board of Directors. The supporter can be anyone you wish to nominate, either for their support of many years, the many miles they travel etc., in fact anyone you feel qualifies. We intend to have a special supporter for every game, whose story will be featured on the Albion People Page. Please write with your nominations to: Tom Cardall, Commercial and Public Relations Manager, West Bromwich Albion FC, The Tom Silk Building, Halfords Lane, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B71 4BR.



**G**ood evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to today's game. We have numerous events for you this season at The Throstle Club, details of which can be found on this page. Don't forget that we also cater for private parties — for information on these and for any questions you have regarding The Throstle Club please don't hesitate to pop in and see me (Ally Brown), or ring me on 0121 553 1514.



# throstle club

## Forums

The next Supporters Club Sports Forum at The Throstle Club will be on Thursday, 25th September and the special guests will be dynamic striking duo Andy Hunt and Lee Hughes.

## Line Dance Class

If you fancy having a go at line dancing then get yourself along to The Throstle Club every Tuesday evening where classes will be taking place. (Please note that on the occasional Tuesday evening when WBA have a home game the class will be put back 24 hours to the Wednesday evening).

## Willie Returns

Willie Johnston is now appearing for TWO nights at The Throstle Club on Saturday, 22nd November and Sunday, 23rd November. Further details will appear on this page at a later date.

## West Bromwich Albion Sporting Dinner

West Bromwich Albion are proud to announce that their next Sporting Dinner will be held on Thursday, 23rd October at the Woodland Suite, Belfry Hotel.

Special guest speakers will be former England Internationals Rodney Marsh and Peter Osgood.

Master of Ceremonies

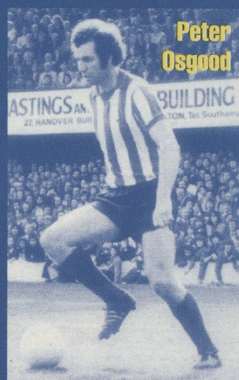
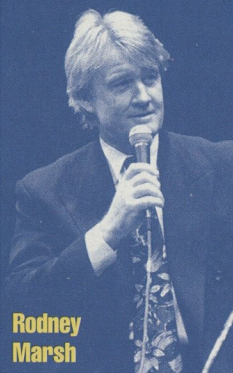
Tom Ross — Head of Sport 1152 Xtra AM.

The evening starts 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

Dress is dinner suits.

Tickets are priced at £37 each, bookings can be made individually or in tables.

Rodney Marsh



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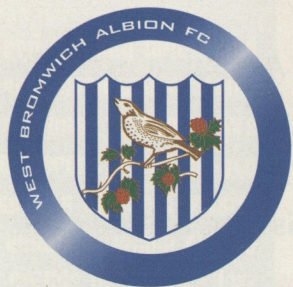
Move your savings up to the Premier League. To apply for an Albion Premier Saver account simply call into your local West Bromwich Building Society branch or telephone 0121-607 2415.

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\*Written quotations are available on request. Applications are subject to acceptance and you must be over 18 years of age to apply. The Society is a Member of the Building Societies Investor Protection Scheme established under the Building Societies Act 1986. Payments under this scheme are limited to 90% of an investor's total shares and/or deposits subject to a maximum payment to any one investor of £18,000 (or sterling equivalent of 20,000 ecu if greater). Most share and deposit accounts held in sterling, other European Area currencies and ecu at offices of the building society in the UK and elsewhere within the European Economic Area are covered. Further details are available on request.



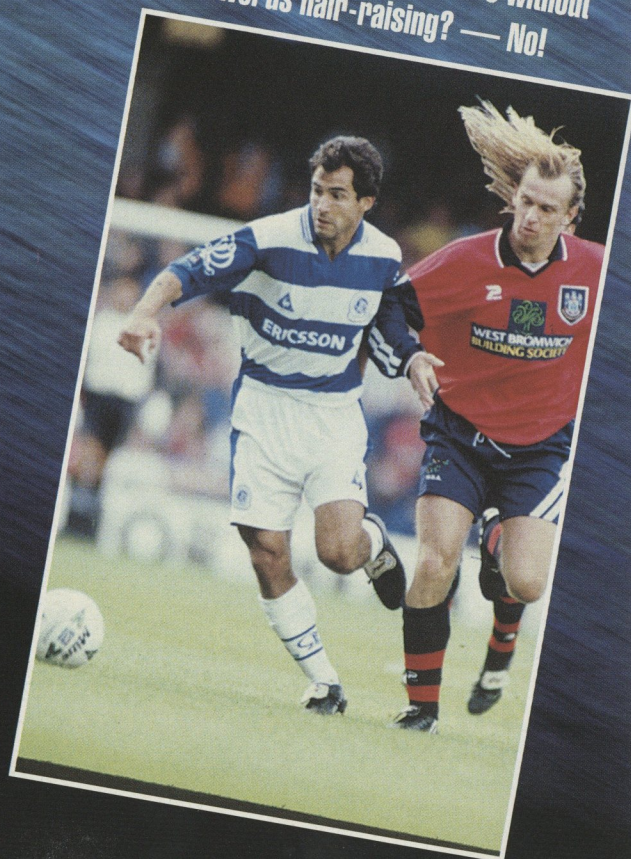
# dayies action



Saturday 13th September 1997 • Queens Park Rangers 2 • West Bromwich Albion 0



Above: Shake on it Sheron! Shane Nicholson offers a hand of friendship to Mike Sheron — or does he?!  
Below: Sneekes battles for possession, but is it possible to write a caption for this picture without mentioning the words hair-raising? — No!



Left: Lean on me, Butler! Peter Butler gives Mike Sheron a shoulder to lean on



Below: Me and my shadow! Peter Butler stays close to John Spencer as Shane Nicholson looks on





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## Supporters' Club Directory

### MAIN SUPPORTERS' CLUB

Alan Cleverley, 1 St. Christophers,  
Hamstead Hill, Handsworth Wood,  
Birmingham, B20 1BP  
Tel: 0121-551-6439.

### SUPPORTERS' CLUB BRANCHES

#### Anglia Branch:

Mark Alefounder 01206 504949

#### Avon & Somerset Branch:

Paul Holder 01934 644271

#### Devon Branch:

Clive Thomas 01626 56234

#### Disabled Branch:

Kevin Candon 0121 359 6863

#### Droitwich:

Tommy Morgan 01905 774886

#### East Birmingham:

Alan Jones 0121 474 3002

#### Gloucester:

Jon Norridge 01452 417987

#### Hitchin & District:

David Powell 01462 454997

#### Kidderminster:

Roy Hayden 01562 69179

#### London Branch:

Tony Vass 0181 668 6626

#### Malta:

Alfred Vassallo 00356 492342

#### Manchester:

Malcolm Jones 0161 926 8077

#### Northern:

Richard Ryan 0121 748 7185

#### Northern Ireland:

Philip McAlister 01960 378957

#### North East:

Dave Hewitt 0191 455 7844

#### Oldham:

Matt & Vikki Wharton 0161 681 5694

#### Redditch:

Pat Luke 01527 527190

#### Republic of Ireland:

Paul Peavoy 00 353 1831 4499

#### Shropshire Branch:

Pete Bradley 01952 273012

#### South Birmingham:

Fred Carter 0121 6026374

#### South Staffs:

Peter Huckfield 01543 682895

or

Stuart Jeffrey 01543 670804

#### Southern Branch:

Steve Davis 01276 31665

#### Sutton Coldfield:

Fraser Allen 0121 323 3095

#### Tamworth:

Rod Yates 01827 893524

#### United States:

James Verrier  
11340 Greenwood, Shelby TWP, N,  
Michigan 48316

#### Walsall:

Jim Goode 01922 415683

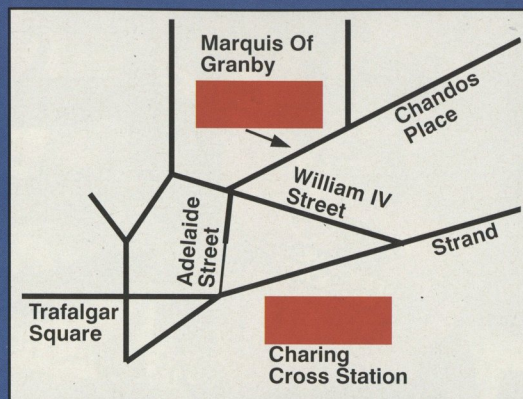
#### Warwick:

Jane Connolly 01203 368 472

#### Widnesbury:

Barry Parker 0121 553 5204.

## LONDON



The London Baggies now meet in the "Marquis of Granby", 51 Chandos Place (see map above)

Next meetings dates are:

Monday, 29th September

Monday, 27th October

Monday, 24th November

Gather from 7.00pm onwards to start meeting at 8.00pm in the upstairs meeting room. (Buffet provided — £1 per head)

## SHROPSHIRE BRANCH

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 2nd October at the Malthouse pub, Ironbridge, where the special guest will be Paul Franks of Radio WM.

As usual the meeting will start at 7.30pm and will be open to all Baggies. Anyone wishing to join the Shropshire WBA Supporters Club will be welcome to do so on the night.

## BONEY HAY & CANNOCK

This branch of the supporters club will, in future, be known as SOUTH STAFFS. There is also a new contact name — Stuart Jeffrey who can be contacted on 01543-670804.

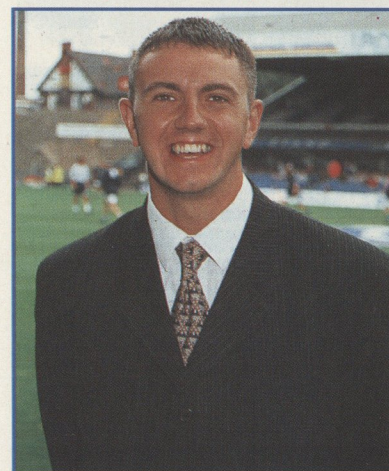
## OLDHAM

For the match against Bury, supporters are once again welcome at the "Gardeners Rest", Hollins Road, Hollinwood before the match (15-20 minutes drive to Gigg Lane). Please contact Matt or Vikki for directions.



# community programme

sponsored by



I am taking this opportunity to inform you of our new initiative "We All Stand Together". This is a positive step to encourage all ethnic minorities from the local community to increase their involvement in all our exciting activities.

Cyrille Regis (Reserve Team Coach) is a representative from West Bromwich Albion FC who fully supports the initiative. Kick It Out (kick racism out of football) along with the Commission for Racial Equality fully endorse the initiative and are helping us in the day to day running of the campaign.

We are already involved in certain schools and youth centres. One of our pioneers, Greenhill Youth Centre are at present involved in our coaching programme and are having a fantastic time.

Watch this space for more information on "We All Stand Together". I hope everyone enjoys the game and don't forget, cheer the lads on to victory AS ONE.

Dave Turton — Assistant Community Officer

## LEARNING THROUGH FOOTBALL

The Learning Through Football project is free to all schools throughout the country. The project was set up in conjunction with Sandwell Education Department, Sandwell TEC and also several practising teachers. Schools are invited to the club for a days visit during which time they undertake National Curriculum work with a full range of cross curricular work, based on West Bromwich Football Club and football in general. The worksheets which they use are selected from the master Learning Through Football pack which we have produced.

Schools that attended the scheme carry out further work based on the visit back in the school classroom.

We have been successfully running this educational package for over a year involving a number of schools within the local and surrounding areas. All schools that visit have a wonderful time and thoroughly enjoy their day. Many schools are already re-booking to re-visit next year.

If you are interested in this free, exciting opportunity for your school, please contact Clint Roberts on 0121 525 0226.



Pictured here are children enjoying the Learning Through Football Project



# richard sneekes

## player profile

**O**ne of the outstanding performers in the Baggies' season so far has been Dutch midfielder Richard Sneekes. The 23 year-old former Ajax, Fortuna Sittard and Bolton player looks to be at the peak of his form and has already found the back of the net twice this season.

Albion fans will recall his sensational arrival at the club, when he scored ten goals in the final 13 games of the 1995/96 season. Last season, despite spending some time as a substitute, Richard struck eight times and his goals and creative midfield play make him a highly influential member of the team.

Richard's successful start to the season has been mirrored by the team's own success under Ray Harford, and he feels that the changes made by the boss since he's been at the club are significant, as well as the dedication of the players:

"The manager has changed a lot since he's come here and the lads have shown lots of discipline to convert what we do on the training pitch into match situations and we're happy how this is working out.

"As far as my own form is concerned, it's a matter of having confidence — which I've always had. Unfortunately under the last manager he wanted me to play a little differently, which I couldn't really understand why, but things are going well for me now."

Some would say that Richard's form is allied to the fact that Peter Butler is closing down opposition like his life depends upon it, and Sean Flynn has also added extra bite in the "engine room", giving him the license to try and hurt teams further forward. That's not the way the Dutchman sees it:

"I've still got my defensive duties. The boss stresses that I have to do my share defensively and they (Peter and Sean) obviously have to get forward as well, so I have to cover them. As long as I've got the freedom to express myself, to do what I do best, I'm happy."

Away from West Bromwich Albion, Albion News wondered how Richard views the huge influx of foreign players to these shores and found that Richard has an interesting opinion on the subject:

"Fans want big names and big stars from abroad and I don't think that is a good thing. It's not good for young players coming through. In some countries, for example Spain, they are trying to restrict the amount of players from overseas and I think this might be a good policy."

Slightly surprising views for a player from the continent, but typically good sense from the intelligent Sneekes.

Still on a foreign theme, this son of Amsterdam must have been overjoyed at the Dutch national team's recent qualification for the World Cup Finals in France.

"It doesn't interest me that much, I'm playing for West Brom and I just concentrate on that."

Concentrating on the Albion at the expense of thinking about his country — this shows admirable commitment to the Baggies cause and anyone who has seen him play this season will testify to seeing Richard approaching each game with real zeal.

Having played in all of Albion's games this season, only one of which has resulted in defeat, how successful does Richard believe the Baggies can be

this season?

"At the moment we are doing fine and hopefully we can produce this form week-in-week-out and if we do that, then there's no reason why we can't at least end up in the top six. If we are consistent, doing what we do well, we'll be there or thereabouts."

Like Richard, Baggies fans will be hoping the team can maintain the good form and give themselves a chance of promotion.

They will also be hoping Richard Sneekes maintains his sparkling performances and continues to be a regular name on the scoresheet.



**What other sports are you good at, if any?**

I'm OK at most ball sports and, although it's not really a different sport, I always enjoy five-a-side and indoor football as in Holland it's played a lot more

**If you played abroad, which team would you most like to play for?**

I'm already abroad! As a kid I supported Liverpool so I always wanted to play for them, I'd also love to play in Italy

**Whose talent do you most envy?**

Nobody's. You should be happy with the talent you've got. It's up to you to use it as well as possible

**What do you wear in bed?**

Boxer shorts

**Who has been the biggest influence on your career?**

My parents and my grandfather. More recently my wife

**What was the last book you read?**

At the moment I'm reading text books as I'm learning Italian

**Have you ever wanted to be anything other than a footballer?**

When I was five I wanted to be a bus driver

**What tape is currently in your car stereo?**

It's broken so I have to be content with the radio at the moment

**What is your favourite journey?**

Either back to Holland or to Italy where I lived for a while

**What has been your most embarrassing moment?**

Playing for Ajax reserves when I was young I got a little annoyed with the manager and shouted something not particularly nice at him. Unfortunately, the first-team coach Johan Cruyff had just sat down next to him and he heard me. Not a good move

**What is the worst lie you have ever told?**

When I started at the Albion and was still living in Bolton, one of my reasons for being late to training wasn't totally truthful

**What is the one single thing that would make your life better?**

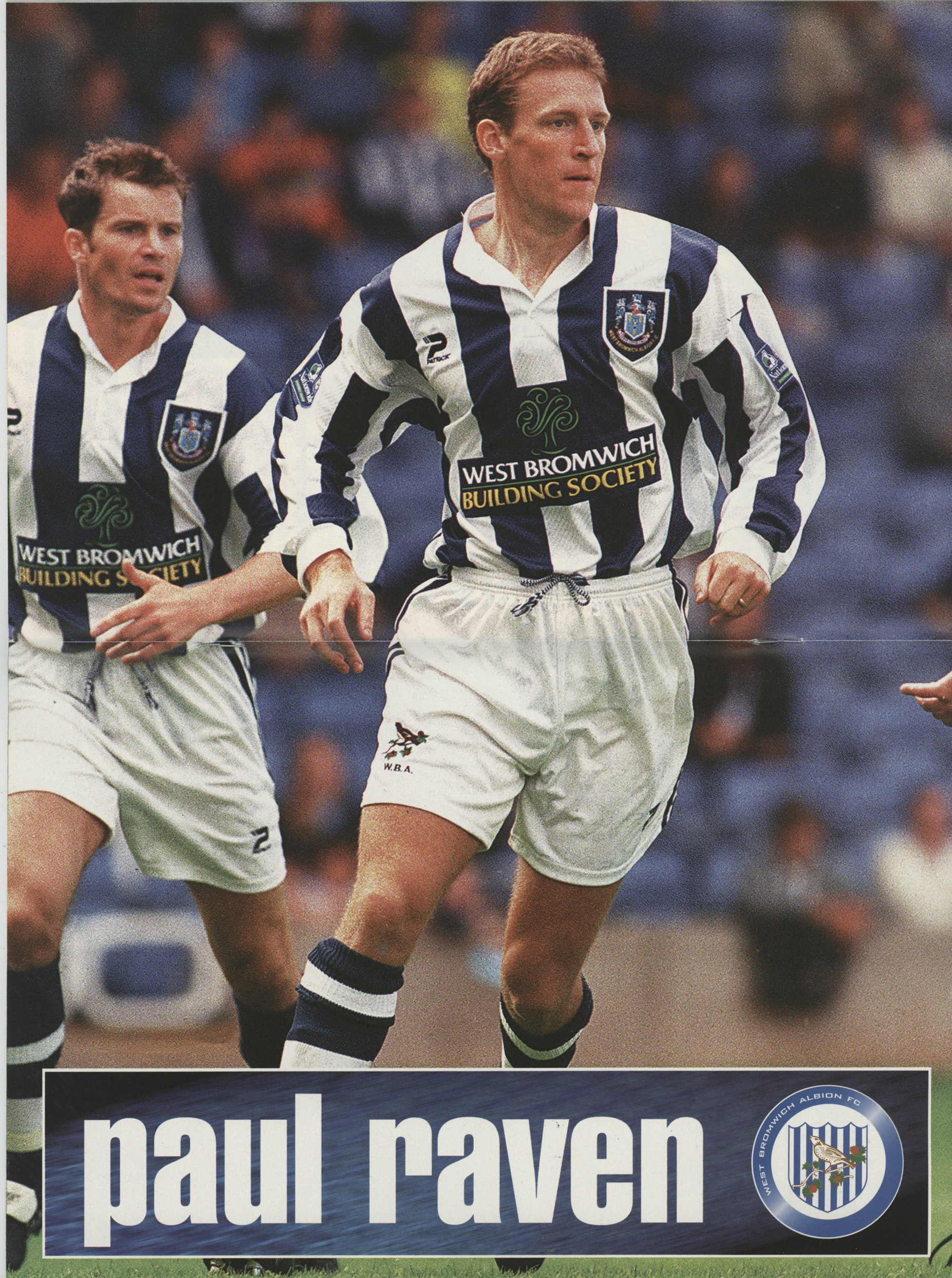
To know that my wife and family will always be healthy



richard sneekes







**paul raven**





football historian  
leigh edwards  
focuses on  
connections with  
our visitors

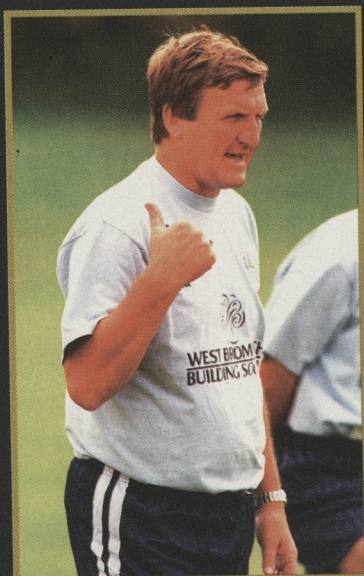


Andy Hunt

## Coca-Cola Clash

Bob Taylor's goal equalised Stuart Douglas' opener as West Bromwich Albion drew 1-1 at Kenilworth Road in the Coca-Cola Cup Second Round First Leg fixture a week ago.

Goals by Bontcho Guentchev and Kim Grant gave struggling Luton a 2-0 First Division win on their last visit to The Hawthorns in April 1996. Lee Ashcroft and Andy Hunt had scored in Albion's 2-1 win at Luton six months earlier. West Brom last beat the Hatters here 1-0 in December 1994



Ray Harford

when Kevin Donovan scored the decisive goal.

## Hats Off To Harford

West Brom's manager Ray Harford guided Luton Town to three Wembley Cup finals, including their 1988 Littlewoods Cup triumph. He managed Fulham prior to joining Luton as assistant-manager in July 1986 and succeeded John Moore in charge of the Hatters in June 1987. Despite his success, he left by 'mutual consent' in January 1990 after it was claimed that he did not smile enough, subsequently managing Wimbledon and Blackburn Rovers before his appointment at The Hawthorns in February 1997.

## In Safe Keeping

One-time Luton Town goalkeeper Tony Godden made a record 228 consecutive appearances (including 180 League games) for West Brom. Signed from Ashford Town for £3,000 in August 1975, he played for Albion in the 1977/78 FA Cup semi-final and three UEFA Cup campaigns. Making 267 First Division appearances overall while at The Hawthorns, he moved to Chelsea in March 1986 after playing 12 First Division games on loan to

Luton at the end of the 1982/83 season.

## Promotion Winner

Former West Brom defender Jack Bannister starred at left-back alongside John Ryan and Chris Nicholl in Luton Town's 1969/70 promotion success. He signed professional for Albion in August 1959 and made nine First Division appearances prior to joining Scunthorpe United in June 1964. Moving via Crystal Palace to Luton in October 1968, he made 82 League appearances while at Kenilworth Road and joined Cambridge United in May 1971.

## High Fives

Strikes by Gordon Turner (2), Jimmy Adam, Allan Brown and Joe Kennedy's own goal gave the following Luton Town team an emphatic 5-1 First Division win over West Brom in front of 15,365 at Kenilworth Road on 14th December 1957: Ron Baynham, Shay Dunne, Ken Hawkes, Bob Morton, Syd Owen, Reg Pearce, Jimmy Adam, Gordon Turner, Allan Brown, John Groves, George McLeod. The defeat ended Albion's excellent 17 match unbeaten run.



Derek Kevan



Tony Godden

## Irish International

Eire international midfielder Tony Grealish was capped by his country at both Luton Town and West Brom. The former Orient apprentice moved to Luton for £300,000 in August 1979 and scored twice in 78 Second Division games for the Hatters, capped 17 times while at Kenilworth Road before joining Brighton for £100,000 in July 1981. Eire boss Johnny Giles signed him for Albion in February 1986 and he netted five goals in 65 First Division outings, gaining 10 caps while at The Hawthorns.

## Leading Marksman

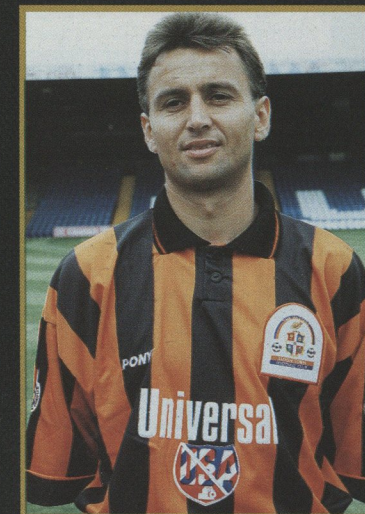
England inside-left Derek Kevan was West Brom's leading marksman in five successive years. Following Vic Buckingham from Bradford PA for £3,000 in July 1953, 'The Tank' was twice ever-present and netted 157 goals in 262 First Division outings before sold to Chelsea for £50,000 in March 1963. He moved via Manchester City, Crystal Palace and Peterborough United to Luton in December 1966 and scored four goals in 11 Fourth Division games for the Hatters prior to joining Stockport County in March 1967.

## Kenilworth King

Albion's former England U-21 striker Andy King spent three spells at Luton Town in various capacities. An ex-Luton apprentice signed professional in July 1974 and netted nine times in 33 League games before his £35,000 sale to Everton in April 1976. Joining West Brom from QPR for £400,000 in September 1981, he scored four times in 25 First Division games before swapped for Everton's Peter Eastoe in August 1982. He briefly rejoined Luton Town from Wolves in December 1985, then returned as commercial manager.

## Wembley Hero

West Brom's former loanee goalkeeper Andy Dibble made a crucial penalty save at Wembley in Luton Town's 1988 Littlewoods Cup final triumph over Arsenal. Signed from Cardiff City in July 1984, the Welsh international made 30 First Division appearances for Luton prior to joining Manchester City in June 1988 and recently rejoined the Hatters on loan. Other players who have appeared in the League for both clubs since the war include Ian Benjamin, Stacey North and Imre Varadi.



Bontcho Guentchev



## LIFE'S A BED OF ALBION SHIRTS FOR YOUNG LUCY



As this picture clearly shows, Albion season ticket holder, Gareth Lawrence isn't going to be the sort of father who forces his own football preferences upon his children. Or is he? Well, his 10 month old daughter, Lucy certainly looks happy being surrounded by Baggies replica shirts and her choice of outfit tends to give the impression that we have one loyal supporter in our midst. Good on ya girl!

## SAFARI SO GOOD FOR CAMOUFLAGED BAGGIES

Whilst on a recent holiday to the Dominican Republic, this quartet of Baggies fans tried everything they could to camouflage themselves from eager locals who were keen to keep bang up-to-date with all the latest goings on at The



Hawthorns. But as this picture shows, although they made a brave attempt, they are not quite masters of disguise and as such found themselves forced to preach the boing, boing religion to the good people of the tropical paradise.

Pictured in front of the American army troop carrier from left to right are Mark Reece, Jamie Reece, Kate Reece and Thomas Reece.

## FAR AWAY FANS



Following a surge of interest in the Baggies fortunes from Zimbabwe of all places last season, we have received this photo which proves without doubt that there is a loyal following of the club in the country as these five fine fellows show off their true colours with pride. With the amount of interest that we know there is in Zimbabwe we are sure that it won't be long before the Zimbabwean Baggies start appearing on the Baggies Rattle page! But for the time being, Dingi, Zororo, William, Mkhulunyelwa and 'friend' we salute you and long may your long distance love affair with the Albion continue!

## DUDLEY'S BRING A LITTLE BIT OF THE MIDLANDS TO FLORIDA

Pictured here whilst on holiday in Florida are loyal Baggies followers Lisa and David Dudley. The pair are both Junior Baggies and have been regular visitors to The Hawthorns for

the past seven years, with David now a season-ticket holder at the club. They are seen here proudly displaying their Albion colours for all to see in front of the Smallwoods Trading Post on Chokoloskss Island in the Everglades.

## CAPTAIN WILF SEES CALM WATERS AHEAD

Seen here cruising through the sea's of Croatia is WBA Supporters Club committee member, Wilf Tibbetts.

Wilf really looks the part as he steers the ship whilst on a recent holiday, although we're not sure how his stories of riding the rough waters of the West Midlands went down with his fellow ship mates!

Wilf has been a loyal follower of the Baggies cause for many years and believes that this could finally be our year. Aye, aye Captain!



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# the baggie bird

## junior baggies page

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GAS + ELECTRICAL  
**2000**  
SUPERSTORES



At the end of last season, West Bromwich Albion Community Programme ran a competition for all their Junior Baggie members. They were given the opportunity to design a kit for the Albion with the eventual winner receiving a wonderful day out at The Hawthorns. The winner for this was Junior Baggie Charlotte Hunt, age 10, who designed a fantastic shirt featuring Baggie Bird. Charlotte was given a tour of the stadium and met the players in the changing rooms prior to the game.

If you would like the opportunity to enter various Junior Baggie competitions and much more, see the application form below.

I hope you enjoy the game.

**Jemma Gibbard**

Junior Baggies Co-ordinator



### Become a Junior Baggie

**Free Gift:** You will receive a surprise free gift as part of your membership.

**Birthday Card:** You will receive a birthday card for your birthday, signed by your favourite player.

**Membership Card:** With your own personal number.

**Christmas Parties:** You will receive an invite to the Christmas parties for a nominal fee.

**Free Tickets:** You will receive tickets to a selected first-team game during the season.

**Birthday Treats:** You will be entitled to a £10 discount on any bookings.

**Chance To Be A Home Mascot:** Randomly selected from all our members.

**Soccer Courses:** You will be entitled to a discount on any booking.

**Newsletters:** Two newsletters throughout the season, which will include reports on all Junior Baggie activities.

**Commercial Mascots:** You will be entitled to a £10 discount on bookings for commercial mascots.

**Ticket Priority:** Junior Baggies receive the same ticket priority as Supporters Club members do.

**Vote For JB Player Of The Year:** Win the chance to present the trophy to the winning player.

**Free Entrance To All Reserve Team Games.**

*This season we have held the price at £11. Due to problems last year with packs going astray in the post we have decided this year that all members packs are to be collected from our offices in Halfords Lane. If this is not possible we will post them with a charge of £1 for postage and packing.*

#### JUNIOR BAGGIES MEMBERSHIP 1997/98

The Tom Silk Building, Halfords Lane, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B71 4BR. Tel: 0121 525 0226. Fax: 0121 553 6634.

#### Membership Details

Name: ..... Telephone No: .....

Address: .....

Postcode: .....

Date Of Birth: ..... Favourite Player .....

Please Post My Membership Pack I enclose my membership fee for £11 ☐

Also an additional £1 for P & P ☐

Please return to WBA Junior Baggies. The Tom Silk Building, Halfords Lane, West Bromwich, West Midlands B71 4BR.

Please DO NOT send cash through the post. Make all cheques payable to WBA FC Junior Baggies. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us on 0121-525 0226 during office hours.

# baggies bonanza

Steve Brian of Warley has Albion star Lee Hughes to thank for drawing his Baggies Bonanza ticket at half-time of our victorious Reading fixture.

Steve is seen here collecting his £860 jackpot from Promotions Manager Stuart Curtis, Lee and Baggie Bird.

Remember to get your ticket before kick-off — you have to be in it to win it!



**TRAVEL**  
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# reserves & youth

## Report and Update

### PONTIN'S LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

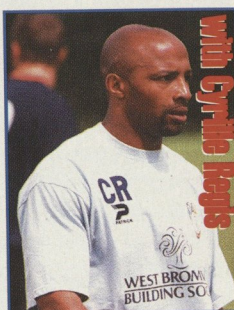
Up to and including Wed 3rd September 1997

	PL	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Grimsby Town	3	3	0	0	9	2	9
Middlesbrough	4	2	1	1	11	6	7
Bolton Wanderers	3	2	1	0	8	3	7
West Bromwich Albion	4	2	1	1	6	7	7
Sunderland	4	2	0	2	6	9	6
Port Vale	4	1	2	1	8	7	5
Oldham Athletic	4	1	2	1	6	6	5
Coventry City	3	1	1	1	4	2	4
Wolverhampton Wdrs	3	1	1	1	4	5	4
Leicester City	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Huddersfield Town	4	1	0	3	6	12	3
Notts County	4	0	1	3	5	13	1
Manchester City	2	0	0	2	2	4	0

### PONTIN'S LEAGUE FIXTURES FOR SEASON 1997-98

Wednesday 13th August	Port Vale	3-0
Wednesday 20th August	Manchester City	1-0
Thursday 28th August	Notts. County	2-2
Monday 1st September	Grimsby Town	0-5
Wednesday 10th September	Leicester City	0-3
Wednesday 24th September	Oldham Athletic	(H)
Tuesday 7th October	Wolverhampton Wanderers	(A)
Wednesday 15th October	Sunderland	(H)
Wednesday 29th October	Coventry City	(H)
Wednesday 12th November	Bolton Wanderers	(A)
Wednesday 19th November	Huddersfield Town	(H)
Wednesday 26th November	Middlesbrough	(A)
Tuesday 9th December	Manchester City	(A)
Wednesday 17th December	Port Vale	(H)
Wednesday 7th January	Grimsby Town	(H)
Monday 19th January	Leicester City	(A)
Wednesday 11th February	Notts. County	(H)
Wednesday 4th March	Oldham Athletic	(A)
Wednesday 11th March	Bolton Wanderers	(H)
Tuesday 24th March	Coventry City	(A)
Wednesday 1st April	Huddersfield Town	(A)
Wednesday 8th April	Middlesbrough	(H)
Wednesday 22nd April	Wolverhampton W.	(H)
Monday 27th April	Sunderland	(A)

On Wednesday, September 10 we entertained Leicester City and suffered a 3-0 defeat. The result was disappointing, especially as we had a few more experienced players back in the line-up. Recent games had seen the reserve team packed full of youth team players but for the visit of Leicester we included Nigel Spink, Andy McDermott, Ian Hamilton, Graham Potter and Stacy Caldicott.



In the first-half we were not penetrative or competitive enough and went behind to a Tony Cottee header mid-way through the half. As the game progressed we came back into the contest and it was an unfair representation of the match when Leicester added two more goals in the second-half because we showed a definite improvement after the break. We began to show much better movement and put City under a lot of pressure without being able to get on the scoresheet. The overall effort of the players could not be faulted and the improvement over the 90 minutes was encouraging.

Another aspect of the game that was heartening was the performances of the young players that came into the side, some for their debuts, and performed excellently. James Lowndes came into the heart of the defence and looked at home at a higher level.

For a young player to come into the reserve side and face a striking trio of Ian Marshall, Graham Fenton and Tony Cottee is a real test of character. Adam Oliver and Jay Chambers were also involved in the action and can be pleased with their contributions. So the experience that these young players will have got from playing against a strong Leicester side will be very valuable.



James Lowndes — a baptism of fire against Leicester.

On Saturday, 13th September the youth team entertained Peterborough United and after a remarkably exciting fixture, finished 4-2 winners.

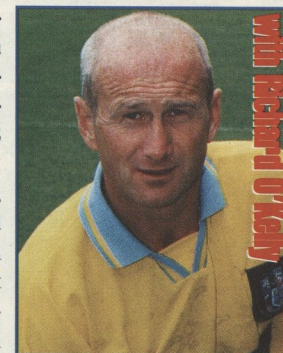
Peterborough have, of late, had a very good youth set-up and to score four goals against them was a real achievement. The first came within seconds of the kick-off, we won a corner and Marvin Blake rose to head home. Marvin has been getting a few with his head lately and it's certainly not a bad habit to have! From this point the game was a real end-to-end humdinger with both sides playing some great football, though neither defence was looking particularly solid.

Peterborough drew level after 25 minutes and our defensive play was getting ragged, something we needed to look at in the second-half.

We started the second period in the worst possible fashion with the opposition scoring a goal straight away, however this really inspired the lads into playing a much tighter game, without losing the flair of the first-half.

On 70 minutes we equalised. James Cooper's mazy run culminating in a powerful shot into the roof of the net. Shortly after this, a neat short corner routine lead to James Ince crossing the ball for Justin Richards to power us in front. The flurry of goals didn't end there. Michael Garrity sent a 60-yard pinpoint pass into the path of Marvin Blake who buried it with his left foot — not bad for his 'swinger'.

Our second half display was superb. To combine the attacking strengths to a resolute defence gave us the look of a side who can give any team a tough match and to sweep a team like Peterborough aside was mightily impressive.



James Cooper — helped to swing the game back in our favour

### MIDLAND MELVILLE YOUTH LEAGUE

as at 30th August 1997

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Wolves	4	4	0	0	16	3	12
Walsall	4	4	0	0	13	3	12
Aston Villa	4	3	1	0	14	5	10
Peterborough Utd	4	2	2	0	11	3	8
Grimsby Town	4	2	1	1	6	8	8
WBA	4	2	0	2	11	11	6
Nottingham Forest	4	1	2	1	10	8	5
Leicester City	4	1	2	1	7	6	5
Coventry City	4	1	2	1	5	7	5
Mansfield Town	4	1	1	2	7	6	4
Birmingham City	4	1	1	2	5	11	4
Northampton Town	4	0	3	1	6	8	3
Shrewsbury Town	4	0	2	2	6	12	2
Port Vale	4	0	2	2	4	10	2
Notts County	4	0	1	3	4	9	1
Lincoln City	4	0	0	4	4	19	0

### MIDLAND MELVILLE YOUTH LEAGUE FIXTURES FOR SEASON 1997-98

Saturday 9th August	Notts. County	4-3
Saturday 16th August	Wolverhampton Wanderers	1-5
Saturday 23rd August	Walsall	1-2
Saturday 30th August	Lincoln City	5-1
Tuesday 2nd September	Nottingham Forest (SJFCR1)	0-0
Saturday 6th September	Shrewsbury Town	P
Tuesday 9th September	Nottingham Forest (SJFCR1R)	2-3
Saturday 13th September	Peterborough United	4-2
Saturday 20th September	Birmingham City	(A)
Saturday 27th September	Nottingham Forest	(A)
	League Cup Round 1	
Saturday 4th October	Northampton Town	(H)
Saturday 11th October	Grimsby Town	(A)
Saturday 18th October	Leicester City	(H)
Saturday 25th October	Aston Villa	(A)
Saturday 1st November	Coventry City	(A)
Saturday 8th November	Port Vale	(H)
Saturday 15th November	Mansfield Town	(H)
Saturday 22nd November	League Cup Round 2	
Saturday 29th November	Notts. County	(H)
Saturday 6th December	Wolverhampton Wanderers	(A)
Saturday 13th December	Walsall	(H)
Saturday 20th December	Lincoln City	(H)
Saturday 3rd January	Shrewsbury Town	(A)
Saturday 10th January	Peterborough United	(A)
Saturday 17th January	League Cup Semi-Finals	
Saturday 24th January	Birmingham City	(H)
Saturday 31st January	Nottingham Forest	(H)
Saturday 7th February	Northampton Town	(A)
Saturday 14th February	Grimsby Town	(H)
Saturday 21st February	Leicester City	(A)
Saturday 28th February	Aston Villa	(H)
Saturday 7th March	Coventry City	(H)
Saturday 14th March	Port Vale	(A)
Saturday 21st March	Mansfield Town	(A)



<b>CHRIS ADAMSON</b>		Northern Branch Supporters Club	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>MARK ASHTON</b>		Veale Bros Heating & Plumbing 0121-556 7888	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>DEAN BENNETT</b>			League Cup APP GOALS
<b>BRETT BENSLEY</b>		Frogstar Ltd Steve Galey Law Practice & Solicitors Tel: 01543-670 200	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>DARYL BURGESS</b>		West Bromwich Albion Supporters Club Club Membership Contact Alan Cleverley 0121-551 6439 Malta Branch Supporters Club	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>PETER BUTLER</b>		Nile Fasteners Ltd Tel: 01384-263 597 Fax: 01384-261 147 Jackie Smart, Joanne Reader & Rita McLaughlan — Great Barr girls	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>STACY COLDICOTT</b>		Rabco Fittings, Redditch S & D (Non-Ferrous Stockholders) Ltd Tel: 0121-525 5500	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>TONY DOBSON</b>		D&G Suspended Ceilings Tel: 0121-557 3900 Mobile: 0850-496 125 or 0836-796246 David & Graham	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>SEAN FLYNN</b>		Feldmans Manufacturing Tel: 0121-526 4434 All the lads at The Vine, Lyde Green, Cradley	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>GARY GERMAINE</b>			League Cup APP GOALS
<b>IAN HAMILTON</b>		Bathams (Delph) Brewery	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>RAY HARFORD</b>		Mofast Ltd Importers of Fasteners 01384-455 440	League Cup APP GOALS

<b>PAUL HOLMES</b>		Dentmaster Freephone 0800-433 687	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>LEE HUGHES</b>		Redditch Supporters Club Halfords Lane Postal Branch Of The WBA Supporters Club	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>ANDY HUNT</b>		James Lamb Jnr & Malcolm Jackson CTV Baggies Travel — The Official Travel Of West Bromwich Albion Football Club	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>ANTHONY JAMES</b>			League Cup APP GOALS
<b>KEVIN KILBANE</b>		Paul Startin/Water Gleeson Paul, Louisa, Hal & Rowena Startin	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>PAUL MARDON</b>		Transform Shopfitters WBA Disabled Supporters Club	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>ALAN MILLER</b>		Ace Embroidery 0121-544 4965 Ireland Branch	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>ANDREW McDERMOTT</b>		P & G HAULAGE LIMITED STORAGE · TRANSPORT · INDUSTRIAL SERVICES Tel: 0121 609 7171	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>SHAWN MURPHY</b>		Australian Branch of WBA Supporters Club The Grove Family	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>SHANE NICHOLSON</b>		MAS Components Bob Darby, Diane and James Heggie, The Birch Coppice Public House, Woodland Avenue, Quarry Bank. Tel: 01384-412 302	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>PAUL PESCHISOLDO</b>		Sean Keasey, Matthew Keasey and Thomas Priest Sandwell New Horizons Ltd Training Providers 0121-553 7847	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>GRAHAM POTTER</b>		Brookes Forklift Services 0121-558 2027 BOING <a href="http://www.gold.net/users/cp78">http://www.gold.net/users/cp78</a>	League Cup APP GOALS

# kitsponsors

& player  
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<b>PAUL RAVEN</b>		Seathurst Ltd 0121-766 7605 Northern Ireland Supporters Club	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>CYRILLE REGIS</b>		Roger Howell and the Mad Dog in the Fog San Francisco In Memory of Alan Hale — Loyal Supporter	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>MICHAEL RODOSTHENOUS</b>		Grorty Dick Fanzine	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>DAVID SMITH</b>		Glenn, Asa, Donna & Ben Croucher In memory of Jeff Reader — a real gentleman	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>RICHARD SNEEKES</b>		NATIONWIDE COMPANY SERVICES LTD 0121-643-9669	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>NIGEL SPINK</b>		Hawthorns Away Travel Supporters 0121-358 6272	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>BOB TAYLOR</b>		Martin Bullock — Isle Of Man	League Cup APP GOALS
<b>CARL TRANTER</b>			League Cup APP GOALS
<b>JOHN TREWICK</b>		In memory of the late Frank Baker — Loyal Supporter	League Cup APP GOALS



**NIGEL SPINK**

Hawthorns Away  
Travel Supporters  
0121-358 6272





# travel talk

## Baggies Travel —

### The Only Official Travel Service of West Bromwich Albion FC

For the second round running we go into the second leg level at 1-1, thanks to Bob Taylor's equaliser at Kenilworth Road last Tuesday, and hopefully, as against Cambridge United in the first round, the lads can do the business and put us into the third round for the first time since 1989, but preferably within the normal 90 minutes this time. Should Luton emulate Peterborough, Hereford and Colchester in winning at The Hawthorns in the League Cup in recent times, then we would like to wish them all the best in the next round.

Going back to the match at Cambridge United one of our regular stewards, John Homer told me what

happened to him at the end of the match. When we arrived in Cambridge we had to park near The Greyhound pub, a fair distance from the ground, and either walk over waste ground or the long way, around some houses. When John came out of the game he went up to a group of Policemen and asked "Can you tell me the way to The Greyhound, please" in his strong Black Country accent, only to be told by one of the Officers "It's behind you, mate", pointing at the Abbey Stadium Ground! That's the problem you are always going to get, John, coming from Gornal! On a more serious note it has been brought to my attention that a group of our young travellers were mugged when they got back to The Hawthorns after that match, whilst waiting on the Birmingham Road for a lift from one of their parents. In the future if anyone has to wait please tell your steward on the coach and they will stay with you until you are collected, as we don't want this kind of thing happening again.

This Saturday we travel to Gigg Lane to tackle Second Division Champions, Bury who haven't lost a home league match since April 6th 1996, when Mansfield beat them 2-0. After winning at Crewe earlier in the season, can we make it two wins out of two against the promoted sides so far? (let's hope Lee Hughes will be fit again this weekend!)

Bookings are currently being taken for this trip, as well as for the matches at Pompey and Forest in October, and please note that the match in Nottingham is now on the Tuesday, and not the Wednesday. Don't forget that if you are members of any of the Supporters' Clubs you will receive a £1 discount when booking, on production of this year's card.

Also for those of you who board the coaches at West Bromwich, why not come out of the house a bit earlier and have your breakfast at The Throstle Club before departure this Saturday. The sandwiches are superb and it also beats washing up when you get home!

Dave Holloway (Travel Organiser)

K.O. Kiddy@ Stourbridge@ W. Brom@ Members/  
Non-Members

#### SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 1997 V BURY

3-00pm 9-30am 9-45am 10-30am £8/£9

#### SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER 1997 V PORTSMOUTH

3-00pm 8-30am 8-45am 9-30am £12/£13

#### TUESDAY 21ST OCTOBER 1997 V NOTTINGHAM FOREST

7-45pm 3-30am 3-45am 4-30am £7/£8

All coaches, supplied by Bowens, to be fitted with video and WC and refreshments will be available.

These times are for scheduled departures, please be prompt.

Bookings can be made by calling at the Ticket Office or by ringing 0121-553 5472 (credit cards).

Please remember to book early, to avoid disappointment.

Pick-ups available at: Redditch (contact Pat Luke 01527 527190), Kidderminster, Stourbridge, Lye, Colley Gate, Halesowen, Quinton, Blackheath, Whiteheath and The Throstle Club in Halfords Lane.

Please note that anyone boarding coaches having drunk excess alcohol or in possession of alcohol will not be allowed to travel with Baggies Travel, and no refund will be given.



Hoddle Signs for Mitre.



The official ball supplier to:





# inside write

with Peter Butler

## GREY DAY FOR ALAN

There are a number of tell-tale signs which let you know that you are getting old, like going grey for example. I know for a fact that this comment will have touched a raw nerve with a certain goalkeeper who is doing everything he can to keep the grey at bay. You may think that this 'certain' goalkeeper I am referring to is the 39 year-old Nigel Spink (sorry about that Nige!), but oh no, Alan Miller is the man who is slowly but surely becoming the Fabrizio Ravanelli of the club (both in terms of hair colour and wage packet if you ask me!), although at the moment he is able to get rid of the



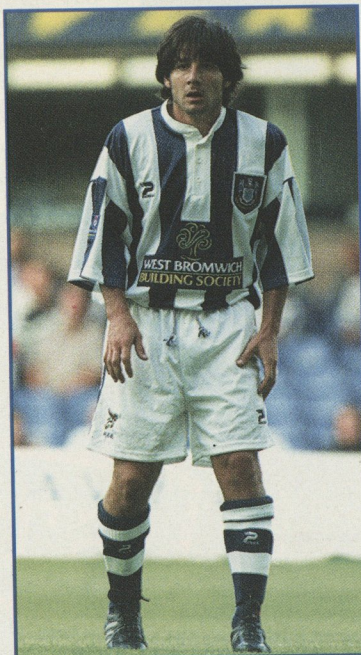
Alan Miller — well, at least it will match the colour of your shirt!

grey by keeping his hair short. Believe me, Alan you can run but you cannot hide forever.

I wonder if going grey will have an effect on Alan's showbiz friends who constantly turn up to see him and turn the players lounge into something like a set from Coronation Street or Brookside. Trust me Alan, these luvvie types won't hang around when the wrinkles appear to go with the grey hair!

## TRIP TO THE CAPITAL SAVES DAILY PUNISHMENT

It was nice to spend some time in London prior to the QPR game as it saved me from my daily trial of the M6 and M62 down from Yorkshire. The traffic is an absolute nightmare and it's all fine and dandy for those players who live five or so miles away in deepest Black Country, but for us long-distance commuters it's only natural that we get a little... how shall I put it... hot under the collar at times, but I am always a sensible driver despite what Andy McDermott has to say. To tell you the truth I am dreading Pesch returning from Canada



Paul Peschisolido — it's a long way from Solihull!

as he always complains about suffering from jet-lag. I wouldn't mind so much but he only lives in Solihull!

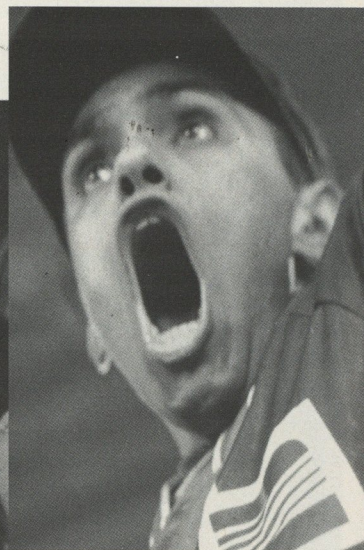
## DUTCH COURAGE

It was nice to finally see Richard Sneekes get stuck in there and make his first tackle of the season last week. We may be over a month into the season but it was better late than never. However, one player who wasn't so happy to see the tackle was Sean Flynn as it put him out of the first-leg game at Luton! Now I know that Sean is one of the newer lads to the side but that really is no excuse, Richard!



Eat Football. Sleep Football. Drink Coca-Cola.

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**If a team came back from 0-3**  
but there was no one there to see it,  
**would it still be a miracle?**



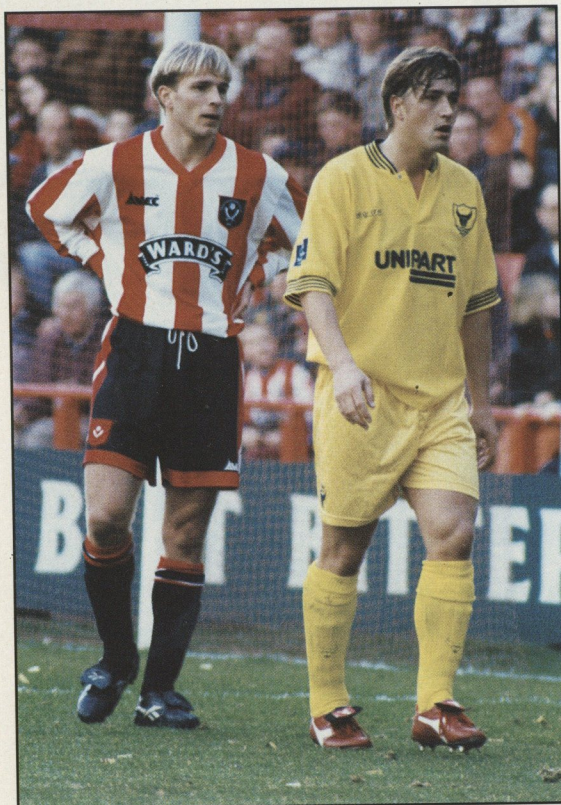
# forward thinking

**T**his evening we look forward to our next two First Division encounters, which take us to Gigg Lane, Bury on Saturday and then receive Oxford United here on October 4th. From here on our scarves will have a practical as well as symbolic value!

Bury is the smallest town with a league side in Greater Manchester and is famous for its black pudding. If Stan Ternent continues to weave his magic it may well become famous for its football club too. Since his appointment in September 1995 he has guided The Shakers to consecutive promotions and sees them nestling in the top half of Division One. In the recent game against Manchester City many noted that the Bury line-up had cost less than £500,000 while Mr Kinkladze alone was valued at £7 million plus. Honours were even in the match. Much of their

success has been on a steady defence with gifted man-markers such as Nick Daws and Lenny Johnrose and the excellent Dean Kiely (a £125,000 buy from York) in goal. In midfield ex-Tottenham man Andy Gray spreads the ball round well while David Johnson and Tony Battersby are dangerous running at defenders. Up front, look out for in-form Peter Swan who has been thrust into the forward line from his usual position as a centre-back, while hernia victim Dean West has been replaced by Ian Hughes. Ronnie Jepson and Rob Matthews are also sidelined with injuries. Looking at Bury's start to the season, we see they opened with a 1-1 draw against Reading at Gigg Lane, then picked up two 0-0 results at Stockport and at home to Charlton. They were beaten 4-2 at Wolves but bounced back with a 2-1 win at Crewe. A 1-0 home win over Tranmere was followed by the derby with Manchester City, a 11,216 crowd witnessing a 1-1 draw; Bury's biggest attendance for many a long year. What odds another draw at the weekend.

We should be seeing one of the games characters the following week now that Oxford have signed 39 year-old goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar on a short term deal. Manager Denis Smith was looking for a new 'keeper following the groin strain suffered by Phil Whitehead and he also considered Newcastle's Pavel Srnicek. With Matt Murphy out for six weeks and Martin Gray for five weeks, the U's have also taken French midfielder Franck Roye on trial. Meanwhile 32 year-old Stuart Massey has gone on the transfer list. Smith could have more to spend had Oxford not missed out on a £100,000 add-on clause by three months when Jim Magilton moved from Southampton to Sheffield Wednesday! Of the current team the partnership of Joey Beauchamp (two goals against Wolves recently) and Nigel Jemson looks threatening while the likes of Mark Angel, Nicky Banger, Bobby Ford, Darren Purse, Les Robinson and David Smith are all regulars and quality players. They started the season well with 2-0 win against Huddersfield at the Manor Ground, then lost four on the run (2-3 at Charlton, 0-1 at home to Forest, 1-2 at Portsmouth and 1-3 at Sunderland) before overpowering Wolves 3-0 at home. They came back to earth with a bump with a 2-1 defeat in the Thames Valley derby at Reading. If the game is as memorable as last year's 3-3 draw here we should be in for a corker!



Nigel Jemson — likely to pose a real threat up front for Oxford

## MATCH PRICES

	PRE-MATCH	MATCH DAY
<b>ADULTS</b>		
Halfords Lane Centre	£17.00	£18.00
Halfords Lane Wings	£16.00	£17.00
WBBS All Areas	£14.00	£15.00
BRE/SME/Paddock	£12.00	£13.00
<b>CONCESSIONS</b>		
Halfords Lane Centre	£10.50	£11.00
Halfords Lane Wings	£9.50	£10.00
WBBS All Areas	£8.00	£9.00
BRE/SME/Paddock	£6.50	£7.00

## FAMILY PACKAGE

A FAMILY TICKET MAY BE BOUGHT IN ADVANCE FOR USE IN THE FAMILY STAND. THIS WILL COST £30 AND WILL BE A FOUR PERSON PACKAGE INCLUDING A MINIMUM OF TWO CHILDREN. CHILDREN TO BE REGARDED AS THOSE WHO ARE UNDER 16.

## PONTINS LEAGUE MATCHES (RESERVES)

Adults	Concessions	Season Ticket Holders
£3	£2	Free

Supporters who do not have their Name & Address (Account) listed with the ticket office are advised to do so as this may enable ticket priority for some high profile matches. Please fill in the enclosed and post to: WBA Ticket Office, The Tom Silk Building, Halfords Lane, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B71 4LG

Name: .....

Address: .....

Postcode: .....

Day Time Tel: .....

Home Tel: .....

HOME MATCHES ON  
SALE NOW FOR  
OXFORD UTD, MAN  
CITY, SHEFFIELD UTD  
AND NORWICH CITY.

## BURY (AWAY)

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 1997

This match is ALL-TICKET. Tickets are now on general sale. Seats £14.00 Adults £8.00 Jnr/OAP. Allocation 2678. An extra allocation of terrace will be issued subject to seats selling out. Supporters are asked not to travel without a ticket.

## PORTSMOUTH (AWAY)

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER

Uncovered seating only 1500 allocation. Prices £11.00 Adults £5.00 Jnr/OAP. This match is ALL-TICKET. Tickets available to: Away Season ticket holders/Premier Shareholders Wednesday 1st October; Season ticket holders/Shareholders Tuesday 7th October; General Sale 13th October.

## NOTTM FOREST (AWAY)

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

TUESDAY 22ND OCTOBER

Price: Adults £20.00, Jnr/Oap £10.00. Tickets will need to be purchased in advance, 3000 available. On sale to: Away Season ticket holders/Premier Shareholders Wednesday 1st October; Home Season ticket holders/Shareholders: Tuesday 7th October; General Sale: Wednesday 15th October.

Telephone your ticket requirements  
0121 553 5472 or Fax 0121 553 4204.  
Postal applications welcome enclosing  
appropriate remittance.



96/97  
97/98

Opponents		F-A	Aftn	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>August 1997</b>												
Sat 9	Tranmere Rovers	2-1	16,727	-	Miller	McDermott	Nicholson	Sneekes	Mardon	Murphy	Flynn	Butler
Tue 12	Cambridge United (CCC1/1)	1-1	3,520	-	Miller	McDermott	Nicholson	Sneekes	Mardon	Murphy	Flynn	Butler
Sat 16	Crewe Alexandra	3-2	5,234	2	Miller	Holmes	Nicholson	Sneekes	Mardon	Murphy	Flynn	Butler
Sun 24	Wolverhampton Wanderers	1-0	21,511	2	Miller	Holmes	Nicholson	Sneekes	Mardon	Raven	Flynn	Butler
Wed 27	Cambridge United (CCC1/2)	2-1	10,264	-	Spink	Holmes	Nicholson	Sneekes	Mardon	Raven	Flynn	Butler
Sat 30	Ipswich Town	1-1	13,508	3	Miller	Holmes	Nicholson	Sneekes	Mardon	Raven	Flynn	Butler
<b>September</b>												
Wed 3	Stoke City	0-0	17,500	3	Miller	Holmes	Nicholson	Sneekes	Burgess	Raven	Flynn	Butler
Sat 6	Reading	1-0	15,966	1	Miller	Holmes	Nicholson	Sneekes	Burgess	Raven	Flynn	Butler
Sat 13	Queens Park Rangers	0-2	14,399	3	Miller	Holmes	Nicholson	Sneekes	Burgess	Raven	Flynn	Butler
Tue 16	Luton Town (CCC2/1)	1-1	3,437	-	Miller	Holmes	Smith	Sneekes	Burgess	Raven	Coldicott	Hamilton
Sat 20	Swindon Town	0-0	16,287	3	Miller	McDermott	Smith	Sneekes	Burgess	Raven	Flynn	Butler
Tue 23	Luton Town (CCC2/2)											
Sat 27	Bury											
<b>October</b>												
Sat 4	Oxford United											
Sat 11	Manchester City											
Sat 18	Portsmouth											
Wed 22	Nottingham Forest											
Sat 25	Sheffield United											
<b>November</b>												
Sat 1	Bradford											
Tues 4	Norwich City											
Sat 8	Charlton Athletic											
Sat 15	Port Vale											
Sun 23	Birmingham City											
Sat 29	Middlesbrough											
<b>December</b>												
Sat 6	Stockport County											
Sat 13	Sunderland											
Sat 20	Huddersfield Town											
Fri 26	Reading											
Sun 28	Stoke City											
<b>January 1998</b>												
Sat 3	FA Cup 3											
Sat 10	Tranmere Rovers											
Sat 17	Crewe Alexandra											
Sat 24	FA Cup 4											
Tues 27	Ipswich Town											
Sat 31	Wolverhampton Wanderers											
<b>February</b>												
Sat 7	Swindon Town											
Sat 14	Queens Park Rangers											
Tues 17	Oxford United											
Sat 21	Bury											
Tues 24	Portsmouth											
Sat 28	Manchester City											
<b>March</b>												
Tues 3	Charlton Athletic											
Sat 7	Bradford City											
Sat 14	Norwich City											
Sat 21	Port Vale											
Sat 28	Birmingham City											
<b>April</b>												
Sat 4	Middlesbrough											
Sat 11	Stockport County											
Mon 13	Sunderland											
Sat 18	Huddersfield Town											
Sat 25	Sheffield United											
<b>May</b>												
Sun 3	Nottingham Forest											
Sat 16	FA Cup Final											

Away matches in red. Goal scorers shown with a ● with number of goals scored. Substitutes used and the player replaced have either ■ ◆ or ▲ after them.



## WEST BROMWICH BUILDING SOCIETY

### CALLING ALL ALBION PREMIER SAVER ACCOUNT HOLDERS

Win a VIP day for two at The Hawthorns when Albion play  
Huddersfield Town on December 20.

The VIP day includes: ★ a tour of the ground ★ a meal in the Sponsors Lounge ★  
meeting the players ★

All you have to do is answer these three simple questions and send your answers  
on a postcard to Tom Cardall in the Commercial Department.

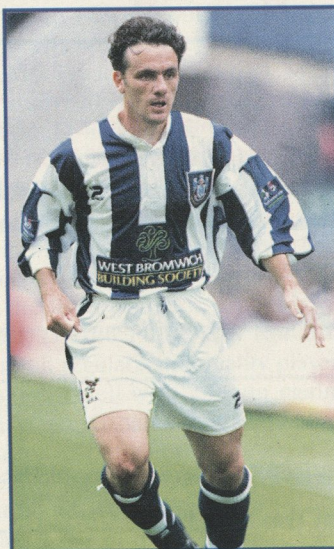
1. Name West Bromwich Albion's last three managers, before Ray Harford.
2. John Wile has recently returned to The Hawthorns as Chief Executive, but how many seasons did John actually play for the Baggies?
3. Name the Albion goalscorers when they beat Port Vale in the final of the Division Two play-offs in 1993.

Three correct entries will be drawn on the pitch at  
the half-time break of our game against Birmingham  
City on Sunday, 23 November.

All entries to be received by Monday, 17 November.

**THANKS TO ALL PREMIER SAVER  
ACCOUNT HOLDERS FOR THEIR  
SUPPORT OF WEST BROMWICH  
ALBION**

Watch out for more Premier Saver competitions in  
the future.



albion statistics

9	10	11	12	13	14
Peschisolido ▲	Hunt	Kilbane ◆	Hamilton	Coldicott ◆	Hughes ▲
Peschisolido	Hunt	Kilbane	Hamilton	Spink	Dobson
Peschisolido ▲	Hunt	Kilbane	Hamilton	Smith	Hughes ▲
Peschisolido ▲	Hunt	Kilbane	Hamilton	Dobson	Hughes ▲
Peschisolido	Hunt	Kilbane	Hamilton	Dobson	Hughes ▲
Taylor	Hunt	Kilbane	Hamilton	Smith	Coldicott
Taylor	Hunt	Smith	Thomas	Dobson	Hamilton
Taylor	Hunt	Smith	Thomas	Dobson	Hamilton
Thomas	Hunt	Smith	Kilbane	Dobson	Hamilton
Taylor	Hunt	Kilbane	Dobson	Spink	McDermott
Taylor	Hunt	Kilbane	Dobson	Peschisolido	Coldicott

Happy 11th Birthday  
**MATTHEW  
GUNN**  
With love from all of  
the family

Congratulations  
**ON YOUR  
MARRIAGE -**  
Even though we had to miss  
the Swindon game!  
Love Karen, Dave, Amanda  
(bridesmaid) & Andrew

Surprise!  
**SARAH  
HOPKINSON**  
Congratulations on your  
21st Birthday. Lots of love  
from Mom, Dad & Rachael  
XXX

Happy Birthday  
**GRAHAM  
BIGGS**  
With love from the  
Boing, Boing Biggs'

## CLASSIFIED ADS

The Club Shop require a  
part-time member of staff  
to work 15 hours per week,  
12.00pm to 3.00pm, Tuesday to  
Saturday.  
Please apply in writing to  
**D. Judge at the Club Shop.**

CCC = Coca Cola Cup. FAC = FA Cup. ' = Own Goal.

## NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

Up to and including Sunday, 21st September 1997

	Home						Away						Pnts
	PP	WW	DD	LL	FF	AA	WW	DD	LL	FF	AA		
Nottm Forest	8	3	0	1	10	4	2	1	1	2	1	16	
Swindon	8	2	2	0	5	2	2	1	1	4	3	15	
West Brom	8	3	1	0	4	1	1	2	1	4	5	15	
Bradford	8	2	2	1	6	8	2	0	1	6	5	14	
Sheff Utd	6	3	0	0	5	1	1	2	0	4	2	14	
Charlton	7	3	0	0	9	4	1	1	2	6	5	13	
Sunderland	8	2	1	1	7	4	2	0	2	6	5	13	
Birmingham	7	2	0	1	5	1	2	1	1	7	5	13	
QPR	7	2	1	0	4	1	2	0	2	6	9	13	
Wolves	8	2	2	0	8	4	1	1	2	3	5	12	
Middlesbro	6	2	0	1	5	3	1	2	0	5	3	11	
Port Vale	8	2	1	1	6	4	1	1	2	3	5	11	
Bury	8	1	3	0	3	2	1	2	1	5	6	11	
Stoke	7	1	1	1	3	3	2	1	1	4	4	11	
Norwich	8	1	0	3	1	8	2	1	1	5	6	10	
Portsmouth	7	2	1	1	8	6	0	1	2	3	5	8	
Tranmere	8	2	0	2	8	6	0	1	3	3	6	7	
Oxford Utd	8	2	0	2	7	5	0	0	4	5	10	6	
Stockport	8	1	3	0	6	3	0	0	4	4	8	6	
Man City	7	0	2	1	4	5	1	1	2	6	7	6	
Crewe	7	0	0	4	5	9	2	0	1	5	4	6	
Ipswich	6	1	1	1	5	5	0	2	1	3	4	6	
Reading	8	1	0	3	3	7	0	1	3	1	11	4	
Huddersfield	7	0	2	2	3	5	0	1	2	1	6	3	

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Fax: 0121 323 2235

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albion statistics



# SENIOR


## albion v luton

<b>Alan Miller</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Andy Dibble</b>
<b>Andy McDermott</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Gavin McGowan</b>
<b>David Smith</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Richard Harvey</b>
<b>Richard Sneekes</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Gary Waddock</b>
<b>Daryl Burgess</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Steve Davis</b>
<b>Paul Raven</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Marvin Johnson</b>
<b>Sean Flynn</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Phil Gray</b>
<b>Ian Hamilton</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Paul McLaren</b>
<b>Bob Taylor</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>David Oldfield</b>
<b>Andy Hunt</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Stuart Douglas</b>
<b>Kevin Kilbane</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Sean Evers</b>

**12**

**13**

**14**

 Phil Richards commenced his Refereeing career in local parks football in the Liverpool area back in 1973. He became a Linesman in the Northern Premier League in 1977, getting on to the Referees List in 1982. From there he got on to the Football League's Linesmans List in 1987, finally getting on to the Referees List in 1996. Phil enjoys keeping fit, spending time with his family and gardening.



*Mr K. J. Hawkes  
(yellow flag)*

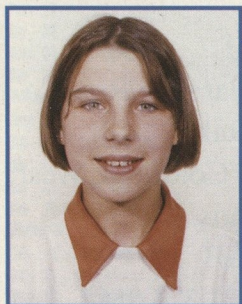


*Mr I. D. Shaw  
(red flag)*

*Reserve official:  
Mr I. W. Norton*

### tonight's mascot

Siobhan Connolly will be leading the Baggies out this evening. She is 14 years of age and attends Hagley R.C. High School. Her favourite player is Richard Sneekes.



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