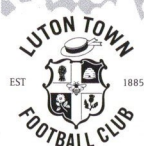


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PORT VALE FOOTBALL CLUB

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Telephone: 01782 655800
Email: enquiries@port-vale.co.uk
Website: www.port-vale.co.uk

CLUB DIRECTORY BOARDROOM

Owner: Norman Smurthwaite
Chairman: Tony Fradley
Chief Executive/Secretary: Colin Garlick

COACHING STAFF

Manager: Neil Aspin
Assistant Manager: Lee Nogan
First Team Coach: Gary Brabin
Football Advisor: John Rudge
Goalkeeping Coach: Ronnie Sinclair
Head Physio: Ben Nixon
Analyst: Dan Thompson
Fitness Coach: Jon McCarthy
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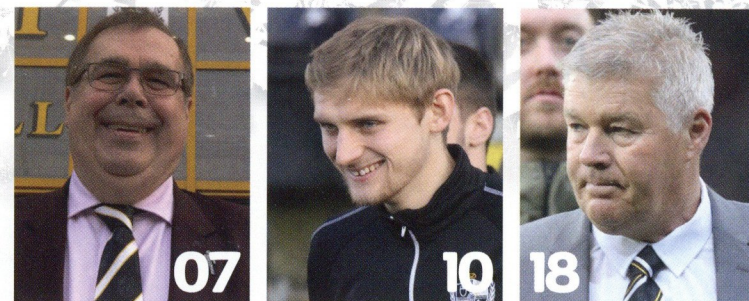
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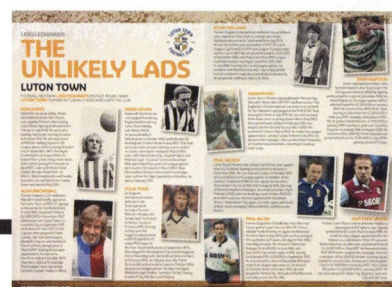
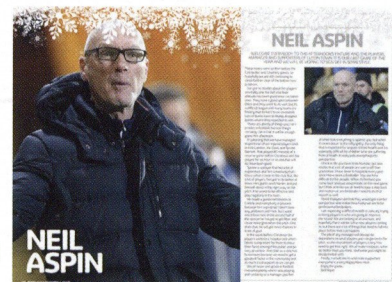
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NEIL ASPIN

THE GAFFER

NEIL ASPIN

WELCOME EVERYBODY TO THIS AFTERNOON'S FIXTURE AND THE PLAYERS, MANAGER AND SUPPORTERS OF LUTON TOWN. IT IS OUR LAST GAME OF THE YEAR AND WE WILL BE HOPING TO SIGN OFF IN SOME STYLE.

These notes were written before the Colchester and Coventry games, so hopefully we are still continuing to climb further clear of the bottom two positions.

I've got no doubts about the players' mentality and the fact that their attitude has been good since I've taken over. They have a good spirit between them and they want to do well, but it's a difficult league and many teams are finding that it's hard to be consistent. Lots of teams have probably dropped points where they expected to win.

There are plenty of things you can't predict in football, but one thing I certainly can is that it will be a tough game this afternoon.

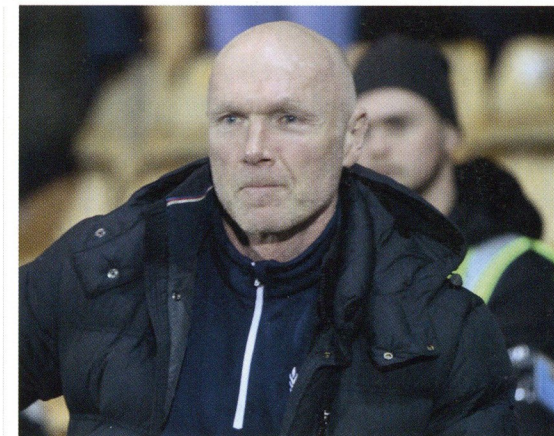
It's pleasing that we have managed to get three of our injured players back in Rob Lainton, Joe Davis and Tyrone Barnett. Rob played 80 minutes of a reserve game before Christmas and Joe played for an hour or so and that will do them both good.

Tyrone is a player that has a lot of experience and he's somebody that I knew when I came to the club. But, like a lot of players, he's got to do better at times. He's got to work harder and put himself about in the right way on the pitch if he wants to be effective and play regularly in the team.

He made a good contribution at Carlisle and everybody is pleased because he's a good lad. I don't have any problems with him, but I want more from him. In the second half of the season he has got to get fitter and cover more ground on the pitch. If he does that, he will get more chances in front of goal.

In the week before Christmas the players went on a hospital visit which I think is important for them to show their faces amongst the public and be very proactive. Port Vale as a club has to do more because we need to get a goodwill factor in the community and as much local support as we can get.

We all moan and groan in football. I moaned plenty when I was playing, and certainly as a manager you feel



at times that everything is against you, but when it comes down to the nitty-gritty, the only thing that is important for anyone is their health and it is especially difficult for children who are suffering from ill health. It really puts everything into perspective.

I think in life you have to be humble, but also realise that a lot of people are worse off than yourselves. I have been to hospitals every year since I have been a footballer. You see how difficult it is for people. When it's finished you come back and just concentrate on the next game, but I think at times we all need to take a step back and realise we are fortunate. I need to do that myself as well.

I think if players did that they would get a better perspective and realise how lucky we are to be professional footballers.

I am expecting a difficult month in January trying to bring players in who are going to improve the squad. We are looking at all avenues, and hopefully there will be a few new players coming in, but there are a lot of things that need to fall into place before that can happen.

The job of any manager will always be dependent on what players you can get on to the pitch, so the recruitment of players is key. You need to get that right. We all make mistakes, some do better than you think, and some you might be disappointed with.

Finally, I would like to wish Vale supporters everywhere a very Happy New Year.

Enjoy the game,
Neil Aspin



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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

TONY FRADLEY

BECAUSE OF CIRCUMSTANCES WITH REGARD TO PRINTING DEADLINES, THIS IS THE TIME IN MY INAUGURAL SEASON TO REFLECT ON MY CUSTODIANSHIP OF THIS GREAT FOOTBALL CLUB.

Besides understanding all rules of the FA and EFL in very quick time and grasping the financial situation was a blow me out of the water job. Colin Garlick has been brilliant in this regard with all his wealth of experience.

So the first real job was making certain in double quick time that the Foundation commenced to function with trustees attending meetings to make certain Tom Sherratt and the Club are intertwined with each other. I had an alternative motive and that is to have the Ladies and Girls teams named after Port Vale with a new home they can call their own. The naming happened in September and the facilities will be available next summer with details that I will be able to announce in the New Year, hopefully early.

Raising the profile of match day by organising staff to discuss and implement ideas to improve people's match day experience has been a goal of mine as well. This will also improve morale within the staff ranks and you've all seen some form of entertainment at half time and ex-players introduced to the Valiant Suite and CJ Bayley's Suite where our corporate sponsors with Vice Presidents and Box supporters watch the games.

Programme sellers were asked for and were duly arranged, but we had

to put that on hold following some issues with HMRC which have now been resolved.

Improving stewarding which have seen a change in company in these arrangements, because we need to make Vale Park a welcoming place for all supporters.

Solar panels and a water bore hole are some of the things that will be implemented with little cost as continuing maintenance of the stadium is a must and the red ash track needs removing along with lifting the pitch to remove the clay base. Steve Speed hasn't

got all the tools to enable a speedy response to all weathers the pitch throws at you so it can be in tip top condition.

Resurrection of concerts is in the embryo stage which at the end of May 2018 could be a music festival for all and people in 'Our Burslem' could be involved.

On the pitch we've had some turmoil to say the least and Micky Adams had a few choice words with me last September, in the nicest possible way. It registered with me and we've now got three legends in our midst which is sublime and I know they will get us in a good place, given patience and time. Personally it was a very trying time for me which as a fan hurt as much as you guys, but we're on our way back. UTV4EVER

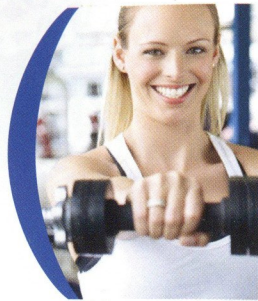




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VALE PARK NEWSDESK

A ROUND-UP OF THE LATEST NEWS FROM VALE PARK

VALE PLAYER TURNS DOWN INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

VALE LADIES MIDFIELDER BENEDITE PAMBANI ADMITS THAT SHE IS FULLY FOCUSED ON GAINING PROMOTION, AMID INTEREST FROM THE CONGOLESE NATIONAL TEAM.

Pambani is currently playing a lead role for the Ladies team at the weekends, and studying for a Sports PR & Journalism degree through the week.

Having joined up with the Valiants earlier this year, Pambani impressed quickly after scoring on her debut, and has now found her feet as a regular in the starting 11.

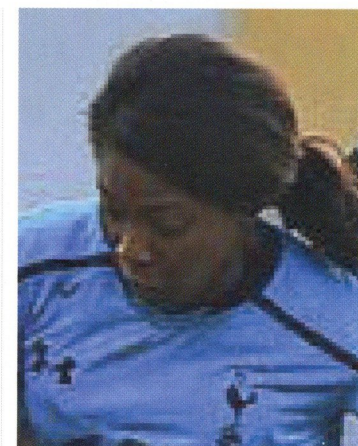
The centre-midfielder has been playing football since the age of six, and has represented clubs such as Leyton Orient, Charlton Athletic and Tottenham Hotspurs first-team.

Pambani received a full scholarship to Grambling State University in Louisiana and has played against some of the best players across the USA.

Just last year, she received contact from the Democratic Republic of Congo's national team, however turned down the chance: "I was at too young an age when we received the call."

The Staffordshire student has not ruled out the chance of playing for the national team however, expressing desire to play once her education has finished: "I want the call-up in due time."

"At this moment, I'm more focused on my present tasks I need to undertake.



Graduating from University as well as playing for Port Vale and getting promoted are top of my list."

Port Vale are currently flying high at the top of their table, having lost only once all season, with Pambani playing a vital role in the centre of their midfield.

The midfielder has no plans to quit football anytime soon as she plans to focus all her energy on the sport once finishing University: "I will focus on football as I'll be back in London."

LOAN RETURN

Midfielder Harry Middleton has returned from a loan spell at FC Halifax. He made 5 appearances for the National League outfit.

TICKET OFFICE OPENING TIMES

The ticket office will be open at the following times during the holiday period:

**Saturday December 30th
9am - Half Time**

**Sunday December 31st
Closed**

**Monday January 1st
Closed**

**Tuesday January 2nd onwards
9am - 5pm**

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However, we need your help to progress the lottery. The money raised helps secure the long-term future of the Youth Department.

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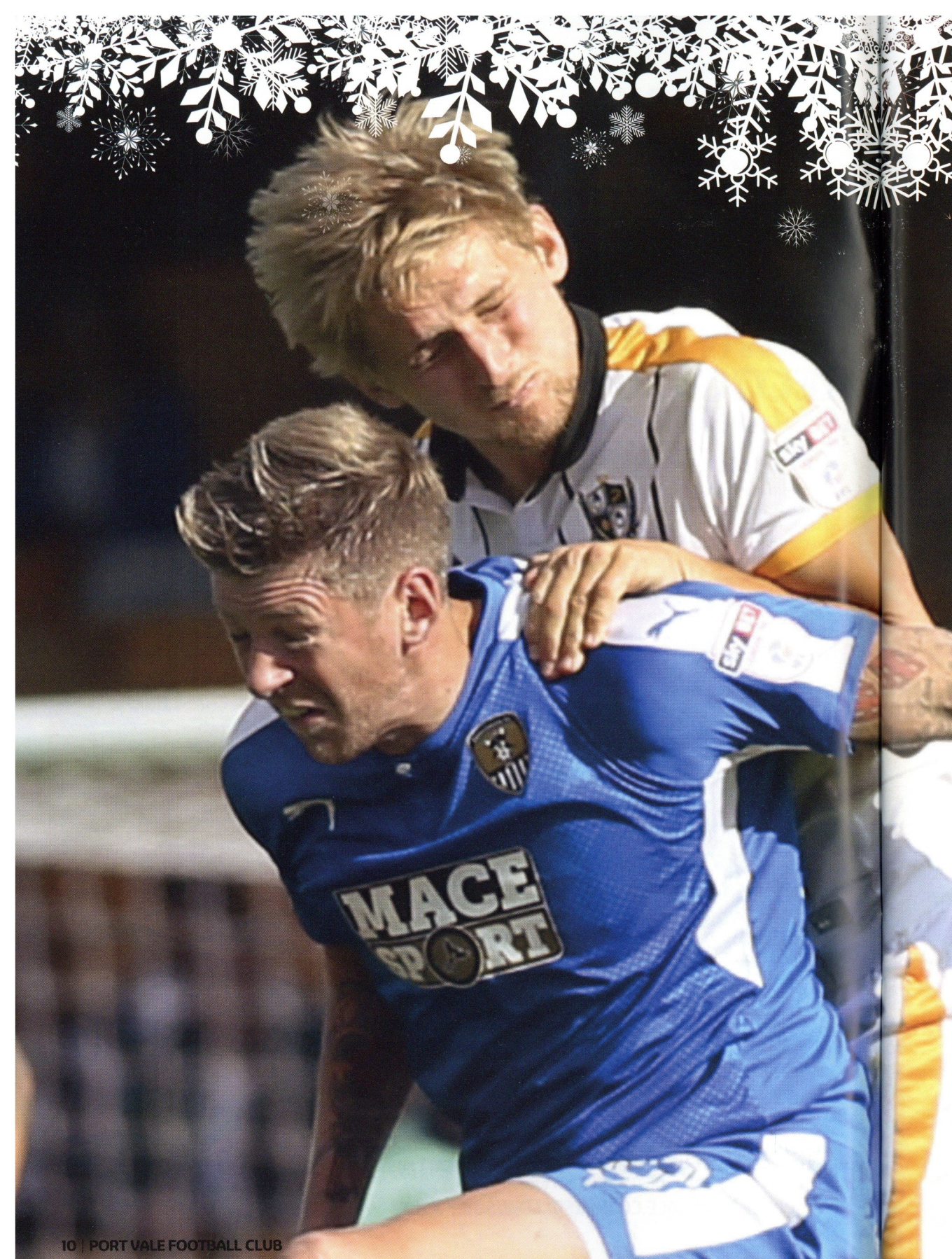
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PLAYER INTERVIEW BY LEWIS RICHARDS

NATHAN SMITH

IF YOU WERE TO THINK OF A MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER FOR PORT VALE OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF SEASONS, DEFENDER NATHAN SMITH WOULD COME STRAIGHT TO MIND

The Madeley-born centre-back picked up all five of Vale's Player of the Year awards for last year's campaign as The Valiants were relegated to the Sky Bet League Two. His awards from last season saw him voted Player of the Season, Players' Player of the Season, Young player of the Season, Away Fans' Player of the Season and Supporters' Player of the Season.

This season has saw the 21-year old continue to develop under Neil Aspin where he is currently on a run of over 80 games without being left out the side.

At the start of the season, it was a frustrating time for all at Vale Park as Smith never lost faith in Vale turning the season around.

He said: "I thought at the start we weren't performing to our best as a team.

"I wasn't performing well on a personal level as I should have been too. It's picking up again and hopefully we can continue to perform well as a team and put in the performances we need."

Working under Vale legend Aspin has proved a positive point for Smith as he benefits off from his influence at Vale.

"He's mentioned that he's a legend around here," Smith joked.

"He is a good manager and is good to work with. I'm enjoying it. It is definitely a big thing for me when it is a defender who has come in as a manager.

"I can pick his brains and ask him questions and I know he will come back with the right answers."

Throughout his time with The Valiants, Smith has spent time out on-loan where he also impressed in past years. He spent a year with Stafford Rangers during the 2014/15 campaign before leaping up the leagues to Torquay United where he won several personal titles in the National League.

Now, keen to get more experience, Smith has been enjoying a new partnership with Burnley-loanee Tom Anderson at centre-half. Smith claims he is enjoying his new defensive partner

"I WASN'T PERFORMING WELL ON A PERSONAL LEVEL AS I SHOULD HAVE BEEN TOO. IT'S PICKING UP AGAIN AND HOPEFULLY WE CAN CONTINUE TO PERFORM WELL AS A TEAM AND PUT IN THE PERFORMANCES WE NEED."

and believes that the pair have gelled well over the last few months.

He said: "I think we have gelled well, we know each other's strengths and weaknesses.

"We are not going to be the ones that play out from the back and I think we would both admit that.

"We've shown over the past few months that we can defend well and we are capable of keeping clean sheets. That is what we intend to do and if we continue to do that, I'm sure that the results will keep coming."

Still at a young age, Smith has lots of time to develop into a strong centre-half at Port Vale and

continue to impress in League Two. His bravery has been highlighted by fellow teammate Tom Pope in the past and has shown his leadership beforehand.

Nathan has been backed to do well by the gaffer in the past, but still has more than enough time to improve. It should be an exciting few months with Smith potentially breaking the consecutive appearance record. The youngster is yet to score this campaign, so a goal this afternoon would cap off a good day for Port Vale if we can get the win.



NATHAN SMITH CAREER PROFILE

DOB: 3 April 1996 | POB: Madeley, Staffordshire | Position: Defender

YOUTH CAREER: 2012-14 Port Vale

SENIOR LEAGUE CAREER: 2014- Port Vale 68 games (4 goals), 2014-15 Stafford Rangers (L) 28 games (1 goal), 2015-16 Torquay United (L) 39 games (3 goals)

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FORMED:
1885

NICKNAMES:
THE HATTERS
(because of the local hat making industry particularly straw ones)

MANAGER:
NATHAN JONES
(since January 2016)

GROUND:
KENILWORTH ROAD
(since 1905)

RECORD ATTENDANCE:
30,069
v Blackpool, FA Cup 6th Round Replay, March 1959

MEMBERS OF FOOTBALL LEAGUE:
1897-1900, 1920-2009, 2014- PRESENT

HIGHEST POSITION:
7TH IN THE TOP FLIGHT
1986/87

HONOURS
PROMOTED FROM
CHAMPIONSHIP LEVEL
1954/55, 1973/74 (runners-up), 1981/82 (Champions)

PROMOTED FROM
LEAGUE ONE LEVEL
1936/37 (Champions), 1969/70 (runners-up), 2004/05 (Champions)

PROMOTED FROM
LEAGUE TWO
1967/68 (Champions), 2001/02 (runners-up)

PROMOTED FROM
FOOTBALL CONFERENCE
Winners 2013/14

RUNNERS-UP:
FA CUP
1958/59

WINNERS
LEAGUE CUP
1987/88

WINNERS
FOOTBALL LEAGUE TROPHY
2008/09

RECORD LEAGUE WIN:
12-0 v BRISTOL ROVERS
Division Three (South), April 1936

RECORD LEAGUE DEFEAT:
0-9 v SMALL HEATH
Division Two, November 1898

MOST LEAGUE APPEARANCES:
495
BOB MORTON
1948-64

MOST LEAGUE GOALS:
243
GORDON TURNER
1949-64

MOST CAPPED PLAYER:
58
(N. IRELAND)
MAL DONAGHY

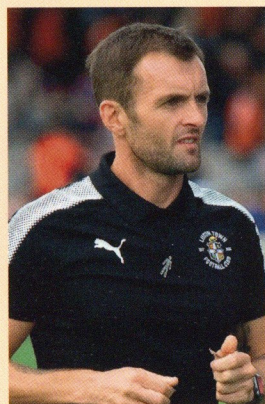
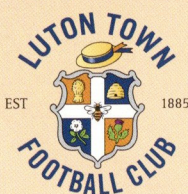
RECORD TRANSFER FEE PAID:
£850,000
to Odense for
LARS ELSTRUP
August 1989

RECORD TRANSFER FEE RECEIVED:
£3,000,000
from West Brom for
CURTIS DAVIES
August 2005
£3,000,000
from Birmingham City for
ROWAN VINE
January 2007

THE HATTERS

LUTON TOWN

LEWIS RICHARDS TAKES A LOOK AT THE LUTON TOWN SQUAD



NATHAN JONES
MANAGER

Despite Luton Town being his first managerial job, Nathan Jones has built up one of the most impressive win percentages in the league. His first job came with Brighton & Hove Albion where he acted as first-team coach and caretaker manager. As a player he played in his homeland of Wales, Spain and England where he made over 300 appearances for Southend United, Brighton and Yeovil Town. He was appointed Luton manager in January 2016.

1. MAREK STECH

The former Czech Republic International signed for Luton in the summer of 2017 following his release by Sparta Prague. After being born in Prague, Stech signed for West Ham United where he didn't feature in a first-team game for The Hammers but was loaned out to several Football League clubs. He joined Yeovil Town on a permanent deal in 2012 and played in over 70 games across a two-year spell. He returned to the Czech Republic with his boyhood club within Prague as he returned to England a year later to sign for The Hatters.

3. DAN POTTS

Another youngster who started his career off with West Ham United. He signed as a scholar in 2010 and made his debut against Wolverhampton Wanderers in April 2011. He enjoyed spells away with Colchester United and Portsmouth on-loan where he played for several International squads including USA U20's and England at stages U18, 19 and 20. He signed for Luton in 2015 where he put-pen-to-paper on a two-year deal.

6. SCOTT CUTHBERT

Starting his career off with Celtic, the Scotsman failed to make any appearances at Celtic Park but enjoyed loan spells with Livingston and St Mirren. He moved to England in July 2009 for Swindon Town. He made 80 appearances across two years where he was named as vice-captain at the County Ground. Leyton Orient came calling in 2011 where he was named as Player of The Season at the end of year awards. He signed for Luton in 2015 and was named captain.

5. JOHNNY MULLINS

Predominantly the skipper's other half at centre back, Mullins started his career off with Reading where he signed a pro-contract in 2004. Across his two years there, he spent them with Kidderminster Harriers on two separate occasions before his release to Mansfield Town. He impressed heavily at Field Mill and after their relegation to the Conference Premier, signed for Stockport County. Before joining Luton in May 2016, the 32-year old played for Rotherham and Oxford United.

44. ALAN SHEEHAN

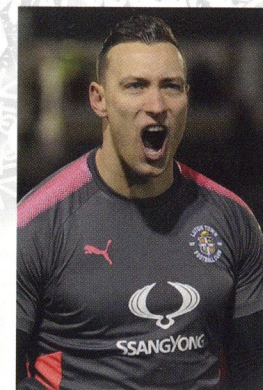
Another experienced member of Luton's back four is the former Republic of Ireland U21 International. Now 31, Sheehan has gone on to collect an impressive CV across the Football League. He started off with Leicester City in 2003 and made several appearances for many clubs including: Leeds United, Crewe Alexandra and Swindon Town before his memorable career at Notts County. The set-piece specialist played over 114 games for The Magpies before joining Bradford City in 2014. He signed for The Hatters in May 2016 following a successful loan spell.

16. GLEN REA

The 23-year old started off at Brighton before two separate loan moves to Southend United in 2015 and Luton the following season. He signed a permanent contract with The Hatters the following season where he has since played in over 60 games. He has been capped by the Republic of Ireland U21 squad on ten occasions, scoring one goal.

2. JAMES JUSTIN

The midfielder/defender is a



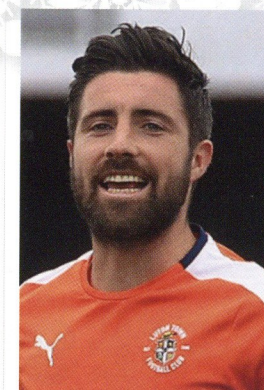
local lad to Luton as he made his debut in 2015. He's now 19 years old and has played in over 35 games for the club scoring two goals. He's been capped by England U20's on two occasions.

11. ANDREW SHINNIE

A name who several supporters may know of is the on-loan attacking midfielder, Andrew Shinnie. Signing for The Hatters from Birmingham City, the 28-year old has collected a good CV from playing in England and Scotland. He started off in his homeland with Rangers in 2006 before playing for Dundee and Inverness before joining Birmingham City in 2013. He has played in over 60 games for The Blues whilst enjoying loan spells with Rotherham United and Hibernian, before joining Luton at the start of this season. He also has one cap for Scotland.

4. ALAN McCORMACK

Starting his professional career off at Preston North End. He also enjoyed loan spells with Leyton Orient, Southend and Motherwell. The 33-year old made his name with Southend after joining them on a permanent deal in 2007. He played in over 140 games at Roots Hall and starred in their relegation to League One. He has since played for Charlton Athletic, Swindon Town and Brentford before moving to Luton in June 2017.



8. OLLIE LEE

Starting off with West Ham United in 2009, the centre-midfielder has been keen to gain experience from across the Football League. Whilst with The Hammers, he spent time on loan at Dagenham & Redbridge and Gillingham before his release to Barnet in 2012. After impressing on a trial for Birmingham City, he signed a deal there where he scored one goal in 16 games. He enjoyed a brief loan spell with Plymouth Argyle before signing with Luton in 2015. He is the son of former England International, Robert Lee.

7. JACK STACEY

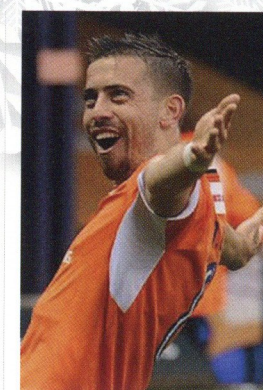
The versatile midfielder started his career with Reading as a youth product. He signed a professional contract in 2013 and made six appearances during a four-year stay. Whilst with The Royals, he spent time with Barnet, Carlisle United and Exeter City before putting pen-to-paper with Luton in June 2017.

14. HARRY CORNICK

Winger who began his career with Bournemouth in 2013. He has also had loan spells with Welling, Aldershot, Havant & Waterlooville, Yeovil (twice), Leyton Orient and Gillingham. He joined Luton for an undisclosed fee in August 2017.

22. LUKE GAMBIN

Maltese international winger



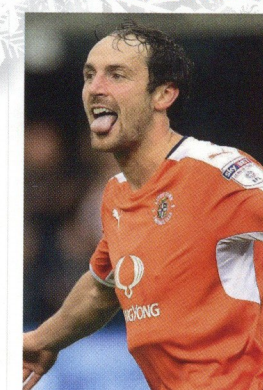
who was signed from Barnet in January 2017. He had 5 years with the Bees, making over 130 appearances and also had loans at Hemel Hempstead and Hendon.

17. PELLY RUDDOCK MPANZU

The box-to-box midfielder started his career off at Boreham Wood where he thoroughly impressed in his professional debut season. His performances alerted the attention of West Ham where he joined fellow teammate, Dan Potts, in winning the Ciutat de Barcelona Trophy in September 2013. He joined Luton on-loan in 2013 before signing a permanent deal with The Hatters. His performances have alerted attention of several Championship clubs in the past and could be one-to-watch for this afternoon.

19. JAMES COLLINS

The former Aston Villa youth product has become of the most prolific and consistent goalscorers in League Two. He signed for Shrewsbury Town in January 2011 as the target man put pen-to-paper on a 18-month deal. He scored 16 goals in 47 appearances before moving to Swindon Town where he once again became prolific. Spells at Hibernian, Shrewsbury again, Northampton Town and Crawley Town saw Collins sign a three-year deal at Luton in 2017.



9. DANNY HYLTON

Known as Collins' strike partner in crime and League Two's current top goalscorer. Starting his career off with Aldershot Town in 2006, Hylton spent seven years at The Recreation Ground before a move to Rotherham United. After failing to make an impact, he moved to Bury and AFC Wimbledon on-loan before transferring to Oxford United. The 28-year old finished the 2014/15 campaign as the club's top goalscorer before signing for Luton Town. He has impressed since his arrival in 2016 where he is currently averaging one goal per game in League Two.

38. ELLIOTT LEE

The brother of midfielder Ollie Lee and son of Rob Lee, he began his career as a striker with West Ham in 2012. He appeared 6 times for the Hammers and also had loan spells at Colchester (twice), Southend, Luton and Blackpool. In 2016 he moved to Barnsley but a year later signed for Luton on a two year deal and has 6 goals so far this season.



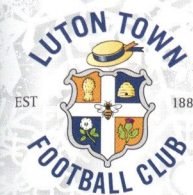
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ONE TO
WATCH

LUKE BERRY

MIKE BAGGALEY LOOKS AT LUTON'S STRIKER LUKE BERRY, THE ONE TO WATCH FOR LUTON TOWN THIS AFTERNOON.

Luton were delighted to recruit Luke Berry in the summer.

The 25-year-old midfielder had just enjoyed a great season with Cambridge, scoring 22 goals, before the Hatters got him on a three-year deal after agreeing an undisclosed fee. He has also made his mark this year in Luton's push for promotion. In fact he was a runner up to Tom Pope in the League Two player of the month award for October.

His manager Nathan Jones says that nomination was well deserved. He wasn't at all surprised by how well the midfielder had started with his new club.

Jones said: "I'm absolutely delighted with him. I've had people make comments that I won't say, about Luke, good comments about him as a player and it is stuff that I already knew.

"It had kind of surprised them but I've been delighted with him in terms of what he gives us and the surety he shows.

"He probably hasn't got as many goals as he got at Cambridge, but we ask him to do different things to Cambridge, so he's not going to be the exact same player. -

"But he is a key player for us, a big player, hence the transfer fee, hence why we tried so much to bring him in, why he's keeping his place ahead of some very, very good players.

"So I'm delighted with Luke Berry and the competition out there, the way he's integrated, I knew he would, but it's fantastic."

"I'M ABSOLUTELY DELIGHTED WITH HIM. I'VE HAD PEOPLE MAKE COMMENTS THAT I WON'T SAY, ABOUT LUKE, GOOD COMMENTS ABOUT HIM AS A PLAYER AND IT IS STUFF THAT I ALREADY KNEW."

LUKE BERRY CAREER PROFILE

Date of birth: 12 July 1992 | Place of birth: Cambridge | Position: Striker

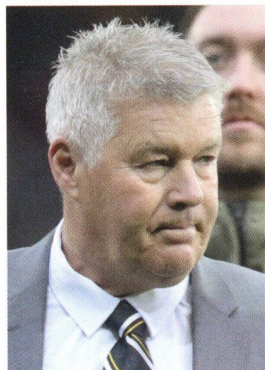
YOUTH CAREER: Cambridge United

SENIOR CAREER: 2010-14 Cambridge United 128 games (22 goals), 2014-15 Barnsley 31 games (1 goal), 2015-17 Cambridge United 94 games (29 goals), 2017- Luton Town 15 games (4 goals)



COMMERCIAL BREAK

A ROUND-UP OF ALL COMMERCIAL NEWS WITH CHRIS TURNER



CHRIS TURNER
SALES & MARKETING
MANAGER

For further information on sponsorship and advertising opportunities, please contact Scott on **01782 655808** or email chris.turner@port-vale.co.uk

TODAY'S SPONSORS

MATCH:
DAVID
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MATCHBALL:
AML ELECTRICS



PORT VALE v LUTON TOWN

SATURDAY 30TH DECEMBER 2017

GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE WELCOME TO VALE PARK TO SEE OUR CLASH AGAINST ONE OF THE TOP TEAMS IN LEAGUE LUTON TOWN. I WISH ALL THOSE CONCERNED WITH LUTON A VERY PLEASANT VISIT WITH A SAFE JOURNEY HOME.

Half way through the Festive season hopefully the results against Colchester and Coventry have been kind to us and our climb up the table can continue after today's fixture.

I am sure you all will have seen the pictures of the management team and players visiting the local hospital prior to Christmas day. This visit was for a lot of the children, the highlight of their year and the smiles on their faces lit up the whole ward. Professional football is always hit hard when any negative news is on the go but what a lot of people don't know is that football and football people do a lot of good within the community surrounding their particular club, and Neil and the boys certainly over the festive period, did the club proud.

I would like to thank the sponsors today David Cycles who is the match sponsor. David came to see me 10 days ago with his two lovely daughters and in the space of 30 minutes he took a private box for the rest of this season and took on the sponsorship of today's game, so it's a massive thank you to him. Our Ball sponsor today is AML Electrics, so there is another huge thank you to them.

I take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and successful 2018.

Regards
Chris Turner



NEXT UP AT VALE PARK



PORT VALE v YEOVIL TOWN

SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY 2018



PORT VALE v COLCHESTER UNITED

SATURDAY 27TH JANUARY 2018



Match sponsorship packages still available, please get in touch

01782 655808

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

FANCY A SEAT UPGRADE?

Join us in the President Seating area for the Yeovil & Colchester games.

Contact Chris on **01782 655808**

or email
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LUCKY SEVEN DRAW

WANT A CHANCE
TO WIN UP TO
£10,000?

Pay as little as £1 a week and you can have a chance to change your life for the better with Vale's Lottery Lucky 7.

Even better, all profits go directly to funding youth development at Vale Park and we make donations to local charities.

Since its launch in 2000 well over half a million pounds has been raised, and we would like to thank everybody for their contributions over the years.

However, we need your help to

progress the lottery. The money raised helps secure the long-term future of the Youth Department.

For more information on the Lucky Seven Lottery, you can contact our Lottery Manager, Brian Lewis on 07791674961. So, what are you waiting for! Download our application form from the Vale website under the Hospitality & Events header and get signed up for your chance to win the jackpot!

BREAK

For further information on sponsorship and advertising opportunities, please contact Chris on **01782 655808** or email chris.turner@port-vale.co.uk



New Years Eve Glitter Ball Superb Gala Buffet & Disco

8pm – 1.30am

Celebrate with us into 2018

The evening begins with a glass of bubbly on arrival, followed by a superb Gala Buffet - then party into 2018 with our Resident DJ - £30pp (bookings only), Dress to Impress.



Booking now on 01782 655823 or

email: sharon.warrender@port-vale.co.uk



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PORT VALE EXECUTIVE BOX HOLDERS 2017/18

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- 10% discount off all PVFC Holiday Camps
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- Win the opportunity to be a mascot
- Monthly prize draws
- Meet and interview the players
- PLUS huge discounts and goodies from:



JOAN STANLEY'S

Junior Valiants

Boomer's Puzzle

Can you find 12 items of sports equipment Boomer has hidden. Remember they can be hidden vertically, horizontally or diagonally.

E	L	D	R	U	H	J	S
E	R	E	M	M	A	H	E
L	L	A	B	V	O	B	L
C	B	T	E	R	A	S	T
Y	E	L	T	T	U	H	S
C	I	S	O	I	A	O	I
N	O	N	I	T	K	E	H
P	D	I	S	C	U	S	W

Boom Boom

Q. What did the spider do on the computer?

A. Made a website!

Q. Why was 6 afraid of 7?

A. Because 789!

Q. How do you know carrots are good for your eyes?

A. Because you never see rabbits wearing glasses!

Q. What do you call a pony with a sore throat?

A. A little horse

Q. What streets do ghosts haunt?

A. Dead ends!

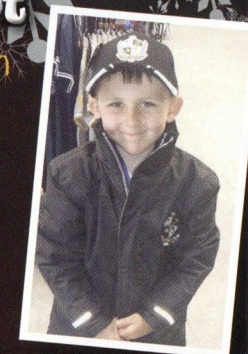
Today's Mascot

James Haddon

Age: 6

School: St Maria Goretti

Favourite player: Tom Pope



Boomer's Alphabet

O is for offside.

The earliest offside rule was in a set of rules dated 1856, which were discovered in the library of Shrewsbury School. Rule 9 required three defensive players to be ahead of the attacker who plays the ball. When a change was made to the rule in 1925, the number of goals in the English league rose from 4,100 to 6,373.

O is for Oakes.

Jimmy Oakes is the only player who has played for both sides in one match. On Boxing Day 1932 he played for Port Vale at Charlton, but the match was then abandoned because of fog. In January he was transferred to Charlton and then played in the re-arranged fixture for Charlton.

O is for Orient.

The "Orient" in Leyton Orient comes from many of the employees of the Orient Shipping Line becoming involved with the club and so the name Orient was chosen in 1888.

Port Vale Foundation

Port Vale FC Foundation would like to welcome Junior Valiants to today's home game. They have been selected for the 'Ultimate Match Day Experience'. This experience consists of an access all areas stadium tour, coaching sessions, meet the mascot, pitch side photos and much, much more! These lucky Valiants will also be today's official flag bearers. For more information on the Junior Valiants or the 'Ultimate Match Day Experience' package please contact the Foundation on 01782 751066 or email foundation.trust@port-vale.co.uk

Port Vale Foundation Partners



SUBWAY



DANIEL'S DELIGHTS

LEIGH EDWARDS

THE UNLIKELY LADS

LUTON TOWN

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN **LEIGH EDWARDS** PROFILES TEN BIG-NAME **LUTON TOWN** PLAYERS NOT USUALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE CLUB

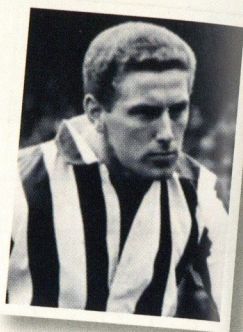
RON DAVIES

Noted for his aerial ability, Welsh international striker Ron Davies was capped 29 times after leaving Luton Town. Signing professional for Chester in July 1959, he was twice leading marksman, moving to Luton in October 1962. He was top scorer in 1962-63, netting 21 goals in 32 League games before joining Norwich City in September 1963. Moving to Southampton in August 1966, he topped their goalscoring charts three times before joining Portsmouth in April 1973. Later with Manchester United, Arcadia Shepherds, LA Aztecs, Tulsa Roughnecks and Seattle Sounders, he coached in the United States and died in May 2013.



ALAN BIRCHENALL

Former England U-23 midfielder Alan Birchenall briefly appeared for Luton Town in 1978-79. Signing professional for Sheffield United in June 1963, he joined Chelsea for £100,000 in November 1967 and moved via Crystal Palace to Leicester City in September 1971. He featured in their 1973-74 FA Cup run, then played for Notts County, San Jose Earthquakes, Memphis Rogues and Blackburn Rovers before joining Luton in March 1979. Making ten League appearances, he moved to Hereford United in October 1979, then had a spell as Trowbridge Town's player-boss, becoming Leicester's public relations officer.

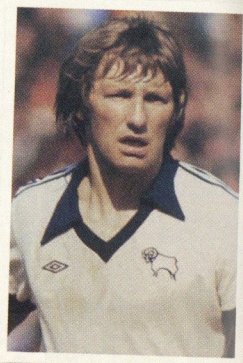


DEREK KEVAN

Inside-left Derek Kevan was capped 14 times by England before joining Luton Town initially with Ripon YMCA, he joined Bradford Park Avenue in October 1952 and followed Vic Buckingham to West Brom in July 1953. The Tank was twice ever-present and top scorer on five occasions, moving to Chelsea in March 1963. Later with Manchester City, Crystal Palace and Peterborough, he joined Luton in December 1966 and netted four goals in 11 League games. He moved to Stockport in March 1967, then Macclesfield, Boston United and Stourbridge. Later a driver for Signs Specialists in Hockley, he died in January 2013.

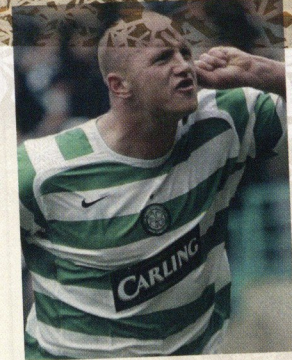
COLIN TODD

Ex-England international central defender Colin Todd appeared for Luton Town in 1984-85. Initially with Sunderland, he moved to Derby County in February 1971, starring as they won the League Championship in 1971-72 and 1974-75, when PFA Player of the Year. He joined Everton in September 1978, then played for Birmingham City and Nottingham Forest. Reuniting with Jim Smith at Oxford United in February 1984, he helped clinch the Third Division title and moved to Luton in October 1984, playing two League games. He later managed Middlesbrough, Bolton, Swindon, Derby County, Bradford City, Randers and Esbjerg.



STEVE WILLIAMS

Former England international midfielder Steve Williams was capped six times before joining Luton Town. Signing professional for Southampton in July 1976, he starred as they won promotion in 1977-78, were League Cup finalists in 1979 and League Championship runners-up in 1983-84. He joined Arsenal for £525,000 in December 1984 and featured in their 1987 League Cup final triumph, moving to Luton for £300,000 in July 1988. Scoring once in 40 League games, he reunited with Alan Ball at Exeter City in August 1991. He has worked in magazine publishing and property development, settling in Ottery St Mary.



JOHN HARTSON

Welsh international striker John Hartson helped Luton Town reach the FA Cup semi-finals in 1993-94. Signing professional for Luton in December 1992, he netted 11 goals in 54 League games before sold to Arsenal for £2,500,000 in January 1995. He scored in the 1995 ECWC final, moving to West Ham for £3,200,000 in February 1997. Leading marksman in 1997-98, he joined Wimbledon for £7,000,000 in January 1999 and had a spell with Coventry City prior to joining Celtic in August 2001. He starred in their 2001-02 'treble' triumph and joined West Brom for £500,000 in July 2006, gaining a total of 51 caps.

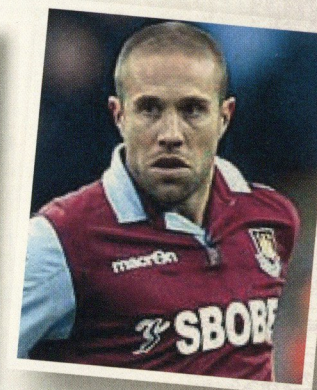
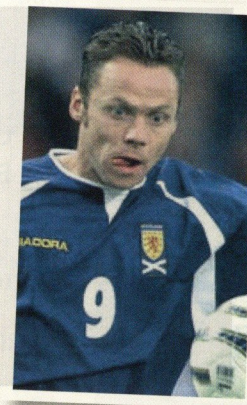
MERVYN DAY

Luton Town's former loan goalkeeper Mervyn Day starred in West Ham's 1975 FA Cup final success. The England U-23 international was twice ever-present for the Hammers and played in the 1976 ECWC final, moving to Orient in July 1979. He was ever-present three times prior to joining Aston Villa in May 1983, then joined Leeds United in February 1985 and helped win the Second Division title in 1989-90. Loaned to Luton in March 1992, he made four League appearances. Joining Carlisle United in July 1993, he became their manager, then assisted Alan Curbishley at Charlton and West Ham, returning to Leeds as chief scout.



PAUL DICKOV

Luton Town's former loan striker Paul Dickov was capped times by Scotland. Signing professional for Arsenal in December 1990, he was loaned to Luton in October 1993 and scored once in 15 League games. A member of the Gunners' triumphant 1994 ECWC squad, he moved to Manchester City for £1,000,000 in August 1996. Starring in three promotion campaigns, he joined Leicester City in February 2002 and was leading scorer in their 2002-03 promotion success. He then appeared for Blackburn Rovers, Manchester City again, Leicester again and Leeds United, since managing Oldham Athletic and Doncaster Rovers.



MATTHEW UPSON

Former Luton Town central defender Matthew Upson gained 21 England caps. Signing professional for Luton Town in April 1996, he made his only League appearance for the Hatters as a substitute in their 1-0 win over Rotherham four months later and joined Arsenal for £1,000,000 in May 1997. He featured in their 1997-98 Premier League title campaign and was a member of the 2001-02 double-winning squad. Loaned to several clubs, he moved to Birmingham City for £2,000,000 in January 2003, then joined West Ham for £6,000,000 in January 2007. He has since played for Stoke City, Brighton, Leicester City and MK Dons.

PAUL ALLEN

Former England U-21 midfielder Paul Allen had a loan spell at Luton Town in 1994-95. From a notable football family, he signed professional for West Ham in July 1979 and was the youngest FA Cup finalist at 17 years 256 days in their 1980 Wembley triumph. He moved to Tottenham Hotspur for £400,000 in June 1985 and was an FA Cup winner again in 1991. Joining Southampton for £500,000 in September 1993, he was loaned to Luton in December 1994 and made four League appearances. He moved to Swindon Town in October 1995. He later played for Bristol City, Millwall and Purfleet and currently works for the PFA.





Sneyd Colliery
Burslem Pottery

Holy Trinity Church

Hamil Road (next to 'The Vale')

Anniversary of
The Sneyd Pit Disaster
6th - 7th January 2018

Saturday 6th January

- 12 - 6pm Free exhibition of mining from Apedale Museum.
- 12:30pm Soup and drinks available - bring your own food.
- 1pm Short talks and questions on the subject of mining in Stoke on Trent.
- 3pm Showing of "Heroes of Sneyd" a DVD of a drama presented in the church two years ago.

Children's Art & Craft Competition
Bring your own materials and produce an artwork on the subject of mining.

Sunday 7th January

- 10:30am Sung Parish Mass.
- 12noon Exhibition reopens.
- 3pm Memorial Service for The 57 Men & Boys who died on 1st January 1942.

Refreshments to follow before the exhibition closes. Prizes awarded to artists. (2 x £20 prizes). All Welcome.

Contact: Father Brian Williams (Vicar)
01782 825841

CARDS & COLLECTABLES

RESERVING A FEW MEMORIES

LINDON ROBERTS:
PORT VALE VOLUNTEERS' GROUP

WE ARE BACK TO FEATURING RESERVE PROGRAMMES WHERE PLAYERS WHO HAVE PLAYED FOR BOTH TEAMS ARE PERFORMING AS VALE AND THE "HATTERS" HAVE NEVER PLAYED IN THE SAME RESERVE LEAGUES.

"Vale's Bingham took over Northern Ireland's team manager duties for training before meeting England at Wembley in November 1963. The players are Neill (Arsenal), Harvey (Sunderland), Humphries (Coventry) and Campbell (Crusaders)".

Even using this route to find connections wasn't easy as there are a remarkably low number of players who have featured for both teams compared to most clubs.

However there are a few high profile players and I've chosen Billy Bingham, who joined Vale for the 1963-64 season in what was expected to be a serious push for promotion, after finishing in 3rd place in Division 3 the previous campaign. Vale had brought in Jackie Mudie and Ron Wilson from Stoke for around £15k. Albert Cheesebrough from Leicester City for £15k as well as Northern Irish international Bingham from Everton for £15k in July 1963, which was Vale's record fee at the time. The fee was paid in

instalments and shown here is a letter from Vale asking for an extension to paying the final part due to a board meeting being a week later than the agreed date.

Things didn't quite work out with Mudie hardly playing because of muscle problems and Cheesebrough only being selected intermittently and only

Port Vale Football Club Co. Ltd.
15th February, 1964.

Dear Mr. Dickmann,

With reference to your letter regarding Val's Bingham, I have been asked to inform you that our monthly meeting this instant and if you will kindly grant us an extension until this date a cheque will be issued.

Yours Faithfully,
Secretary.

Bingham featured regularly. Vale finished a disappointing 13th. Early the following season Bingham broke his leg in a game at Brentford in the fifth game of the season and never played for the Vale again, retiring at the end of the season. However, I have the reserve programme for Vale hosting York City in the North Regional League on 10th April 1965 where Bingham is listed as right winger. The Sentinel's 1965-66 Football Annual show him without a reserve team appearance, so the programme shows an abortive attempt at a comeback, as he never made it on to the pitch.

Lindon Roberts:
Port Vale Volunteers' Group

A LUTON LEGEND - BORN IN CHESTERTON

TODAY IS THE FIRST TIME LUTON HAVE TRAVELLED TO PORT VALE SINCE THE PASSING OF MILIJA ALEKSIC - AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN TO ALL LUTON FANS AS 'ELASTIC'.



Two Luton fans, friends Alan & Wayne knew Milija well in his time at Luton and have been with them over 100 years supporting the hatters. Both have no doubt Milija was the best ever goalkeeper to play for Luton Town.

Milija was born in Chesterton/ Newcastle-Under-Lyme and played twice for Port Vale in the 1st round of the FA Cup against Shrewsbury Town, but, years later, he would go on to taste FA Cup Final success in front of a crowd of 100,000 at Wembley. He made that long journey via Eastwood, Stafford Rangers, Plymouth Argyle, Luton Town and eventually Tottenham Hotspur.

Milija also won the FA Trophy with Stafford Rangers at Wembley but in his time at Luton Town he quickly became a fans favourite.

Alan recalls... "At the end of November 1976 our regular goalkeeper Keith Barber broke his ribs

away at Notts County in the 70th minute when we were leading 2-0. No sub keepers in those days of course and so John 'Dixie' Deans went in goal and we went onto win 4-0.

17 year old Tony Knight played in the next game at Blackpool, before the Manager, the late Harry Haslam, signed a 'keeper from Plymouth that nobody in Luton had heard of before - Ex Stafford Rangers no 1 and Port Vale fan as a boy with his brother - sons of Yugoslav parents - Milija Aleksic.

I was living with my late Scots Grandparents Isa & Tom Adair, who back then took Luton players in as lodgers. When Milija signed from Plymouth in 1976, he stayed with us for a good while until he managed to move his family into a house in the village of Harlington, Bedfordshire.

Not only was Milija a great goalkeeper - one of THE best Hatters no 1's I've seen in my 51+ years of supporting the Hatters, but also a terrific human being.

He made his Luton debut at Bolton on Dec 21st 1976. We were drawing 1-1 with the promotion chasing Trotters with less than 20 mins left, then Deans was sent off a minute after fouling Sam Allardyce. Despite our debutant

keeper having a fine game, Milija couldn't stop Roy Greaves' winner.

Luton lost 1-0 at Orient in his next game the day after Boxing Day. It was not until New Year's Day 1977 that most Hatters fans saw Milija Play. He was magnificent as we thrashed leaders Chelsea - 4-0!

What happened next was legendary stuff. Milija was a very valid reason why Luton went on a record run - at that time - of NINE successive Div 2 wins, lifting us from 12th to 4th. 'Elastic' was a major reason for this run with a string of fine performances. He played every remaining game of 1976-77 where we eventually fell just short in 6th place.

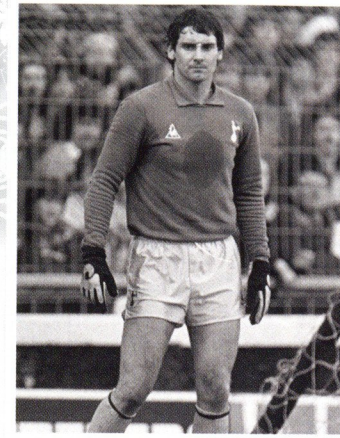
Milija played in all of Harry Haslam's games in charge until Harry left for Sheff Utd during 77-78. New boss David Pleat then played Milija in all but 4 games that season.

Milija started in all the first 14 league games of 1978-79 including games where Luton beat Oldham 6-1, Cardiff 7-1 and Notts County 6-0. Due in no small part to 'Elastic' I saw him in that 14th game at Oldham where we lost 2-0. If it not had been for MOTM Milija - we'd have lost by six or more!

He was that good that day.his reward - David Pleat DROPPED him for the next game at home to Newcastle. In goal was David Lawson, rushed in on loan from Everton. Everyone was asking me what's going on?

I was clueless and post-match in the players bar I asked Milija the same question. 'No idea Alan, he dropped me telling the press I was injured- I'm NOT'

Nobody has ever known why THE



best Luton Town goalkeeper, was inexplicably dropped for no reason. A week later Pleat paid £100,000 for Aston Villa reserve Jake Findlay. The writing was on the wall clearly, David Pleat had no plans to play Milija again. Elastic was quickly transferred to top flight Tottenham, where the Spurs fans equally loved him and he was an FA Cup winner at Tottenham v Man City in 1980-81.

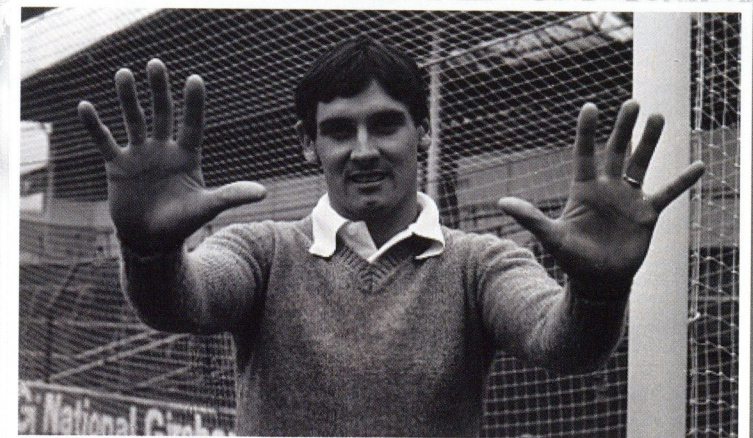
Bizarrely, the next season Pleat brought back Milija on loan for 4 games - there's nowt queerer than folk eh!

I lost contact with Milija after his move to Tottenham and later in life he moved to South Africa, where he tragically passed away in 2012. A man who made 92 Luton appearances and for many Hatters of my era - THE best no 1 Luton keeper I've ever seen!

Wayne remembers Milija moving into Harlington just around the corner from him. "I was football mad and quickly became friends with Milija and his close friend and Luton Captain at the time Paul Price. Milija often took me to games at Kenilworth Road and we would pick up Pricey up on the way. We used to go in Milija's treasured white Ford Cortina which he had virtually re-built himself with his car mechanic background.

It was a sad day when Milija told me that he was being transferred to Tottenham.

We still remained friends and I remember once (before mobiles) he rang our house and told my mum I should pop up as he had someone for me to meet. Even though he had just signed for Tottenham and stayed in the village I was hoping it was going to be my hero Luton midfielder Ricky Hill. I think he saw the disappointment in my face when it turned out to be



Tottenham's Ricky Villa, but he was nice enough although I couldn't understand a word he said!

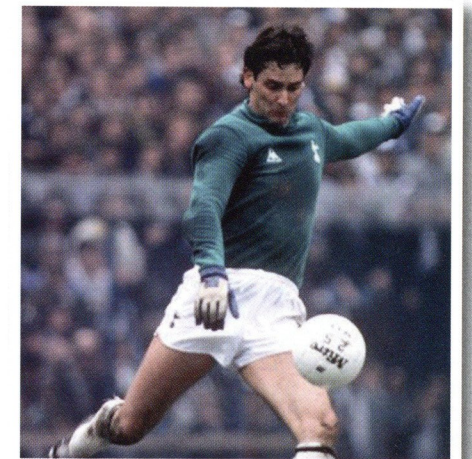
His mother Nora asked me to go with her to see Milija in a Spurs game away at Norwich around 1979/80. A friend George was driving and it took about 3 hours drive through sleet and snow around Christmas time. All was going well in the game until Milija got a bizarre injury when he collided with the goal frame and had his leg ripped open by the hooks holding the net. We rushed down to see him being stretched onto an ambulance but luckily all was well but it was a long worried drive back to Harlington.

Milija was very tall but easy going and very generous with his time and nothing ever fazed him. He played in an FA Cup 3rd round replay for Spurs away at Man United one night in January 1981 which I saw on TV. He had a "clash" with Joe Jordan during the game and had to have his jaw wired up. I saw him a couple of days later and the impact was the same as a car crash. It meant time out for Milija but Spurs with Glenn Hoddle replacing him in goal went on to win 1-0 in extra time and the start of their 1981 cup run which Milija would go on to make his mark.

During the spring of 1981,

Milija competed with Barry Daines & Mark Kendall for the No 1 shirt at Spurs and regained it in time for the FA Cup Semi-Final against Wolves. A dubious penalty was awarded when Kenny Hibbert was brought down which forced a replay at Highbury which Spurs won comfortably 3-0 and into the final. Milija then played in that centenary FA Cup final against Man City. A 1-1 draw on the Saturday and then a 3-2 win in the replay on the following Thursday night with Ricky Villa scoring the winning goal. A fitting celebration for Milija for all his years of hard work and dedication to the game.

Ray Clemence was signed by Spurs soon after so Milija's time was coming to an end and he then moved out to South Africa after a short loan back at Luton. I last met Milija playing in a charity match in Essex a few years ago and he was just as friendly and accommodating as ever. It was a sad day when we heard news of Milija passing away. He always very proud of his Staffordshire roots but remains Luton's best ever goalkeeper.





INSIDE THE PHYSIO ROOM:

BEN NIXON HEAD PHYSIOTHERAPIST

HOPE YOU ALL HAD A GREAT CHRISTMAS, VALE FANS! IN TODAY'S EDITION, I TALK THROUGH THE DREADED HAMSTRING INJURY. THIS IS SOMETHING THAT WE'VE BECOME QUITE EXPERIENCED IN DEALING WITH OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF SEASONS.

A hamstring tear is one of the most common football injuries. Any sport that requires the athlete to run at high speeds requires a significant amount of hamstring activity. The hamstring muscle group has lots of functions and they are placed under high degrees of stress during sprinting and slowing down activities (decelerating).

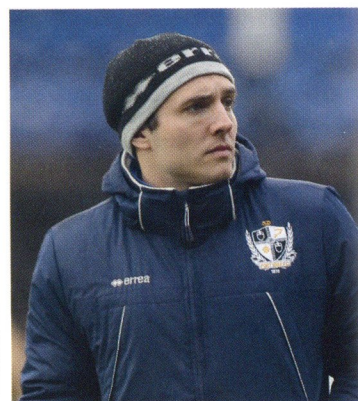
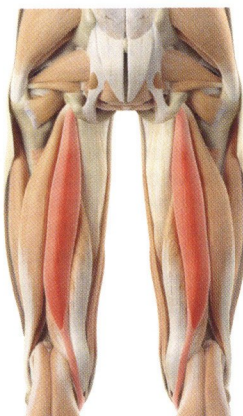
HAMSTRING FACT FILE:

- 57% of hamstring injuries occur during sprinting
- 50% more likely to occur at the end of each half, indicating fatigue is a massive factor
- Professional football clubs average 5 hamstring injuries per season
- Average time lost for each injury is 18 days

There are different grades of severity for a hamstring muscle injury (0-4). The higher the number indicates a higher proportion of affected muscle fibers and / or cross-sectional area of the muscle tear. Typically, a grade one can range from a few days to 3 weeks. A grade two can range from 3-6 weeks and grade three can vary anywhere between 6-16 weeks. Some grade three injuries require

surgery and nearly all grade four injuries will require the player to go under the knife.

The statistics over the last few years show that the game is becoming more physically demanding, which is placing more stress on the hamstrings than ever before. We've previously used the GPS system to monitor each players workload during training and matches. This gave us the ability to manipulate the training schedule to optimize their workload to prevent overworking the players.



To reduce the risk of hamstring injuries, players need an appropriate training schedule. This includes gym work to develop their strength, power and flexibility of the whole chain of lower limb muscles. It also includes an appropriate running schedule included within their football programme to expose the hamstrings to an optimal workload, ensuring they're not underworked to risk deconditioning, and they're not overworked so they become fatigued. In football, this is a fine balance!

Please follow [@pvfcmedicaldept](#) for more information regarding rehabilitation of players.

Enjoy the game,
Ben Nixon

YEOVIL TOWN REVIEW

EMIRATES FA CUP SECOND ROUND,
SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2017, VALE PARK



LAST KICK OF GAME EARNS GLOVERS REPLAY DATE



**PORT VALE 1
YEOVIL TOWN 1**

TOM POPE'S TENTH GOAL OF THE SEASON WASN'T ENOUGH TO SECURE A WIN FOR VALE IN THE EMIRATES FA CUP AS JORDAN GREEN'S 90TH-MINUTE EQUALISER EARNED YEOVIL TOWN A REPLAY, WITH A PLACE IN THE THIRD ROUND STILL UP FOR GRABS.

Vale started the brighter of the two teams and it was a David Worrall free-kick that led to the first chance, but Gavin Gunning couldn't direct his header on target and Sam Surridge managed to clear for the visitors.

With 11 minutes played, another delivery from Worrall caused problems for the Glovers' defence, but Cristian Montano's header was comfortable for Artur Krysiak to gather.

Pope then went close to opening the scoring eight minutes later as he diverted a Nathan Smith knock-down towards goal, only for it to drop inches wide of the near post with the goalkeeper scrambling.

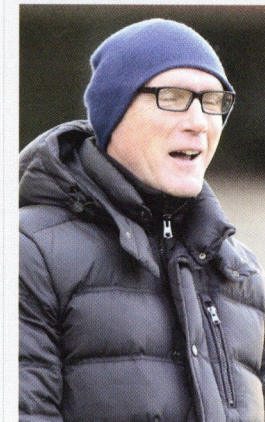
Yeovil began to enjoy more spells of possession and a long throw-in routine almost saw them force Ryan Boot into a save on 28 minutes, but Vale's defence stood firm. James Bailey's initial volley was blocked by one of his own teammates before Francois Zoko's follow-up was cleared by Tom Anderson.

Three minutes later, a swift counter from the Vallants allowed Gunning to hang up a cross that found Pope inside the area and he headed just off target under pressure. Another delivery - this time from James Gibbons - created an opportunity in the 37th minute, but Montano's glancing header couldn't quite find the top corner.

Two minutes into first-half stoppage time, the Vallants created their best chance of the half as Gunning sent

"IT'S ALWAYS DISAPPOINTING WHEN YOU CONCEDE IN THE 90TH MINUTE IN A GAME YOU SHOULD'VE WON, WE CREATED ENOUGH CHANCES TO WIN, YEOVIL HAVE OFFERED VERY LITTLE IN TERMS OF AN ATTACKING THREAT, SO I'M EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED."
"WE HAVEN'T GOT ENOUGH GOAL SCORERS IN THE TEAM."

NEIL ASPIN
PORT VALE MANAGER



a deep cross towards the far post. Pope then stooped to direct a header that was destined for the bottom corner, but Olufela Olomola threw his body in the way to deny him.

Following the restart, the home side looked to break the deadlock and some neat build-up between Worrall and Pope found substitute Anton Forrester on 48 minutes, but his header found the gloves of Krysiak.

With 51 minutes played, Tyler Denton profited from a mistake in the Yeovil defence to drive into the area, but he elected to square the ball to Pope instead of shooting and the visitors hooked the ball away from danger.

Vale's lively start to the second half continued and another opening was fashioned just three minutes later, Michael Tonge chipping narrowly over from 12 yards after he managed to get on the end of a Forrester flick.

Those missed chances almost came back to haunt Neil Aspin's men on 62 minutes as Surridge did well to bypass Smith down the right flank. The midfielder then cut a pass back to Otis Khan and his deflected effort fizzed just wide.

Up the other end just one minute later, the home side's positive spell was rewarded as Pope put his side ahead. Some neat interplay found its way to Denton on the left wing and his pinpoint cross picked out the striker who made no mistakes with the finish, looping a header over the goalkeeper from close range.

As Yeovil looked to get back into the game, Tonge provided Vale with an opportunity to double their advantage as his corner was headed into the hands of Krysiak by Forrester on 79 minutes. The striker then had another sight of goal with five minutes left to play, but he could only drag a low strike just wide from 18 yards.

With less than a minute remaining, the Glovers then found an equaliser as Green headed the ball past Boot from close range, meaning the two sides would meet again in a replay at Huish Park.

PORT VALE 1 YEOVIL 1

HOW THEY LINED UP...



PORT VALE (4-3-2-1):

Ryan Boot, James Gibbons, Gavin Gunning, Tom Anderson, Nathan Smith, Michael Tonge, Cristian Montano (Tyler Denton 45), David Worrall (Marcus Myers-Harness 71), Antony Kay, Danny Pugh (C) (Anton Forrester 45), Tom Pope

UNUSED SUBSTITUTES:

Sam Hornby, Billy Reeves, Tyrone Barnett, Dan Turner

GOALSCORER: Tom Pope (63)

BOOKED: James Gibbons



YEOVIL TOWN (4-4-2):

Artur Krysiak, Tom James, Ryan Dickson, Nathan Smith, Omar Sowunmi, Alefe Santos (Connor Smith 82), Olufela Olomola, James Bailey (C) (Oscar Gobern 69), Otis Khan (Jordan Green 68), Sam Surridge, Francois Zoko

UNUSED SUBSTITUTES:

Jonny Maddison, Keston Davies, Bevis Mugabi, Matt Worthington

GOALSCORER:

Jordan Green (89)

BOOKED: Ryan Dickson

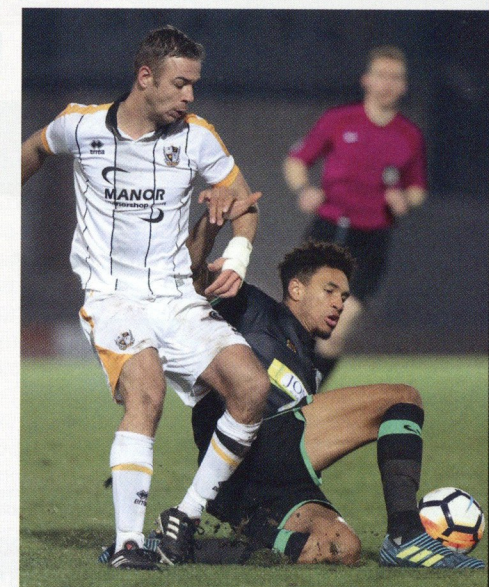
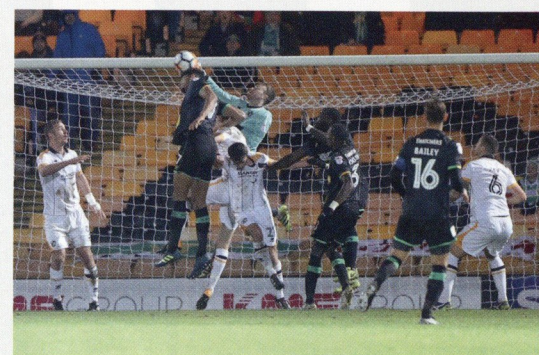
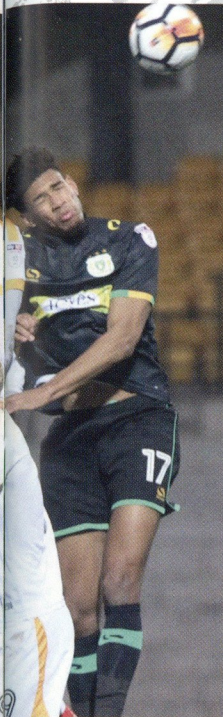
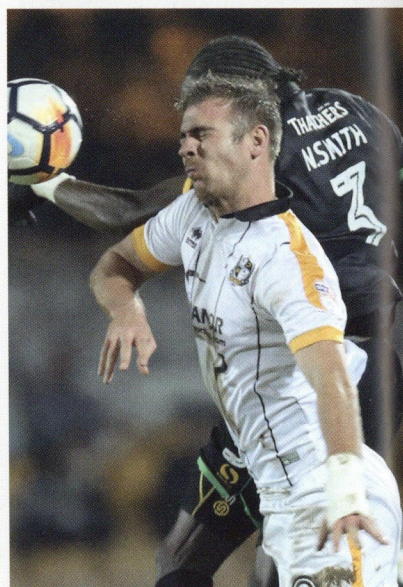
REFEREE: Scott Oldham

ATTENDANCE:

3,316 (204 away supporters).

MATCH STATS

POSSESSION:	53%	47%
SHOTS ON TARGET:	4	4
SHOTS OFF TARGET:	10	2
CORNERS:	5	2
FOULS:	5	2
YELLOW CARD:	1	1
RED CARD:	0	0



Wickes

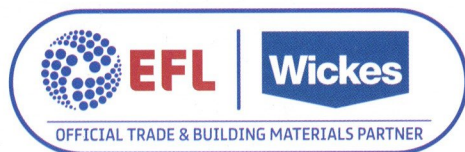
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ACTION COUNTERS TERRORISM CLUB MESSAGING

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE SEASON IN THE FOOTBALL CALENDAR WHEN FIXTURES COME THICK AND FAST ALONGSIDE THE FESTIVE CHEER. DESPITE A WONDERFUL TIME OF YEAR FOR FOOTBALL FANS ACROSS THE EFL, THE SAFETY OF SUPPORTERS REMAINS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY.

Whilst not wanting to dampen festive feelgood factor, supporters should be reminded that the threat level for the whole of the UK from terrorism remains at Severe, meaning an attack is highly likely, and sadly we have seen from previous examples that crowded places, such as football stadiums, could potentially be a target.

As always, we are continuing to work with the police and the relevant authorities to ensure appropriate security arrangements are in place to protect supporters. We therefore encourage fans to enjoy all attended fixtures, but please remain alert and if you see anything that gives you cause for concern, tell a steward or member of staff. In an emergency always

call 999.

Why not arrive in plenty of time and soak up all of the atmosphere on offer, whether that is the pre-match pie or a singalong. At times, a search regime may be in place, so please be mindful that bags and stuffed coat pockets can cause delays. Where appropriate, minimise what you carry into the stadium.

In the event of a major incident inside the stadium, it is vital you listen to all official Club announcements and follow all safety instructions, with

decisions being made for your safety.

In the event of a terrorist incident outside of the stadium, the police advice is to 'Run, Hide, Tell'.

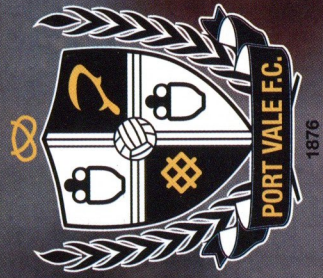
It is important to follow this advice and move quickly away from the stadium and to allow access for emergency services. Do not wait around to film anything on your mobile.

Remember, the chance of a terrorist incident is small, but being prepared and ready to respond can help.

More information can be found at www.gov.uk/ACT.
Enjoy the game!

NATHAN SMITH

24



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PASSING COMMENT

LET'S FACE IT, 2017 HAS NOT BEEN THE BEST OF YEARS FOR VALE. HAVING STARTED AMIDST THE FAILURE OF THE BRUNO EXPERIMENT WE PRETTY SOON WENT FROM BAD TO WORSE AS LAST SEASON DESCENDED INTO RELEGATION AND DESPAIR.

I'm sure Michael Brown did his best but it was pretty clear from early on in his reign that his best simply wasn't good enough. I'm confident that, in hindsight, the club hierarchy regrets the decision to extend his contract in the summer, but we live and learn.

There were few highlights in the early months of 2017 as Vale slipped further and further down the table. The sales of Jak Alnwick and Anthony Grant may well have boosted the club's coffers and, in the case of the former, there was little we could do to keep him bearing in mind the buy-out clause in his contract. I think most fans would agree, however, that we have struggled to replace Jak's consistency and our attempt to break the world record for the number of goalkeepers used in a calendar year was hardly reward for the fans.

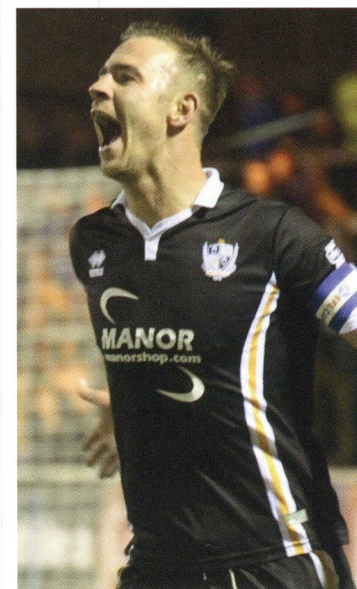
The fact that we only managed to score one goal in our last seven league games of last season is a clear reason why we went down in the end. The one we did score though, was that late belter of a goal by Chris Eagles at Walsall which gave us a thread to cling onto going into the last game of the season at Fleetwood. As so often with Vale, it's the hope that kills and those who travelled to Highbury with fingers and everything else crossed were left crying in their beer at the end of the game.

Despite our continued struggles at the start of this season, there have been a few highlights to encourage the supporters. The Return of the Pontiff in the summer gave the fans a huge boost and, whilst he struggled to find the net early on, his recent form and goalscoring gives hope for the rest of the season. We were then

pinching ourselves at the start of October when God (or was it Norman) sent us the Dream Team of Neil Aspin and John Rudge. Fans of a certain age could not believe that two of our heroes of the nineties had taken up residence again at Vale Park. The early signs have been very encouraging and it's to be hoped that history will repeat itself in seeing the club rise from the ashes again with these two.

Another encouraging sign this year has been the emergence of players who have been developed through the Vale youth system. Nathan Smith walked away with virtually all the awards at the Player of the Year function in May and this season has seen the emergence of Academy graduates Billy Reeves, Dan Turner and Ryan Boot. The best of the new bunch has been James Gibbons who, despite an apparent allergy to Yeovil, has looked a wonderful prospect for the future. He would have been strutting his stuff on the pitch today had it not been for a certain partially-sighted man with a whistle!

So 2017 appears to be a year best forgotten but perhaps all will not be lost if we as a club learn from the mistakes made in the last twelve months. Let's be glass half full fans and look forward with optimism. Pessimism is not an option!





SATURDAY MORNING FOOTBALL CENTRE

Port Vale Foundation's Mini-Soccer Centre is a fantastic introduction to football for boys & girls aged 5 and above. Our centre provides a fun and positive learning environment in which the children take part in sessions and games within two-year age bands with our qualified coaches.

10AM - 12PM

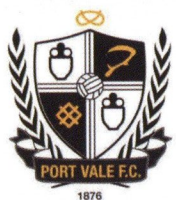
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**Children aged 5+ years
All abilities welcome**



For more information contact
Port Vale Foundation:
Tel: 01782 757066 / 07788281803
Email: foundation.trust@port-vale.co.uk



WHEN YOU SEE RED, ARE YOU SURE IT'S NOT GREEN, OR BLACK?

NORMAL VISION



COLOUR-BLIND SIMULATION (PROTANOPIA)



Approximately **one in 12 men** inherit colour blindness. It's carried on the X-chromosome, so only **one in 200 women** inherit the condition.

It can be a real issue in football, whether you're watching, playing, managing or officiating. Imagine not being able to tell the difference between kit colours and how that would affect you, your teammate or your child.

There are three types of colour blindness – and myriad colour combinations which cause problems. The common perception that colour-blind people only confuse reds and greens is a myth.

The FA has been working closely with UEFA and specialist organisation Colour Blind Awareness to highlight the issue. The intention is to positively influence decision-makers at every level of the game and improve the experience of colour-blind people – whatever their involvement in football.

This work has seen the production of a comprehensive guidance booklet. You can read and download it at www.TheFA.com/colourblindness

And please visit the Colour Blind Awareness website: colourblindawareness.org for ways you can help maximise awareness.

**Together, let's make
sure football's future
is FOR ALL.**



BANNED IN THE MORNING YOU'RE GETTING BANNED IN THE MORNING

All 72 EFL Clubs have signed up to a new Chairman's Charter to help put an end to the dangerous use of pyrotechnics.

It is already a criminal offence to enter a football stadium while in possession of a flare, smoke bomb or firework.

Any supporter now found to be in breach of the terms of the Chairman's Charter will also face a minimum three-season Club ban.



BBC RADIO STOKE

AIR WAVES

WITH BBC RADIO STOKE'S LEE BLAKEMAN

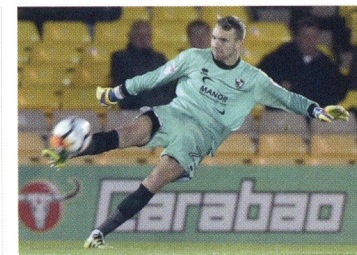
PORT VALE AWARDS – 2017!

THE END OF SEASON AWARDS AT THE FOOTBALL CLUB WILL TAKE PLACE, APPROPRIATELY ENOUGH, AT THE END OF THE SEASON!

But for this final home game of 2017 I've taken a look back at the calendar year and picked out a few awards of my own – obviously all are up for debate, but the categories below are based on my opinion and what I've seen over the last 12 months.

GOAL OF 2017:

This was the easiest one to choose – it has to be Anthony Kay's screamer at Yeovil earlier this month. Brilliant technique, perfectly placed, and superb timing too – with the team down to 9 men at the time! Unfortunately Vale couldn't hold on in the game and they went on to lose, but it's by some way the best Vale goal I've commented on in 5 and a half seasons of doing the job.

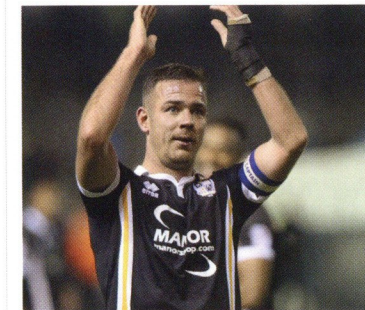


BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER OF 2017:

There are a few contenders for this as we've seen a number of players progress through the club's academy system over the last 12 months. However, for me, given his performances over the last few months, it has to be Ryan Boot. A lot has been said about his potential over the last few years and we've started to see it in recent weeks – the performance at Carlisle is certainly one that stands out, where he made a number of top draw saves to help Vale to a much needed win. Here's hoping that the progression continues in 2018.

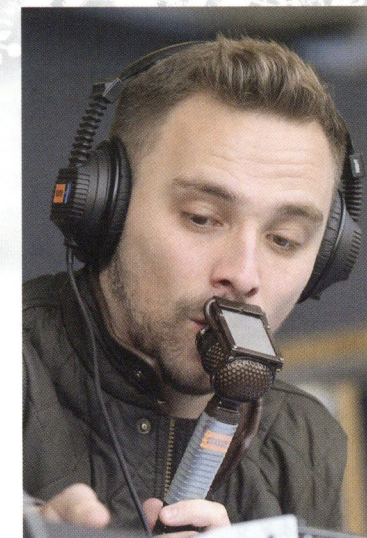
PLAYER OF 2017:

Always tough to call when you bridge over two seasons – I think Nathan Smith has been consistently brilliant, in what is still just his second full senior season. But my player of 2017, for the way he's settled back in at the club and the contribution that he's made already, is Tom Pope! He's already in to double figures for goals before the turn of the year, with the figure set to rise in 2018 I'm sure. He offers a lot in terms of presence and



leadership when he's not scoring goals too – and is a real character around the club, and always has lots of time for off field commitments.

Happy New Year from all of us at BBC Radio Stoke – and all the best for 2018! Lee



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WE'VE MET BEFORE



Saturday 28th February 2009 | Sky Bet League Two

PORT VALE 1 LUTON TOWN 3

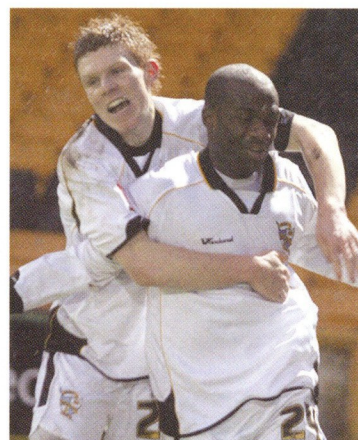
LUTON'S LAST APPEARANCE AT VALE PARK WAS ALMOST NINE YEARS AGO AND THEY WENT AWAY WITH A 3-1 VICTORY.

John McCombe gave Vale a 26th minute lead by converting a free kick by Adnam Ahmed only for Asa Hall to level matters two minutes before the break with a shot from 10 yards. Kevin Gallen tapped home from six yards to make it 2-1 in the 52nd minute and Chris Martin, nowadays with Derby County, netted the Hatters' third eleven minutes later.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The two clubs have already met this season, Luton winning 2-0 at Kenilworth Road in September. A Ben Whitfield own goal opened the scoring in the 38th minute and Jack Stacey thumped home a second five minutes into the second half.

Vale's last win over Luton at Vale Park was for a League One fixture back in February 2005 when we won 3-1. Kevin Foley gave Luton a sixth minute lead but young Vale striker Dave Hibbert scored his first goal for the club three minutes before half time. Hibbert scored again in the 59th minute and Lee Matthews, nowadays Tom Pope's agent, rounded the



PREVIOUS MEETINGS BETWEEN VALE & LUTON TOWN



■ Port Vale wins 11
■ Draws 8
■ Luton Town wins 17

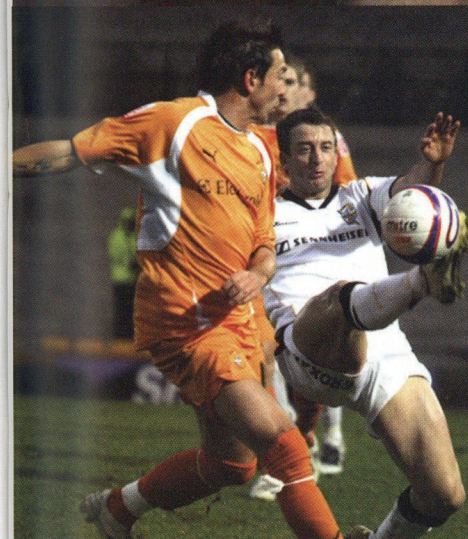
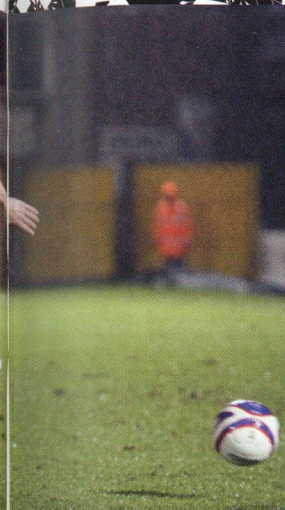
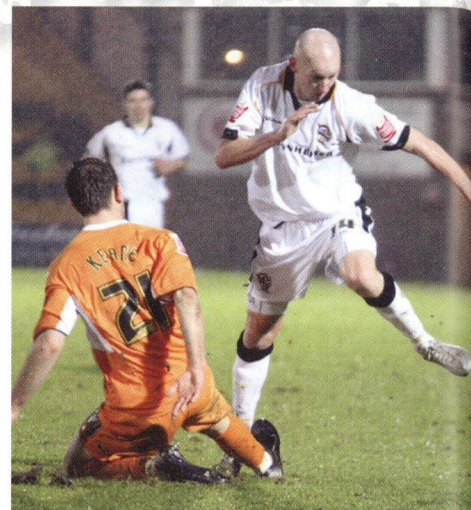
scoring off in the 81st minute. Those were the only goals Hibbert scored for the Vale, as despite only making ten appearances for us, five months later Preston North End paid £35,000 for his services, plus a later add on of £10,000 for appearances.

The teams met in the Third Round of the FA Cup at Vale Park in January 1974. Vale were mid table in what is now League One whilst Luton were third in the league above and in their way to the top flight. Central defender Dave Harris pleased the majority of the 8,127 crowd by giving Vale the lead, but Luton drew level six minutes from time. The replay took place at Kenilworth Road on the following Wednesday afternoon, as at the time the country was gripped by a power crisis and the use of floodlights was prohibited.

Vale played really well and a giant killing looked on the cards as they led 2-1 with goals by Bob Mountford and John Woodward. Unfortunately Luton levelled and scored twice more in the last four minutes to win it 4-2. Vale defender Andy Carr made his only senior appearance in the replay.

At Luton the Vale have got a poor record, and went almost 110 years between victories! Richard Evans got the winner when Vale won 1-0 at Luton's Dunstable Road ground in November 1898 but we didn't gain a victory at Kenilworth Road until August 2008! It was only 15 games, but even so it was a long time. The long awaited win was on the opening day of the 2008/09 season in League Two, following our relegation the previous campaign.

Louis Dodds crowned his Vale debut with a goal in the 25th minute but ten minutes later Sam Parkin equalised. Another Vale debutant scored on the stroke of half time to make it 2-1 and then Marc Richards scored a third in the 58th minute.



PREVIOUS 15 MEETINGS AGAINST LUTON TOWN

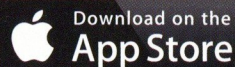
Date	Match	Competition
23 Apr 1996	Port Vale 1 Luton Town 0	Endsleigh League Division 1
30 Apr 1996	Luton Town 3 Port Vale 2	Nationwide League Division 1
25 Nov 2000	Port Vale 3 Luton Town 0	Nationwide League Division 2
05 May 2001	Luton Town 1 Port Vale 1	Nationwide League Division 2
09 Nov 2002	Luton Town 0 Port Vale 0	Nationwide League Division 2
08 Feb 2003	Port Vale 1 Luton Town 2	Nationwide League Division 2
16 Sep 2003	Luton Town 2 Port Vale 0	Nationwide League Division 2
16 Mar 2004	Port Vale 1 Luton Town 0	Nationwide League Division 2
11 Dec 2004	Luton Town 1 Port Vale 0	Coca-Cola League One
26 Feb 2005	Port Vale 3 Luton Town 1	Coca-Cola League One
22 Sep 2007	Luton Town 2 Port Vale 1	Coca-Cola League One
29 Dec 2007	Port Vale 1 Luton Town 2	Coca-Cola League One
09 Aug 2008	Luton Town 1 Port Vale 3	Coca-Cola League Two
28 Feb 2009	Port Vale 1 Luton Town 3	Coca-Cola League Two
12 Sep 2017	Luton Town 2 Port Vale 0	SKYBet League Two



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ALLY SIMCOCK PORT VALE SUPPORTERS' LIAISON

GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE AND WELCOME TO VALE PARK. MY NAME IS ALLY AND I AM A SUPPORTERS' LIAISON OFFICER FOR THE CLUB.

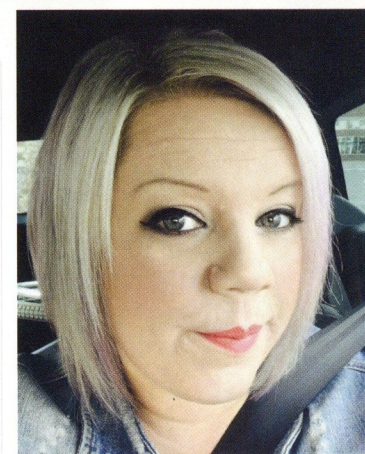
I want to ensure all fans enjoy the match day experience today.

Today's game is the last one of 2017. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the staff, players and supporters of Luton Town FC. The Hatters have been doing pretty well so far this season and have been sat comfortably at the top of the table.

You are all invited to enjoy our fanzone, which takes place within the academy building today. For visiting fans, this is the entrance below the away ticket office. The activities cost £1 per child, which gives you three attempts on the inflatable goal, an opportunity to have your face painted, plus a game of bubble football. The fanzone will be open from

1:30pm and will remain open until ten minutes before kick-off.

Port Vale Ladies Team are still sitting at the top of the league. They are currently enjoying a Christmas break, but will be back in action on January 7th, away to Ellesmere Rangers.



I wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Enjoy the game today and have a safe journey home.

Ally Simcock
Supporters Liaison





GET GAME READY



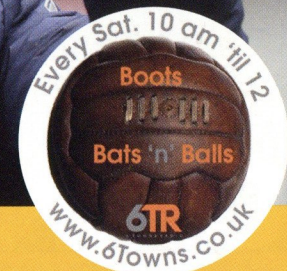
BRING IT ON!

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BOOTS, BATS 'N' BALLS

DAVE JOHNSON TALKS ABOUT THE LATEST GOINGS ON IN FOOTBALL AND HIS INTAKE ON THE LATEST NEWS STORIES AROUND VALE PARK.



I WAS NEVER TAUGHT LATIN AT SCHOOL AND TO BE HONEST, I STILL REMAIN IGNORANT TO THAT WAY OF SPEAKING, BUT WHEN THE WORDS 'ANNUS HORRIBILIS' WERE USED IN A SPEECH BY OUR QUEEN IN A SPEECH MADE BACK IN 1992 I MANAGED TO TRANSLATE THE MEANING EASILY ENOUGH.

The very same words, meaning a horrible year, if you haven't worked it out, could be used to describe 2017 when talking about Port Vale Football Club – what a horrible twelve months it has been.

The year began with the departure of what we all felt were key players, when goalkeeper Jak Alnwick and midfielder Anthony Grant were both sold, with no obvious replacements signed – and on top of that we lost the services of a striker who had scored freely, in Alex Jones.

The year seemed to go downhill from there, with the team struggling in League One and of course, as we are all fully aware, the season culminating with relegation which was confirmed on the final day of the season at Fleetwood's Highbury Stadium.

At least we opened this season with an away win. Thought of promotion or a play off place at the very least were rife following a 3-1 away win against Crawley Town.

Michael Tonge, Anthony Kay and Dan Turner were all on the scoresheet as the Vale got off to a perfect start to the new season, but from there things began to go into decline.

A 4-1 defeat in the Carabao Cup to Leeds United was somewhat brushed under the carpet as, after all, we were not really expected to get anything from Elland Road were we?

Fast forward seven League One matches with just one point from the 21 on offer and we were all getting more than a little concerned and by then the realisation that we were in for struggle to remain in League Two had dawned on us.

Not too surprisingly, Michael Brown soon departed, and we saw the return of a Vale legend in Neil Aspin, who, whilst he had several years of managerial experience, it was his first appointment in the Football League.

There is no doubt it was a gamble by the owner, Norman Smurthwaite, but it was a gamble most of us would have been happy to take, and dare I say it, it is looking like it may well pay off.

It has been a horrible year alright, but at least 'Aspo' has given us all hope and hopefully things will get better once 2018 is upon us, although don't expect miracles, progress is likely to be gradual and we all need to be patient.

It has been said before on many occasions, but don't underestimate the part we, as supporters, can play in things. Each and every one of us is fundamental to any success on the pitch, whether that success be a promotion place or, as would be measured as 'success' this season, finishing in a respectable league position.

Starting off with today's home game against high riding Luton Town, we

have a tough run of fixtures coming up. Notts County at Meadow Lane will no doubt be a difficult one, then we travel to Forest Green for what can only be described as a 'six pointer'.

An opportunity to avenge that FA Cup defeat to Yeovil Town is next on the list, when we take on the Glovers here at Vale Park, and hopefully by then we will have seen an improvement in results and we will have pulled away from the basement.

I hope you will forgive me for plugging my Midweek Kickabout show which is broadcast on 6 Towns Radio on Tuesday evenings between 7pm and 9pm.

Along with co-host, former Vale Commercial Manager Pete Lawton, we chat about football, pose a few quiz questions and play some great music and invite guests to join us in the studio. Recent guests include the legend, Robin van der Laan, and Vale CEO Colin Garlick.

The show broadcasts from 7pm until 9pm every Tuesday. You need to go to www.6towns.co.uk and click on the play button, or download the 6 Towns Radio app and listen whilst on the go.



OPINIONATED

SIGNAL RADIO SPORT COMMENTATOR GEORGE ANDREWS GIVES US HIS THOUGHTS ON THE LATEST GOINGS ON IN THE WORLD OF FOOTBALL.

DECREASING CROWDS IS A GROWING CRISIS FOR THE PREMIER LEAGUE. MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT THIS. JUST LOOK AT THE EMPTY SEATS, EVEN AT THE SO CALLED ELITE CLUBS, PARTICULARLY FOR MIDWEEK GAMES.

This will only get worse with the rise of in-house Premier League TV channels and the fact that most Premier League teams want to develop and grow their own media brands. There is nothing wrong with that - the problem arises when clubs force people to sign up to their product or miss out on their content. This applies to the media. Only recently Liverpool decided that their crucial Champions' League group game tie against Spartak Moscow would not be broadcast on BBC Radio, which forced fans to purchase the appropriate channel on which to watch or get reports or commentary on the match. Over the last few years that has extended to the media. After games managers will quite often do a separate press conference for journalists for the Monday papers. This is on the decline with clubs instead directing the journalists to watch their TV channel for the quotes. This cuts out the middleman in the case of journalists and the need to buy a daily newspaper. That is the reason why the print industry is dying in that more and more clubs (not just football) are releasing their own media feeds be it through Twitter, Facebook or TV channels. Fans already have to pay over the top for BT Sport to watch European games since ITV lost

"ONLY RECENTLY LIVERPOOL DECIDED THAT THEIR CRUCIAL CHAMPIONS' LEAGUE GROUP GAME TIE AGAINST SPARTAK MOSCOW WOULD NOT BE BROADCAST ON BBC RADIO, WHICH FORCED FANS TO PURCHASE THE APPROPRIATE CHANNEL ON WHICH TO WATCH OR GET REPORTS OR COMMENTARY ON THE MATCH."

the rights a few years ago. This could be another nail in the coffin and be a big step towards the privatisation of football.

So what is the answer? Well, much was made of the Premier League clubs agreeing to cap the cost of an away ticket in the top flight at £30 but that still exceeds the amount requested by the Football Supporters Federation. Recently I went to cover some games in Germany and checked their prices. The cost of attending matches at two second division grounds worked out at 26 euros (£23 pounds). Included in that was transport to and from the ground. Boosted by a £5.14billion TV deal when the next contract begins in 2019 there is surely no excuse for supporters not to feel the benefit. If not we will see more empty seats at stadiums throughout the leagues. The football revolution will be televised on subscription-based individual clubs' channels. It's not so

much that video killed the radio star it's a move that will start with radio and slowly to television, because of the greed of football clubs doing the same.

QUIZ QUESTION:

Which former Barcelona and Spurs striker appeared on Top of the Pops in the same episode singing 2 different songs?

Have a great Christmas and a Wonderful New Year.

**Keep The Faith
The Georgie Boy.**

SHREWSBURY TOWN REVIEW

TUESDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2017
EFL CHECKTRADE TROPHY, VALE PARK

Checkatrade
TROPHY EFL

DODDS RETURNS TO HAUNT THE VALE



PORT VALE 1 SHREWSBURY 2

PORT VALE WERE KNOCKED OUT OF THE CHECKTRADE TROPHY DESPITE A GOOD PERFORMANCE AGAINST LEAGUE ONE HIGH-FLIERS, SHREWSBURY TOWN.

Vale made four changes ahead of the clash as Tyrone Barnett, Billy Reeves, Marcus Harness and Tyler Denton started with Rob Lainton and Ben Whitfield settling for a place on the bench. Lawrie Wilson and Graham Kelly were also landed on the bench ahead of the tie.

The Valiants had the best start they could have asked for as Cristian Montano got onto the end of Tyrone Barnett's through ball and slotted into Craig MacGillvray's near post on 56 seconds.

On the ninth minute, The Shrews nearly pulled one back through Shaun Whalley after he nearly slotted in a low cross at the back post.

Neil Aspin's side continued to control the game well against the League One side, with Billy Reeves and Danny Pugh looking comfortable in the middle of the park.

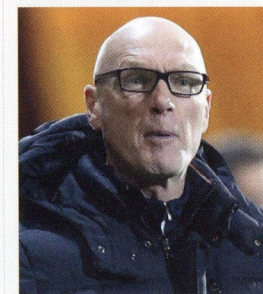
Carlton Morris tested Ryan Boot's judgement with a header which smashed off the crossbar on the 25th minute. Boot, somehow managed to shift his body towards the goal and cleared it away.

The Shrews kept coming forward as Aristote Nsiala tried his luck from Whalley's free-kick. The defender leaped up high and headed just wide.

It went quiet for a short while at Vale Park, but a glimmer of magic from Montano as James Gibbons fed him the ball from the right-hand side as he poked into the arms of the 'keeper.

"WE WORKED HARD AND WE PLAYED SOME GOOD FOOTBALL. WE HAD A GOOD TEMPO AND SHAPE IN THE GAME AS WE RESTRICTED THEM TO THAT ONE CHANCE WHERE THEY HIT THE BAR, SO WE GAVE A GOOD ACCOUNT OF OURSELVES. "IN THE SECOND-HALF, THEY PUSHED US BACK AND HAD A LOT MORE OF THE POSSESSION. I WAS DISAPPOINTED WITH THE FIRST GOAL WE CONCEDED, BUT THERE WERE A LOT OF POSITIVES."

NEIL ASPIN
PORT VALE MANAGER



Vale continued to keep the visitors at bay as Mat Sadler got booked for bringing down Marcus Harness who looked to run clear on goal, with just minutes to play until half-time.

Whalley was the liveliest out of the bunch for Shrewsbury as his low shot was easily kept by Boot with seconds to play.

Two minutes were added on at the end of the half with Vale looking the better side going into the break.

Straight from the off, Tyrone Barnett saw an early opportunity at the start of the second-half as he scuffed a volley following a cross which was poorly cleared by the Shrewsbury defence.

Two minutes later, James Gibbons nearly netted his first goal in a Vale shirt as Montano laid off a great opportunity for the youngster as he skied it on 47 minutes.

It was turning into an interesting contest with Shrewsbury missing a near chance on 53 minutes with Whalley firing Omar Beckles' excellent cross.

The Valiants were then welcomed with some good news as Ben Whitfield returned from injury as he replaced Marcus Harness with 30 minutes to play.

The equaliser soon came as Louis Dodds scored against his former club, getting onto the end of a loose ball and managing to poke it just past Boot on 67 minutes.

Dan Turner then had his opportunity to try and pull something back for the hosts by replacing Danny Pugh with 15 minutes to play.

Boot was yet again forced into action as he pushed away Whalley's guided effort into the feet of Morris yet again who skied it over on 79 minutes. The striker was then substituted off for Arthur Gnahoua.

He soon made an instant impact by assisting in Shrewsbury's goal which allowed Whalley to put the League One side in front. After the ball struck the post, Whalley stuck a foot out to fire home with Anderson narrowly missing the clearance. Unlucky on Vale's part as they were now chasing the game with eight minutes to play.

Five minutes were added on at the end of the game, with Aspin's men still chasing for that all-important equaliser.

PORT VALE 1 SHREWSBURY TOWN 2

HOW THEY LINED UP...



PORT VALE (4-4-1-1):

Ryan Boot, James Gibbons, Gavin Gunning 14', Tom Anderson, Nathan Smith, Danny Pugh (C) (Dan Turner 75'), Cristian Montaño, Billy Reeves, Tyler Denton, Tyrone Barnett, Marcus Myers-Harness (Ben Whitfield 62)

UNUSED SUBSTITUTES:

Robert Lainton, Antony Kay, Graham Kelly, Lawrie Wilson, Tom Pope,

GOALSCORER: Cristian Montaño (1)

BOOKED: Gavin Gunning



SHREWSBURY TOWN (4-4-1-1):

Craig MacGillivray, Joe Riley, Mat Sadler 41', Aristote Nsiala, Omar Beckles 91', Bryn Morris 67', Shaun Whalley 81', Abu Ogogo (C), Alex Rodman (Lenell John-Lewis 45), Carlton Morris (Arthur Gnahoua 80), Louis Dodds 68'

UNUSED SUBSTITUTES:

Dean Henderson, Christos Shelis, Ebou Adams, Ryan Barnett, Stefan Payne

GOALSCORERS:

Louis Dodds (68), Shaun Whalley (81)

BOOKED: Carlton Morris, Mat Sadler, Bryn Morris, Omar Beckles

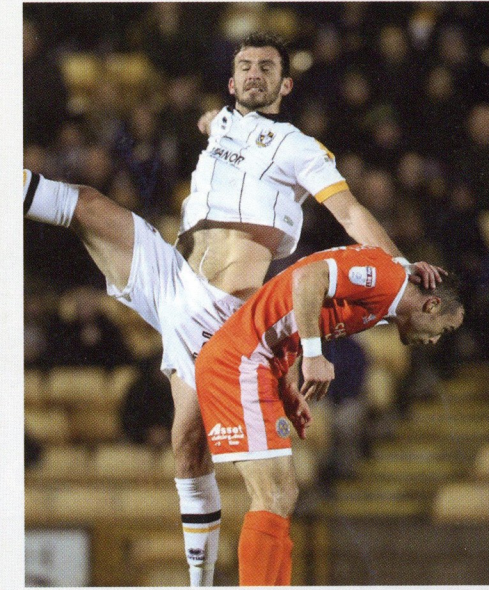
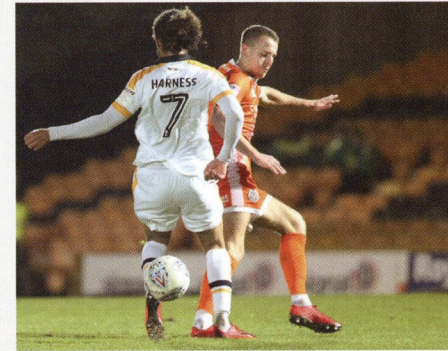
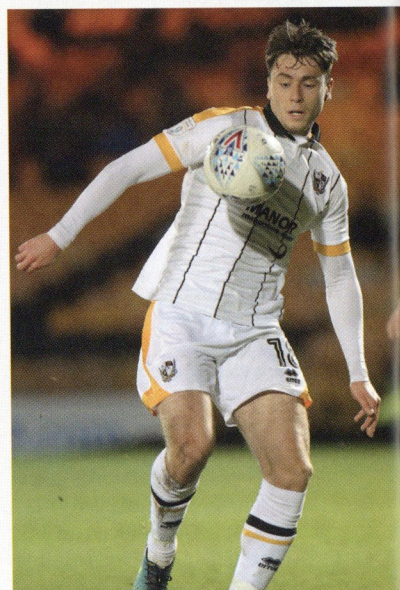
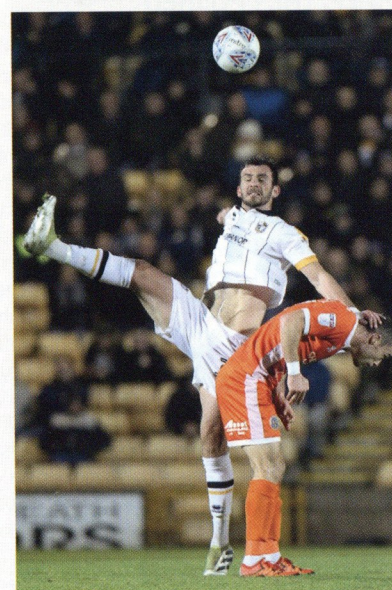
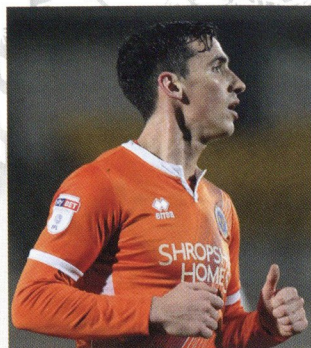
REFEREE: Trevor Kettle

ATTENDANCE:

965 (117 away supporters).

MATCH STATS

POSSESSION:	55%	45%
SHOTS ON TARGET:	1	5
SHOTS OFF TARGET:	4	5
CORNERS:	1	3
FOULS:	6	8
YELLOW CARD:	1	4
RED CARD:	0	0





Full Time



Proud partner of

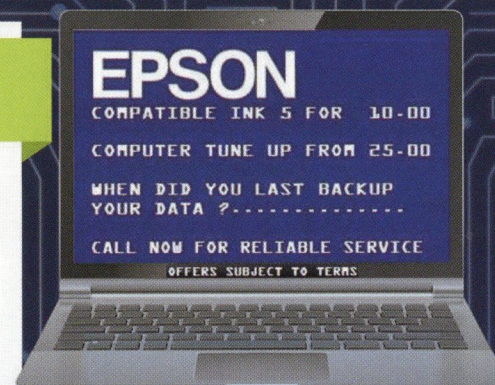


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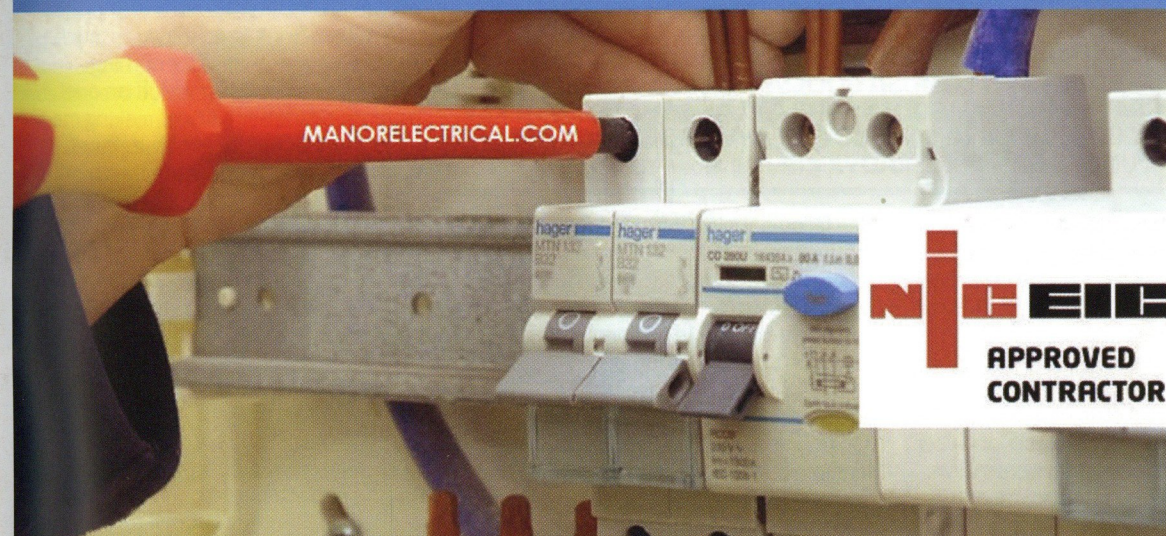
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AYUP AR YEWITH!

ELI COLCLOUGH'S COLUMN BY PHIL POTTS

ELI, A SELF-ACCLAIMED 'CRUSTY OWD GIT' **ELI COLCLOUGH** OFFERS HIS VIEWS ON THE VALE, THEIR OPPOSITION AND ANYTHING ELSE THAT COMES TO MIND. HE WRITES IN THE, NOW DISAPPEARING, POTTERIES DIALECT (WHICH CAN SEEM ALARMING AND UNINTELLIGIBLE) BUT FOR THOSE NOT NATIVE TO 'BOSLEM' OUR EDITOR THOUGHTFULLY PROVIDES A TRANSLATION.

THIS WEEK ELI IS ANTICIPATING THE VISIT OF LUTON...

Ayup sirries, wayne got Lowtun this wick, thase uv scowered loodsa gools soo itud bay jest grate ifun way cudst cape a clane shate. Smackin a cupulin fur ussenz ud bay ayvan berra, burra wunner bay toe grady.

Howst gonnon oover th olleedeeds? Ar berra lorrub thayn bin werkin ast? Dunner same rate termay, avin shopsoapn ivry ire uth dee ayvun bonk olleedeeds....ar mek

tholleeedees, n jester fyow yewst gooin fur doh meentnunce n sutch (un git peed threthw nooz furrit an owe!) Strubble nar, thurrinner mutch faktree woke narradees, itso gun abrode ter pleeces weir thee dunner aft peasmutch. Thonks Moggy, tarfur night. Surrey muckers, arv gonnoffonwun anner a? Mussbay thissail meykin may goo owe mowdlin fur thowd dees ard berra stick may tut un avunutha paint!

Ennyrode, thas yer lot fur nah. Arl sitthee nextarm, ow rate? Cape onth bricks, Eli.

"AYUP SIRRIES, WAYNE GOT LOWTUN THIS WICK, THASE UV SCOWERED LOODSA GOOLS SOO ITUD BAY JEST GRATE IFUN WAY CUDST CAPE A CLANE SHATE. SMACKIN A CUPULIN FUR USSENZ UD BAY AYVAN BERRA, BURRA WUNNER BAY TOE GRADY."

a pointer steein atwom un caping iter shops til a rail werkdee. Arm lakelee un may oon thoo, burrat laste tha cossner bleem may fur avin gerrita thee pit wun moost uther fookeron olleedee. Ar ken theers plentee o jobswee thee ast woke oath tarm, plaice, farmen, osspickles n uther senshals burra conner sayth nade fur shopsbayoapn twenny fower ires a dee, sivven dees awick.

Faktrees nailee owees adda shutdine oova

Hey fellows, we've Luton this week, they've scored loads of goals so far so it would be just great if we could keep a clean sheet. Scoring one or two ourselves would be even better, but I won't be too greedy.

How have you been over the holidays? I suppose a lot of you have had to work have you? It doesn't seem right to me, having shops open every hour of the day, even on Bank Holidays...I make a point of staying home and keeping out of the shops until a 'real' workday. I'm

probably alone in that, but at least you can't blame me for having to get out of bed when other people are on holiday. I know there's plenty of jobs where you have to work all the time, police, fire service, hospitals and other essentials, but I don't see the need for shops to be open twenty four hours a day, seven days a week.

Factories nearly always had a shutdown over the holidays and just a few people used to go in to do maintenance and so on (and get paid handsomely for it too)! It's the trouble now, there isn't much factory work nowadays, it's all gone abroad to places where they don't need to pay as much. Thanks Maggie, thanks for nothing. Sorry my friends, I've 'gone off on one' haven't I? Must be this beer making me go all maudlin for the old days, I'd better hold my peace and have another pint!

Anyway, that's it for now. I'll see you next time, alright? Stay safe*, Eli.

**Keep on the bricks
(pavement) i.e. look after yourself, stay safe**

François Zoko



NEXT AT VALE PARK YEOVIL TOWN

PORT VALE v YEOVIL TOWN

DATE: SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY 2018 | KICK OFF: 15:00
COMPETITION: SKYBET LEAGUE TWO



OUR NEXT HOME GAME IS ON SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY WHEN WE HOST YEOVIL TOWN IN SKYBET LEAGUE TWO, OUR FIRST HOME GAME OF THE NEW YEAR AND IT KICKS OFF AT 3 PM.

It will be the fourth time the clubs have met this season, and so far the Vale haven't won any.

The first meeting was a league game at Huish Park in September and it ended in a 1-1 draw. Tom Pope gave us the lead but Otis Khan levelled matters after an error by Kelle Roos. The teams then met in the Second Round of the FA Cup at Vale Park last month and again Tom Pope gave Vale the lead. Jordan Green took the game to a replay in the last minute with the equaliser. The replay was another story, as despite only having nine men for an hour, Vale equalised twice before eventually losing 3-2. Marcus Harness and Anthony Kay scored two of the best goals for a long time.

Yeovil went into the Christmas programme with just two away wins to their credit in the league, 3-2 at Chesterfield and 3-1 at Exeter City.

MEN TO WATCH

Otis Khan had nine goals, three of them coming against the Vale, and François Zoko, who scored the winner in the cup replay, had eight.

OTIS KHAN

DOB: 5 September 1995
POSITION: Attacking Midfielder/Winger
YOUTH CAREER: 2002-12 Manchester United, 2012-13 Sheffield United
SENIOR LEAGUE CAREER:
2013-16 Sheffield United 2, 2013-14 Buxton (L) 2, 2015 Matlock Town (L) 16 (5), 2015-16 Barrow (L) 8 (4), 2016 Barnsley 3, 2016- Yeovil Town 50 (11)

FRANÇOIS ZOKO

DOB: 13 September 1983
POSITION: Striker
YOUTH CAREER: -2000 C.O. Savigny-sur-Orge, 2000-01 Nancy
SENIOR LEAGUE CAREER:
2001-04 Nancy 70 (8), 2004-06 Laval 60 (9), 2006-08 Mons 55 (12), 2008-09 Hacettepe Spor Kulübü 27 (1), 2010 KV Oostende 13 (3), 2010-12 Carlisle United 88 (19), 2012-2013 Notts County 39 (7), 2013-14 Stevenage 33 (10), 2014-15 Blackpool 14 (1), 2014-15, Bradford City (L) 16 (1), 2015- Yeovil Town 78 (22)
INTERNATIONAL CAREER:
2003 Côte d'Ivoire U-20, U-23

TICKET INFO:

Tickets are available as follows:

PRIOR TO THE DAY OF THE GAME:

LORNE STREET STAND	
Adults:	£21.00
Seniors (62+):	£16.00
Young Adult (18-21):	£16.00
Juniors (12-17):	£8.00
Under 12's:	FREE

RAILWAY STAND, PADDOCK & BYCARS

Adults:	£20.00
Seniors:	£15.00
Young Adults:	£15.00
Juniors:	£8.00
Under 12's:	FREE

MATCHDAY TICKET PRICES:

All prices increase by £2 on the day of the game apart from the under 12's which remain FREE.

Adult tickets are also available for the Railway Paddock from the Crown and Duke William public houses in Burslem at £22 each.

FAMILY BUNDLES

On a matchday there is also a family bundle available for any stand, for a combination of adults and children.

Adults	£20.00
Seniors	£15.00
Young adults	£15.00
Juniors	£9.00
Under 12's	FREE

ADVANCE TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE TICKET OFFICE IN PERSON OR BY THE FOLLOWING MEANS:

- 1) By telephoning 01782 655821, paying by debit or credit card and picking them up on the day of the game (NB please try to collect them more than 30 minutes before kick-off to avoid queuing)
- 2) By telephoning as above and having them posted to you for an extra £1 (Please allow time for this)
- 3) By going on to the website www.port-vaile.co.uk/tickets and then printing the ticket yourself.

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**YOUR COMMITTEE
OF THE PORT VALE
SUPPORTERS' CLUB
FOR 2017/18 ARE;**

CHAIRMAN: Mark Porter

VICE CHAIRMAN:

Malcolm Hirst

TREASURER: Phil Potts

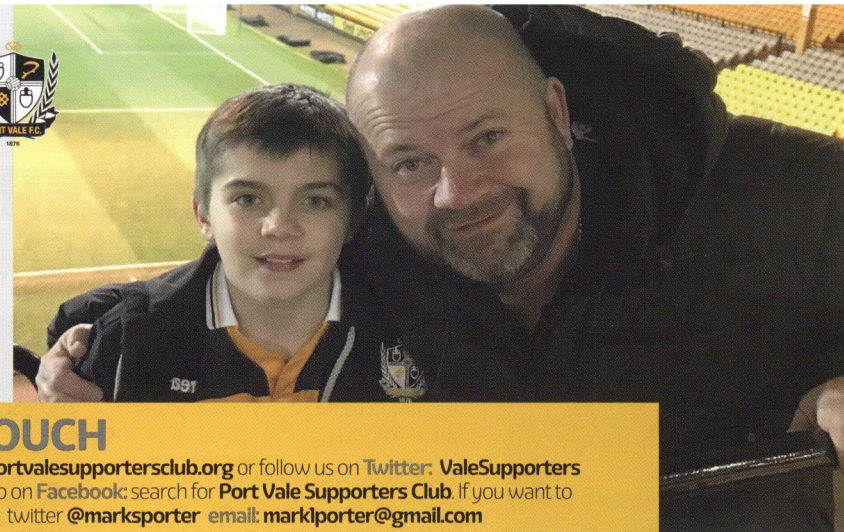
SECRETARY/WEB OFFICER:

John King

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Dean Jones, Paul Dixon,

Garry Gratton



GETTING IN TOUCH

Please visit our **website:** www.portvalesupportersclub.org or follow us on **Twitter:** [ValeSupporters](https://twitter.com/ValeSupporters) for more information. We are also on **Facebook:** search for **Port Vale Supporters Club**. If you want to get in touch with me for anything **twitter** @markporter **email:** markporter@gmail.com

SUPPORTERS' CLUB

I'D LIKE TO WELCOME THE PLAYERS, OFFICIALS & SUPPORTERS OF LUTON TOWN TODAY TO VALE PARK FOR OUR FINAL GAME OF 2017.

I trust you have had a good Christmas and are looking forward to the New Year celebrations? I just thought that as it's the last game of the year that ended in us being relegated to League 2, that it has ended a lot better than when it started. Tom Pope re-joined the club and is showing the touch in front of goal that we have become accustomed to, and also welcoming home Neil Aspin and John Rudge back to Vale Park. This has seen the teams results and performances improve so much. On behalf of the supporters club we want to thank Colin Garlick who has come along to every meeting and answered

every question that he was asked, taking up things that were brought up on behalf of the supporters. We also remember those in the Vale family that we have lost this during the last 12 months.

I look forward to the January transfer window. It's always exciting to see what goes on in football when the window opens, I hope the Vale can bring in a couple of players to strengthen us for the second half

of the season. Finally thank you to every Vale fan that travels all over the country watching the Vale through thick and thin, you are the foundation of Port Vale and we hope that you have a very Happy New Year. Let's hope 2018 is a great year for us all and for Port Vale.

Thanks again, enjoy the game and let's hope for 3 points.
Happy New Year
Up The Vale

Our Next Meeting is on **THURSDAY
25TH JANUARY 2018 @ 7:30PM
- 9:00PM** at **THE VALE SOCIAL
CLUB** it's free and all are welcome to attend.



WARNING TO ALL SUPPORTERS

Just wanted to remind people that standing in aisles and gangways can cause problems if there is an emergency so if you could not stand in thoroughfare's or access areas it would be appreciated, thank you.

FOR ALL THE LATEST SUPPORTERS' CLUB NEWS

Please check our website, for news, supporters' club meetings, and travel news, here is the link to the website
www.portvalesupportersclub.org.uk.

SEND US YOUR STORIES

As always we are looking for Vale fans stories this season to go in our page in the programme on why you support the Vale where you come from so please email us your stories to comments@portvalesupportersclub.org.uk



2017/18 EFL YOUTH ALLIANCE UNDER 18 NORTH WEST FIXTURES

AUGUST 2017				
Sat 5	TRANMERE ROVERS	H	L1-2	
Sat 12	Carlisle United	A	L5-6	
Sat 19	WALSALL	H	W2-1	
Sat 26	ROCHDALE (YAC)	H	W4-0	
SEPTEMBER 2017				
Sat 2	Morecambe	A	L1-4	
Sat 9	ROCHDALE	H	L0-4	
Sat 16	Bury (YAC)	A	W2-1	
Sat 23	Fleetwood Town	A	W1-0	
Sat 30	SHREWSBURY TOWN	H	D2-2	
OCTOBER 2017				
Sat 7	Doncaster Rovers (YAC)	A	DH	
Sat 14	Wrexham	A	W2-1	
Sat 20	Stourbridge (FAYCI)	A	W3-2	
NOVEMBER 2017				
Sat 11	Preston North End	A	L2-3	
Tue 14	Chesterfield (FAYC2)	A	L1-2	
Sat 18	BLACKPOOL	H	L1-6	
DECEMBER 2017				
Sat 2	BURY	H	L1-2	
FRI 22	SCUNTHORPE (YAC)	H	13:00	
JANUARY 2018				
Sat 6	Rochdale	A	11:00	
Sat 20	MORECAMBE	H	11:00	
Sat 27	Shrewsbury Town	A	11:00	
FEBRUARY 2018				
Sat 10	FLEETWOOD TOWN	H	11:00	
Sat 17	CARLISLE UNITED	H	11:00	
Sat 24	Wigan Athletic	A	11:00	
MARCH 2018				
Sat 3	WREXHAM	H	11:00	
Sat 10	WIGAN ATHLETIC	H	11:00	
Sat 17	Blackpool	A	11:00	
Sat 24	PRESTON NE	H	11:00	
APRIL 2018				
Sat 7	Accrington Stanley	A	11:00	
Sat 14	Bury	A	11:00	
Sat 21	Tranmere Rovers	A	11:00	
MAY 2018				
Sat 5	Walsall	A	11:00	
TBA	ACCRINGTON STANLEY	H	P-P	

* AET

2017/18 U 18 NORTH WEST LEAGUE TABLE

	W	D	L	F	A	D	Pts
1 Wigan A	12	10	0	2	25	12	30
2 Rochdale	11	8	1	2	28	11	25
3 Preston NE	13	7	3	3	32	19	24
4 Bury	11	7	1	3	21	14	22
5 Tranmere R	13	5	3	3	15	13	20
6 Shrewsbury T	13	5	4	4	20	18	19
7 Blackpool	9	4	3	2	21	13	15
8 Accrington S	10	4	2	4	12	18	14
9 Wrexham	11	3	2	6	15	15	11
10 Walsall	11	3	1	7	17	19	10
11 PORT VALE	11	3	1	7	18	31	10
12 Fleetwood T	12	2	2	8	8	18	8
13 Carlisle U	10	2	2	6	12	29	8
14 Morecambe	11	2	1	8	12	26	7

League table as at 16th December 2017

THE NEXT GENERATION

LOAN PLAYERS 2017/18

QUITE A FEW VALE PLAYERS HAVE BEEN OUT ON LOAN THIS SEASON.

Defender **ADAM YATES** made 7 appearances for Macclesfield Town before returning.

Goalkeeper **JOE SLINN** made 19 appearances for Stalybridge Celtic before being recalled

Defender **LUKE DENNIS** has made 23 appearances for Newcastle Town so far during a season long loan

Midfielder **MICHAEL CALVELEY** made 11 appearances for Leek Town scoring 1 goal and is now at Stafford Rangers having made one appearance so far.

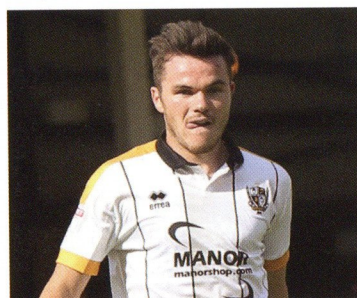
Defender **CHARLIE WALFORD** made 7 appearances for Romulus and is now at Market Drayton Town having made one appearance so far.

Defender **GRAHAM KELLY** made 12 appearances for Bradford Park Avenue scoring 1 goal before returning.

Midfielder **HARRY MIDDLETON** has made 5 appearances for Halifax Town.

Goalkeeper **SAM HORNBY** has made 2 appearances for Chester so far.

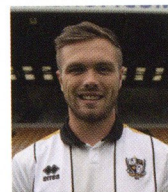
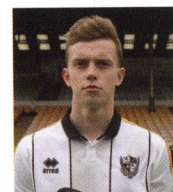
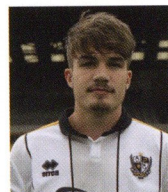
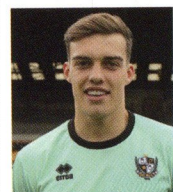
YOUTH TEAM defender **ZAK HILL** has made 1 appearance for Market Drayton Town so far.



2017/18 LEAGUE CUP NORTHERN GROUP 6 TABLE

	W	D	L	F	A	D	Pts
1 PORT VALE	3	2	1	0	7	2	7
2 Doncaster R	4	1	2	1	6	9	5
3 Bury	2	1	0	1	5	2	3
4 Rochdale	3	1	0	2	4	6	3
5 Scunthorpe U	2	0	1	1	3	6	1

As at 16th December



NEXT FOR THE YOUTH TEAM

The Vale Youth are next in action on Saturday 20th January 2018 at home to Morecambe in the EFL Youth Alliance Under 18 North West game at The Bycars Training Ground. Kick-off is at 11am.

VALE RESERVES

VALE HIT ROVERS FOR SIX TO LEAD GROUP IN LEAGUE CUP

TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2017 | CENTRAL LEAGUE CUP



PORT VALE 6 DONCASTER ROVERS 0

VALE BREEZED INTO THE SEMI-FINALS WITH A COMFORTABLE WIN AFTER A GOALLESS FIRST HALF. HARRY MIDDLETON, BACK FROM A LOAN SPELL AT HALIFAX, HAD A SHOT TIPPED OVER BY LOUIS JONES IN THE TENTH MINUTE WITH ANTON FORRESTER DOING LIKEWISE FOURTEEN MINUTES LATER.

Vale went in front in the 51st minute when Forrester played the ball to trialist Shaun Tuton and he slotted it past Jones from six yards. Dan Turner had a shot well saved before Vale doubled their lead in the 62nd minute. A good move involving Chris Regis and Tuton ended with Forrester turning the ball home. Five minutes later it was 3-0 when Tuton cut in from the right and had a shot blocked with Turner chipping the rebound over the keeper.

Middleton hit a 30 yards shot over the bar before Vale scored again in the 72nd minute. Jones made a poor clearance straight to Forrester and he held off the challenge of a defender to stride forward and bundle the ball home. Five minutes later Forrester laid the ball back for Regis to thump the ball home from the edge of the box with a powerful shot.

With one minute remaining Vale scored a sixth goal when a cross by Tyler Denton was knocked down by Forrester for Turner to sweep home.

Vale now await the draw for the semi-finals along with Rotherham United, Wigan Athletic and Mansfield Town.

PORT VALE: Lainton (Slinn 80), Wilson, Davis (Reeves 61), Kelly, Denton, Turner, Regis, Middleton, De Freitas, Tuton, Forrester
SUBS NOT USED: Benns, Ward, Ryder

CENTRAL LEAGUE CUP - GROUP 3 TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 PORT VALE	3	2	1	0	8	0	7
2 Rotherham U	3	2	0	1	6	2	6
3 Doncaster R	3	1	0	2	4	10	3
4 Walsall	3	0	1	2	0	6	1

As at 19th December

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2017/18 CENTRAL LEAGUE FIXTURES

SEPTEMBER 2017

Tue 5	Walsall	A	W3-0
Wed 27	Walsall CLC	A	D0-0

OCTOBER 2017

Tue 10	Rotherham Utd CLC	A	W2-0
Wed 18	DONCASTER ROVERS	H	W2-0
Wed 25	ROTHERHAM UNITED	H	W2-1
Tue 31	York City	A	W3-1

NOVEMBER 2017

Tue 28	MORECAMBE	H	W4-2
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DECEMBER 2017

Tue 5	Stafford Town (SSCI)	A	D3-3*
Tue 19	DONCASTER R (CLC)	H	W6-0

JANUARY 2018

Tue 9	Bradford City	A	14:00
Tue 16	WALSALL	H	13:00
Tue 23	Doncaster Rovers	A	13:00

FEBRUARY 2018

Tue 6	MANSFIELD TOWN	H	14:00
Tue 20	Morecambe	A	13:00
Tue 27	Grimsby Town	A	14:00

MARCH 2018

Tue 20	Hartlepool United	A	15:00
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APRIL 2018

Tue 10	BRADFORD CITY	H	14:00
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*Lost 4-3 on pens

2017/18 CENTRAL LEAGUE - GROUP A NORTH TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 PORT VALE	5	5	0	0	14	4	15
2 Rotherham U	4	3	0	1	6	3	9
3 Grimsby T	3	2	0	1	6	1	6
4 Walsall	3	2	0	2	11	8	6
5 Bradford C	3	2	0	1	5	5	6
6 Mansfield T	2	1	0	1	5	1	3
7 Doncaster R	3	1	0	2	5	4	3
8 Morecambe	2	0	0	2	3	7	0
9 Hartlepool U	2	0	0	2	0	7	0
10 York City	4	0	0	4	3	18	0



NEXT FOR THE RESERVES BRADFORD CITY v PORT VALE

The Vale reserves are next in action on Tuesday 9th January away to Bradford City at a venue to be confirmed. Kick off will be 2pm.

GOING PLACES MEADOW LANE

NOTTS COUNTY v PORT VALE

DATE: MONDAY 1ST JANUARY 2018 | KICK OFF: 15:00 | COMPETITION: SKYBET LEAGUE TWO



FACT FILE

FOUNDED: 1862
GROUND: Meadow Lane
CAPACITY: 20,300 (All seated).
ADDRESS: Meadow Lane, Nottingham, NG2 3HJ
TELEPHONE NO: 0115 952 9000
NICKNAME: The Magpies
PITCH SIZE: 114 x 76 yards
WEBSITE: www.nottscountyfc.co.uk

TICKET INFORMATION:

Tickets on sale at the Ticket Office

Adults: £20.00
Aged 18-21, 60 plus: £14.00
Aged 16-17: £7.00
Aged 12-15: £5.00
Aged 7-11: £1.00
(must be accompanied by adult/senior)
Under 7: Free

Tickets are on sale until 29th December at 2pm. Prices increase on the day by £2.00 and will be cash only.

COACH TRAVEL INFORMATION:

Departure Time: 12 midday
Adults: £14.00
Concessions: £12.50

Booking are now being taken in the club shop.

DIRECTIONS:

SAT NAV: NG2 3HJ
DISTANCE: 57 miles
TRAVEL TIME: 1hr 15 mins
Take A50 to junction with M1 then follow A453 to West Bridgford. After 1.8 miles exit A453 (s/p Grantham A52, Newark A46, Melton A606) i.e. not going over the fly over. At roundabout after 0.3 miles turn left (s/p Grantham A52, Melton A606). After 0.3 miles, at mini roundabout, turn right (s/p Football Ground) onto A52. Keep on A52 for 5.5 miles. At 3rd roundabout turn left (s/p Nottingham A6011) onto A6011. Immediately get into the right hand lanes and over the fly-over. After a further 0.9 the road divides. For Meadow Lane bear right (s/p Nottingham A6011 Colwick) over the Lady Bay Bridge. At T-junction after 0.5 miles turn left (s/p M1, Birmingham A543) into Meadow Lane.

WHERE TO PARK:

You can park on the cattle market opposite away seating area costing £3.50 a car or at Nottingham City Council's Eastcroft depot (NG2 3AH) at £4 a car. This is about a five minute walk from the ground, sited just

off London Road (A60), opposite Hooters. It is easy to spot as the entrance is signposted, has banners and is manned by security guards who remain throughout the match. There is less street parking in the area than when we last played at Notts as parking restrictions have been introduced.

OVERVIEW OF THE GROUND:

The ground was completely rebuilt in the 1990s into an all seater stadium. It has four separate stands, with both sides having single tiered stands (Derek Pavis and Jimmy Sirrel Stands). At one end is the large Kop Stand which can hold 5,400 fans, whilst at the other end is the smaller Family Stand. An outstanding feature of the ground is the imaginative use of the different coloured seating.

WHERE THE VALIANTS WILL BE SEATED:

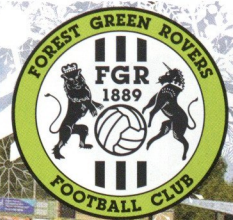
The visiting fans no longer are allocated the Kop End but instead are seated in part of the Jimmy Sirrel Stand, located at the side of the ground. Normally 1,300 seats are allocated although this can be increased.

WHERE TO DRINK:

There are a few pubs "away friendly" within easy reach of the ground. On the main London Road is the newly refurbished and renamed Globe, serving real ales. Just the other side of Trent Bridge is the Southbank which also serves real ales and excellent food.

WHERE TO EAT:

If you don't fancy what is on offer at the Kiosk in the ground then you will find plenty of food outlets on Radcliffe Road.



GOING PLACES THE NEW LAWN

FOREST GREEN ROVERS v PORT VALE

DATE: SATURDAY 6TH JANUARY 2018 | KICK OFF: 15:00 | COMPETITION: SKYBET LEAGUE TWO

FACT FILE

FOUNDED: 1889
GROUND: The Lawn
CAPACITY: 4,803 (Seats 1,881)
ADDRESS: Nympsfield Road, Nailsworth, GL6 0ET
TELEPHONE NO: 01453 834 860
NICKNAME: The Rovers
PITCH SIZE: 110x70 Yards
WEBSITE: www.forestgreenroversfc.com

TICKET INFORMATION:

On sale at the Ticket Office

TERRACE:

Adults: £16.00
65+: £12.00
16-21: £8.00
11-15: £5.00
Under 11: FREE*
(*with Adult Ticket)

SEATING: (FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY ONLY)

Adults: £19.00
65+: £15.00
16-21: £10.00
11-15: £7.00
Carer: FREE

Tickets are on sale until 5th January 2018 at 2pm. Prices increase on the day by £2.00 and will be cash only.

COACH TRAVEL INFO:

Departure Time: 10.30am
Adults: £15.00
Concessions: £13.50

Booking are now being taken in the club shop.

DIRECTIONS:

SAT NAV: GL6 0ET
DISTANCE: 112 miles
TRAVEL TIME: 2 hrs
Take the M6, M5 to junction 13 taking the A419 towards Stroud. At Stroud turn onto the A46 towards Nailsworth. This brings you into the centre of the town. At the Information Centre take the first right at the mini roundabout onto Spring Hill, sign posted Forest Green. The Lawn is at the top of this hill.

WHERE TO PARK:

There is no parking on the club car park for visiting fans apart from blue badge holders who have pre-booked a space. A short distance away, down Nympsfield Road, is Nailsworth Primary School which offers parking at £5 per car. Otherwise, there is plenty of on-street parking in the area.

OVERVIEW OF THE GROUND:

The New Lawn, opened in 2006, is at top of a fairly steep hill so very exposed. The Club prides itself on its "green" credentials, FIFA recently described them as the greenest football club in the world. No other football club in the world has put the environment as central to its principles. They are the only club in the world to have EMAS accreditation – the gold standard of environmental management – and they are the first and only vegan football club in the world. The large

Main (East) Stand is on one side of the pitch. It is all seated and has a capacity of 1,881. There are a row of executive boxes across the back of it. The dugouts areas are at the front of this stand. Opposite is the small open West Terrace, which has only seven steps. Both ends have been rescued from the old Lawn ground. The covered terrace, Nympsfield Road (North) has the roof which came from the Barnfield Road side of the old ground. Opposite is the South Stand, which was a covered all seated stand, but has now had the seats removed to make it a terrace for home fans. This section was transported from the Club's old ground and re-erected at the New Lawn.

WHERE THE VALIANTS WILL BE HOUSED:

Away fans are allocated the very shallow, open West Terrace which runs the full length of the pitch with a capacity of around 1,150. The terrace is uncovered, so hope that it doesn't rain. Apart from disabled fans, there are no seats for visiting supporters. The entrance to the away terrace is at the back of the stadium and the access paths are narrow. Entrance to the ground is via electronic turnstiles, so you need to scan your ticket to gain admittance.

WHERE TO EAT:

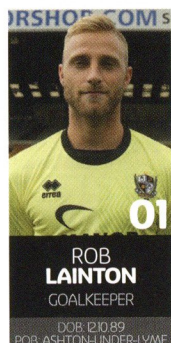
Only Vegan food is served at the ground, so on offer, are Veggie Burgers (£3.20), Q-Pies (filled with Quorn £3.50) Chips and Curry Sauce (£2.70) and Chip Butties (£2.70).

WHERE TO DRINK:

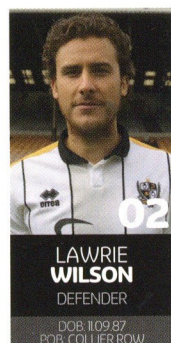
The Club House is usually for home supporters only so a small marquee bar for visiting fans, located near to the away turnstiles, is sometimes provided. There are many interesting places to get food or drink in Nailsworth itself, a steep 15 minutes' walk away.



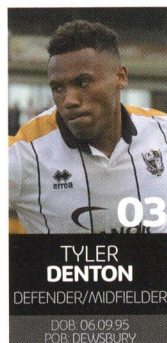
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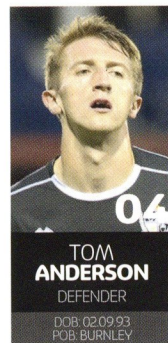
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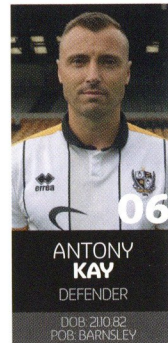
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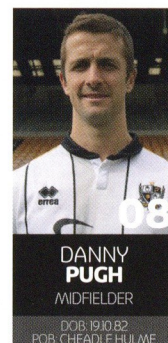
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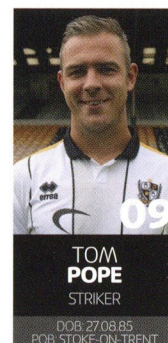
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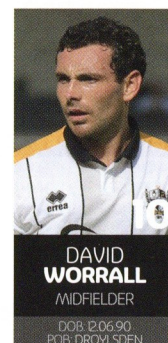
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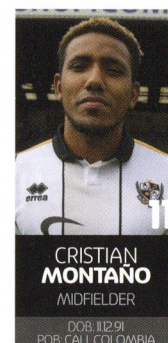
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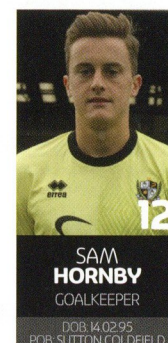
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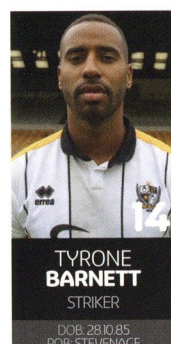
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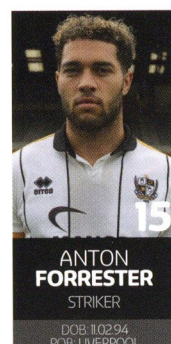
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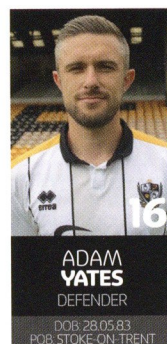
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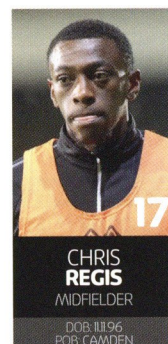
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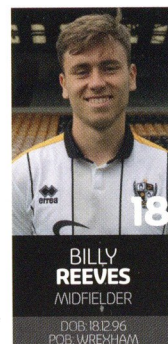
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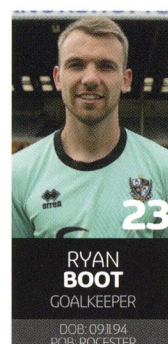
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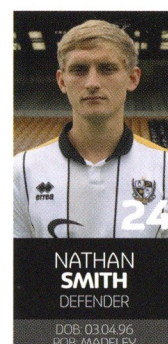
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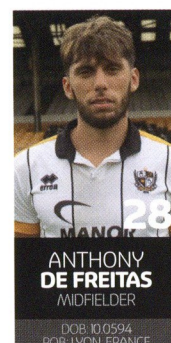
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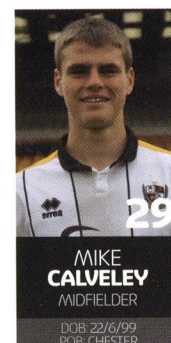
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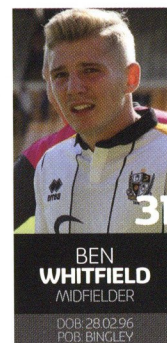
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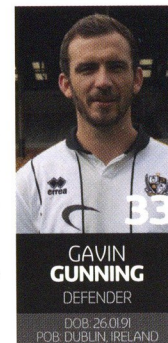
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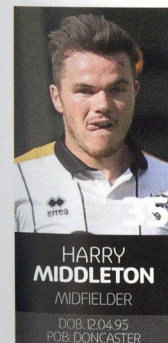
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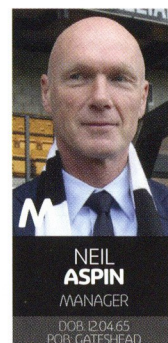
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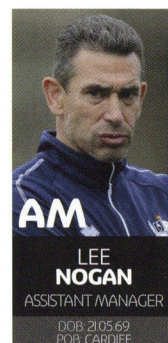
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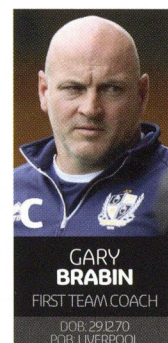
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2017/18 SEASON GAME CENTRE

KEY: GOALSCORER 1 | BOOKED | SENT OFF | SUB 1 | SUB 2 | SUB 3 | SUB 4 | CUP FIXTURES: YELLOW
KEY: CC (CARABAO CUP) | CTT (CHECKMATE TROPHY) | FAC (EMIRATES FA CUP)



DATE OPPOSITION H/A K-O RES ATT PTS REF

AUGUST 2017

SAT 8	CRAWLEY TOWN	A	15:00	W3-1	2,270 (432)	3	BREAKSPEAR	LAINTON	WILSON	KAY 1	SMITH	GUNNING	HARNES
Wed 9	Leeds United (CC)	A	19:45	L1-4	15,431 (801)	-	BANKES	LAINTON	DAVIS	KAY	SMITH	GUNNING	REEVES
SAT 12	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	H	15:00	L2-3	4,909 (293)	3	HICKS	HORNBY	WILSON	KAY	SMITH	DENTON	HARNES
Sat 19	Chesterfield	A	15:00	L0-2	5,058 (833)	3	NIELD	HORNBY	WILSON	KAY	SMITH	DENTON	HARNES
SAT 26	CREWE ALEXANDRA	H	15:00	L0-1	6,299 (1,126)	3	HANDLEY	HORNBY	DAVIS	KAY	SMITH	DENTON	HARNES
Tue 29	Oldham Athletic (CT)	A	19:30	W3-0	14,291 (128)	-	SALISBURY	BOOT	WILSON	KAY	DAVIS	GUNNING	WORRALL

SEPTEMBER 2017

SAT 2	NOTTS COUNTY	H	15:00	L0-1	4,656 (724)	3	LEWIS	LAINTON	DAVIS	KAY	SMITH	GUNNING	HARNES
Sat 9	Coventry City	A	15:00	L0-1	6,951 (443)	3	HUKTABLE	LAINTON	DAVIS	KAY	SMITH	GUNNING	HARNES
Tue 12	Luton Town	A	19:45	L0-2	7,046 (136)	3	WEBB	HORNBY	DAVIS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	DE FREITAS
SAT 16	FOREST GREEN ROVERS	H	15:00	DH	3,910 (101)	4	COY	ROOS	WILSON	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
Sat 23	Yeovil Town	A	15:00	DH	2,614 (208)	5	SALISBURY	ROOS	KAY	ANDERSON	SMITH	GIBBONS	WORRALL
TUE 26	ACCRINGTON STANLEY	H	19:45	LH-2	3,360 (88)	5	ILDERTON	ROOS	KAY	ANDERSON	SMITH	WILSON	WORRALL
Sat 30	Stevenage	A	15:00	L0-2	2,678 (255)	5	BREAKSPEAR	ROOS	KAY	ANDERSON	SMITH	WILSON	WORRALL

OCTOBER 2017

TUE 3	NEWCASTLE UTD U21 (CT)	H	19:45	W1-0	824 (105)	-	COOTE	ROOS	DAVIS	YATES	SMITH	GIBBONS	GUNNING
SAT 7	GRIMSBY TOWN	H	15:00	LH-2	5,849 (533)	5	WOOLMER	ROOS	KAY	GIBBONS	SMITH	GUNNING	TONGE
SAT 14	CHELTHAM TOWN	H	15:00	W3-1	4,277 (266)	8	OLDHAM	ROOS	ANDERSON	GIBBONS	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
Tue 17	Morecambe	A	19:45	W3-0	1,241 (322)	11	JOYCE	ROOS	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
Sat 21	Exeter City	A	15:00	W1-0	4,258 (243)	14	HICKS	ROOS	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
SAT 28	SWINDON TOWN	H	15:00	L0-3	5,071 (394)	14	HORWOOD	EVTMOV	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL

NOVEMBER 2017

FRI 3	OXFORD UNITED (EFACR)	H	19:45	W2-0	3,443 (396)	-	HEYWOOD	BOOT	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
TUE 7	CREWE ALEXANDRA (CT)	H	19:45	W4-2	1,322 (75)	-	BROOKS	BOOT	GIBBONS	YATES	SMITH	GUNNING	TONGE
Fri 10	Newport County	A	19:45	DH	2,876 (271)	15	BUSBY	BOOT	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
SAT 18	BARNET	H	15:00	W1-0	4,207 (106)	18	BACKHOUSE	BOOT	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
TUE 21	MANSFIELD TOWN	H	19:45	L0-4	3,878 (537)	18	KETTLE	BOOT	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
Sat 25	Lincoln City	A	15:00	L1-3	7,562 (557)	18	HAINES	BOOT	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL

DECEMBER 2017

SAT 2	YEovil TOWN (EFACR2)	H	15:00	DH	3,316 (204)	-	OLDHAM	BOOT	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
TUE 5	SHREWSBURY TOWN (CT)	H	19:45	LH-2	965 (117)	-	SALISBURY	BOOT	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	REEVES
SAT 9	CAMBRIDGE UNITED	H	15:00	W2-0	3,129 (205)	21	COGGINS	BOOT	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
Tue 12	Yeovil Town (EFACR2)	A	19:45	L2-3	1,588 (119)	-	WARD	BOOT	GIBBONS	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
Sat 16	Carlisle United	A	15:00	W2-1	4,090 (214)	24	SALISBURY	BOOT	PUGH	ANDERSON	SMITH	GUNNING	WORRALL
Sat 23	Colchester United	A	15:00										
TUE 26	COVENTRY CITY	H	15:00										
SAT 30	LUTON TOWN	H	15:00										

JANUARY 2018

Mon 1	Notts County	A	15:00										
Sat 6	Forest Green Rovers	A	15:00										
SAT 13	YEovil TOWN	H	15:00										
Sat 20	Accrington Stanley	A	15:00										
SAT 27	COLCHESTER UNITED	H	15:00										

FEBRUARY 2018

SAT 3	MORECAMBE	H	15:00										
Sat 10	Cheltenham Town	A	15:00										
TUE 13	EXETER CITY	H	19:45										
Sat 17	Swindon Town	A	15:00										
SAT 24	NEWPORT COUNTY	H	15:00										

MARCH 2018

Sat 3	Barnet	A	15:00										
Sat 10	Grimsby Town	A	15:00										
SAT 17	STEVENAGE	H	15:00										
Sat 24	Wycombe Wanderers	A	15:00										
FRI 30	CHESTERFIELD	H	15:00										

APRIL 2018

Mon 2	Crewe Alexandra	A	15:00										
SAT 7	CRAWLEY TOWN	H	15:00										
SAT 14	LINCOLN CITY	H	15:00										
Sat 21	Mansfield Town	A	15:00										
SAT 28	CARLISLE UNITED	H	15:00										

MAY 2018

Sat 5	Cambridge United	A	15:00										
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2017/18 ACADEMY SPONSORS

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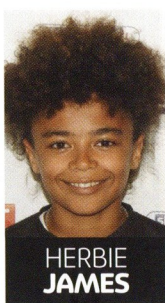
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2017/18 SEASON STATS

PLAYER APPEARANCES 2017/18

	Sky Bet League Two		EFL		Carabao Cup		Cheltenham Trophy		Grand Total		Vale Career		Total Career	
	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals
GOALKEEPERS														
RYAN BOOT	6	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	12	0	13	0	13	0
DIMITAR EVTIMOV	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	15	0
SAM HORNBY	4 (1)	0	0	0	0 (1)	0	0	0	4 (2)	0	4 (2)	0	4 (2)	0
ROB LAINTON	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	4	0	63 (1)	0
KELLE ROOS	8	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	9	0	9	0	65	0
JOE SLINN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DEFENDERS														
TOM ANDERSON	15	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	19	0	19	0	85 (1)	2
JOE DAVIS	4	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	7	0	31 (7)	0	64 (12)	0
LUKE DENNIS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TYLER DENTON	12 (1)	0	1 (2)	0	0	0	1 (2)	0	14 (5)	0	14 (5)	0	17 (5)	0
JAMES GIBBONS	11	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	17	0	17 (1)	0	17 (1)	0
GAVIN GUNNING	16	0	3	1	1	0	4	0	24	1	24	1	214 (7)	11
ANTONY KAY	17	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	21	2	21	2	496 (45)	52
GRAHAM KELLY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (1)	0
KJELL KNOPS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32 (1)	0	222 (5)	4
NATHAN SMITH	22	0	3	0	1	0	4	0	30	0	83	5	83	5
CHARLIE WALFORD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAWRIE WILSON	6 (1)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	7 (1)	0	7 (1)	0	290 (56)	22
ADAM YATES	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	225 (23)	5	315 (25)	5
MIDFIELDERS														
MICHAEL CALVELEY	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
ANTONY DE FREITAS	6 (5)	0	0	0	0	0	1 (1)	0	7 (6)	0	27 (15)	0	60 (40)	3
MARCUS HARNES	16 (2)	0	1 (2)	1	0 (1)	0	2 (1)	0	19 (6)	1	19 (6)	1	25 (44)	1
HARRY MIDDLETON	4 (2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4 (2)	0	4 (2)	0	49 (36)	0
CRISTIAN MONTANO	6 (6)	3	2	0	0	0	3	2	11 (6)	5	11 (6)	5	100 (66)	22
DANNY PUGH	12 (1)	1	2	0	1	0	2	0	17 (1)	1	30 (2)	1	318 (83)	19
BILLY REEVES	1 (2)	0	0 (1)	0	1	0	1 (2)	1	3 (5)	1	7 (13)	1	7 (13)	1
CHRIS REGIS	0 (1)	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1 (1)	1	1 (1)	1	1 (1)	1
JACK STOBBS	1 (4)	0	0 (1)	0	0	0	1 (1)	0	2 (6)	0	2 (6)	0	2 (8)	0
MICHAEL TONGE	9 (3)	1	2	0	1	1	2	0	14 (3)	2	14 (3)	2	435 (87)	37
BEN WHITFIELD	12 (4)	2	1	0	0	0	1 (1)	0	14 (5)	2	14 (5)	2	44 (17)	5
DAVE WORRALL	18 (1)	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	22 (1)	1	22 (1)	1	261 (106)	26
STRIKERS														
TYRONE BARNETT	4 (6)	1	0 (1)	0	0	0	2	1	6 (7)	2	6 (7)	2	211 (92)	69
ANTON FORRESTER	2 (2)	1	0 (2)	0	1	0	1	1	4 (4)	2	18 (14)	4	39 (29)	11
REKEL PYKE	1 (6)	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3 (6)	0	3 (6)	0	7 (14)	0
TOM POPE	22	9	3	2	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	25 (2)	11	203 (20)	80	343 (86)	117
DAN TURNER	3 (10)	3	0 (1)	0	1	0	2 (2)	0	6 (13)	3	10 (28)	3	10 (28)	3

SUBSTITUTE APPEARANCES IN BRACKETS

sky BET

LEAGUE TWO

EFL

SKYBET LEAGUE TWO

TABLE 2017/18

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 LUTON TOWN	22	13	6	3	51	19	32	45
2 Notts County	22	12	7	3	36	21	15	43
3 Exeter City	22	12	3	7	31	26	5	39
4 Wycombe	22	10	7	5	39	29	10	37
5 Accrington	21	11	4	6	32	24	8	37
6 Lincoln City	22	10	6	6	28	19	9	36
7 Coventry	22	10	5	7	23	15	8	35
8 Colchester	22	10	5	7	32	26	6	35
9 Newport Co.	22	9	7	6	32	26	6	34
10 Mansfield	22	8	9	5	30	25	5	33
11 Grimsby	22	9	6	7	25	26	-1	33
12 Swindon	21	10	2	9	32	28	4	32
13 Cambridge	22	8	5	9	18	27	-9	29
14 Carlisle	22	7	7	8	32	32	0	28
15 Cheltenham	22	7	6	9	29	31	-2	27
16 Stevenage	22	7	6	9	27	33	-6	27
17 Crawley	22	6	6	10	19	26	-7	24
18 PORT VALE	22	7	3	12	23	32	-9	24
19 Crewe	22	7	2	13	24	35	-11	23
20 Morecambe	22	5	7	10	18	27	-9	22
21 Yeovil Town	22	5	6	11	27	40	-13	21
22 Barnet	22	5	5	12	24	32	-8	20
23 Chesterfield	22	5	5	12	25	39	-14	20
24 Forest Green	22	5	5	12	23	42	-19	20

Due to Printing deadline over the festive period, Sky Bet League Two League table updated after December 16, 2017 fixtures

LEAGUE TWO

TODAY'S FIXTURES

All games kick-off at 15:00 unless stated

Cambridge United	v	Crewe Alexandra
Carlisle United	v	Coventry City
Cheltenham Town	v	Newport County
Chesterfield	v	Colchester United
Crawley Town	v	Stevenage
Exeter City	v	Barnet
Grimsby Town	v	Accrington Stanley
Lincoln City	v	Forest Green
Port Vale	v	Luton Town
Swindon Town	v	Notts County
Wycombe	v	Mansfield Town



VALE PARK EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

In the event of an emergency at Vale Park you will hear a message over the public address system providing information and directions to spectators. We ask all spectators to remain where they are and to listen very carefully to the message. If it affects your area, please comply with the instructions immediately. The Stewards, Police Officers and Officials will direct you to safe areas which may be through exit doors/gates or on to the playing area. If you are disabled or feel unsafe in a large crowd, remain where you are until stewards assist you. Please respond quickly but calmly to ensure a safe evacuation of the stadium.

NOTHING
SHOULD GET
IN THE WAY
OF YOUR
ENJOYMENT
OF SPORT

ESPECIALLY
BETTING

BETTING SHOULD ONLY ENHANCE
THE EXCITEMENT, THAT'S WHY WE
MEAN IT WHEN WE SAY

WHEN THE **FUN** STOPS **STOP**

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PORT VALE

Manager: NEIL ASPIN

- Rob LAINTON 01
 Lawrie WILSON 02
 Tyler DENTON 03
 Tom ANDERSON 04
 Joe DAVIS 05
 Antony KAY 06
 Marcus HARNES 07
 Danny PUGH 08
 Tom POPE 09
 Dave WORRALL 10
 Cristian MONTAÑO 11
 Sam HORNBY 12
 Tyrone BARNETT 14
 Anton FORRESTER 15
 Adam YATES 16
 Chris REGIS 17
 Billy REEVES 18
 Dan TURNER 19
 Graham KELLY 20
 James GIBBONS 21
 Rekeil PYKE 22
 Ryan BOOT 23
 Nathan SMITH 24
 Charlie WALFORD 25
 Joe SLINN 26
 Luke DENNIS 27
 Anthony de FREITAS 28
 Mike CALVELEY 29
 Ben WHITFIELD 31
 Michael TONGE 32
 Gavin GUNNING 33
 Jack STOBBS 34
 Harry MIDDLETON 35

NEXT AT HOME

YEOVIL TOWN

Saturday 13th January 2018
 Kick-off: 15:00
 EFL SkyBet League Two
 Vale Park



TICKETS NOW ON GENERAL SALE

Smoking is not permitted anywhere inside Vale Park and to smoke you need to be outside the stadium in the Main Car Park



/OfficialPVFC



OFFICIALPORTVALE



/OfficialPVFC



LUTON TOWN

Manager: NATHAN JONES

- 01 Marek ŠTĚCH
 02 James JUSTIN
 03 Dan POTTS
 04 Alan McCORMACK
 05 Johnny MULLINS
 06 Scott CUTHBERT
 07 Jack STACEY
 08 Olly LEE
 09 Danny HYLTON
 10 Jordan COOK
 11 Andrew SHINNIE
 14 Harry CORNICK
 16 Glen REA
 17 Pelly Ruddock MPANZU
 18 Luke BERRY
 19 James COLLINS
 21 Jack SENIOR
 22 Luke GAMBIN
 24 Lawson D'ATH
 27 Aaron JARVIS
 35 Arthur READ
 36 James SHEA
 37 Frankie MUSONDA
 38 Elliot LEE
 35 Akin FAMEWO
 40 Harry ISTD
 43 Jack JAMES
 44 Alan SHEEHAN

MATCH OFFICIALS



REFEREE:
 Tom Nield



REFEREE ASSISTANTS:
 David Benton
 Declan Ford



FOURTH OFFICIAL:
 Christopher Ward

TODAY'S SPONSORS

MATCH:
 DAVE CYPLES

MATCHBALL:
 AML ELECTRICAL

NEXT AWAY MATCH

NOTTS COUNTY

Monday 1st January 2018
 Kick-off: 15:00
 EFL SkyBet League Two
 Meadow Lane



TICKETS NOW ON GENERAL SALE



Port Vale Football Club would like to remind all supporters to refrain from racist, homophobic or discriminatory chanting.



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