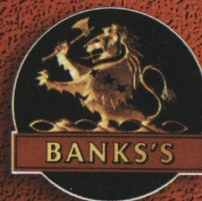


# *the* **saddler**

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**Official Matchday Magazine of Walsall F.C.**



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*versus*  
**LUTON TOWN**

**Tuesday,**  
**20th February 2001**  
**Kick-off: 7.45pm**

**Nationwide League Division Two**





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## PLAYER'S POT-POURRI



Youngster, Mark Wright tells us his favourites....

**Favourite colour?**

Red.

**Favourite food and drink?**

Chicken & rice and water.

**Favourite newspaper?**

The Sun.

**Favourite book?**

David Beckham's autobiography.

**Favourite group/singer?**

No favourite group, but I enjoy garage music and soul.

**Favourite team-mate?**

Karl Hawley - we have progressed through the Centre of Excellence, youth team and reserves together.

**Favourite item of clothing?**

My trainers.

**Favourite film?**

The Shawshank Redemption.

**Favourite actor?**

Samuel A. Jackson.

**Favourite TV programme?**

Match of the Day.

**Favourite place?**

My home in Wolverhampton.

**Favourite away ground?**

Highbury.

**Favourite day of the week?**

Saturday - when we are playing football.

# manager's corner

**Ray Graydon reflects on a battling comeback at Bournemouth and looks forward to two home games in quick succession....**

Good evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to Bescot Stadium as we face the first of two home games in quick succession against a fast-improving Luton Town outfit. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone connected with our visitors who has made the journey to be with us here tonight. The recent arrival of Joe Kinnear has given the whole club a much-needed lift and they have been in exceptional form since his arrival at the helm with three consecutive victories.

## Difficult Task

I watched them win at Notts County and it is fair to say that they looked more like promotion contenders than relegation battlers, such was the confidence that is currently running throughout the team. It is all a very different story from just a few weeks ago and we can expect a very difficult task on our hands tonight.

As for ourselves, after the huge disappointment that we all felt following the home defeat at the hands of Bury, we decided to take ourselves away for a couple of days of sunshine at Bournemouth and

after going two goals down at Dean Court I thought that our second half response was excellent as we clawed our way back to grab

an extremely hard-earned point against another improving team.

I was delighted for Darren Byfield; he did not have a particularly easy week in the build up to the game, attending a family funeral and only travelling down to link up with us on the south coast on the Friday. However, he came on full of determination and got his reward by heading home his second goal of the week after netting a similar effort for the reserves last Wednesday.

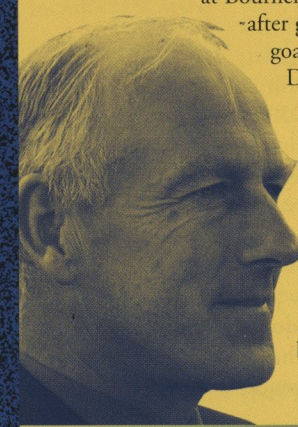
## Strong Position

There is another tough game in prospect on Saturday as we play host to Wrexham, but one glance at the current League table will tell you that we are still very much in a strong position and if we can make a swift return to the home form that I know we are capable of then we can strengthen that position over the next few days.

The backing and support which we received at Bournemouth was excellent and a vital ingredient in our comeback, so we will be looking for more of the same not only this evening but for the rest of the vital run-in to the end of the season which lies ahead. I know that you can do it....

Best Wishes,

*Ray Graydon*





# Bescot beat

all the latest Club news with Roy Whalley

## All-Ticket' Decision on Millwall game

Our home game against Millwall on Saturday, March 31st has all the makings of a crucial promotion encounter. It is a game that looks certain to attract a big crowd, and that includes large travelling contingent from Millwall. After consultations with West Midlands Police, we have decided to make this game an 'all-ticket' affair. Tickets for the home sections are now on sale from the Bescot Stadium Ticket Office and The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre at usual first-team prices. Please note that on instructions from West Midlands Police, no tickets will be sold on the day of the game and there will be no cash turnstiles.

## Coin throwing' could spell trouble

The 'coin throwing' incident towards the end of the Bury match on February 10th made what had already been a miserable afternoon even worse. What on earth possesses people to do such stupid things?

It was plain for all to see that the Bury goalkeeper spent the afternoon wasting time without receiving any kind of reprimand from the referee. I have also received reports from stewards that the Bury 'keeper made obscene gestures towards fans on the Gilbert Alsop terrace. These factors, it has been argued, incited the crowd to behave in this aggressive manner. The view of the club is quite simple. No matter what the circumstances, or the provocation; coin throwing can never be justified. The referee will report the incident to The Football Association who, in turn, has powers to impose a fine on the club. Worse still, throwing coins can cause major injury. Let me make clear, if we can identify who was responsible for throwing those coins they will be banned from attending matches here at Bescot Stadium, and we will pass on the information to West Midlands Police for possible criminal prosecution. The club has shown in the past its willingness to come down hard on spectators who behave in an unacceptable

manner, and will continue to do so in the future.

## Keep your Bournemouth ticket safe

Those supporters who travelled to Bournemouth on Saturday should retain their ticket stubs from this game to give themselves a chance of obtaining tickets for the trip to Northampton for the last match of the season on Saturday, May 5th. Priority for the Northampton game will be given to season-ticket holders with a specified number of away ticket stubs, followed by season-ticket holders without ticket stubs and finally to non season-ticket holders with a specified number of away ticket stubs.

## Cup action tomorrow

We travel to Moor Green for a Birmingham Senior Cup fourth round tie tomorrow evening (kick-off 7.30pm).

## More home action this Saturday

There is more Nationwide League action here at Bescot Stadium



this coming Saturday, February 24th (kick-off 3.00pm), with the visit of Wrexham.

## 50/50 Draw

Results from the game against Bury on February 10th are as follows:  
1st Prize - £182.95p - No.: 1503 - Winner: Paul Whitehouse, Darlaston.  
2nd Prize - £25.00p - No.: 0505 - Winner: Tim Dowie, Tamworth.  
3rd Prize - £25.00p - No.: 0302 - Winner: John Cooper, Walsall.  
The competition continues today. Tickets are £1.00p each and will be on sale both inside and outside the stadium before the game. Results will be announced at half-time, and winnings can be collected from the Reception Office immediately after today's game.

## Walsall on the Worldwide Web [www.saddlers.co.uk](http://www.saddlers.co.uk)

The fastest growing form of communication that the club now has with supporters is undoubtedly via the Official Walsall FC web-site - [www.saddlers.co.uk](http://www.saddlers.co.uk). Over 5,000 visits are made each week, and the quality of the site now ranks with any club in the country. We have live match commentary (thanks to Walsall Invest and BBC Radio WM), all the very latest news and information direct from Bescot Stadium, match

reports within half-an-hour of the final whistle at all home games, player profiles, Centre of Excellence news, Community Programme news, club history and lots more.

## Have you registered for the QuizMatch?

The newest and most exciting addition to the Official Walsall FC web-site is QuizMatch. This is a fantastic FREE new football trivia game. You can test your knowledge and represent your club on-line against other clubs.

So what is it all about? There are 11 questions and 1,200 points to be won. The questions range across the World of football and will test the knowledge of every football fan. If you get over 950 points whenever you play, you'll win a place in The QuizMatch Champions League every Friday which gives you the chance to win some superb prizes. Every time you compete your points will go towards your club. The more points you win, the higher Walsall will rise in the table. Since there will be promotion and relegation, every week Walsall has the chance to take the top spot. So get on to the Official Walsall FC web-site - [www.saddlers.co.uk](http://www.saddlers.co.uk) and get playing....

## Remember to use Walsall ClubCall - 09068-555 800

For all the very latest news and information from Bescot Stadium, ring Walsall ClubCall on 09068-555 800. Stay on the ball with Walsall ClubCall!

## A Warm Welcome to our Match Sponsors - Hallmark Cars Ltd.

Like the Royal Navy, Walsall FC always travels first class. And the reason for that is because the club employs one of the most prestigious coach companies in the country, Hallmark Cars Ltd. to provide first-team travel to away matches. They provide a similar service for a number of Premiership and first division clubs, and provide coach transport for all the major sporting tournaments staged in Britain, including Euro '96. Hallmark, based in Luton, but with a local branch at Coleshill, provide an executive standard of travel that ranks amongst the finest in the country. We appreciate the service they provide, for Walsall FC, and the support they are giving to our



Here we see our Matchday Mascot for the LDV Vans Trophy tie against Wigan Athletic last month alongside one of his Walsall FC heroes, Darren Wrack.

commercial activities tonight as Match Sponsors. We hope that our guests from Hallmark have an enjoyable and pleasant evening here at Bescot Stadium.

## A Warm Welcome to our Matchball Sponsors - Banks's Brewery

Welcome back to Nigel Buet and his guests from Banks's Brewery, this evening's Matchball Sponsors. No need to provide an introduction for Banks's. Club sponsors, shirt sponsors, stadium advertisers, match sponsors and the suppliers of the best pint of beer in the UK - that's Banks's! Have a great time tonight, lads!

Thank you for your support. Enjoy the game....

Roy Whalley

## Walsall Football Club Limited

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FAX: 01922-613 202

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Mick Kearns  
(Community Liaison Officer)

Hello. Nice to see you...

After the disappointments of our last game here it is important that we can bounce straight back with a win against a Luton Town side who have struggled for much of the season.

With another home game following hot on the heels of this one on Saturday we have an ideal opportunity to pick up vital points.... Let's hope that we can do it!

As ever, your backing is going to play a key role so I hope to hear you all in good voice straight from the first whistle to the last.

Until next time!



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# swifty's chit-chat



### RAILTRACK SIX-A-SIDE

Pool Hayes and St. Thomas of Canterbury Junior Schools are the latest qualifiers in the Railtrack-sponsored six-a-side competition for Junior School's in the Walsall area. Congratulations go out to all involved there.

### JUNIOR SADDLERS AWAY DAY

The next Junior Saddlers Away Day is to Meadow Lane, home of Notts County, on Saturday, March 3rd. Please see the notice board in The Junior Saddlers Room for further details.

### WALSALL FC FEBRUARY HALF-TERM SOCCER SCHOOL

This week we are again holding our very successful Soccer School's. There are still a few places left on the two-day Soccer School that takes place right here at Bescot Stadium on

Thursday, February 22nd and Friday, February 23rd. The cost will be £15.00p per child, with discounts available for family bookings – please call 01922-644 742 for details.

The Soccer School runs from 10.00am until 3.00pm daily, and all children attending receive: \* Expert coaching, \* Certificate of attendance, \* Mini World Cup competition, \* Penalty shoot-out competition where the winners get the opportunity to take part in the Grand Final on the Bescot Stadium pitch at half-time during a future League game, \* The chance to meet the Walsall FC players.

All applicants between the age of six and 14 will be accepted onto the courses unless notified otherwise, although please be aware that a maximum of 80 places are available.

To book your place please send your name, age, address and telephone number to Mick Kearns, Walsall FC Community Programme, Bescot Stadium, Walsall WS1 4SA (all cheques etc. are to be made payable to Walsall FC Community Programme).

You will need to bring with you the correct footwear and appropriate clothing (trainers only on the astro-turf pitch), shin pads and a packed lunch and plenty of drinks to last the day.

### Swifty's Lucky 7

Swifty puts members of The Junior Saddlers under the spotlight...



- Name**  
Amy Bills
- Age**  
11
- School:**  
Shelfield Community School
- Favourite Walsall Player:**  
Dean Keates
- Favourite TV Show:**  
Friends
- Favourite Pop Star/Group**  
Sive
- Favourite food:**  
Chicken curry



**CALDMORE AREA  
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## junior saddlers gallery

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY:



Prior to our last home game against Bury, young Harry Boniface was on the pitch to receive a signed Walsall FC football from his hero James Walker as part of a Birthday Treat

**Saddlers on the Net – [www.saddlers.co.uk](http://www.saddlers.co.uk)**







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## THE GREAT WALSALL FC YOUTH DEVELOPMENT WEATHER GAME - LATEST RESULTS AND WINNERS

Results for the week commencing Monday, February 5th are as follows:

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
Corfu	2	3	1	9	9
Istanbul	6	0	4	2	9
Tenerife	0	8	8	2	0
Innsbruck	1	9	1	7	5
Edinburgh	4	4	5	9	9
Stockholm	7	9	8	1	9

The Great Walsall FC Weather Game is operated to raise funds for the Youth Development Programme. For just 20p per day, five days per week, you have the chance to win a £10,000 prize, with lots of other prizes ranging from £2.00p to £200. If you would like to join the competition, entry forms are available from Bescot Stadium, The Football Shop, or simply by calling Gemma on 01922-651 412.

The latest list of winners includes: Mrs Farmer (Kingswinford), Mr. D. Causton (Wolverhampton), Mr. I. Whale (Aldridge), Mr. M. Aulton (Brownhills), Mr. M. Taylor (Lichfield), Mr. P. J. Griffiths (Wednesfield), Mr. R. Langford (Dudley), Mr. S. Dutton (Clayhanger), Mr. D. Vale (Brownhills), Mrs. R. Birch (Pelsall), Mrs V. Wain (Mossley Estate), Mr. K. Shaw (Dudley), Mr. B. C. Varley (Sutton Coldfield).

### ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME JOB?

Are you looking for a part-time income? Offering very good commission, with unlimited earnings potential, and holiday incentive prizes when you hit your sales targets. Interested? We would like you to sell The Great Weather Game to family and friends. You will be doing a very important job for Walsall FC, and giving yourself the chance to earn a good income

### FORMER SADDLERS STARS JOIN ALLAN CLARKE AT BESCOT ON THURSDAY

It will be a tremendous night of nostalgia in The Bonser Suite this Thursday evening. Former Walsall starlet Allan Clarke is celebrity speaker, along with Frank Worthington and comedian Don Reid. In the audience will be an array of former Saddlers stars including Mick Kearns, Brian Caswell, Colin Harrison, Tony Richards, Colin Taylor, Frank Gregg, Stan Jones, Jimmy McMorran and Alan Roper, plus the man who brought Allan Clarke to Walsall FC, former Chief Scout Ron Jukes.

A big audience is assured and any remaining spaces can be reserved by telephone on 01922-651 412. Tickets cost £27.50p per person, inclusive of a five-course meal.

### 'BIG JACK' NEXT FOR BESCOT

Former England 1966 World Cup winning hero and Republic of Ireland manager, Jack Charlton OBE is celebrity speaker at our Sporting Dinner on Thursday, March 29th, together with that great comedian Mick Walker.

Tickets are £30.00p each, inclusive of a five-course meal, and reservations can now be made on 01922-651 414

### CABARET NIGHT NEWS....

Full houses have enjoyed tremendous Cabaret Night's in The Bonser Suite during the past two weeks featuring The Syd Lawrence Orchestra and Singers, and then on Saturday The American Drifters provided a great night's entertainment.

The next Cabaret Night, on Friday, March 2nd, features Gary Gibson as John Lennon in 'A Tribute to John Lennon'.

Gibson, who bears an uncanny resemblance to Lennon, and the

# commercial break

'Anthology of The Beatles' Band, will provide the music and songs which made Lennon such a giant figure in the World of showbusiness. Tickets are £10.00p for the show, or £20.00p to include a four-course meal.

Then on Friday, March 23rd The Bonser Suite stages a Black Country Laughter Show, with Tommy Mundon, Lizzie Wiggins and Maggie O'Hara.

Again tickets are £10.00p for the show or £20.00p to include a delicious four-course meal.

Reservations for both show's can be made on 01922-651 414 or 01922-651 416, or by calling into The Bescot Stadium Ticket Office or The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre.

### AMERICAN WRESTLING BACK AT BESCOT!

American Wrestling has a huge TV following in the UK, and if you want to see some of these stars in action, why not come along to see live American Wrestling in The Bonser Suite on Sunday, March 11th. The show starts at 6.00pm and there is two hours of non-stop action for this great family night out. Tickets are £10.00p (adults), £8.00p (juniors) or £25.00p for a Family Ticket (two adults and two children), and they are now on sale from Bescot Stadium and The Football Shop in Walsall Town Centre. Alternatively you can book by telephone on 01922-651 416.

### PRESENTATION TIME

For our televised clash with Rotherham United towards the end of last month, our good friends at Caldmore Area Housing Association did the honours as Match Sponsors and hidden somewhere within their guests is Zigor Aranalde who presented a signed Walsall FC football (picture A). It was a particularly pleasing evening for our Spanish full-back who earned the Man of the Match prize of a bottle of bubbly (picture B). Zigor was also the main man in The Swifts Club as he took home their Man of the Match prize which, as ever, was a crate of Bank's (picture C).

And finally, we were delighted to have A&D Barton and Sons (Pelsall) Ltd. as our Matchball Sponsors, for which they picked up a signed Walsall FC football as part of the sponsorship package (picture D).





# Waiting in the wings



## Avon Insurance League Division One AS AT 15/02/01

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wrexham	15	9	1	5	29	19	28
WALSALL	14	8	3	3	20	14	27
Sheffield United	13	7	2	4	18	12	23
Blackpool	15	7	1	7	19	25	22
York City	13	6	2	5	20	14	20
Shrewsbury Town	13	6	2	5	24	20	20
Stoke City	15	5	3	7	16	19	18
Grimsby Town	13	5	2	6	14	16	17
Wigan Athletic	14	5	1	8	15	24	16
Scunthorpe United	14	3	5	6	21	26	14
Darlington	12	4	1	7	12	21	13
Lincoln City	11	3	3	5	25	23	12

## AVON INSURANCE LEAGUE 2000/2001 FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	F-A
Wed 16/8/00	York City (away)	1-1
Wed 30/8/00	Wigan Athletic (away)	3-2
Wed 6/9/00	Wrexham (away)	1-0
Wed 20/9/00	Lincoln City (home)	2-1
Wed 4/10/00	Blackpool (home)	2-0
Wed 11/10/00	Scunthorpe United (away)	1-4
Wed 25/10/00	Shrewsbury Town (away)	0-1
Wed 8/11/00	Grimsby Town (home)	1-1
Wed 15/11/00	Darlington (home)	3-0
Mon 20/11/00	Stoke City (away)	1-0
Wed 6/12/00	Sheffield United (home)	2-0
Wed 10/1/01	Wigan Athletic (home)	2-0
Wed 24/1/01	Sheffield United (away)	0-0
Wed 31/1/01	Bedworth United (away) (BSC 3)	3-0
Wed 14/2/01	Lincoln City (away)	1-4
Wed 21/2/01	Moor Green (away) (BSC 4)	
Wed 28/2/01	Blackpool (away)	
Wed 14/3/01	Scunthorpe United (home)	
Wed 28/3/01	Grimsby Town (away)	
Wed 11/4/01	Shrewsbury Town (home)	
Wed 18/4/01	Stoke City (home)	
Wed 25/4/01	Darlington (away)	
TBA	York City (home)	
TBA	Wrexham (home)	

All matches kick-off at 2.00pm and for the remainder of the season, home games will be played at the Victoria Ground, home of Bromsgrove Rovers FC.

**OYSTER**  
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on the verge

**NAME:** Dion Scott  
**POSITION:** Defender  
**RESERVE TEAM**  
**APPEARANCES:** 14  
**RESERVE TEAM GOALS:** 1

Fielding a very youthful side, The Saddlers made progress into the fourth round of the Birmingham Senior Cup after coming away from Dr. Martens Western Division Bedworth United with a solid 3-0 success.

In what was a competitive game our lads worked well and acquitted themselves superbly against a decent non-League outfit who, particularly in the first half, were keen to get about us in an attempt to throw our youngsters out of their stride.

### Credit

All credit to our lads who stood up to the challenge well, going in at the interval goalless before killing the game off with some good second half play.

Our first goal came from the penalty spot after Andy Bishop was fouled and he got up to dispatch the spot-kick with consummate ease. Bishop then doubled our advantage with his second goal of the evening as he anticipated a fine cross from the left by Xavier Barraud to nip in front of the 'keeper and give us a bit of a cushion.

### Comfortable

After the second goal we looked much more comfortable as the game petered out and we rounded

off our performance with a third goal following more good play down the left wing as the ball eventually reached Nick Smith who showed good control before turning sharply and beating the 'keeper with a decisive shot.

All in all we were delighted with the performance, especially considering that our side was very inexperienced. We now face a fourth round tie away at Moor Green, which should provide us with another stern test.

Walsall: Bate, Joseph, Teesdale, Hunt, Paschalis, Stanley, Smith, Campbell (Gaunt), Barraud, Bishop, Hawley. Sub not used: Wright.

*Mick Halsall*



## FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE 2000/2001 FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	F-A
Sat 19/8/00	Chesterfield (home)	4-1
Sat 26/8/00	Rotherham United (away)	6-1
Sat 2/9/00	Macclesfield Town (home)	3-1
Sat 9/9/00	West Bromwich Albion (away)	2-1
Sat 16/9/00	Mansfield Town (home)	2-0
Sat 23/9/00	Port Vale (away)	1-0
Sat 30/9/00	In Service Training	
Sat 7/10/00	Sheffield United (home)	3-8
Fri 13/10/00	Shrewsbury Town (home)	6-0
Sat 21/10/00	Notts County (away)	2-1
Sat 28/10/00	West Bromwich Albion (home)	1-1
Sat 18/11/00	Sheffield United (away)	3-0
Sat 25/11/00	Port Vale (home)	4-1
Sat 9/12/00	In Service Training	
Sat 16/12/00	Notts County (home)	3-0
Wed 20/12/00	Chester City (FLYA Cup)	3-1
Sat 23/12/00	Mansfield Town (away)	4-2
Sat 6/1/01	Macclesfield Town (FLYA Cup)	0-0
Sat 13/1/01	Chesterfield (away)	3-1
Mon 22/1/01	Shrewsbury Town (away)	3-1
Fri 26/1/01	Rotherham United (home)	4-1
Sat 10/2/01	Macclesfield Town (away)	2-0

All matches kick-off at 11.00am unless otherwise stated. Home games are played at the Birmingham County FA Ground, Ray Hall Lane, Great Barr.

## FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE - CENTRAL CONFERENCE

AS AT 11/2/01

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
WALSALL	18	16	1	1	56	20	49
Sheffield United	17	12	3	2	50	23	39
Notts County	17	6	5	6	40	27	23
Rotherham United	18	6	4	8	26	40	22
West Bromwich Albion	17	6	3	8	24	26	21
Chesterfield	17	6	3	8	25	36	21
Mansfield Town	18	5	4	9	22	31	19
Port Vale	17	4	5	8	22	34	17
Macclesfield Town	15	4	4	7	18	29	16
Shrewsbury Town	16	1	6	9	20	37	9

Walsall  
TEC Proud sponsors of the  
Walsall FC Youth team



A wet and windy Monday afternoon in Shrewsbury doesn't instantly evoke exciting images, but mention this to the Walsall FC youth team players and they will tell you differently as it was scene of our first, and hopefully not last, Championship success of the season as the young Saddlers clinched The Football League Youth Alliance - Central Conference title after leading the way for some time.

Going into the game we knew that at least a draw would be good enough to see us home and dry, however in difficult conditions our nerves seemed to get the better of us early on as we went a goal down to an ever improving Shrewsbury side.

### Pattern Of Play

Nevertheless we soon got into our stride, playing some excellent football and always looking as though we would score at some stage. Sure enough in the second half we eventually hauled ourselves level through Nick Smith and at this point there was only going to be one winner.

that we have scored in 16 League games, and now with two games still to play we can look forward to entering the Merit League where we will take the opportunity to look towards next season by fielding some of the lads who haven't had much of a chance so far and bringing in a number of potential new scholars.

### Team Effort

For the time being though, everyone involved with the youth team can be justifiably proud of their efforts so far. With 14 wins and just one defeat from 16 League games it really has been a team effort by all concerned. Walsall: Bate, Paschalis, Joseph, Gaunt, Hunt, Wright (Worley), Smith, Stanley, Barraud (Campbell), Bishop, Hawley (Caines).

*Mick Halsall*



*Stats It!*

**NAME:** Richard Teesdale  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** 9/3/83  
**POSITION:** Defender  
**LEAGUE APPS:** 17  
**LEAGUE GOALS:** 0  
**CUP APPS:** 5  
**CUP GOALS:** 0

**NEXT HOME MATCH - Wrexham on Saturday, February 24th**

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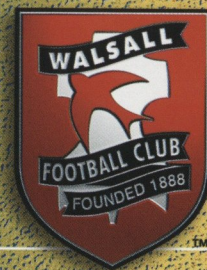
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Your 8-page guide to today's action



  
**State of Play**  
Setting the scene for  
today's game

  
**Dêja vu**  
Previous encounters  
with The Hatters

  
**The Wright Stuff...**  
Mark Wright  
talks to us

  
**Visiting Ours**  
We welcome  
Luton Town



# State of play

with Andy Poole

od evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to Walsall Stadium as we take on Luton Town side who have been finding some good form lately, whilst at the same time it is fair to say that we have stuttered and spluttered our way through the last few weeks. Nevertheless we mustn't lose sight of the fact that we are still handily placed in the table and there are many clubs within the division, Luton included, I would expect, who wouldn't mind swapping places with us at this moment in time.

remaining fixtures recently I was quite taken aback at just how few games are left. After tonight there are just six home games remaining, whilst of our seven games on the road, five are against sides who are currently in the top ten and have serious promotion hopes and aspirations whereas the other two see us head for Peterborough and Port Vale, always highly-charged affairs and with both sides battling it out at the wrong end of the table there could be even more spice added.

For the time being though we must turn all of our attentions to taking six points from these

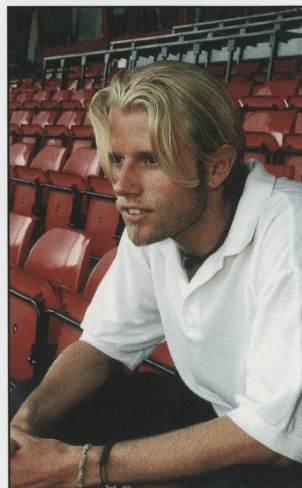
consecutive home games. At Bournemouth on Saturday that never-say-die spirit was in evidence yet again but the worrying aspect was that we had to go two goals down for it to jolt us into life. Okay, we got away with it this time but methinks that most of the sides we have to visit between now and the start of May won't be so forgiving. We need to rediscover that cutting edge which served us so well early on in the campaign.

After losing our proud unbeaten home League record in our last game here, it is imperative that we put the Bury debacle well and truly behind us and focus our minds on launching another unbeaten run. No matter what team you are or what League you play in it is always extremely difficult to go throughout an entire season without losing at home. Let's just hope that the Bury game was merely a minor blip and normal service will be resumed, starting this evening and continuing on Saturday

when mid-table Wrexham are our visitors.

As I stated earlier, we certainly need to be taking as many points from our home games as possible because we have some mighty tough away assignments to tackle over the next few months....

**Come on you Saddlers!**



# dêja vu

**Walsall FC Historian, Geoff Allman looks back at an exciting encounter against The Hatters....**

Walsall 3 Luton Town 2 – April 12th 1997  
We were still in the running for a play-off place when Luton came here for a second division clash back in April 1997, while our visitors were still battling it out with Bury and Brentford for one of the two automatic promotion spots. The Hatters were on something of a roll as they were undefeated in their previous six games but we had not helped our own cause by going down 2-1 at leaders Bury in midweek when Kevin Wilson was sent off for the one and only time in his career following an innocuous looking challenge.

5,415 fans – our second highest gate of the season – saw us take the lead in classic fashion after 19 minutes when John Hodge left his marker for dead and crossed perfectly for Kyle Lightbourne to rocket in a header that Tony Feuer pushed out only for Lightbourne to make no mistake from the rebound.

There was end-to-end action until a sudden flurry of goals early in the second half as Andy Kiwomya bent a free-kick round the wall to equalise in the 53rd minute and Graham Alexander set up Steve Davis to head Luton into the lead just two minutes later.

Back we came on the hour-mark as Lightbourne surged on to John Keister's through-ball to slide home past Feuer. Could we go on to win? The answer was soon provided by the busy Lightbourne who found Hodge unmarked on the edge of the penalty area and our star winger hammered home a great shot to cap a fine display by both players.

Sadly we went on to lose three of our last four games to slip to a final position of 12th while Luton ended up in third place

despite being unbeaten in their last five games, and ended up crashing to Crewe in the semi-final of the play-offs. Despite neither side going up at the end of the season they did provide all of those who were present with a memorable and highly entertaining game.

Walsall: Walker, Blake, Evans, Viveash, Butler, Mountfield, Watson, Keister, Lightbourne, Wilson (Roper), Hodge (Beckford).

Luton Town: Feuer, James, Thomas, Waddock (Guentchev), Davis, Johnson (Patterson), McLaren, Alexander, Oldfield (Fotiadis), Thorpe, Kiwomya.

Attendance: 5,415.

## THE BOY DONE WELL

Ray Wiggin was a young striker who had joined us from Rushall Olympic in the

summer of 1962 and had played some useful games during our brave but unavailing attempt to stay in Division Two. He had played only twice however in the first half of the 1963/64 season, but came good on what was a dull December afternoon as a crowd of just 3,863 – our lowest for nearly nine years – turned up for the visit of Luton Town, who had just come down with us from Division Two.

A new 'Saddlers Song' was launched before the kick-off though not many joined in the singing, but they roared on 21 minutes when Ken Hodgkisson put Wiggin through and the young striker flicked the ball neatly past former England goalkeeper Tony Baynham. Before half-time Baynham was scrambling again as a Trevor Foster cross ricocheted off defender Gordon Fincham and over the line before the 'keeper could get to it.

Early in the second period Wiggin's heading ability was tested and he came up trumps as

Hodgkisson's cross was just out of the reach of Baynham but perfect for Wiggin as he rushed in to power home.

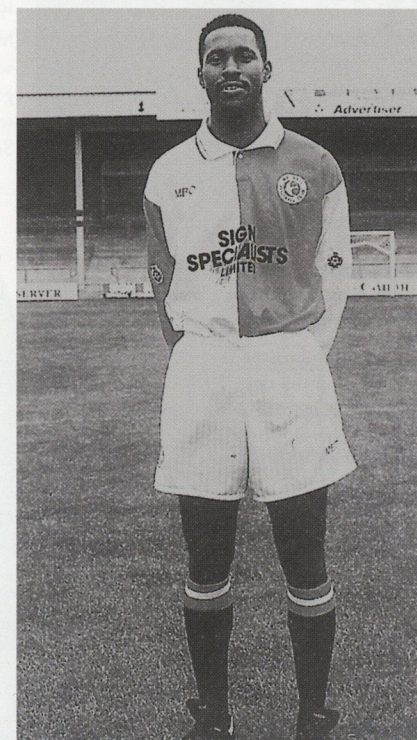
Later Trevor Foster proved that he too could head a ball as he dived to convert a George Meek cross to send us all home happy with a 4-0 success, singing the new 'Up, up The Saddlers' song in very good voice and speculating on whether we had uncovered another gem of a striker.

Unfortunately for Wiggin the season ended with him out of the team as we struggled to stay up. All in all he played only 19 first-team games and scored six goals, later returning to Rushall Olympic to give them many years' good service. Many of us who saw him on that December day back in 1963 will still claim that had he been with us at a different time in our history, Ray Wiggin might have made a more permanent contribution to the team, but the boy certainly 'done well' that day.

Walsall: White, Roper, Sharples, Palin, McPherson, Wills, Meek, Matthews, Wiggin, Hodgkisson, Foster.

Luton Town: Baynham, Morton, Bramwell, Pacey, Fincham, McGuffie, Fairchild, Smith, Turner, Reid, McKechnie.

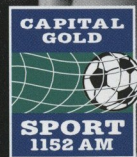
Attendance: 3,863.



Kyle Lightbourne – enjoyed a lively game against The Hatters back in 1997.

**Passionate about The Saddlers.**

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# on the pitch

## in conversation with Mark Wright



Mark Wright is one of the latest products of Walsall's impressive youth system to move into the professional ranks, and he is delighted to have been given his big chance by the club.

He only celebrates his 19th Birthday this Saturday, but already he has sampled the thrill of playing against a Premiership side and is delighted to have been given his big chance by the club.

It was on September 27th when Walsall visited Upton Park for the second leg of the Worthington Cup tie against West Ham United, trailing by just one goal from the first leg at Bescot.

Mark was sent on as a substitute about ten minutes from the end, with the score level at 1-1 and The Hammers hanging in desperately with The Saddlers going flat for another goal which would have levelled the tie on aggregate.

And the teenager was only a whisker away from becoming an overnight hero and headline grabber. His header was cleared off the line by a West Ham defender, just as the Walsall fans were roaring 'goal'!

Mark recalled: "I remember Pedro Matias putting over a cross and as their 'keeper came out the ball flew off my head and looked like going in, but someone kicked it off the line.

"I couldn't believe I was playing in such a big game, or that I was facing players

like Nigel Winterburn and Stuart Pearce - not to mention being on the same pitch as such stars as Paolo Di Canio, Frederic Kanoute and Joe Cole.

"The gaffer had told me I might be involved in the tie and I was naturally very pleased to be in the squad. When I heard I was on the subs bench I was a bit nervous, but not too much.

"I think it was a terrific performance by us and we really deserved to win the game. The Hammers were hanging on near the end when we hit the bar and forced a lot of corners."

Mark comes from a footballing family. His father, Evran, played for Walsall for a short time, and he is now turning out for Rushall Olympic. Mark's uncle Henry has been around the non-League scene in the Midlands for a very long time and is now also with Rushall Olympic.

### Men in Black

Mr. N. S. Barry

Commencing his refereeing career back in 1974, he progressed through the League's to get on to the National List of Referee's in 1993/94. In his spare time he is heavily involved in the training and education of referees



referee



Assistant referee  
J. R. Hubbard



Assistant referee  
J. T. Taylor

Fourth Official S. Castle



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Evran gave his son every encouragement in football as soon as the lad started playing seriously with Eastfield in Wolverhampton.

Mark went on to play for his junior school, East Park, operating up front and getting his fair share of goals. He was also selected to represent Wolverhampton Schools at Primary level.

Then it was on to Deansfield High School, Wolverhampton, and he played in the centre of midfield there.

It was Mark's dad who enrolled him in the Walsall FC Centre of Excellence as soon as he was old enough, but his progress was halted for a time when, at the age of 12, he was run over and broke his ankle. He explained: "I was running across the road in the school holidays to catch a bus, and I never saw the car that hit me. It caught my back leg, and I was out of action for over two months recovering from the fracture.

"But I was determined it would not interfere with my football once the injury had healed."

After leaving school Mark concentrated on his soccer at Bescot and was pleased to be taken on as a YTS trainee.

Last month things got even better when he was taken on as a professional, and he intends to work extremely hard to become a regular member of the first-team squad.

So, how does he rate Walsall's progress in Division Two: "We have a very good chance of winning promotion this season if we keep working hard and taking our chances," he said.

"We have some very tough away games on the horizon, but if we win them it will put us in a great position."

By Paul Marston,  
Birmingham Post & Mail.

### tale of the turf

	Walsall	Luton Town
Half Time Score		
Full Time Score		
Scorers		
Man of the Match		
Attendance		

### Walsall Squad List



- 1 James WALKER
- 2 Chris MARSH
- 3 Ian BRIGHTWELL
- 4 Tom BENNETT
- 5 Andy TILLSON
- 6 Ian ROPER
- 7 Darren WRACK
- 8 Darren BYFIELD
- 10 Dean KEATES
- 11 Brett ANGELL
- 12 Ronnie EKELUND
- 14 Jorge LEITAO
- 15 Zigor ARANALDE
- 17 Carl EMBERSON
- 18 Mark WRIGHT
- 19 Paul HALL
- 20 Gary BIRCH
- 21 Matthew GADSBY
- 22 Karl HAWLEY
- 23 Ian GAUNT
- 24 Dion SCOTT
- 25 Tony BARRAS
- 26 Gabor BUKRAN
- 27 Pedro MATIAS
- 28 Bryan SMALL
- 29 David HUNT

Key position red card goals  
 yellow card substitutions

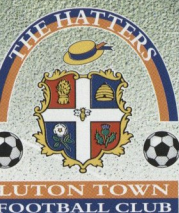
### Luton Town Squad List



- 1 Mark OVENDALE
- 2 Gavin MCGOWAN
- 4 Matthew SPRING
- 5 Julian WATTS
- 6 Marvin JOHNSON
- 7 Peter THOMSON
- 8 Paul McLAREN
- 9 Stuart DOUGLAS
- 10 Mark STEIN
- 11 Liam GEORGE
- 12 Adam LOCKE
- 13 Stuart FRASER
- 14 Andrew FOTIADIS
- 15 Matthew TAYLOR
- 16 Nathan ABBEY
- 17 Emmerson BOYCE
- 18 Tresor KANDOL
- 20 Peter HOLMES
- 21 André SCARLETT
- 22 Dean BRENNAN
- 23 Jude STIRLING
- 24 Scott WARD
- 25 Dean STANDEN
- 26 Friedrich BREITENFELDER
- 28 Rocky BAPTISTE
- 29 Kent KARLSEN
- 30 Petri HELIN
- 32 Lee MANSELL
- 33 Richard DRYDEN
- 39 Keith ROWLAND



# visiting Ours



## Luton Town

**Nickname:** The Hatters

**Year Formed:** 1885

## Home Turf

**Ground:** Kenilworth Road

**Pitch Measurements:** 110yd x 72yd

**Record Attendance:** 30,069

**Previous Ground(s):** Excelsior, Dallow Lane (1885), Dunstable Road (1897-1905)

## MARK OVENDALE

The arrival of a new board of directors at Kenilworth Road early last summer enabled former manager Ricky Hill to secure the services of the 26-year-old goalkeeper from AFC Bournemouth for a substantial fee. Previously with Northampton and Barry Town, he was immediately given the number one shirt but hasn't commanded a regular starting berth this term.

## PETRI HELIN

The Finnish International arrived in November 2000 to bring some much-needed experience and know-how to the squad. A number of clubs had been alerted to the midfielder's skill by his regular appearances for his country, including the winning of his 18th cap in the draw with England in the World Cup qualifying competition.

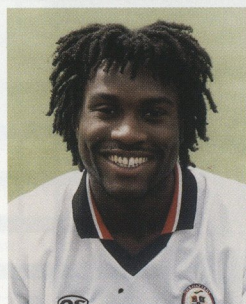
## IMMERSON BOYCE

One of the many players to emerge through the clubs youth development programme, the defender was signed as a YTS trainee in the summer of 1995, and made the breakthrough to the first-team last season after occasional appearances following his debut in an Auto Windscreens Shield tie against ourselves in January 1999.

## MATTHEW TAYLOR

When Luton were in receivership in the summer of 1999, players had to be sold or given away to save money, while severe restrictions were imposed on new recruits. So once more Luton had to look at the young talent coming up through the ranks, and at the age of just 17 this wing-back was given his chance, and immediately settled to become a regular in the team.

for the record						
The Saddlers' record against the Hatters						
League	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	17	10	2	5	39	16
Away	18	4	2	12	16	39
TOTAL	35	14	4	17	55	55



Stuart Fraser

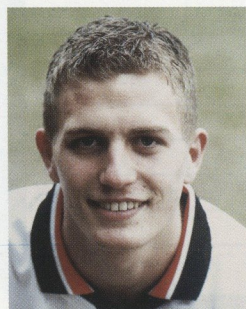
## STUART FRASER

A stylish defender and former skipper of the Luton youth team who was given his League debut on the final day of the 1997/98 season and within a year

was established as a regular and respected member of the first-team squad.

## LEE MANSELL

An injury crisis at Kenilworth Road thrust the young midfielder into a dramatic debut in the FA Cup. He had to make the transition straight from the youth squad to the first-team in January, and was an instant success. He was just 58 seconds into his debut against Queens Park Rangers, in an FA Cup third round replay, when he scored his first senior goal. He is typical of many of the boys Luton have brought through the ranks – the club have looked after him since he was an 11 year-old, and signed him as a soccer scholar (previously the YTS scheme) as soon as he left school.



Lee Mansell

## MATTHEW SPRING

A competitive midfielder, he was a driving force in the Luton side that reached the FA Youth Cup semi-finals in 1997, and after a League debut when still only 17 years of age, he soon became a regular face in the first-team.

## KEITH ROWLAND

The former Northern Ireland international midfielder has linked up with the club on a three-month loan agreement from Queens Park Rangers that began on January 27th. Capped 18 times by his country, Rowland began his career as a trainee at Bournemouth in 1989 and was sold to West Ham for £110,000 four years later. He

moved across London to Loftus Road in January 1998 and the hope is that his experience at a higher level will help The Hatters in their current plight.

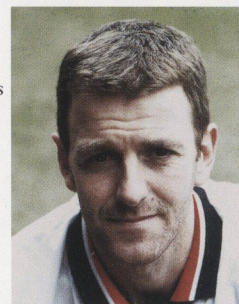
## PETER HOLMES

A member of the Sheffield Wednesday youth team under Ricky Hill, he was promptly snapped up when Hill took over the reins at Kenilworth Road. A product of the FA's School of Excellence, the two-footed midfielder was signed up for a nominal fee and his game is improving all of the time.

## FRIEDRICH BREITENFELDER

The lanky midfielder was one of many hopefuls who presented themselves for trials at Kenilworth Road before this season kicked off and after impressing during a number of trial games he was offered a contract. Starting his career with Rapid Vienna as a 15 year-old

schoolboy, he moved up through the ranks to win an occasional place in their first-team, but at the age of 18 he moved on to Casino Bregenz, before another Austrian club, FCM St Polten, signed him. It turned out to be an unlucky move as the club went out of business in March last year.



Keith Rowland

## LINK MAN

## DAVID PREECE

'Mini' Preece was the personification of the busy little midfield work-horse that every team needs in their engine room and he gave great service to both this evening's teams.

Born in Bridgnorth in 1963, he was one of the many outstanding discoveries by our former Chief Scout Ron Jukes. After a two-year apprenticeship he signed professional forms in July 1980 and made his Saddlers first-team debut in the following January, going on as substitute for Mark Rees in the 2-1 home win over Chester City.

He gained a regular place in the 1982/83 season, scoring goals at both Huddersfield and Wigan as he showed that he packed a powerful shot in addition to his skill on the ball and high work rate. He was a key figure in our run to the semi-final of the Milk Cup in 1983/84, running the midfield in the 2-1 triumph against Arsenal at Highbury and posing plenty of problems for Liverpool in the 2-2 draw at Anfield.

## STUART DOUGLAS

A striker with excellent pace, he was a 17 year-old trainee when he scored on his League debut against Oldham in 1995. After bursting onto the scene, he was hit by a series of injuries before he could establish himself in the first-team, but determination overcame all difficulties and he won a regular place in the side during the 1998/99 campaign, flourishing as a marksman and also a creator of chances for his front-line colleagues.

## LIAM GEORGE

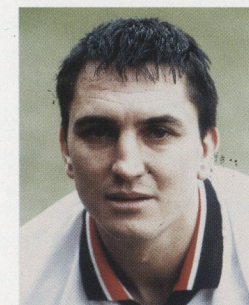
Full of pace and nimble footwork, the striker came through the ranks after joining his home-town club as a schoolboy, and he soon became a regular member of the Republic of Ireland squad that progressed to the European Youth Championship Final in the summer of 1998. Making his League debut in September 1997, he unfortunately suffered a broken leg soon afterwards. Completed his first full campaign in the League last season, in which he was the clubs leading scorer and also progressed to win Eire Under-21 honours.

## ANDREW FOTIADIS

Another local discovery, he chose to stay on at school before signing as a professional. He won England Schools caps at Under-15 and Under-18 level, and developed a style to delight Luton fans and worry opposing defences. An old-fashioned centre-forward, with good physique, power, and determination.

## MARK STEIN

Nearly 20 years after joining Luton as a schoolboy, the striker returned to Kenilworth Road in the summer to help out former team-mate Ricky Hill. Brother of Brian, another noted Luton striker, Mark had four years at Luton before enjoying a career as a popular goalscorer with QPR, Oxford, Stoke, Chelsea and Bournemouth. He was poised to join Swansea under the Bosman Ruling in the summer, but rapidly agreed to go "back home" when the call from Kenilworth Road came.



Richard Dryden

## RICHARD DRYDEN

The experienced defender answered the call from an old friend when Lil Fuccillo signed him on

a free transfer from Southampton at the start of the month. The two had been player and coach together at Birmingham City eight years previously. Started his career at Bristol Rovers before giving sterling service to Exeter City, which earned him a £250,000 move to Notts County. He then went on to serve the likes of Birmingham, Bristol City and Southampton. He also spent some time on loan at Stoke City last season, helping them win the Auto Windscreens Shield at Wembley.

## at the helm

**Name:** Joe Kinnear

**Appointed:** February 2001

**Previous Five Bosses:** David Pleat (1991-95), Terry Westley (1995), Lennie Lawrence (1995-2000), Ricky Hill (2000), Lil Fuccillo (2001)



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Football clubs everywhere are backing the Disasters Emergency Committee plea by leading aid agencies to meet the desperate shelter and welfare needs faced by Indian earthquake survivors.

Fans can make donations by calling 0870-606 0900 or logging on to the web-site [www.dec.org.uk](http://www.dec.org.uk). You can also send cheques (made payable to DEC India Earthquake Appeal) to the DEC India Earthquake Appeal, PO Box 999, London EC3A 3AA.



Any help that you can give will be much appreciated....

### CHELTEMHAM TOWN FOOTBALL PROGRAMME FAIR

There will be a Football Programme Fair at The Club House, Whadden Road, home of Cheltenham Town FC this coming Sunday, February 25th.

Doors open at 11.00am, with free admission and there will be plenty of football programmes and other memorabilia available from pre-War to present day.

For further details telephone 01793-831 094.


 The Bonser Suite at Bescot Stadium  
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**BRIDAL FAYRE**   
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Doors open at 7.00pm and close at 10.00pm, with  
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## information highway

The African Team of the Year for 2000 was Cameroon, gold medal winners at the Sydney Olympics. Pierre Lechantres' side, including the likes of Eto'o and Geremi (Real Madrid), Lauren (Arsenal) and Mboma (Parma) also achieved a 1-1 draw in Paris against World Champions France. In second spot were Nigeria, who lost only one game last year, while South Africa came third. All in all there were 46 placings (Djibartu took the wooden spoon) but six countries were not classified because they had played less than five games during the course of the year.

For the first time since the creation of the J-League in 1993, a Japanese club has won the treble. Kashimi Antlers had already clinched the League title and the League Cup when they met Shimizu S-Pulse in the Final of the Emperors Cup. A crowd of 53,000 turned out at the Tokyo National Stadium to see the Antlers win 3-2, a triumph for the all-Brazilian management team of Toninho, Cerezo and Zico. The new season in Japan will begin on March 3rd with the two sides meeting again in the Super Cup and the League will commence a week later.

Diego Maradona is in talks with his former club Napoli regarding a return to the club in some administrative capacity, possibly as an advisor with responsibility for the academy system. Maradona fancies himself as Director General of the club where he won two Championships, a UEFA Cup, Italian Cup and Italian Super Cup. There is talk of a 'Maradona Village' complete with restaurants and shops dedicated to the Argentine.... who knows, there may even be a Pharmacy!

Denilson de Oliveira, who was the World's most expensive footballer when he joined Real Betis from Sao Paulo for £21 million in 1998, has returned to the Spanish club. Now aged 23, the Brazilian International had been loaned to Rio outfit Flamengo for the whole of last season. He now finds Betis in the second division. Principally the reason for his return is that Flamengo were no longer able to guarantee his wages!

*Neil Morris*

### WEB SITE OF THE WEEK

**[www.eurosport.com](http://www.eurosport.com)**

If you have Cable or Satellite TV you will know this channel, famous for bringing Latvian tractor-pulling and the like to our screens. This site is heavily accented towards football and features all of the main European Leagues plus Champions League and UEFA Cup information. All in all a solid and decent mainstream site.

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# *supporters' club* **news**



### **WELCOME ONE AND ALL....**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all supporters to this evening's game, particularly those who have made the journey up from Luton. May I remind them that they are invited to join us in The Saddlers Club both before and after the game, where drinks and light snacks are available at reasonable prices.

### **MEMBERSHIP REMINDER**

Have you renewed your Saddlers Club Membership for the year 2001? If not, please collect your 2001 card from The Saddlers Club duty doorman, not forgetting to produce your old card when renewing.

Membership renewal prices have been pegged at £5.00p (£2.50p for senior citizens).

### **ATTRACTIONS AT THE SADDLERS CLUB**

Saturday, February 24th – 'Disco Nite' with Jason Paul Roadshow. Admission is £2.50p each, and the doors open at 8.00pm. Please note that this is an adults only event, with late bar.

Friday, March 2nd – The Buttles – Walsall's very own answer to The Beatles. Doors open at 8.00pm and there is a late bar. Admission is £3.00p.

### **AWAY TRAVEL**

Saturday, March 3rd – Notts County – Fare: £8.00p each – Departs Bescot Stadium at 12.00noon.

Tuesday, March 6th – Bristol City – Fare: £9.25p each – Departs Bescot Stadium at 4.55pm.

Usual pick-up points available.

Book this evening at The Supporters Club Travel Office, situated at the rear corner of The Saddlers Club, between 6.15pm and 7.30pm and after the match. We will also take bookings in The Saddlers Club foyer on Tuesday and Thursday evenings between 7.00pm and 9.00pm.

### **A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

On Saturday, March 17th we have the ever-popular Ivy League, supported by the award-winning Wayne Rivers and gorgeous vocalist Stephanie Louise. Tickets are now on sale at £8.00p each.

*Royston Randle / Bob Sadler*

## *female* **VOICE** Bianca Middleton

### **The first lady of Walsall Football Club has her say....**

I've decided that I detest playing Bury! Games we've played against them lately have been terrible and the results not much better either. I can't believe that Andy Preece's team have the satisfaction of doing the double over us this season – that really hurts, particularly as I felt we would go on and beat them once Darren Wrack bagged the equaliser. Gabby Bukran's sending off right on the stroke of half-time proved crucial and I was dreading us falling behind again as I knew how difficult it would be and so it proved in the end. Good riddance to them for this season at least!

It wasn't a very good few days for the club as we also saw our LDV

Vans Trophy hopes crash at Stoke. After doing so well to get past Wigan in the previous round, our youngsters couldn't do it again and were well beaten by a much more experienced side. Hopefully things will have been learnt from it, though. Young defender Ian Gaunt has certainly experienced a full range of emotions in his two games for the club. Firstly, he was on target with the last minute winner against Wigan following an impressive display and then he was red-carded at Stoke. He is sure to bounce back as he looks a highly promising player.

The matches remaining are starting to disappear fast so we

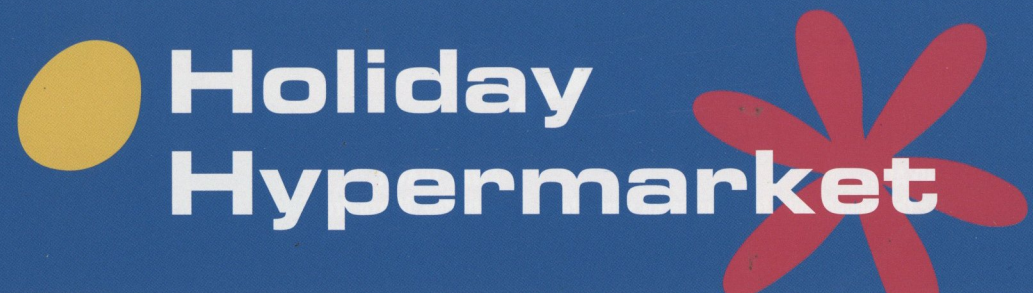
really need to start winning as many as we possibly can. Mark McGhee's Millwall don't appear to be slipping up very often and we must stay as close to them as we can. There are a number of clubs who could win automatic promotion still and I just hope that we are one of them. Let's keep our fingers crossed that we have got our bad patch out of the way and have a strong – and successful – dart to the finish line. It would be a lovely feeling to regain our first division place, particularly as we didn't deserve to go down last time. I suppose we had to lose at Bescot sometime, but it is vital that we get ourselves straight back on track, starting this evening when we play host to struggling Luton. There are no easy games and The Hatters are desperate for points for a very different reason to us. With another home game against mid-table Wrexham coming up

this Saturday nothing but six points, at this stage, will be good enough. We simply can't afford any more slip-ups like in our last game here. Finishing the season in the same way that we started it would do very nicely and just maybe we could then start planning our trips to Molineux and the like.... What an appetising thought that is!

## **CALLING ALL FEMALE SADDLERS!**

If you want to share your views with our Bianca on this page why not drop us a line at Female Voice, the Walsall FC Matchday Programme, Bescot Stadium, Bescot Crescent, Walsall WS1 4SA. Alternatively you can fax us on 01922-723 922. We will look forward to hearing from you....





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## today's the day

February 20th has been quite a lucky date for us and as our four defeats have all been away from home, we are defending an unbeaten home record tonight that dates back over 100 years. The first League match took place in 1926 although our three Birmingham League matches had produced one win and two draws in the years leading up to World War One.

Chesterfield were our first opponents and we cruised to an easy 3-1 win with the opposition even giving us an own goal. Centre forward Harry Crockford, who had once played for the visitors, scored the first and the other came from Bert White who had arrived at Fellows Park via Fulham, Blackpool and Arsenal.

Coincidentally our most recent game was also against The Spireites and took place at Bescot Stadium during our promotion campaign of 1998/99. Andy Rammell snatched his 17th goal of the season to secure a point but surprisingly he would only net three more goals in the remaining three months as we finished strongly to secure the runners-up spot in Division Two behind Fulham.

Our last win was 3-2 against Scunthorpe back in 1993. Wayne Clarke scored twice in what was a great year for him, whilst full-back Wayne Williams played his last game in our colours. Our only other post-War win had been achieved in 1971 when two goals from the on-loan Jimmy Seal had helped to sink Wrexham 3-1. Seal's goals that season were invaluable and probably ensured that we avoided relegation.

Draws have been achieved against Northampton (1990), Lincoln (1982), Swansea (1979) and Grimsby (1965), whilst our two post-War defeats have both been to London clubs as Fulham triumphed by two goals to nil in 1988 when we were in a run of six games without a win, but for the previous defeat we need to go back almost half a Century when Crystal Palace won a close game with the only goal being scored before a crowd of over 10,000.

Three players made their debut for us in the game, which was not surprising as Major Buckley used a total of 41 players in that 1953/54 season!

Our pre-War defeats were 3-0 at Brighton back in 1937 and a 3-1 set-back at Southend in 1929, with a 1-0 home win over Darlington sandwiched in between.

On this day in history, violent storms hit England in 1861 blowing the steeple off Chichester Cathedral. Lord

Mountbatten became the last Viceroy of India in 1947 and John Glenn became the first American to orbit the earth three times only 15 years later.

February 20th was also the birth date of the poet Voltaire and the founder of Britain's oldest ballet company the Ballet Rambert.

Nearer our own time, it is also the Birthday of Robert Altman, director of M.A.S.H. and Sydney Poitier, the first black actor to win an Oscar for Lilies of the Field (1963). The genial Jimmy Greaves is 61 today and many older supporters may well remember this £99,999 footballer ending up in the crowd during an FA Cup tie against Tottenham Hotspur at Fellows Park back in 1969.

Ian Crichton.



*Andy Rammell celebrates his goal against Chesterfield on this day in 1999.*

## February 20th

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10. Dean Keates  
30/6/78, 5'5", 10.6  
The Junior Saddlers

26. Gabor Bukran  
16/11/75, 5'11", 12.3  
Broadway Flowers, 202 The Broadway,  
Walsall 01922 725967

11. Brett Angell  
20/8/68, 6'2", 13.10  
Jive Records

27. Pedro Matias  
11/10/73, 6'0", 12.0  
Luke Tisdale

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*The Tales of Saddlers Fans Home and Away*

## DEEP SEA SADDLERS

Getting their Walsall shirts wet on a  
recent holiday to Mauritius are Pearl and  
Bill Jones of Sutton Coldfield.

Bill has been a Saddlers supporter for  
over 50 years, regularly following the  
club both home and away, and is a sea-  
son-ticket holder along with his children  
Simon and Amanda. Pearl meanwhile  
takes in the occasional game but was  
more than happy to pose in Walsall colours for this  
underwater walk.

There is a nice story behind this picture as it was lost  
along with the couple's other holiday snaps when they got  
mixed-up with someone else's, however thanks to the  
Walsall FC Matchday Programme all photo's were eventu-  
ally returned to their rightful owners.



## OVER TO YOU....

Barmy Army is the page which puts YOU in the picture.  
So, if your Walsall colours have been to some weird and  
wonderful places why not let us know about it. Likewise  
if you want to mark that special occasion for a Saddlers-  
supporting loved one this is the place to do it – FREE OF  
CHARGE! The contact details can be seen at the top of  
the page.... we will look forward to hearing from you all.

# away we go

OPPONENTS: Notts County

DATE: 3/3/01

KICK-OFF: 3.00pm

VENUE: Meadow Lane, Nottingham

ADMISSION: £13.00p (adults), £7.00p

(OAP's), £2.00p (juniors under the age of 16) – Seating only.

COACH FARE: £9.00p per person

DEPARTURE TIMES: 12.00 noon from Bescot Stadium and  
12.05pm from Bridgeman Street



OPPONENTS: Bristol City

DATE: 6/3/01

KICK-OFF: 7.45pm

VENUE: Ashton Gate, Bristol

ADMISSION: £14.00p (adults), £11.00p

(OAP's / students), £9.00p (juniors) –

Seating only.

COACH FARE: £10.00p per person

DEPARTURE TIMES: 4.30pm from Bescot Stadium and  
4.35pm from Bridgeman Street



There is some good news for all Saddlers fans  
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Travel West Midlands' 405 service has been  
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# the season so far

## ROLL CALL 2000/2001
















	LA	LG	CA	CG
James Walker	29 (1)	0	7	0
Chris Marsh	3 (2)	0	0 (2)	0
Ian Brightwell	30 (1)	0	7	0
Tom Bennett	24 (4)	1	3 (1)	0
Andy Tillson	32	0	7	2
Ian Roper	11 (4)	0	1 (3)	0
Darren Wrack	10 (13)	4	3 (2)	1
Darren Byfield	17 (14)	8	6 (3)	1
Dean Keates	13 (9)	4	5 (2)	0
Brett Angell	20 (12)	10	3 (3)	1
Ronnie Ekelund	2 (5)	1	1 (2)	0
Jorge Leitao	26 (5)	12	7	3
Ziggy Aranalde	31	0	7	0
Siggi Eijolfsson	0	0	0 (1)	0
Carl Emberson	3	0	2	0
Mark Wright	0 (3)	0	2 (1)	0
Paul Hall	28 (2)	5	6	1
Gary Birch	0	0	2	1
Matthew Gadsby	0 (1)	0	2	0
Alfie Carter	0 (1)	0	0	0
Karl Hawley	0	0	0 (2)	0
Ian Gaunt	0	0	2	1
Dion Scott	0	0	2	0
Tony Barras	21 (3)	0	7	1
Gabor Bukran	25 (4)	2	8	0
Pedro Matias	26 (4)	5	6	1
Bryan Small	0	0	2	0

## Nationwide League Division Two As at 19/02/01

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Millwall	31	11	1	4	35	11	9	3	3	27	18	64
Wigan Athletic	32	11	5	0	23	9	4	8	4	19	18	58
WALSALL	32	11	4	1	36	14	5	5	6	18	20	57
Stoke City	30	8	5	3	22	12	6	6	2	26	17	53
Rotherham United	29	8	4	3	30	18	7	4	3	18	16	53
Reading	29	11	3	2	43	16	4	3	6	14	19	51
Bristol City	30	9	3	4	37	19	5	6	3	15	11	51
Notts County	30	7	4	4	26	21	6	3	6	14	22	46
Northampton Town	31	5	5	4	16	15	6	4	7	17	21	42
Wycombe Wanderers	28	7	2	4	18	14	4	6	5	11	14	41
Bournemouth	29	4	6	4	19	16	6	4	5	28	21	40
Oldham Athletic	31	8	4	4	26	16	2	6	7	12	24	40
Brentford	30	5	6	3	18	19	4	6	6	14	22	39
Wrexham	29	6	4	5	17	18	4	4	6	22	27	38
Bury	30	7	4	5	17	17	4	1	9	12	23	38
Peterborough United	30	7	3	4	21	18	2	5	9	14	24	35
Colchester United	29	5	3	6	14	15	4	5	6	15	21	35
Cambridge United	31	5	5	6	22	19	4	3	8	17	30	35
Swindon Town	29	4	5	6	20	25	4	2	8	9	21	31
Port Vale	27	5	5	4	20	13	2	2	9	8	22	28
Bristol Rovers	27	0	8	4	8	15	5	4	6	20	17	27
Luton Town	29	4	1	9	18	27	3	5	7	18	28	27
Swansea City	28	3	6	4	14	13	2	3	10	16	34	24
Oxford United	29	3	2	10	14	21	1	0	13	17	44	14

Date	Opponents	F-A	Att.	Vis. Att.	Position	Referee
Sat 12/8/00	Rotherham United (away)	3-2	5,423	1,353	4	M. Jones
Sat 19/8/00	<b>OLDHAM ATHLETIC</b> (home)	3-2	5,952	921	2	G. Frankland
Tues 22/8/00	<b>KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS</b> (home) LC1:1	1-1	5,552	741	-	T. Bates
Sat 26/8/00	Swindon Town (away)	4-1	5,492	777	1	S. Tomlin
Tues 29/8/00	<b>OXFORD UNITED</b> (home)	3-2	5,678	413	1	P. Walton
Sat 2/9/00	<b>WIGAN ATHLETIC</b> (home)	2-0	7,156	1,255	1	R. Funnandiz
Tues 5/9/00	Kidderminster Harriers (away) LC1:2-	1-0	5,351	1,674	-	P. Dowd
Sat 9/9/00	Bury (away)	0-2	4,755	1,020	1	P. Joslin
Tues 12/9/00	Luton Town (away)	0-0	4,362	313	1	D. Elleray
Sat 16/9/00	<b>AFC BOURNEMOUTH</b> (home)	1-1	5,054	192	1	P. Richards
Tue 19/9/00	<b>WEST HAM</b> (home) LC2:1	0-1	5,435	606	-	S. Lodge
Sat 23/9/00	Wrexham (away)	1-0	3,766	838	1	M. Pike
Wed 27/9/00	West Ham (away) LC2:2	1-1	11,963	321	-	A. D'Urso
Sat 30/9/00	<b>NOTTS COUNTY</b> (home)	5-1	5,211	514	1	A. Leake
Fri 6/10/00	Colchester United (away)	2-0	3,428	314	1	M. Halsey
Sat 14/10/00	<b>BRISTOL CITY</b> (home)	0-0	6,576	1,318	1	E. Wolstenholme
Tues 17/10/00	<b>PETERBOROUGH UNITED</b> (home)	1-1	4,716	372	1	A. Kaye
Sat 21/10/00	Wycombe Wanderers (away)	1-3	5,564	857	1	M. Messias
Tues 24/10/00	<b>STOKE CITY</b> (home)	3-0	6,996	1,914	1	M. Ryan
Sat 28/10/00	Brentford (away)	1-2	4,007	471	2	C. Wilkes
Sat 4/11/00	<b>READING</b> (home)	2-1	7,772	1,901	1	H. M. Webb
Sat 11/11/00	Bristol Rovers (away)	0-0	7,540	593	2	P. Armstrong
Sat 18/11/00	<b>EXETER CITY</b> (home) F.A. Cup:1	4-0	4,095	419	-	D. Crick
Sat 25/11/00	<b>NORTHAMPTON TOWN</b> (home)	3-0	5,894	1,246	2	G. Laws
Sat 2/12/00	<b>PORT VALE</b> (home)	2-1	5,597	615	1	M. Clattenburg
Fri 8/12/00	<b>BARNET</b> (home) F.A. Cup 2	2-1	3,699	245	-	J.P. Robinson
Sat 16/12/00	Millwall (away)	0-2	11,737	492	3	D. Pugh
Sat 23/12/00	<b>CAMBRIDGE UNITED</b> (home)	3-1	5,277	371	2	M. S. Pike
Tues 26/12/00	Swansea City (away)	1-3	5,795	562	2	A. R. Leake
Sat 30/12/00	Oldham Athletic (away)	0-0	5,267	638	3	M. Jones
Mon 1/1/01	<b>SWINDON TOWN</b> (home)	1-0	5,548	506	2	R. J. Beeby
Sat 6/1/01	<b>WEST HAM UNITED</b> (home) F.A. Cup 3	2-3	9,402	1,914	-	A. P. D'Urso
Sat 13/1/01	Oxford United (away)	1-2	5,184	793	3	A. Kaye
Sat 20/1/01	<b>SWANSEA CITY</b> (home)	5-1	5,227	431	3	M. J. North
Tues 23/1/01	<b>ROTHERHAM UNITED</b> (home)	1-1	4,437	310	3	M. G. Cowburn
Sat 27/1/01	Cambridge United (away)	1-0	3,888	647	1	W. Jordan
Tues 30/1/01	<b>WIGAN ATHLETIC</b> (home) LDV T 2	2-1	3,436	105	-	A. Bates
Fri 2/2/01	Wigan Athletic (away)	1-1	9,586	917	1	A. N. Butler
Wed 7/2/01	Stoke City (away) LDV T 3	0-4	5,624	306	-	M. S. Pike
Sat 10/2/01	<b>BURY</b> (home)	1-2	4,839	357	3	G. Frankland
Sat 17/2/01	AFC Bournemouth (away)	2-2	4,564	483	3	R. Funnandiz
Tues 20/2/01	<b>LUTON TOWN</b> (home)					
Sat 24/2/01	<b>WREXHAM</b> (home)					
Sat 3/3/01	Notts County (away)					
Tues 6/3/01	Bristol City (away)					
Sat 10/3/01	<b>COLCHESTER UNITED</b> (home)					
Sat 17/3/01	Peterborough United (away)					
Sat 24/3/01	<b>WYCOMBE WANDERERS</b> (home)					
Sat 31/3/01	<b>MILLWALL</b> (home)					
Sat 7/4/01	Port Vale (away)					
Sat 14/4/01	Stoke City (away)					
Tues 17/4/01	<b>BRENTFORD</b> (home)					
Sat 21/4/01	Reading (away)					
Sat 28/4/01	<b>BRISTOL ROVERS</b> (home)					
Sat 5/5/01	Northampton Town (away)					

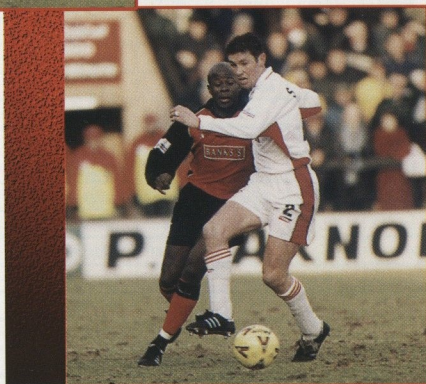
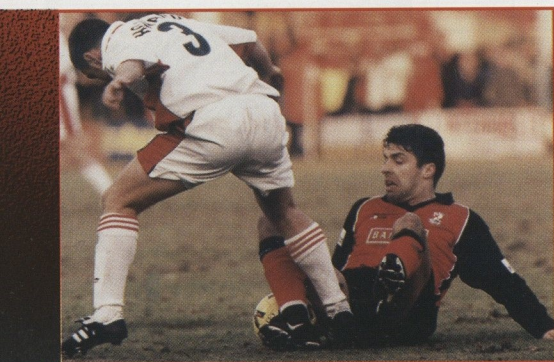
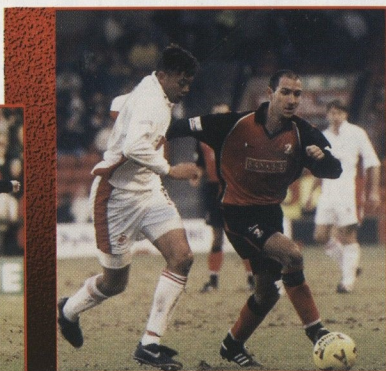
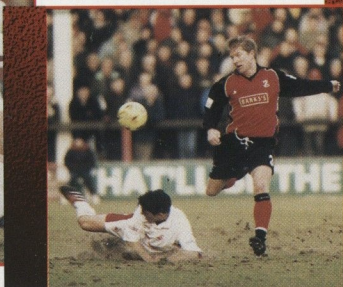
All matches Nationwide League Division Two unless stated. Goalscorers in CAPS Yellow cards Red cards Substitute/player substituted in same colour ▲ subs not used

															
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bennett	Bukran	Matias	ANGELL 2	Leitao	Wrack	Byfield	Emberson	Keates	Carter
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bennett	Bukran	Matias	Angell	BYFIELD 2	Keates	WRACK 1	Leitao	Emberson	Carter
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Keates	Bukran	Wrack	LEITAO 1	Byfield	Eyjolfsson	Emberson	Angell	Matias	Gadsby
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	KEATES 1	Bukran	WRACK 1	BYFIELD 1	LEITAO 1	Matias	Bennett	Angell	Emberson	Barras
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	HALL 1	Keates	Bukran	Wrack	Byfield	LEITAO 1	Barras	Matias	ANGELL 1	Emberson	Rammell
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	KEATES 1	Bukran	Wrack	Angell	LEITAO 1	Matias	Bennett	Byfield	Emberson	Roper
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Keates	Bukran	Matias	Angell	Leitao	Bennett	BYFIELD 1	Emberson	Roper	Carter
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Keates	Bukran	Matias	Angell	Byfield	Leitao	Bennett	Wrack	Emberson	Roper
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Wrack	Keates	Bennett	Matias	Leitao	Byfield	Angell	Hall	Roper	Emberson	Bukran
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Keates	Bennett	Matias	ANGELL 1	Byfield	Leitao	Bukran	Gadsby	Emberson	Roper
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Keates	Matias	Leitao	Byfield	Angell	Roper	Bennett	Carter	Emberson
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	Matias	LEITAO 1	Byfield	Carter	Angell	Keates	Emberson	Roper
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	Matias	LEITAO 1	Angell	Roper	Byfield	Wright	Keates	Emberson
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	BENNETT 1	MATIAS 1	LEITAO 1	ANGELL 1	Wright	BYFIELD 1	Roper	Keates	Emberson
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	Matias	LEITAO 1	ANGELL 1	Roper	Byfield	Keates	Emberson	Wright
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	Matias	Leitao	Angell	Wrack	Byfield	Roper	Keates	Emberson
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	MATIAS 1	Leitao	Angell	Wrack	Byfield	Roper	Keates	Emberson
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	WRACK 1	Bukran	Bennett	Matias	Leitao	Byfield	Hall	Angell	Scott	Keates	Emberson
Emberson	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	HALL 1	Bukran	Bennett	Matias	LEITAO 1	Byfield	Angell	Keates	Wright	Walker	Roper
Emberson	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	Matias	Leitao	BYFIELD 1	Angell	Wright	Keates	Walker	Roper
Emberson	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	MATIAS 1	Leitao	BYFIELD 1	Walker	Angell	Marsh	Keates	Roper
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	Matias	Leitao	Byfield	Marsh	Angell	Keates	Roper	Emberson
Walker	Brightwell	BARRAS 1	Tillson	Aranalde	HALL 1	Bukran	Bennett	MATIAS 1	LEITAO 1	Byfield	Marsh	Angell	Keates	Emberson	Roper
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	HALL 1	Bukran	Keates	Matias	LEITAO 1	Byfield	Roper	ANGELL 1	Wrack	Emberson	Marsh
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	KEATES 1	MATIAS 1	Leitao	Byfield	Angell	Ekelund	Wrack	Roper	Marsh
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	TILLSON 2	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Keates	Matias	Leitao	Byfield	Ekelund	Angell	Wrack	Emberson	Marsh
Walker	Marsh	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	Matias	Leitao	Byfield	Angell	Wrack	Ekelund	Emberson	Roper
Walker	Marsh	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	BUKRAN 2	Bennett	MATIAS 1	Leitao	Angell	Brightwell	Byfield	Keates	Ekelund	Roper
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	Wrack	Bukran	Bennett	Matias	Byfield	ANGELL 1	Ekelund	Leitao	Emberson	Keates	Gadsby
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Keates	Wrack	Leitao	Angell	Bennett	Byfield	Emberson	Matias	Gadsby
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	Matias	LEITAO 1	Angell	Byfield	Wrack	Keates	Emberson	Gadsby
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	WRACK 1	Leitao	ANGELL 1	Byfield	Keates	Marsh	Emberson	Eklund
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	HALL 2	Keates	Bennett	Matias	LEITAO 1	ANGELL 2	Bukran	Wrack	Byfield	Marsh	Barras
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Keates	Bennett	Matias	Leitao	Angell	Bukran	Wrack	BYFIELD 1	Marsh	Barras
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Keates	Ekelund	Matias	LEITAO 1	Angell	Barras	Byfield	Wrack	Bukran	Emberson
Emberson	Gadsby	Small	Scott	GAUNT 1	Wrack	Barras	Bukran	Wright	BIRCH 1	Byfield	Ekelund	Roper	Hawley	Walker	Hunt
Walker	Brightwell	Barras	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Keates	Bennett	Matias	LEITAO 1	Angell	Wrack	Bukran	Byfield	Roper	Gadsby
Emberson	Gadsby	Small	Scott	Gaunt	Matias	Keates	Ekelund	Wright	Birch	Byfield	Wrack	Hawley	Roper	Walker	Bukran
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Bukran	Bennett	WRACK 1	Leitao	Angell	Ekelund	Barras	Matias	Emberson	Gadsby
Walker	Brightwell	Roper	Tillson	Aranalde	Hall	Ekelund	Bennett	Wrack	Leitao	Angell	Matias	BYFIELD 1	Keates	Emberson	Barras



**WALSALL**  
*versus*  
**SWANSEA CITY**

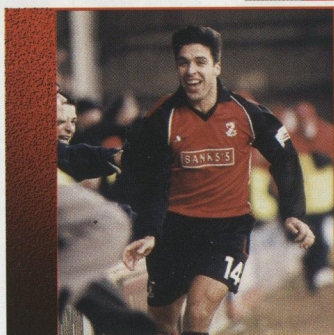
# caught live



**20/01/01**  
**Bescot Stadium**

ue  
l score **5-1**

otographs by David Linney



## tale of the turf



5	goals	1
5	corners	1
8	shots on target	6
5	shots off target	3
0	bookings	1
0	sending offs	0

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**For further information contact: Mark Jones or Phil Onions**

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