



ROYAL

The Match Magazine of Reading Football Club

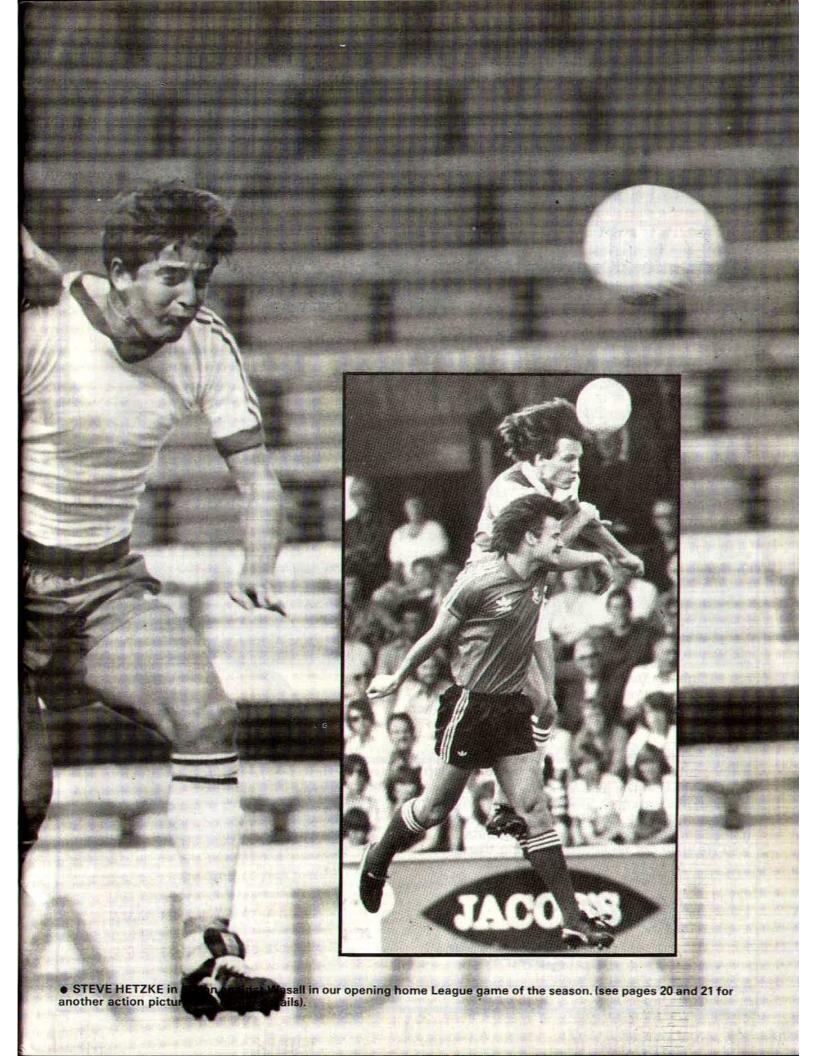
Football League Division Three Reading v Swindon Town Saturday 30th August 1980 Kick-Off 3.00pm. Match Magazine 30p



BOYAL & CILUN

A fine anting of the defender Martin Hicks in action in a "behind closed doors" friendly match against Green of on page 15.).

Itself (Reading Chronicle)



Reading Football Club Limited

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Colin Gunney

Three League games have now been played and some sides are sitting pretty with three wins and others are still waiting for their first League win. It doesn't always follow that because you make a good or bad start to the season that's how it will continue. Remember Blackburn in the Third Division last season. They had a dreadful start but put together a wonderful run that took them through to promotion.

Last Saturday we travelled to Brentford and, as is usually the case at Brentford, it was an entertaining game. I felt that we were always the better side, but it was still a game where Brentford had quite a few chances but Deathie produced some brilliant saves to give us two valuable points. Our goals came from Pat Earles and Kerry Dixon, his first for the club.

Both the reserves and the South East Counties side have started the season well. The reserves had a fine win against Oxford and I have a feeling they will do well this season. The apprentices have come on in leaps and bounds and the other lads are all fighting for a first team place. Many of you have asked me how Martin Hicks is progressing and those of you who watched the reserve match could see for yourself that he's improving each day.

The South East Counties team drew their first away game at Millwall and won the next match by

2-1 against Orient.

Today we welcome Swindon, our old rivals from just down the M4. Local derbies are always tense games and although Swindon haven't started too well we shall not be underestimating them.



Maurice Evans

SYNTHIDU



BACK ROW - Left to Right Jimmy Allan, David Peach, John Templeman, Kenny Stroud, Roy Greenwood, Tom McAlister. CENTRE ROW - Left to Right Andy Rollings, Roy Carter, Russell Lewis, Chris Kamera (Team Captain) Colin Barrett, Billy Tucker (Club Captain). FRONT ROW - Left to Right Steve Abbley, Bryan Hamilton, Ian Miller, Brian Williams, Andy Rowland, Alan Mayes, Glenn Cockerill

We welcome our old friends and rivals from Wiltshire this afternoon in the hope

that today's game will be as exciting as the two last season.

Football is full of ups and downs as any Swindon supporter will tell you after the experiences of their team in the last two seasons. Back in 1978/79 season they needed to win their last two away games at Sheffield Wednesday and Blackpool in order to gain promotion to Division Two. Unfortunately they lost 2-1 and 5-2 respec-

tively and finished in fifth place, just three points behind promoted Swansaa City.

Last season turned out to be really exciting up to January of this year. At that stage they were five points behind leaders Grimsby Town with five games in hand, had reached the semi final of the league cup (having beaten Portsmouth, Chester, Stoke City, Wimbledon and Arsenal) and if that was not enough had reached the fourth round of the F.A. Cup (having beaten Brentford, Torquay and Luton Town). In the League Cup semi final they took a 2-1 lead in the first leg with the goalscoring machine of Alan Mayes and Andy Rowland getting one apieca. they played Spurs at the County Ground in the fourth round of the F.A. Cup but were held to a 0-0 draw. In the replay at White Hart Lane Swindon took the lead through a Ray McHale penalty just after half time and held out until the last seven minutes when Spurs scored twice and left Swindon desperately unlucky losers. However all was not lost as the fans were dreaming of a return trip to Wembley to win the League Cup that they won previously back in 1969. Wolves had other ideas though and beat the Robins 3-1 on the night up at Molyneux to go through to the final on a 4-3 aggregate.

Attentions were then turned to winning promotion, but the cup run had taken its toll on the players and results did not do the team justice. In the end they finished in tenth place, empty handed, dreaming of what might have been, having obtained

just 16 points from their last twenty two matches.

Gradually manager, Bob Smith is trying to rebuild the side and in doing so has bought Dave Peach from Southampton (£150,000) Glenn Cockerill from Lincoln City (£100,000) Andy Rollings from Brighton (£75,000) Roy Walsh from Glentoran, Roy Greenwood from Derby (both £20,000) and Colin Barrett from Nottingham Forest. In turn he sold skipper Ray McHale to Brighton (£100,000) Steve Aiziewood and John McLaughlin to Portsmouth (£45,000 each) Chic Bates to Bristol Rovers

(650,000) and Andy Ford to Gillingham (£25,000).

In the League Cup Swindon had drawn 1.1 at Bournemouth but were made to go to extra time by the Fourth Division side before eventually winning 2-0. In the League they have not had a very good start as they lost 2-1 at home to Alan Ball's Blackpool and then lost 1-0 down at Portsmouth. However it is early days yet and the talent within the side should soon see results improving.



COLIN BARRETT — Defender. From Stockport, Colin played a number of seasons at Manchester City making 50 league appearances and signing for Nottingham Forest in March 1976. The following season he appeared in Forest's League Championship side and won a league cup winners' medal in 1979, but later his career was affected by injury. He made 64 league appearances for Forest and joined Swindon in June 1980. He can play in both full-back positions and has also played in other areas of the field.

JIMMY ALLAN - Goalkeeper. Born in Inverness, Jimmy will have been at Swindon for ten years this season, having been signed from Scottish non-league football. He made his debut against Queens Park Rangers in September 1971, and has been choice Keeper for most of the last four seasons. He had made 227 league appearances at the end of last season.

and other factors prevented his league debut until March 1980. He is a hard working and determined midfielder and made eight appearances last season.

ROY GREENWOOD - Forward. A native of Leeds, he served his apprenticeship with Hull City making his league debut in season 1971/72. He made 118 league appearances for Hull, and moved to Sunderland in January 1976 in time to help that club win the Second Division. He played 45 league games for Sunderland but signed for Derby County in February 1979 making 20 league appearances for them. A further move came just over one year later to Swindon for whom he made his debut against Carlisle in April 1980. A player of considerable pace he began as an orthodox winger, but has been playing more as a central forward recently.

CHRIS KAMARA - Midfield. Chris is from Middlesborough but served his apprenticeship at Portsmouth where he Perth and made his league debut with Bury for whom he made 9 league appearances before moving to Nottingham Forest. He did not make the first team there, but a move to Doncaster Rovers in August 1975 gave him regular first team football. He stayed for 3 seasons making 124 league appearances and signed for Swindon during the 1978 close season. He made his debut against Bury in August 1978 and had made 81 league appearances to the end of last season. An orthodox winger who uses pace to beat opponents.

DAVID PEACH - Defender. David comes from Bedford and started his career with Gillingham for whom he made 186 league appearances. He moved to Southampton during the 1973/74 season and stayed there until March 1980 when he signed for Swindon

ANDY ROLLINGS - Defender. Andy comes from North Weston and started

PENT PICTURES

ROY CARTER - Midfield. Roy comes from Torpoint, Cornwall, and played part time Western League football for Falmouth before joining Hereford in the summer of 1975. He played in 64 league games there including the side which won the Third Division Championship in He signed for Swindon in 1976. December 1977, making his debut against Carlisle that month, and had made 104 appearances to the end of last season. His usual role is as an attacking midfield player, but he is a true utility player having played in the forward line and, on a number of occasions, in central defence.

GLENN COCKERILL - Midfield. Glenn is from Grimsby and made his league debut with Lincoln City in season 1976/77. He played well over 50 league games for Lincoln and Swindon began watching him in March 1979. He eventually signed for a then club record of £110,000. in December 1979, but injury

was one of a number of teenagers given league debuts in season 1975/76. He went on to make 56 league appearances for Portsmouth and signed for Swindon just before the start of the 1977/78 season. His debut for Swindon was against Sheffield Wednesday in August 1977 and he had made 89 league appearances by the end of last season. An attacking midfield player, he began last season being put up for transfer and almost left but finished being voted the Supporters' Player of the Year.

ALAN MAYES - Forward. A Londoner whose first club was Queens Park Rangers, Alan's league career began in November 1974 following a transfer to Watford. In 1976 he made ten appearances on loan to Northampton but then returned to Watford for whom his league appearances totalled 110 when he signed for Swindon in February 1979.

IAN MILLER - Forward. Ian is from

his career with Norwich City for whom he made 4 league appearances. A move to Brighton in 1974 gave him first team football regularly, and he played in the sides that won promotion from both the Third and Second Divisions. He played around 170 league games for Brighton before signing for Swindon in May 1980. An experienced and dependable centre half.

ANDY ROWLAND - Forward. Born in Derby he was apprenticed with his home town team but did not play league football until a transfer took him to Bury before the start of the 1974/75 season. He was three times leading scorer and made 169 league appearances before his move to Swindon in September 1978. His debut came that month against Blackpool and he had made 72 league appearances to the end of last season. Although he plays as the target man, he also scored 28 goals in all competitions last season.



Geoff Thompson

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Every week by every football fan in Reading. Geoff Thompson writes what YOU want to know about the Royals and Alan Porton covers every aspect of the local football scene,

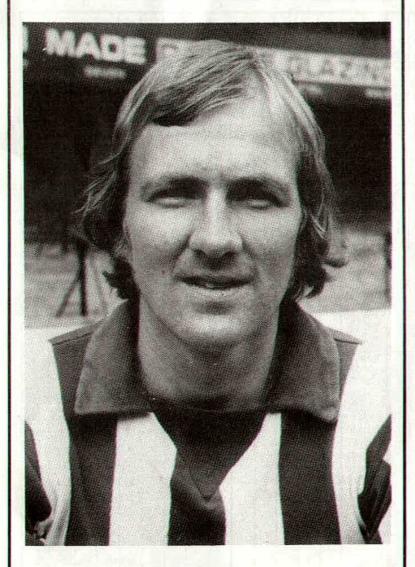
Every week in the



Alan Porton

Reading Chronicle

STAIR PLAYER



David Peach

PORU DIDE

Results of Swindon's last six matches:

1979/80

v Millwall (home) won 1-0

v Barnsley (home) lost 1-0 1980/81

v Bournemouth (away) drew

1-1 (League Cup)

v Bournemouth (home) won 2-0 (after extra time - League

v Blackpool (home) lost 2-1

v Portsmouth (away) lost 1-0

MEDALANTEED BIN

THOMAS G.O.P. BUNE, (Cranleigh, Surrey). Began refereeing whilst at school then via local, Spartan and Isthmian Leagues to Football League line in 1968 and subsequently to full list. Refereed England v Scotland Amateur International (1974) and Oxford v Cambridge at Wembley in 1972, linesman in European Nations Cup match (1975) and reserve official for the Sunderland v Leeds F.A. Cup Final in 1973. Linesman in British Championship Northern Ireland v Wales 1978/79.

Married, has two boys and is a Computer Sales Manager. Likes cricket, swimming, squash, tennis

and long distance walking.





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BOYAL SAMUSTICS

FIXTURE SEASON	FIRST TEAM DATES FOR 1980-81			STEVE DEATH	ROGER JOSLYN	DAVE MORELINE	RICHIE BOWMAN	STEVE HETZKE	DAVE SHIPPERLEY	PAT EARLES	GARY HEALE	KERRY DIXON	LAWRIE SANCHEZ	STUART BEAVON	NEIL WEBB	MARK WHITE			POINTS	POSITION
Date	Opponents V	FA	Att.	100									3	0.00	ž				P.	2
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	Sub Appearances	= 19			1										4					
	Goals							1		1	2			1		1				
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Tue Sept 30 Set Oct 4 Tue Oct 7 Set Oct 11 Set Oct 18 Wed Oct 22 Set Oct 25 Tue Oct 28 Wed Oct 29 Set Nov 1 Wed Nov 5 Set Nov 12 Set Nov 15 Set Nov 15 Set Nov 22 Set Nov 29 Wed Dec 3 Set Nov 29 Wed Dec 3 Set Dec 6 Set Dec 13 Set Dec 20 Fri Dec 26 Set Dec 27 Set De	Plymouth Argyle MILLWALL H Newport County Chester CHESTERFIELD COLCHESTER UTD. Carlisle Utd Charlton Atheltic League Cup4 EXETER CITY NEWPORT COUNTY Burnley GILLINGHAM Walsall F.A. Cup1 BLACKPOOL League Cup 5 Hull City F.A. Cup 2 FULHAM Portsmouth OXFORD UTD. H																			了。 1000年 10000年 10000年 10000年 10000年 10000年 10000年 10000000000
1981 Sat Jan 3 Sat Jan 10 Wed Jan 14 Sat Jan 24 Sat Jan 24 Sat Jan 31 Sat Jan 31 Sat Jan 31 Sat Feb 7 Wed Feb 11 Sat Feb 14 Sat Feb 28 Sat Mar 7 Sat Mar 7 Sat Mar 14 Sat Mar 21 Sat Apr 4 Sat Apr 4 Sat Apr 11 Fri Apr 17 Sat Apr 18 Mon Apr 20 Tue Apr 21 Sat Apr 25 Sat May 9	Chesterfield (3) CARLISLE UTD League Cup SF Blackpool A Swindon Town (4) BRENTFORD A Sheffield United A League Cup SF H'FIELD T. (5) H Barnsley A ROTHERHAM UTD Millwall (6) A CHESTER (LCF) Colchester United CHAR. ATH. Exeter City A Burnley (SF) Oxford United PORTSMOUTH Fulham A HULL CITY F.A. CUP FINAL	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·												THE RESERVE TO SERVE THE PARTY OF THE PARTY						
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DIATATOUS WARREN

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Exeter City	3	2 2	1	0	7	5	5
Fulham	3	2	1	0	7	5	5
Plymouth Argyle	3	1	2	0	5	5 3 3	4
Reading	3	2	0	1	4	3	4
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Gillingham	3	1	1	1	4	3	3 3 3 3 2
Barnsley	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
Newport	3333	1	1	1	4 4 3 5 3 3 2 3 3 2	4	3
Walsall	3				4	4	3
Burnley	3	1	1	1	3	4	3
Hull	3	0	2	1	5	6	2
Colchester	3	0	2 2 0	1	3	4	2 2 2
Huddersfield	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
Oxford	3	-14	0	2	2	3	2
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Carlisle	3	0	1	2	1	5	The Park
Swindon	3	0	0	3	4	7	0

OUR THANDING SUBBRES

	Lge	FLC	FAC	Tot
GARY HEALE	0	2	0	2
PAT EARLES	0	1	0	1
STEVE HETZKE	0	1	0	1
STUART BEAVON	1	0	0	1
MARK WHITE	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	2	4	0	6

(Up to and including Tuesday August 19)

.

ROBTHER BOOKID

Wednesday, August 20, 1980

Combination

READING 2 OXFORD UTD RES 0

Team: Fearon, Cullen, Henderson, Webb, Hicks, Wood, Williams, Jennings, Kearns, Lewis,

Wanklyn. Sub: Matthews. Scorers: Ollie Kearns (2).

Tuesday, August 19, 1980

Division Three

GILLINGHAM 2 READING 0

Team: Death; Joslyn, Hetzke, Shipperley, White; Bowman, Sanchez, Beavon, Earles, Heale, Dixon (Webb 65 minutes).

Saturday, August 23, 1980

Division 3.

BRENTFORD 1 READING 2

Team: Death; Joslyn, Hetzke, Shipperley, White; Sanchez, Beavon; Heale, Bowman, Dixon,

Earles. Substitute: Webb (not used).

Scorers: Pat Earles 32 minutes, Kerry Dixon 53 minutes.

Attendance: 6,720.

Saturday, August 23, 1980

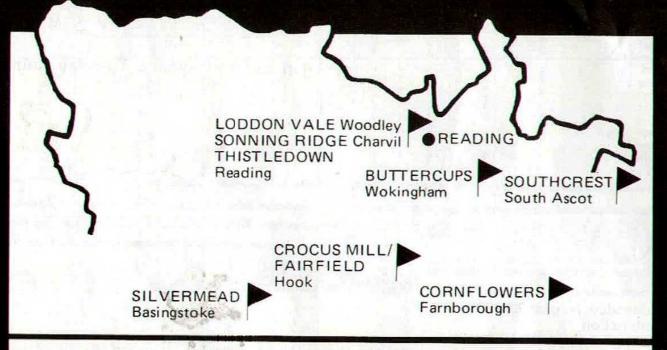
South East Counties. READING 2 ORIENT 1

Team: Court, Robertson, Richie, O'Leary, White, McKie, Head, Chapman, Everley, Hatcher,

Gingell. Substitutes: Hambridge and Giammetti.

Scorers: Hatcher and Gingell.

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COMBUNATION TORACTUR

1980		DANY COMMISSION			WedDec	10	BRISTOL CITY	н
Sat Aug	16	Queens Park Rangers	A	P	Sat Dec	20	Tottenham Hotspur	Α
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Sat Oct	18		A		WedFeb	25	ARSENAL	Н
Tues Oct	21	Bristol City	A		Wed Mar	4	BIRMINGHAM	Н
Sat Oct	25		Н		Sat Mar	14	Southampton	A
Sat Nov	1	Plymouth Arygle	A		Wed Mar	25	CHELSEA	H
Wed Nov	12	Oxford United	A		Sat Mar	28	Norwich	Δ
WedNov	19	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	Н		Wed Apr		FULHAM	H
Sat Nov	22	Hereford United	· A		Sat Apr	11	West Ham United	Δ
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Aug	30	Oxford United	A		Dec	20	MILLWALL	H
Sept	6	SWINDON TOWN	H		Dec	27	Orient	Δ
Sept	13	Bristol Rovers	A		Jan	3	OXFORD UNITED	н
Sept	20	PETERBOROUGH	Н		Jan	10	Swindon Town	۸
Sept	27	BRENTFORD	Н		Jan	17	BRISTOL ROVERS	G
Oct	4	Charlton Athletic	A		Jan	24	Brentford	Α.
Oct	11	CHELSEA	H		Jan	31	CHARLTON ATHLETIC	ñ
Oct	18	Cambridge	A			31		п
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Nov	8	Peterborough United	A		Feb	21	Luton Town	A
Nov	15	WIMBLEDON	H		Mar	7	Wimbledon	Α
Nov	22	TOTTENHAM	Н		Mar	14	Tottenham H.	Δ
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COMBUANTION

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	Fulham		42	22	9	11	68	53	53	
	Ipswich		42	19	13	10	69	48	51	
	Bristol City		42	19	10	13	77	5748		
	QPR		42	20	7	15	87	70	47	
	Southampton		42	16	14	12	68	57	46	
	West Ham		42	18	8	16	71	64	44	
	Birmingham City		42	15	12	15	62	59	42	
	Leicester City		42	17	7	8	66	65	41	
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	Bristol Rovers		42	13	13	16	55	69	39	
	Crystal Palace		42	12	13	17	63	71	37	
	Oxford United		42	11	12	19	53	67	34	
	Reading		42	13	7	22	65	114	33	
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STILLING DISCULLING

	JUNIOR LEAGUE							
Swindon Town	22	16	2	4	52	18	34	
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Oxford United	22	11	2	9	46	51	24	
West Ham United	22	9	5	8	47	37	23	
Cambridge Utd	22	8	6	8	44	39	22	
Peterborough	22	7	3	12	42	50	17	
Bristol Rovers	22	6	4	12	30	50	16	
Chelsea	22	3	8	11	28	47	14	
Chariton Ath.	22	- 5	2	15	36	71	14	



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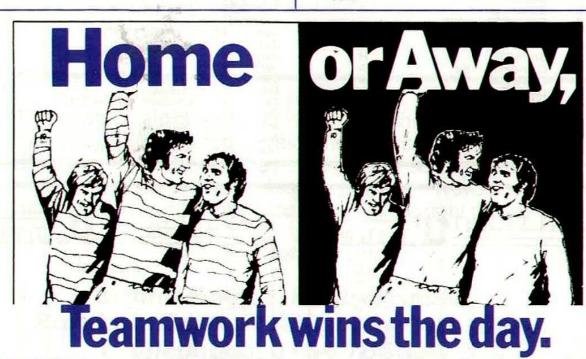
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Racal staff wish Reading Football Club every success and hope that their teamwork will bring the right results.

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MENIORALI

In recent years our "derby" games have frequently involved Oxford or Aldershot but there can be no doubt that the derby game for Reading fans is the one against Swindon. Oxford may be nearer, Aldershot may be more frequent opponents but the long history of games between Reading and Swindon makes the robins the team that we really want to beat.

Our competitive record against Swindon goes back as far as December 16 1893 when we beat them 2-0 in a Preliminary round of the F.A. Cup. Our joy was shortlived because in the next round we were drawn away to Preston North End, the Liverpool of their day, and suffered our record defeat of 18-0

The following season we both became members of the Southern League and the regular "derby" games began in earnest. the two clubs also entered the Football League together in 1920 with the first League meetings both going Swindon's way, by 3-2 at Elm Park on Christmas Day and by 2-0 at the County Ground two days later. We can offer an excuse for allowing our arch rivals the first league double—we were without a manager, having sacked Mr. H Marshall on Christmas Eve.

Swindon held a slight advantage in those early League meetings but on January 7 1933 we came back with a bang. Swindon came to Elm Park that day to find us and centre forward Jack Palethorpe in particular, in devastating form. From the moment Palethorpe headed us into the lead from a Fred Chandler corner the result was never in doubt and by half time Palethorpe had completed his hat-trick.

Jack Oxberry also got a goal for us and with Morris pulling a goal back for Swindon right at the end of the first half we went in at half time with a 4-1 lead. We barely eased up in the second half, with Fred Chandler scoring the next goal with a cheeky backhead. By the end of the 90 minutes we had scored two more goals, through Frank Eaton and Palethorpe again, to give us a 7-1 victory, still the biggest score in League games between the two clubs.

Our successful line up was: Mellors, Forster, Rowe, Darnell, Allan, Barley, Liddle, Eaton, Palethorpe, Oxberry and Chandler. That win completed a "double" over Swindon for us that season as we had already won 1-0 at the County Ground, thanks to a goal from Alec Ritchie.

If that win was by too wide a margin to make the game exciting the opposite applies to the end to end tussle that took place at Elm Park on December 17 1949. In fact the phrase "end to end" is quite a long way from the truth since nearly all of the action took place at the Town end of the ground due to a gale force wind that was blowing down the pitch.

Swindon had the wind with them in the first half and although we nearly opened the scoring when Bill Amor hit the bar, it was the visitors who took the lead after 8 minutes through Simner. Again Reading were denied by the woodwork when a Gordan Brice header hit the post and our luck appeared to be deserting us when Jones put Swindon further ahead from a corner after 20 minutes. We hung on until half time and then, with the wind now in our favour, bombarded the Swindon goal. We were soon rewarded when Maurice Edelston set up Bryan Allen to pull a goal back.

20 minutes into the second half we equalised with the best goal of the game, scored by Edelston but made by winger Freddie Fisher. Swindon fought back and within two

Compiled by ALAN SEDUNARY

minutes had regained their lead with another goal from Simner. Despite this temporary set back we continued to press further and drew level when Allen forced the ball over the line following a goal-mouth scramble.

With just 12 minutes to go we took the lead for the first time in the game with another fine goal from Edelston that made the score 4-3 to us, a scoreline that we held on to until the final whistle.

TODAY'S THE DAY - AUGUST 30

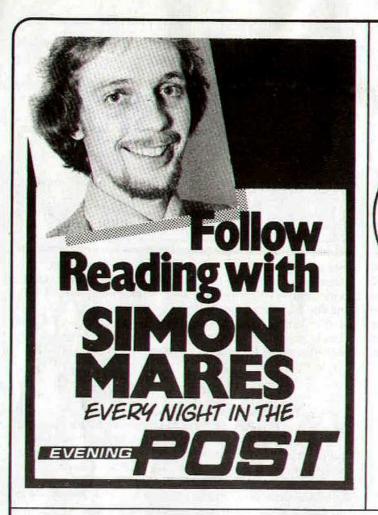
1922 THE GREAT FIGHTBACK - When we played Swansea at Elm Park 58 years ago today we found ourselves in deep trouble, being three goals down by half time. Showing great character we began clawing our way back into the game with goals from Alex McCaig and John Scott. Then two goals from our top scorer Gardiner put us into the lead but Swansea were not to be outdone and with 10 minutes to go Campbell put them back on level terms to score 4-4.

1926 OUR FIRST DIVISION TWO GOAL - On Monday August 30 1926 our Irish international centre forward Hugh Davey scored our first ever goal in Division Two, at Blackpool. Unfortunately that goal was not enough to bring us home any points as Blackpool won 3-1.

1968 READING SLAM HARTLEPOOL - 12 years ago today we notched up one of our biggest post war wins when we beat Hartlepool 7-0 at Elm Park. Peter Silvester did most of the damage with four goals while John Collins with two goals and John Sainty got the other. Hartlepool, who were making their first ever visit to Elm Park, included Bryan Drysdale and Terry Bell, both destined to play for Reading, plus John McGovern.

OUR DIVISION 3 HOME RECORD

Season	Result	Atten.	Reading's Goalscorers
1958-59	W 3-1	10,864	Webb, Shreeves
1959-60	W 3-0	11,586	Neate (pen) Ayre, Buck
1960-61	D 1-1	9,543	Lacey
1961-62	D 1-1	14,052	Allen
1962-63	L 1-2	16,008	Wheeler
1965-66	L 0-2	13,758	
1966-67	W 2-1	9,064	Terry 2
1967-68	W 2-1	17,867	Silvester, Thomas og.
1968-69	L 0-1	17,451	
1976-77	W 4 1	11,670	Murray 2 (1 pen) Cumming, Carnaby
1979-80	W 2-1	9,639	Bowman, Kearns



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BUEST SPOT BY MARTIN HICKS

Well we're off again for a long hard season and I hope this season will be very much better for me than the dreadful one I suffered last year.

It just goes to show the two very different sides of football and how easy it is to go from the good side to the bad one in one very quick moment during any game.

The good side of football is obviously when you are doing well and this happened to me, in my first full year at Reading, when the Club gained promotion from the Fourth to the Third Division. Then, within three games of the following year I had the hard luck to experience the bad side of football and this was when I damaged my left ankle during the game against Brentford.

Then came the worst time of all and that was the long weekend wait at home, before I could see the Club specialist to see what damage I had done.

Obviously, the news he game me was bad but at least I knew one way or the other.

Then came the operation itself and funnily enough this was the first time in my life I had damaged or broken any part of my body.

I was in hospital for two weeks and had the three ligaments, which I had ripped off the bone, sewn back on and a staple placed in them to hold them together. After which I had my leg in plaster for ten to 12 weeks during which time I worked on weights at the Club. Also, of course, I used to come and watch the lads play whenever they were at home.

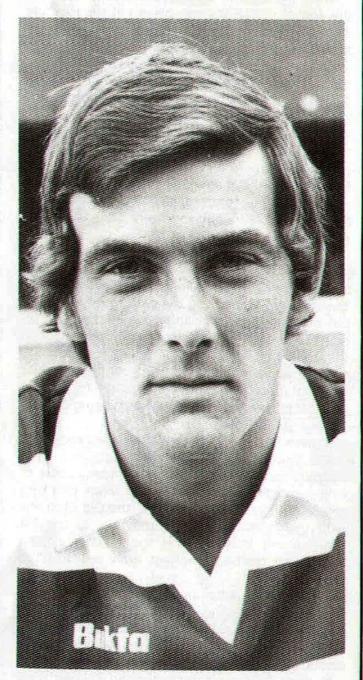
Eventually the weeks passed and the plaster came off. After a short rest I was off to Farnham Park Rehabilitation Centre to receive excellent treatment and guidance on my injury and hopefully to come out of there fairly fit.

After five weeks of treatment the ankle was getting stronger and then I had to go back into hospital to have the staple removed. This was another set back because at that time I thought I was going quite well and this break obviously put weeks on to my comeback.

Again, after a short rest, it was back to Farnham Park Rehabilitation Centre for more intense training but this visit was for only 3 weeks.

Then it was back to Elm Park for training and now all the really hard work began.

This was the hardest time of all because earlier in the season, when my leg was in plaster, I knew deep down that I had no chance of playing each week. But when I began training again I started to think about playing games and it became very frustrating watching the other lads play on match days and realising just how far away from playing I really was.



Eventually, after many long weeks of hard work and great encouragement from all the people at the club and many supporters, I played a few games and although things were far from perfect, it was great to be able to play a competitive game again.

Now, after a summer break, the new season has started and I hope the good side of football is not too far away for me.

CLUB I ISTRORY

The F.A. Cup-tie against the Old Etonians at the end of the 1870's was played at the Reading club's usual home venue, the Reading Recreation Ground at King's Meadow.

The annual rental paid by the club was £3, and the income from the Old Etonians match of £1. 19s. 11d. almost covered that charge for the season.

In front of a large crowd, Reading played to the best of their ability against their illustrious opponents, who were captained by the Hon. A.F. Kinnaird, of the magnificent flowing red beard, and long white trousers, and who was later to become Lord Kinnaird President of the Football Association.

A report of the game illustrated the confusion surrounding the interpretation of the rules which still existed. The Reading players still followed the code which allowed the patting down of the ball as an aid to controlling it, while the Old Etonians did not. Reading's players were aggrieved that they were constantly penalised for handball, as they saw nothing wrong in continuing their usual practice of using their hands to protect their face from the ball as well as helping to stop the ball dead to obtain a drop-kick.

In view of the fact that they conceeded so many free-kicks, it is hardly surprising that Reading were defeated, though the final score of 0-1 was quite respectable, and even more so when, at the end of the season, the Old Etonians won their way through to the final of the FA Cup, where they became the holders of the trophy, by beating Clapham Rovers 1-0 at the Oval.

In 1879 the club moved grounds from Kings Meadow to Reading Cricket Ground, and also had the use of a club room at the Queen's Hotel in the centre of the town. The majority of the club's games were friendly fixtures, and teams with such definitive titles as the Old Philberdians, the Remnants, the 19th Regiment from Aldershot, and Reigate Priory were added to the fixture list.

Reading "scratched", or withdrew from the FA Cup competition of 1879-80, even though the opposition were local rivals Henley, but in the following season had their best result in the competition to date, winning 5-1 at home to Hotspur



PART 4

This series of articles is being written by David Downs and will form the basis of a club history to be published in book form.

David, who is Deputy headmaster of Ranikhet Junior School in Tilehurst, and also Chairman of the Reading Schools Football Association, has been researching the club history for a number of years and would be pleased to hear from anyone who can supply additional information concerning the history of Reading Football Club. He can be contacted at 16 Kirton Close, Reading.

in Round One, before losing 0-1 away to the Swifts in the second round.

The Reading players were having to alter their style of play to keep up with tactical changes in the game. The playing of soccer was still the prerogative of the gifted, enthusiastic amateur, but players were gradually beginning to realise that they could make more progress as a team by passing the ball to each other rather than trying to dribble with it as individuals until they lost possession. The emphasis was still very much on attacking play, and spectators appreciated the dribbling skill of particular players, but it became obvious to the Reading team that in the long run, the passing game would bring more goals.

As for the organisation of football, this period was the time when the referee's whistle replaced the handkerchief, shinguards being worn outside the stockings to alleviate the pain caused by "hacking", and the tape across the top of the goal, which had been the source of many disputed goals, was replaced by a wooden crossbar. There were however still no markings on the pitch apart from the boundary lines, and when the ball was placed in the centre of the field for a kick-off, the spot was only guessed at by the referee.

Reading had their best run to date in the FA Cup competition of 1881-82, when after beating Hendon 5-0 in Round One, they were given a walk-over in Round Two as their opponents, West End, were unable to fulfil the fixture, and a bye in Round Three. Despite being one of the last fourteen teams left in the competition,

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Reading themselves scratched from the next round, against Great Marlow, and the local team from Buckinghamshire were well beaten by the still powerful Old Etonians 5-0 at the Oval.

In 1882 Reading moved their playing headquarters once more, and left the Reading Cricket Ground for Coley Park, where they were to be based for a further seven seasons.

The club was well catered for on the administrative side, with nine vice-presidents, a captain and two deputies, a seven strong committee which included a treasurer and two secretaries, and Mr James Simonds still retaining his Presidency, which he had held since the formation of the club. Their duties increased, because Coley Park was the club's first enclosed ground, and this meant more jobs to be done on match days. The rent for the pitch was fixed at £5 per annum, but this sum was quite comfortably covered by match takings, and in fact the very first game at the new venue, against Marlow, brought in a total of £1. 8s. 2d.

Reading continued to move along quite smoothly as carefree amateur team, but received a heavy defeat in the FA Cup competition of 1882-83, when after beating Union (Highbury) 3-0 at Coley Park in Round One, they lost 0-8 to the Royal Engineers in the subsequent round. One of the Engineers players, Lieutenant Sim, was described as the first footballer, to make a regular practice of butting, or as we know it today, heading the ball, so hopefully the Reading men were able to add to their knowledge of the game as a result of that setback.

That same season, the two-handed throw-in was introduced by the Football Association in its rules, who also decreed that in the FA Cup competition, the first named team in each tie should have the choice of venue for that tie, instead of tossing a coin for the privilege.

In October the FA, which was undergoing much reorganisation to keep pace with the developments within the game, revised its constitution, and divided all its members, including Reading, into ten geographical areas, for voting and administrative purposes. Reading was placed in Division Eight, along with the following clubs: Oxford University, Maidenhead, South Reading, Chesham, Great Marlow, Luton, Watford Rovers, Old Foresters, and Hitchin.

Reading had cause to be grateful to the Football Association each season, for they, through their Challenge Cup draw, were responsible for the highlights of each fixture list. In 1887 Reading were drawn away to the Old Carthusians in Round One, and their opponents, like the Old Etonians, contained some of the most noted players of the day, exponents of the game who had learned their skills at the public schools, which were of course the original bastions of the game.

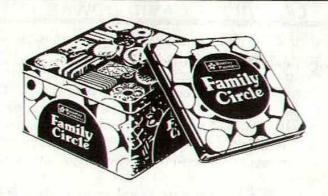
Reading put up a good showing against their distinguished opponents, in a game which also had the Oval as its venue. The Old Boys include a pair of well-known brothers at full-back, A.M. and P.M. Walters, both old boys of Charterhouse H School (hence the qualification for the Old Carthusians), both University Blues, both Corinthians, both solicitors, and winners of twenty-two caps for England between them.

After what was described as "a close and splendid game", Reading were beaten by two goals to one, their own score coming from C.E. Murdoch. Incidentally the year of 1887 saw the Golden Jubilee of the reign of Queen Victoria. She never saw Reading's football team play, and in fact never visited the town. Rumour has it that the statue erected in her honour in the Market Place at that time faces away from the town towards the station, as though that too is anxious to get away from Reading.

The F.A.'s decision to reorganise administratively had enabled it to keep step with its own growing domain, but it was finding difficulty in coping with another outside, and more insidious influence, that of professionalism. It was not a problem that concerned Reading at the moment, but would almost certainly do so within a few more seasons.

IN PART FIVE: an FA Cup-tie appeal...the second Berks & Bucks Cup win...Burslem Port Vale visit Reading...the skipper goes skating.





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NO 2 -RIGHT BACK (PART 2).

When we signed a centre half who had been converted to a centre forward we could hardly have expected Fred Gregory to prove a fine right back, but that's exactly what happened. After a sensational start to his career with Doncaster, he joined Manchester City for £2,000 while still only 17-years-old to make him the most expensive teenager of his day.

At the start of 1933/34 season we tried to sign him as a centre half but City refused to let him go and played him at centre forward for 11 league games. When City agreed to release him we moved in with a four figure fee to buy him as a centre forward and played him in that position for three games.

He started the following season at right back where he quickly established himself as one of the best defenders in the division. Every so often Fred was given the odd game in the forward line and usually obliged with a goal from that position, but so valuable was he at full back that he was always returned to defence.

In view of this it came as a shock to our fans when he was transferred to promotion rivals Crystal Palace in December 1937. he soon made us pay for this by creating Palace's first goal on his return ALAN SEDUNARY recalls some of the greats from Readings Past

to Elm Park two months later. In all he played 128 league games for us, scoring six goals, most of them coming from his games in the forward line.

Of the modern full backs the best so far was probably the stylish Dave Bacuzzi whose father, Joe, played 13 times at right back for England in the War years during a distinguished career with Fulham.

Dave began his playing career with Eastbourne United but moved to Arsenal in 1959, the year in which he was capped seven times for England at youth level. In his five seasons at Highbury he made 46 First Division appearances before joining Manchester City for £20,000 in 1965.

Having helped City win promotion back to Division One, Dave lost his first team place and on September 9 1966 he ioined us on a free transfer.

A broken leg sustained at Shrewsbury in September 1967 restricted his appearances in 1967/68 but in the following season he was again virtually an ever-present.

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CARBER

Introducing.....

STEVE HETZKE

It seems incredible that Steve will be celebrating ten years at Elm Park next June, being the second longest serving player on our books next to Steve Death, and yet still only

just 25 years old.

Born in Marlborough on June 3 1955, Steve first started playing football for his school John O'Gaunt's at Newbury. On leaving school he joined Hungerford Town, playing in their reserve team until Reading signed him as an apprentice the day after his sixteenth birthday. After just twelve appearances in the reserves he was playing so well that the then manager, Charlie Hurley gave him a first team chance at Darlington on December 18 1971, and in doing so he became the youngest player to appear for Reading at this level, being just 16 years and 193 days old. The rest of the season was spent mainly in the reserves although he did make three further appearances as substitute for the first team.

On June 4 1973 Steve was signed as a professional, but it was not until October that year he won a regular first team place when taking Tommy Youlden's place because of injury. He partnered John Hulme in the centre of the defence and on the return of Youlden it was John Hulme who was dropped and eventually sold, with Steve keeping his place.

In the summer of 1976 he went on loan to Vancouver Whitecaps for four months and had the experience of playing against the great Portuguese player Eusebio as well as being

nominated man of the match!

Since his return Steve has built himself a reputation as a utility player, playing in just about every position except goal. Normally in the centre of defence he was switched to striker in our promotion season 1978/79. He did well considering he was playing out of position, scoring eleven goals, including the match winner against Halifax which clinched promotion for us. Last season he played eighteen games at right back before moving back to his more familiar position in the centre of the back four.

This season Steve had the distinction of scoring the first

goal in a major competition when putting Reading 1-0 up in the League Cup at Northampton.

Off field Steve and his wife Sue live in Newbury but as yet have no children. His hobbies include most sports, particularly swimming, golf, squash, snooker and cricket. His favourite team apart from Reading is Leeds United and Steve nurses an ambition of playing at Wembley and to play in the First Division.

APPEARANCES

Season	Lge	L Cup	FA Cup	Tot Gls
71/72	1 + 3	_	-	_
72/73	1	-	-	_
73/74	22 (1)		2(1)	2
74/75	14+1	6	TO L	-
75/76	17(1)	2	-	1
76/77	22-2(3)	1	V -	3
77/78	16	3	1	
78/79	42(9)	7(2)	0+3	11
79/80	43(2)	4	4	2
80/81	2	2(1)	-	1
TOTAL	180 + 6(17)	25(3)	6+3(1)	20

Up to and including Gillingham game Figures in brackets denotes goals



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STEVE HETZKE



Albert Moss

'It's good ere aint it' and to prove it many new ventures are planned for the future. Below is the first of the

changes. Small though this may be, with your help it can be the start of something big.

Last year at this time we changed both our lottery and bingo tickets, and guess what - both are being updated again. The search for new tickets and new ideas are constantly being sought, and whilst ideas are put forward many are not practical or the administration is complicated or expensive. But to come back to our new tickets, the Lottery ticket is based on a TREASURE ISLAND theme and by removing the latex from the treasure chests amounts are revealed and when added together the total is what is won. Simple but effective.

Our Bingo ticket is called Royal's Gold, cost 10p, and has a total prize payout of £1,200. We have retained the 3 house bingo and pontoon, and now give three chances to win on the fruit machine. A lucky numbers game has been introduced, giving many more chances of winning, the ratio of winners on both tickets is one in seven.

Whilst talking of the lotteries, we are always looking for new agents and offer 10% on winning tickets over £10, plus the opportunity to watch Reading's home matches free of charge and the chance to win bottles of wine in the agents draw.

STOP PRESS

Lafford and Leavey to sponsor apprentices during 1980/81 season. Full details in the next issue of The Royal.

Garry McGreevy.

Good afternoon and welcome to our visitors from Swindon who have made the short journey here today.

Playing in the Third Division has given us a lot more local games, unlike our days in Division Four - when the nearest grounds were usually at Torquay and Northampton. Next Saturday we have one of our longest journeys of the season to Huddersfield. Transport departs from Elm Park at 8.45 a.m. and you can book your seat at the Tilehurst End Club shop today.

Bookings are also being taken there for Tuesday night's League Cup match at Luton for which transport leaves Elm Park at 4.30. For those supporters wanting to travel by train to Huddersfield catch the 9.12 a.m. from Reading to Paddington then go by Circle Line to Kings Cross. From there take the 10.50 train to Wakefield Westgate and change there for the 13.10 to Huddersfield. On the way back catch the 17.18 changing again at Wakefield and arriving at Kings Cross by 20.07. From Paddington catch the 20.50 to Reading.

Our away support has started to increase this season and it would be good to see plenty of support for the team next week.

The various Club shops around the ground have a good selection of programmes in stock and by now should have some of this seasons programmes available. There is also a good stock of old Reading programmes available from the Tilehurst End shop which holds the main supply of programmes. From there you can also reserve copies of all Readings's away match programmes for this season.

As the programmes at recent away games have been selling out on the day they are worth reserving if you want a complete set. The shops and the Club offices in Norfolk Road also offer a wide range of souvenirs and always have something new for

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PLYMOUTH ARGYLE,

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Aldershot (Recreation Ground)
Friday 5th September, Football League

BURY, kick-off 7.45 p.m.

THOMAN CONTINUES BY THE BURNET BY BURNET BY THE BURNET BY BURNET BY

READING, follow signs Caversham A4155: (1.1) CAVERSHAM, at traffic signals turn left A 4074 (signposted Oxford), (11.6) CROWNMARSH GIFFORD, turn left A423. (12.09) OXFORD, Follow signs Northampton A43. (31.5) TOWCESTER, at traffic signs turn left A5 (signposted motorway M1). (7.7) WEFDON, turn right A45, in 2.8 miles at roundabout take 1st exit (signposted Birmingham, the North) to join Motorway M1. (83.9) WOODALL SERVICE AREA. (25.7) JUNC-TION 38, leave motorway and follow signs Huddersfield A637. (4.7) FLOCKTON, in 1.2 miles at crossroads turn left A642. (2.5) LEP-TON, 2 miles further turn right A629. (4.2) HUDDERSFIELD, follow signs Leeds A62 to leave by Leeds Road. In 1.6 miles turn right into Bradlay Mills Road for (1.7) HUDDERSFIELD TOWN FC (on left).

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