

BLACKBURN ROVERS

FOOTBALL CLUB



OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

F. A. Challenge Cup Winners

1883-84 1884-85 1885-86
1889-90 1890-91 1927-28

League Champions :

1911-12 1913-14



SEASON 1952-53.



Division II Champions :

1938-39.



Aerial View.—Ewood Park.
Photo: Blackburn Times.

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Secretary: R. H. Taylor.

Tel.: Blackburn 5634.

Manager: J. G. Bestall.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4th, 1953.

CLUB NOTES

Easter Saturday, and let us hope a grand football day in every sense, which includes the weather and the state of the grounds, for after all the players have to be considered, and the state of the ground naturally makes a great deal of difference. Everybody knows that when the ground is hard and unyielding the ball is hard to control and keep in possession, and the quality of the football deteriorates somewhat. If it is very muddy it is very tiring and makes the players leg weary, so what we want is a ground which is on the soft side, otherwise yielding, so that the ball will settle, and then we see better football.

To-day we meet Luton Town, and we have reason to remember having met them before this season, but perhaps better reason for trying to forget. It was on the fifteenth of November, 1952, that the Rovers met them at Kenilworth Road ground, and they made mince "Pye" of our team that day. Then the Football Association drew out the Rovers to play Luton Town in their Cup competition on the same ground, just to give us a chance of getting our revenge. Well, the first time we met they got a "straw hat" full of goals—six altogether—and we, like old Mother Hubbard's dog, got none. But in the cup-tie it was different—the Rovers got one, and just to prove that the other score was no fluke Luton got six again.

Since that time we have seen a different Rovers, and no doubt Luton will meet a different Rovers to day, and at Ewood Park. Let us just compare last Saturday's respective matches, the Rovers' three goals to nil victory at Leeds, whilst Luton Town had to fight desperately hard to beat the lowly placed Hull City team by three goals to two, on their own Kenilworth Road ground.

Luton are well placed in the League table, and occupy the third place from the top, with forty-five points from thirty-four matches. Above them are Huddersfield Town with two points more and having played one more match. At the top are Sheffield United, with fifty-two points—seven points more than Luton but having played two more matches, that is before Easter,

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With such a record there is no question of doubt about our visitors being all out for points, because they have a very favourable chance of promotion. The Rovers, too, have every reason to be all out for points, first to please their supporters and the management, and satisfy themselves, second to give the club a lift up the League table, and third to wipe out the stigma of those two slashing defeats. In referring to the latter, it was not so much of an overwhelming defeat, in either case, as the score suggested, but more in the nature of a goal rush, and it will be the business of our defence to see to it that such a thing does not happen again.

It is sure to be an interesting and well-contested game, and it is to be hoped that we are able to field our strongest team, in which case, and even whether or not, we are confident that the Rovers will come out victorious.

There is only one more home match left for the first team after to-day, and we are anxious to wind up the season with two good wins in front of our own supporters. It seems early to be talking of winding up the season so soon in April, but true it is that there is only one more Second Division match at Ewood, and that is against Bury. Meantime, cheerio, and happy watching.

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"THE VEDETTE" Kenneth J. Alford
"CHILDREN OF THE REGIMENT" Julius Fucik
"LADY OF SPAIN" Spanish March
"ARGANDAL" S. Thompson
"ARMY OF THE NILE" Kenneth J. Alford
INTERVAL MARCH
"CAVALRY CALL" J. H. Hutchings

NEXT HOME MATCHES

EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1953.

CENTRAL LEAGUE

ROVERS RESERVES v. BARNSELY RESERVES

SATURDAY, APRIL 11th, 1953.


CENTRAL LEAGUE

ROVERS RESERVES v. SHEFFIELD WED. RESERVES

Kick-offs 3 p.m.

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C BLACKPOOL v. WEST BROMWICH A.	C DONCASTER R. v. FULHAM
D BOLTON W. v. TOTTENHAM H.	D EVERTON v. PLYMOUTH A.
E CHARLTON A. v. MANCHESTER C.	E HUDDERSFIELD T. v. LEICESTER C.
F CHELSEA v. NEWCASTLE U.	F HULL C. v. BIRMINGHAM C.
G DERBY C. v. MIDDLESBROUGH	G LINCOLN C. v. BURY
H MANCHESTER U. v. CARDIFF C.	H NOTTINGHAM F. v. LEEDS U.
J PORTSMOUTH v. SHEFFIELD W.	J SHEFFIELD U. v. NOTTS C.
K SUNDERLAND v. PRESTON N.E.	K SWANSEA T. v. WEST HAM U.
L WOLVERHAMPTON W. v. STOKE C.	L NEWCASTLE U. RES. v. BLACKBURN R. RES.



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	8	CROSSAN	6
CAMPBELL	7	HOLMES W.	10
		9	GLOVER
			11

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LEAGUE TABLES

(Up to and including March 28)

DIVISION II

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Sheffield U. . .	36	22	8	6	89	49	52
Huddersfield . .	35	19	9	7	65	27	47
Luton T.	34	20	5	9	74	42	45
Nottingham F. .	35	17	7	11	71	53	41
Plymouth A. . .	35	17	7	11	54	49	41
Fulham	36	15	9	12	70	59	39
Leicester C. . .	35	15	9	11	79	68	39
Birmingham C. .	34	15	9	10	59	56	39
Leeds U.	35	12	12	11	58	51	36
West Ham	35	11	13	11	48	44	35
Rotherham U. . .	36	15	5	16	68	68	35
Blackburn R. . .	36	14	7	15	54	56	35
Swansea T. . . .	35	12	10	13	65	70	34
Doncaster R. . .	35	9	14	12	49	56	32
Everton	34	9	13	12	59	56	31
Brentford	34	12	7	15	50	65	31
Notts C.	35	12	7	16	54	75	31
Bury	35	10	9	16	47	65	29
Hull C.	34	11	6	17	48	61	28
Lincoln C. . . .	34	6	16	12	46	64	28
Southampton . .	35	6	11	18	54	78	23
Barnsley	35	5	7	23	44	93	17

CENTRAL LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Preston N.E. . .	35	22	6	7	74	34	50
Blackpool	34	20	6	8	68	41	46
Huddersfield T. .	35	18	8	9	68	54	44
Burnley	36	20	4	12	63	56	44
Wolves	32	17	9	6	60	40	43
Barnsley	35	16	8	11	57	43	40
Everton	34	14	11	9	65	54	39
Bolton W.	37	15	9	13	56	41	39
Liverpool	36	16	6	14	48	46	38
Stoke C.	35	15	6	14	58	57	36
Aston Villa . . .	34	14	7	13	55	41	35
Sheffield W. . .	34	14	6	14	53	52	34
Blackburn R. . .	35	14	6	15	53	58	34
Derby C.	35	12	9	14	51	57	33
Bury	35	13	7	15	54	64	33
Leeds U.	35	9	14	12	42	51	32
Manchester U. . .	34	10	9	15	42	47	29
Newcastle U. . .	35	7	11	17	49	67	25
West Brom. . . .	34	10	4	20	42	63	24
Sheffield U. . . .	35	7	10	18	44	72	24
Manchester C. . .	36	8	6	22	40	69	22
Chesterfield . . .	33	7	6	20	33	67	20

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BRITISH RAILWAYS

First Team Fixtures

Date.	Opponents.	F. A.
1952	20—Nottingham F.	Home—2-1
	25—Leicester C.	Home—2-0
	27—Leicester C.	Away—1-2
Aug. 23	Nottingham F.	Away—2-1
" 27	Lincoln C.	Away—1-4
" 30	Everton	Home—3-1
Sept. 1	Lincoln C.	Home—0-2
" 6	Brentford	Away—2-3
" 8	Hull C.	Home—2-0
" 13	Doncaster R.	Home—2-1
" 16	Hull C.	Away—0-3
" 20	Swansea T.	Away—1-1
" 27	Huddersfield	Home—1-1
Oct. 4	Sheffield U.	Away—0-3
" 11	West Ham U.	Home—3-0
" 18	Fulham	Away—1-2
" 25	Rotherham.	Home—0-1
Nov. 1	Plymouth A.	Away—1-3
" 8	Leeds U.	Home—1-1
" 15	Luton T.	Away—0-6
" 22	Birmingham	Home—1-2
" 29	Bury	Away—0-1
Dec. 6	Southampton	Home—3-0
" 13	Notts C.	Away—0-5
1953		
Jan. 1	Notts. C.	Home—3-2
" 3	Everton	Away—3-0
" 10	(3) Luton T.	Away—1-6
" 17	Brentford	Home—3-0
" 24	Doncaster	Away—3-3
" 31	(4)	
Feb. 7	Swansea T.	Home—3-0
" 14	(5) Hudd'sfield	Away—3-0
" 21	Sheffield U.	Home—1-2
" 28	(6) West Ham	Away—0-6
Mar. 7	Fulham . . .	Home—2-2
" 14	Rotherham	Away—0-0
" 21	Plymouth A.	Home—1-3
" 28	Leeds U.	Away—3-0
Apr. 3	Barnsley	Home—
" 4	Luton T.	Home—
" 6	Barnsley	Away—
" 11	Birmingham	Away—
" 18	Bury	Home—
" 25	Southampton	Away—

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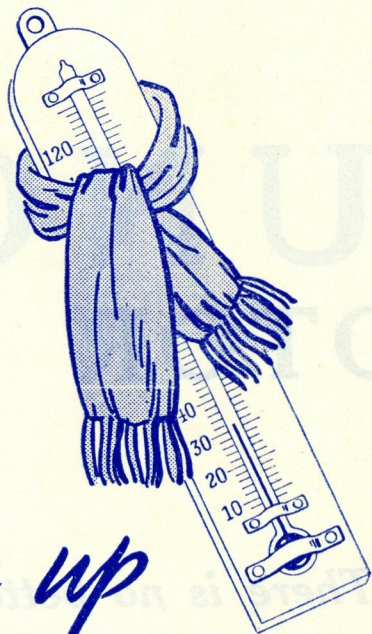
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