

**SHEFFIELD**

# WEDNESDAY



## **THE OWLS v LUTON TOWN**

Saturday, 6th February, 1982 Kick-off 3.00 p.m. Football League Division Two Vol. 8 No. 12 Price 35p  
'THE OWL' OFFICIAL MATCH DAY MAGAZINE OF SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY



Andy McCulloch powers in to head us into the lead against Blackburn Rovers.

# CHARLTONS VIEW

Following the December freeze-up we have had rather an unsettled time what with injuries and other matters. Results have been mixed and we might have won a better total of points from the possible twelve. The treacherous condition of the pitch in our last home game was such that no one could criticise any performance. To lose a two goal lead was disappointing but no more than our failure to get anything out of the Derby game. At the interval I was looking forward to a good result.

However despite this setback we still have as good a chance as most for promotion and I am still hopeful that we can string together a tidy little run of results in the second half of the season.

No team has shown a great deal of consistency in the division apart from today's visitors Luton Town. Many people consider them a certainty for promotion but I know David Pleat will not take any such thing for granted. There is still a long way to go although they do look a bit good. Last September we turned in our best performance of the season in beating them 3-0 in front of the "Match of the Day" cameras at Kenilworth Road. Today's game is again televised, this time by Yorkshire Television and it would be nice to enjoy a similar treat tomorrow afternoon when the highlights are shown. The league leaders will be all out to revenge that defeat.

Some of the letters I receive express excellent points of view — many of which I agree with. I appreciate that there are supporters who are anxious that no new signings have been made especially when I have made my intentions clear on this matter. That Colin Randell decided after all not to leave Plymouth was a disappointment for us, and I am fully aware that other players are or have been seemingly available. I cannot go into details as to why some players do not come to Hillsborough. What I can say is there are very good reasons some of which are impossible for me to talk about, but what I do ask of you supporters are two things — Trust me and have patience.

There is much to consider when signing players, many things to take into account and in light of recent happenings one has to be so careful.



Football is in grave danger of killing itself and the dilemma faced by Bristol City and other clubs should set everyone in the game thinking. If a little more thought and common sense had been given in previous years this great national pastime of ours might not have found itself in the situation it does today.

I spent a very enjoyable evening this week at the Concord Sports Centre watching the "Football Spectacular" organised through the English Schools F.A. — (even if United did beat us in the Junior five-a-side!) It had a terrific atmosphere, smashing to see the kids enjoying themselves without the slightest hint of aggravation and it was a pity there were not more adults there. Make sure you go to the next one, it's a great night out! It gave me plenty of food for thought that similar use could possibly be made of our Sports Hall.

The organising committee did a great job and the Schools F.A. were very appreciative of all the help given by the local clubs in supplying five-a-side teams and individual players for various events.

I was particularly pleased to see so many of our own professional staff give their time in supporting the evening. It is good for the fans, the club and the game in general.

## SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY FOOTBALL CLUB Hillsborough, Sheffield S6 1SW

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Division 1 Champions: 1902-03, 1903-04,  
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Division 2 Champions: 1899-1900, 1925-26,  
1951-52, 1955-56, 1958-59.

Runners-up: 1949-50

Division 3: Promoted 1980

F.A. Cup Winners: 1896, 1907, 1935

Runners-up: 1890, 1966

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Owl Shop: 343342

Supporters Club Office: 333419

Tavern at Hillsborough: 333289

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# LUTON

The money crisis that has threatened recently to wipe out several Football League clubs isn't just a new product of this age of recession, as Luton Town know all too well.

Some seven years ago the Kenilworth Road club were given only a few days to find a substantial amount of cash to stay alive. They did it by selling some of their stars — including Peter Anderson to Belgian football — and since then the Hatters have managed their financial affairs with commendable good sense.

Perhaps it's a good job they have. For a club so well placed for the vital stages of the promotion race and with a reputation under manager David Pleat for playing good football, the attendances at Luton haven't been startling. Last season's average was just over 10,000 — down by over a thousand on the previous season — and this year the story has been much the same. Leicester's visit to Kenilworth Road a week ago drew only 11,810 and what was arguably one of the most intriguing fourth round cup ties attracted only 20,000 to see Ipswich's visit to Luton. There might be a big problem around the corner with plans for a relief road threatening to slice away



Jake Findlay



part of the ground and a new stadium would cost upwards of a million pounds, Luton reckon.

## FIRST TO A HUNDRED POINTS

Luton seem to be everyone's favourites to finish among the top three at the moment, and at exactly the halfway stage of the current campaign had amassed 48 points; giving them a chance of being the first league club to win 100 points in a 42 match season.

No-one at Luton is likely to be thinking they are already promoted, but it would take a remarkable upset to halt their march. What is impressive is not only their away record but also the way they have recovered from any setbacks. After losing at home to ourselves Luton promptly won at Leicester and though a second home defeat followed, this time by Cardiff, the Hatters comprehensively beat Watford 4-1 in their next match.

By the time Luton went North to Newcastle in late November their away record read like Melchester Rovers on Fantasy Island; won 6 and drawn 1 in the league as well as an away second leg triumph at Wrexham in the league cup — even though it wasn't enough to save them after conceding two at home in the first leg. Not surprisingly, David Pleat was named November's manager of the month.

The list of wins on Luton's travels included QPR, Bolton, Leicester, Orient, Wrexham (twice) and Blackburn as well as a draw at inform Oldham. But at Newcastle Imre Varadi spoilt a good recovery by a last gasp goal to hand the Hatters their one away defeat of the season so far.

Since then Luton have had three more away games; a win at Norwich and draws at Shrewsbury and Charlton.

## BEFORE TODAY

Only once in 16 league visits have our visitors returned home with a win, when in 1970 Malcolm MacDonald crashed in a hat-trick at Luton won 5-1. We have recorded ten wins (including last year's 3-1 triumph) and five games have finished level. Our goal tally is 37 and Luton's 13.

Our first home meeting with Luton in 1899 saw us win 6-0, and interestingly in the return a few months later Luton's hard-pressed directors raised the entrance fee for everyone to one shilling (5p). Consequently only 1,500 turned up . . . shades of Derby County, you might say.

## UPS AND DOWNS . . .

Luton are one of the few clubs in the league to be voted out and later win back a place. In 1900 they failed to gain re-election to Division Two but twenty years later they were admitted to the new Third Division.

The Hatters have been in the First on three occasions, the last time being a single season in 1974-75 when the creditors came looking for their money, Luton finished above Chelsea and Carlisle but a point below Spurs.

One of the highlights of their pre-war history was Joe Payne, who in 1936-37 walloped 55 goals in the Third (South) and the previous season had slammed ten past Bristol Rovers to set the league individual scoring record.

## PLAYING STAFF

Scottish born goalkeeper **Jake Findlay** joined Luton from Aston Villa a couple of years ago and hardly missed a game until injury kept him out for a few games in November. That gave reserve keeper **Alan Judge** a rare first team chance — but only after on-loan replacement Aleksic (now at Spurs after being signed from Luton) had



Mal Donaghy

played four games. Judge got a second chance last week when Findlay was injured again.

Defender **Kirk Stephens** and Belfast-born **Mal Donaghy** have played a big part in Luton's success this term, and both have well over a century of league outings to their credit. Donaghy has won six Northern Ireland caps so far, and headed his seventh goal of the season last Saturday.

Welshman **Mark Aizlewood** began his career with home-town Newport before being brought to Kenilworth Road and his international recognition comprises two Under-21 caps. Mansfield born **Mick Saxby** cost a club record fee of £200,000 in July '79 when he left the Stags, and quickly proved a consistent central defender. Local product **Wayne Turner** has had only a handful of games to date in defence.

Highly rated midfielder **Ricky Hill** is well on the way to 200 league appearances for the Hatters, and has proved a useful goal getter too — though this season has seen him only claim two so far. Much travelled Yugoslav international **Raddy Antic** celebrated his recent recall to a full place with a goal at Norwich. For most of this season he's had to warm the subs bench, a role he returned to last week.

Despite his unusual name, **Pasquale Fuccillo** hails from deepest Bedfordshire and despite an injury hit last couple of years has played over a century of games for Luton and won a regular place again this term. **Clive Goodyear** is another to recently grab the chance — this time in defence — of an extended first-team run after only a handful of games in the last two years.

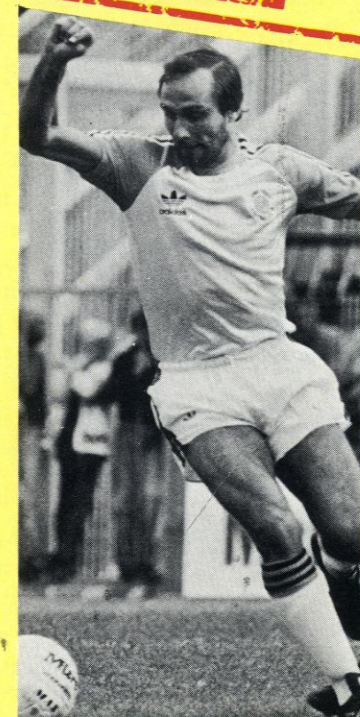
**Godfrey Ingram** began the season in the first team but slipped out of the reckoning, though the local front-runner has time to re-establish himself and gained experience on-loan at Northampton in '79-'80.

The Hatters equalled their club record fee when they persuaded Bristol Rovers to part with **Steve White**, who scored 20 league goals at Eastville and has matched that total with Luton so far. His striking partner, South African born **Brian Stein**, hit 19 league goals last season and now needs only a few more to reach the half-century landmark.

The return of one-time Swindon forward **David Moss** from a summer in the States has added strength to the left flank of Luton's forward line and with over 300 league games behind him and more than a century of goals, his experience and consistency (especially with penalties) are much appreciated at Kenilworth Road.

Reserve forwards **Frankie Bunn** and **Mike Small** have had limited opportunities though Bunn scored once last season.

# SPECIAL FILE



When Luton manager David Pleat signed Brighton's 33-year-old **Brian Horton** last summer, he acquired a born leader — a player who had captained Port Vale and lead the South Coast club to promotion twice in his five years with the Seagulls.

Tough-tackling Horton was installed as captain at Kenilworth Road and quickly showed his ability to organise and lead the club's powerful assault on the promotion battle, setting the example for his new team-mates to follow.

In over 200 games with Port Vale, Horton netted 33 goals and matched that feat at Brighton. And though it's unlikely the £100,000 signing will equal that particular total again, Luton and their supporters are sure Horton's inspiration will serve them just as well next year should the Hatters make it to the First Division.

## CONNECTIONS

Not too many since the war, though centre-forward Hugh McJarrow (21 goals in 46 games) left us for the Bedfordshire club in the early 'fifties and a young 'keeper at Hillsborough, Tony Read, went on to play around 200 games for Luton in the 'sixties and in a spell at centre-forward netted a dozen goals!

# REPORTS

DIVISION TWO ... CENTRAL LEAGUE ... F.A. CUP ... NORTHERN INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE  
 YOUTH CUP ... LEAGUE CUP ... FRIENDLIES ... COUNTY CUP ... DIVISION TWO ... CENTRAL  
 LEAGUE ... F.A. CUP ... NORTHERN INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE ... YOUTH CUP ... LEAGUE CUP

Saturday, 2nd January 1982  
 F.A. CUP

## COVENTRY CITY 3 WEDNESDAY 1

Not a very happy start to the New Year for Wednesday with the coach breaking down to and from the Highfield Road ground whilst the 90 minute cup tie in between saw the team splutter their way out of the competition.

Wednesday supporters accounting for a third of the attendance saw their team open brightly enough, and the first ten minutes showed the Owls take up the attacking. Coventry came back and Bodak floated a ball just wide of the Wednesday net but in the 21st minute the Owls went ahead. Curran fed Megson on the right and his cross was perfect for McCulloch to flick coolly into the bottom corner of the net.

The First Division side jolted by this reverse, but no more than Wednesday deserved at this stage of the game, responded with some pressure. Bolder saved well and then Williamson caught the eye with two fine interceptions. A good run by Curran looked dangerous then with 36 minutes gone the home side equalised. Steve Hunt gained

*A deft flick by Andy McCulloch beats the oncoming Coventry keeper Jim Blyth to give us the lead.*



possession outside of the box, saw Bolder off his line and chipped the ball perfectly over the Wednesday keeper. Seven minutes later Coventry went ahead and it was that man Hunt again taking advantage of Sterland's bad pass back to Bolder to seize the ball and take it past the goalkeeper into the empty net.

In the early stages of the second half there was plenty of aimless play by both sides. True the persistent rain did not make conditions very good but the ball was given away regularly, although the game sprang back to life when Gary Megson was desperately unlucky not to equalise. He hit a tremendous shot from 25 yards which beat Blyth in the Coventry goal but the ball thudded against the crossbar.

Encouraged by this, Wednesday took up the initiative and a brilliant tackle by Dyson thwarted McCulloch when it looked as if the striker might score. McCulloch was again unlucky when Scottish international Blyth saved well and then the goalkeeper again distinguished himself this time at the expense of Curran's well struck shot from 10 yards.

Then it was all over, twelve minutes from time, Bolder dropped a left wing cross when under little pressure and Hateley gobbled up the chance to put the tie out of Wednesday's reach.

Team: Bolder, Sterland, Williamson, Smith, Shirtliff, Taylor, Megson, Mirocevic, Bannister, McCulloch, Curran. Sub. Mellor (for Taylor 71 mins.).

## Saturday, 16th January, 1982 LEAGUE DIVISION TWO WEDNESDAY 2 BLACKBURN ROVERS 2

On a surface perhaps better suited to the talents of an ice dancer Wednesday having skated into a two goal lead took a tumble late in the game to allow Rovers share the points.

The opening stages were scrappy with both teams having difficulty in keeping their feet but the Owls were soon in favour with their supporters with a goal after 14 minutes.

Goalkeeper Gennoe made a good save from Bannister but the ball passed to Owen who crossed to the far post and Andy McCulloch's header found the net.

Blackburn might have quickly equalised when Shirtliff slipped to give Rathbone a chance but the Rovers full-back could not steady himself properly and hit his shot wide of the goal.

Owen was showing up well and following a good run down the right McCulloch dived in to head his cross straight at the goalkeeper.

At the other end when Bolder went down at Brotherston's feet the ball squirmed loose in front of an empty goal but Sterland was on hand to boot clear.

Despite the conditions there was plenty of endeavour in the game and for Wednesday a further goal a minute from half-time. Once again Owen's cross produced it, this time Gary Megson glancing home a header from six yards.

With the confidence a two goal lead brings Wednesday kept up their attacking but they could not put their territorial advantage into further goals. Gordon Owen continued to have a very useful game and on one occasion looked clear only to be chopped down on the edge of the area, Fazackerley finding his way into the referee's book.



Goal maker Gordon Owen evades a tackle and a snowstorm from a Rovers defender.

Wednesday survived a couple of scares, Bolder saving from Garner when the visiting player might have done better and then a sweet move ended with Bell finding the net but using his hands to do so.

Rovers then had a lucky let-off when the ball bounced unkindly for Shirtliff right in front of goal and then some delicate skills by Bannister on the

treacherous surface ended with Gennoe saving the Wednesday man's drive.

At this stage of the game Wednesday looked set for victory but all this changed in the 78th minute. A handball offence 20 yards out gave Blackburn a free-kick and Stonehouse bent his shot round the wall and past Bolder.

Straight away the Owls should have regained a two goal lead. Bannister evaded his marker, ran on towards goal but the simple ball to Owen

which would have given a "walk in" goal was a bad one and Gennoe collected.

With seven minutes left Blackburn seemed fortunate to escape when Bannister was blatantly fouled. From the resultant clearance they forced a series of corners and after the ball had bobbed around the home goalmouth, Keeley rose to a Brotherstone cross to give Rovers the equaliser which on reflection they possibly deserved.

Team: Bolder, Sterland, Grant, Pickering, Shirtliff, Smith, Megson, Mirocevic, Bannister, McCulloch, Owen.

## JUNIOR RESULTS Teams and Scorers

Saturday, 14th November, 1981  
**HARTLEPOOL 4 WEDNESDAY 2**  
 McShane, Oliver, Megson, Adams, Kenney, Shirtliff, Mills, Beaumont, Simmons, Riley, Mossman.  
 Sub: Wain. Scorers: Mills, Simmons.

Saturday, 21st November, 1981  
**WEDNESDAY 1 ROTHERHAM 2**  
 McShane, Mills, Crossley, Adams, Kenney, Wain, Mills, Riley, Jeffrey, Helliwell, Mossman. Sub: Megson.  
 Scorer: Helliwell.

Saturday, 5th December, 1981  
**WEDNESDAY 1 SUNDERLAND 4**  
 Goddard, Whittaker, Megson, Adams, Corker, Wain, Whitham, D'Arcy, Helliwell, Hemsworth, Mossman. Scorer: Hemsworth.

## LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
<b>LUTON TOWN</b>	21	15	3	3	46	21+25	48	
<b>Oldham Athletic</b>	25	11	9	5	35	26+9	42	
<b>Watford</b>	22	12	5	5	39	26+13	41	
<b>Blackburn Rovers</b>	25	10	8	7	30	24+6	38	
<b>Barnsley</b>	22	11	4	7	35	22+13	37	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	22	11	4	7	30	30	0	37
<b>Chelsea</b>	22	10	6	6	33	30+3	36	
<b>Q.P.R.</b>	22	10	5	7	28	20+8	35	
<b>Newcastle United</b>	21	10	3	8	30	22+8	33	
<b>Charlton Athletic</b>	25	8	8	9	33	36-3	32	
<b>Norwich City</b>	23	8	4	11	27	35-8	28	
<b>Derby County</b>	23	8	4	11	31	42-11	28	
<b>Orient</b>	23	8	3	12	21	29-8	27	
<b>Leicester City</b>	20	6	8	6	26	22+4	26	
<b>Crystal Palace</b>	20	7	4	9	15	16-1	25	
<b>Rotherham United</b>	21	7	3	11	28	32-4	24	
<b>Cambridge United</b>	21	7	3	11	25	29-4	24	
<b>Cardiff City</b>	21	7	3	11	22	31-9	24	
<b>Shrewsbury Town</b>	20	6	5	9	20	29-9	23	
<b>Bolton Wanderers</b>	23	6	4	13	20	34-14	22	
<b>Wrexham</b>	20	5	4	11	21	28-7	19	
<b>Grimsby Town</b>	18	4	6	8	21	32-11	18	

## LEAGUE GAMES AND GOALS

	App.	& Goals			
Gary Bannister	22	11	Gary Megson	22	3
Ray Blackhall	9	—	Ian Mellor	3	5
Bob Bolder	22	—	Ante Mirocevic	16	—
Terry Curran	18	2	John Pearson	3	4
David Grant	4	—	Mike Pickering	4	1
Brian Hornsby	—	+1	Paul Shirtliff	1	—
Jeff King	2	—	Peter Shirtliff	18	2
Dennis Leman	2	—	Mark Smith	21	—
Trevor Matthewson	1	—	Melvyn Sterland	14	—
Andy McCulloch	19	6	Kevin Taylor	18	3
			Charlie Williamson	17	1

## STATISTICS

	Highest Home Gate	Highest Away Gate	Total Watched
<b>Luton Town</b>	12,839	21,037	227,955
<b>Oldham Athletic</b>	15,400	17,839*	209,628
<b>Watford</b>	14,463	20,036	247,062
<b>Blackburn Rovers</b>	15,050*	18,721	248,392
<b>Chelsea</b>	20,036	22,022	286,794
<b>Q.P.R.</b>	22,022	17,024*	251,870
<b>Barnsley</b>	28,870*	30,621*	297,930
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	30,621	28,870	358,295
<b>Charlton Athletic</b>	11,333	15,329	202,485
<b>Newcastle United</b>	21,037	18,477	277,232
<b>Norwich City</b>	19,348	14,509	261,094
<b>Derby County</b>	16,046	23,674*	244,257
<b>Orient</b>	9,698	13,435	166,538
<b>Leicester City</b>	19,125*	16,046	236,960
<b>Crystal Palace</b>	15,267	18,476*	220,168
<b>Cambridge United</b>	8,806	14,699	153,037
<b>Cardiff City</b>	8,898	15,621*	148,805
<b>Shrewsbury Town</b>	5,672	13,846	125,323
<b>Bolton Wanderers</b>	16,577	16,606	186,055
<b>Rotherham United</b>	18,324	26,826*	205,390
<b>Wrexham</b>	4,795	18,526*	140,078
<b>Grimsby Town</b>	13,110*	11,931	151,945

Figures in blue\* indicate matches involving Sheffield Wednesday

**Highest Gate:** 30,621 Sheffield Wednesday v Barnsley

**Lowest Gate:** 2,899 Orient v Wrexham

**Highest Home Win:** 6-0 Luton Town v Grimsby Town  
 6-0 Rotherham United v Chelsea

**Highest Away Win:** 4-0 Cardiff City v Newcastle

**Highest Aggregate:** 3-4 Bolton Wanderers v Cambridge  
 3-4 Charlton Athletic v Chelsea  
 6-1 Watford v Derby County

# STATISTICS

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1981	AUG.	29 Blackburn Rovers	1-0	15,000	Bolder	Blackhall	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor	Megson	Mirocevic	Bannister	McCulloch	Curran <sup>1</sup>	Sterland	
	SEPT.	5 <b>Crystal Palace</b>	1-0	18,476	Bolder	Blackhall	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor	Megson	Mirocevic	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>1</sup>	McCulloch	Curran	Mellor	
		8 <b>Rotherham U.</b>	2-0	26,826	Bolder	Blackhall	<b>Will'son</b> <sup>1</sup>	Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor	Megson	Mirocevic	Bannister	<b>McCullo</b> <sup>1</sup>	Curran	Mellor
		12 Luton Town	3-0	12,131	Bolder	Sterland	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor	<b>Megson</b> <sup>1</sup>	Mirocevic	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>McCollo</b> <sup>1</sup>	Curran	Leman	
		19 <b>Derby County</b>	1-1	23,764	Bolder	Sterland	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor	<b>Megson</b> <sup>1</sup>	Mirocevic*	Bannister	McCulloch	Curran	Mellor*	
		22 Barnsley	0-1	28,870	Bolder	Sterland	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor*	Taylor*	Megson	Mirocevic	Bannister	McCulloch	Curran	Mellor*
		26 Grimsby Town	1-0	13,110	Bolder	Blackhall	Grant	Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor	Megson	Mirocevic	Bannister	McCulloch	<b>Curran</b> <sup>1</sup>	Hornsby
	OCT.	3 <b>Wrexham</b>	0-3	18,526	Bolder	Blackhall	Grant	Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor*	Megson	Mirocevic	Bannister	McCulloch	Curran	Mellor*
		7 Blackburn R.(LC2)	1-1	7,900	Bolder	Blackhall	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	<b>Taylor</b> <sup>1</sup>	Megson	Mirocevic	Bannister	McCulloch	Curran*	Mellor*	
		10 <b>Cardiff City</b>	2-1	15,621	Bolder	Blackhall	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	<b>Taylor</b> <sup>1</sup>	Megson	Mirocevic*	Bannister	<b>McCullo</b> <sup>1</sup>	Curran	Pearson*	
		17 Charlton Athletic	0-3	8,258	Bolder	Blackhall	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor	Megson	Mirocevic*	Bannister	McCulloch	Curran	Pearson	
		24 <b>Oldham Athletic</b>	2-1	17,839	Bolder	Blackhall	Williamson Smith	<b>Shirtliff</b> <sup>1</sup>	Taylor	Megson	Sterland*	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>1</sup>	McCulloch	Curran	Pearson*	
		27 <b>Blackburn R.(LC2)</b>	1-2	13,099	Bolder	Blackhall	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor*	Megson	Sterland	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>1</sup>	McCulloch	Curran	Pearson*	
		31 Leicester City	0-0	19,125	Bolder	Sterland	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor	Megson	Mirocevic	Bannister	McCulloch	Curran	Leman	
	NOV.	7 Orient	0-3	5,179	Bolder	Sterland	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor	Megson	Mirocevic	Bannister	Pearson	Curran	Matth'son	
		14 <b>Q.P.R.</b>	1-3	17,024	Bolder	Sterland	Williamson Matth'son	Pickering	Taylor	Megson	Mirocevic*	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>1</sup>	McCulloch	Curran	Pearson*	
		21 Cambridge United	2-1	6,461	Bolder	Sterland	Williamson Smith	Pickering	Taylor	Megson	King	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>McCullo</b> <sup>1</sup>	Curran	Matth'son	
		24 <b>Barnsley</b>	2-2	30,621	Bolder	Sterland	Williamson Smith	Pickering	<b>Taylor</b> <sup>1</sup>	Megson	King	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>McCullo</b> <sup>1</sup>	Curran	Mellor*	
		28 <b>Watford</b>	3-1	15,990	Bolder	Blackhall	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	<b>Taylor</b> <sup>1</sup>	Megson	Leman	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>Pearson</b> <sup>1</sup> *	Curran	Mellor*	
	DEC.	5 Chelsea	1-2	17,033	Bolder	Sterland	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor	Megson	Leman	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>1</sup>	McCulloch*	Curran	Hornsby*	
	JAN.	2 Coventry (FAC3)	1-3	14,213	Bolder	Sterland	Williamson Smith	Shirtliff	Taylor*	Megson	Mirocevic	Bannister	<b>McCullo</b> <sup>1</sup>	Curran	Mellor*	
	1982	16 <b>Blackburn Rovers</b>	2-2	13,120	Bolder	Sterland	Grant	Pickering	Shirtliff	Smith	<b>Megson</b> <sup>1</sup>	Mirocevic	Bannister	<b>McCullo</b> <sup>1</sup>	Owen	Pearson
		19 Crystal Palace	2-1	8,289	Bolder	Sterland	Grant*	Smith	<b>Pickering</b> <sup>1</sup>	Mellor	<b>Megson</b> <sup>1</sup>	Mirocevic	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>1</sup>	McCulloch	Owen	Pearson*
		30 Derby County	1-3	11,215	Bolder	Sterland	Mellor	Pickering	Shirtliff	Smith	Megson	Mirocevic	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>1</sup>	McCulloch	Owen	Taylor
	FEB.	3 Norwich City	3-2	15,767	Bolder	Sterland	Williamson	<b>Shirtliff</b> <sup>1</sup>	Pickering	Smith	Megson	Shirtliff*	<b>Bannister</b> <sup>2</sup>	Pearson	Mellor	Owen*
		6 Luton Town														
		13 Wrexham														
		16 Bolton Wanderers														
		20 Grimsby Town														
		24 Newcastle United														
		27 Cardiff City														
	MAR.	2 Shrewsbury T.														
		6 Charlton Athletic														
		13 Oldham Athletic														
		20 Leicester City														
		27 Orient														
	APR.	3 Q.P.R.														
		10 Shrewsbury Town														
		12 Newcastle United														
		17 Cambridge United														
		24 Watford														
	MAY	1 Chelsea														
		4 Rotherham United														
		8 Bolton Wanderers														
		15 Norwich City														



Mike Pickering races in to crash the ball into the Crystal Palace net for our winner.

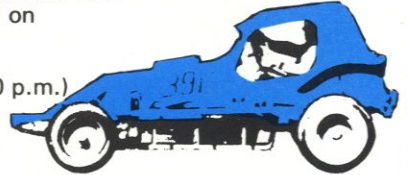
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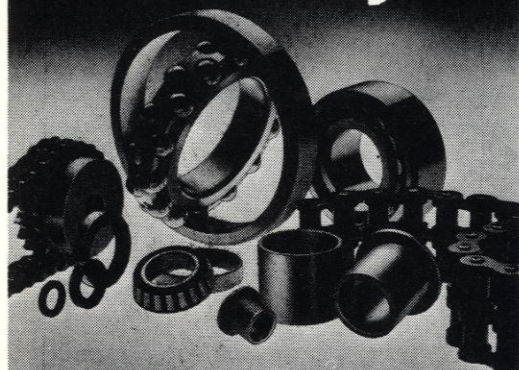
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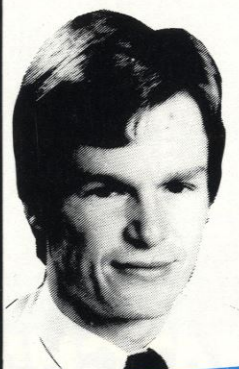
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# NO MINISTER!

AN APPEAL by Bert Millichip, chairman of the Football Association for "Government intervention on a large scale" in the campaign to combat hooliganism met with abject failure.

Sickened as all true lovers of our national pastime have been for many years now, by the moronic and senseless behaviour of loutish thugs, mindlessly proclaiming their allegiance to the game they are slowly killing, by spreading mahem and havoc across the Continent — Mr. Millichip is understandably deeply concerned.

"Why should we be ashamed of being British" he rightly challenges. As one who has experienced the guilt feeling following the riot in Turin in 1980 when England met Belgium in the European Championship and later in Basle when violence erupted last summer as Switzerland beat England, I sympathise deeply with the chairman's frustration.

The point is that the whole dilemma is way out of the control of football administrators simply because the "FA has insufficient muscle to act further on its own."

Whether we like it or not the Government must stop burying its head in the sand. The problem is a social one and it hasn't gone away nor will it until positive action is implemented.

Perhaps the Sports Minister Neil Macfarlane and his colleagues have never encountered a horde of bare chested bovver boys draped in filthy Union Jacks venting their uncontrolled and ferocious aggression upon the innocent inhabitants of foreign towns and villages. It is not a pretty sight.

### FRIGHTENING

Girls and women are mollested, children terrorised. I witnessed an incident in a park in Basle hours before the World Cup qualifying match kicked off, when three skinheads, bare to the mid-riff and shouting obscene slogans, descended on a man and a woman with a small child and ripped the child's ball away to then run off and commence a game of football on the other side of the park. Do we really wish to subject the Spanish at the height of their tourist season to such acts of depravity?

Macfarlane says he is anxious to solve the problem but as usual his actions do not support his words. The Sports Minister's answer is to increase the staff at the consulate in Spain and he says: "The Foreign Office will publish a booklet of do's and don'ts which will be circulated to everyone going to Spain." Just who do the ministry think they are dealing with . . . a Sunday school outing!

He added: "We want to see crowd segregation at matches and the appointment of liaison officers in all the Spanish regions by the World soccer body." If that is not passing the buck then I don't know what is.

Either the Government are not fully conversant with the cancer in their midst or they are not interested, or even worse powerless to contain it never mind control it. Whichever conclusion you draw the consequences are frightening.

Bert Millichip, who is a lawyer, has asked for stern action and requested the Government to withdraw passports from fans who have misbehaved abroad. To my mind that does not go far enough. Any person found guilty of hooliganism over the past two seasons should be barred from travelling to Spain during the period of the World Cup Finals.

### MORALITY

Of course to suggest such a thing is to evoke the wrath of those defenders of civil liberty. But what about the liberty of decent folk? Surely the fact that a lot of parents are afraid to take youngsters to football matches because of the violence of a minority amounts to the same thing — the prevention of ordinary people doing what they want to do because of the vicious few.

Of course to ban the thugs from leaving our shores would require a change in the Laws and many see this as a dangerous precedent. If it starts there where does it end is the question . . . before long we could find ourselves in a police state.

One can understand the caution, but in all honesty is it moral to unleash packs of marauding mindless idiots on the subjects of a friendly nation?

Of course not. British football's administrators know it, all sane thinking people know it and yet the Government refuses to accept liability. Neil Macfarlane's contribution would be laughable were the implications not so serious. If strong preventive action is not instituted then the riotous rowdies will ruin a momentous footballing occasion. The activities of Ron Greenwood and his team will be lost beneath the volumes of outrage . . . and the end result could be the banning of England and English clubs from European and international competitions.

Is that really acceptable by the majority? Even non-footballing patriots I am sure would be appalled to think that their country should be cast out by the rest of the world because of the degrading violations of common dignity by some of their so called supporters. But that deplorable deprivation is far too close to reality as the situation now stands. Concrete and positive action is called for before it is too late. The Government must ban the trash from Spain.

COLIN BENSON



**Bulldog Bobby the FA's World Cup mascot has an all too striking resemblance to some of the thugs who will invade Spain!**

# LEE CHAPMAN

## SHRUGS OFF THAT UNFASHIONABLE TAG

It was perhaps inevitable that the son of a Lincoln City professional footballer, born in Scorers Street, Lincoln, should some 21 years later turn out to be one of the country's most exciting young strikers.

Lee Chapman who is now rattling in goals as though there were no tomorrow, was certainly raised in a footballing environment and the step towards making it his full time career seemed a natural progression.

The youngster first joined Stoke City as an Associated Schoolboy and was rewarded with his first professional forms in June 1978, when still only a very raw 18.

"I have steadily improved every season," he proudly boasts "my control is getting better, my overall ability is getting better, my heading is getting better and hopefully my goalscoring is getting better.

"But although I feel I am improving all the time there is still a lot to do and I am working hard at my game trying to improve every facet. I suppose my left foot is one area which I have worked on more than any but in general I do not concentrate on one specific area. I am looking for all round improvement.

Standing 6' 1½" and a natural athlete, it was not long before young Lee forced his way into contention for a first team place. The big moment of selection came on October 2, 1979 when he replaced Brendan O'Callaghan in the number nine shirt for the Football League Cup Third Round replay match at Swindon Town. It was a night of mixed feelings for the talented debut boy, for he scored early in the second-half, but it was not enough to prevent Swindon winning 2-1.

### REGULAR

Lee had to wait four months for his next taste of the big time, four months to the day in fact when on February 2, 1980 he stepped out for his First Division baptism at the Victoria Ground against Bristol City. The Potters won 1-0 and Lee had done enough to keep his place for the next game at Crystal Palace. This time he scored what was to prove the only goal of the match . . . Lee Chapman had arrived.

He finished the season with three goals in 14 appearances and then last season established himself as Stoke's regular centre forward, missing just one game against Coventry City. But what was even more encouraging was his call-up into the England Under-21 side for the international against the Republic of Ireland at Anfield last February.

"That was a marvellous experience," recalls Lee. "I must admit that I have been a bit disappointed that I have not been included in the squad this year but that has not deterred me in any way, I am still looking to be selected at any international level . . . I just have to keep on improving.

"Stoke City are not a fashionable club and this is half the problem really. You have to do something tremendously outstanding to be noticed and that is a little unfair. Unfortunately we have been branded with this image of being a dour defensive outfit which is

quite untrue these days, but it is always hard to live down a reputation. The trouble is when it comes to representative honours it is the Liverpool's and Manchester United's of this world who catch the eye.

"It is a gross injustice though to label the current Stoke side as boring. At times this season we have been too positive for our own good. Our manager Richie Barker has encouraged us to get forward and take chances and this has sometimes led to us losing games which we should not have lost.

"Not that I am grumbling, I think it is great. It certainly helps my cause as a striker. Last season I was a lonely sole on many occasions, stuck up front by myself without much chance of scoring.

### NATURAL GIFT

"But the fact that I have played in very few dull boring games this season is an indication that we are attacking much more because it takes two teams to make a good game. And it is not only Stoke who are placing more emphasis on attack, I think it is a general trend throughout the First Division. Most of our games have been attacking games with people pushing forward to try and win.

"I don't think this has resulted in many more goals being scored, but the general idea has definitely been more positive because of the three points for a win. Why there are not that many more goals I don't know. I can't answer for other players I can only speak for myself but maybe we don't spend enough time working on shooting skills in this country. On the continent they do a lot more shooting from further out — 30 or 40 yards or so — which we don't even attempt. We have got the players with the ability, it is just a matter of encouraging them to do it."

One of the major factors in Lee's form which netted him 14 goals in the opening 15 games this season has been his partnership with the diminutive Adrian Heath.

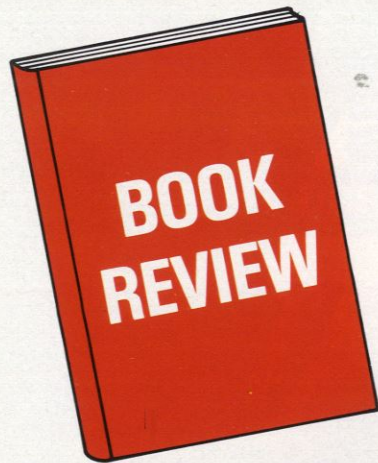
"Yes I think Adrian's best position is as a striker alongside me. He is only 5' 5" and he feeds off me as the target man and this works well between us. We complement each other nicely and when you are working as a pair you create opportunities for each other. We create openings and work off each other effectively.

"Sometimes however Adrian is played wide for tactical reasons and I am left up front by myself which is very hard. We did this at Coventry and did not create anything which can be very disheartening. But overall I am pleased with my progress and hope to continue to develop into a much better player."

Lee has a natural gift for goals and that is a priceless asset. But he has not just burst onto the football scene, it has been a steady and encouraging progression. Last term he netted 17 League goals and two in the cups and if he continues to maintain his current development then LEE CHAPMAN could be a name to look out for when England contest the European Championship in 1984.







**John Nolan** takes a look at some books which will be of interest to football enthusiasts.

football is fun for all ages" and in this book he certainly gives some good ideas on how to make the development of skill a fun thing. I have already tried some of the exercises out on the Under-12 team that I coach and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves . . . you can't get a better recommendation than that. This is a must for anyone who deals with young footballers.

**ARSENAL QUIZ BOOK**

*Edited by Maurice Kinn*  
*Published by Maurice Kinn Productions* Paperback £1.25

If you like quizzes and are interested in Arsenal then you should get hours of fun out of this new venture. There are tantalising teasers, questions on transfers, records and individual star players. It's all there for the avid Gunners fan.

**THE MANCHESTER UNITED OFFICIAL ANNUAL 1982**

*Compiled by Stan Liversedge and John Keith*  
*Published by Circle Publications Ltd.* Hard back £3.45

This lively and attractive album gives an excellent synopsis of the past year at Old Trafford.



Backed by superb photographs on nearly all of the 72 pages, the book makes easy reading and keeps you up to date with the changing faces at this great club.

I particularly enjoyed the section recalling the milestones in United's glorious history and the statistics section which covers all the clubs sides is also very useful.

**TREVOR BROOKING: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

*by Trevor Brooking in collaboration with Brian Scovell*  
*Published by Pelham Books* £6.95.

This is a refreshing insight into Trevor Brooking's own football world. He arrived late in the game, yet has enjoyed 16 years as a professional with many fond memories. Like the gentleman he is, most of his stories tell about the good side of football although he does recall the bribes offered to his father as an incentive for him to sign for certain clubs when he was a youngster.

It is not all glamour, Trevor has lived the bad times as well, like in 1971 when he was out of the side and his wife hid from the window cleaner because she was so short of money.

We learn about the inside story of why Ron Greenwood agreed that it would be best for him to leave West Ham, and learn Trevor's views on the issues facing the modern game. He pulls no punches and is quick to criticise the way boys are developed in this country with the emphasis on "work, chase and harry."

The book also reveals Trevors plans to quit at the end of his contract and take up the threads in America. Fascinating and enjoyable reading.

**MATCH WEEKLY ALL-STAR FOOTBALL SPECIAL**

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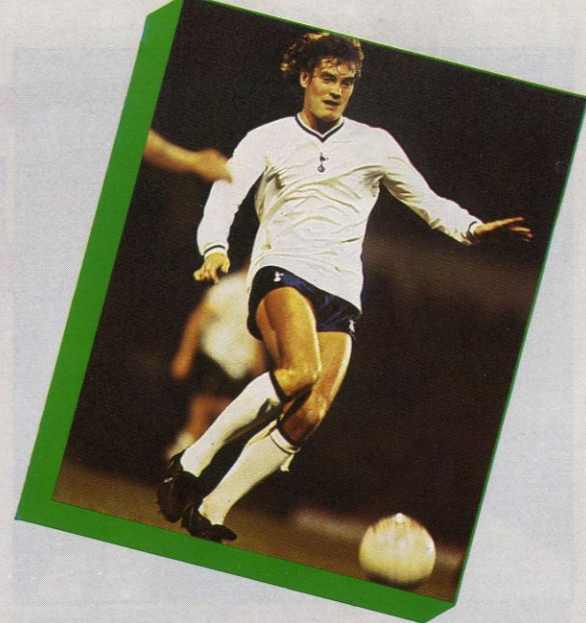
This action packed cavalcade of big name stars follows the established and successful Match Weekly formula. From the front cover to the back every page is busy and lively and of course supplemented by the usual excellent pictures. And not only do the big name stars have their say. Prominence is also given to the lesser known performers such as Dave Watson of Norwich City and the less glamorous clubs like Mansfield Town. For the youngster with football on his mind this is excellent value.

**DON HOWE SUPER SOCCER SKILLS**

*Edited by Norman Barrett. Published by Granada*  
Paperback 85p

As one would expect from one of the best coaches in the country this little book is a gem for those interested in the development of young players. Don Howe says: "Playing

**HODDLE-**  
*the enigma*



ONE OF THE BIGGEST ENIGMA'S IN ENGLISH FOOTBALL is the failure of Glenn Hoddle to establish himself as a regular international performer.

Since he made his England debut against Bulgaria in November 1979, the Tottenham Hotspur maestro has made only eight appearances for his country, despite the fact that he is probably the most naturally gifted player in the British Isles.

His ability to control, caress and pass a ball is second to none and when it comes to technique he far outshines Ardiles and Villa his two illustrious Argentinian team mates. In short he is potentially the most exciting player in the country and certainly the one most likely to become world class if given the chance.

His last appearance in an England shirt was the debacle of Oslo when he was brought off against Norway — some believe unfairly because even during this disgraceful team performance Hoddle had created three good openings which is more than could be said for some of his colleagues.

"The Norway game was an unhappy experience for me and although it is too late to do anything about it now, I wish I could have reproduced my best form in that game" says the Tottenham stylist.

**THE BOSS**

Glenn's manager Keith Burkinshaw has some positive thoughts on why his golden boy has not lived up to his reputation at this level and explains: "Football is all about confidence and looking at Glenn in the Oslo game it was obvious that he had no confidence at all.

"Glenn needs to be running things. That is how it is when he plays for us, he is the one who orchestrates the Tottenham team and he knows he is the leader even though we have some great players in the team.

"He needs that responsibility if he is going to be a player and somehow I don't feel that he assumes that role in the national side. I am not too sure why but it could be because

he does not think that he is capable of doing this for England.

"It is a pity for until he gets it into his head that he is the one who is going to do it for England we will not see him at his best. It is up to Glenn, he is the only one who can go out there and prove it on the field. All the talking in the world will not help unless he decides to show everyone that he is a really good midfield player at international level. If he does not do this then he will never realise his potential."

**CONUNDRUM**

That would be a tragedy for Hoddle and English football which is crying out for a super-star image. But it is not that simple as Glenn reveals when he says: "It is more a mental problem than anything. I don't really feel at home in the England team and I think that is partly because I have played so few games.

"It is a similar experience to that you undergo when as a youngster you are breaking into the club team and you perhaps hang back a little. That is the problem I am experiencing at the moment in the England team."

It is a frustrating conundrum for Ron Greenwood and Glenn Hoddle to ponder over but one that must be solved if England are to fully benefit from the Spurs star's undoubted ability.

Hoddle is still only 24 and so we can talk of him in terms of the next two world cups and perhaps a sustained run in the England team might just establish him as the key figure for 1982.

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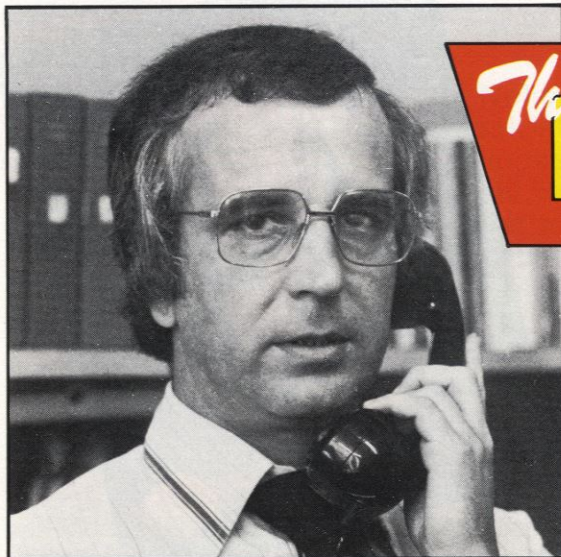
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# The PAUL PARISH page

Said Greenwood: "Few teams have won major trophies with an entirely young team, while some have had success with old ones."

"Though the team that carried us to Spain is basically composed of older players there is plenty of youth in the squad."

"I want to keep the basis of a settled side," he added. "And introduce players gradually to see if they can establish themselves. I want a balanced blend between experience and youth."

### ON THE BALL

The inference was there for all to see — age will not matter if a player is still good enough.

Coincidentally, I was at Southampton a few days after the England v Hungary match and watched as Kevin Keegan, one of England's particularly successful 30-plus brigade, was upstaged by a veteran of the 1966 World Cup triumph, Alan Ball.

Bally is now 36 and admits: "I don't make so many forward runs as I used to. I try to keep my football simple and I try not to get exposed for pace."

There was a mischievous twinkle in the little man's eye when he was asked whether he considered whether he could still do a job for England. "I haven't seen a lot better around," he grinned.

It was a point that had already been taken up by Saints boss, Lawrie McMenemy, who has never shunned the chance to buy top class experience. Watson, of course, is another man who was brought to The Dell well after the age of 30 and McMenemy was prepared to back his centre half for the job against Hungary even though he had only been playing for his own reserve side.

Keegan was another player of vast experience lured to Southampton, and Ball is currently in his second stay at the club. He tried management at Blackpool and while that didn't work out McMenemy didn't have any hesitation in resigning the impish midfielder.

Much the same can be said of Mike Channon, who spent a few years away at Manchester City before being restored to the Southampton playing staff.

"You know me," said McMenemy. "I've never been afraid to go out and buy players when they are over 30."

"Those people who talk about players being

## THE AGE OF EXPERIENCE

THE great debate over Dave Watson's absence from the heart of England's defence raged on long after England had finally established their place in the World Cup Finals.

Watson's presence at the centre of England's back line had been a reassuring sight for a number of years. But eventually time had caught up with one of the country's most consistent servants.

Dropped by his club Southampton, to spend his time playing in the Football Combination, Watson was, nevertheless, included in Ron Greenwood's squad for the decisive match with Hungary.

Most expected Watson, now 35 and desperately short of big match practice, to be employed on the grounds of experience. In the event Greenwood decided on the relatively untried promise of West Ham's Alvin Martin.

Yet what really cost Watson his chance? Was it his age or was it the fact that he wasn't a regular in Southampton's first team?

Age, I don't believe, came into the final reckoning. Manager Greenwood has never been the type to cast a man aside simply on the grounds that he is well past thirty.

Greenwood's philosophy was ably summed up on the morning after the Hungarian night before when he met the press for his usual breakfast-time talk-in.

too old should have been here today and seen that performance by Bally.

### REASSURANCE

"There's been a great deal of pressure on Ron Greenwood to get rid of his over 30s. But just because a player has reached that age it doesn't suddenly mean he's no good any more."

For men like Keegan and Trevor Brooking or goalkeepers Ray Clemence and Peter Shilton that is very reassuring talk — if they needed reassurance, that is.

And like Greenwood said, most of the successful sides have players of considerable experience in vital positions.

Of course, that all happened in the week that Northern Ireland, too, qualified for the World Cup Finals. That really is a superb achievement for Billy Bingham's boys and everyone in football shed a particular smile of approval for Arsenal goalkeeper Pat Jennings, who will take his remarkable ability to the biggest stage in the business next year.

Jennings, the gentle Irishman, will be 36 when Northern Ireland open up their World Cup bid in Spain. His reaction to the success was wholly expected.

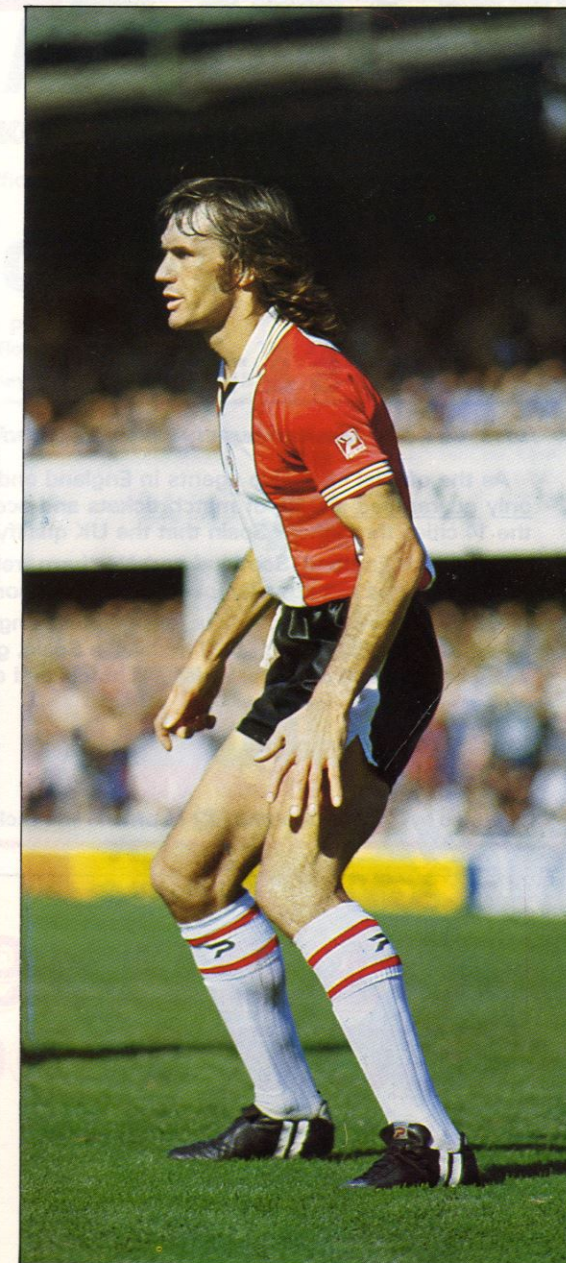
"I thought I would never get there," he said. "I have had so many disappointments in my international career but I knew we would never have a better chance than we had in this group."

"I have had some great moments with both Tottenham and Arsenal but not much that beats the feeling of going to the World Cup."

Jennings is Northern Ireland's international caps record holder. In 17 years at the top he has played for his country on 89 occasions — and has never been anything less than a supreme sportsman.

Above all Jennings has remained at the top of his profession and age hasn't come into it. Perhaps goalkeepers are in a more specialised position but they still have to maintain speed of reflex and movement if they are to stay at the top.

England and Northern Ireland will go to Spain with experience in their ranks . . . and that, I suggest, is a comforting thought.



England's Dave Watson — not too old.

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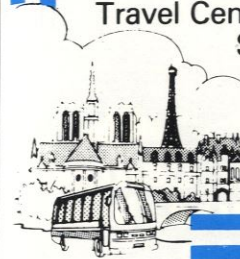
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# A stroll round the Palace ..and a trip at the Baseball Ground for Gary Bannister

With initials like G.B. he was sure to be a hit at the Palace, and sure enough Gary obliged by out-running the defence and walking round the 'keeper in our 2-1 win at Selhurst Park. He's in the action again (inset), this time being brought down in the area by Kevin Hector, but the referee waved play on. Gary did score later, unfortunately so did the Rams... three times.



**SCORE CHECK**

<b>A</b>	LEEDS UNITED v COVENTRY CITY	Ian & Gordon H H	<b>L</b>	CHARLTON A. v CRYSTAL PALACE	Ian & Gordon H H
<b>B</b>	LIVERPOOL v IPSWICH TOWN	D D	<b>M</b>	LEICESTER CITY v DERBY COUNTY	H H
<b>C</b>	MANCHESTER U. v ASTON VILLA	A H	<b>N</b>	NORWICH CITY v WREXHAM	D H
<b>D</b>	SOUTHAMPTON v MANCHESTER CITY	H H	<b>O</b>	ORIENT v BLACKBURN ROVERS	D H
<b>E</b>	SUNDERLAND v ARSENAL	D A	<b>P</b>	Q.P.R. v GRIMSBY TOWN	H H
<b>F</b>	TOTTENHAM H. v WOLVES	H H	<b>Q</b>	SHREWSBURY T. v OLDHAM ATHLETIC	D A
<b>G</b>	WEST BROM v NOTTINGHAM F.	H D	<b>R</b>	WATFORD v CHELSEA	H H
<b>H</b>	BOLTON W. v BARNLEY	D A	<b>S</b>	CHESTERFIELD v WALSALL	H H
<b>J</b>	CAMBRIDGE U. v NEWCASTLE UNITED	H H	<b>T</b>	EXETER CITY v DONCASTER ROVERS	H H
<b>K</b>	CARDIFF CITY v ROTHERHAM UNITED	H H	<b>U</b>	COLCHESTER U. v SHEFFIELD UNITED	D A



Ian Mellor (above) and Gordon Owen both back in first team contention in recent games take up the challenge to win the £50 prize sponsored by our printers J. W. Northend Ltd. for the most correct results on the scorecheck.

# OWL TALK

by Les Comer

I'm looking forward to today's match. Playing Luton, well deserved league leaders, is a fine way to launch the 'second half' of the season for the Owls. Although we are in the month of February Wednesday have only played twenty-two games and, including today's game, we have still to see eleven home games.

The icy, snow covered pitch made a lottery of the home match against Blackburn three weeks ago and so, weather permitting of course, today should give us our first chance at Hillsborough to look at manager Jack Charlton's changes to the side and to form an opinion about their effectiveness on a better surface.

The friendly against Middlesbrough was a pleasant enough limber up for the lads and along with over 2,000 others I saw a point blank save by Bob Bolder, a tremendous solo run from midfield by Gary Megson whose final chip for a goal could have won him the 'goal of the season' if it had been captured on TV, then more brave saves, including a double save from a penalty, by an in-form Bolder.

\* \* \*

When you have been involved in as many football seasons as I have you regularly ask yourself how long the game will continue to be of worthwhile time-consuming interest. That's when you analyse the pros and cons of everything. I did it after the Boxing Day match was cancelled and obviously the distraction you get from hooligans and the over-coached defensive path the game now portrays were factors which lost points against the warmth of a fireside chair and TV/books/whatever . . .

In the end — very probably because I now live in Sheffield, the best football community in the country I



would argue — real football won decisively over the 'highlights' variety. Such self-analyses generally strengthen attitudes and, apart from deciding not to channel my future football comments through one national magazine as I have done for many years, I became convinced that I'm not ready yet to retire from the stimulating life with journalists, broadcasters, managers, players, coaches, kids, pensioners, optimists and pessimists who will all chat about the game seven days a week at the drop of a hat.

So, in this second half of the season, I hope to continue to discover interesting people and things to write about in this column not forgetting, of course, the players who will be striving, with your support, to reach the First Division. You know, when I talk to people around the country about Sheffield Wednesday two names — Jack Charlton and Terry Curran — are the only ones that seem to be known. The way the media works promotion would alter all that quickly.

\* \* \*

In November, in the programme for the Watford match, I made the point that many Londoners and South-

Easterners now watch the Owls, having been relocated to Sheffield by their firms. This was followed, in our last programme, by a Liverpudlian enthusing about the game at Hillsborough against Barnsley. As he also lives here it looks like he will be exchanging the red and white of his beloved Liverpool for the blue and white of the Owls.

Now comes a letter from Keith Brown who writes: "I am spending a great deal of time in Sheffield, due to work commitments, which means that I am exiled from my home near Birmingham and my first love Aston Villa. When I have visited Wednesday I have found a very similar atmosphere and set-up to ours at Villa Park.

"Both clubs are steeped in tradition and both clubs have experienced struggles in the Third Division. Villa have worked their way back to success and the League Championship and I can see the same pattern developing at Hillsborough under Jack Charlton.

"At Villa Park we are also used to receiving a very good match day programme and I must tell you how much I enjoy reading your programme. The straight, honest opinion of your manager in his column coupled with the enjoyable, informative articles about your club and its players form the basis of a first class publication.

"I like the idea of the 'insert' which tells your readers about other people involved in the game. Keep up the good work. I will never lose my 'Claret and Blue' heritage but I will always look forward to coming to Hillsborough. I hope this season will see you back in the First Division. I only hope you don't pass us on your way!"

\* \* \*

In the close season of 1887 Wednesday decided to adopt professionalism and recognised that the club must have a first-class ground of its own. As a result they leased a piece of land close to the Midland railway line between Sheffield and Heeley from the Duke of Norfolk. It measured only three and a half acres and was little better than a swamp.

They drained the ground (Olive Grove) very well and on the 12th September, 1887, they played their first professional game against Blackburn Rovers drawing 4-4. I spotted this bit of information when I had a quick look at a book which I would dearly like to own called 'The Book of Football' published in 1904.

The book, owned by Mr. Ray Pringle of Clay Cross, Chesterfield, claims to be a complete history of the Association and Rugby Games. Some of the articles in it are entitled 'The Antiquities of Football', 'The



Romance of Aston Villa', 'The History of Woolwich Arsenal' and 'The Famous Sheffield Wednesday Football Club'. Wednesday by this time had won the F.A. Cup in 1896 and been Finalists in 1890. They were the top club in the country having carried off the League Championship in 1903 and 1904. According to the book Wednesday's colours were blue and white striped shirts and navy-blue knickers.

In 1899 Wednesday suffered relegation to the Second Division and lost their ground. Backed by many influential businessmen in the area they bought ten acres of meadow land at Owlerton, just outside the city boundary, on the Primitive Road. They paid £5,000 and quickly turned it into an excellent playing pitch. If you take a good look at the picture you will understand why I say . . . according to the book "36,413 persons witnessed the cup-tie between Wednesday and Portsmouth on 18th February, 1905 and the ground will hold about 50,000 persons."

In 1903, I read, the club's total revenue was £9,293 9s. 3d. and expenditure £7,130 8s. 3d., players' wages accounting for £4,334 10s. 6d. The net profit for the year amounted to £1,433 8s. 8d.

\* \* \*

Today's match falls on the birthday of two supporters I spoke to during the week. Wally Ellis, surely the oldest regular supporter in the country, was looking forward to a seat in the North Stand to celebrate his 101st birthday! He will be up, as usual, about 8 a.m. maybe do a bit of shopping on his own, cook himself something, prepare a salad for his tea then look forward to the trip to Hillsborough with his friend Maurice Stanford (79). Afterwards it will be TV, including Match of the Day, until 11 p.m.

"Hope the Owls win" he said as I left him. He has been saying that for over ninety-one years and that is a heck of a lot of loyalty to a club from one man.

Hillsborough as it was when Wednesdayite Wally Ellis first visited it. The picture is taken from the 1904 'Book of Football' and tells us 'in June 1899, an agreement was come to for the purchase for £5,000 of ten acres of freehold land at Owlerton, just outside the city boundary on the Primitive Road'. The ground was opened just three months later.

Young Nathan Hunter of Woodhouse Mill will be nine today. He is a great fan of Bob Bolder and told me he would like to be a goalkeeper too when he grows up. In answer to Nathan's letter Jack Charlton has invited him down to see the team training. It's Nathan's third season following the Owls and what better way to celebrate your birthday than to have a small dinner party with some friends then all go and watch Bob and Co. try to repeat the victory they had over Luton last September.

The official history of Sheffield Wednesday, due for publication later in the year, is being written by a "local lad", Keith Farnsworth, former Sports Editor of the Sheffield Morning Telegraph and presently Editor of the local Chamber of Commerce's impressive magazine 'Quality'.

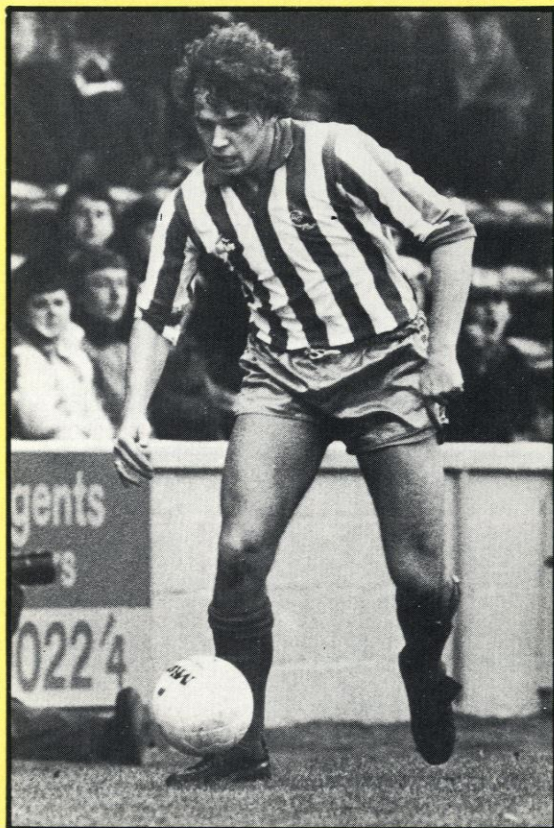
Keith has built up a unique record of the club history, researching right back to its cricket club origin in 1820. Look out for more details in future editions of 'The Owl'.



'Say a little prayer for me', pictured below Nathan Hunter's hero Bob Bolder concentrates on the oncoming attack.

# PROFILE

## MELVYN STERLAND



**FULL NAME:** Melvyn Sterland  
**BIRTHPLACE:** Manor Estate, Sheffield  
**BIRTHDATE:** 1st October, 1961  
**HEIGHT:** 5' 11"  
**WEIGHT:** 12 stone  
**WHEN SIGNED FOR OWLS:** Apprentice straight from school.  
**SIGNED PRO:** 1st October, 1979  
**SCHOOL:** Walthef Comprehensive  
**FAMILY:** Five brothers, four sisters  
**CAR:** Ford Escort  
**FAVOURITE OTHER PLAYER:** Glen Hoddle  
**TEAM SUPPORTED AS A BOY:** Sheffield Wednesday  
**FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD:** George Best  
**FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT:** Swimming  
**MOST MEMORABLE MATCH:** My debut, Hull City at home, and I scored  
**BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:** Being injured and not being able to play  
**FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND:** Anfield  
**FAVOURITE FOOD AND DRINK:** Steak and Chips, Pint of Lager and Lime  
**MISCELLANEOUS LIKES AND DISLIKES:** Any Sport/Smoking  
**FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT:** Ibiza  
**FAVOURITE TV PROGRAMME:** Professionals  
**FAVOURITE FILM OR TV STAR:** Clint Eastwood  
**FAVOURITE SINGER OR GROUP:** Human League  
**FAVOURITE RECORDS:** "Band on the Run"  
 Paul McCartney and Wings LP  
**BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER:** My Parents and Maurice Setters  
**PERSONAL AMBITION:** To be as successful as possible in football  
**WHICH PERSON WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET:** Debbie Harry from "Blondie"

### Career Details...

Melvyn's appearances and goals in the Football League

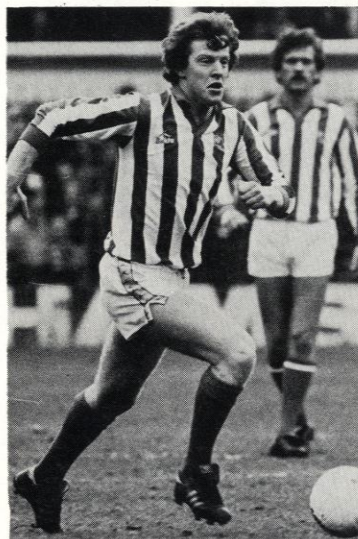
	Goals	Appearances
<b>SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY</b>		
1978/79	1	1
1979/80	—	—
1980/81	2	21
1981 —		14
<b>WEDNESDAY TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>36</b>



# NEWS ROUND

## ON THE COVER...

Our cover picture this week features Gary Megson scoring his third goal of the season in the game against Blackburn Rovers. All three of Gary's goals have been well placed headers, including one against today's visitors Luton in our memorable 3-0 win at Kenilworth Road.



## RE-ARRANGED GAMES

### DIVISION TWO

v Bolton Wanderers, home  
Tuesday, 16th February at 7.30 p.m.

v Newcastle United, away  
Wednesday, 24th February

v Shrewsbury Town, home  
Tuesday, 2nd March at 7.30 p.m.

Before our next home game against Bolton we have a Central League fixture v Aston Villa next Saturday at 2 p.m. and on the same day Doncaster Rovers visit our Middlewood Road ground in the Northern Intermediate League at 11 a.m.

## LIFE LONG OWL

We received a letter recently from Ian Hague informing us of the recent passing away of one of our most loyal supporters, Mr. Harold Searle. Mr. Searle was 85 and a Wednesdayite of some 70 years and still held a season ticket for the West Stand.

## ON THE TELE

We welcome the cameras of Yorkshire Television for today's game and hope the game provides plenty of action for them.



Jeff the Owl

## OWL/BLADES

Owls fan Dirk Scott wrote to us after our former midfielder man Jeff King joined the select band of players who have appeared for both Sheffield clubs. He posed the question 'How many other Owl/Blades are there!'

Jeff the Blade



The last player to move directly from one to the other was Joe Cockroft in 1948 but since then David Ford (via Newcastle), Alan Warboys (via Cardiff) and Neil Ramsbottom (via various clubs) played for Wednesday then United. Walter Rickett (via Blackpool) and Bernard Shaw (via Wolves) travelled the other way.

On the managerial level of course former boss at Bramall Lane John Harris is now at Hillsborough, whilst present United manager Ian Porterfield was a player here.

## TODAY' REFEREE

John Lovatt commenced refereeing in 1962 and progressed via Mid-Cheshire and Cheshire County to Football League list. Has lined an F.A. Cup Semi-Final (1975), and F.A. Youth Cup Final (1979), Anglo-Scottish Final (1979). Refereed Cheshire County Challenge Cup Final (1979), and lined 1980 Under-21 International Holland v Spain.

## LOTTERY RESULTS

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Tuesday, 2nd February

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## OLDHAM v WEDNESDAY

at Boundary Park, Oldham, on 13th March 1982 will be an ALL TICKET match.

We shall have tickets for the Standing Area at £1.60 and Seats at £2.80 (Adult) and £1.40 (Juvenile).

Further information of availability later.

## ST. JAMES PARK

Measures are being taken to segregate supporters at our re-arranged game at Newcastle. To ensure admission to the standing accommodation allocated to Wednesday tickets must be purchased from our Box Office at £1.70. Admission to that part of the ground will not be available on the night without a ticket. Seat tickets are also on sale at £3.50. Tickets purchased for the original fixture are still valid.

## NEW YEAR REVERSALS

Earlier in the season we were making hard work of our matches by always conceding the first goal before coming back to earn points. Since the turn of the year however, we have taken the initiative on three occasions and not won any of them yet on the two occasions our opponents have scored first we have come back to win (v. Crystal Palace and Norwich City).

## TONE UP WITH TONY

Tony Toms keep fit sessions in the Sports Hall. Every Monday evening (Men 7-8 p.m., Ladies 8-9 p.m.). It only costs 70p and you'll feel much better for it.

## A RARE GOAL...

A goal from Mike Pickering is about as common as a white Christmas, but we've had one of each this winter. Mike, back in the team as captain against Palace scored a beauty from a cross supplied by Gordon Owen. His first goal for the Owls, and the second in his career, having been on the mark for Barnsley.



Another central defender to get among the goals was Peter Shirtliff in the 3-2 win at Norwich, his second of the season.



# AWAY the Lads



## WREXHAM

Saturday, 13th February

Leave Sheffield via A616 through Outbridge and Stocksbridge and Langsett to Flouch cross roads. Turn left on A628 and proceed via Woodhead to join A57 at Mottram. Continue on A57 to the roundabout at the junction of the M67 and the A560. Turn left on A560 and head towards Stockport. Go through Stockport centre carefully following signs for M56 Motorway. Join M56 and follow through to Chester or rather the end of the M56 at Harworth junction there to pick up (turn left) A56 and follow to Chester ring road. Turn left on Chester ring road A483 then follow A483 into North Wales to outskirts of Wrexham. At roundabout outside Wrexham take the Wrexham by-pass signed to Mold/Llangollen. Leave by-pass at first intersection signed Mold (you will see floodlights to your left) and turn left at roundabout back towards Wrexham to find ground 200 yards on your left.

Approx. Mileage: 82 miles

## INTER CITY OWL

Wrexham: Fare £3.95.

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Wrexham 17.00, Sheffield 20.15  
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Newcastle: Fare £5.30

Outward  
Sheffield 15.38, Rotherham 15.48,  
Doncaster 16.17, Newcastle 18.22  
Return  
Newcastle 22.00, Doncaster 23.50,  
Rotherham 00.14, Sheffield 00.28  
(Station ¼ mile from ground).

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# WEDNESDAY

- 1 BOB BOLDER
- 2 MEL STERLAND
- 3 CHARLIE WILLIAMSON
- 4 PETER SHIRTLIFF
- 5 MIKE PICKERING
- 6 MARK SMITH
- 7 GARY MEGSON
- 8 PAUL SHIRTLIFF
- 9 GARY BANNISTER
- 10 JOHN PEARSON
- 11 IAN MELLOR
- 12 GORDON OWEN



# TOWN

- ALAN JUDGE 1
- KIRK STEPHENS 2
- MARK AIZLEWOOD 3
- BRIAN HORTON 4
- CLIVE GOODYEAR 5
- MAL DONAGHY 6
- RICKY HILL 7
- BRIAN STEIN 8
- STEVE WHITE 9
- PASQUALLE FUCCILLO 10
- DAVID MOSS 11
- 12

Today's Match Ball Sponsor

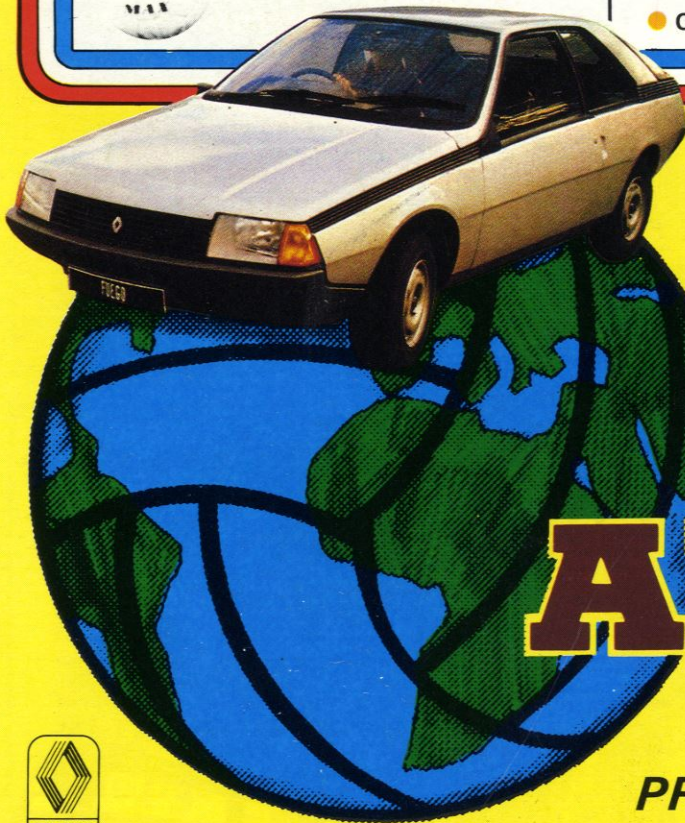


TED HOLMES

Referee: J. LOVATT (Crewe)

● Red Flag: R. C. JACKSON (Grantham)

● Orange Flag: A. D. TOPHAM (Doncaster)



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