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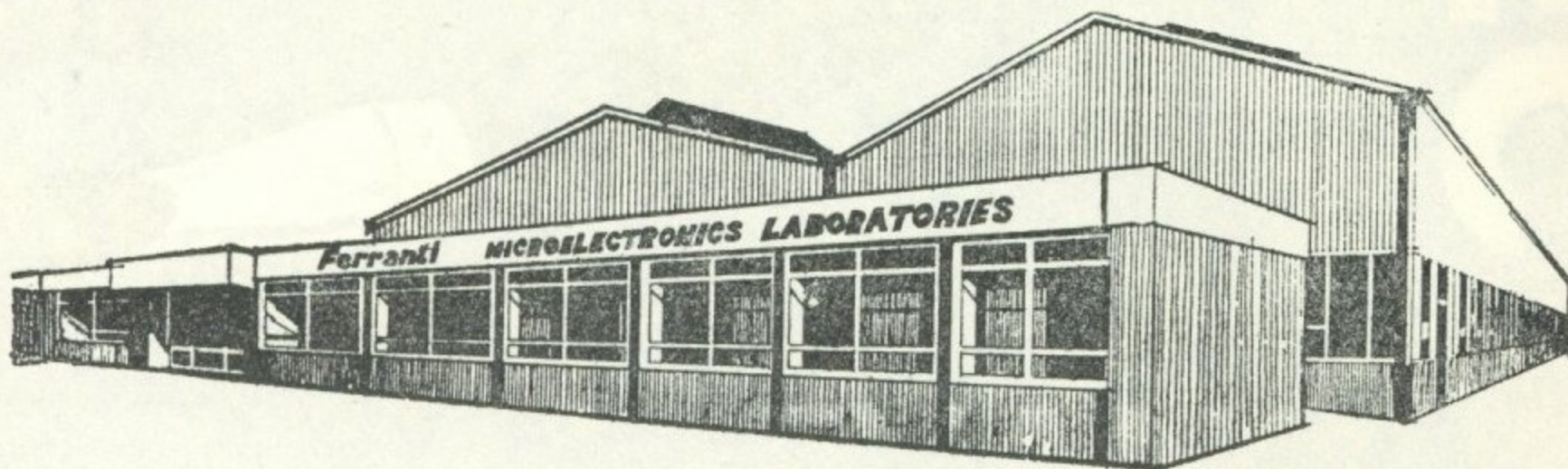
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OUTLOOK

No. 21

14th February 1970

A TALKING POINT

A Member of Parliament has been asking questions of the Minister for Sport as to whether he is satisfied about the arrangements made between clubs and the St. John Ambulance Brigade about facilities for first aid treatment of casualties on football grounds. The query has been prompted by the accident at the Stoke City ground when there was a nasty situation and a number of people injured because of the collapse of a crush barrier. What was wrong as between Stoke City and the St. John Ambulance Brigade, or what was inadequate about the facilities for immediate treatment of the injured, we do not know, but something must have prompted the M.P.'s inquiry.

We believe that the arrangements existing at Holker Street are considered to be adequate. And we also believe that the risk of a very serious incident at the ground is remote. Equally we believe in being prepared for all eventualities if we possibly can and we thought that it would be a good idea if the club directors chatted with the local St. John Ambulance Brigade Superintendent, so as to ascertain whether or not they are satisfied with what we do to help the First-Aiders at Holker Street.

One of the present day troubles is that no-one believes things are going to happen until they happen. Then there are no end of inquests and inquiries and only a few remember that prevention is better than cure. The police keep a careful eye on our ground and all other football grounds and they have an eye on public safety and public order. With that wonderful voluntary organisation the St. John Ambulance Brigade, we don't know whether there is the same effective liaison, remembering that the Brigade is a volunteer body. We offer, then, as a piece of good public relations work and in everyone's interest, the suggestion that there might be talks about treatment facilities, means of speedy clearance of injured people, and how we can help give our volunteer helpers better things. It's just a question of insurance, that's all.

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Today's Game

LUTON TOWN

Luton, after striking the front early in the season and dominating the promotion race, slipped back dramatically. One poor result followed another and their lead was whittled away.

But, typical of Barrow's luck—or lack of it—it looks as if the Kenilworth Road side have just got back into their stride in time for today's Holker Street clash.

They came out of the doldrums in no uncertain manner last Saturday to whip promotion hopefuls Doncaster 4—0 and so Barrow's chances of catching Luton in the middle of their rough spell would appear to have gone.

But that doesn't mean to say that Barrow cannot collect both points today. It was no mean feat to draw at Torquay last week, especially when they had to play the second half without a recognised 'keeper and had Bob Ledger a casualty for much of the game.

Away points have been hard to find this season and the fact that one was collected at Plainmoor only emphasises the fact that Barrow's steady improvement over recent weeks has been maintained.

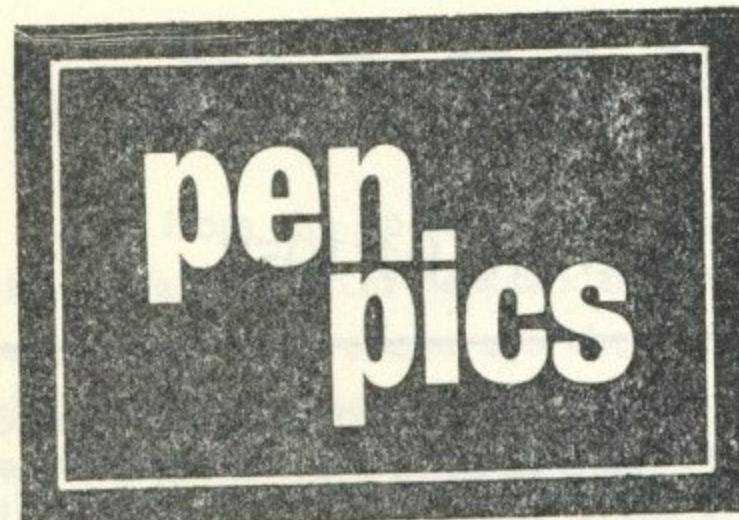
Will it be enough to avenge the 3—0 defeat that Luton handed out in the opening game of the season? We can only wait and see.

Luton's last visit to Holker Street was the first home game of the 1968-69 term and a very entertaining match ended without any score.

Since then they had done a lot of costly team building. A handful of their players have cost five-figure fees and it is obvious that they are all out to get back to their former glories and return to a higher sphere than the Third Division.

But spending money doesn't ensure success and Barrow will be looking for the chance to halt the Hatters to add to the confusion at the top of the table and collect the points that can ease their own particular worries.

I'm keeping my fingers crossed because the way the lads have been playing recently shows they deserve to start getting some success.



When Alec Stock paid out £17,500 to Fulham for Malcolm MacDonald as a 19-year-old, he surprised the football world by announcing that he was to use the player not as a striker, where he played in the main for Fulham, but as a full-back where he had occasionally played for the Craven Cottage reserve team.

But it is as a striker that he has been operating this season—much to the regret of a host of defenders.

He quickly found his shooting boots and he is the Third Division's joint top scorer with 18 goals to his credit, 15 from League encounters.

However, wing half Alan Slough is rated as Luton's most valuable assets now that Bruce Rioch has moved on to Villa. But 21-year-old Alan means to stay with his home-town club.

In fact he was so worried by rumours that he might be transferred that he asked for a long term contract and has now signed for six years.

He shares a twin-centre half role with Chris Nicholl, who cost £30,000 when Halifax were persuaded to part with him four months ago. And the deal must have caused some red faces at Burnley, for they had him on trial at one time and didn't think he would make the grade.

Full backs John Ryan and Jack Bannister both joined Luton from London clubs. Ryan, a 21-year old, started his career with Tonbridge, as did MacDonald, and was with Arsenal for a short spell before moving across London to Craven Cottage.

Luton regard him as a great close season capture, for Fulham released him despite having made 45 League appearances in the previous two seasons.

Bannister was signed from Crystal Palace for £8,000 15 months ago. Vastly experienced,

he made over 100 League appearances for Palace and was previously with West Brom and Scunthorpe.

Goalkeeper Sandy Davis was another £8,000 buy, joining Luton at about the same time as Bannister—and Luton went to that fee despite Davie only being in Dundee United's reserve team at the time.

The former Scottish Under-23 International stepped straight into the Luton side and made 27 consecutive appearances until injury forced him to miss the last five games of last term.

Right half Mike Keen is another expensive signing, costing £18,500 from manager Stock's former club Q.P.R., where he had ten seasons. A strongly-built player who dominates the mid-field, he skippered the Rangers in their meteoric rise from Division III to Division I—and didn't miss a match in the process.

It is the brilliant covering of half-back John Moore, a former Motherwell player, that makes him an integral part of the defence. This is his fifth season with Luton but the last one was unlucky for him for a severe injury had him on the side-lines for a long time.

MacDonald isn't the only costly signing in the attack for Luton had to pay £25,000 to get Charlton to part with former Grimsby centre forward Matt Tees. And considering that the deal was conducted the day after the one that landed Nicholl, it was an expensive two days for Luton, paying out £55,000 in less than 48 hours.

Right winger John Collins is a recent £7,000 acquisition from Reading, while left winger Graham French, rated as the man he hated most to play against by former Barrow back Malcolm Edwards, was a star of the England Youth team when with Shrewsbury.

He was much sought after by the bigger clubs, but the expected "glamour" move never came. He went to Swindon and then Watford and had slipped into the Southern League with Wellington when Luton signed him for £5,000.

Keith Allen has filled a variety of positions for Luton and is equally at home as a mid-field link or a striker. From the Isle of Wight, he turned professional with Portsmouth and moved to Grimsby and then on to Stockport. Luton got him from County in an exchange deal for former England centre-forward Derek Kevan.

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CHATTER BOX

The point gained at Torquay—and gained deservedly—has created an interesting situation at the bottom of the Third Division League table. As we write these notes, Gillingham are one place above Barrow, having also scored 15 points. Their goal average is better than ours. We believe that we are approaching a point where a very mathematical calculation will have to be made, should anyone wish to predict our fate. We agree that fate is already determined by many people, but the more we look at the situation, the more we are convinced that it is within the power of the Barrow team to make the race to avoid the drop a very close run thing.

Barrow were almost universally commended by the Sunday Press as the side which deserved to share the points, and while a draw is an acceptable enough result away from home, a victory was, apparently, never beyond the bounds of possibility. Bob Knox, again playing his role of "stand-in" goalkeeper, received credit, too, but our worry now is how long George Heyes will be off after being hurt in a collision with Alan Welsh. "Our man at Torquay" tells us that George was a courageous cripple as he played out the first half, and that while Bob Knox was given little to do by an unimaginative Torquay forward line, what he had to do he did well.

Another thing which gives us a little encouragement is that some of the pools pundits were tipping us to draw against Ludon this

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afternoon. Old Chatterbox seems quite amused by situations like this. He says that he likes to see the tipsters undecided because it means that they have an unpredictable Barrow to contend with, and that that same unpredictable Barrow can pull down high flyers and promotion candidates just as easily as they can get themselves defeated by teams seeking to avoid relegation. In fact, he's a born optimist, but looking back on the Holker Street game against Manchester United, we think he has some grounds for being optimistic.

Wilf McGuinness, United manager, could not understand why a team playing such football were struggling at the bottom of Division Three. We couldn't understand it, either!

It could be, you know, that a crowd of 5,000-plus, yelling great guns and enjoying themselves projects itself on to the actual playing pitch. We believe that these things happen, and any footballer will tell you that it is a great thing to have a big crowd "rooting" for you. The answer there, of course, is that if our lads will do this sort of giant-killing act more regularly and play as well as we know they can play, then there will be something to bring back the crowds and the yelling. In fact, if and when we show signs of fighting back instead of appearing to be so complacent about our fate, we will regain the confidence of Barrow's footballing public. It will take some regaining because Barrow's footballing public is probably more fickle than that in any other town.

If anybody wants it set down in the vernacular, then football supporters hereabouts will not pay 5s. to see what they term "rubbish." Lately, at least, few people can say that there has been rubbish on view. There has been a detectable improvement, but maintaining the improvement seems to have been the problem. Let's face it: if Barrow tried as hard in their League games as they did to unseat United ten days ago, there would be no problems about where or where not the club is going.

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CHATTER BOX—continued

Apart from the opinions about football, we think it fair to say that less talk and more action would also help encourage the "fans." At risk of being misunderstood as philosophers—and we never were good at that—may we say that half the present day troubles in this country are due to a feeling of sheer frustration. Well, half our troubles at Holker Street are due to that same feeling. Rightly or wrongly, the man in the street feels that the Board of Directors is sitting fiddling while Rome burns. They are not, really, but there is still not quite enough "go" about them for our liking. Don't blame them entirely. Look at the world. As a gent of our acquaintance in the Preston area once told us: "The world is full of gabbers; it's the doers who are hardest to find." There's your problem in a nutshell. Transform talk into action and its surprising where you can get. We know there are problems. Problems exist to be solved.

We commend the Board for having taken the decision to increase the share capital of the Club and we commend to every supporter that he should take the chance of taking up some of the new 10s. shares which will be coming on to the market if the resolution which comes before a special meeting later this month is carried. We are a trifle surprised that the capital is only being doubled—from £8,000 to £16,000—but as we are not fully acquainted with the Articles of Association of the Company we had better not start arguing about that. We would have been inclined to ask local industry if they would invest £10,000 in us—and we mean every industry, not just Vickers, who have helped us and still help us a great deal, remember. Why would we do that? Just to get our share capital up to a nice round figure of £25,000.

We are not asking supporters to do something we would not do ourselves. We've even persuaded old Chatterbox himself to part with

some of his hard earned cash when the new shares come on to the market. He says that he has got some of the old ones, but we have not let him get away with that as an excuse, even if he has wriggled and asked us what the shares will be worth in decimal currency! He was just trying to be clever and show us that he knew all about the old ten-bobs and the new 50 New Pence. Never mind about him. The task is to get all those £1 notes and 50 pence pieces rolling into the kitty in return for script.

What do you get for your cash? Well, you get tangible evidence of your interest in, and support for, Soccer football. You also get a right to vote, because the company is a limited liability company with shareholders who have the right to make themselves heard. Why just moan on the terraces if you have the right to let the administrators know how you feel or want to ask them questions. Frankly we would like to see the Town Hall packed with shareholders at the annual meeting. It rarely is, yet so many people tell us that they would like this change and that change, and the other change. They'll never get anything changed and they'll never have facts straight from the horse's mouth if they never stir themselves to attend an annual meeting.

Which reminds us that the statement of accounts which will come before the meeting on 24th February (7-45 p.m. special meeting, and 8 p.m. ordinary meeting) shows a profit on the year ended 31st July, 1969, of £1,941. That in itself is an encouragement, even if it only reduces our accumulated deficit to about £20,400. The safe bet is that we will make a loss this season, but at least the figures show that we are not incapable of paying our way and putting something into the bank.

We received a total of £26,705 3s. 0d. during our 1969 year as gross receipts from our home games. We paid out £9,403 5s. 9d. as shares of gates due and match expenses, which left us £15,301 17s. 3d. as our balance. That figure was about £4,600 below the 1968 figure, but our

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CHATTER BOX—continued

share of gates accruing went up from £9,893 to £10,048 13s. 1d. In effect, that means that footballing activities brought us in £25,350 10s. 4d., and if you deduct the travelling expenses from that we got around £20,100, so that we were still about £4,000 down on the previous season. Clearly, then, our football made a loss of around that figure, but we were helped by donations totalling £6,010 3s. 0d. which goes to show what a lot of damned hard work is done behind the scenes. That turned the loss into a small profit.

One other point of interest. The success of the F.A. Cup and its help to clubs like ourselves is reflected in the £12,137 share of pools and levies which we received. That was about £2,000 better than the year before, which proves the Football League argument that more people are watching football.

You'll forgive us if our halo shows when we report a profit of £344 7s. 7d. on the sale of "Outlook" and the old "Zigger" magazine. We have to get in quick with that bit because, the way things are going, we will be showing a loss next year. You see, our gates have reached that point where the number of programmes we sell has caused us to reduce the number we order per game and such are the hard realities of economics that there is a point where we are just covering costs. We're not moaning. We're just telling you, and in answer to the gent who thinks we are drawing a salary—or salaries—it's all a labour of love done on Sundays and at nights when most workers would expect to receive enhanced payments. We have to get that in because we belong to a

strange species of the human race. We do a job because we like it. If you wish, sir, you can put that in your pipe and smoke it—or dissolve it in your beer and see how you like it. In other words, get off your box and lend us a hand.

Since we wrote the notes about the share capital we find that the authorised figure is £16,000 so the proposed move will, providing all the shares are sold, bring the real total up to the authorised total. Actually, the issued and fully paid share capital is represented by 14,543 ordinary share of 10s. each. Clearly to have a sum of £7,271 10s. 0d. as paid up share capital in these days is unrealistic.

Preston North End's idea of shares which would accrue interest over a period of 15 years might have proved a bigger money-spinner. That we do not know with certainty. What we do know is that Preston's scheme is getting off the ground but proving a little more difficult than was anticipated. However, we do wish them good luck in their efforts to get things moving and, if the worst comes to the worst, and they do not escape relegation, we want to be in Division 3 to meet them. Will Mick Hartland and his boys please note that?

Clubs in trouble! Morecambe's another one. Alas, the seasiders are wondering what has hit 'em because their playing problems have multiplied their cash problems. Chorley, whom we mentioned a programme or two ago, are thinking of opting out of the Lancashire Combination and going into the Cheshire League.

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CHATTER BOX—continued

A word of thanks to Manchester United for helping us and themselves with the Lancashire Cup semi-final replay for last Tuesday. We fixed the date with them, agreeing that it all depended on whether or not they would be still involved with the F.A. Cup Tie against Northampton Town. As things turned out, neither club need have worried, but George's Best's six goals might prove a money spinner for us. United were away from home last Tuesday and we were hoping that as the United management were trying to arrange for the scores to be announced at Old Trafford, and as George Best had scored six goals, and as the side had bashed the daylights out of any Northampton hopes of Cup glory, it might all add up to a big attendance at Old Trafford.

A flutter of excitement when Don McEvoy appeared at Holker Street on a scouting expedition. Expect another flutter or two as names of possible candidates for transfer get bandied about. Well, it all keeps the name of Barrow A.F.C. before the public, but don't let us count chickens before they are eggs. Eddie Garbett's name has been linked with two prominent clubs already and nothing has happened.

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Manager Norman Bodell has a name in his book again and by the time you are reading these notes we might have heard that a deal has been arranged with a Division Two Club. Norman has been doing a lot of looking, but we agree with him that the troubles start when it comes to making a satisfactory deal.

Make a note again, please. Brighton and Hove at Holker Street on Monday, Bury at Holker Street on Saturday, and then Walsall here on Monday, 23rd February. To round it off, the annual shareholders' meeting at the Town Hall on Tuesday, 24th February. Also make a note of the fact that the Shareholders' Association Bingo on Walney is in the new Community Centre on Tuesday evenings. There is no Friday evening session. Sorry—we slipped up!

More on Monday night about the Bluebird Club, but take it from us that when we do get the place opened—and it should not be very long—it will be what the North sometimes terms "a bobby dazzler." Congratulations to all who have worked so hard to achieve such a first class place.

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CHATTER BOX—continued

Barrow A.F.C. Shareholders' Association Football Treble Competition. Week 21 (31st January). Winning numbers 6-12-21; 6-12-28; 6-14-28; and 12-14-28. Nine goals. Four winners share £5.

Suggestion on public relations for the Club as a football club. Anticipate that Parliamentary questions that has followed the Stoke football ground accident and have a chat with the local St. John Ambulance Brigade to see if they are satisfied with the first aid facilities offered at Holker Street. We think they are, but a chat would not be wasted and it would be nice if we could make them better at little cost.

Congratulations to our neighbours at Craven Park on having defeated Widnes at Widnes in the first round of the Rugby League Cup and drawn Castleford at home in Round 2. This creates difficulties for us, but it is a first class draw so far as the Rugby League club is concerned. We are at home to Bury on the same date, and while everything depends upon Bury and the Football League, we will do all we can to avoid a clash of fixtures. Barrow R.F.C. have let it be known that they will not change the date of their game. That leaves us to make the best arrangements we can. Please watch the local Press for announcements.

Finally, do please refrain from walking across the playing pitch after matches, and help Jim Kendall with what he is trying to do to keep the ground in good order. The weather has not been helping Jim. Will you? Thanks!

As this issue goes to Press, the Club Board has made a statement announcing that Manager Norman Bodell has been relieved of his position as manager. This decision has been taken with regret and has been made because of the club's lack of success as shown by our current position in the Third Division.

The Board was meeting again on Wednesday to consider immediate steps which could be taken to appoint a replacement manager, but you will obviously have read in the local Press what developments have occurred since.

In many senses it is a great pity that a decision like the one recorded has had to be taken, for it was Mr. Bodell's first essay into football management and he was, in fact, the youngest

manager in the Football League. Lack of success on the playing field has brought that sort of penalty which makes football management possibly the most insecure profession in the country, if not in the world.

The Man in Charge



Now in his tenth season as a Football League referee, Mr. Vincent James of York began his career as the man in the middle with the York City and District League. He progressed to the Yorkshire League before making the grade as a Football League linesman, and after five years on the Football League's linesmen's list, he became a fully fledged League referee.

He is married and has two sons aged 14 and 9. He has officiated in every round of the F.A. Cup and was senior linesman in the 1967 Final. He has had many appointments in International Under-23 Amateur International and Inter-City Fairs Cup fixtures, and he will be refereeing the League Cup Final at Wembley in three weeks' time. He has already taken a semi-final game in that competition this season.

Employed as a representative with the Yorkshire Clubs' Brewery, he carries his interests in clubs into his spare time, for he is Secretary of the York City branch of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union. He is also Vice-President and Chairman of the Yorkshire Section of the Association of Football League Referees and Linesmen. His hobbies he lists as tropical fish and bowls.

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OUR RECORD TO DATE

1969	Opponents				Result	Scorers	Attdce.
Aug. 9	Luton	3	A.	L.	0-3	—	—
Aug. 13	Workington	L.C.	A.	D.	0-0	—	—
Aug. 16	Tranmere	3	H.	L.	0-3	—	5368
Aug. 18	Workington	L.C.	H.	W.	3-1	Garbett I ; Storf I McArthur I	4883
Aug. 23	Southport	3	A.	L.	0-1	—	—
Aug. 25	Orient	3	H.	D.	1-1	Street	—
Aug. 30	Fulham	3	H.	W.	3-1	Ellison, Garbett, Morrin	5665
Sept. 3	Notts. Forest	L.C.	H.	L.	1-2	Storf	8919
Sept. 6	Rochdale	3	A.	L.	0-1	—	—
Sept. 13	Mansfield T.	3	H.	L.	0-1	—	4755
Sept. 16	Walsall	3	A.	L.	0-1	—	—
Sept. 20	Brighton & H.	3	A.	L.	0-2	—	—
Sept. 27	Rotherham U.	3	H.	L.	1-2	Brown	3650
Sept. 29	Halifax T.	3	H.	L.	0-1	—	3512
Oct. 4	Barnsley	3	A.	L.	1-2	Hartland	—
Oct. 6	Tranmere R.	3	A.	L.	0-5	—	—
Oct. 11	Torquay U.	3	H.	L.	0-4	—	3890
Oct. 18	Gillingham	3	H.	D.	1-1	Garbett	2877
Oct. 20	Preston N.E.	LaC	H.	W.	2-1	Storf, Fletcher	1890
Oct. 25	Bury	3	A.	L.	0-4	—	—
Nov. 1	Plymouth A.	3	H.	D.	1-1	Storf	3088
Nov. 8	Shrewsbury T.	3	A.	D.	1-1	Knox	—
Nov. 15	Alfreton	FAC	A.	D.	1-1	Hartland	—
Nov. 17	Alfreton T.	FAC	H.	D.	0-0	—	4211
Nov. 20	Alfreton T.	FAC	A.	D.	2-2	Garbett, Knox	7369
Nov. 22	Stockport C.	3	A.	D.	2-2	Knox, Fletcher	—
Nov. 24	Alfreton T.	FAC	A.	W.	2-0	Knox, Fletcher	—
Nov. 29	Bristol R.	3	H.	D.	1-1	Mulvaney	3080
Dec. 1	Bradford C.	3	H.	L.	0-1	—	2836
Dec. 6	Barnsley	F.A.C.	A.	L.	0-3	—	—
Dec. 13	Mansfield T.	3	A.	L.	2-4	—	—
Dec. 15	Netherfield	LaC.	H.	D.	1-1	Ledger	1227
Dec. 20	Rochdale	3	H.	W.	2-0	Ledger (2)	2128
Dec. 26	Southport	3	H.	W.	1-0	Noble	4,837
Dec. 27	Fulham	3	A.	L.	1-2	Ellison	4837
1970							
Jan. 2	Halifax T.	3	A.		Postponed—Ground unfit	—	—
Jan. 6	Netherfield	LAC	Replay		Postponed—Ground unfit	—	—
Jan. 10	Brighton & H.	3	H.		Postponed—Ground unfit.	—	—
Jan. 17	Netherfield LaC		A.	W.	1-0	Mulvaney	—
Jan. 17	Rotherham U.	3	A.	L.	0-5	—	—
Jan. 24	Reading	3	H.	D.	2-2	Noble, Mulvaney	2834
Jan. 27	Halifax T.	3	A.	L.	0-3	—	—
Jan. 31	Barnsley	3	H.	D.	1-1	Ellison	2174
Feb. 4	Manchester U.	LaC.	H.	D.	0-0	—	5478
Feb. 7	Torquay U.	3	A.	D.	1-1	—	—

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APPEARANCES (POSSIBLE 43)

Arrowsmith, Garbet and Morrin 41 each ; Cooper 34 ; Davies, Ellison and Heyes 32 each ; Hartland 31 ; Storf 25 ; Mulvaney 21 ; Milner 17 ; Knox (R.) 15 ; Dean 12 ; Fletcher, Ledger and Noble 11 each ; Else 9 ; Hollis and McArthur 8 each ; Brown 6 ; Davison 2. (Appearances as substitute and Tuesday's game against Manchester United not included).

SCORERS

Garbett 5 ; Knox (R...), Mulvaney and Storf 4 each ; Ellison, Fletcher and Ledger 3 each ; Hartland and Noble 2 each ; Arrowsmith, Brown, McArthur, Morrin and Street 1 each (35).

NORTHERN FLOODLIT LEAGUE

Aug. 20	Chester	A.	L.	0-3	
Sept. 8	Wrexham	H.	D.	3-3	Hopkinson, Knox, Mulvaney
Sept. 17	Shrewsbury	A.	D.	2-2	McArthur, Hollis
Sept. 22	Southport	H.	L.	4-3	McArthur (2) Hogg
Oct. 13	Chester	H.	W.	3-1	Knox (R.) 2, Garbett, 1.
Oct. 21	Wrexham	A.	L.	1-3	Fletcher
Oct. 27	Shrewsbury	T. H.	W.	5-0	Fletcher (2), Knox (R.) 2 Hopkinson
Nov. 10	Crewe Alex.	H.	D.	1-1	Hopkinson
Nov. 18	Southport.	A.	L.	0-3	
Dec. 10	Crewe Alex.	A.	L.	1-2	Rawlingson
Jan. 19	Wrexham	H.	D.	1-1	Garbett
Jan. 28	Shrewsbury T.	A	D	2-2	Knox (R.) 2

**FORTHCOMING
ATTRACTIONS**

- Feb. 16—Brighton and Hove. H.
- Feb. 21—Bury. H.
- Feb. 23—Walsall. H.
- Feb. 28 Gillingham A.
- Mar. 4 Bournemouth & B. A.
- Mar. 7 Stockport C. H.
- Mar. 9 Doncaster R. H.

NEXT HOME GAME

Monday, 16th February : Barrow v. Brighton & Hove Albion. Division 3. Kick-off 7-30 p.m.

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