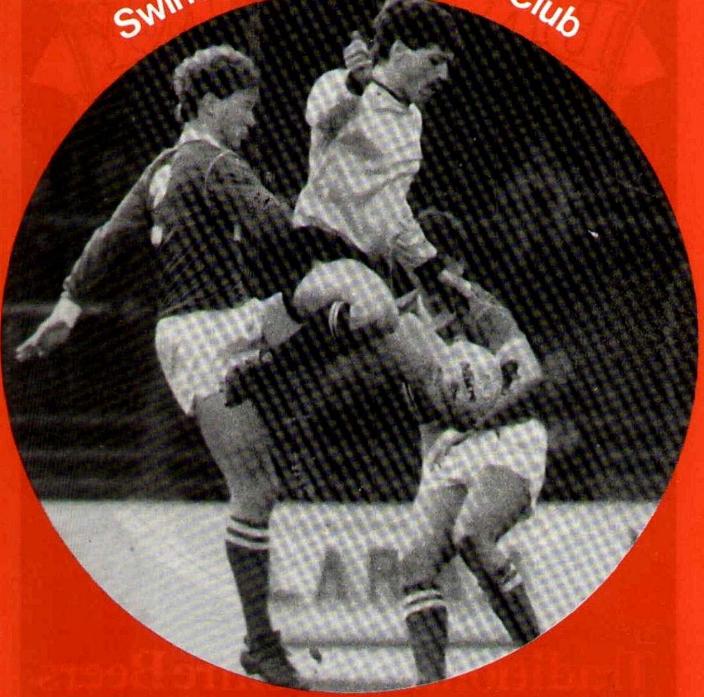
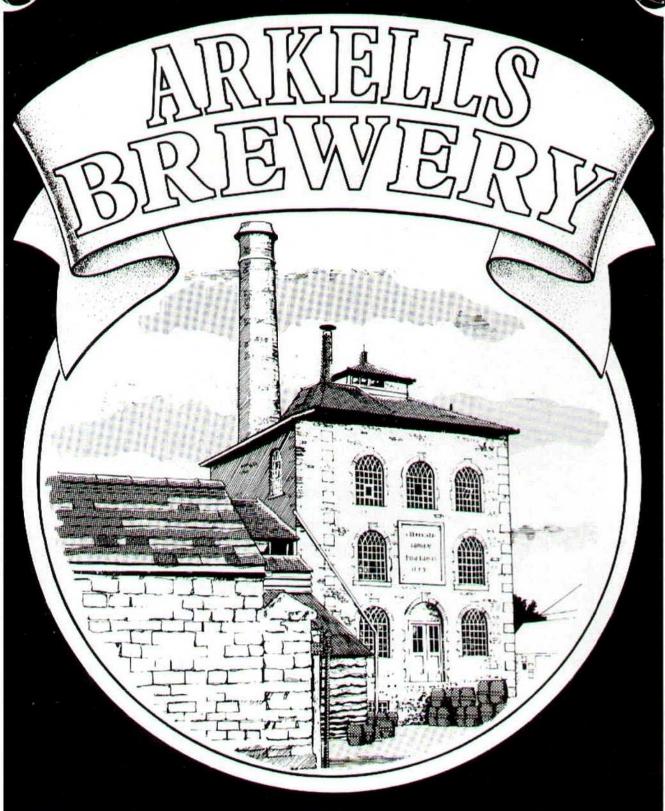


Swindon Town Football Club



# **ALDERSHOT**

at the County Ground, Swindon Monday, 4th April Kick-Off 3-00p.m. Official Match Magazine 35p



Traditional Wiltshire Beers Enjoyapint





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Commercial Manager: E. MOORE

Club Medical Officer: Dr. J. NICHOLAS

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## Talk of the Town by the Chairman

We welcome to the County Ground today the players and officials from Aldershot. Since our last home fixture we have played both York and Wimbledon away but of course these notes have been written before the fixture at Wimbledon.

I am sure that the demonstrations against the club last week did little to help the future and whatever was shouted at John Trollope was unwarranted in view of all the hard work that he has put into the club. I am also appreciative of the many letters that have been written to me and shall reply to as many as I can. I would also say that the Board of Directors will do all in it's power to keep football here at the County Ground but without your support this could provide difficult.

In my last programme notes I' mentioned our away game at Halifax but this was printed as Darlington and I would like to say that we do

know where we are playing.

In the past week we have played and won against Fulham in the Football Combination and of course the point gained at York was, at last, just reward for another wholehearted performance away from home. It is away from home that we seem to play with more confidence so let us hope that we play with the same outlook at home today.

This week has seen the published report of Sir Norman Chester who for several months, with a committee, has sought to bring forward different ideas that will make the Football League structure more exciting for the spectator, more viable for our administrators to handle and possibly a help to our International fixtures and of course, a step forward to enable clubs to exist more financially sound. This report will no doubt be studied by all clubs looking at it from an individual point of view, selfishly no doubt.

One point put forward is to change the voting majorities needed to get a proposal through. At present a three quarter majority is needed and it is calling for a change to three fifths. This immediately reduces the strength of the Associate Members vote which has only recently been strengthened from six to eight votes out of the fifty three votes available.

Another major change suggested for the Third and Fourth Divisions is to amalgamate both leagues and either form a North and South section or divide into four leagues of twelve teams and play each section of twelve teams twice in the season with 'play offs' of the top two teams from each section for promotion to the second division.

We at Swindon will study this report in detail but my own impression at the moment is that issues like playing our fixtures at a different time or times of the year have not been mentioned. The possible use of the artifical turf is another aspect of our game that has also been passed over but at least thought is being given to the future of our National game and it's survival and I know that Sir Norman Chester has devoted many years of his life in the interest of the game and much credit must be given to him for this foresight, whatever the outcome of our discussions.

One of our sponsors today is Mr. N. Smith, Purley Farm, Blake Hill, Cricklade, the other sponsors are not known at the time of writing. The ball donor is Mr. John Monk of 272, Ermin Street, Stratton St. Margaret and the Team Mascot is Phillip Llewellin from Swindon who is eight years old. We thank them all for their support.

I hope that you enjoy todays game and, of course, the result.

## The Continentals

In the last two weeks the recent happenings at the club have attracted a great deal of attention from the media, the press and individual supporters and quite unfairly the Chairman, Cecil Green, appears to be the centre of much abuse, both verbal and written, especially from those people who love to see their name in print in the letter columns of the local paper.

The Chairman is the spokesman for the Club which is run on democratic lines, each Director receiving one vote at Board Meetings, including the Chairman who is entitled to a casting vote should there be an impasse. Any decision made is the result of a majority decision not the whim of one man. Incidentally the Chairman is appointed annually immediately following the Annual General Meeting of the Company.

The nature of our existence makes it most unlikely that a wealthy man will join the Board and invest vast sums of money for the simple reason that we do not own our ground. If you look into the circumstances of such investors within the game a valuable piece of building land would become available should the club collapse but not so at this club. The local authority is the owner of this ground and consequently there is no attractive collateral to offer to a 'fairy godfather' should one show interest. This is not to say that attempts have not been made to lure such people here, alas without success. We have approached individuals, business firms and yes, even pop stars.

The situation is one of the chicken and the egg - we cannot expand our playing staff until our income

increases and our lapsed supporters say that they will not come along until we improve our playing staff.

It is rightly said that no money has been available for John Trollope to improve his playing staff but it is not true that money has not been put into the club by the Directors for £110,000. has been invested by these gentlemen within the last three months, yes, some of the old members included, but this sum has been and is being used to keep us in business until July 1983 when a fresh look must be made of our expenditure based upon anticipated income.

I can assure you that the existing Directors would step down for someone who would be prepared to invest a sizeable sum of money with us but who, honestly, is likely to do so without some guarantee for their money? It is of no earthly use the present Board resigning if there is no one to take their place. We have wages to pay and a bank overdraft to guarantee and this cannot be done if the Board resign.

From these few words perhaps you will perceive that the situation is not as cut and dried as the outsider would see it. I am sure that all the criticism of recent weeks emanates from a deep concern for the future of the club, a concern that is shared by us all. We must overcome the present situation and your continued support will be of even more value if we are to do so. Thank you for reading these words and if they have given you a deeper insight into our problems then they have not been written in vain.



Today we offer a warm welcome to member of 'The Continentals' to our ground, this being a continental society for people interested in English football. They are making their annual Easter trip to this country to watch three games on Good Friday, one on Saturday, three today, Easter Monday, and two tomorrow. They are centred in Rotterdam and their members come from all walks of life including a dentist, a teacher, people from insurance and shipping - a colourful variation of people linked by their hobby, English League football.



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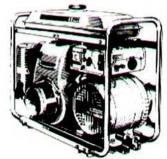
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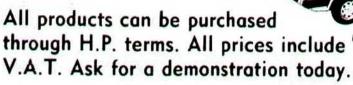








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ITONIDA
IN NORTH WILTSHIRE

# Picture Parade...



Town defender Russell Lewis defending desperately against Darlington, watched by Gary Emmanuel (dark shirt No. 4).

# **ALDERSH**

IAN GILLARD (Player-Coach). Close season signing from Queens Park Rangers with whom he made 484 senior appearances in League, Cup and European football chiefly as a full-back. Also won three full England caps v West Germany, Wales and Czechoslovakia in 1975 at left-back and is a former England Under-23 International. Hammersmith born and joined Q.P.R. from school making his League debut in November 1968 at 18.

DALE BANTON. Kensington born and played his schools football with Brent and Middlesex. Signed as an Apprentice for West Ham in July 1977, turning professional in May 1979. League debut as substitute v Chelsea August 1979. Attacking midfield player signed by Aldershot in the close season.

LES BRILEY. A £40,000 capture from Wimbledon in March 1980 where he had been Club Captain. Born in Lambeth and was originally on the books of Chelsea before making his debut for Hereford United in September 1976. Has been Aldershot's 'Player of the Year' for the last two seasons. Midfield player.

MURRAY BRODIE. Glasgow born forward usually on the left wing who came to Aldershot from Leicester City in the Joe Jopling exchange deal in September 1970. Can play midfield, on the wing or as a striker. Highest number of appearances - over 400 - amongst current players. Had a testimonial two seasons ago.

COLIN FIELDER. Turned professional at 18 in January 1982 and was given his initial League outing against Torquay United in May. Was an Apprentice previously and can play either in midfield or as a flank forward. Loaned to a Finnish Club early in the season to gain experience. Born Winchester and local find.



Ian Wood (no longer with Club), Joe Jopling, Murray Brodie, Glen Johnson, Nan MacDonald and Ian Gillard (player/coach).
FRONT ROW (Left to Right)
John Anderson (trainer), Paul Shrubb, Dale Banton, Peter Scott, Paul Lucas, I

John Anderson (trainer), Paul Shrubb, Dale Banton, Peter Scott, Paul Lucas, Len Walker (Manager).

CLIVE HOLMES. Still on Apprentice forms and the second choice goalkeeper who last season gained useful experience in the reserve and youth team ranks. Was selected to go on one of the Football League Outward Bound Courses. Has yet to make his first appearance in the senior team at Aldershot.

GLEN JOHNSON. Former England Youth International goalkeeper with Arsenal being capped in 1970 v Eire. Later with Doncaster Rovers, with whom he made over 100 League and Cup appearances and also Walsall (on Ioan). Born Barrow and received a Mecca Award two seasons ago for 300 League appearances. Tenth term.

JOE JOPLIN 1974 after n City and a s United. Com central defer League debu Captain. Ove Aldershot.

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Club), Joe Jopling, Murray Brodie, Glen Johnson, Mark Sanford, Clive Holmes, lard (player/coach).

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mer England Youth r with Arsenal being Later with Doncaster he made over 100 rances and also Walarrow and received a easons ago for 300 outh term.

JOE JOPLING. Returned to Aldershot in 1974 after nearly four years with Leicester City and a short loan period with Torquay United. Comes from South Shields and is a central defender who began as a full-back. League debut in November 1969. Club Captain. Over 300 League appearances for Aldershot.

BRIAN LUCAS. Farnborough born winger who played for Aldershot and Farnborough Schools, Hampshire Schools and youth teams. Turned professional in July 1978 and made his League debut in February 1980 v Walsall. Took his number of League appearances to 79 at the end of the 1981-82 season and has scored 12 goals.

IAN McDONALD. Much travelled midfield player who was signed last season in the exchange deal which took Malcolm Crosby to York City. Born Barrow and played for the local Club before spells with Workington, Liverpool, Colchester United (on loan), Mansfield Town and York. Over 300 League appearances.

STUART ROBINSON. Midfield player or winger who was a 1980 close season capture from Newcastle United for whom he made his debut in December 1977 v Leicester City. Formerly an Apprentice, turning professional in June 1977, Born Middlesborough. Aldershot debut 1980-81. Missed beginning of season recovering from a cartilage injury.

MARK SANFORD. London born forward who made a number of reserve team outings before turning professional in June 1979. Represented Hampshire Schools and youth teams before making his League debut in December 1979 v Bournemouth. Once scored all four goals against Hereford United. Top scorer last term with 11 goals.

PETER SCOTT. Signed in March 1979 from York City, this full-back became Aldershot's first full International when he came on as substitute for Northern Ireland v Scotland in May 1979. Started his career with Everton and has ten Irish caps. Can also play in midfield or at centre-half. Over 200 League games.

PAUL SHRUBB. Another close season signing from Brentford. Versatile player either in midfield, attack or as a defender in the back four. League debut with Fulham but had a spell in South Africa with Hellenic and then joined the Griffin Park Club, where he made 182 League appearances in their colours.

## From the League Archives

## Paul Plowman takes another look at a name from the past

#### **NEW BRIGHTON**

Late in 1982 the Wirral - that thumb-shaped peninsula between Lancashire and North Wales - almost lost its only Football League representative, yet once upon a time it could boast two such clubs - and Tranmere Rovers was not the first.

Long before the Mersey tunnel came along to provide an easy exodus to the two Liverpool giants, the ferry had linked the city with the home of that other League club on the Wirral, at the resort of New Brighton. It was 1898 when New Brighton Tower seized upon one of the vacancies when the Second Division was extended to eighteen clubs. They opened their Football League career on September 10 of that year with a 3-2 home victory over Gainsborough Trinity and went on to finish in fifth position, just three behind promoted Glossop North End. A promising start - but the management, who had kitted out the players in new salmon pink coloured shirts, paid dearly in attempting to bring experienced names to the Tower Grounds and within three years the club's mounting debt forced them into liquidation. That third and final season, 1900/01, was the best in terms of performance for New Brighton were unbeaten at home and finished fourth, behind champions Grimsby Town (slammed 5-0 at the Tower), Birmingham and Burnley. They went out as they had come in, on a winning note, a 1-0 success over Woolwich Arsenal on April 27 1901.

Ten years later a new company was formed, playing on a new ground at nearby Sandheys Park in Wallasey. They were elected to the Third Division North in 1923 along with Doncaster Rovers, who had, coincidentally, replaced the old Tower club in the Second Division twenty-two years earlier. White shirts and navy shorts, the original colours of New Brighton Tower, were once again in

evidence on the Wirral. Known as the 'Rakers' (the club's ground was in Rake Lane), New Brighton's first local derby with Tranmere on October 6 1923 drew a thirteen thousand gate. The corresponding fixture at Christmas in the following season attracted 15,176, that figure remaining a record for the ground - which they vacated after the War, moving back to the Tower. The red and white quartered shirts adopted in 1935 now gave way to maroon and white stripes - but the future was to be distinctly black. In March 1947 manager Neil McBain, a former Scottish international centre-half, was forced to play himself in goal in one game, although he was by then 52 years of age! The sad end came just four years later. Between Christmas 1950 and mid-April 1951 New Brighton picked up only two points from seventeen League fixtures and, along with Accrington Stanley, were obliged to seek re-election. Accrington had no problems polling forty-six votes, but just eighteen went in favour of New Brighton - and so Korkington stepped into their place. Ironically, during the very week that the club played what was to be its last ever Football League game, at Shrewsbury on May 5 1951, plans had been announced to purchase the Tower Ground and increase its capacity to thirty thousand.

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## From the Commercial Office

I view my appointment as Commercial Manager of Swindon Town with the greatest pride and optimism.

My ambition has always been to work full time with a Football League club and I have finally achieved the goal at the age of 37, being "transferred" from Forest Green Rovers.

My reason for accepting the job is, quite simply, because the same potential that I saw at Forest Green Rovers when I first visited the Lawn in 1980 is here at Swindon.

The whole feel of the place demands success and with the right team on and off the field it can certainly be achieved.

When I arrived at Forest Green the club were languishing one from the bottom of the Hellenic League. The new brooms produced a thriving club who won the Hellenic League

Championship and the F. A. Challenge Vase Final on a memorable day at Wembley. Success has followed this year with the club heading the Southern League in their first season in the Midland Division.

On a higher plateau I get the same gut feeling here at the County Ground and am totally confident that success will come and quickly.

My policies concerning the commercial side of a football club will become apparent but basically they involve players, officials, and the most important sector, supporters all pulling together.

I am no different to most individuals and totally dislike hearing the singing of obsenitiess and witnessing punch up's at football grounds. This drives away supporters and, as a commercial manager. I see the disappearing revenue as a clear indication of the problem.

#### John Ward meets Julian Wilson

The big race at Chepstow was at 2 p.m. but, commentary finished, Julian Wilson was off down the motorway and in his seat in the Rendezvous box in the North Stand only a couple of minutes after kick-off. "I am lucky that the BBC does so many meetings not far from Swindon," he said. "It means that I can see fifteen or sixteen home games a year, even if I can only manage the second half for some of them."

Brought up in London, Julian watched Leyton Orient, ast it then was, as a child. "I grew up on Third Division football," he said with a wry smile. When the family moved to Faringdon he used to cycle over to home matches during the school holidays. "I started on Stratton Bank," he explained "and worked my way round the far side. I used to come with Frank Crocker who is now a farmer at Minety. It is always good to watch with a friend and to have someone to talk to during the game. I remember my first one in 1953, in the Cup against Worksop. We won one-nil and Bob Edwards scored the goal; he was my first hero."

Julian's other love was racing and when he left school in 1958 he went to work as a journalist on a specislist horse and greyracing paper in Glasgow. "It was called 'The Noon Record', the mid-day companion of the Daily Record, and it had a bigger circulation than all the other national racing papers, including Sporting Life, combined. It was in the days before betting shops were legal; there were 600 illegal ones in Glasgow and the punters needed the information from our paper. I started as a sub-editor and later they let me write. Obviously I did not see much of Swindon; I did my football watching at Partick Thistle."

After two years in Glasgow Julian became Daily Mirror correspondent at Newmarket and two years later went to Manchester. "During this time I was mostly going racing on Saturdays; it was only when I went freelance in 1964 that I became a good supporter", he said. In 1966 Julian joined BBC Television and his present pattern of watching began. He remembers the League Cup Final in 1969 with special pleasure. "Without any doubt it was the greatest day

in my life," he told me. "I know there was supposed to be racing at Chepstow that day but either it was cancelled because of the weather or I had managed to negotiate a special day off. Anyway there I was at Wembley. I have been lucky enough to have a horse win the Gimcrack but the League Cup Final surpassed even that."

Julian has a flat in London where he spends about one night a week - "I am there as little as possible; I don't like London very much," he admitted - and a house near Newmarket. "That means I can get to any mid-week away games in East Anglia," he said. "I was at Colchester the other night and went to Southend last season."

Julian was generally disapproving of the type of football played in the Fourth Division: "There is too little skill", he complained and too much effort. Players tends to by-pass the mid-field; it's a case of putting the long ball up the middle over everyone's head to the strikers." His choice of favourite player is revealing, Trevor Anderson, the slender Irishman who was with Swindon Town in the late '70s with extravagant ball skills which were not so widely appreciated by other supporters, "Frankly that is one of the problems", Julian admitted. "Trevor was a joy to watch but the crowd were on at him a lot. That's one reason why we rarely seem to have anyone who can put his foot on the ball and slow the game down."

Not that Julian was entirely critical: "The best long-term point about this Club is its youth policy," he said firmly. "And the side who went so far in the League Cup a few years' ago was really good and definitely of upper Second Division standard. Those two League Cup games against Arsenal in 197- were probably my most memorable after the Wembley Final. "I shall never forget Billy Tucker's late equaliser at Highbury and the 4-3 replay here was unbearable. It was a marvellous season: do you remember Brian William's corners to the near post?"

Julian was not so enthusiastic about the state of football generally today. "One of the things which is killing it is what they show on regional television," he said.

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# Town through time Wingers by paul plowman

PART 17

Twelve days before his twenty-third birthday, DON HEATH made his League debut for the Town - in a 4-0 win over Northampton on September 16 1967. Swindon was Don's third club as he had spent just over three years at Carrow Road following a none too successful eighteen months Middlesbrough. Born not far from Ayresome Park, at Stockton, the former apprentice has signed professional forms for 'Boro in December 1962 but was never selected for their League side. Heath was not known for his goalscoring - his best figures being at Norwich where he recorded fifteen in just over eighty appearances - and in fact he scored only one goal at the County Ground, in a Second Round F. A. Cup victory over Luton in January 1968. His name appeared on the scoresheet for the Town on just other occasions - at Oldham (the club he was to sign for in July 1970) and at Northampton on a Tuesday night in November 1968 when half the Swindon side scored in a storming 6-1 win. Don scored the fifth goal and was an integral part of the Town's 'double' success athat season. He was ever-present in the League Cup run and played in 42 League games, being called into action from the substitute's bench four times. That success could not have been possible, of course, without a thirty-goal contribution from DON ROGERS. He claimed a brace of goals on five occasions during 1968/69 and also hit the now departed Southport for four, to register his fourth and, incidentally, last hattrick in League football.

With Fred Ford having temporarily dispensed with a second winger, Don Heath made the last of his eighty-eight League

appearances for the club when he came on as twelfth man at Leicester in January 1970. The Town's 2 - 0 win that day lifted them to sixth place in the Second Division - and another Rogers 'double', against Birmingham on March 31, was to take Swindon as high as third position. The rotund figure of John Smith amply filled the number seven shirt until the introduction of CHRIS PORTER to the side in the following November. Porter, who had actually made his debut at Norwich a month earlier, was a late arrival in League football, having been well on the way to twenty-one when he was signed from Bridgwater Town in November 1969. The tall winger was present in thirteen League games in 1970/71 and his powerful shooting produced four goals. A former Liverpool apprentice, signed at the back of the previous season, STEVE PEPLOW took over at number seven in March 1971. Since signing a full-time contract at Anfield in January 1966, Steve had made only two League appearances there and welcomed the chance of regular first-team Football. He enjoyed the added bonus of European competition with the Town, scoring twice against Italian clubs Bologna and Sampdoria in May and June 1971.

To be continued

DON HEATH

#### Follow the Town to

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- 3 KEVIN BADDELEY
- 4 PAUL BATTY
- 5 RUSSELL LEWIS
- 6 MIKE GRAHAM
- 7 RAY BAVERSTOCK
- 8 LEIGH BARNARD
- 9 PAUL RIDEOUT
- 10 ANDY ROWLAND
- 11 MARTIN BLACKLER

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## **ALDERSHOT**

- 1 GLEN JOHNSON
- 2 PETER SCOTT
- 3 IAN GILLARD
- 4 LES BAILEY
- 5 MARK WHITLOCK
- 6 JOE JOPLIN
- 7 PAUL SHRUBB
- 8 DALE BANTON
- 9 TREVOR SENIOR
- 10 IAN McDONALD
- 11 MURRAY BRODIE



#### REFEREE:

MR. VICTOR G. CALLOW (Solihull). Commenced refereeing in 1966 through various Leagues to the West Midlands (Regional) League and then to the Football League in 1975. Officiated as Linesmen in England v. Wales Under 21 International 1976/77, F. A. Cup semi-final replay 1979,

#### LINESMEN:

Red Flag: MR. D. G. COLLINS - Cardiff

Yellow Flag: MR. D. S. JOSHAM - Bristol