

99/00

Match Details

Town: Roberts, White, Watts, Johnson, McGowan, McLaren, Locke, Spring Taylor, Gray, Douglas (George 82 mins). Unused subs: Ayres, Stirling, Scarlett, Abbey.

Booked: No-one.

Wigan: Stillie, Cooke (McLoughlin HT), McGibbon, de Zeeuw, Balmer, Bradshaw, Nicholls (Martinez 67 mins), Redfearn, Liddell, Peron, Haworth. Unused subs: Griffiths, Sharp, Sheridan

Booked: Jeff Peron, 37 mins, foul on Adam Locke.

The goals: 0-1 35 mins - Neil Redfearn penalty after Simon Haworth shoved the ball too far forward as Ben Roberts advanced, and very sensibly fell over the goalkeeper; 1-1 56 mins - Phil Gray, far post header from a clever jink and cross by Paul McLaren.

Referee: Alan Kaye, West Yorkshire

Attendance: 5,010 including 596 visiting fans.

BATTLING for runners-up spot in the league, Wigan, the richest club in the Second Division, were lucky to escape a first-half trouncing at Kenilworth Road on Easter Monday as the Town turned in a stylish display.

Both managers agreed that it was a mystery how Wigan could have been so outplayed for the first 45 minutes yet go in with a half-time lead. That came from a fortunate penalty, the only scare the Town had in the first half, while at the other end Paul McLaren and Matthew Spring brought good saves out of the goalkeeper, and Alan White and McLaren both beat him but saw their efforts cleared off the line.

Gavin McGowan returned to the side because of injury to Emmerson Boyce, and Adam Locke was recalled to stiffen midfield, and the crowd was treated to excellent entertainment. The equaliser by Phil Gray was the least the Town deserved, although it provoked Wigan into their best spell of the game in the last quarter of an hour, when they missed a couple of acceptable chances. But it would have been a travesty if the Town had lost one of the better matches seen at Kenilworth Road this season.

● **EQUALISER:** Phil Gray's header flies into the top of the net to peg back the promotion-chasers.

