

TORQUAY UNITED v.
SWINDON TOWN

BOXING DAY, 26th December, 1967 Kick-off 10.30 a.m. OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

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No

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FRANK O'FARRELL says

A Good Christmas to you and an even better New Year

Sincere compliments of the season to every one of you supporters from all of us here at Plainmoor.

Thank you for your backing in the first half of the season. It was most encouraging and very much appreciated.

The increase in the attendances gave us a great of satisfaction and we hope that that the improvement will continue for the rest of the campaign, even though there might be a few setbacks along the way.

Please remain loyal to the club and come along in even larger numbers.

There is every evidence that Torquay United is progressing, both in amenities on the ground and on the playing side as well. Every effort is being made towards further playing improvements so that we can go on meeting the demands of our remaining Third Division matches and even look ahead to whatever happens next season.

My personal view is that the club has done well with the resources at its disposal in bringing to Torquay the players who have done such a fine job for United in the past three seasons. It is not always possible, though to pluck bargains off the trees. If our aim is Second Division football there must be times when the one player whom we feel can help us is only available at a substantial fee. Then might come the testing time for Torquay United; whether, we knowing the financial limitations here, will continue to say "Let's forge ahead."







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How far are we prepared to go? It is a question which causes me to appeal for whole hearted support in what are really difficult times for the smaller clubs.

The first half of the season has been one of consistent headway with perhaps a little concern over the close margin of our wins, some of which were too narrow for comfort. This year we have been creating as many chances as last season but have been unable to convert a big proportion of them. This has made the whole thing more nerve wracking and risky. Really, we have to step up our goalscoring, particularly at home.

Last year we scored 57 goals here in 23 matches and 16 goals away from home. Up to now we have played 10 home matches and scored 16 goals so obviously our rate of scoring at Plainmoor is below standard. Yet it has been better in away matches, with 16 goals for the 12 games.

Still, we have more points in the bag, which is the main thing. Our results have been consistent and have kept us well up among the leaders all the time. This is the feature which has pleased us most.

This is the last home match of 1967. Of course, no-one can forecast what 1968 will bring. Many tough obstacles lie ahead and there are many hard teams to overcome. In fact, the competition is likely to be even fiercer in the second half of the season with others hunting promotion and some striving to avoid relegation. With our comparatively small staff, we hope we can stay clear of injuries, particularly to key players. One thing we can be sure of is that we will be going all out for night fixtures. While many of us would prefer to see the matches played on Saturday afternoons, we have found that we have a better potential gate on Saturday nights and we have to be guided by that factor.

One of the most encouraging aspects of the football scene today is the enthusiasm of the youngsters. When Plainmoor was under deep snow, 50 schoolboys helped to clear the ground and 100 supporters came along after their day's work to shovel snow. This was tremendous.

I want to single out some of you for special Christmas messages.

Greetings to the coachloads of supporters who travel so many miles to away matches; to our Supporters Club, who work without stint to keep things turning over; to our Crackerjack and Crackerjill agents, who bring in so much money throughout the year; to the St. John Ambulance men, faithfully attending at the games; to all the ancillary bodies connected with Torquay United, the Social Club and Golden Blue Club; to the police, press and hospital relay service and also those supporters in hospital who hear about the matches through the courtesy of Derrick Brad.

Our exit from the F.A. Cup at Colchester in the First Round replay was a big disappointment, particularly as we had so many chances when the tie was played at Plainmoor. Our performance at Colchester fell well short of the tremendous effort at Tranmere in the previous match. And we did not deserve to win.

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TEAMS

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2 John BOND

3 Bobby BAXTER

4 John BENSON

5 Ken BROWN

6 Jimmy DUNNE

7 Ron BARNES

8 Doug CLARKE

9 John SMITH

10 Alan WELSH

11 Tony SCOTT

1 DOWNSBOROUGH

2 THOMAS

3 TROLLOPE

4 BUTLER

5 NURSE

6 HARLAND

7 HEATH

8 PENMAN

9 TERRY

10 SMART

11 ROGERS

The names of the Substitutes will be announced over the Loud-speaker before the Kick-off.

Referee:

C. H. NICHOLLS (of Plymouth) Linesmen:

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(Red Flag)

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* Visitor's reference - Oggie is a West Country pasty

Remember This Man?



GORDON ASTALL

One of the most noted footballers signed by Torquay United, Gordon Astall, ex-International and Cup finalist, is still very much involved in sport. He works as settler manager in the Paignton and Brixham offices of turf accountant Bert Francis and in his spare time is an enthusiastic and expert Ten Pin Bowler.

Gordon's 10 year old son shares his father's interest in Ten Pin and recently became the Bantam Champion of England and holder of a handsome trophy to add to the family collection of Gordon Astall caps and medals.

Astall joined Torquay in June 1961 but his move here brought him little luck. He had to give up the game in 1963 with achilles tendon trouble which kept his ankle in plaster for three months.

His career started with Plymouth Argyle, where he spent six years and was a first team regular right from the start. In October, 1953, he was transferred to Birmingham City where he became a permanent member of the League side and was capped for England against Finland and the then World Cup holders, Germany. He also played for the English League against the Irish League in Dublin. His first taste of representative football, though, came when he was an Argyle player, in 1952, when he played for England B against French B in Le Havre. He played for Birmingham City against Manchester City in the 1956 Cup Final.

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Vice-Chairman: C. C. Crocker
Hon. Secretary: W. C. Radmore
Hon. Treasurer: A. J. Baker
Hon. Membership Secretary:
H. N. Clegg, 25 Warberry Vale, Torquay

Dear Supporters,

May I extend to you all, and the players and staff here at Plainmoor my congratulations on the position we are now in and wish you all a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

V. HELMORE. (President).

To-day we welcome the team and supporters from Swindon and hope their stay with us will be an enjoyable

Don't forget our Dinner and Party Night on Sunday next, December 31st at Pontin's Barton Hall. Tickets £1 from the chairman Mr. G. Stuckey.

Golden Goal v. Colchester
1st, £25, 7 minutes, 38 seconds.
Last, £5, 38 minutes, 56 seconds.

Transport News

Coaches will leave Paignton at 6 a.m., Plainmoor at 6.30 a.m. for our trip to Swindon Saturday, December 30th, fare 16/6. Bookings will be taken in the club-room after the match and on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, evenings between 6 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Urgent Appeal

We are in need of some draw prizes for our Party Night on Sunday, Dec-

Player of the Week . . .

ROBIN STUBBS

Torquay United's most prolific scorer over the past four seasons, Robin Stubbs has currently struck one of those lean patches which happens to all footballers at some time or another. Not to worry - the Stubbs talent will win through, of that we can be certain.

Robin has attracted a lot of interest from other clubs since he joined United from Birmingham City. In fact, today's visitors, Swindon Town, were among those who entered substantial bids for the player last season.

But Stubbs chose to stay with us and can almost be regarded as a Torquinian now, having married a charming local

girl.

Torquay paid a club record fee for ex-grammar schoolboy Stubbs and it was money well spent. He has given us some wonderful entertainment.

As a lad Stubbs turned down an opening with West Brom to continue his studies but he subsequently became a professional with Birmingham City and Scored twice against West Ham when he graduated to the League side in February, 1959. In 80 appearances for City first team he scored between 30 and 40 goals.

ember 31st and would be pleased to accept them in our committee room on Saturday afternoon, December 30th, when our Reserves play Barnstaple Town.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTORS

To all Supporters we extend most cordial Seasonal Greetings and our most grateful thanks to you all for the way you have supported our efforts to put Torquay United on the map despite some differences of opinion in various quarters. For the good of the Club we have, at times, to proceed with plans that are against our own domestic and personal preferences but, with your own example of loyalty, the task is made that much easier as we know that, come what may the aim of all of us is to see that Torquay United is ranked as a First Class and friendly Club.

Thank you Supporters and a Happy New Year to you all.

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FIXTURES FOR THE SEASON

Tallille.	F	OOT	BALL LEAGUE DIV	ISIO	N II	π	1967		WESTERN LEAGU	JE		
	19	Date Aug.	Opponents Tranmere Rovers	7.30	Gd. h	Resu't	Day	Date Aug.	Opponents Portland United Bideford	K.O. 3.00 3.00	Gd a h	Re 0 1
Mon.	22 28 26		Exeter City (F.L.C.) ,, (F.L.C. replay) The Orient	7.30	a	3 0	Sat. 2 Tu. 5	Sept.	Dorchester Town Taunton	3.00 6.30	8	1
Sat.	2	Sept.	Northampton Lown	1.30	h	0 0	Sat. 9 Wed. 13		Andover Barnstaple Town	6.30	h	0 2
Wed. Sat.	9		Brighton & Hove A. Walsall	7.30	h	1 1	Sat. 16		Bath City	3.00	2	0
Wed.	13		Gillingham (F.L.C.)	7.30	h	2 2 1	Sat. 23 Wed. 27		Bristol City Plymouth Argyle	7.30	h	0
Sat. Wed.			Gillingham ,, (F.L.C. Replay	7.30	h	2 0	Sat. 30		Weston-super-Mare	3.00	a	2
Sat.	23		Grimsby Town Brighton & Hove A.	7.30	8	1 1	Sat. 7 Wed. 11	Oct.	Bridport Yeovil Town	7.30	h	1
Mon. Sat.	30		Oldham Athletic	7.30	h	2 1	Sat. 14		Bridgwater Town	3.00		1
Wed.	4 7	Oct.	Shrewsbury Town Barrow	7.30	b	3 0	Wed. 18 Sat. 21		Bideford Bath City	7.30	h	2
Sat. Wed.	11		Lincoln City (F.L.C.)	7.30	a	2 4	Sat. 28	NT.				
Sat. Sat.	21		Oxford United Bury	7.30	h	1 1	Sat. 4	NOV.	St. Luke's College Welton Rovers	7.30	h	Pos Pos
Wed.	25		Shrewsbury Town	7.30	a	0 5	Sat. 11 Sat. 18		Bridport Dorchester Town	2.45 3.00	a h	1
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Sat.		Nov.	Colchester United	3.00	a	5 3 1	Sat. 2 Sat. 9	Dec.	Minehead	3.00	h	2
Tu.	11		Peterborough United Northampton Town Mansfield Town	3.00 7.30 3.00	h a	0 1 0 2	Sat. 16 Sat. 23		Bridgwater Town	3.00	h	1
Sat.	18 25		Watford	7.30	h	1 0	Tu. 26		Barnstaple Town	3.00	h	
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	20 26		Gillingham Stockport County	3.00 7.30	a	=	Sat. 9 Sat. 16		Yeovil Town Frome Town	3.00	a	=
Fri.		Feb.	Grimsby Town	3.00	h	_	Mon. 18		Plymouth Argyle	7.30	-	_
	10 17		Oldham Athletic Reading	3.00	a h	=	Sat. 23 Wed. 27		Portland United St. Luke's College	7.30	h	=
	24		Barrow	3.00	h		Sat. 30		Salisbury	3.00	a	
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	30	April	Colchester United The Orient	7.30	h	=	Easter					
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Results of matches played since 16th Dec. not included
FOOTBALL, LEAGUE DIVISION III

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Mansfield 22 3	3 5 17	20 0 3 8 7			17		100		43	6	

COMING MATCHES AT PLAINMOOR

Saturday, 30th December, 1967—Barnstaple Town. K.O. 3.00 p.m. (Western League).

Saturday, 13th January, 1968—WALSALL. K.O. 7.30 p.m. (Football League Division 3).

Saturday, 22nd January, 1968—Taunton. K.O. 3.00 p.m. (Western League).

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53 FOREST ROAD, UPTON

The Men from Swindon

- Peter Downsborough—(Goalkeeper). Born Halifax. Signed in August 1965 from Halifax Town where he was a product of local football. A fearless agile player who has done much to strengthen the Towns defence. Height 5ft. 10½ in. Weight 12st. 5lbs.
- Ron Thomas—(Full Back). Born Glyncorrwg. A former youth player with the Club. He was signed from Gloucester City in July 1964. Took over the full back position last season when Owen Dawson was injured, and maintained his position throughout the season. Last year was a successful one for this player as he gained a Welsh Under 23 Cap against Scotland, and also a Full Welsh Cap against Ireland. Height 6ft. 1in. Weight 12st.
- John Trollope—(Left Back). Born Swindon. A local player who joined the Swindon Ground Staff from school. He was selected for the first team at the beginning of the 1960/61 season when he was just 16 years old, and was ever present during that season. Together with his partner that year, who was also 16, they were the youngest full backs ever to appear as a pair in League Football. During last season he celebrated 300 consecutive League appearances for the Club. Height 5ft. 10in. Weight 11st.
- Joe Butler—(Full Back). Born Newcastle. Joined Swindon from Newcastle United in August 1965 where he graduated to the senior ranks through the Club's Junior Team. A tenacious player whose speed and ability amply make up for his lack of inches. Height 5ft. 74in. Weight 9st. 13lbs.
- Mel Nurse—(Centre-Half). Born Swansea. Signed from Middlesbrough in August 1965. He played for Wales 12 times gaining 9 of his Caps while with Swansea Town where he did 7 years service before being transferred to Middlesborough in September 1962. His ability and experience has done much to strengthen the Town's defence. Height 6ft. 0½in. Weight 12st. 12lbs.
- Stan Harland—(Left-Half). Born Liverpool. Was signed from Carlisle United in July 1966. Formerly with Everton and Bradford City. He has been a regular choice at left-half since making his debut at the beginning of the 1966/67 season. A forceful player who likes to go forward to back up the forwards in attack. Height 6ft. Weight 12st. 7lbs.
- Willie Penman—(Inside-forward). Born Wemyss, Fife. Signed from Newcastle United in September 1966 for a considerable fee. Formerly with Glasgow Rangers. A clever ball playing inside forward who has also appeared at centre-forward with the Club. Height 5ft. 8in. Weight 11st. 7lbs.
- Pat Terry—(Centre-Forward). Born Lambeth. Signed last season from Reading where he was the leading goal scorer. Prior to this he played for Charlton, Swansea, Gillingham, Northampton and Milwall. A forceful leader who is particularly dangerous in the air. Height 5ft. 9½in. Weight 12st. 6lbs.
- Roger Smart—(Inside forward). Born Swindon. Another local player who joined the Club direct from Swindon Schoolboys Team. At 17 he was appearing regularly at centre-forward in the Reserve Team, but he excels as a deep lying inside forward. A versatile player who is able to play at wing-half. Height 5ft. 11in. Weight 11st. 4lbs.
- Don Rogers—(Outside right or left). Born Paulton. Probably the most sought after player in the team. He was signed by Swindon when only 15 and quickly came to the fore. Gained many England Youth International Caps and subsequently played in the England under 23 International Team. Was the Club's top goal scorer last season with 33 goals.
- David Harper—(Right-Half). Born London. Signed during the Close Season from Ipswich Town where he made 37 League appearances last year. Was formerly with Milwall. A strong tenacious player who never gives up. He has brought strength to the Robins half-back line. Height 6ft. Weight 12st. 1lb.

APPEARANCES and GOALSCORERS

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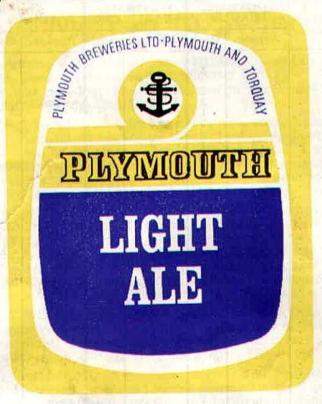
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