

Special play-off ream photo

See page

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Wednesday, 24th, 1989 **Barclays League Division Two** PLAY-OFF SEMI-FINAL SECOND LEG

**v SWINDON TOWN** 

Kick-off 8.00pm

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It was our matches against Stoke City and Birmingham which finally determined our Play-off destiny and brought us face to face with Swindon Town in a twolegged encounter.

The match against Stoke was as exhilarating as anyone could have wished and it was astonishing that two sides determined to attack should have produced just one goal between them, and that from a penalty! Stoke, of course, realised that they would cause us far more difficulty if they tried to gain the initiative rather than defend for 90 minutes, and between them the two teams must have created at least a dozen clear chances. That we had the majority of them, and deserved to win, only the most curmudgeonly supporter would doubt and Dave Madden tucked away his third penalty in two matches with aplomb.

Birmingham came to us on the last day of the season as a relegated side but one which still had its pride to play for. However, we produced a golden opening (if fragmented) half-hour which saw lan Wright gain a spectacular hat-trick. It was difficult to keep our minds on the matter before us, partly in view of the disgraceful scenes which had interrupted the match and partly because, in view of the delay to our game, we couldn't but be aware of what had happened elsewhere. At one stage it appeared as if we really were going to be able to snatch the second automatic promotion place, but then we learned that Manchester City had fought back to draw at Bradford and had pipped us by one point.

The final Division Two table thus saw us pitted against our friends and rivals from Swindon and we found ourselves playing another Sunday fixture at The County Ground.

We were welcomed with great support again when we took the field at Swindon for the first leg of

this play-off semi-final. It was obvious from the early stages that very little would separate the sides and a match full of graft and total commitment ensued in the hot afternoon sun. The match hinged on a cruel own goal conceded some eight or nine minutes into the second half and it came as a bitter blow in a game of such importance.

But this fixture is only at the half-way stage and we know that, with first rate support from our fans here at Selhurst Park, a place in the play-off final is well within our grasp.

That brings us to this evening and I welcome back to Selhurst Park Lou Macari, his hard-running and tireless players and all the fans from Wiltshire. If Lou's men manage to beat us over two legs I shall be the first to wish him, and them, every success in the Finals, but meanwhile we have a contest to settle and I hope we can produce an occasion that is both memorable and enjoyable for everyone concerned.



THIS being the first play-off game at Selhurst Park in which Palace have been involved, we thought it fitting to mark the occasion by including a full colour photograph of the team. Our centrespread is therefore carrying a shot taken just eight days ago at the Mitcham training ground by Tom Morris.

We have, due to popular demand, extended our Clubcall 'Player of the Year' awards until 31st May and all the numbers that you need to cast your vote are included on page 18.

A great many of our usual features are contained, including our popular Family and Community section and the final Second Division statistics and tables.

### PALACE NEWS

Also on sale today is the very latest Palace News which incorporates for the first time the Lifeline Newsletter for members. A full report from the Lifeline evening at the Fairfield Halls is contained in the edition as well as match reports and feature items, at just 50p surely a good buy?

MILLET'S SUPPLIERS OF WATERPROOF CLOTHING TO CRYSTAL PALACE F.C.

#### COVER NOTE

Glenn Pennyfather in action against Birmingham City at Selhurst Park.



#### PERRY'S 50 WITH THE PALACE

extended League The season and the additional pair of play-off games against Swindon Town have enabled Palace's ace goalkeeper Perry Suckling to reach his first landmark in his career with The Eagles, because this evening will see Perry make his 50th appearance for the club since he joined us from Manchester City in January last year.



#### TREMENDOUS FORM

Dogged by injuries in the early part of this season, Perry is now enjoying a tremendous run of form with no fewer than eight shut-outs in our last 15 matches of the League season, and is part of what is, statistically, Palace's best defence for a full decade.

#### PERRY SUCKLING'S PALACE CAREER Conner

Jeason		~	ppearances	>	
	*Leagu	e	Cups		Total
1987-88	17		-		17
1988-89	29		4	0	33
	46		4		50
• I I I'	1	10			10001

Including play-offs.

(Correct to 24th May, 1989)

#### HAT-TRICK FACTFILE

lan Wright's hat-trick against Birmingham in our last home game was the second of his career and followed the one he scored in November 1987 during Palace's 5-1 victory over Plymouth. It was

season, follow-

Palace's



Ian Wright accepts Dave Madden's accolades

ing two from after making it 4-0 against Birmingham. Mark Bright in January against Walsall and Luton Town (Simod Cup).

Thus, after a period of seven years between October 1980, when Mike Flanagan scored three goals against Southampton, and November 1987, without a hat-trick, Palace strikers have now hit four in 18 months!

Frek Kury scored Palace's first post-war hat-trick against Swansea on 27th March, 1948.

#### SWINDON - EXPERIENCED PLAY-OFF CONTENDERS

Knowledgeable followers of modern football will be well aware that Swindon Town are indeed experienced in the matter of the re-introduced Play-offs, having gained promotion to Division Two in a Play-off replay here at Selhurst Park no less, but how many readers, even those from Wiltshire, realise that Swindon's expertise in these matters goes back long before that?



#### THOUGH LONG MEMORIES REQUIRED!

In fact we wonder just how many Swindon fans realise that The Robins, in their first season in the newly-formed Southern League, 1894-95, took part in play-offs designed to settle promotion and relegation between the two divisions of the Southern League - and lost 1-5 to New Brompton!

But, not to worry, Swindon weren't relegated! Instead new Brompton were promoted and the First Division extended to 10 clubs, so both Wiltshire and North Kent were happy with the outcome!

#### SWINDON SERIAL!

Then in 1901 the Town were involved again! This time their opponents were Brentford, top of Division Two and, following a 0-0 draw in Reading, Swindon's First Division status was again retained, Brentford were promoted and, once again, the First Division was extended!

But there's more! Next season saw The Robins again involved in play-off duty! This time they emerged from an encounter with Fulham with a creditable 3-1 margin - and it was from that time on that Swindon matured into the powerful club that had finished as Southern League runners-up in 1909 and 1910 and champions in 1911 and 1914.



4

#### PALACE GOALSCORERS 1988-89

	Lge. C	ups T	otal
lan Wright	24	6	30
Mark Bright	20	4	24
Phil Barber	6	2	8
Geoff Thomas	5	1	6
Alex Dyer	2	3	5
Dave Madden	5	-	5
Alan Pardew	1	2	3
Gary O'Reilly	2	-	2
Neil Redfearn	2	+	2
Gavin Nebbeling	1	-	1
John Pemberton	1	-	1
Own goal	2	1	3
	71	19	90

(Correct to 21st May 1989)

RECORDS PLAYED AT THE GROUND SUPPLIED BY

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### PLAY-OFF PRECIS

The Play-offs were introduced in 1986-87 to settle the promotionrelegation issues between the divisions and to assist in the reduction of Division One from 22 to 20 clubs over two seasons.



They were then retained for use in the current and subsequent seasons, but the format was amended so that, in the case of movements between the top two divisions, the club finishing third from bottom in Division One is now automatically relegated rather than appearing in the play-offs.

#### PLAY-OFFS FOR PROMOTION FROM DIVISION TWO

1.9.8.7 Ipswich 0 Charlton 0 \*Charlton 2 Ipswich 1 Leeds 1 Oldham 0 Oldham 2 Leeds 1 (Leeds won on away goals rule) \*Charlton 1 Leeds 0 Leeds 1 Charlton 0 Replay: Leeds 1 Charlton 2 Charlton stay in Division One

#### 1.9.8.8

Blackburn 0 Chelsea 2 Chelsea 4 Blackburn 0

Bradford City 2 Middlesbrough 1 Middlesbrough 2 Bradford City 0 Middlesbrough 2 Chelsea 0

Chelsea 1 Middlesbrough 0

#### Middlesbrough promoted to Division One

#### NOTES:

\* Played at Selhurst Park.

\*\* Selhurst Park also hosted the replayed 1987 play-off for promotion to Division Two between Swindon Town and Gillingham (2-0).

\*\*\* Some purists would argue that the play-offs are not new at all; that they were previously used between 1893 and 1898 when they were called 'Test Matches', and that we have simply reintroduced the concept whilst altering the name!

### RULES FOR TONIGHT'S GAME

If the aggregate scores are level after 90 minutes. extra-time will be played. If the aggregate scores remain level after extra-time, then 'away' goals count double. If the overall record of both teams is still identical then a penalty competition will be held in accordance with the rules of the game.

### CAN YOU HELP?

Can you, or do you know of anybody who would be willing to put up Crystal Palace junior players on a board-and-lodging basis. You would, of course, receive a cash allowance for your services in accommodating these lads, some of whom are on a short term basis and others more long term.

You would be assisting the club and at the same time helping a possible star of the future on his way to the top.

For further details contact Peter Prentice on 01-648 5893.

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#### MIRACLE

Whether it has anything to do with the fact that there is no more ardent supporter of either and both clubs than their mutual and shared honorary Chaplain, the Rev Nigel Sands, is open to question, but a glance at the League tables of last January – or even last March – make it seem almost a miracle that either The Palace or Swindon are taking part in the 1989 Play-Offs at all. Helped from on high or not, both clubs strung together impressive late runs, so that both were actually assured of a place in the top six of our Division even before the last week of the season.

#### HONOURS EVEN

As fans of both clubs are fully aware, the two teams had to meet at The County Ground a month ago in a re-arranged match which had a vital bearing on the possible success of them both. Swindon emerged successful by a single **Steve White** strike in the 37th minute, and thus avenged a defeat in a mudlark here at Selhurst Park in January when a brace from **Mark Bright** in 90 seconds during the second half edged Palace past a **Steve Foley** opener.

#### PLAY-OFF SUCCESS

Swindon Town supporters will need no reminding that their team has already proved extremely adept in Play-Offs, but Palace-based readers may not be aware of the fact that it was actually here at Selhurst Park, in a Play-Off Final, Replay, that Swindon claimed their 2nd Division place on May 29th 1987, because it was very difficult for South London locals to obtain entry to that game.

Having finished third in Division Three in their first season back at that level following record-breaking promotion from Division Four, The Robins overcame Wigan Athletic in the play-off semi-final and found themselves up against Gillingham in the decider. They trailed by a single goal from the first leg and fell further behind at The County Ground, but hit back through Peter Coyne and Charlie Henry to force a replay which was staged here at Selhurst Park. Swindon took the game by storm, and if the 2-0 victory was won by a sweet couple of goals from **Steve White**, it was comprehensively earned and deserved by a compelling team performance.

#### SECRET

And there lies the secret of Swindon's success. Every man plays for all the others as if his and their lives depended upon it, and there is immense pride in wearing the Robins' red shirts. Defeat is just not countenanced – and is a rare experience these days, because The Town have lost just three League games since they were last here in January, and two of those were at promoted Chelsea and Manchester City – and they are not looking to see that magnificent record blemished tonight.

#### HE PLAYED FOR BOTH CLUBS - DON ROGERS

#### By lan King with acknowledgements to David Keats

There are a number of footballers who played for the clubs, but one, especially for Swindon supporters, stands out from the rest. Local lad DON ROGERS had joined Swindon straight from school and made his debut as a 17-year-old in 1962 and went on to make 400 league appearances for the Robins before his transfer for £150,000 to Crystal Palace in November 1972. Don was a two-footed outside-left who thrived on scoring spectacular goals such as those that beat Arsenal in the 1969 League Cup Final and this writer remembers his debut goal at Selhurst Park against Everton. It was a former Swindon manager BERT HEAD who had brought Don to Selhurst Park and at this time was rebuilding the Palace side again with other new players such as Alan Writtle, Paddy Mulligan, Charlie Cooke and later Derek Possee joining Don.

Despite his dramatic entrance to the First Division Don's goals were not enough and Palace were relegated in May 1973. Maicolm Allison was now manager and he tried to turn Don into a midfield player which did not really succeed. In September 1974 he was transferred to Q.P.R. in exhange for lan Evans and Terry Venables but his appearances were hampered by injuries. A return to Swindon came in 1976 and after a few more games in which he scored his 150th league goal for the Robins, Don then took to coaching the youth side. Nowadays he has thriving sports and building businesses in Swindon.

## MANAGER



#### LOU MACARI

LOU MACARI was born in Aberdeen but it was in the green hooped shirts of Glasgow Celtic that he came to the attention of Scottish and then British soccer fans as a tough, tenacious snapper-up of goal chances.

After making 56 Scottish League appearances for the Celts and scoring 27 goals Lou joined Manchester United in mid-January 1973 for 2200,000 at the instigation of Tommy Docherty, who was prepared to pay a record fee for a Scottish player to acquire the little man's talented services.

Whilst at Old Trafford Lou transferred his attentions to the midfield areas of the park, made 329 Football League appearances, finding the net on 78 occasions, and played for The Reds in the 1976, 1977 and 1979 F.A. Cup Finals at Wembley along with our own Steve Coppell. He also became a regular choice for the full Scottish international side where he gained 24 full caps (plus two at Under-23 level), and was in the Scottish 1978 World Cup squad in Argentina.

When Lou left Old Trafford he received a testimonial game in May 1984 against his former club, Celtic and over 40,000 fans turned out in appreciation of his endeavours for United. The receipt, over £80,000 represents a record for a testimonial match in this country.

Mr. Macari was appointed Manager at The County Ground, Swindon, in July 1984 – playermanager in fact, because Lou did make 36 League appearances for Swindon in the course of his first two seasons with the Wiltshire 'Robins'.

In 1985-86 Lou steered Swindon out of Division Four not merely as impressive champions but with a record 102 points and he was obviously the only serious candidate for the Bells Fourth Division Manager of the Season award. Immediately,

Mr. Macari took Swindon to third place in Division Three in 1986-87 and, after a play-off replay here at Selhurst Park, restored them to their rightful place in the Second Division.



## **GHLIGHTING** SWINDON TOWN

#### PALACE - SWINDON PREVIOUS MEETINGS SINCE 1961

		FOOTBALL LEAG	
Season	Div		At The County Ground
1961-62	3	Palace 3 Allen (2 pens.).	
		Byrne	Atkins 2, R Hunt
		Swindon 1 Trollope	Palace 0
962-63	3	Palace 0	Swindon 1 R D Arcy
		Swindon 0	Palace 0
964-65	2	Palace 3 Dowsett 2	Swindon 2 Hunt 2
		Holton	Palace 0
		Swindon 1 Summerbee	
973 74	2	Palace 4 Rogers,	Swindon 0
		Possee, Anderson, P.	Palace 1, P Taylor
		Taylor	
		Swindon 2 Eastoe,	
		Syrett	
1974 75	3	Palace 6 Jump.	Swindon 1 Eastoe
		Swindlehurst 2, Whittle	Palace 1 Swindlehurst
		2 (1 pen ). Chatterton	
		Swindon 2 Eastor 2	
1975 76	3	Palace 3 P Taylor	Swindon 1 Moss
		(pen), Chatterton	Palace 2 Swindlehurst
		Swindon 3 Stroud,	
		Syrett 2	
976 77	3	Palace 5 Bourne 2,	Swindon 1 Syrett
		Holder (pen ), Graham,	Palace 1 Perrin
		Harkouk	
		Swindon 0	
1987-88	2	Palace 2 Bright, Gray	Swindon 2 White,
		(pen.)	Parkin
		Swindon 1 White	Palace 2 Wright, Bright
		FOOTBALL LEAGU	ECUP
1988 89		Palace 2 Henry o g .	Swindon 1 Shearer
		Thomas	Palace 2 Bright, Wright
		Swindon 0	
988-89		Palace 2 Bright 2	Swindon 1 White
		Swindon 1 Foley	Palace 0



#### FRASER DIGBY

Last season was somewhat disappointing for the former Manachester United goalkeeper, who joined the club in December 1986, for a fee of S32,500, after an initial period on loan at the County Ground. A thumb injury sustained at Crystal Palace in late October, restricted Fraser's appearances to 31 League matches. It also cost him his England Under-21 position, although he was included in several of the end of season squads named by England Under-21 manager, Dave Sexton.

#### NICKY HAMMOND

Signed on a free transfer from Arsenal in July 1987, the former Highbury apprentice was forced into first team action last season, due to the injury that Fraser Digby sustained in October 1987. Previously Nick's League experience had been confined to his spell with Bristol Rovers on loan. The former Arsenal 'keeper signed a new two year contract with the club in May 1988.

#### DAVE HOCKADAY

Dave signed a new two-year contract with the club in the summer of 1988. The former Blackpool player, who moved to the County Ground in August 1983 as a winger, enjoyed one of the best seasons of his career, last season. Since his conversion to a full back position, his form has been enhanced. Dave has been a regular member of the Swindon Town team that has risen from the Fourth Division under the guidance of Lou Macari's managership.

#### PHIL KING

Phil was the only player to appear in every League match last season. Phil began his career with Exeter City in May 1985, before joining Torquay United in July 1986, for a League tribunal settled transfer fee of £3,000. Although Phil originally joined Swindon Town on a month's loan in February 1987, his transfer became permanent one month later for a £12,000 fee. Torquay United are entitled to one-third of any transfer fee, if Phil is transferred in the future.

#### TIM PARKIN

During the close season, Tim signed a new two-year contract with the club. The former Blackburn Rovers, Malmo and Bristol Rovers central defender was named 'Player of the Year' in May 1988 by the club's supporters. The vastly experienced defender must rate as one of Lou Macari's best signings, when he secured the signature of the Penrith-born player in July 1986. The subsequent fee of £27,500 was settled by a League tribunal. The same tribunal had sat only minutes earlier deciding the fee that Torquay United had to pay for Phil King, who is now on the club's staff!

#### COLIN CALDERWOOD

Colin, who joined Swindon Town from Mansfield Town in June 1985, for a Football League tribunal fee of £27,500, has been a stalwart at the heart of the Town's defence in the club's last three seasons. Colin had the honour of captaining the club through two successive seasons of promotion in the 1985-86 and 1986-87 campaigns. After making 131 consecutive League appearances since his signing in July 1985, injury interrupted Colin's progress last season. Although the form of the Scottish-born defender has often attracted the attention of several of the country's leading clubs, he remains at the County Ground.

#### JON GITTENS

The former Southampton defender proved himself a firm favourite with the County Ground faithful, with some determined and enthusiastic performances last season. Jon, who moved to the County Ground for a \$45,000 Football League tribunal fee, in July 1987, was playing non-League football for Paget Rangers in the Midland Combination league, before accepting a successful trial period at the Dell. It was a commanding central defensive performance against lan Rush, for the Saints versus Liverpool, that first brough him to the attention of Lou Macari.

#### **ROSS MacLAREN**

Ross joined Swindon Town on a conditional transfer fee, decided by a Football League tribunal at £150,000, in July 1988. Ross entered the Football league from Glasgow Rangers on a free transfer to Shrewsbury Town, After five seasons with the Gay Meadow club, Ross joined Derby County in July 1985, after a Football League tribunal commission had set the fee at £67,500. In three seasons with the Baseball Ground Club, Ross helped the East Midland Club to win promotion from the Third Division, to the First Division, Ross was an ever-present during his first two seasons with Derby County.

#### STEVE FOLEY

Steved joined Swindon Town in July 1987 for a League tribunal fee of £35,000. The former Sheffield United midfield player had joined the Yorkshire club from Grimsby Town in July 1985. Steve began his career with Liverpool, without making a breakthrough into the Anfield club's league team. His actual League debut came while he was on loan to Fulham in December 1983. Suspensions dogged his first season with the club.



BACK ROW: Charlie Henry, Fraser Digby, Nicky Hammond, Tim Parkin. MIDDLE ROW: Dave Hockaday, Phil King, Duncan Shearer, Jon Gittens, Ross MacLaren, Steve White, Leigh Barnard. FRONT ROW: Peter Coyne, Paul Bodin, Colin Calderwood (Captain), Steve Foley, Alan McLoughlin, Mark Jones.



#### LEIGH BARNARD

This hardworking midfield player is one of only three players who were at the County Ground before Lou Macari arrived to take over the managerial role in July 1986. A free transfer signing from Portsmouth in July 1984. Leigh has played a significant role in the club's successful efforts to regain its Second Division status. After languishing in the lower Division for 12 seasons. Leigh signed a new one year contract with the club in July 1988.

#### CHARLIE HENRY

Charlie, who is due a testimonial match this season, after 10 years service with Swindon Town, originally joined the club as an apprentice, and epitomises all the good factors of our national game. A utility player, who can virtually play in any position, he was the club's leading goalscorer in the season that Swindon Town won the Fourth Division championship, with a record number of points – 102 in 1985-86. Charlie signed a new one-year contract with the club in July 1988.

#### ALAN McLOUGHLIN

The former Manchester United apprentice moved south to join Swindon Town on a free transfer in August 1986. Another of the players on the town books who can rightly be described as a utility player. Alan who has spent two loan spells with Torquay United, signed a new two year contract with the County Ground club in May 1988. Alan was a member of Manchester United's Central League team during Lou Macari's playing career at Old Trafford, and played alongside the former Scotland international in the latter days of his career.

#### PAUL BODIN

Paul was signed from Newport County in March 1988 for a fee of £25,000. Amazingly he had only been with the Somerton Park club for four weeks following his signing from Bath City. The former Cardiff City midfield player must have been relieved to have

another opportunity to build a career in League soccer, for Newport County were destined to leave the Football League at the completion of last season.

#### PETER COYNE

The former Manchester United apprentice was Lou Macari's first ever signing for Swindon Town, when he took over as manager in July 1984. The former England Schoolboy international, who was outstanding at this level, never matured to the level expected of him, and despite a short period at Old Trafford, and several seasons with Crewe Alexandra, he twice drifted into non-League soccer between spells with these two Football League clubs. Peter cost Swindon Town £5,000 when they signed him from non-League Hyde United. The former 'wonder boy' of English schoolboy soccer played the best football of his career as Swindon Town swept from Fourth Division to Second in the space of two seasons.

#### DUNCAN SHEARER

Duncan was the subject of a £250,000 transfer deal during June, that was a record for both Huddersfield Town and Swindon Town. He had been a target for Town boss, Lou Macari, when he was with Chelsea before moving north to Huddersfield. The free-scoring striker would appear to be an ideal replacement for Northern Ireland international striker, Jimmy Quinn, who moved to Leicester City in June, on a freedom of contract move.

#### STEVE WHITE

Steve must represent one of the best transfer signings in the history of the club. Since he was signed from Bristol Rovers in July 1986, he has scored 35 goals, in 61 full first team appearances. The former Charlton Athletic and Luton Town striker, had no hesitation in renewing his links with Swindon Town in the summer after his contract had expired. Steve, who was once the subject of a six-figure transfer fee between Bristol Rovers and Luton Town in his first spell with Rovers, signed a new three-year contract in June 1988.





AND... IF THIS IS THE LAST GAME (HOPE NOT) A big thank you to all the volunteer staff and supporters in the Family Enclosure for their help and support in making matchdays so enjoyable. And despite last Saturday, we will continue to make match days an enjoyable day out for mums, dads and children, and all genuine football supporters at Selhurst Park.

'Our impressive new Front Door!"



"7 girls in a tub! - Comic Relief night"



"Our sponsured player - Good luck Mark Harris"



"The most friendly crowd in the land - "Derek Palace's away family support"



and Maisie, Amelia and David"

"Hands up Blue Bear, Leo and Hic-up



Palace are lucky enough to have a great bunch of players, on and off the field. So to Gary, Gavin, Perry, Mark & lan, Richard, Chris, Jeff, Glenn and the rest, good luck for the Play-off's, but whatever Division we're in next season, it doesn't matter, we'll still support you evermore!





## **'The Party at The Palace'**

A family of three from Birmingham, the McHenrys were invited by Paul Welch to watch Saturday's match from the Family Enclosure. It was nice to talk to them about our different clubs. Then the following Tuesday, this dropped through our letterbox:

This is the story of what happened at Selhurst Park on May 13th through the eyes of a five-yearold girl who was present.

"I don't really know what I've done to deserve it, but dad has been taking me to some Birmingham City away games this season. I thought they were called "Birmingham City Nill" 'til dad explained. The first game he took me to was a friendly at Stockport, then the very next week he took me to Watford. It was quite good although the ice cream was so cold it hurt my nose.

Since then I've been to a few games – nothing really stands out until we went to Chelsea. All I remember is that it was very wet and cold. The turnstiles weren't opened until forty five minutes before kick off. Dad said they treated us like cattle. Oh, then dad said something about it being a miracle because somebody called Carl scored.

Anyway, a few weeks ago dad started talking about taking me to a fancy dress party at Crystal Palace. Great !, I decided to wear my ballet dress. Dad made me wear my Blues kit underneath.

All the way down the motorway we saw cars and coaches full of monkeys, tigers, sailors and clowns. I waved to them and most of them waved back. At the services I thought my eyes had broken – everyone had blue faces. When we got to Crystal Palace dad managed to get tickets for the part of the ground called the family enclosure. Now believe me, this IS football. It was great, lots of lego, party games, prizes, pop, cakes and crisps. We even watched a video of a pantomime. A nice man gave me some Palace patches and badges – they even gave away free comics. You wouldn't believe the toilets – they had children size seats. (I went three times).

At about half past two we went through the lounge into the stand. We went down to the front and I saw Simon Sturridge really close up. (I want to marry Simon but dad says he's too old). We could see that in the far corner lots of Blues fans were having a party. My favourite thing was seeing two tigers dancing with a policeman. Dad said this was another miracle.

By now there were two big eagles playing football on the pitch with a bear. The eagles scored some goals then danced around, waving to the crowd. Everyone thought this was really good and they all clapped and waved back. This was great, the best football match I'd been to. It was really exciting.

Lots of people came round giving out balloons before the footballers came out. The ladies said that we had to throw them into the air when Crystal Palace ran out. (Dad said I had to wait 'til Blues ran out.) This was evert better than fizzy orange at Chelsea. It was the best partt I'd ever been to, even better than the book party at the Botanical Gardens when Superman and Postman Pat came.

Just before the teams ran out a man came around spraying peoples hair red and blue. (Dad said I could have the blue but not the red.) A massive roar went up and the teams ran out. There were balloons and flags everywhere. After about ten minutes some Blues fans started climbing over a fence. Dad said he hoped it wasn't Hillsborough again, then something about mindless idiots. Anyway, before I could say "Simon Sturridge" I was whisked off back into the playroom. Some people seemed really upset. Two boys, also from Birmingham were crying because they'd lost their dad. We (my two new Palace friends who I'd been playing with since dinnertime, and me) tried to cheer them up but they didn't want to play Barbies.

Some people mentioned horses on the pitch. I don't know why but I wasn't allowed to see the horses. (I'd like a horse when I'm bigger.) I've been to shows with horses, they're really friendly you know.

I wanted to go back and watch the football, in case Simon scored, but dad said people were fighting on the football pitch and we'd have to go home. Afterwards dad said he didn't think I'd be able to go to Blues again. I asked him what a moron was but he wouldn't tell me – he seemed in a bit of a mood. I'm upset because I was starting to really like football, but I don't understand why they have to fight. Dad said it's only a game.

Later on, dad said I could invite my friends from Crystal Palace to come to a party when Blues get a family room. Mr Kumar says they aren't going to do it anymore. Mum says she's going to write to him to make him change his mind. I hope he does because I like football."

Claire McHenry, aged 5 (nearly 6!) (Dad helped a bit with the text)

We at Palace say Mr Kumar should build a Family Room at Birmingham City. If he has any love for the game, he SHOULD look after supporters like Claire and her Mum and Dad. Oh and Claire, you're welcome to come to Palace anytime you like, but do go to football again.

Palace's Family Enclosure support is as strong as ever. Football needs your family support too.







This year's second division play-offs look like being more evenly contested than in the past, mainly due to the fact that all four teams involved finished the season so strongly. Ourselves and Swindon, in particular, coming from mid-table positions to grab the chance of claiming the third promotion place.

Our clash with Swindon at the County Ground on Sunday was the fifth time we have met this season, so the respective styles of play hold no surprises in either camp. Thanks to some resolute defending by the Palace back-four, Swindon were restricted to a single goal which keeps the outcome of this tie very much in the melting pot.

Left: Mark Bright 'loses his head' in this clash with Fraser Digby in the first leg of this tie on Sunday. Right: David Burke is first in the tackle to prevent further Swindon incursions.

NEIL EVERITT





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## **VOTE FOR YOUR PALACE CLUBCALL PLAYER OF THE SEASON**

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LINES OPEN FROM NOW UNTIL MIDNIGHT ON WEDNESDAY, 31st MAY



#### WHO WILL WIN THE 'CROYDON ADVERTISER' Palace Clubcall Player of the year award which is being sponsored by the Croydon Advertiser. Phone your vote for your nomination through at any time before midnight on Wednesday, 31st May and you will hear a special message from the player of your choice and your vote

A superb trophy is being provided by the Croydon Advertiser and this will be presented to the winner prior to the home leg of any Play-off Final that Palace are involved in.

All the players involved have been featured in Clubcall many times this

season and we would ask that you judge them on both the standard of play on the field and the enjoyment their interviews have given you on Palace Clubcall.

Who would you like to see win the Croydon Advertiser sponsored "Clubcall Player of Year award"?

The sixteen players who have appeared most often this season have each been given a number. To vote for them just ring the number of your choice. Your vote will be registered and you will be thanked by the player who you vote for.





Ring Crystal Palace Clubcall (0898 12 11 45) for the latest exclusive interviews all year round. The result will be announced on Palace Clubcall 0898 12 11 45 from 5.00 p.m. Friday, 2nd June. The winner will receive the Croydon Advertiser Clubcall Player of the Year trophy – see details of presentation to be announced. Calls charged at around 38p/min peak. 25p/min off-peak including VAT © Suprementation to be announced.

## **EXTENDED UNTIL 31st MAY**

## PALACE THROUGH THE AGES

#### EAGLES TAKE OFF - BUT FLY DOWNHILL

Crystal Palace Football League Record: (Palace scores first in every case)

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1-2	1-2
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1-1	2-3
1-4	3-1
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2-0	1-1
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2-0	1-1
0-0	0-4
3-0	0-0
4-2	1-0
1-0	0-1
	3-3 0-1 0-2 0-0 1-2 2-3 1-1 1-4 0-1 2-0 0-0 2-0 0-0 3-0 4-2

Promoted clubs †Club relegated with Crystal Palace



MALCOLM ALLISON

End of Season record: P42 W6 D7 L8 24-24 W5 D5 L11 19-32 Pts 34

Final Position: 20th (relegated)

Players' Appearances: B. Anderson 11; R. Barry 31; R. Bell 3; M. Blyth 29; J. Cannon 13 + 1; N. Chatterton 6 + 1; C. Cooke 13 + 2; P. Hammond 37; M. Hill 12; M. Hinshelwood 5; P. Hinshelwood 4; J. Jackson 5; D. Jeffries 31; J. Johnson 22; S. Jump 22; M. Lindsay 7; A. McBride 1; P. Mulligan 24 + 1; I. Phillip 5; A. Pinkney 2 + 1; D. Possee 36; W. Roffey 5; D. Rogers 41; D. Swindlehurst 5 + 4; R. Tambling 1; A. Taylor 20; P. Taylor 32; P. Wall 11 + 1; K. Walley 6 + 1; A. Whittle 22 + 3.

Goalscorers: Rogers 15; Possee 9; P. Taylor 6; Johnson, Whittle 2 each; Anderson, Barry, Blyth, Cannon P. Hinshelwood, Jeffries, Jump, Walley 1 each. Opponents 1. TOTAL 43 goals.

#### Points of Interest

1973-74 was the season in which three-up - three-down was introduced and the Palace, newly nicknamed 'The Eagles' immediately fell foul of that new arrangement, finishing in 20th place yet still being relegated.

There were massive changes throughout the club, on and off the field, both during the summer of 1973 and continuing throughout the season. 30 players appeared in our League side – more than in any season for 20 years!

Palace went 15 matches at the start of the season without a win -\* our worst ever opening sequence of games.

Palace played their first-ever Sunday League fixture, brought about by the power crisis and the three-day week, on 20th January 1974, at Notts County – and won 3-1!

Palace were left needing to win their last fixture, at Cardiff, to survive. We led, were pulled back, dominated the rest of the game but were unable to score again - so were relegated for the second year running.

## 1973-74 DIVISION TWO

Assessment of 1973-74 For any club successive relegations are bitterly disappointing, for the Palace they had been accompanied by two years of gross overspending which were to create massive financial problems in the years ahead.

#### FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO 1973-743

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesbrough	42	27	11	4	77	30	65
Luton Town	42	19	12	11	64	51	50
Carlise United	42	20	9	13	61	48	49
Orient	42	15	18	9	55	42	48
Blackpool	42	17	13	12	57	40	47
Sunderland	42	19	9	14	58	44	47
Nottingham Forest	42	15	15	12	57	43	45
WBA	42	14	16	12	48	45	44
Hull City	42	13	17	12	46	47	43
Notts County	42	15	13	14	55	60	43
Bolton Wanders	42	15	12	15	44	40	42
Millwall	42	14	14	14	51	51	42
Fulham	42	16	10	16	39	43	42
Aston Villa	42	13	15	14	48	45	41
Portsmouth	42	14	12	16	45	62	40
Bristol City	42	14	10	18	47	54	38
Cardiff	42	10	16	16	49	62	36
Oxford U	42	10	16	16	35	46	36
Sheffield W	42	12	11	19	51	63	35
Crystal Palace	42	11	12	19	43	56	34
Preston NE*	42	9	14	19	40	62	31
Swindon Town	42	7	11	24	36	72	25

\*One point deducted from Preston N.E. for including unregistered player.



19

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#### LIFELINE WINNERS

Week 52 commencing 8th May £30,000 - 2847 Clive Tinkner, Upminster £500 - 10, 1000, 3112, 2, 2044 £100 - 2109, 1839, 302, 612 Consolation Prizes 2304, 3056, 2549, 2917, 2062, 2242, 2845, 364, 2741, 2667

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HEATHDEC Office Services Ltd When Number 2847 was called out in Croydon's Fairfield Hall the week before last there was a hush – followed seconds later by a dash to the stage by young Clive Tinkner of Upminster. The young man had won the £30,000 Lifeline Jackpot – the first time that the big winner had been in the hall.

You too can be a big winner with Lifeline – full details on 01-653 4462 – Join Today – it may be your big year coming up!!

> Photo's from Lifelines big night at The Fairfield Hall



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## EAGLES SPONSORED



## Palace Roll of Honour 1988/89



SUPPORTERS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

WINNER IAN WRIGHT

RUNNER UP PHIL BARBER





LIFELINE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

LIFELINE YOUNG PLAYER OF THE YEAR WINNER RICHARD SHAW





VICE PRESIDENTS CLUB YOUNG PLAYER OF THE YEAR

WINNER DAVID STEVENS



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## Clubcall Player of the Year? Voting now – see page 18



Tonight we have two mascots, the first of whom is Paul Daniel Glavin of Pettswood, Kent. The 13year-old attends Bexley and Erith Technical High School and enjoys football, karate and sailing plus fishing, model trains and racing cars. His favourite Palace men are Perry Suckling, Mark Bright and

lan Wright. Our second mascot is Christopher Balldock of Brockley who is just five years old. He attends Dathlere Infonts School Rathfern Infants School and Ikes football. His top Palace man is big Gary O'Reilly.



#### THE CARING FACE OF FOOTBALL

Strenuous efforts are being made to provide modern facilities for the safety and comfort of all football spectators.

This year, more than £1.25 million will be spent on improvements projects at Football League grounds and areas for people with disabilities form a major part of this programme. 1989 will see further initiatives including new and better toilet facilities and additional enclosures for family support.

The Football Grounds Improvement Trust is responsible for all these measures. Each year it receives £4.5 million from the Spottingthe-Ball competition run by Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters and spends it on schemes to improve standards at British football stadia.

CRYS Season 10% If PAID BY SATU	n Tio DISC	ckets	s <b>19</b> 89	9/90
IMPORTANT NOTICE: Prices for 1989/90 season in Division Two are for 23 home games. All prices will be increased should the Club gain pro- motion to Division One.	Proposed Minimum Match Day Rate	Season Ticket Rate	Discount Rate if paid by 24.6.89	LIFELINE Members Rate if paid by 24.6.89
VICE-PRESIDENTS' CLUB	£25	£625	£562	£534
VIRGIN ATLANTIC SUITE	£20	£500	£450	£427
EXECUTIVE CLUB	£20	£500	£450	£427
MEMBERS STAND: *Adults *Juniors and Senior Citizens	£ 7 £ 4	£147 £ 84	£132 £ 75	£125 £ 71
ARTHUR WAIT STAND	£ 8.50	£178.50	£160	£152
ARTHUR WAIT ENCLOSURE: Non-members' area Members' areas: *Adults *Juniors and Senior Citizens	£ 6 £ 5 £ 3.50	£126 £105 £ 73.50	£113 £ 94 £ 66	N/A £ 89 £ 62
MEMBERS TERRACE: *Adults *Juniors and Senior Citizens	£ 4 £ 2.50	£ 84 £ 52.50	£ 75 £ 47	£ 71 £ 44
HOLMESDALE TERRACE: Adults *Juniors and Senior Citizens	£ 5 £ 3.50	£105 £ 73.50	£ 94 £ 66	£ 89 £ 62
FAMILY SECTION MEMBERS STAND *Two Adult Members + Two Junior Eagles (must be related)	£13	£273	£245	£232
<ul> <li>CAR PARKING</li> <li>1. Numbered and reserved parking in Executive Area</li> <li>2. Public car park - admission not guaranteed after one hour prior to kick-off</li> </ul>	N/A £ 3	£125 £ 50	£112 £ 45	£106 £ 42

\* Must enclose two recent passport size photographs of each applicant.

#### DIVISION ONE

The above prices are a special discount offer available to supporters which will expire at 1pm on Saturday, 24th June, 1989. If we should win promotion to the First Division before the 24th June then this discount offer will be withdrawn and all matchday and season ticket prices will be increased. However, in the event of promotion, the Club will honour all applications if payment is received prior to the offer being withdrawn.



## - **DIRECT**

#### WITH PALACE DIRECTOR GEOFF GERAGHTY

Good Evening Everyone.

What should have been a happy and enjoyable day for everyone at our last home match turned out, for a lot of supporters, to be a very sad day. This was especially the case for our club. At the end of the day the minority spoilt it for the majority yet again. I don't think anyone expected so many Birmingham supporters, not least the Stewards and Police who I commend for doing a magnificent job in controlling the idiots and helping the injured and shocked supporters – thank you all.

Onto a happier note, what a day it was for lan, a hat trick to finish with (have you nicked my Crystal Ball lan???) and then voted the supporters Player of the Year the same evening. Although lan and Mark have always been in the spotlight it was very noble of them to speak up for the rest of their teammates and make a point that it had been a team effort throughout the season. Well done the lads (that also includes John Salako and Chris Powell – if you knew some of the things that they had said to me this season you just wouldn't believe it!!)

It is now time to say my thanks to as many people as I can for what they have done for the club this season, it is impossible to speak to everyone individually but my thanks to all in the lottery, all the agents and those who buy the tickets – what would we do without you. All the programme sellers – I do know they do a great job. All the stewards – and I know quite a lot of you personally. All my friends in the family enclosure – what a wonderful place that is. Lifeline – Its members and all the helpers who work so hard for all it stands for. You lot in the Arthur Wait – I'll be there again tonight, keep prodding the other sections of the ground with your vocals! Publications, Marketing, Admin (even Pinky and Perky in accounts!). Barry Williams – don't ever leave us Barry. Dave Jensen – always here, good on you Dave! Last but not least all our loyal supporters home and away who have been magnificent all season.

If you haven't joined Palace Club yet or Lifeline give it a go "Come on in – it will be good to have you." For those that I have forgotten and not mentioned, sorry but thanks.

A great night was had by everyone last Wednesday evening – our Palace supporters team went down 2-1 to what I thought was a better team performance from the Police than last year. It was a well fought match by both sides – well done to you all.

Give it all you've got tonight everyone - but remember - "Be Good".



#### PROGRAMME SELLER OF THE YEAR

Mark Brandon is seen with other programme sellers, staff and the club shop's Gerry Dale after he received the unique 'club shop programme seller of the year trophy'.

Mark broke his leg during the season but continued to sell programmes even though he was on crutches. Thanks to all the sellers who on occasions this season have had to contend with terrible weather conditions. Our thanks too to the club shop who have sponsored this event for the last four years.

#### PROFITABLE END TO SEASON

Peter King of Chessington just could not believe it when he won the top £5,000 prize in the club's crackerjack lottery. He was presented with his cheque on the pitch by Eagles Director Geoff Geraghty. Looking on are the agent who sold him the ticket Jay Brown and lottery area manager Nobby Clarke.

The lottery department are looking for more agents to cover existing rounds in all areas. If you would like to earn yourself some cash and help the Palace why not become an agent. Phone us on (01) 771 9502 for full details.



PLAY-OFF TRAVEL All details of travel to the away leg of any play off final will be announced on Palace Clubcall from 5.00pm on Thursday 25th May. Phone Clubcall for full details on 0898 12 11 45 Calls charged at around 38p/min peak. 25p/min off-peak including VAT







#### TROPHY FOR DAVID David Stevens is seen being presented with the Vice President's 'Young Player of the Year Trophy' by Crystal Palace President Stanley Stephenson. On the right is Peter Morley.

#### MORE STRENGTH

When you have parents who come from Blackburn and support the Rovers it takes courage to sign forms with another club! Young Paul McLynn has done just that and signed as an associate schoolboy with the club recently.

The fourteen-year-old forward lives in Abbey Wood and plays Sunday football for S.T.M.



27

#### JUNIOR FOOTBALL DAY AT SELHURST PARK

CROYDON ROAD FC of the Shirley Junior League will be holding a series of matches against invited opposition here at Selhurst Park on SUNDAY 28 MAY. The first match kicks off at 9.45am with the Under 9's playing West Wickham followed by the Under 10's, 11's, 14's, 15's and 16's. All spectators will be very welcome. So why not come along and see some possible Palace stars of the future in action?





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PALACE V BIRMINGHAM

You will see below the Press Release that the Club issued following the disturbances at the Birmingham game. I am also listing individually questions that have been raised by our fans, and my answers to them, where I am able to provide an answer.

I should also say that I have had a number of calls from genuine Birmingham fans apologizing to us for the actions of their hooligan element on Saturday. I am also of the opinion that we were targeted deliberately by a group of people who were not Crystal Palace or

Birmingham City supporters and whatever access controls were in existence, i.e. membership cards, admission prices, etc. this group intended to disrupt the game and they would have succeeded.

I am disappointed that the pre-match intelligence on the numbers attending provided by the Birmingham police was so inaccurate and also that the Arthur Wait Stand and Enclosure was used for the overspill area, as this was not a decision made by the Club. Even so, in retrospect, if these two things had not happened I do not think we would have prevented what the hooligans intended to achieve.

I am also disappointed that some Crystal Palace fans also went on the pitch and contributed to the disruption.

and in particular I must point out that the Club do not support anyone, in particular from Members areas, leaving their area of accommodation to go towards the disturbances – it simply appears to the rest of the away fans that they are being threatened and it results in an escalation of what can often be a minor incident and turns it into a catastrophe.

Club Stewards should also steward their designated areas and not leave their posts to attend disturbances elsewhere, and in particular those who operate in our Family Enclosure will receive instructions never to leave their posts. Their duty is to provide security for these families despite what occurs elsewhere. I hope this instruction will give some assurance for those in the Family Enclosure that they may return to some degree of safety.

The events of Saturday spoiled years of our efforts to create a family atmosphere and one of safety for children and families to enjoy. We will now, for a number of years, see Crystal Palace pictures on the television screen, together with those of Millwall at Luton Town's ground, and I hope it only serves to remind all of us that not only do we not want any away hooligans at this ground. but we do not want any of our own, and I call on all genuine Crystal Palace supporters to identify those who use foul language in our ground, or ignore ground regulations. They need to be identified either on camera or by name or seat number, so we can rid ourselves of their menace and continue to build up attendances which will enable us to provide top class soccer for our enjoyment.

Any disruption here will prevent law-abiding citizens attending and will make it impossible for us to produce the team capable of competing at the highest level in this country as we will never increase our attendances and the income levels needed to achieve what all of us hope for.



PRESS RELEASE CRYSTAL PALACE Football Club have completed an investi-VITISTAL PALACE FOOTDall Glub have completed an investi-gation on the events of last Saturday, 13th May, after meetings with their Stewards Turnstile operators and Security and gation on the events of last Saturday. 13th May, aner meetings with their Stewards. Turnstile operators and Security staff. The facts are that 300 - 400 people from Birmingham forced entry inter the oround humassing all access points and entry into the ground, by passing all access points and membership control points. Crystal Palace has operated a membership scheme longer than any other Club in the League, excepting Chelsea, and 50% of the Stadium, two complete sides of its around, are Members of its Stadium, two complete sides of its ground, are Members membership control points. NY ATEAS. THE BIRMINGHAM PEOPLE GAINED ACCESS TO THESE THE BIHMINGHAM PEOPLE GAINED ACCESS TO THESE AREAS AS WELL AS NON-MEMBER AREAS WITHOUT PAYING ADMISSION MONEY OR SHOWING ID CARDS. The police may well have been under-manned, but the Only areas Ine ponce may well have been under-manned, but me information provided gave a totally different forecast of those attending from those who actually arrived. An indication of this is that Birmingham City had only sold 7 stand costs attending from mose who actually arrived. An indication of mis is that Birmingham City had only sold 7 stand seats provided by Is that birmingnam ony had only sold results and the second secon Inose attending were obviously pre-meditated in men-using erate actions to obtain access and create a pitch invasion, no and actions to obtain access and create a pich invasion, no doubt encouraged by statements in the Press that lences at Salburst Dark bod been removed which is not the Selhurst Park had been removed, which is not the case The Government identity card scheme would have had no effect whatsoever on this group of criminals, neither would it enect whatsoever on this group of criminals, neither would it have stopped their activities inside or outside the Stadium nave stopped meir activities inside or outside me stadium Evidence from witnesses has been provided that there were problems down the motorway from Birmingham prior to the name and in the local area and that the transportation being game and in the local area, and that the transportation being game and in the local area, and that the transportation being used was independently hired or provided. The invasion was the only effective deterrent against this sort of action is organised, orchestrated and pre-meditated. The only effective deterrent against this sort of action is positive and meaningful sentences that will be a real deterrent, otherwise a football identity card system will only serve to move them to another spectator sport when they should be removed from specially instead Crystal Palace and our Local Authority and our police will be Crystal Palace and our Local Authority and our police will be taking whatever action is considered necessary to ensure that this incident is never allowed to happen again at Selhurst Park. from society instead. R.G. NOADES Chairman

Questions received from supporters on the Birmingham incidents with replies from the Chairman:

1. Q. The trouble started in the seats in the Arthur Wait Stand why do we put 'away' supporters only a few seats away from 'home' supporters?

 $\mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{A}$ 

Birmingham City 'away' fans were in the Arthur Wait A. Stand in large numbers because Compound 3 was closed due to overcrowding and they were re-directed to this Stand.

Prior to the game, Birmingham FC informed us they had only sold 7 seat tickets.

- Why do we seat 'away' supporters behind the home 2. Q. terrace?
  - A. The previous answer explains this one, but usually the Enclosure adjoining Compound 3 is a 'sterile' area and therefore 'away' fans sitting in R and S Blocks are supposed to be behind the sterile area, and not behind 'home' fans.
- Why weren't more police on duty because they were 3. Q. informed that a large contingent were coming down from Birmingham?
  - The information from the Birmingham police was totally A. at odds with the number that attended Selhurst Park. There were 160 police on duty, which is almost the number used for the highest classified game during the season. Birmingham's previous home gate was only 4,700 in total and the information we had up to the Friday before the game was 2,000 - 3,000 were expected, instead of the 5,000 - 6,000 that came.
- 4. Q. Can the members and non-members be switched around in the Arthur Wait Stand?
  - The answer to this is YES, but other arrangements may now A. need to be made following the Birmingham disturbance.
- Why weren't the Birmingham fans given a larger terrace? 5. Q. The answer to this is as per Item 3, but first let me dispel the view that there were too many people in Compound 3. 3,166 people were in that Compound according to the turnstiles. The terrace has a temporary restriction of 3,500 and has a real capacity for just over 5,000. The restriction was due to work to be done which was completed some months before.
- 6. Q. Why did the horses take so long to appear?
  - Simply because 500 600 Birmingham fans went to the Crystal Palace Sports Centre for the game, which shows what keen football followers they are, and they then arrived late at Selhurst Park and the police horses were in Park Road dealing with fans outside the ground, some who arrived as late as 3.50pm. They then had to leave Park Road and go round to the arena gate opposite the main car park for access to the pitch.
- 7. Q. Where the visiting supporters are based, a high fence should be installed with two gates, so the whole fence opens up in case of emergency.
  - This is a view of only a minority of people since Hillsborough, and as the fence here is 3'9" high with an A. access opening there were obviously no fatalities. If we proposed a high fence we would not receive any support since the Sheffield tragedy.
- 8. Q. Do the Club contact the visiting Club to find out how many are attending?
  - The answer to this is YES, and answers to previous A. questions clarify it.
- Can the Arthur Wait Stand be an all-ticket stand for 9. Q. season ticket holders, and admittance by non-season ticket holders by obtaining tickets prior to the game, showing identity?
- A. This is covered in my reply to question No. 4.
- 10. Q. The first sign of trouble was caused by visiting fans mingling with home fans.
  - The first sign of trouble, in my view, was in the Arthur Wait A. Stand area and prior to us scoring, not subsequent to it, and it was crowded because of fans in that section which was used as an overspill. In retrospect the overspill should have been to Compound 2 and our fans in Compound 2 moved into Compound 1, but really I do not think the police had enough time to carry out this manoeuvre.
- 11. Q. Is there any special accommodation for handicapped people?
  - A. We have space for 13 wheelchairs in the Sainsbury's end of the Arthur Walt Stand. No handicapped spectators should have been anywhere near the incident.

- 12. Q. How can we be sure that this will not happen again? Crystal Palace, the Local Authority, the Police and the emergency services have to take whatever action is A. necessary to guarantee that this cannot happen ever
- 13. Can you ensure the safety of the fans in future?
- again at this ground. The previous answer refers.
- 14. Q. How can I ensure my children will be safe at Selhurst Park in future?
  - Once again I refer you to the answer to Question 12. We A. have a very successful and well stewarded Family Enclosure, which I would recommend all families to join, but I intend to increase the MEMBERS ONLY areas at Selhurst Park in time for next season.
- Can Palace troublemakers be banished to another part of 15. Q. the ground?
  - Crystal Palace troublemakers, in my opinion, at present A. frequent 'U' Block in the Arthur Wait Stand, and on Saturday were in the Members Stand adjoining the Family Enclosure. They will have to be dealt with in the interest of all of us.
- 16. Q. Why wasn't Crystal Palace alerted by Birmingham FC of the large number of supporters travelling?
  - A. The only reliable information is from the 'away' local police to the 'home' local police and in this case the information provided was incorrect.
- 17. Q. Why didn't the police at the ground appreciate the potentially dangerous situation some fifty minutes before kick off?
  - The majority of the troublemakers arrived after kick off A. having spent some hours in local pubs, and I myself was on all the terraces 45 minutes before kick off talking to police and supporters. I think the police did realise there was a potential problem but their resources were split in a number of areas. First there were people outside the ground after kick off, whereas normally they can police inside once the game commences. They then had the increased numbers, and other areas of accommodation had to be used which further split their resources. In actual fact, an additional 150 police were brought in from the London area.
- 18. Q. The police force on duty were totally inadequate many sitting in the Members Stand.
  - A. Previous answers reply to this question and I have no doubt they were sitting in the area they were deployed to before trouble broke out.
- Why did the Stewards let in the Birmingham fans to 19. Q. mingle with the home fans who were easily recognisable with their blue hats and scarves?
  - A. The Stewards did not let them in, they broke into the ground in all areas.
- Why were the gates shut? When we wished to leave early 20. Q. we were stopped by a policewoman?
  - I think the gates were closed because of the problems A. outside the ground and it was because of the police concern for our supporters' safety that they did not wish anyone to leave Selhurst Park at that time until at least the outside roads were clear and safe.
- 21. Q. A. Why wasn't the game abandoned?
  - I would have thought the answer to this was obvious. The police regained control and the match was completed, but I am sure it was very close to being abandoned at one time.
- 22. Q. Where was the usual police inspector with the radio contact who normally stands in front of the non-members section of the Arthur Wait Stand?
  - I have not got an answer to that question perhaps A. someone else has.
- 23. Q. Why were Birmingham fans allowed into the ground whilst drunk and quite incapable of standing?
  - A. Quite simply because the ones to whom you are referring broke into the ground and the majority I have no doubt then climbed the arena gates at the back of Compound 3 and opened them from the inside, allowing 200-300 in, injuring a Steward who ended up in Mayday Hospital. It was this group that put pressure on Compound 3 fence, injuring people and whilst the security people were helping them, they gained access to the pitch to provoke and intimidate Crystal Palace fans in Crystal Palace areas.



Calls to Clubcall are charged at around 38p per min. 8am-6pm and 25p per min. after 6pm and at weekends inc. VAT. SUPERCALL