

PV Eye



OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF PORT VALE FC

CLUB SPONSORS



MATCH SPONSORS

**A. Wood
& Co.**

**VALIANTS
V
SWINDON
TOWN**

**TUESDAY
17th FEBRUARY
1998
KICK-OFF
7.45pm**



£1.50



NATIONWIDE BUILDING SOCIETY

Top Strip

For Youth Football Teams

Branded shirts Nos 1-14

Choice of 4 colours

Kitting out your team can be a major expense that's guaranteed to stretch your budget. Not any more. We can offer you team strips for ages 6-16 at cost price! It's just one of the ways Nationwide supports youth football in the community.

Exclusive, live commentary of
Nationwide Football League
matches every Saturday from 2pm.

talk
radio
1053/1089 am

Freephone 0500 30 20 10
for a leaflet and order form



PORT VALE FOOTBALL CLUB

Vale Park, Hamill Road, Burslem,
Stoke-on-Trent. ST6 1AWS
Founded 1876

Main Switchboard -
(01782) 814134
Fax - (01782) 834981
Marketing -
(01782) 835524
Fax - (01782) 836875
Ticket Office -
(01782) 814134
Fax - (01782) 834981
Club & Sports Shop -
(01782) 833545
Fax - (01782) 836875
Community Office -
(01782) 575594

Officials

President - J. Burgess
Chairman -
W.T. Bell LAE, Tech Eng. MIM
Directors -
A. Belfield, I. McPherson, S. Plant
N. Hughes (Marketing)
Secretary - F.W. Lodey
Manager - J.R. Rudge
Assistant Manager - W. Dearden
Youth Development Officer -
M. Grew
Physiotherapist - R. Carter
Medical Officer - Dr D. Phillips
Safety Officer - W.A. Stevenson
Community Officer - J. Cooper
Groundsman -
S. Speed, R. Fairbanks

Programme designed & printed
by Lion Press (1931) Ltd,

Honours

Founder members Div 2
(1892)
Highest Position:
fifth, Div 2 1930/31
Div 3(N) Champions
1929-30, 1953-54
Div 4 Champions
1958-59
Promoted to Div 1
1993-94 (runners up)
Promoted to Div 2
1988-89 (via play offs)
Promoted to Div 3
1969-70, 1982-83, 1985-86
FA Cup semi Finalists
1953-54
Autoglass Trophy winners
1992-93
Anglo-Italian Cup Runners Up
1995-96

Official Homepage:
<http://www.port-vale.co.uk>
E-mail: pvfc@port-vale.co.uk

**To only get a point against
Norwich on Saturday was
obviously a disappointment.
However, when we were trailing 2-1
with 20 minutes left to play, we
would have settled for a point.**

The game was quite open with both sides having opportunities to score. I felt when Lee Mills put us in front from Jan Jansson's corner we were again in the driving seat.

A disastrous defensive mix-up put Norwich on level terms which gave them a lift, resulting in them going ahead from a free kick.

Lee Mills' goal from a set piece was as good a strike as you will ever witness at any level and saved what could be a most valuable point.

We seem unable to keep a clean sheet these days which is causing great concern.

Any teams in our position in the League needs to claw their way up the League and at times may have to win games 1-0. Defending is a job for all the team and we must defend better individually and collectively to overcome our problems.

The injury to Neil Aspin with a dislocated shoulder is a big set-back in our fight against relegation. it is uncertain how long Neil; will be out of action until he has seen the specialist.

Fortunately it is not the shoulder which Neil has previously had surgery on. We can only hope he will be back to keep us out of our predicament before the end of the season.

I am grateful for the fans' sterling support against Norwich, although our results have been alarming over the past dozen games.

Your patience for the team has been tremendous: we are confident we can turn our results around and we will do it together with the encouragement you showed us in the Norwich game.

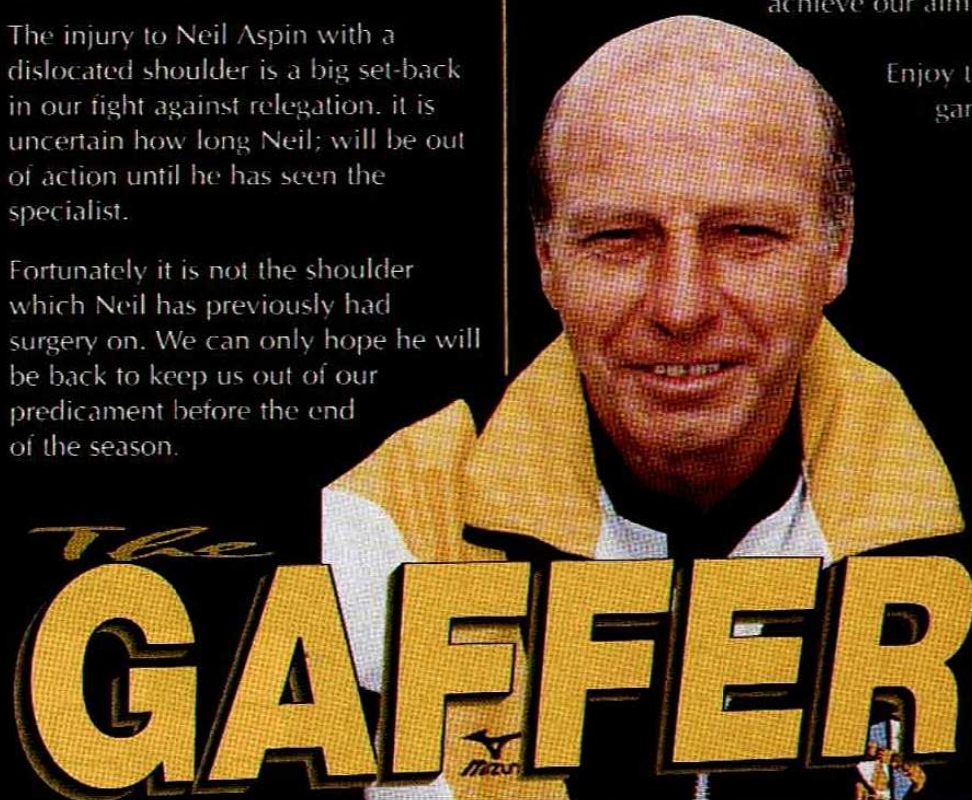
**Defending is a job for all
the team and we must
defend better individually
and collectively to
overcome our problems.**

Keep supporting the players as you have done and their confidence will keep intact.

Tonight's game against Swindon is obviously very important. Swindon had a fantastic start to the season but find themselves in a mid-table position.

Three points would be the tonic we need from tonight's game to spur us on to put the run together, we need to achieve our aim.

Enjoy the
game



**John Rudge's kit is sponsored by VAEmail, users of the official
internet Port Vale mailing list:- <http://www.port-vale.co.uk>**

Parklife

We welcome contributions from supporters for inclusion in our matchday magazine. If you wish to submit an article, send it to: Matchday Programme, Port Vale Club Shop, Hamil Road, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 1AW

Line Dancing For Lorne Street

Take your partners by the hand for a line dancing extravaganza in aid of the Lorne Street Development Fund. The Valiant Supporters Fund have organised the line dancing night on Wednesday 18th February in the Port Vale Pub. There is a prize draw and prizes for the best dressed cowgirl and cowboy. Entry is £1 per person and the evening starts at 8pm. All money raised during the event will help raise funds towards the new Lorne Street stand.

Message from the Secretary.

It was a great shot in the arm when the Planning Department of Stoke-on-Trent City Council gave approval for the plans we had submitted for the Lorne Street Stand Development. If the club is to continue to move forward and compete at this level we must have the facilities available at Vale Park to develop the commercial potential. Long gone are the days when clubs could run on the income generated on matchdays. The building of the Lorne Street Stand is obviously going to be the biggest single project ever undertaken by the club. Not only do the amounts of money involved make you think of large lottery wins, but the sheer logistics of carrying out the work whilst still operating a football club. Having been heavily involved in the developments that have been carried out at the ground I know that with the right team around you there are no problems that are insurmountable. Drilling has begun to take place on the Lorne Street Car Park and the running track to establish the underground conditions that are going to be encountered. This information will enable our engineers to finalise the specifications for the foundations. Like all things you start at the bottom and work up and with the stand being partly built over made up ground the testing we do before starting is of vital importance. It is all too easy to spend vast sums of money on a building to find a few years later that you have major problems due to short cuts being taken at the outset. Let us just hope that the final pieces can be put into the financial jigsaw as soon as possible and that you the supporters will be able to see the new stand through to completion. It does not seem to long ago that David Attwood who was the Ground Director was having red-ash delivered to the ground to try and improve the general appearance of the walkways and car parks. We've come a long way since then. Let's just see if we can go all the way. I am sure we can

Bill Lodey

School Of Excellence

Four of our current Under 11's team will be representing Stoke-on-Trent Schools in The Predator Premier Seven-a-side Final. This will take place at Wembley Stadium prior to the England versus Brazil Schoolboy International on Saturday March 14. Congratulations to Matthew Smith, Jordan Johnson, Liam Rigby and Robert Pope. We wish them the best of luck.

Programme Fair

The annual Spring Bolton Programme and Memorabilia Fair will take place on Sunday March 15th. The event is at the Excel Leisure Centre, Lower Bridgeman Street, Bolton and will run from 11 am to 3pm. Thousands of items will be available from 14 dealers.

Thank You Port Vale,

Dear Mr Hughes,

Just to say a big thank you for the kind donation and support from Port Vale. The amount raised on the night was £1,725, all this will go towards the patients care within the Douglas Macmillan Hospice. The night itself was very eventful. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. I hope you will continue to support me in my forthcoming events as it is for such a good cause. Once again a big thank you.

Yours sincerely,
Linda Lehane and family.

STAMP IT OUT!
RACISM WILL NOT BE
TOLERATED AT VALE PARK



PURE TASTE

Traditional Tray Toffee Manufacturers
Walkers' Nonsuch Ltd, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent

4

Official Coach Travel - (01782) 835524 -
Now with FREE away travel club membership

Plans for Lorne Street and Bycars Park

Plans submitted to the council for the Lorne Street and Bycars Park Developments have been approved.

This means that we now have the go ahead to build the new stand which will incorporate seating for 5,000 supporters, 24 hospitality boxes, a disabled stand, press and media facilities, restaurant areas, floodlighting across the stand and a Vice President's Suite.



Copies of the plans can be viewed in the Marketing Department at the back of the club shop (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm).

We are still waiting to hear from the Football Trust about the amount of funding we will receive towards the development.

Around £3 million is needed to complete the project and we need help from our supporters to achieve this goal. If you have any fundraising ideas or would like to make a donation, please call the Marketing Department on **01782 835524**.

Valiant Saver Account

The above account featured on page eight of this programme has already attracted in the region of 200 new members since it opened on December 28th. For anyone interested in joining, the Britannia Building Society have now increased the gross interest rate to a very attractive five per cent. The account also qualifies for their annual loyalty bonus scheme.

Anyone wishing to open an account can do so at any local branch or by telephoning **0800 132304**.

Happy Birthday

Happy 70th Birthday to the Man with the Beard,

Mr Roy Walkerdine.

Love from all the family.

Programmes For Sale

Approximately 400 home and away Port Vale programmes for sale.

If any collectors or supporters are interested in buying any of these and would like a full list of those on offer, please send an SAE to Alf Hambly, 14 Stuart Rd, Higher Trawnere, Birkenhead, Wirral, Merseyside.

CLUBCALL COMMENTS

John Rudge talking after the 2-2 draw against Norwich last Saturday

"We had enough chances to win the game but we can't keep a clean sheet of late. We defended very poorly for the first goal. For the second goal there was the free-kick on the by-line which Neil has given away although it was a somewhat innocuous challenge that also looked to be over the by-line.

"They got a decent ball into the box and it was 2-1 and at that point it looked as though we wouldn't get anything out of the game, but Mills' great free kick rescued a point for us.

"For their first goal I don't know whose ball it was, but you have to be positive in that sort of situation. It may have been Mussie's ball or the defender's but it's down to lack of communication and all they have to do is deal with it: a simple straightforward clearance first and foremost.

"The players at the back have to sort that out: you can't legislate for anything like that, no matter what you're playing. You have to be in a situation where whoever's ball it is sorts it out and clears it then there are no problems.

"In some respects we've salvaged a point but it was a game in which we should have had all three points. We just needed to turn the screw and get the all-important second goal at the right time.

"At this moment in time we're kicking ourselves in the teeth. It's hard enough and anxious enough at times in our position in the table, but when you gift goals away like that, they must think Christmas has come early.

"It's these kinds of games that we have to be winning. We can't afford to keep on conceding goals a game. We've created a lot of chances - especially from Gareth - down the right hand side and there was a lot of goalmouth incident.

"We can't keep defending like we are at the moment. We've scored ten goals in the last five matches and they should be enough to get you wins and have to try and scrap away to earn a point which is ridiculous because we've played reasonably well.

"Our back line doesn't look solid, we're not looking as though we can go through a game like we did against Arsenal when you thought that we were in a situation where we'd concede a goal.

"It looks as though Neil may have dislocated shoulder. He's already had an operation on the other shoulder twice so if that is diagnosed I doubt if Neil will play again this season, so that would be a big body blow for us. He's gone to hospital now and have to wait and see what the verdict is."

PORT VALE FC CLUBCALL

0891 12 16 36

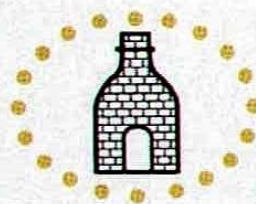
News, updates and match commentaries. Calls cost 50p per minute.



The Smith Family from Sheffield sponsor Gareth Griffiths' kit

TAX FREE SAVINGS

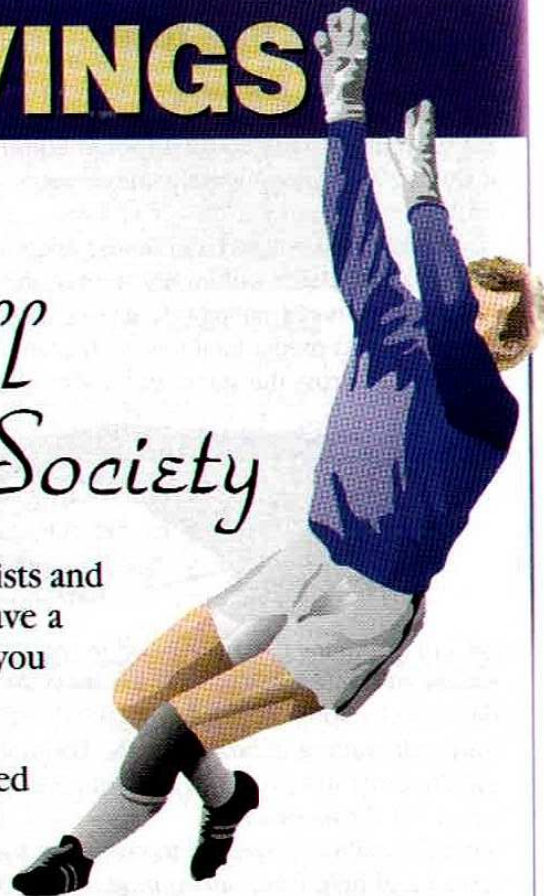
from



*Tunstall
Assurance Society*

We all live in an uncertain world, one that is full of twists and turns. But whatever the future may bring, you will have a brighter future and peace of mind, knowing that you have made good financial plans.

With profit saving, plans do not have to be complicated or difficult to understand and the POTTERS PRIDE from Tunstall Assurance Society proves it.



**Long Term Growth
with Security**



TUNSTALL ASSURANCE FRIENDLY SOCIETY LTD

(Established 1839)

Registered Office:

Station Chambers, The Boulevard, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 6DU

Tel: (01782) 837870 Fax: (01782) 811860

Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for Life Assurance only

Please send me more information

Name

Address

.....

.....

..... Post Code

Tel. No. Date of Birth

Send coupon to: Tunstall Assurance Society, Freepost (ST 1585), Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 6BR

The late JACKIE MUDIE, who sadly died almost six years ago in Hartshill, played a creditable 17 times for Scotland between 1956 and 1958.

An impish inside-forward, he was born in Dundee in April 1930, and his early career was spent playing for Dunkeld Amateurs, Dundee Stobswell and then Dundee in the Scottish League.

In May 1947 he was finally taken on as a full-time professional by Blackpool where he eventually teamed up with the likes of England internationals Eddie Shimwell, Tom Garrett, Harry Johnston, Stan Matthews, Ernie Taylor, Stan Mortensen and Bill Perry.

Six years later Mudie starred in the 1953 F.A. Cup Final at Wembley when Blackpool came back from 3-1 down to defeat Bolton Wanderers 4-3 and so win the trophy for the first time, having lost in two previous Finals (1948 and 1951).

Mudie went on to appear in almost 350 senior games for the Seaside (320 in the First Division). He scored over 150 goals and laid on many more for his colleagues.

From Bloomfield Road he was transferred to our neighbours Stoke City in March 1961, being re-united with Matthews - and it was this duo who helped the Potters win the Second Division title in 1963 and so regain their place in the top flight.

After Stoke, Mudie moved to Vale Park, joining the Valiants in November 1963.

international Valiants



Jack Mudie - circled

He was quickly embedded in the first XI, but owing to a problematic knee, he didn't relish playing on hard surfaces.

He lost his place at the start of the 1964-65 campaign and afterwards only took the field occasionally.

In February 1965, after netting 11 goals in 64 League and Cup games for the Valiants, he took over as caretaker-manager at Vale Park and the following month became player-manager.

He held on to the position of boss until May 1967 when he resigned through personal reasons.

Almost immediately Mudie took over as player-manager of Oswestry Town; he then served as assistant-coach at Crewe Alexandra; was trainer-coach of Eastwood; manager of Northwich Victoria.

He then scouted in South Africa for Johannesburg Rangers, pulling out of football circa 1989.

JACKIE MUDIE



Port Vale Football Club will be looking just as good
this season thanks to their exclusive Mizuno strip



Britannia

The Sharing Society

Be part of your team

open a Valiant Saver Account

The Valiant Saver Account is a new kind of savings account specifically for Port Vale Supporters. While you enjoy an attractive rate of interest, Port Vale will receive an annual club bonus of 1.00% gross* on the total balance in all Valiant Saver Accounts.

Open an account today with just £100!

For more information pick up a leaflet at either the Vale Park Club Shop or your local Britannia Branch or phone:

0800 132304

Lines open Mon-Fri 9am - 7pm, Sat 9am - 12 noon.

*Gross without UK income tax deducted.

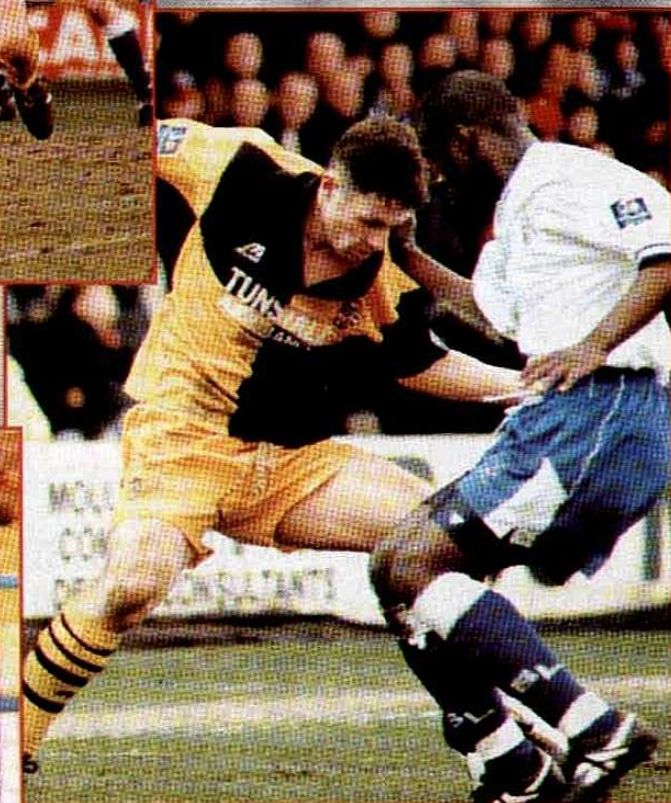
Britannia Building Society Britannia House Leek Staffordshire ST13 5RG



VALIANT
SAVER
ACCOUNT

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

ACTION *replay*



*A crucial point taken at Gigg Lane.
Bury 2, Port Vale 2*



This page sponsored by

G.W. Dale
The Diesel Specialists

As the Lucas approved Diagnostic Centre in your area, GW Dale are equipped with all the tools, expertise and technology to solve any diesel problems.

Contact us today at
Stoke-on-Trent

01782 837665
657959 (after hours)

139 Newcastle St,
Burslem ST6 3QJ

Pictures courtesy of
The Sentinel

THE TALBOT FREEHOUSE



*John & Mary welcome you
to The Talbot.*

Excellent food and drink available



THE TALBOT FREEHOUSE

3 Moorland View, Bradeley, Burlsem, Stoke-on-Trent



QUALITY
NEW
AND
USED CARS

W.T. Bell (Burslem) Ltd.

AA

ANY NEW CARS SUPPLIED
CONTRACT HIRE OUR SPECIALITY
ALL MAKES SERVICED (ROVER SPECIALISTS)
COMPREHENSIVE PARTS DEPARTMENT
OFFICIAL POLICE RECOVERY AGENTS

Sandbach Road Bodyworks

Accident Repair Specialists • All Makes of Cars • Jig repairs • Coach Painting • Sign Writing

APPROVED ULTRA MODERN FACILITY



CARS • VANS • MINIBUS SERVICE

24 HOUR RELAY - RECOVERY SERVICE

AA - MONDIAL - EUROPE ASSISTANCE

SANDBACH ROAD : COBRIDGE : STOKE ON TRENT : ST6 2DU

Telephone: (01782) 835099, 835257, 838084 Fax No: (01782) 577258

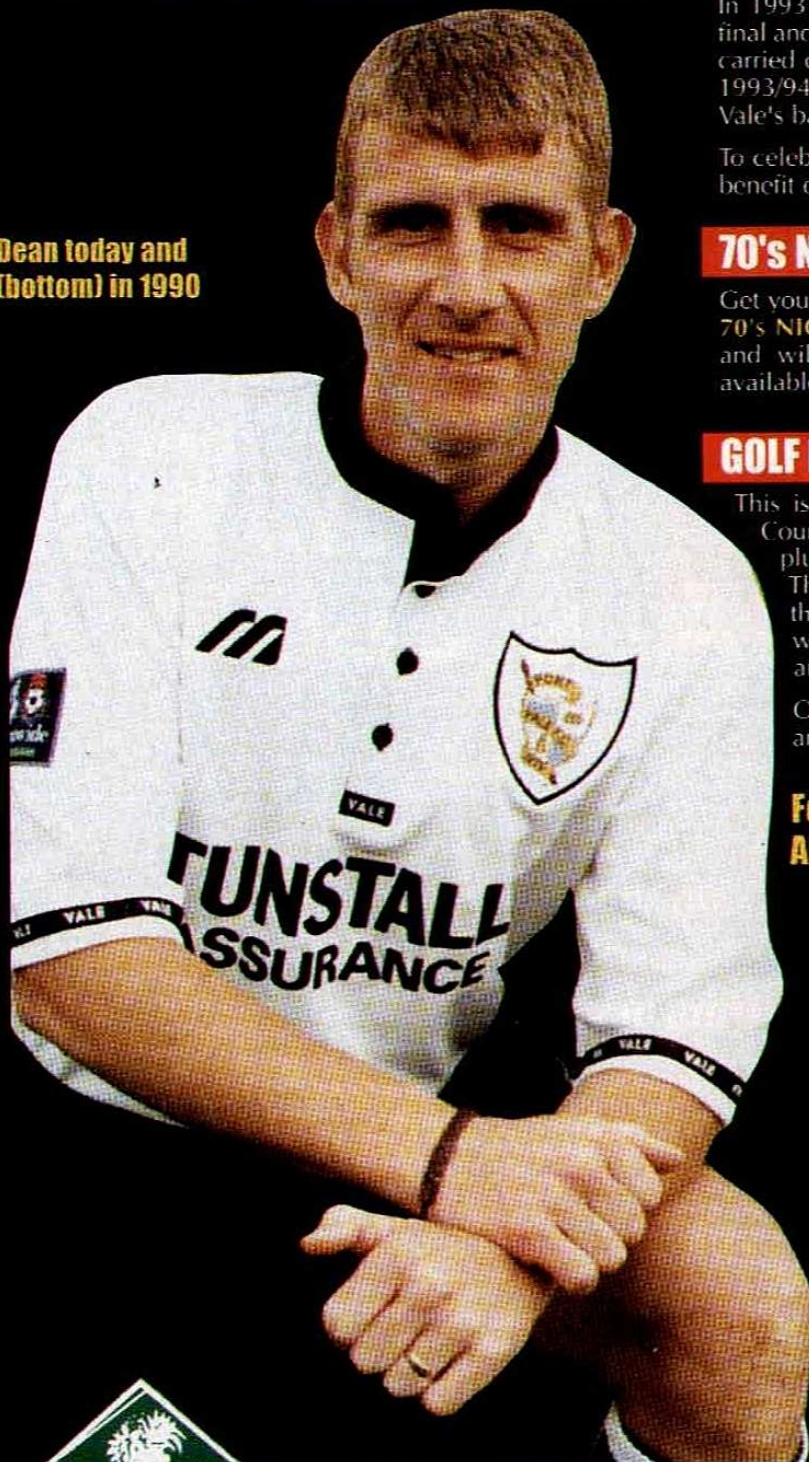
10

**Official Coach Travel - (01782) 835524
Now with FREE away travel club membership!**

Dean Glover

BENEFIT YEAR

Dean today and
(bottom) in 1990



Defender Dean Glover has been at Port Vale for nine years and a string of events have been organised to mark his benefit year.

Dean began his playing career with Aston Villa and made more than two dozen first team appearances before moving to Middlesbrough in June 1987 where he helped them gain promotion to the top flight via the play-offs in 1988.

He joined Port Vale in 1989 for a fee of £200,000, which at the time was a club record.

His debut came on 4/2/89 against Wolves in a 0-0 draw and since then has made more than 400 appearances. In a similar vein to that of 'Boro in his first season at the club he helped Vale gain promotion via the play-offs.

In 1993 he led Vale out at Wembley in the Autoglass final and proudly collected the club's first ever Cup. He carried on as captain and led the side to promotion in 1993/94. Since then he has been an integral part of Vale's back line.

To celebrate his long service for the club the first of his benefit events start this month.

70's NIGHT

Get your flares out on **Wednesday February 25th** for a **70's NIGHT** at Valentino's. The evening starts at 8pm and will run until 1am. Tickets cost £5 and are available from the Club Shop.

GOLF DAY

This is followed by a **GOLF DAY** at Newcastle Golf Course on **April 27**. Eighteen teams of three people plus a celebrity will compete in a round of golf. There are opportunities for companies to sponsor the holes and tees and the day will be rounded off with a three-course meal, a guest speaker a raffle and an auction.

On **May 7th** there will be a **GENTLEMAN'S EVENING** and a **BENEFIT MATCH**, yet to be arranged.

**For further details contact
Alan Clark on 01782 202591**



GARNERS GARDEN CENTRE · Cemetery Road, Silverdale. Tel: 01782 636428
Everything for the garden. Specialists in seeds for lawns and sports fields.

M.E.M

Insurance Brokers Ltd

incorporating



PiB Potteries Insurance Brokers

are proud to be associated with

PORT VALE FOOTBALL CLUB

*specialists in Commercial,
Household and Motor Insurance*

Branches at

Tunstall
819030

Burslem
837856

Hanley
206767

Longton
315181

A member of the Institute of Insurance Brokers

Port Vale puzzler

20 Questions for the Avid Vale Fan

1. When did John Rudge join Port Vale?
2. From which club did Swedish international Jan Jansson join Vale?
3. Which Vale striker became Swindon Town's manager?
4. Who scored twice on his debut v. Swindon in May 1991?
5. Who was Player-of-the-Year in 1970-71?
6. To which club was Arjan Van Heusden loaned this season?
7. Who is the Vale's kit man?
8. From which club did the Valiants loan Colin Gibson in 1990?
9. When the Vale beat Swindon 6-1 in April, 1960, who scored four goals?
10. Andy Porter's first medal with Port Vale was gained when they beat Crewe Alexandra 5-0, in which final?
11. Who left his home club Hednesford to start his League career at Vale Park?
12. Where was ex-Valiant goalkeeper Trevor Wood born?
13. Which free-scoring forward played for the Vale and Swindon in the late 1940's?
14. Which Vale right-back scored four goals in seven appearances as an emergency forward in 1959-60?
15. What feat did Cyril Done accomplish in the 4-3 victory against his former club, Liverpool, in 1955?
16. Whose header against Macclesfield Town in the F.A.Cup in 1988, shot him to fame?
17. Which team did the Vale play in their first league match this season?
18. Who is on the wing in this photograph?
19. From which club did he sign for the Valiants?
20. What are his initials?



compiled by DP

Ian McPherson writes

Last Saturday's home game against Norwich certainly brought back memories of last season's 6-1 success. Games in which you net five or more are always special and forever remain at the fore of your Vale memories.

Many times in the depths of despair, I have cheered myself up on cold, dark, damp, winter nights by recalling such performances. So I will confirm the suspicions of Vale fan Jean Jackson, who quite rightly maintains that when I run out of steam on what to write I revert to the old Plan 'B' of my ten favourite games...

1. FULHAM

Away, won 6-0 (28/3/87)
The ultimate away win for Vale followers, which has entered the folk lore of every supporter. Were you there? The only consolation for Fulham was the outrageous amount of match videos they sold to eager Vale customers, thus alerting Mr Al Fayed to the vast potential, retail wise of the Cottagers.

2. NEWPORT COUNTY

Home, won 6-1 (4/5/87)
Memorable for the performance of Jones the goals who netted on no fewer than five occasions during this final home game of the 1986-87 season. He followed up by netting four on the first home game of the following season.

3. CARDIFF CITY

Home, won 6-1 (17/9/88)
Some of the finest goals seen at Vale Park were in this goal feast. Earle, Walker and Fitcher all contributed never-to-be-forgotten strikes.

4. DONCASTER ROVERS

Home, won 5-0 (2/4/88)
A poignant game for me as this was the first home game following the death of my Father. The crowd observed a two minute silence and the team responded by winning 5-0. Thank you everyone.

5. IPSWICH TOWN

Home, won 5-0 (1/1/90)
Happy New Year!
A landmark victory. Our first 5-0 win when promoted to the old Second Division and the win that finally told everyone we had arrived - in a big way!

6. CREWE ALEXANDRA

Away, won 5-1 (25/8/78)
Bernie Wright ran riot with a magnificent hat-trick at Gresty Road against our South Cheshire neighbours. A ray of light following our relegation of the following season.

7. PRESTON NORTH END

Away, won 5-1 (12/12/92)
Scoring five goals away from home is always a pleasurable event and this victory on Deepdale's plastic surface, on which we always performed so well, was one of the best.

8. ROCHDALE

Home, won 5-0 (28/3/67)
Apart from a 5-2 home win against Chester, my first real memory of a five goal extravaganza, all the more memorable for Harry 'Zico' Poole's sensational strike from a free kick.

9. NORTHAMPTON TOWN

Home, won 5-3 (2/2/82)
4-0 up, pegged back to 4-3, relief at 5-3, what a rollercoaster game of emotion, tension and anxiety.

10. BARNETT

Home, won 6-0 (21/8/93)
All the more amazing as we played 85 minutes with only ten men following Peter Billing's dismissal. Double hat-tricks for Bernie Slaven and Martin Foyle.
Memo to Jean Jackson: When I next run short of ideas, prepare for my ten worst five goal defeats!

ANSWERS

1. January, 1980. 2. SK Norkkoping. 3. Ken Beamish. 4. Brian Mills. 5. Tommy McLaren. 6. Oxford United. 7. Stan Nichols. 8. Manchester United. 9. Harry Osroff. 10. Sentinel Shield. 11. Brian Horton. 12. Jersey. 13. Morris Jones. 14. Fred Donaldson. 15. He scored all 4 goals. 16. Kevin Finney. 17. Nottingham Forest. 18. John Jeffers. 19. Liverpool. 20. J.J.



SERIOUS PERFORMANCE

Port Vale FC

Port Vale Football Club will be looking just as good this season. Thanks to their exclusive Mizuno strip.

- Watch the footie with us on Sundays and get Carling and Worthy at just £1.50 a pint
- Monday night is **FREE** pool for one hour
- Tuesday night is our pool competition £30 prize to the winner
- Don't forget we are open til 2am every Thursday, Friday and Saturday
- Watch out for our massive Laban Ice and Stella promotion beginning in November!

The Locker Room

Cannon Street, Hanley ST1 4EB. Tel: 01782 289760

14

Official Coach Travel - (01782) 835524
Now with FREE away travel club membership!

WORLD CUP COUNTDOWN



CAMEROON

Colours: green & red shirts, green shorts

How they qualified....

AFRICAN GROUP 4

- v. Togo (a) 4-2
- v. Angola (h) 0-0
- v. Zimbabwe (h) 1-0
- v. Togo (h) 2-0
- v. Angola (a) 1-1
- v. Zimbabwe (a) 2-1



P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
6	4	2	0	10	4	14

Coached by the former African Footballer of the Year Jean Manga Onguene, Cameroon have some useful footballers including goalkeeper Jacques Songo'o (34) who was voted in fifth place in the 1997 African 'Player of the Year' poll and striker Patrick Mboma (27) who finished up as top-scorer in the African qualifiers..

Cameroon became the first black African nation to reach the World Cup quarter finals in 1990.

Cameroon play in Group B with Austria, Chile and Italy.

CHILE

Colours: red shirts, white shorts

How they qualified....

SOUTH AMERICAN GROUP

- v. Venezuela (a) 1-1
- v. Colombia (a) 1-4
- v. Uruguay (h) 1-0
- v. Peru (a) 1-2
- v. Venezuela (h) 6-0
- v. Colombia (h) 4-1
- v. Uruguay (a) 0-1
- v. Peru (h) 4-0
- v. Ecuador (h) 4-1
- v. Paraguay (a) 1-2
- v. Argentina (a) 1-1
- v. Bolivia (a) 1-1
- v. Ecuador (a) 1-1
- v. Paraguay (h) 2-1
- v. Argentina (h) 1-2
- v. Bolivia (h) 3-0



P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
16	7	4	5	32	18	25

Coached by Nelson Acosta Lopez, 53, Chile will rely heavily on their three main strikers: Rodrigo Barrera who plays for University de Chile; 1997 South American 'Footballer of the Year' Marcelo Salas from River Plate (who netted 2 against England at Wembley) and Ivan Zamorano who scored five times in a 6-0 win over Venezuela.

Chile are in Group B with Austria, Cameroon and Italy.

COLUMBIA

Colours: yellow & blue shirts, white shorts

How they qualified....

SOUTH AMERICAN GROUP

- Paraguay (h) 1-0
- Uruguay (h) 3-1
- Ecuador (a) 1-0
- Venezuela (a) 2-0
- Paraguay (a) 1-2
- Uruguay (a) 1-1
- Ecuador (h) 1-0
- Venezuela (h) 1-0
- Peru (a) 1-1
- Chile (h) 4-1
- Bolivia (a) 2-2
- Argentina (a) 0-1
- Peru (h) 0-1
- Chile (a) 1-4
- Bolivia (h) 3-0
- Argentina (a) 1-1



P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
16	7	4	5	32	18	25

Two players stand out in the Colombian squad - Hinestroza Faustino Hernan Asprilla and Carlos Valderrama. Asprilla, capped almost 50 times, returned to Parma in January from Newcastle and WILL play for his country.

The Colombian captain Valderrama, 36, with 103 caps under his belt, has been an international player for almost 13 years. Coached by Hernan Dario Gomez, Colombia have a balanced squad.



**The Titley-Holdcroft family from Weston Coyney
sponsor Gareth Ainsworth's Kit**



Follow The Vale...

...in your

Sentinel

www.thesentinel.co.uk

connections

PORT VALE v. SWINDON TOWN PORT VALE v. SWINDON TOWN PORT VALE v. SWINDON

Vale's record against Swindon

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	25	16	7	2	55	23
Away	26	5	6	15	21	40
Totals	51	21	13	17	76	63

Earlier this season the Robins beat Vale 4-2 at the County ground and in the fixture here last season, the Vale were victorious by a goal to nil, Lee Mills scoring on 52 minutes.

The first of the 51 encounters took place some sixty years ago in season 1938-39. Both teams were then in the old Third Division (South) and on 1st October 1938, a crowd of more than 10,000 saw the Vale win 2-0 at The Recreation Ground, Hanley. The return fixture at Swindon, played in early February, resulted in a 1-1 draw. The first tussle after the Second World War was staged again at the Vale (28th September 1946) and this time Swindon earned a point with a 1-1 draw.

A Third Division match between the clubs at The County Ground in October 1960 ended up in a runaway 6-0 win for Swindon - their best-ever over the Vale at League level.

The Vale gained revenge later in the campaign, winning the return match 4-1 at home with Bert Llewellyn netting a crushing hat-trick. Darren Beckford and Nicky Cross scored for the Vale in a 2-0 home League win over Swindon in November 1989, but the Robins quickly bounced back winning their home game later in the season by 3-0.

The following season the Vale completed the double over the Robins - winning 2-1 away and 3-1 in the Potteries. Brian Mills scored twice in that last game which was seen by a crowd of 7,713 on the final day of the campaign.

IN THE F.A. CUP

The two teams have met only once before in the F.A. Cup competition - and it was the Vale who came out on top, winning a 5th qualifying round clash 2-1 at Swindon in December 1906 when the gate was recorded as 6,000.

BIG WINS

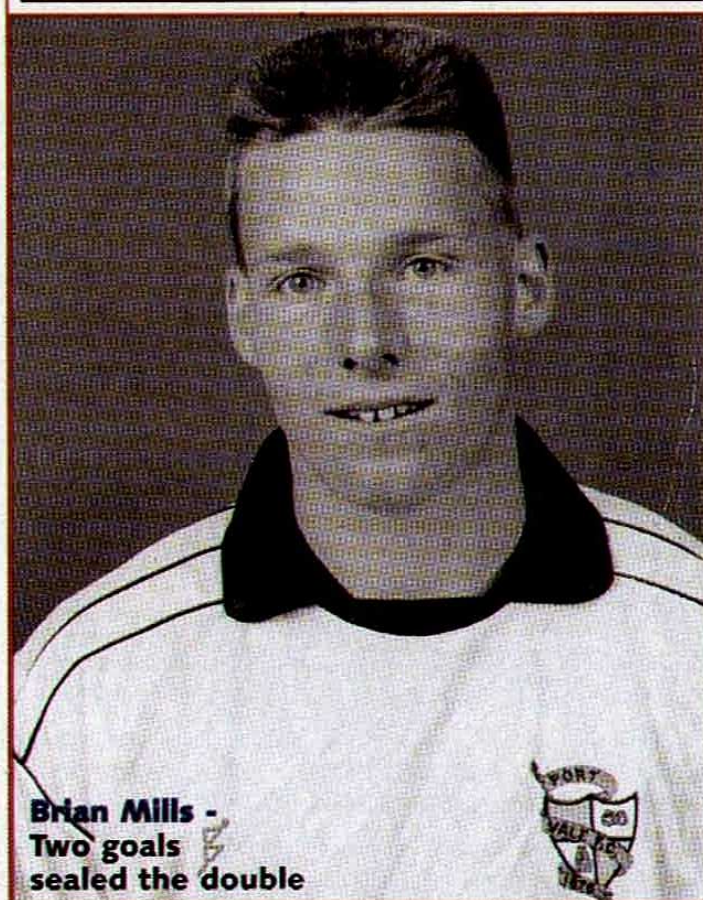
Port Vale's biggest League win is 9-1 - so too is Swindon's. The Vale beat Chesterfield by that score in September 1932, while the Robins crushed luckless Luton Town in identical fashion in April 1921.

JOINT MANAGER

Bobby Smith (53), was manager of both Vale and Swindon. He enjoyed a full playing career with numerous clubs including Manchester United and later managed Newport County and Swansea.

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Ken Beamish (50) now works for Blackburn Rovers but played for Vale between 1976 and 1978, scoring 36 goals in 99 outings. After retiring in became coach at The County Ground and then took over as Swindon Town's team manager in 1983, holding office until the following year.



Brian Mills -
Two goals
sealed the double

After winning promotion in 1995-96, Swindon Town, our welcome visitors to Vale Park for this evening's important Nationwide League Division One game, had a very disappointing season last year which saw them finish 19th - only just clear of relegation.

Robins' manager Steve McMahon was determined, though, to put things right and after assembling what, on paper, looked a pretty useful squad which included a solid-looking defence, a hard-working, enthusiastic midfield and a useful attack, he was hoping for better things in 1997-98.

After six weeks into the season things were looking good for Swindon as they found themselves in the top six.

Come early November they were second in the table behind Nottingham Forest. But since then the team has slipped agonisingly down the ladder and have it all to do if they are to climb back up towards a possible play-off spot.

McMahon demands that his players work for each other out on the park, giving nothing less than 110 per-cent each time they take the field, and although occasionally the team has suffered worrying defeats (remember they lost at home to Stevenage Borough in the F.A. Cup) Swindon still believe they can make the top six before May.

Earlier this season Swindon proved to be a hard side to play against - and beat. McMahon's vast experience was brushing off on to his players, who will certainly be up for it today against the Vale in what should be a good football match with a lot at stake - for both clubs!

In Goal

Goalkeeper **Fraser Digby**, aged 30, is a native of Sheffield, who was on Manchester United's books as a youngster. He failed to make an impact at Old Trafford and left to join Swindon in 1986 for £32,000. He's now made over 450 appearances for the 'Robins' as well as winning five England U/21 caps.

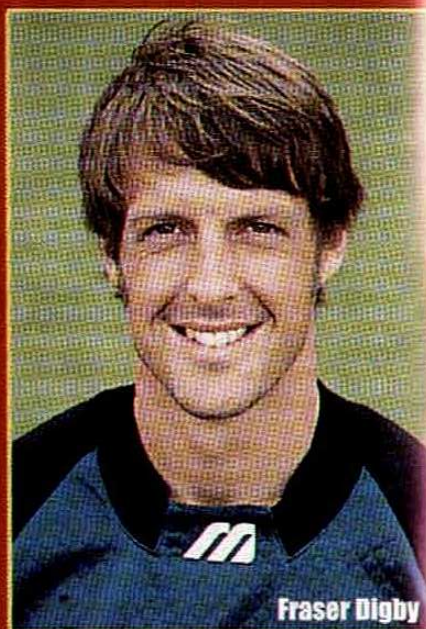
Swindon's second string 'keeper is **Steve Mildenhall** (19) who, in fact, kept three blank sheets in his first three outings for the club earlier this season.

In Defence

Defender **Brian Borrows** (37) joined the Robins from Coventry City before Christmas after a successful loan period at The County Ground. He played initially for Everton, then made over 100 appearances for Bolton before going on to make well over 450 for the Sky Blues. He's also served on loan with Bristol City.

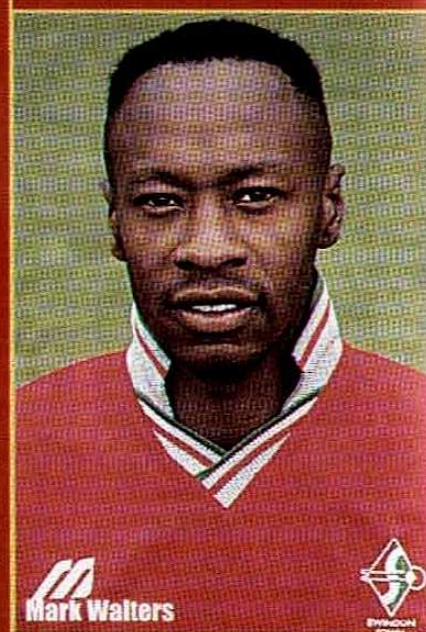
Mark Robinson (29) can play at right-back, in the centre of the defence or wide in midfield. He started his career with West Bromwich Albion, and after spells with Barnsley (159 outings) and Newcastle United, he signed for Swindon Town in 1994 for £600,000.

Centre-back **Alan McDonald** (34), an experienced international who played almost 400 games for Q.P.R. and with Charlton Athletic before transferring to Swindon last July. He has 52 Northern Ireland caps to his credit.



Frederic Darrass arrived at the club in the summer of 1996 from the Corsican club, Bastia. Aged 23 he has ability and style and can also slot in at full-back if required and made 39 appearances for the Robins last season.

Ian Culverhouse (33), ex-Spurs and Norwich City, has filled in at full-back, sweeper or central defence this term following his transfer from Carrow Road. He cost £250,000 and was an England youth international as a teenager.

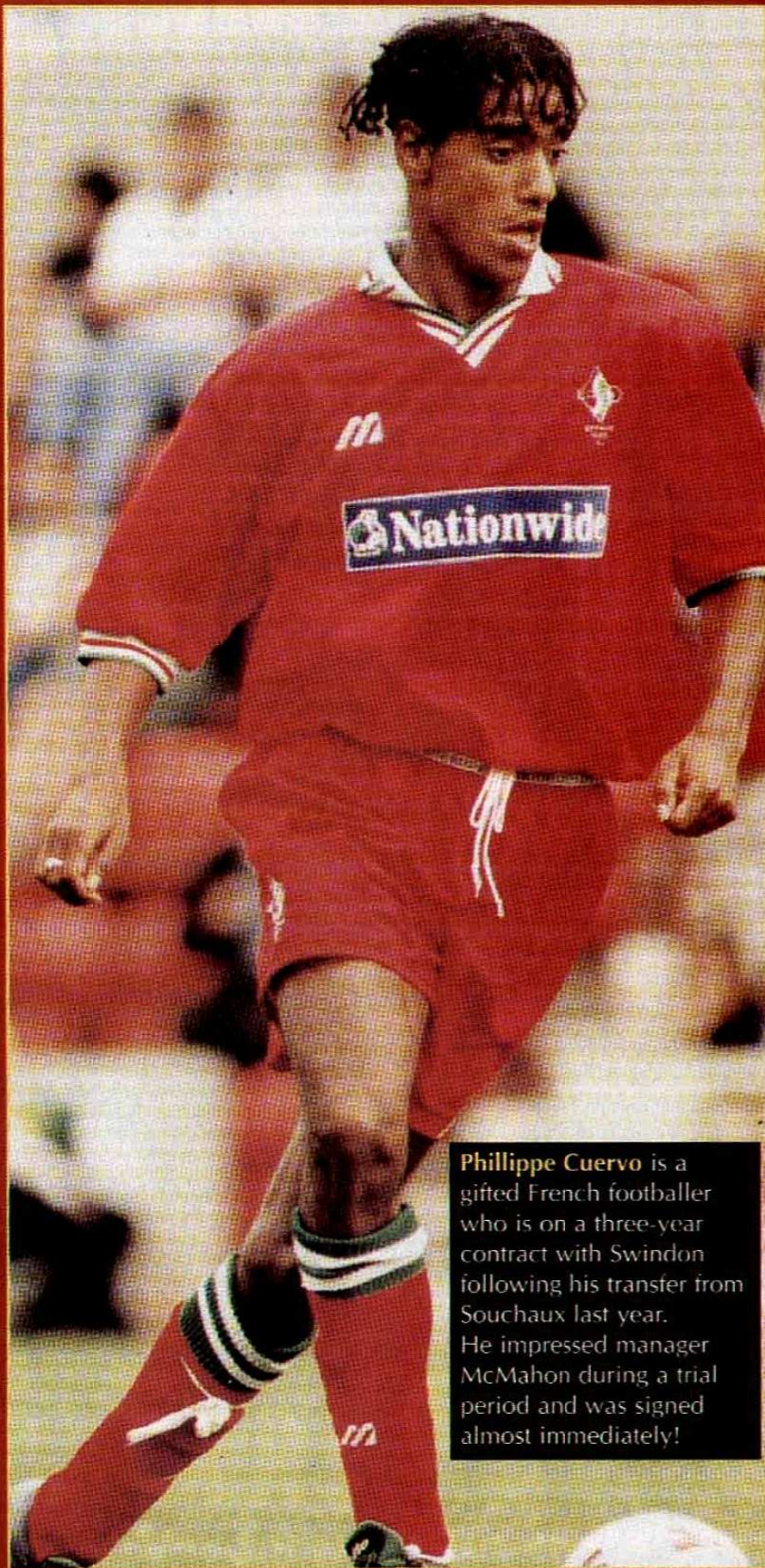


Swindon Town

Jason Drysdale (27) is also a former England youth international defender, who played over 160 games for Watford before joining Newcastle United. He switched to Swindon for £340,000 in March 1995 without breaking into the first team at St. James' Park.

Mark Walters, the former Liverpool, Aston Villa and England winger, enjoys a wide berth on either flank. He joined the Robins from Southampton at the start of last season. A former team-mate of manager McMahon's at both Villa Park and Anfield, Walters has lost none of his trickery and is still a class player. Born in Birmingham in 1964, he left Villa for Glasgow Rangers for £500,000 in 1987; joined Liverpool for £1.25 million four years later and after loan spells with Stoke and Wolves he moved to Southampton in 1996. Winner of one full, one 'B' and nine U/21 caps for England, he gained a European Super Cup winners medal with Villa and Scottish Premier and Scottish League Cup winners medals while at Ibrox and an F.A. Cup winners medal at Anfield. Walters is fast-approaching the milestone of 550 appearances at club level, and he's hit 125 goals.

Marlon Broomes (21) is a Birmingham-born midfielder who has already made a big impact in this, his second season of League football. A trainee at Blackburn, he was on loan at The County Ground before signing permanently for the Robins last year.



Phillippe Cuervo is a gifted French footballer who is on a three-year contract with Swindon following his transfer from Sochaux last year. He impressed manager McMahon during a trial period and was signed almost immediately!

Golden Moments

Photograph courtesy
of the Sentinel



Lee Mill's crucial goal at Bury
earlier this month

Craig Taylor has broken into Swindon's League side this season. Aged 24 from Dorchester, he enjoys a defensive role but can push forward and play in centre-field.

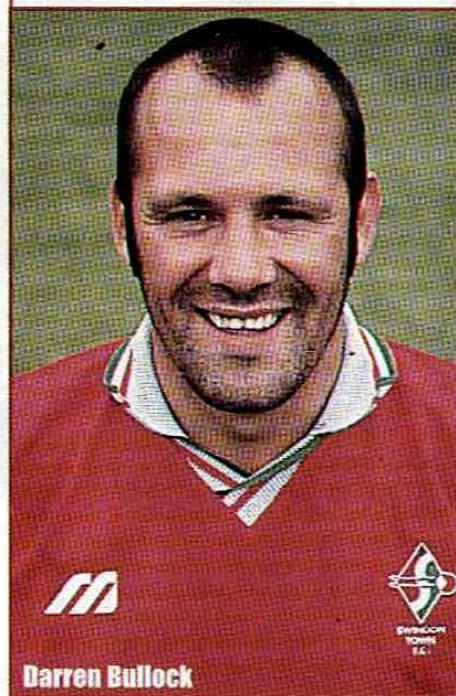
Lee Collins, is also 24 years of age and joined Swindon from the Scottish club Albion Rovers for £15,000 in November 1995. He has already made his mark in the Swindon League side this term having taken time to settle down in Wiltshire!

Midfield

David Thompson arrived at The County Ground from Liverpool last year. A midfielder, aged 20, he has two England under 21 caps to his name and played twice as a 'sub' for the Merseysiders in the Premiership.

Darren Bullock joined Swindon Town from Huddersfield in February 1997.

A powerful midfielder, with excellent 'engine' he is 29 years of age and played initially for Nunbeaton Borough.



Darren Bullock



Ty Gooden

Scott Leitch (28) plays in centre-field and was on loan at Swindon from Hearts before joining the 'Robins' permanently at the start of last season. He's now a key figure in the team's engine-room. Born in Motherwell, he played over 100 games for Dunfermline Athletic from 1990 and 1993.

Kevin Watson (24) is the ex-Tottenham Hotspur player who failed to make the breakthrough at White Hart Lane. He is now looking to establish himself in the 'Robins' League side having been a 'Robin' since July 1996. He has also played on loan for Brentford, Bristol City and Barnet.

Strikers

Striker **Steve Finney** (24) was born in Hexham and first played for Preston North End before going to Manchester City in 1993. Unfortunately he never made the first XI during his three-year stay at Maine Road, but manager McMahon lured him in June 1995 to Swindon on a free transfer and is now a vital member of the squad.

Ty Gooden (25) from Canvey Island, joined Swindon Town from Wycombe Wanderers in September 1993. He has so far appeared in more than 80 games for the Robins.

Steve Cowe (23) left Villa Park for Swindon nearly two years ago after failing to get a game with the Premiership club.

Chris Hay joined Swindon Town from Celtic at the start of the season and he was certainly doing the business in the goalscoring stakes before Christmas, helping Swindon establish their early position in the League.

The 26 year old Scotsman is technically an out-and-out striker with an eye for goal, he is a firm favourite with the Swindon fans despite a goal-drought in the New Year.

Steve Howe (24) played for Nottingham Forest and Ipswich Town (on loan) before joining Swindon last year.

A useful striker with good pace and an eye for goal, he was capped by England at youth team level.



Steve Finney

DID YOU KNOW?

RECORD HOLDER

Full-back John Trollope made 889 appearances for Swindon Town in 21 years at the club. He made his debut in 1960 and had his last outing for the Robins in 1981.

A total of 770 of his appearances came in the Football League - and only five players - Peter Shilton, Terry Paine, Tommy Hutchison, Robbie James and Alan Oakes - have played in more games in this competition. Trollope also managed Swindon from 1980 to 1983.

CHAMPION SCORER

Over a period of seven years - 1926 to 1933 - Harry Morris scored a record 230 goals for Swindon Town. In his first season at the club ('26-27) he netted 48 times and all told claimed 216 of his goals in Football League matches.

YOUNG STAR

Striker Paul Rideout, who is still playing today (for Everton) is the youngest League debutant in Swindon's history. He broke into League football in November 1980 as a 16 year-old playing against Hull City in a Third Division game.

THE MANAGER



Steve McMahon took over as player-manager in November 1994 after having signed for the 'Robins' from Manchester City. Born in Liverpool in 1961, McMahon played in 100 League games for Everton before moving to Aston Villa in 1983.

He returned to Merseyside after two years and added 204 more League appearances with Liverpool before switching to City in 1991. Capped by England 17 times, McMahon won medals galore at club level and accumulated well over 600 senior appearances.

STEVE McMAHON

SWINDON TOWN FACTS & FIGURES

ORIGINS

- Club formed in 1879, turned professional in 1894 and joined the Football League (Division 3) in 1920.

PREMIERSHIP DAYS

- In 1993-94 Swindon played their one and only season at the highest League level, finishing bottom (22nd) in the Premiership.

F.A. CUP SUCCESS

- Swindon have twice reached the semi-final stage of the F.A. Cup - losing to Newcastle United in 1910 and Barnsley in 1912.

LEAGUE CUP WINNERS

- League Cup glory came Swindon's way in 1969 when they defeated Arsenal 3-1 after extra-time in only the third Wembley Final.

THE CHAMPIONS

- Swindon also won the Second Division championship in 1996, the Fourth Division title in 1986 and the Anglo Italian Cup in 1970.

ROCKIN' ROBINS

- In April 1921 Swindon ran up their best-ever League win, beating Luton 9-1 (h) in a Division 3 (South) game. They have also beaten Newport (1938) and Bury (1979) by 8-0 scorelines.

RECORD SALE

- When selling Jan-Aage Fjortoft to Middlesbrough in March 1995 Swindon received their biggest ever fee - £1.3m.

RECORD PURCHASE

- The most the Robins have paid for a player is £850,000 for Joey Beauchamp from West Ham United in June 1994.

THE COUNTY GROUND

- The County Ground, Swindon's H.Q. since 1893, can today hold 15,728 fans. The record there was set in 1972 when a crowd of 32,000 witnessed an F.A. Cup-tie v. Arsenal.

Contact Lenses and solutions

from £9.95 per month in convenient 3 month packs

If you wear contact lenses but hate the hassle of all that complicated cleaning and disinfecting, this is what you've been waiting for - a solution system so simple that all you need is one bottle.

And our planned replacement scheme makes wearing contact lenses so convenient.

Every three months, we'll supply a new pair of standard soft contact lenses, a new case and a supply of all in one solution. Cost of 3 month pack: £29.85 payable in 3 direct debit instalments of £9.95 per month. All aftercare is also included.

Initial consultation of £25 not included. A current prescription will be necessary. Ask for details of our eye test fee if required.



8 Tontine Square, Hanley. Telephone (01782) 206662
 Paul Hobson BSc(HONS) MCOptom Susan Tunnicliffe Retail Director
 Spectacles and Contact Lens Practice

Official Opticians to Port Vale F.C.

BASSETTS

... first for quality



VOLVO B10M PLAXTON PREMIERE 350 EXECUTIVE
 THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE TRAVEL BASSETTS FLEET

- 39 reclining seats (16 placed round seats)
- Alternative option up to 47 seats
- Full servery facilities including fridge, chiller, microwave, etc
- Hot and cold drinks facility
- Toilet/Washroom
- Retractable seatbelts
- Video installation (3 screens)
- NB3 Radio Communication

For the ultimate in personal and corporate executive travel make Bassetts Coachways Ltd your first choice



BASSETTS COACHWAYS LTD
 Tel: (01782) 372251 Fax: (01782) 373999

Tittensor, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST12 9HD England

BRIAN ROURKE

Cycles

10% OFF ALL ACCESSORIES WITH THIS ADVERT

BIGGEST RANGE OF Cycles in NORTH STAFFS

ALL LEADING BRANDS IN STOCK

ROCK SHOX **TTB**

SUSPENSION SPECIALISTS

MARIN MOUNTAIN BIKES **SCOTT** **GT Bicycles**

Tel: (01782) 835368

visitor's view 16# Mike Hampton

1: Where do you live?

I live in Melbourne, Australia

2: How long have you been a Swindon fan?

I started supporting them when I was seven (I'm now 50 years young).

3: What was your first game?

It was a reserves game when I was seven. I went with my Grandfather. We (and I, for all the time I was in the UK) went into the "Town" end.

4: What's your best moment supporting Swindon?

The League Cup Final in the 60's - though I had to watch it on TV as I was working that day.

5: What's your worst moment?

When we went down from the Second Division to the Third in the same decade.

6: Who's your best EVER Swindon player?

It would have to be between John Trollope, Ernie Hunt and Don Rogers.

7: Who's your favourite current player?

I only follow by E-mail at present but from the match reports Mildenhall appeals as a committed and skilled goalie.

8: What's the funniest Town chant you've heard?

They didn't have chants in my day - except for "what a load of rubbish." Rugby Union had the songs in those days but I wouldn't wish to describe them on air. We did have rattles and whistles though and the Salvos did send round the blanket at half time and play.

9: Which team do you dislike the most and why?

I dislike Man Utd most because of their arrogance

10: Which player would you most like to see playing for Swindon?

I have no-one I know who I would like to see playing for Swindon, but I would like to think it was someone local who had been nourished in a youth programme and was exciting and committed.

11: What five words best describe a Swindon fan?

I don't know if there are five words to sum up any fan. Football is a tribal war, and I belong to the Swindon tribe, and I will 'til I die: whether they're good, bad or indifferent.

12: Which song best sums up Swindon and which would be the ideal song to run out on to the pitch to?

If you've ever seen the Australian Rugby League Promotion with Tina Turner and "Simply The Best", you'd know that is the only song / singer video clip idea to run out to.

13: What's the best thing about being a Swindon fan?

The best thing about being a Swindon fan is the exclusivity of it, particularly 12,000 miles away.

14: To which away trip are you most looking forward?

No favourites for "away" games from this distance

15: What's the worst thing about being a Swindon Fan?

I don't know of any bad parts to being a Swindon fan - after all if I didn't love it I wouldn't do it.

16: Your best ever Swindon 11 of all time

It would be presumptions of me to name eleven men from the few I have seen over the past 40 years. All of them have had their good and bad points. I guess that's why I'm a Swindon supporter: many a Pools winner knows fantasy beats reality anyway!

A quiz for Swindon...

1. Against whom did Swindon achieve their record attendance?
2. What is unusual about Swindon's record league victory?
3. Which cup did Swindon win in 1970?
4. Against whom did Thorne score a hat-trick last season?
5. Who knocked Swindon out of the FA Cup last season?
6. Which former Vale manager was in charge at Swindon from 1978-1980?
7. Which was Mark Walters' second club?
8. Who was Swindon's record purchase?
9. Which member of Swindon's staff has 17 England caps (so far)?
10. Who scored 47 league goals for Swindon in 1926-27?

Vale & Swindon

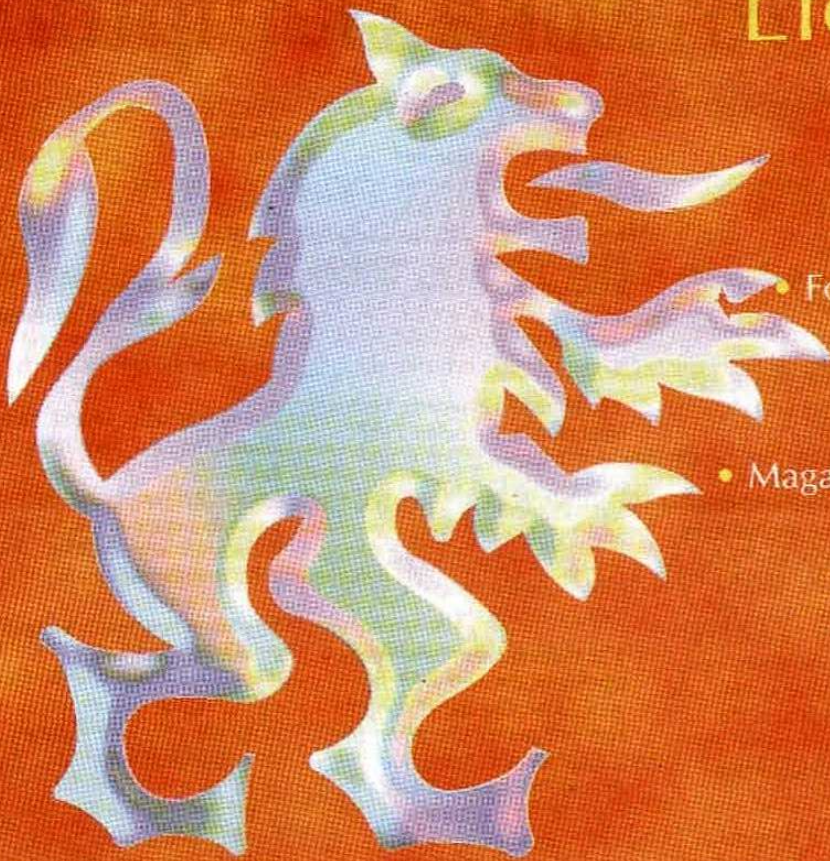
The story so far...



	Port Vale	Swindon Town
Table Position	21	11
Matches played	31	32
Won	8 (26%)	12 (38%)
Drawn	7 (23%)	7 (22%)
Lost	16 (52%)	13 (41%)
Goals for	37 1.19 per game	34 1.06 per game
Goals against	49 1.58 per game	46 1.44 per game
Last five games	Norwich (H) 2-2 Bury (A) 2-2 Sunderland (H) 0-1 Crewe (H) 2-3 Portsmouth (H) 2-1	Tranmere (A) 0-3 West Bromwich (H) 0-2 Huddersfield (A) 0-0 Stoke (H) 1-0 Bradford City (A) 1-1
Current streaks	No win for 4 matches	No wins/goals in 3 games
	Vale (Home Record)	Swindon (Away Record)
Matches played	16	16
Won	5 (31%)	2 (19%)
Drawn	5 (31%)	4 (25%)
Lost	6 (38%)	9 (56%)
Goals for	20 1.25 per game	10 0.63 per game
Goals against	19 1.19 per game	30 1.88 per game
Last four games	Norwich (H) 2-2 Crewe (H) 2-3 Portsmouth (H) 2-1 Wolves (H) 0-2	Tranmere (A) 0-3 Huddersfield (A) 0-0 Bradford (A) 1-1 Forest (A) 0-3
Current Streaks		No win in 8 away games

ANSWERS

1. Arsenal 2. It was achieved in their first-ever League game. 3. Anglo-Italian 4. Huddersfield 5. Everton 6. Bob Smith 7. Glasgow Rangers 8. Joey Beauchamp 9. Steve Michelson 10. Harry Morris



LION PRESS
(1931) Ltd
Quality Printers

- Football & Rugby Programmes
- Student Diaries
- Magazines, Newsletters & Leaflets
- Stationery

LION PRESS (1931) LTD
OLDBURY ROAD,
WEST BROMWICH,
WEST MIDLANDS
TEL: 0121 553 5754
FAX: 0121 553 3026

DESIGNERS & PRINTERS OF THE PORT VALE FC MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



RADIO STOKE

Simply the best... BBC Radio Stoke Sport

Sports news every half hour through the day

Saturday Sport 2pm - 6pm

Tuesday Midweek Sport 7pm - 10pm

Friday Night Sport 5.30pm - 7pm

94.6FM

PV *diary*

Saturday 31st January

Vale's first visit to Sunderland's 'Stadium of Light' was always going to be one of the toughest trips of the season and that was before injury and suspension had severely depleted the Vale defence.

Glover had the unfortunate task of filling in at the unfamiliar position of left back whilst Gareth Griffiths made a welcome return to the starting line but it soon became apparent that he was far from match fit. After two straight defeats Sunderland were out to impress on their home ground before a sell out 40,000 crowd and within minutes of the kick off they exposed all the frailties of the weakened Vale defence with Summerbee causing most trouble down the right flank. After just 20 minutes the game was over as Vale trailed by 3-0 and we were lucky it wasn't more but for some great saves by Musselwhite and their poor finishing at times.

Talbot's goal after 37 minutes stunned the home crowd and in the second half, with Burns making his debut and our defence re-shuffled we coped much better.

The scoreline ended 4-2 with Carragher getting an own goal then Jansson - on the stroke of the final whistle - fired a super first time effort from 25 yards past the helpless Perez.

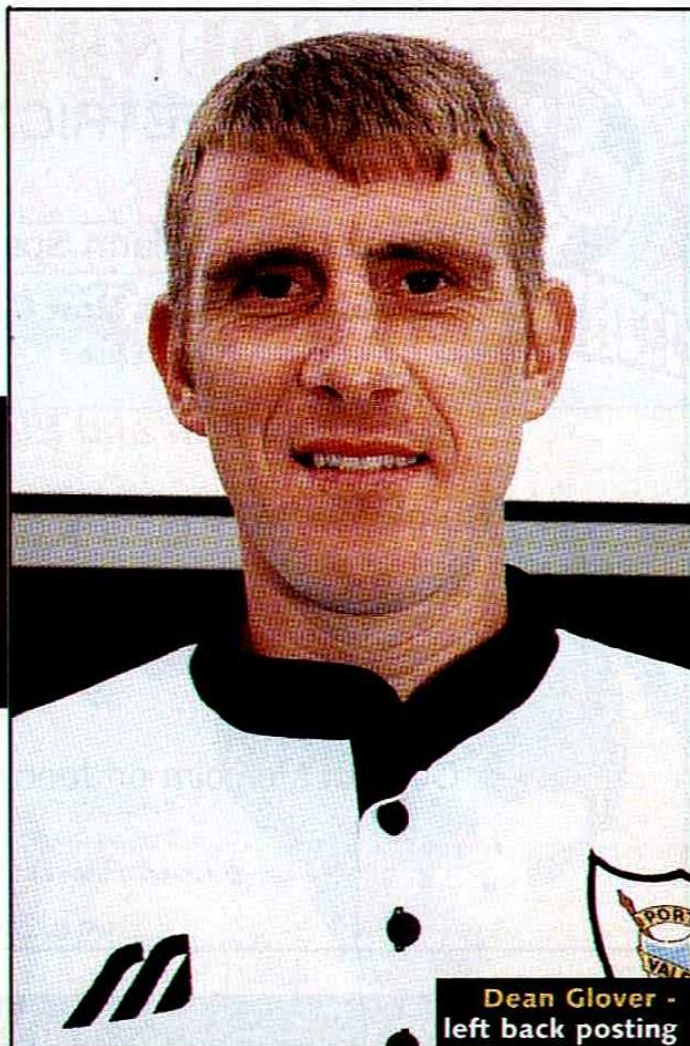
Tuesday 3rd February

After rumours concerning supposed bids for Ainsworth had been circulated over recent days Rudge makes his feelings about so called agents crystal clear. Apparently agents chasing Ainsworth have been contacting his family, who currently manage Gareth's business affairs and claiming that several big Premier League clubs are after him. Rudge said "It's the oldest trick in the book. They are trying to convince him that they can get him a good move but they are just trying to drum up business for themselves and engineer a situation where they can earn a fast buck."

Thursday 5th February

It was the day of reckoning for the Lorne Street Development.

The submitted plans for the new stand were to go before the Development Sub-Control Committee for final planning approval.



Dean Glover -
left back posting

This was the last hurdle before work on the new stand could begin.

Well, the last hurdle bar the actual financing of the stand.

Burlesm councillor Jean Edwards led the opposition to the stand by saying "I don't like or dislike football but I'm here to represent those local people who've voted for me" which I presume were the 37 who signed a petition against the new stand. I wonder how many people who voted for her were in favour of the stand? I'd have thought it was a damn sight more than 37.

The plans were approved by 10 - 4 votes. Work has now started on test drillings for the foundations.

Plans for the Bycars development also gained permission subject to monies from the National Lottery being made available. Included in these plans are five all-weather synthetic floodlit football pitches, a cricket pavillion, tarmac sports areas, childrens' playing areas two grass football pitches for the exclusive use of Port Vale FC and our community schemes. Objections to this scheme were more widespread with the argument that open space for children to play and walk dogs would be lost. I'd have thought that kids playing in a field where people walk dogs was a great reason for going ahead!



Port Vale Diary sponsored by Drayton - Mercedes Benz dealer

Cobridge Road, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5JP. Tel: (01782) 202112 Fax: (01782) 202185



SOUND ALARMS & ELECTRICAL SERVICES



Burglar & Fire Alarm Specialist B.S. 4737 & 5839

116a Mow Cop Road, Mow Cop, Stoke-on-Trent. ST 7 4NF

Sound Alarm and Electrical Services for:-

Burglar and Fire Alarms

Close Circuit Television

Door Access

Telephone Systems

Data

Public Address Systems

Contact Malcolm or Jean Sutton on 01782 519438

Your Local Family-Run Company.

VAT No. 368 0457 35

Have you got

news

for us?

Telephone
01782 812311

Smith Davis
PRESS

PUBLISHERS • PRESS AGENCY • PUBLIC RELATIONS

Football in the community

sponsored
by



CELESTICA. &

SPORTS



MATCH



Welcome To Our Sponsors

Good evening, a warm welcome to Anna Birchall and staff from community programme sponsors Celestica who are present at tonight's game.

Half-Term Soccer

Half-term will soon be upon us and as usual we have organised several soccer specials to keep youngsters busy while their parents are at work.

Monday 23rd February

New Ford Primary Smallthorne
Goldenhill St Joseph's Primary
10.00am till 4.00pm
Cost £ 5.00

Tuesday 24th February

Bradwell Primary,
Westwood Road First School,
Leek: 10.00am till 4.00pm
Cost £5.00

Wednesday 25th February

To Friday 27th February

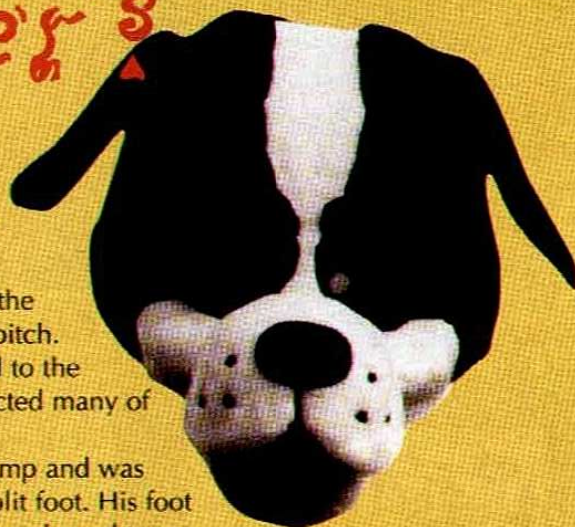
Haywood High School
10.00am till 4.00pm
Cost £20

£18.00 for junior members

All courses are staffed by PFA qualified coaches and all the different football techniques are taught plus the chance to win competitions.

Forms are now available for all these courses from the Community Office in Hamil Road or ring and ask for Jim, Chris or Keely

Boomer's Back



Many people have noticed the absence of Boomer on the pitch. Our mascot has succumbed to the injury hoodoo that has afflicted many of the players.

In December he began to limp and was quickly diagnosed with a split foot. His foot has been stitched and we are pleased to say club physio Rick Carter has now declared him match-fit.

LOOK OUT FOR BOOMER AT TONIGHT'S GAME!

Smoby Monneret Schools Table Football Competition in association with Wagon Wheels

We have now completed our table football competition, six schools took part and the final took place at Port Vale FC on Tuesday 10th February.

The six children who reached the final were:-

- Andrew Matthews from Werrington
- Greg Thomas from Greenways
- Hayley Ashley from Woodhouse
- Matthew Lewis from Squirrel Hayes
- Ben Champon from Christchurch
- Chris Browning from Crackley Bank.

After intense competition the eventual winner was **Matthew Lewis** from Squirrel Hayes in Biddulph.

Matthew will now represent Port Vale in the Area final shortly.

Keep Smiling
Jim Cooper
Community Officer

Tonight's Sponsors

Once again we welcome to Vale Park guests from

A. Wood & Company

20 Moorland Road, Burslem,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 1DW.
Telephone 01782 834775.

Our sponsors for this evening's match have had a long association with the club and we thank them for their continued support. We hope that partners Dave Riley and Ron Platt and their guests have an enjoyable evening and take full advantage of our sponsorship facilities.

Matchball Sponsors

The Matchball Sponsor for tonight's match is



of 57b Sackville Street,
BASFORD, Stoke-on-Trent.

The matchball will be presented by the children of Gutterplus Proprietor, Mick Lambert, Kelly (13) and Daniel (12). We hope that they all enjoy tonight's game.

Match Tickets for Away Games

It is now possible to buy match tickets for away games from the Marketing Department as well as the Ticket Office.

This means it is now possible to purchase your tickets for the official coaches and the match together from the department at the back of the club shop. We accept payment by cash, cheque and most cards. Bookings can also be taken over the telephone with a credit card or Switch on **01782 835524**.

MARKETING MATTERS

Port Vale Pub

There are still some pictures of players available within the Heroes Bar of the Port Vale Pub. For just £125 you can be associated with a player past or present.

For further details, please contact the Marketing Department on **01782 835524**.

Classified Ads

Announce your birthdays and greetings in the classified section of the matchday programme. Prices start at only 15p a word and can be booked through the Marketing Department. Please note we need at least seven days notice prior to publication.

Scoreboard Advertising

Put your name in lights on the Vale electronic scoreboard. Whether you want to advertise your company or congratulate someone on a special occasion, our 30ft x 4ft scoreboard is bound to get your message noticed. Prices start from as little as £5. For further details, contact the Marketing Department on **01782 835524**.

Port Vale Visa Card

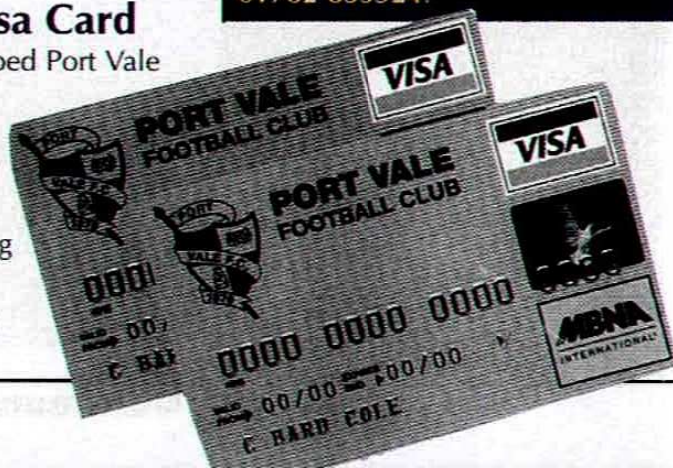
The newly revamped Port Vale Visa Card is now available and application forms can be obtained from the Marketing Department or by telephoning **0800 776262**.

Player Sponsorship

Why not sponsor your favourite Port Vale player? In return you will have: Your name along with a picture of your chosen player in every matchday programme. A pre-match meal with complimentary wine. A presentation of a framed autographed shirt on the pitch by your chosen player prior to one of our fixtures. A double page spread in the programme featuring your player and your sponsorship. For player availability call us on **01782 835524**.

Bootlace Sponsors

A few opportunities remain for our junior supporters aged 14 and under to sponsor the bootlaces of their favourite player. The sponsor will have their name in our matchday programmes and will have the chance to meet their player and have a photograph taken with them prior to one of our fixtures. They will also receive a mounted photograph as a memento which we will arrange to be signed. For player availability please call **01782 835524**.



This time next week we will be visiting Bradford in a Nationwide League Division One fixture.

The match is not all ticket and prices are £13 adults and £8 concessions.

Seating for away supporters is in the H.S.G. Stand at the Pulse Stadium.

Disabled seating is in the Sunwin Stand and places must be booked prior to the game on 01274 770022.

Admission is half price for disabled fans.

One helper is admitted per person who is also admitted at half price.

Official coaches leave the Hamil Road Car Park at 5pm and cost £7 (adults) and £6 (concessions).

Matchday programmes are available both inside and outside the ground and are priced £1.50.

BRADFORD CITY

**NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
TUESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY, KICK OFF 7.45PM**

Vale on tour

By Car...

Take the D Road out of the city to the Barthomley junction with the M6. Join M6 northbound. Leave M6 at junction 21 A to join M62 Eastbound signposted Leeds.

Stay on M62 to junction 26 signposted M606 Bradford. Continue along M606 to end and turn right at the roundabout signposted Ring Road A6177, Keighley/Wakefield into Rooley Lane.

You will see a sign saying "Follow A650 for Valley Parade". Go straight on at the next roundabout and left at the next one signposted City Centre/Keighley (A650).

Follow City Centre A650 at next two roundabouts. Keep following signs to A650 Keighley through several sets of lights into Shipley Airedale Road.

Pass Food Giant and Staples then Uriah Woodhead on the left. Take next left into Station Road signposted Valley Parade.

Shortly turn left again into Queens Road and then left again into Midland Road, signposted Valley Parade.

Parking is available all along Midland Road for those who get there early. There are some pay car parks near to the ground but again, these fill up quite early.

Today's Match Sponsors

A. Wood and Company Chartered Accountants

Offering full financial services including:

- Audit and Accountancy Work •
- Corporate and Personal Taxation Advice •
- Self-Assessment Advice •
- Start-up Advice •
- V.A.T. Advice •

Over 70 years experience in the profession.

A. Wood and Company

20 Moorland Road, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST6 1DW

Telephone: 01782 834775 Fax: 01782 835398

A-Z of the VALIANTS

with
Tony
Matthews

CREWE ALEXANDRA

Vale's Football League record against the 'Alex' is as follows:

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	23	13	8	2	45	18
Away	23	10	8	5	28	20
Totals	46	23	16	7	73	38

Earlier this year the 'Alex' won 3-2 at Vale Park, avenging a 1-0 home defeat in September when Lee Mills found the net for Vale. In the F.A. Cup the teams have met eight times, Vale's record:

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	4	4	0	0	13	4
Away	4	0	4	0	4	4
Totals	8	4	4	0	17	8

CROSS, Nicholas J.R.

Nicholas Jeremy Roland Cross (37), is still playing football at a strong level and scoring goals for Solihull Borough.

Born in Birmingham in 1961, he had an excellent career with West Bromwich Albion, Walsall, Leicester City, Port Vale and Hereford before entering the non-League scene in 1996.

He joined Vale for £125,000 in 1989 and scored 43 goals in 174 senior matches.

In his League career Cross netted more than 130 goals in almost 550 appearances.

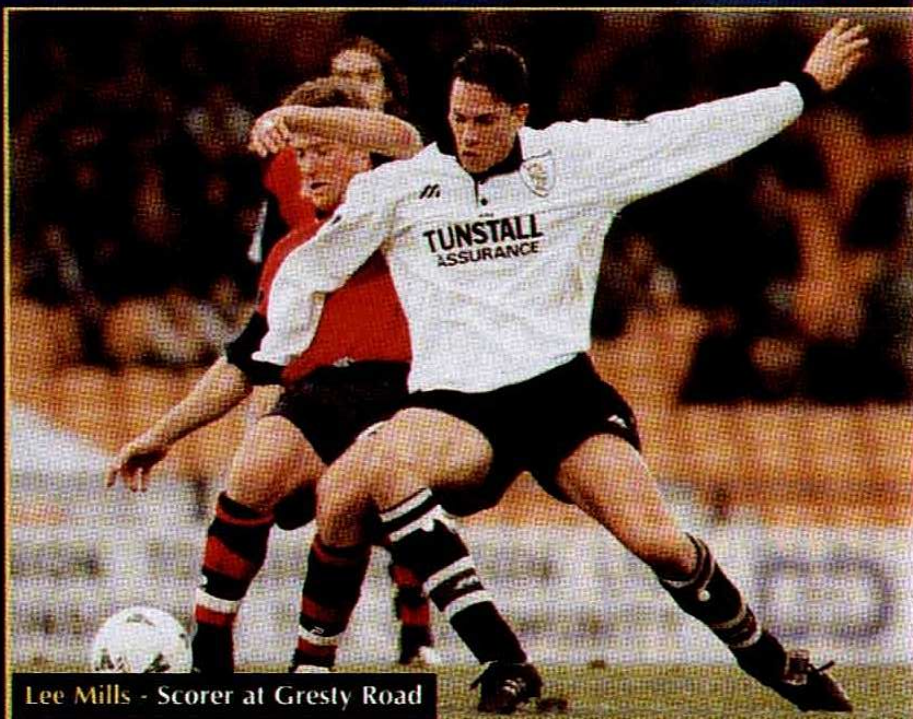
CROSS, Roy

Born in Wednesbury in 1947, Cross was a solid defender who played for Walsall prior to joining Vale in 1970.

From there he was transferred to Nuneaton Borough in 1975.

He later assisted Stoke City as coach at their School of Excellence.

He appeared in 148 senior games for Vale, including an unbeaten run of 134 up to March 1973.



Lee Mills - Scorer at Gresty Road

CROXTON, Harry

Croxtan was an efficient half-back and occasional full-back.

Born in 1880, he played for Burslem Park before signing for the Vale in 1901.

He was sold to Stoke in 1905, but returned to Vale three years later and took his record to 116 League and 12 F.A. Cup appearances for the club, gaining a Staffordshire Cup winners medal in 1910.

He retired the following year.

CRYSTAL PALACE

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	21	12	3	6	45	22
Away	21	4	9	8	17	25
Totals	42	16	12	14	62	47

We last met in 1996-97, Palace won 2-0 at Vale Park and were held to a 1-1 draw on the final day of the season at Selhurst Park. In the F.A. Cup the teams have so far met just once, Palace winning 2-1 at home in a first round tie in November 1947 when the crowd was given as 13,000.

CULLERTON, Michael Joseph

A Scotsman, born in Edinburgh in November 1948, Cullerton was a useful goalscoring inside-forward who netted 58 times in 190 games in two separate spells with the Vale covering a period of seven seasons: 1965-69 and 1975-78.

He joined the club initially in October 1965 and left in May 1969, having played on loan with Chester in March 1969. On leaving Vale Park he signed for Derby County and later assisted Eastwood and Stafford Rangers, returning to Vale Park in June 1975, staying until May 1978 when he moved to Northwich Victoria.

He then rejoined Stafford Rangers but came back to Vale Park as Commercial Manager in 1982, holding office for three years before taking up the same position at neighbouring Stoke City. He left the Potters - and football - in 1996.

THE ROOF'S FELL IN



with George Andrews

Fareham Town are to issue supporters with free umbrellas to protect them from the Pigeons and Seagulls.

Scores of birds have made their home at the Dr. Marten's League Club in Hampshire. Club chairman Chis Solew said: "I know it's supposed to be good luck to have bird droppings on your shoulder, but this is a bit much. By introducing umbrellas the fans will not be easy targets."

However the birds needn't worry: the chairman is not looking to get rid of them. He said they are welcome to stay as long as they like. Let's hope they don't start dive bombing the players.

• A new book that glorifies football hooliganism is being launched at the worst possible time. Derby Days written by Dougie and Eddy Brimson comes out on March 12th and can only fuel the potential for crowd violence at the World Cup in France this summer which is already faced with ticket problems and the segregation of fan's at matches.

The Brimson's boast of occasions where bottles, glasses, coins and ash trays were flying about, and both taking and giving a good hiding: they love it.

This is the fourth book Headline have published by the brothers, yet the sports editor Ian Marshall said "We

are not cashing in on glamorising violence at football matches. Tell that to the 'birds'.

This weeks sports quiz:-

Which Club was the first to win the 4th and 3rd division championships in consecutive seasons.

Answers on a postcard or sealed envelope to:

George 'Simply The Best', BBC Radio Stoke, Cheapside, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent.

Keep the faith!

Georgie

RAILWAY CUTTINGS

The Railway Cuttings column is under new management this week, but for one match only. My wife is the regular author but she has been suspended after picking up five bookings, all for dissent.

Referees, where would we be without them?! Well, no game would take place. Accepting that obvious fact, referees do as a species attract opinions across the whole spectrum.

I can sense the rising excitement in the heart of Vale director, Ian McPherson, at the thought of an article by me about referees. Ian wrote in a previous programme that I have a book in me on this subject but let a few words suffice this time on "Referees I have loved and... er, not loved."

My earliest recollections of referees are somewhat hazy. It isn't true, however, that the first word I ever uttered was "referee"! It might, on the other hand, be my last word of this mortal life.

The first memory I can recall about a referee followed Vale's FA Cup Semi-Final defeat in 1954. Our opponents won the game with a dubious penalty (are they ever anything else?). It was rumoured that the referee subsequently made a few derogatory remarks about Vale's style of play, saying that we don't want teams like Vale in the final!!



The Foster Family of Milton sponsor Jan Jansson's kit

Hard to believe that it was true, but who knows?

The 1970's saw the appearance of a previously unheard-of species: the high-profile, personality referee. Such characters may have existed in earlier days but the coverage of football by the mass media (especially TV) seemed to bring certain camera-conscious types to the fore.

Perhaps most notable amongst these was Roger Kirkpatrick, an entertaining character and an ideal candidate to play Mr Pickwick. Roger never took football or himself too seriously.

One's impression of a referee will inevitably be coloured by results of Vale matches he refereed, I always regarded David Scott of Burnley as a "lucky ref". We usually won when we had him, most memorably against Spurs in that cup-tie in 1988.

By way of contrast, recently elevated Premier League Ref Neale Barry is one who is a harbinger of ill-fortune for Vale. We have an appalling record with him as a Ref and penalties usually have a part to play, a 0-4 defeat at home to Reading and the recent cup-tie exit against Arsenal being but two of the more significant ones.

Although our actual results record with Phil Richards is mixed, he will be known to Vale fans for being the only man to send off a Vale player in

a league game in the last three seasons. Not wishing to do things by halves Mr Richards did it twice, sending off Guppy and Tankard in different games a couple of seasons ago.

The tale of woe clearly continues, as Crewe were given that interesting penalty at Vale Park recently! One final "villain" I could mention - remember Peter Swan in the Play-off Final in 1993? Roger Milford, take a bow!

Now, there will be some of you who think I am paranoid about referees and you would be right! I do, of course, acknowledge that it is a most difficult job to do well. Even the use of two different types of virtual reality by ITV and Sky failed to sort out the "was-it-over-the-line" controversy for Shearer's goal against Stevenage, so what chance do the officials have?

All of us demand consistency, then criticise referees for failing to use "commonsense" - two things which are not compatible. Whenever we envy a referee for being given control of a Wembley Cup Final we should remember that the ref will have started at the bottom rung of the ladder, doing very junior games, on rotten pitches with poor facilities.

I have written about referees as being of the male gender, but we are seeing the likes of Wendy Toms appear on the scene. Will our reactions be any more polite? I doubt it!

Eddie Jackson

THE VALIANTS COLLECTION

CLUB SHOP

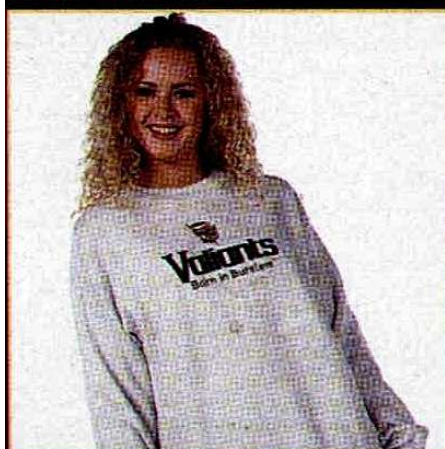


Mizuno Bench Coat
LARGE ONLY £59.99
NOW ONLY £50.00

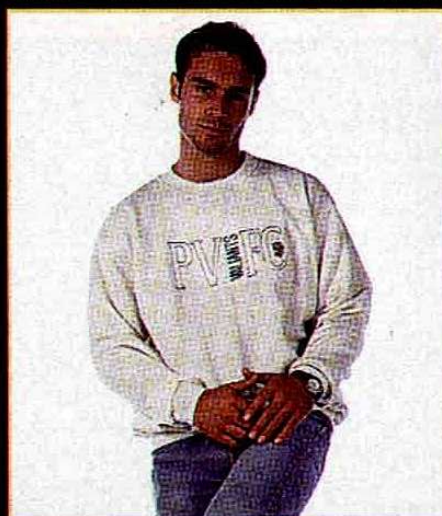


Tri-Colour Rainjacket
Sizes: S/M/L/XL £44.99 **NOW £35.00**
Childrens (26/28,30/32) £39.99 **NOW £29.99**

Visit the Club Shop for all your Replica Kit Leisurewear & Souvenirs
Open Monday to Saturday
9.00am to 5.30pm
Tel: 01782 833545



Valiants Sweatshirt (Black, Grey)
Sizes: S/M/L/XL
Was £24.99 **NOW ONLY £10.00**
Childrens Sizes 26/28, 30/32
Was £19.99 **NOW ONLY £14.99**



Open Stitch Design Sweatshirt
Linen, Jade. Sizes: S/M/L/XL
Was £24.99 **NOW ONLY £17.50**

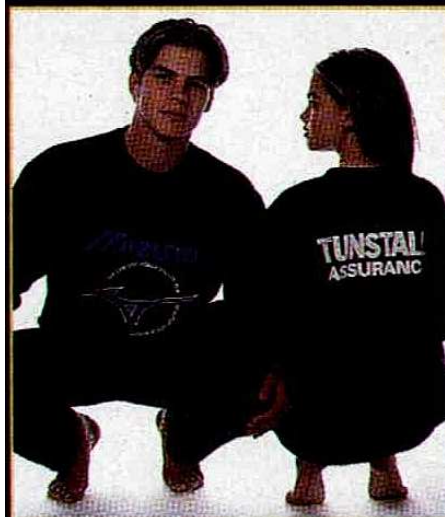
SALE

MAIL ORDER

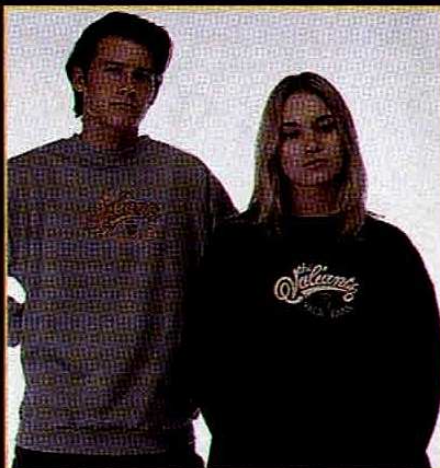
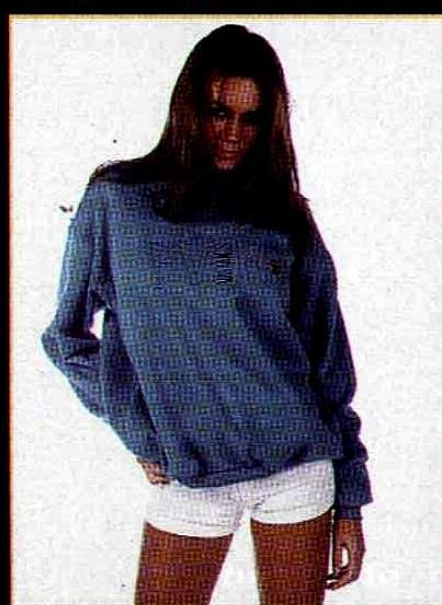
Send Cheque(s) or Postal Order(s)
or by telephone using
VISA, MASTERCARD
& SWITCH

SUPPORTERS PLEASE NOTE:

That official merchandise is only
available from your Club Shop and
that any offered for sale from any
other business or
individual is illegal



Mizuno Run-Out Top
Sizes S/M/L/XL (£34.99) **NOW £25.00**
Childrens (S-XL Boys) £27.99 **NOW £20.00**



Script Design Sweatshirt (Black, Sage)
Sizes S/M/L/XL £24.99. **NOW £17.50**
Childrens 26/28,30/32
Was £19.99 **NOW £14.99**

1923

A home Second Division game against Southampton ended all square at 0-0 in front of 12,725 fans. Vale, who had won their previous two games, were pegged back by a solid defence as the visitors held on for a point.

1945

A Wartime away game at The Victoria Ground ended in disaster for the Valiants who crashed 8-1 to Stoke City in front of 12,644 fans. Ex-Blackpool and Manchester City centre-half Louis Cardwell, who was guesting for the Valiants, netted our only goal, while George Mountford netted five times for the Potters.

1947

Strikes by Billy Pointon and Don Triner earned the Vale a 2-1 home win over Bristol City in a Third Division (South) fixture which attracted a crowd of over 8,000.

1951

Despite Cliff Pinchbeck's goal, the Vale failed to get the better of Swindon Town in a Third Division (South) game at The County Ground. The home side, backed by a near 8,000 crowd, won the contest 2-1.

1962

Vale went out of the F.A. Cup on this day some 36 years ago, beaten by a narrow 1-0 by First Division Fulham in a fifth round tie at Craven Cottage where the gate topped 29,500.

Vale had reached this stage of the competition by accounting for Bradford Park Avenue, Crewe Alexandra, Northampton Town and Sunderland, but despite putting up a spirited defensive display against the Cottagers, they were unable to reach the quarter-finals and bowed out with credit.

Fulham's decisive goal came rather late in the day: the winner came just four minutes from time via a hotly-disputed penalty.

Visiting Valeite fans were in uproar: just before half-time Brian Jackson had what Fulham goalkeeper Tony Macedo said was a 'goal', ruled out because the referee and his linesman didn't think the ball had crossed the line.



Brian Jackson -
Goal ruled out at Fulham

1974

Goals by Ray Williams (2) and former Villa star Keith Leonard gave the Vale a 3-1 home win over Bristol Rovers in a Third Division game seen by 8,500 fans. This was an important victory for the Valiants as they battled away to avoid relegation.

1990

How times change! It is a staggering eight years ago today the Vale were beaten in a gripping game 1-0 by Blackburn Rovers in a Second Division game at Ewood Park. Under 9,300 fans witnessed Vale's defeat by Blackburn.

CLUBCALL

• Live match coverage • Your favourite players interviewed • Hear John Rudge every week •
The latest news from the club 24 hrs a day • Money from your calls helps support Port Vale FC
Calls cost 50p per minute all other times. Clubcall, 1-9 Downham Road, London N1 5AA



Hoddle Signs for Mitre.

The official ball supplier to:



Trust us to help the game

The Football Trust has been providing support for the game at every level throughout the UK for over 22 years. Its present priority task is to help League clubs to complete the implementation of the Taylor Report recommendations.

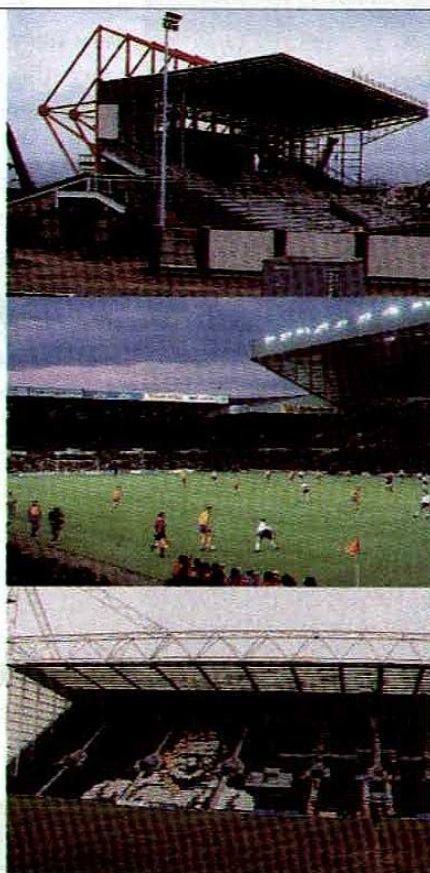
Thanks to the Government and to the Football Association, the FA Premier League and the English Sports Council, a major new funding package to secure the future of the Trust has been put in place.

These funds will be in addition to income derived from the football pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters, and will enable the Trust to complete its Taylor task, carry on its essential safety work and continue to grant aid football at every level. The Government's commitment to the Trust has the support of everyone who cares about our national game.



THE FOOTBALL TRUST
Helping the game

THE FOOTBALL TRUST, WALKDEN HOUSE, 10 MELTON STREET, LONDON NW1 2EB



ANDY HILLY

Dependable Defender

Avastly experienced defender with over 500 senior appearances in his career, Andy has done an excellent job in the Vale back-line in the two and a half years he has been at the club.

Born at Maltby, he began his career as a junior with Manchester United, turning pro in January 1983. Although he never made the first team he was picked to represent an England Youth XI in two games in Israel, where his team-mates included former Vale player Simon Mills and current Stoke player Paul Stewart.

He left Old Trafford to seek first team football in July 1984 by joining Bury on a free transfer, making his debut in a 1-0 defeat at Darlington.

Ironically his next game was here at Vale Park in a Milk Cup tie that Vale won 1-0 thanks to a Robbie Earle goal. Andy was a regular that season in only missing three games as Bury finished fourth to gain promotion to the old Third Division (no play-offs then!).

He remained a regular for the next five years, either as a full back or central defender with two of the highlights being the 5th Round F.A. Cup tie v Watford in 1986 and a Littlewoods Cup visit to his old club Manchester United two years later.

In 1989 he was part of the Bury line-up that won 3-1 at the Vale, our promotion season, and then in 1989-90 he was an ever present in the team that finished fifth to reach the play-offs. Unfortunately they lost to Tranmere Rovers to miss out on a Wembley final.

After more than 300 appearances in a Bury shirt his consistent performances prompted Manchester City to pay £200,000 for his services in 1990.

His debut came in the now defunct Zenith Data Systems Cup at Sheffield United, but he sat out the team's next game, a 2-1 victory here at Vale Park in the F.A. Cup.

1991-1992 saw man City finish fifth in the top flight with Hilly a regular in the defence and the odd spot here is that apart from big local derbies, Man City are pulling in bigger gates nowadays.

They reached the Sixth Round of the F.A. Cup in 1993, losing to Spurs and then injury curtailed Andy's appearances to just 28 over the next two seasons. Altogether he scored just six goals for the Sky Blues, but strangely three of them came against Leeds United.

An injury-hit Vale defence (sounds familiar doesn't it?) led to John Rudge taking Andy on trial in August 1995 in which he played one reserve game, ironically against Man City.

John saw enough to pay £150,000 to make the deal a permanent one and he lined up for what looked like a daunting debut in a live TV fixture against Stoke City.

Ian Bogie saw to it Vale won 1-0 and Hilly held down a regular place in that 1995-96 campaign which saw Vale reach Wembley in the Anglo-Italian Cup Final and also the fifth round of the F.A. Cup which included of course the defeat of holder Everton.

Last season he made another 41 appearances and scored his only goal for the Vale to date versus Grimsby Town.

Earlier in the present campaign he submitted a transfer request expressing his desire for a club nearer his Rochdale home but thankfully he is now committed in helping the Vale to pull clear of the relegation zone.

His recent form before his suspension has arguably been better than ever and he performed particularly well in the two F.A. Cup ties v Arsenal.

Phil Sherwin

State of the League

PORT VALE FC STATISTICS & FIXTURES 1997-98

					1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sat Aug 9	Nottingham Forest	H	0-1	12,533	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Glover	McCarthy
Tue Aug 12	York City	H	1-2	2,749	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Glover	McCarthy
Sat Aug 16	Portsmouth	A	1-3	10,605	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Jansson	Aspin	Glover	Corden
Sat Aug 23	Sunderland	H	3-1	8,290	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Glover	McCarthy
Sat Aug 26	York City	A	1-1	3,195	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Stokes	McCarthy
Wed Sep 3	Wolverhampton Wanderers	A	1-1	21,524	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Glover	McCarthy
Tue Sep 9	Stockport County	H	2-1	6,615	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Snijders	McCarthy
Sat Sep 13	Norwich City	A	0-1	11,269	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Snijders	Jansson
Tue Sep 16	Crewe Alexandra	A	1-0	5,519	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Sep 20	Bury	H	1-1	6,781	Musselwhite	Talbot	Tankard	Bogie	Aspin	Hill	Ainsworth
Sat Sep 27	Queens Park Rangers	H	2-0	7,197	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Bogie	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Oct 4	Swindon Town	A	2-4	8,048	Musselwhite	Glover	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sun Oct 12	Stoke City	A	1-2	20,127	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Oct 18	Bradford City	H	0-0	7,148	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Tue Oct 21	Huddersfield Town	H	4-1	5,244	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Oct 25	Middlesbrough	A	1-2	30,096	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Porter	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Nov 1	Reading	H	0-0	6,569	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Tue Nov 4	Manchester City	A	3-2	24,554	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Jansson	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Nov 8	Tranmere Rovers	A	2-1	7,063	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Jansson	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Nov 15	West Bromwich Albion	H	1-2	11,124	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Jansson	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Nov 22	Sheffield United	H	0-0	8,017	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Nov 29	Oxford United	A	0-2	5,762	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Dec 6	Birmingham City	H	0-1	7,509	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Griffiths	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Dec 13	Charlton Athletic	A	0-1	11,077	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Bogie	Griffiths	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Dec 20	Ipswich Town	H	1-3	5,784	Musselwhite	Stokes	Tankard	Bogie	Koordes	Snijders	Ainsworth
Fri Dec 26	Stockport County	A	0-3	10,003	Musselwhite	Porter	Tankard	Bogie	Hill	Beesley	Ainsworth
Sun Dec 28	Wolverhampton Wanderers	H	0-2	10,898	Musselwhite	Talbot	Tankard	Bogie	Hill	Beesley	Ainsworth
Sat Jan 3	Arsenal	A	0-0	37,471	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Bogie	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Jan 10	Nottingham Forest	A	1-2	17,639	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Bogie	Aspin	Snijders	Talbot
Wed Jan 14	Arsenal	H	1-1	14,964	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Bogie	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Jan 17	Portsmouth	H	2-1	6,028	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Talbot	Aspin	Beesley	Ainsworth
Sat Jan 24	Crewe Alexandra	H	2-3	10,571	Musselwhite	Hill	Stokes	Talbot	Aspin	Beesley	Ainsworth
Sat Jan 31	Sunderland	A	2-4	39,258	Musselwhite	Carragher	Glover	Talbot	Aspin	Griffiths	Ainsworth
Sat Feb 7	Bury	A	2-2	5,285	Musselwhite	Carragher	Tankard	Jansson	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Sat Feb 14	Norwich City	H	2-2	6,664	Musselwhite	Hill	Tankard	Bogie	Aspin	Snijders	Ainsworth
Tue Feb 17	Swindon Town	H									
Sat Feb 21	Queens Park Rangers	A									
Tue Feb 24	Bradford City	A									
Sun Mar 1	Stoke City	H									
Wed Mar 4	Tranmere Rovers	H									
Sat Mar 7	Reading	A									
Sat Mar 14	Manchester City	H									
Sat Mar 21	West Bromwich Albion	A									
Sat Mar 28	Sheffield United	A									
Sat Apr 4	Oxford United	H									
Sat Apr 11	Birmingham City	A									
Mon Apr 13	Charlton Athletic	H									
Sat Apr 18	Ipswich Town	A									
Sat Apr 25	Middlesbrough	H									
Sun May 3	Huddersfield Town	A									

1

[illegible]

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesbrough	31	18	8	5	51	26	62
Nottingham Forest	30	18	6	6	48	28	60
Sunderland	29	16	7	6	49	28	55
Sheffield United	30	14	12	4	46	31	54
Charlton Athletic	30	15	7	8	53	38	52
West Bromwich Albion	31	14	7	10	33	29	49
Wolves	30	14	6	10	40	30	48
Stockport County	31	14	5	12	49	42	47
Birmingham City	30	11	11	8	37	23	44
Bradford City	32	11	11	10	33	33	44
Swindon Town	32	12	7	13	34	46	43
Ipswich Town	30	10	12	8	41	32	42
Norwich City	31	11	8	12	31	43	41
Crewe Alexandra	31	12	4	15	40	46	40
QPR	31	9	10	12	34	46	37
Reading	30	9	9	12	31	45	36
Oxford United	30	9	6	15	36	44	33
Tranmere Rovers	30	8	9	13	34	38	33
Huddersfield Town	31	8	9	14	33	46	33
Stoke City	31	8	9	14	31	46	33
Port Vale	31	8	7	16	37	49	31
Manchester City	31	7	9	15	33	35	30
Bury	31	5	15	11	28	40	30
Portsmouth	30	6	6	18	32	50	24

APPEARANCES & GOALS

Player	Appearances			Goals		
	League	Cup	Total	League	Cup	Total
Ainsworth	24 (2)	2	26 (2)	2	0	2
Aspin	26	4	30	0	0	0
Beesley	5	0	5	0	0	0
Bogie	20 (4)	3	23 (4)	1	0	1
Burns	0(1)	0	0	0	0	0
Carragher	13	0	13	0	0	0
Corden	19 (7)	4	23 (7)	0	1	1
Eyre	0(1)	0	0	0	0	0
Foyle	8 (18)	0 (2)	8 (22)	4	0	4
Glover	6 (4)	1	7 (4)	1	0	1
Griffiths	3	0	3	0	0	0
Hill	16 (2)	4	20 (2)	0	0	0
Jansson	8 (10)	1 (1)	9 (11)	1	0	1
Koordes	9 (1)	0	9 (1)	0	0	0
McCarthy	4	2	6	0	0	0
Mills	24 (3)	2 (1)	26 (4)	10	2	12
Musselwhite	31	4	35	0	0	0
Naylor	24 (3)	4	28 (3)	9	0	9
Porter	20 (8)	2 (1)	22 (9)	1(p)	0	1(p)
Snijders	21	2	23	2	0	2
Stokes	3 (3)	1	4 (3)	0	0	0
Talbot	28	4	32	5	0	5
Tankard	29	4	33	0	0	0

SUBS NOT USED

v. Arsenal 3/1/98: Van Heusden, Mills, Glover, Jansson
v. Arsenal 14/1/98: Van Heusden, Glover, Stokes

Port Vale Official Club Call - 0891 121636.
Calls cost 50p per minute at all times.

39

The Sponsors

KIT

SPONSOR

Mizuno

**MATCHBALL
SPONSOR**



57b Sackville Street, Basford,
Stoke-on-Trent.
Tel: 01782 631166

Today's Mascots



Martyn Lowe

Our mascots tonight are **Matthew** and **Martyn Lowe** of Etruria. Matthew (7) attends Belmont Infants School in Etruria and Martyn (10) is a pupil at The Close, Penkull.

Martyn and Matthew both enjoy swimming and playing football and Matthew also enjoys pool and is a member of the Port Vale School of Excellence.

Their favourite Vale players are Tony Naylor, Gareth Ainsworth and Martyn also likes Neil Aspin.



Matthew Lowe

Team Check

The Valiants

- 1 Paul Musselwhite
- 2 Matt Carragher
- 3 Allen Tankard
- 4 Ian Bogie
- 5 Andy Hill
- 6 Mark Snijders
- 7 Gareth Ainsworth
- 8 Andy Porter
- 9 Lee Mills
- 10 Tony Naylor
- 11 Jan Jansson

Subs

- 12 Martin Foyle
- 13 Wayne Corden
- 14 Dean Glover

The Robins

- 1 Fraser Digby
- 2 Mark Robinson
- 3 Brian Burrows
- 4 Craig Taylor
- 5 Lee Collins
- 6 Philippe Cuervo
- 7 Scott Leitch
- 8 Bobby Howe
- 9 Ty Gooden
- 10 Chris Hay
- 11 Steve Finney

Subs

- 12 Ian Culverhouse
- 13 Kevin Watson
- 14 Steve Cowe

The Referee

Tonight's referee **MATT D. MESSIAS** who is 33 years old and single. He is a physical education teacher and head of department. He began his refereeing career in local leagues and was promoted through the Northern Counties East League to the Football League Line in 1992/93 season.

In 1995/96 season he was promoted to a Vauxhall Conference/ Pontins League Referee and became a Football League Referee at the beginning of this season. Last March he was an assistant referee in the European Cup Winners Cup Semi-final and in June he was an official at a World Cup Qualifier between Hungary and Norway. Matt enjoys all sports and coaches football, athletics and basketball.

The Officials

Referee

Mr. M. D. MESSIAS

Assistant Referees

Mr A.N. Butler

Mr K.J. Kind

Reserve Official

Mr C.J. Worall

CLUBCALL - 0891 12 16 36

- Live match coverage • Your favourite players interviewed •
 - Hear John Rudge on the line every week •
- The latest news from your club 24 hours a day!

Money from your calls go to help Port Vale FC

Calls cost 50p per minute at all times. CLUBCALL, 1-9 Downham Road, London N1 5AA