

STOKE CITY FOOTBALL CLUB



Stoke City versus Swindon Town

Monday 1st April 2002 • Kick Off 3.00pm

Nationwide League Division Two

@ the Britannia Stadium



Today's Match Sponsors:

John Smith's



www.stokecityfc.com

▶ JONATHAN FULLER

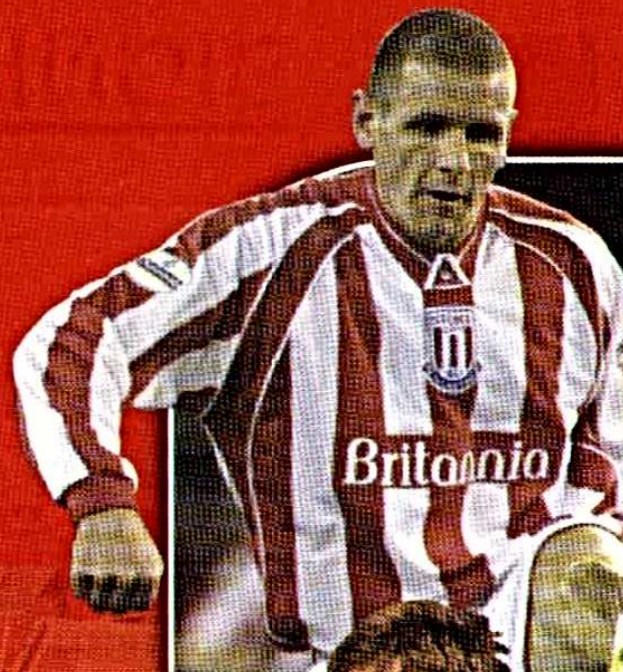
The Potters' Chief Executive welcomes you all to the Britannia Stadium.

▶ 20 QUESTIONS

Ole T Albrigtsen takes time out to let us in on his preferences.

▶ SECOND SCENE

The latest from Martin Spinks.





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*To help us improve our service, calls may be recorded

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Britannia

Britannia Building Society

Britannia House Leek Staffordshire ST13 5RG

04-2001

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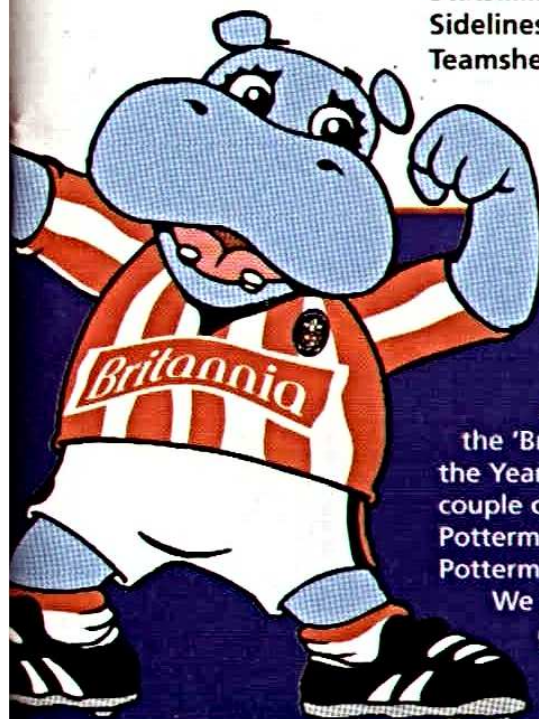


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Pottermus & Family Area page 46

We catch up with Pottermus and here all the latest about the 'Britannia Young Fans Player of the Year'. He also meets up with a couple of 'Brothers' at the Brit. Plus Pottermus Predicts and his very own Pottermus Power! cartoon.

We also take a look at whats been going on in the Family Area.



Stoke City Football Club

Britannia Stadium, Stanley Matthews Way,
Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire. ST4 4EG.

Tel: 01782 592222

Fax: 01782 592221

Website: www.stokecityfc.com

Club President: Gordon Banks

Chairman: Gunnar Thor Gislason

Vice Chairman: Stefan Geir Thorisson

Vice President: Alex Humphreys

Directors: Asgeir Sigurvinsson, Philip Rawlins,
Peter Coates, Keith Humphreys

Chief Executive: Jonathan Fuller

Manager: Gudjon Thordarson

Director of Football: John Rudge

First Team Coach: David Kevan

Goalkeeping Coach: Ronnie Sinclair

Youth Team Coach: Ian Cranson

Academy Director: Keith Leighton

Club Physio: Stefan Stefansson

Financial Controller: Ian Bailey

Club Secretary: Diane Richardson

Stadium & Safety Manager: John Alcock

Matchday Services Manager: Tony Tams

Commercial Manager: Ben Hallam

Commercial Executive: Terry Conroy

Commercial Executive: Heather Deakin

Ticket Office Manager: Richard Potts

Retail Manager: Paul Bradbury

I.T. Manager: Julian Boulton

Media Manager: Ian Bayley

Club Honours

Division 2 Champions: 1932-33, 1962-63, 1992-93

Runners Up: 1921-22

Division 2: Promoted (3rd place) 1978-79

Division 3 (N): Champions: 1926-27

Football League Cup Winners: 1971-72

Runners Up: 1963-64

Autoglass Trophy winner: 1991-92

AutoWindscreen Shield Winners: 1999-2000

F.A. Cup Semi-Finalists: 1898-99, 1970-71, 1971-72

Club Directory

Ticket Office: 01782 592200 Fax: 01782 592201

24hr Credit Card Ticket Bookings:

0990 133221 (Service charge applicable)

Ticket information line: 0875 133221

(Calls cost 60p per minute)

Hospitality, Sales & Marketing

01782 592211 - fax 01782 592210

Public Relations: 01782 592217 - fax 01782 592220

Football Administration:

(Switchboard): 01782 592222 - fax 01782 592221

Events, Conference & Banqueting:

01782 592233 - fax 01782 592232

Britannia Stadium Superstore:

01782 592242 - fax 01782 592243

Football in the Community:

01782 592255 - fax 01782 592254

Accounts: 01782 592266 - fax 01782 592221

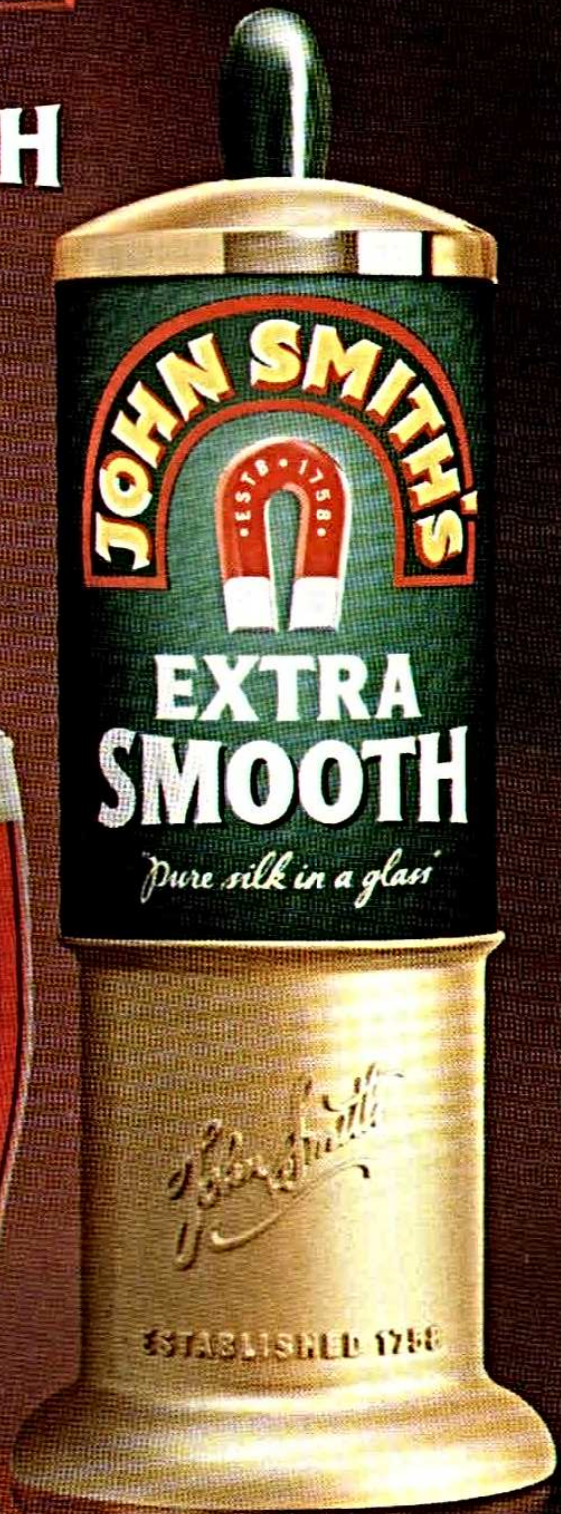
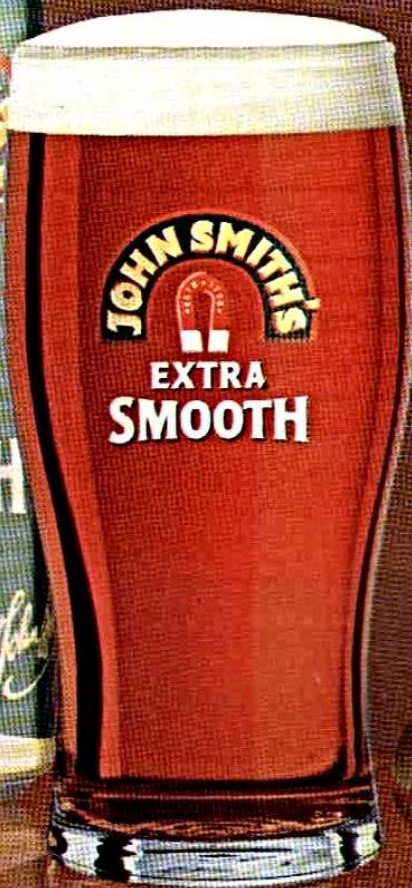
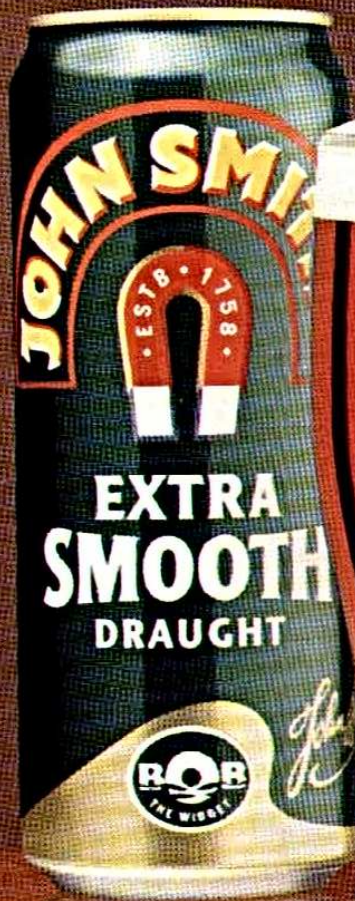
Safety & Maintenance:

01782 592277 - fax 01782 592221

Lotteries: 01782 592288

Club Call: 09068 12 10 40 (Calls cost 60p per minute)

JOHN SMITH'S
ESTD 1758
**EXTRA
SMOOTH**



Pure Silk in a Glass

Welcome From The Chief Executive

Good afternoon and welcome to the Britannia Stadium on this Easter Monday for another vitally important home fixture.

This is a very important time of the year for most clubs on the field, but there are significant events about to take place off it. Over the weekends of April 6 and 13 a wide range of organisations are to make a concerted effort to tackle racism in football. There will be involvement from

all the football authorities and supporter groups, working alongside specific anti-racism campaigns such as Kick It Out. All will be seeking to make a significant impact at removing racism from within football grounds, providing a positive message ahead of the World Cup finals in June and a solid base for a continuing strategy in the new season.

This campaign will receive the full backing from this Club.

Stoke City policy on racist behaviour is quite clear – anyone found guilty of such behaviour either at the Britannia Stadium or at away matches will be banned from attending our matches, besides any punishment handed out by the judicial system.

To date this season two such bans have been issued.

The Club takes no pleasure in taking this action but we will not tolerate such behaviour. Over the last month a so-called fan was banned for racist behaviour towards a Reading fan at the Madejski Stadium. Likewise earlier this season a "supporter" was banned for making racist comments at our home match with

Tranmere Rovers. Both individuals will not be welcome at the

Stadium until at least 2007 when their positions will be reviewed. The Supporters Charter, which was published in December following consultation with the Fans Form, calls for supporters to inform stewards or the police if they see, hear or suspect anti-social behaviour such as racism. Please remember that if you wish to pass on information confidentially the True Supporters hotline number is 01785 238595.

Next week we travel to Oldham for another vitally important fixture. Given some of the unsavoury incidents when we visited the town last April, and the potential risk of any repeat, I ask all Stoke City supporters to abide by the Supporters Charter. Should our numbers be infiltrated by others bent on causing mischief please respond by drowning them out with proper support of our team. Please also remember that this is an all-ticket match. A message from the Oldham Police Commander appears in today's programme. Please read it and absorb its contents.

Finally, I hope everyone has had a good Easter and that we can round it off well this afternoon with another three points. The season is boiling up to a very interesting and exciting climax, with everything to play for. Please get right behind Gudjon and the team, as you have been doing all season, enjoy the game and have a safe journey home.

Should our numbers be infiltrated by others bent on causing mischief please respond by drowning them out with proper support of our team.





News Desk

2002/03 Season Ticket Information

Season Ticket prices have been agreed for next season after consultation with the Stoke City Fans Forum.

If fans choose to buy their season ticket between April 1 and May 31 the savings will be equivalent to four free games, again based on Division Two prices.

On the club gaining promotion, either directly or via the play-offs during this period, the ticket price will be calculated

in line with Division One prices. However, buying your season ticket during this time will still mean savings equivalent to four free games per season.

For supporters who decide to purchase season tickets after May 31st the pricing will be based on whichever division the club is due to play in and the savings discount will be equivalent to three free games.

	Season 2002 / 2003 Division Two			Season 2002 / 2003 Division One		
	Matchday	Until Promotion	Post 31/05/02	Matchday	Season Tickets	Post 31/05/02
John Smiths Upper						
Adult	£20	£380	£400	£21	£399	£420
16 - Plus 64 for Premier Concourse Membership						
U17 / OAP	£12	£228	£240	£13	£247	£260
U11	£8	£152	£160	£9	£171	£180
John Smiths Lower						
Adult	£19	£361	£380	£20	£380	£400
U17 / OAP	£11	£209	£220	£12	£228	£240
U11	£8	£152	£160	£9	£171	£180
Sentinel Stand						
Adult	£18	£342	£360	£19	£361	£380
U17 / OAP	£11	£198	£220	£12	£228	£240
U11	£8	£152	£160	£9	£171	£180
Booths Stand						
Adult	£15 (£17)	£285	£300	£17 (£19)	£299	£340
U17 / OAP	£9 (£11)	£171	£180	£10 (£12)	£190	£200
U11	£8	£152	£160	£9	£171	£180
Family Stand (No Smoking)						
Adult	£16	£288	£300	£17	£299	£340
OAP	£11	£209	£220	£12	£228	£240
U17	£9	£120	£180	£10	£190	£200
U11	£6	£96	£100	£6	£96	£100
U5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Disabled Boys						
Wheelchair	£7	£130	£135	£8	£140	£145
Helper	£7	£130	£135	£8	£140	£145
The BIG Stand						
Adult	£17			£19		
Junior / OAP	£11			£12		

Prices in general have been increased by £1 for Division Two and £2 for Division One.



2002/03 Season Ticket Advantages

- Spread the cost of your Season Ticket over 6 monthly instalments - Adults from only £48.83 per month.
- Junior prices equivalent to only £2.40 per match.
- Adults prices equivalent to only £11.74 per match -
- Your seat is **GUARANTEED** for the season and saves you time in visits to the Ticket Office.
- Priority on match tickets for high-profile fixtures both Home and Away.
- Support the club financially. Your contribution / commitment to a season ticket helps us when revenues are at their lowest.
- Five free matches/massive financial savings.

- Discount on car parking and away travel.
- No hassle. You can reserve your seat automatically for cup-ties and play-off games. This new scheme means your credit card will be debited automatically and your **OWN** seat will be sent out to you as soon as tickets go on sale.
- Discount on club shop merchandise.
- A book of discount vouchers.
- **FREE** admission to reserve games.

WHAT'S NEW FOR NEXT SEASON?

Hassle free reservations for cup games - you can reserve your seat automatically for cup-ties and play-off games. This new scheme means your credit card

will be debited automatically, and your **OWN** seat will be sent out to you as soon as tickets go on sale. You can now book your season ticket via the official club website. This is a new service which saves you time and the expense of visiting our Ticket Office. Even better, there is no booking fee. For further details log on to www.stokecityfc.com

CONTINUING FROM LAST SEASON

For a one-off charge of £10 you can have peace of mind against the potential loss or theft of your season ticket. Season Ticket holders not participating in the insurance scheme will need to pay the full face value for a replacement season ticket.

POLICE NOTICE

Last year's fixture with Oldham saw disgraceful behaviour by a small but significant number of alleged supporters. That behaviour involved racist assaults, threats and chanting pre, during and post match.

The conduct contributed to serious disorder which followed in the town. It will come as no surprise therefore that a major policing operation designed to prevent those issues will be in place at Oldham for this coming fixture. I apologise in advance if the policing operation impacts upon your enjoyment of the match and visit to Oldham. It is essential, however, that the loutish and thuggish actions of a few is firmly policed.

The police will take very firm action against any person who uses racist language or conduct throughout the day.

The police will check to ensure all supporters

have tickets (this being an all ticket match). Any person without a ticket will not be admitted to the ground and will be turned back.

I would ask each of you to help in our efforts to make this game trouble free. Please support my officers by complying with directions given, following agreed routes and escort directions to the ground, and finally disassociating yourselves from any loutish behaviour from those who seek protection by hiding amongst you.

I welcome you to Oldham, please enjoy the day and, with your support, I hope we all enjoy a trouble free day.

David Baines
Chief Superintendent
Greater Manchester Police
Oldham Division

The Kick It Out Campaign

Stoke City Football Club will not tolerate any racial abuse, including chanting or harassment. Such behaviour will result in arrest and ejection from the stadium. Anyone taking part in racial abuse of any kind will be given a lifetime ban from the Britannia Stadium.

**LET'S
 KICK
 OUT OF
 FOOTBALL
 RACISM**



The Gaffer

Due to printing deadlines I have had to write these notes before our game against Brentford, but hopefully things went well for us at Griffin Park two days ago.

They certainly went well for us here against Chesterfield in our last home game.

No one could describe it as a classic, but we got the result we wanted and as a bonus Reading and Brighton both dropped points at home.

It closed things up at the top and we went to Brentford knowing a win there could put us into third place right behind the leading two with automatic promotion still very much on.

What makes the situation so interesting at the top is that so many of the teams still have to play each other.

We took on Brentford on Saturday while Reading were at Bristol City. Today, Bristol City go to Brighton while this coming Saturday Brentford play Huddersfield at home.

On the final day of the season, while we are at Bristol City, Brentford play Reading at Griffin Park. This is why nothing at the top is yet cut and dried.

I said at the start of last month that if we could win our final five home games and pick up points away that we could still finish in the top two. Victories over Brighton, Peterborough and Chesterfield means that we are halfway to completing the task here at the Britannia. Once again, your support will be vital just as it

Please get behind the lads today. Your support last week was excellent. The lads appreciated it.

was against Chesterfield. I would like to thank everyone for the terrific reception you gave to me and the players before that match. It gave us a real lift and enabled us to chisel three points out of difficult opponents who have given little away on their travels this season.

Unfortunately the afternoon was marred by the injury to Brynjar Gunnarsson and the subsequent news that he will miss the remainder of the season.

We have had bad luck with injuries this season, but poor Brynjar has suffered more misfortune than anyone and it looks like it will be next season now before we will see him again.

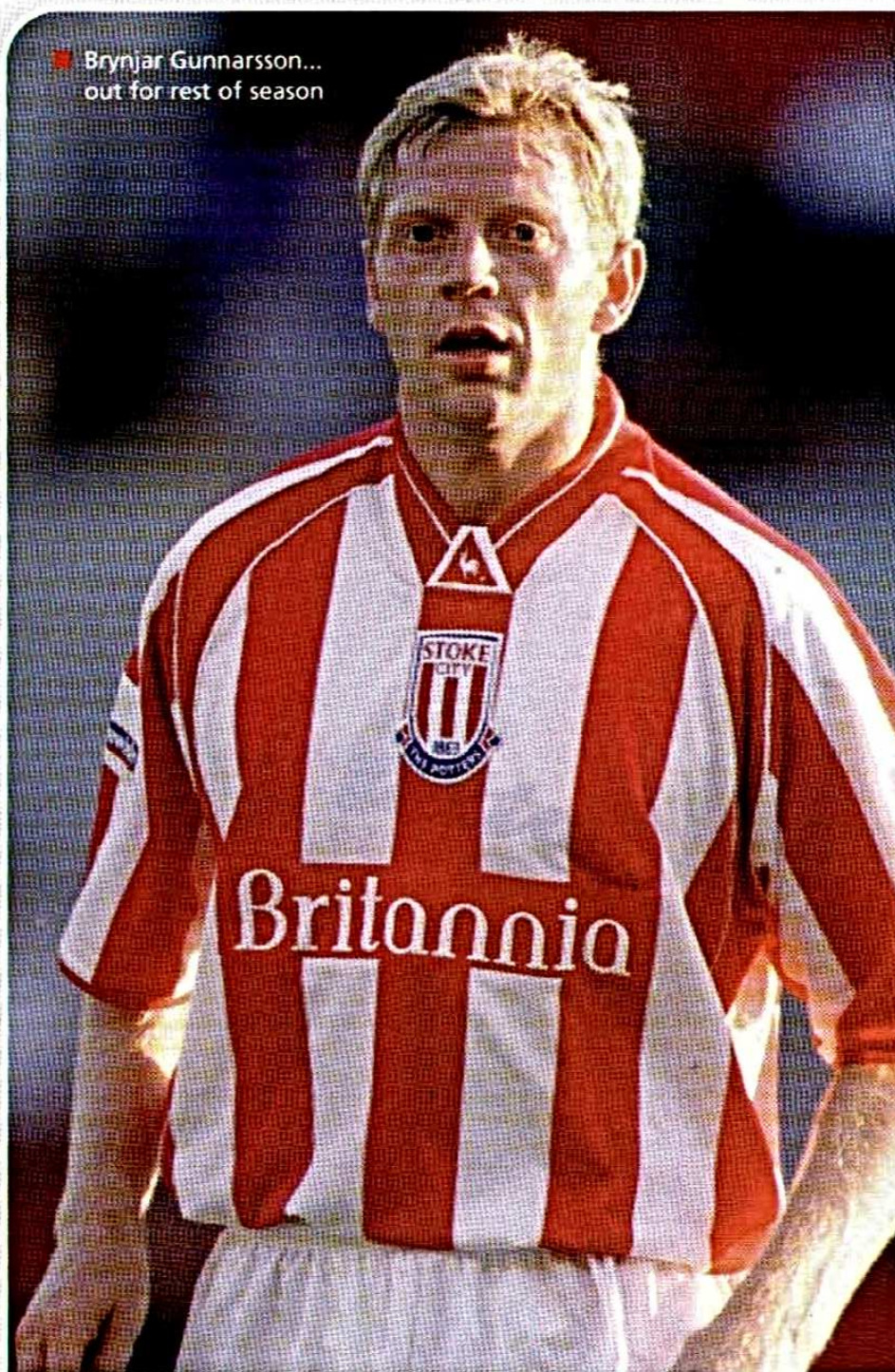
His loss made it imperative that we tried to do something in the transfer market before deadline day last Thursday. Once again, early print deadlines due to Easter prevent me from commenting on any new faces but I sincerely hope we do have one or two new faces making their home debuts today. The Chesterfield game was not one for the video collection, but the goal that won it certainly was.

I think it's fair to say Arnar Gunnlaugsson's first-half strike was one of the best of the season and worthy of winning any match.

Our last two home games have both been settled by Arnar, and proves that at this time of the season while performances may not be at their best one flash of quality can have a huge bearing on the outcome.

Today of course we welcome back Sergie Shtaniuk after his four-game suspension and his

■ Brynjar Gunnarsson...
out for rest of season



presence will give everyone a huge lift.

Finally, don't forget the game at Oldham this weekend kicks off at 1pm and I hope to see as many of you there as possible.

We went to Boundary Park in similar circumstances, needing a win, at the end of last season and you responded

with fantastic support to help the players clinch a vital 2-1 victory.

Enjoy today's game.

Gudjon Thordarson



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* subject to availability, size L only



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Code: 030270Y Size: 164 £17.99
Code: 030270 Size: S, M, L, XL, XXL £19.99



F Mesh Training Jersey

100% Nylon

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Code: 030232Y Size: 164 £21.99
Code: 030232 Size: S, M, L, XL, XXL £24.99

G Sleeveless Tee

100% Cotton

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Code: 030236Y Size: 164 £17.99
Code: 030236 Size: S, M, L, XL, XXL £19.99

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In Defence With **Peter Handyside**

It was nice to be back for the game against Chesterfield. I still had a bit of a dodgy toe, but I trained on the Friday and so was available for selection.

My foot was o.k. I had a boot stretched the night before, so it was a lot wider, with the help of John and Winnie, and that worked quite well, otherwise I would have struggled to get a boot on. The only thing you can say about the game really was that basically it was just another three points, which at this stage of the season is all you can ask for at the start of each game.

The team performance was o.k. Chesterfield didn't have anything to lose so they came to attack and try to score goals, and they are always difficult games when the visiting teams are that little bit more relaxed. They gave it a right good go, and we had to be on our toes.

It was good to see Thommo back in the centre of defence, and when you consider that he has played out of position at right-back all season, he did fantastic. I think it was good for him personally to get back in at centre-half, and he did exceptionally well.

Arnar's strike was superb, and it's good for the rest of us that he has come into the club, because basically, he has got us six points out of the last two home games. Hopefully that will all add up come the end of the season.

There's a doubt that Brynjar might have a re-occurrence of the break he picked up in the same game as me at Christmas time, he's had an X-ray but at the time of writing these programme notes, it's not been conclusive, and that's all I want to say about injuries, I refuse to talk about them any more!

I was pleased that Karl Henry came on for 20 minutes in the England international game against Finland at the Reebok Stadium. He played in the centre of midfield, and gave a very assured performance. Coach Martin Hunter was very pleased with him. This is Karl's first international cap, and will give him a lot of confidence.

Congratulations to Karl, it's great for him personally, and also for Stoke City to have someone representing England. I hope he gets many more caps!

The Brentford game last Saturday was a massive game for both clubs, and I hope that we managed to get something out of that.

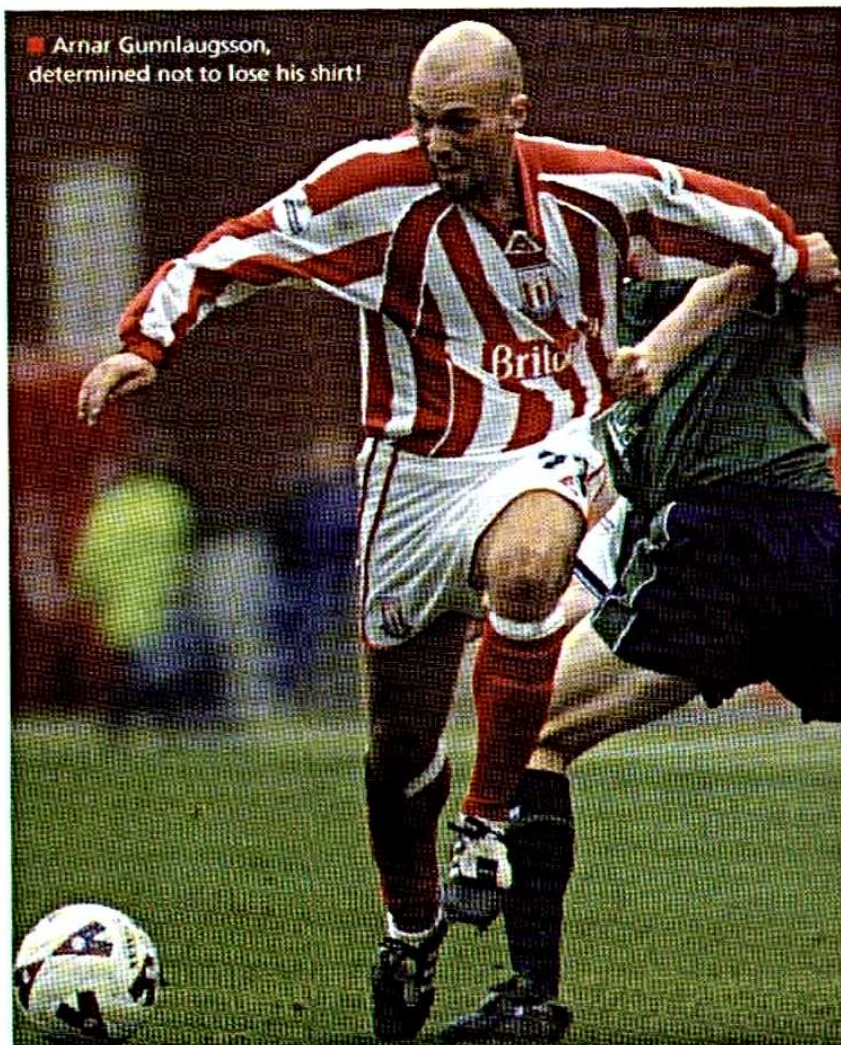
This time of the season is make or break time, and we must make sure we keep our concentration in this hectic period.

Games are now starting to decide league positions and each game is so important.

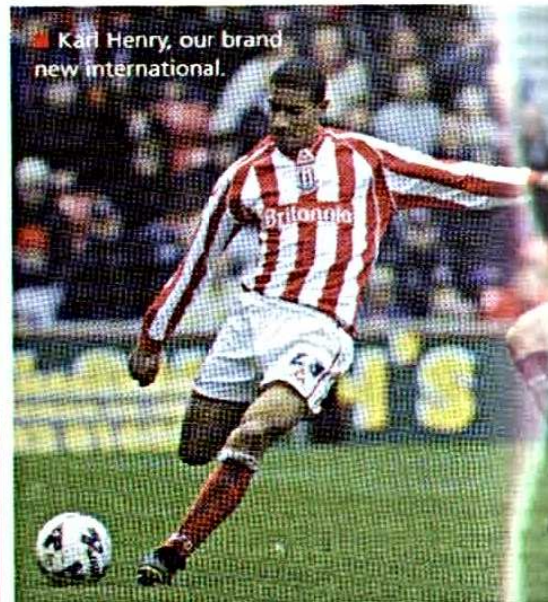
Having to play two games in three days is not an ideal situation, but it's the same for everyone so we'll just have to battle on.



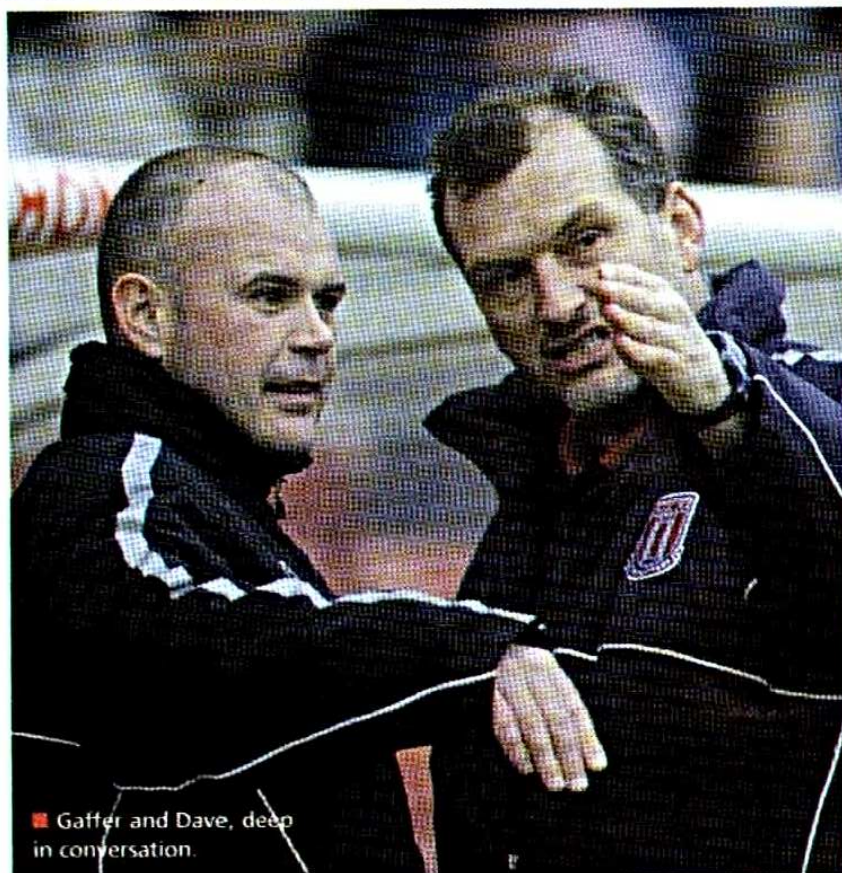
Please get behind the lads this afternoon, we need your fantastic support.



■ Arnar Gunnlaugsson, determined not to lose his shirt!



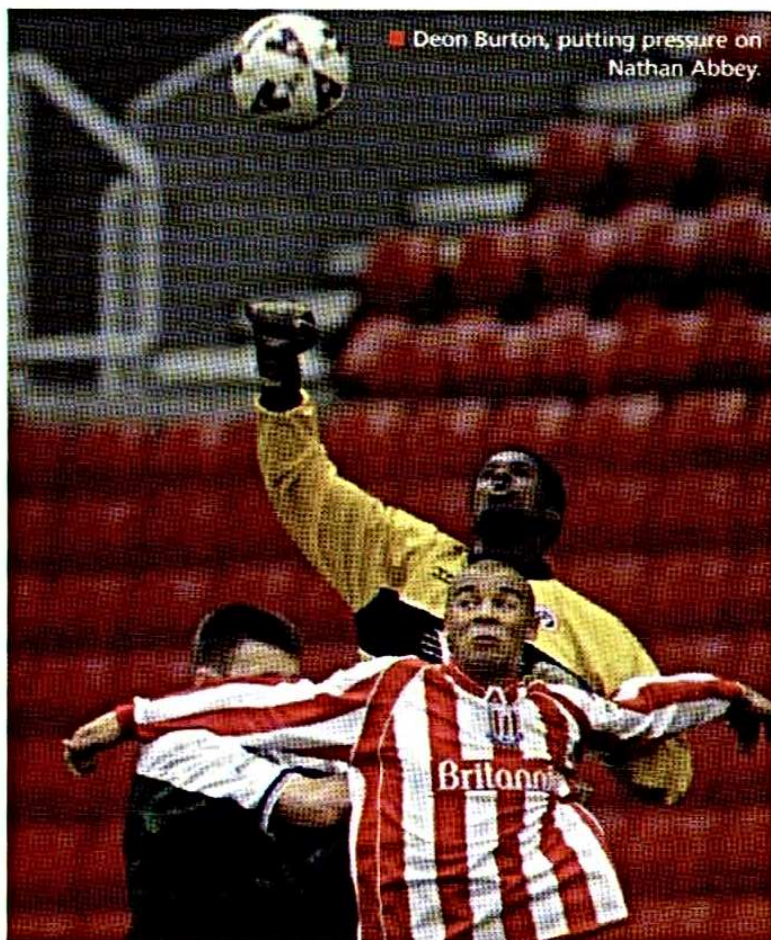
■ Karl Henry, our brand new international.



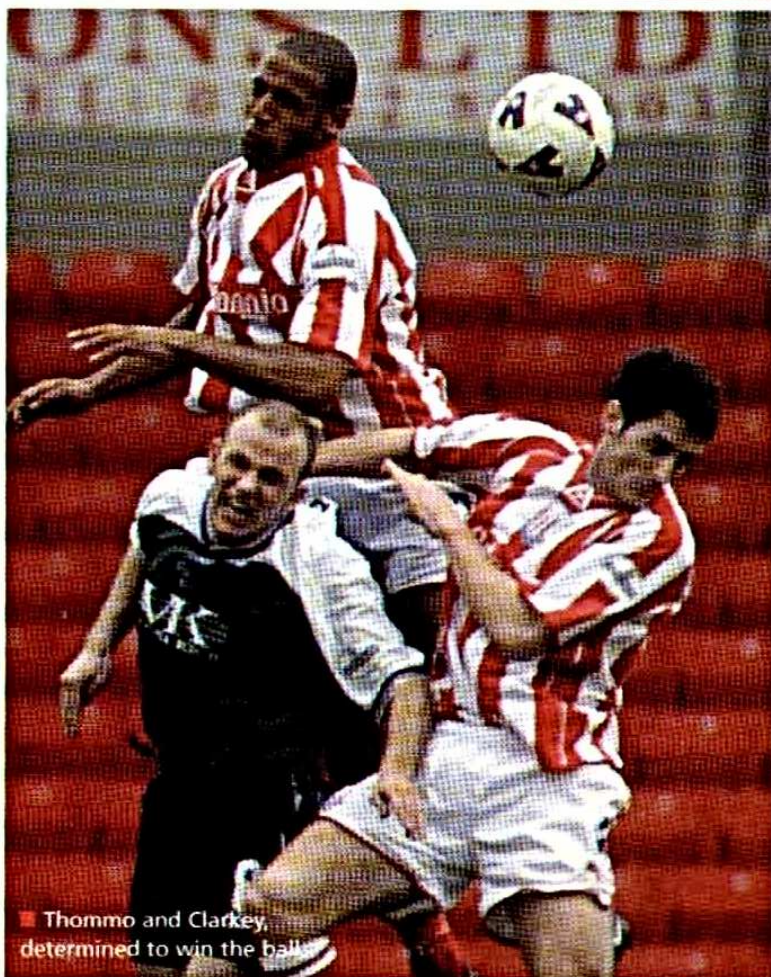
■ Gaffer and Dave, deep in conversation.



■ Arnar, being congratulated by his colleagues after his great goal.



■ Deon Burton, putting pressure on Nathan Abbey.



■ Thommo and Clarke, determined to win the ball.



STOKE CITY 1 CHESTERFIELD 0

Nationwide League
Division 2

Saturday 23rd March 2002
at the Britannia Stadium.

Arnar Gunnlaugsson showed his Premiership class with an unstoppable volley into the top left hand corner of Abbey's net in the 22nd minute to ensure that the three vital points belonged to Stoke.

Ian Breckin failed to control a loose ball 25 yards out and Gunnlaugsson didn't hesitate, hitting a terrific shot that gave Abbey no chance, as Stoke tightened their grip on a top six place by disposing of Chesterfield.

City were rarely at their most fluent, and Neil Cutler's safe handling prevented an equaliser on 65 minutes, and even though this was not one of Stoke's better performances of late, all that mattered was the result. Brighton and Reading both slipped up, enabling City to close the gap slightly on the leading pack.

Jurgen Vandeuren missed a late chance from a through ball from Peter Hoekstra to prevent a nervous last ten minutes, but City managed to keep Chesterfield at bay. Wayne Thomas, back in the centre of defence with Peter Handyside, playing his first game since breaking a toe two weeks ago, had an assured, confident game, after playing at right-back for most of the season.

Player Talk



Midfielder Bjarni Gudjonsson has now completed two years at Stoke City, and says that he found it quite easy to settle down here because of the number of Scandinavians at the club.

■ "When we are training, or playing in a match, we all get along, whatever the nationality. Outside of football I do find that the different nationalities tend to socialise with people from their own parts of the world. We all seem to have our own little communities, and because of that it has made it easier to settle here.

We all get along well in the dressing room, most of the 'foreigners' speak English, so it is very easy to communicate with each other, and usually we would train for a couple of hours a day together and then some players may go to the gym to do some weights and extra training there, but normally we train for around two to three hours a day with one aim - three points from the next game.

Contrary to popular belief, I am not treated any differently by the players because the gaffer is my father. Sometimes they do joke about it, but that's fine, and I try my very best to make certain that I prove myself with my ability on the field. I feel that I made a positive contribution towards the three vital points we gained against Chesterfield, and

hopefully we have been able to continue our run against Brentford last Saturday.

I do feel hurt sometimes when I hear what people are saying about me, but I have to try and make certain that I don't let it get to me and affect my game. Of course, when you are playing well and having a good game, it just bounces off you because the majority of Stoke supporters know that you are having a good game and trying your best. I always try to let the negative comments pass me by and get on with things, but it is difficult sometimes, especially when you are so close to the supporters. The majority though, try and encourage me, and I take heart from that.

Our squad has had numerous injuries to cope with over the past three months, and that has affected our pattern of play. It's not easy to be consistent when so many players are out of the team, and it would be difficult for any club to cope with the loss of their two strongest centre halves, Peter Handyside through injury and Sergei Shtaniuk through suspension, but Peter is now back in the team, and Sergei should be available today. We will put up a good fight for that second automatic promotion spot. I think it's going to be harder for us to reach that second spot now, but it's still not out of our reach and we need to get a good run going to make sure we are still in contention for the last part of the season.

The last couple of games we have been playing 4-3-3 and I've been more central. I have enjoyed that a lot more, but I think any player would say that as long as they are playing they are pretty happy with that, and I know that all the lads will be trying their utmost to ensure that we gain maximum points out of every game. Please get behind us today, your support is vital."

We all seem to have our own little communities, and because of that it has made it easier to settle here.



with...
Bjarni Gudjonsson

Kit Sponsors

**Gudjon Thordarson**

**Steve Hill,
Impington, Cambridge
The Railway Vue**

**1 Gavin Ward**

**Ian Holmes,
Stafford**

**2 Mikael Hansson**

**Maintech Building
Services Ltd, Audley**

**3 Clive Clarke**

Mrs. June Forrester

**4 Peter Handyside**

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John Burgess, Ripon, N.Y'shire

**5 Sergei Shtaniuk**

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**6 Brynjar Gunnarsson**

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Away Kit
The Oatcake

**7 Bjarni Gudjonsson**

Mary & Roger Davis

**8 Andy Cooke**

**Knypersley &
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**10 Rikhardur Dadason**

**Hunts Removals,
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**11 Peter Hoekstra**

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Julia Zuk
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**Julian & Sam -
Battersea Stokies**

**15 Chris Iwelumo**

**Warner
Village Cinemas,
Newcastle Under Lyme,
08702 406020**

**16 Stefan Thordarson**

**David Newman
'Guernsey Dave'**

**17 James O'Connor**

Home Kit
**Southern
Supporters Club**
Away Kit
Barry Booth

**19 Marc Goodfellow**

Home Kit
Jeff Lea & family

**20 David Rowson**

**J.J. Comley
Newsagents,
Wheldon Road, Fenton**

**23 Karl Henry**

**J.J. Comley
Newsagents,
Wheldon Road, Fenton**

**26 Ole T. Albrigtsen**

Ole 8's Oatcake Army

**27 Jurgen Vandeuren**

Home Kit
**Connect Insurance Brokers,
Stafford Street, Hanley**
Away Kit
John & Kath Rhodes

**John Rudge**

**Duke of Wellington
Blythe Bridge
01782 395129**

**Pottermus**

**Stoke City
Supporters Club**

OLE T ALBRIGTSEN, yet to make an impact in the first-team because of a niggling groin injury, answers the questions this week.

20 Questions



Books or Films

Madonna or Maradona

Florida or Canaries

Sun or Daily Sport

McDonalds or Burger King

BMW or Jaguar

Atomic Kitten or Destiny's Child

Liverpool or Manchester United

Gladiator or Titanic

Dog or Cat

BBC's 10 pm News or

Sky Sports News

Reserved or Bubbly

Indian or Chinese

Gardening or DIY

Phone or E-mail

Petite or Voluptuous

Skiing or Swimming

Wilbur Smith or Alistair McLean

Burgers or Hot Dogs

Theatre or Art Gallery

Did You Know?

■ Caught the eye of the City management when he came over on trial and scored a hat-trick in a reserve game in December.

■ He was offered a 12-month contract and joined the club at the start of 2002, turning full-time and giving up his job as a policeman in Norway, where he played part-time for Vesteralen.

■ At 26 he is a late starter in professional football, but undoubtedly has an eye for goal and set a scoring record in Norwegian soccer, with 55 goals in 24 games.

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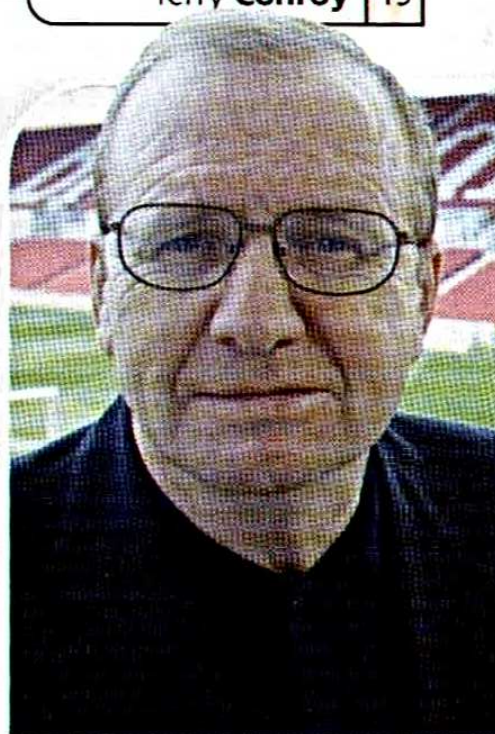
Mind Games

Trying to gain a psychological advantage over your opponents is a major factor in today's sporting encounters.



■ Bill Shankly...
master of kidology

■ Wimbledon were notorious for playing loud music in their dressing rooms, and players were happy head-butting the walls! When John Beck was in charge of Cambridge, he made the players take very cold showers before the game to get them psyched up. Waddo never went to any extremes to gee us up. However, Bill Shankly was a master of kidology. I remember arriving at Anfield and 'Shanks' would be standing there, waiting to greet us. He would shake us by the hand (not the neck) and wish us good luck. You knew he didn't really mean it! He would then look at his watch and say, 'I didn't think you were going to turn up today.' Now straight away that put a doubt in your mind. One up for 'Shanks.' He would then go into the dressing room and immediately sit down. The Liverpool lads would ask him what was wrong, and he called to Joe Fagan, who was then the trainer, to get him a brandy. Bill never smoked or drank in his life. All of a sudden, the players were all focused on him. 'What's wrong boss?' they all said. 'I've just seen George Eastham and he doesn't look well. As a matter of fact, I think he is seriously ill.' You can imagine the boost this gave to the



Liverpool lads. He had convinced them that they were playing a weakened side. The famous story told about Bill, was when they were playing Manchester United, he was analysing the strengths and weaknesses. 'Harry Gregg in goal,' he said 'is nicknamed Crocus, because he only comes out once a year. Shay Brennan, right-back, used to be a left-winger. Tony Dunne, left-back, is all right-footed. Paddy Crerand, very deceptive, is slower than he looks.' He then proceeded to talk about Nobby Stiles, Bill Foulkes, John Aston, and Brian Kidd. That was 8 players, and then he sat down. Ronnie Yates, the Liverpool skipper, stood up and said 'boss, you forgot to mention Denis Law, Bobby Charlton and George Best.' Quick as a flash, Bill said 'aye, they are some performers, but if you can't beat 3 players, then it's time to get rid of the lot of you.' Some team talk.

Enjoy the game!

Backstage at the Brit

with Hazel Bailey

I met chief executive Jonathan Fuller on the very first day he started here, I was helping out in the Club Shop, and he came down to buy an A-Z of Stoke City. I had absolutely no idea who he was - good impression or what!

Because of Jonathan's extremely hectic work schedule, Backstage this week takes the format of 'questions and answers.'

You have now been at Stoke City for almost two years, are you enjoying your time here?

I certainly am, the staff and supporters of the Club have made me very welcome. Naturally, I'm sure I will enjoy it all the more once we're promoted!

How is your family enjoying being in the Potteries? Do they like it here?

The move has been good for all the family. I have

two young boys who, along with my wife, have settled well in the area.

As a qualified accountant, how did you become involved with Charlton Athletic, had you always been interested in football?

Like many youngsters I would have loved to have become a professional footballer, but this was never a realistic ambition due to what can only be described as a lack of talent, rugby was my forte. I did always wonder about working in some capacity within football. Back in the late 1980's club boards were starting to recognise that running football clubs required full-time 'business professionals' and I was in the fortunate position to take

advantage of this need.

You were at The Valley for 7 years, and were instrumental in taking the club back to its former home. What pressures were on you then?

I was delighted to be offered an opportunity at a First Division football club, even though at that time they were ground sharing with Crystal Palace. However, within a few days of taking up my position I soon became aware of the financial difficulties Charlton was actually in, with crowds down as low as 4,000. There was no money for either new players or indeed to rebuild The Valley. We had a pretty perilous couple of years flirting with winding up petitions as we sought new finance (hiding from the Inland Revenue debt collector became my speciality!!) The team on the field, led by Alan Curbishley and Steve Gritt, did a magnificent job to maintain our League position. After much hard work, enough money was raised by the Board and supporters to get Charlton back to The Valley in December, 1992 from where they have never looked back. Getting the club back to their rightful home was a real achievement. One of my most treasured football mementos is a photograph taken by one of the national newspapers of me helping to paint the railings around the ground the night before we were due to kick off the first match back. It was certainly a hands-on time, with lots of pressure but many great memories.



■ Jonathan Fuller



How did your move to Carlisle come about? Were you head-hunted?

After 7 seasons at Charlton I was ready for a new challenge. I actually applied for the position on seeing an advertisement, but knew I stood a pretty good chance. I had known the Carlisle Chairman for a number of years, and he knew all about my background and family connections within the Carlisle Area.

What was the difference between working at Charlton and working at Carlisle?

The obvious difference was a much smaller budget to work with. Also the seven seasons at Charlton had been spent mainly in the middle of the table except for 1996 when we reached the play-offs (along with Stoke.) At Carlisle, in just three seasons, I experienced promotion, relegation, the thrill of winning the Auto Windscreen Shield at Wembley and what it feels like when your on loan goalkeeper scores in the 94th minute of the last match of the season to preserve your League status. Working with Michael Knighton could never be described as dull!

Did you apply for the position at Stoke City, or were you approached by the board?

At the end of the 1999-2000 season Stoke City approached me after I had been recommended by a number of senior people within the game. Life at Carlisle towards the end was close to the edge, to say the least, and I had my family to consider. I travelled down to the Britannia for the Gillingham play-off match and was so impressed by the club, its potential and its support that I decided this was the place for me.

Do you find it difficult working for a board that is so far away?

Not at all, through the wonders of modern communications, we are all in daily contact via e-mail. Conference calls between the Chairman in Iceland, Phil Rawlins in the States and myself keep us all in touch. As long as I remember the time difference between Stoke and Colorado and don't wake Phil up in the middle of the night, it works fine.

Do you feel that there is a great pressure for us to gain promotion this season?

From my first day at the Club I was aware of the pressure for us to gain promotion as quickly as possible. Obviously, at this stage of the season, it is brought even sharper into focus. Having gained promotion, the next challenge will be to ensure the Club goes on from there and builds towards the next promotion, rather than ever slipping back again - that is a challenge I look forward to working on in the not too distant future.

Expectations are always high from Stoke fans, does this put even more pressure on you personally?

Of course, that's football!

Away from the promotion battle, what other projects are you currently involved in?

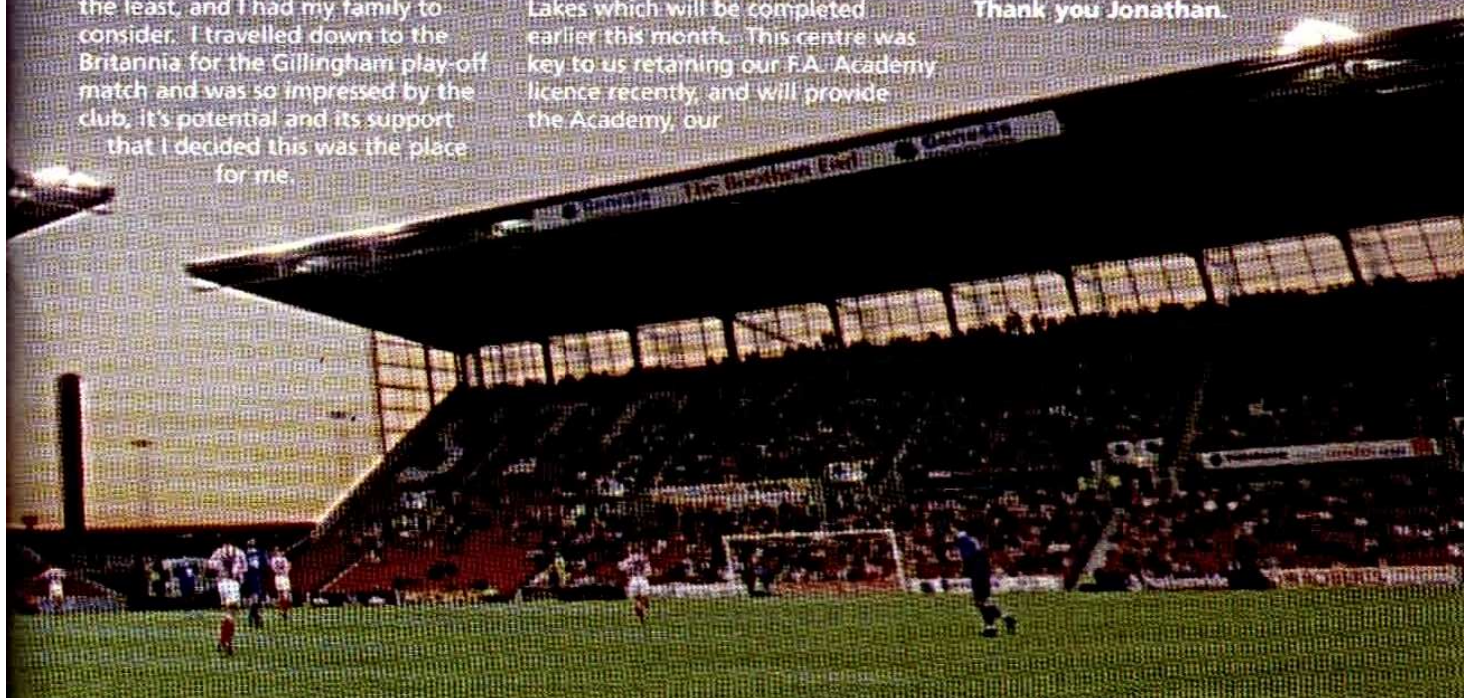
Much of my time recently has been taken up working on the new Indoor Training Facility on Trentham Lakes which will be completed earlier this month. This centre was key to us retaining our F.A. Academy licence recently, and will provide the Academy, our

professionals, Stoke City Ladies and Stoke City Multi-disabled teams with superb training conditions. In addition I'm pleased to say many others will have access to the facility through our Community Scheme. I've also been heavily involved with the under 21 game coming up at the Brit on 16th April. I was delighted to have persuaded the F.A. to award the Club with such a prestigious fixture as it gives us and Stoke on Trent a wonderful opportunity to show what we are all about. The Club has its part to play in lifting the profile of Stoke on Trent, and this is an ideal opportunity.

What has been your favourite game during your time at the Brit?


It would have to be the Reading match back in September. Emotions were quite naturally running high following the sale of Peter Thorne, that week we had also witnessed the tragic scenes in the States on 11th September. The football the lads served up that day will live long in the memories of all of us fortunate to have been present. I would like to thank everyone for their tremendous support this season. We have had a few slip-ups along the way, but overall I think that the team has performed extremely well on the field when you consider all of the unfortunate injuries we have endured, and I would ask you to get behind the lads today.

Thank you Jonathan.





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Introducing The Robins

by Tony Tams

Manager Andy King was replaced by Roy Evans a week before the start of the season, but returned to the hot-seat in December, 2001 when Evans left the club.

As with many Nationwide Division Two and Division Three clubs, it has been a struggle for our visitors financially, and already this season, the PFA have stepped in to pay the wages. Assistant manager, Malcolm Crosby, has been quick to praise the players' attitude during the Robins troubled season. The cash-strapped club is getting back on it's feet and financial plans to take the club forward are on the verge of being finalised.

Crosby said, 'it has been tough, but the players have not let the situation affect them.'

Player-coach Neil Ruddock has been out of action for a while, and finally got a game ten days ago, and then declared his intention to make a first-team return before the end of the season. The former Liverpool and England centre-half played in the reserves in a Wiltshire Shield semi-final victory over Wootton Bassett.

Last Saturday they faced new LDV Vans Winners Blackpool before facing us here at the Britannia Stadium today. Printing deadlines prevent us from giving an update on the outcome of this game.

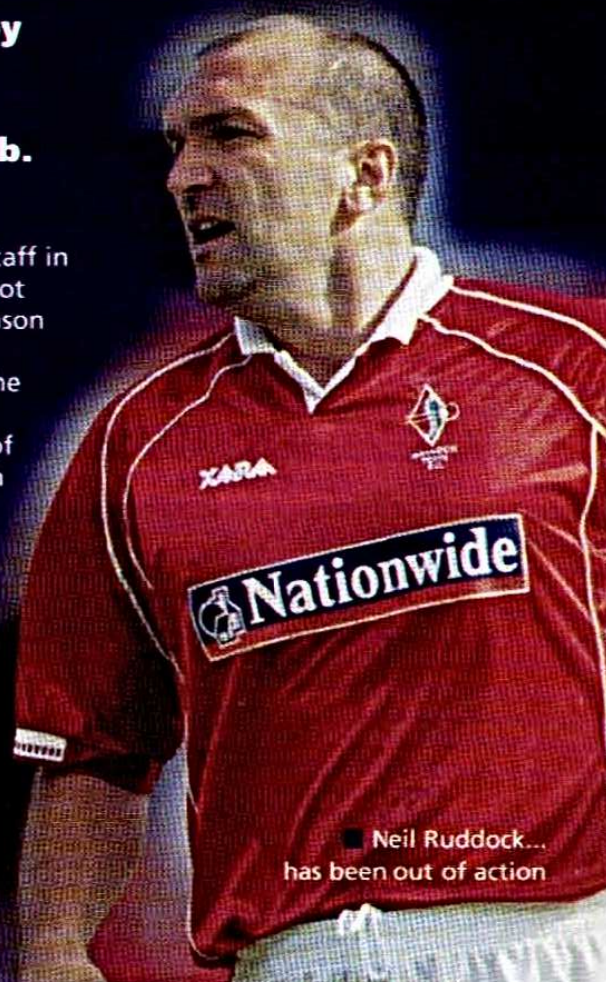
Despite their financial problems this season, the club had managed to climb up to 14th place in the table before Saturday's game, and great

credit must go to the managerial and playing staff in ensuring the Robins are not involved in the end of season relegation dog-fight.

One of the men behind the clubs successful efforts to stay clear of the bottom of the table is defender Alan Reeves. He left Wimbledon to join Swindon in search of regular football, as well as being a good professional he is a great team leader and motivator.

Goals have been hard to come by, and they have relied heavily on the form of Guiliano Grazioli. He is the leading goalscorer on 8 league goals prior to last Saturday's fixture.

Although our visitors now look safe on 51 points, we will not be expecting an easy game today. Our last two opponents at the Britannia Stadium, Peterborough United and Chesterfield, pushed us all the way, and were very determined opposition. I am sure we can expect no less from Andy King's men today.



■ Neil Ruddock... has been out of action

Data File

as at Sunday 24th March

LEAGUE POSITION	14th
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	6,340
LAST SIX GAMES - CURRENT FORM	
Won 2 Drawn 2 Lost 2	
Goals For 6 Against 6	
LEADING SCORERS	
Giuliano GRAZIOLI	8
Danny INVINSIBLE	6
Andy GURNEY	5
GAMES LEFT	
Sat 6th April	QPR (H)
Tue 9th April	Cambridge (A)
Sat 13th April	Brighton (A)
Sat 20th April	Wycombe (H)



Bart GREMINK



Sol DAVIS



The Key Men

We take a look at some of The Robins' main players....

BART GRIEMINK
Born: Grongingen
Height: 6' 4"
Weight: 15 stone 4 lbs

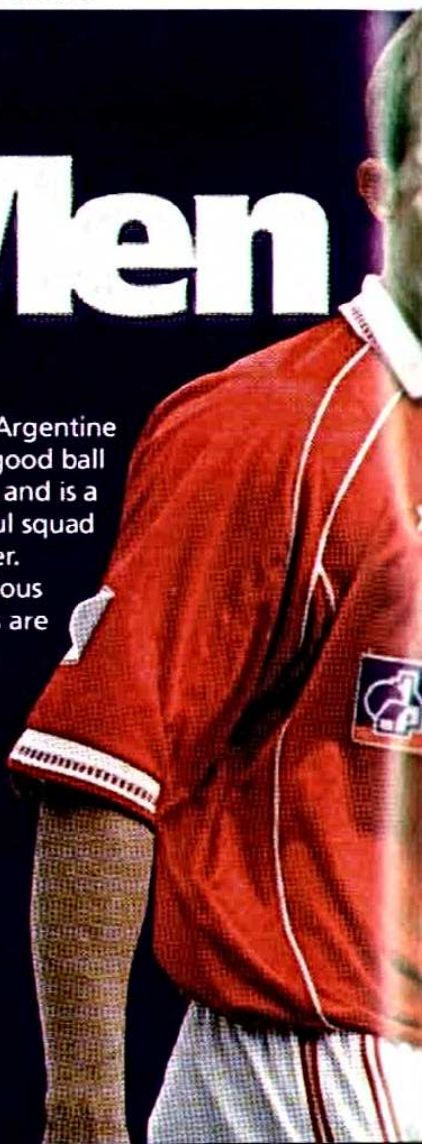
Bart made just 44 league appearances for Peterborough United before his move to Wiltshire. He went straight into the side, but lost his place to Mildenhall after a suspension. Bart has one Holland cap at U21 level.

MATTHEW HEWLETT
Born: Bristol
Height: 6' 2"
Weight: 11 stone 3 lbs

Seen as a very talented player, a number of injuries kept him out for the majority of the 1998/99 season, limiting his opportunities to shine. Unfortunately injury again struck Matt last season, but his return to the side proved to be essential in the club's survival this year.

JUAN COBIAN
Born: Buenos Aires
Height: 5' 9"
Weight: 11 stone 10 lbs

The Argentine has good ball skills and is a useful squad player. Previous clubs are Boca





David DUKE



Alan REEVES



Juniors, Sheffield Wednesday and Charlton Athletic.

BOBBY HOWE

Born: Cramlington

Height: 5' 7"

Weight: 10 stone 4 lbs

Bobby signed for Swindon in 1998 from Nottingham Forest where his opportunities were limited. Howe has had a good season, and become Town's chief playmaker.

SOL DAVIS

Born:

Cheltenham

Height: 5' 8"

Weight: 10 stone 4 lbs

Sol made his debut as a sub at QPR shortly

after his 18th birthday. His first full appearance came away from home with a derby clash at Oxford. Sol is a good long term prospect for the club and figured on a regular basis last season. His determination and strength are his strongest qualities.

DAVID DUKE

Born: Inverness

Height: 5' 10"

Weight: 10 stone 13 lbs

He joined Swindon on a free in July 2000 after impressing in friendlies. David has also fitted in the left wing-back role and has impressed the fans with his determination.

KEITH O'HALLORAN

Born: Dublin

Height: 5' 9"

Weight: 12 stone 3 lbs

Played 60 times in Scotland before returning to England for the start of Colin Todd's reign.

Keith is a natural right-footer, he scored six times last season and is the club's penalty taker.

ALAN REEVES

Born: Birkenhead

Height: 6'

Weight: 11 stone 13 lbs

Alan left the 'Crazy Gang' for Swindon in search of regular football. A good professional, 'Reevesy' also has the ability to score. He's a good team leader and an excellent motivator. The 32-year old has agreed a new one year deal.

MATTHEW HEYWOOD

Born: Chatham

Height: 6' 4"

Weight: 14 stone

Matt signed until next season. He could prove to be a valuable asset, strong in the air, good positional play and even an eye for goal. The Swindon defensive record has improved since his arrival.



Visiting Manager Andy King

Andy had trials with Tottenham Hotspur before signing apprentice forms for Luton Town as a 16-year old. He turned professional in July, 1974.

 Andy made 33 appearances for the Hatters before signing for Everton in March, 1976 for £35,000.

In his first four years on Merseyside he appeared in the First Division 151 times, finding the net on 38 occasions. King's goals ensured the Toffees made it into the UEFA Cup for the 1978-79 season. King moved to QPR in September, 1980 for a £425,000 fee. A year later he moved to the Hawthorns, joining West Bromwich Albion for £400,000. He was a member of the side that reached the F.A. Cup semi-

final in 1982. In the summer of 1982 he returned to Everton.

In 1984 King moved to Holland to play for S.C. Cambuur, he played for one season then signed for Wolves in January, 1985. He spent nearly a year at Molineux, finishing as the club's top scorer for that season, having had a loan spell in Sweden with F.C. Orebo.

King returned to Kenilworth Road in December, 1985 and then had spells assisting Aldershot, Aylesbury, Waterford, Cobh Ramblers and Southport.

He went back to Luton as commercial manager, before moving back into management with Mansfield Town in November, 1993. He held that post at Field Mill until September, 1996.

Andy King was appointed as coach to Swindon boss Colin Todd, before eventually taking up the position himself. Andy was replaced by Roy Evans a week before the start of the 2001/02 campaign, but returned to the hot-seat in December, 2001 when Evans departed the club.



One To Watch

...Guiliano Grazioli

Born: Marlebone

Height: 5' 11"

Weight: 11 stone 13 lbs

■ Grazioli was the leading scorer in the 1999 campaign, but due to injury last season struggled to regain his form. Graz has been looking to feature strongly this season and cement his place up front.

The Star Man

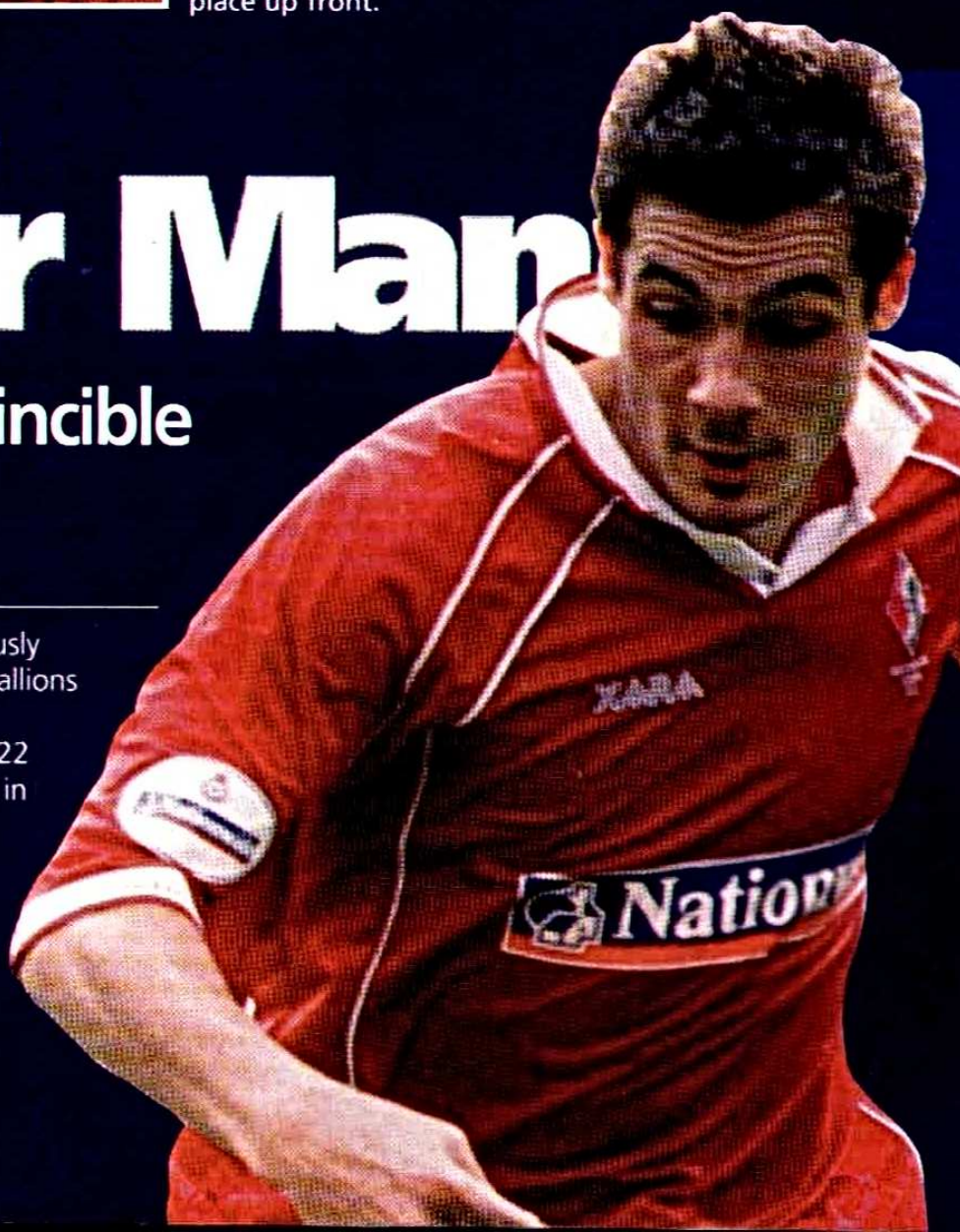
...Daniel Invincible

Born: Brisbane

Height: 6'

Weight: 12 stone 4 lbs

■ The Australian previously played for Marconi Stallions and has represented Australia at U-20 level. The 22 year old scored on his debut in a 1-1 game against West Bromwich Albion. Danny plays on the right and has lightening pace. He finished top scorer last season with ten goals, the most vital being the winner against Peterborough.



Games To Remember



STOKE CITY 2 SWINDON TOWN 0 Nationwide League Division One 14th December 1996

Striker Mark Stein's first goals since his return to The Victoria Ground on loan from Chelsea, inspired the Potters to their third successive League win and as a result edged them up three places to seventh in the First Division table while Swindon slipped down two pegs to thirteenth.

Following wins over Charlton Athletic and Tranmere Rovers in the space of four days (without conceding a goal) Stoke were in a confident mood from the word go and peppered the Swindon goal for a good 20 minutes, Fraser Digby keeping his side in the game with important saves from Stein, Mike Sheron and Graham Kavanagh.

The visitors, who managed only one direct shot on goal in the first-half, fell behind a minute before the interval when Stein collected Kavanagh's measured through pass, out-stripped a languishing defence before drilling a low left-footer past Digby from 12 yards.

Early in the second-half it should have been 2-0 but Sheron missed from close range while at the other end, Stoke keeper Mark Prudhoe had to be alert to prevent Wayne Allison from getting in a close range shot. Prompted by Ian Culverhouse, Swindon got more and more into the game but Stoke suddenly went into over-drive and on 64 minutes

the alert Stein doubled his goal tally. This time it was Sheron who created the opening, splitting the Robins' defence with a pin-point pass. Stein raced clear and when he was 15 yards from goal he unleashed a stunning drive which simply flew past the despairing figure of Digby like a rocket.

Swindon rallied for a while after player-manager Steve McMahon had entered the action with just over 20 minutes remaining, but they never really caused the stubborn Potters' defence any trouble despite winning five corners.

Mike Sheron fluffed a couple of easy-looking chances to consolidate Stoke's position while 'Steino' SHOULD have grabbed his hat-trick goal but somehow contrived to miss a relatively easy chance from close range.

It was well worth the admission money in the end for the 10,102 strong crowd who applauded Stein and his colleagues off the pitch at the final whistle.

Swindon boss Steve McMahon said afterwards: "We weren't at the races. Stoke played well and although we were below full strength, I think they would have beaten us if I had fielded my strongest line-up."

The teams from 1996 were:

Stoke City

Prudhoe; Pickering, Griffin; Sigurdsson, Whittle, Forsyth; Devlin (sub MacKenzie), Wallace, Stein, Sheron and Kavanagh.

Subs not used:

P.Macari and M.Macari.

Swindon Town

Digby; Kerslake, Elkins; O'Sullivan (sub Smith), Robinson, Darrass, (sub Collins); Culverhouse, Watson, Cowe, Allison, Walters (sub McMahon).

The referee was **MR A. KAYE** from Bradford.

■ Mark Stein...inspired the Potters



FIRST UP

The first team to visit The Britannia Stadium to contest a league game was Swindon Town. They travelled north on 30 August 1997 and returned to Wiltshire after recording a famous 2-1 victory in front of 26,335 fans. Richard Forsyth netted for the Potters while Wayne Allison and Chris Hay did the business for the Robins who came back from a goal down to score twice in the last 13 minutes.

LAST SEASON & THIS

It was all-square last season as Swindon won 2-1 here at The Britannia Stadium and Stoke ran up a 3-0 scoreline in their favour at The County Ground. In fact, the Potters repeated that victory to a tee earlier this season on Swindon soil.

BIG SCORES

Swindon humbled the Potters to the tune of 6-0 in a home Second Division match in November 1989. The Robins also won 3-0 (h) and 4-1 (a) in the space of 24 hours in the old Southern League in December 1911. Stoke's best win in terms of goal-difference has been 3-0, achieved twice (see above).

CUP ACTION

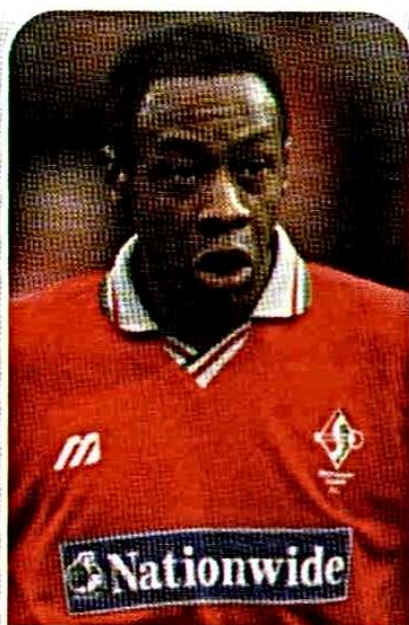
Stoke defeated Swindon 3-1 in a 3rd round FA Cup-tie at The County Ground in January 1949 - their only Cup success from the five played (in two major competitions) so far.

MANAGER

Lou Macari has managed both clubs - Stoke (twice) 1991-93 and 1994-97 and Swindon Town for five years in the mid 1980s.

FOOT IN BOTH CAMPS

Over the years there have been several high-quality players who have donned the respective red and white kits of both Stoke City and Swindon Town, among them being Paul Allen, big Dave Bamber, Richard Dryden, Steve Foley, Dave Hockaday, Chris Kamara, Kyle Lightbourne, Paul Richardson, Peter Thorne, Keith Scott and former England international



■ Mark Walters ... served both clubs

winger Mark Walters.

STILL GOING STRONG

MARK WALTERS was born in Aston, Birmingham on 2 June 1964. A pupil at Hampton Junior and Holte Grammar Schools (Lozells, Birmingham), he represented Aston & District Boys and Birmingham Schools before joining Aston Villa as a junior in June 1980, turning professional in May 1982 just as the European Cup came to Villa Park. He moved to Glasgow Rangers for £600,000 in December 1987, switched to Liverpool for £1.25 million in August 1981 and found his way to Stoke City (on loan) during March/April 1994. He had a similar spell with Wolverhampton Wanderers (September/October 1994) and then joined Southampton on a free transfer in January 1996, transferring to Swindon Town (also on a free) in July 1996. He moved to his present club, Bristol Rovers, in November 1999 and is now engaged as player-coach under manager Garry Thompson, also a former Villa player.

A wing-forward, Walters could occupy either flank. A tricky player with excellent pace, clever tricks and telling shot, he can cross a ball with great precision (on the run or otherwise) and has one marvellous feature whereby he is able to check, then drag his foot over the ball before gliding past a defender. He scored 48 goals in 224 League and Cup games for Villa.

After representing England at both Schoolboy and Youth team levels, Walters went on to add one full, one 'B' and nine Under-21 caps to his collection. He gained an FA Youth Cup winners medal (1980) and a European Super Cup winners medal (1982) and then added three Scottish Premier Division and two Skol League Cup winners' medals to his tally whilst at Ibrox Park before collecting further winners' prizes in both the FA Cup and League Cup competitions with Liverpool in 1992 and 1995 respectively. Walters' record in competitive football right now is quite outstanding: he has amassed well over 700 senior appearances and scored over 170 goals (at club and international levels).

Stoke City's Playing Record Against The Robins:

Football League

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	7	3	2	2	8	6
Away	8	3	0	5	7	14
Totals	15	6	2	7	15	20

Southern League

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	2	0	1	1	2	5
Away	2	0	0	2	2	6
Totals	4	0	1	3	4	11

FA Cup

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	1	0	0	1	0	1
Away	2	1	1	0	4	2
Totals	3	1	1	1	4	3

League Cup

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	1	0	1	0	2	2
Away	1	0	0	1	1	2
Totals	2	0	1	1	3	4

Summary

H/A	P	W	D	L	F	A
H/A	24	7	5	12	26	38

Stoke City v Swindon Town

Connections

A microscopic view of numerous red blood cells, which are biconcave discs, against a black background. One cell on the right side of the image contains a white rooster logo, which is the Lecoq Sportif brand mark. The cells are illuminated from the side, creating a sense of depth and highlighting their texture.

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The Store, Hanley Monday - Friday 9.30am - 6.00pm Saturday 9.00am - 5.30pm



My Magic Match

By Dave Coxon

He may not have played for the club, but my guest today orchestrated the success we achieved in the Nineties, and is still a huge favourite with supporters.

D This week Lou Macari took time out from his busy schedule to look back at those times, and gave his views on how this season is likely to finish. I started our chat by asking Lou about his move from Birmingham to Stoke, and Lou pulled no punches. 'I suppose it applies to any job, if it's up for grabs, things aren't how they should be, and this was definitely the case at Stoke. When they came to Birmingham Stoke were beaten easily 3-0 and looked a poor side, so when I took the job, the first thing I had to do was to detect the problems. Stoke certainly had a large squad, but it lacked discipline, and this was one area I had to sort out very quickly. Then there was the defence, another cause for concern. I strongly believe that if you defend well, half of the battle is won, so I signed Vince Overson and worked

hard on the players' fitness, and the rest is history.' Having spoken to many of the players under Lou, the same story is told. He's a strong disciplinarian, and demands nothing less than one hundred percent fitness. But there were plenty of laughs around, so I asked Lou to recall some of those moments. 'Well, I think every club needs a character around the place, and we certainly had one in our kit-man, Neil, 'Nello' Baldwin. If I recall a prank it always involved Nello. For one I remember someone putting a fish in his bed when we went to Italy for an Anglo Italian game. Needless to say, Nello was not too pleased in the morning, and not through choice, sat on his own on the coach! Then there was the time we dressed Nello up in top hat and tails for an away game at Darlington. As the crowd looked at me and Chic, they must have wondered just what was going on. What they didn't realise was that the hotel we were staying at had been told that we were bringing a V.I.P. with us. When we arrived, Nello was announced as Lord Baldwin of Keele, and was treated like royalty. I thought once we'd had the laugh, that would be it, but I was wrong. Nello loved it and milked it for all it was worth. It was then that I got worried that he was getting bigger than the club!!'

Most of Nello's problems arrived courtesy of Messrs. Overson and Cranson, and Lou remembers only too well the time Nello fetched him a coffee on the coach going to an away game and got more than he bargained for. 'I sent Nello to get me a coffee from the back of the coach, but minutes later he arrived back minus the drink and minus his clothes! Having sorted that out, I sent him back to try again, only to hear him scream. Shortly after he arrived back once again wearing nothing more than a concerned look and saying "they got me again, boss." 'Nello never twigged it was a set-up.'

Talk then turned to the end of season run-in, and Lou says, 'At this stage of the season, it's not about how you win, it's all about winning, but luck does play a part. The sides who can avoid injuries and suspensions have a big advantage. It's not too bad early in the season, there's time to recover, but those days have gone. A perfect example is Stoke City, when they came to us everyone was available, and I thought they were certs to go up automatically. Then they struggled with injuries and suspensions and the picture changed slightly. When it comes down to the play-offs I think it's a case of fingers crossed, and hope things click into place. Given the choice I hope we don't have to play Stoke, I've told the staff at

with...
Lou Macari

Huddersfield they will be the most difficult opponents. Before then, though, I'm sure there's plenty more twists and turns to come.' The number of late goals we scored when Lou was in charge was testament to the fitness of the team, something Lou was always proud of, 'if you aren't 100% fit you won't last the pace. I played until I was 34, and that was because Jock Stein got me fit. I'm a firm believer that total fitness will always be good enough to win you a fair share of matches. I once brought two lads to Stoke, both who weren't fit, but were eager to work. One was wasting away in Oxford's reserves, and the other was struggling at Norwich. The two went on to score 111 goals between them for a combined outlay of £250,000. When transferred, Mark Stein and Mike Sheron made just short of £4m for the club - not bad financial business.'

Still with fitness in mind, I asked Lou if he went along with the views of the so-called 'Soccer Experts' that there is too much football played today. 'No, I don't, that's rubbish! I remember Andy Griffin playing for our youth team in the morning, and the first team in the afternoon, and it didn't do him any harm. The problem today is that the top stars are multi-millionaires, and some are just going through the motions. Take David Ginola, what a talented player, and yet watch him now, he just ambles around the pitch. To me, he's got nothing to offer. For whatever reason, if a player loses his desire, he needs to be shown the door.'

On then to Lou's most memorable match in charge of Stoke. Would it be the Autoglass Final, or perhaps the victory over Plymouth which clinched the Second Division championship. Well, it's neither. Lou plumps for our League Cup Second Round tie at the Vic against Manchester United on September 22nd, 1993. 'Obviously, because it was United, it made it very special for me, and what a night it turned out to be. Over 23,000 packed into the

ground to create a terrific atmosphere. Even though United had rested some players, they still had enough talent on show to make them red-hot favourites to win the game. Someone hadn't told Steino though, and his performance was superb. The first of his two goals was a terrific strike, and left Schmeichel with no chance. A late Dion Dublin strike would prove decisive as we went down at Old Trafford 2-0, after another late United goal, this time from Brian McClair. However, on that particular night, nobody could argue that United had come to town, and the best team had won.' Finally, I recalled a conversation I had with Alan Ball, when he said some managers were struggling to control players who, because of their earning power, felt they were bigger than the club, and I asked Lou if he had come across this. 'No, I haven't, but I would imagine it could be the case in the Premiership where players are so wealthy they think they are doing the club a favour. The manager, though, has got to be strong enough, just look how many thought they could control Stan Colleymore. In the end he may have been a good player, but he just created problems. Someone who definitely keeps his players in control is Sir Alex Ferguson, who is a firm believer that players must be hungry enough, and that is

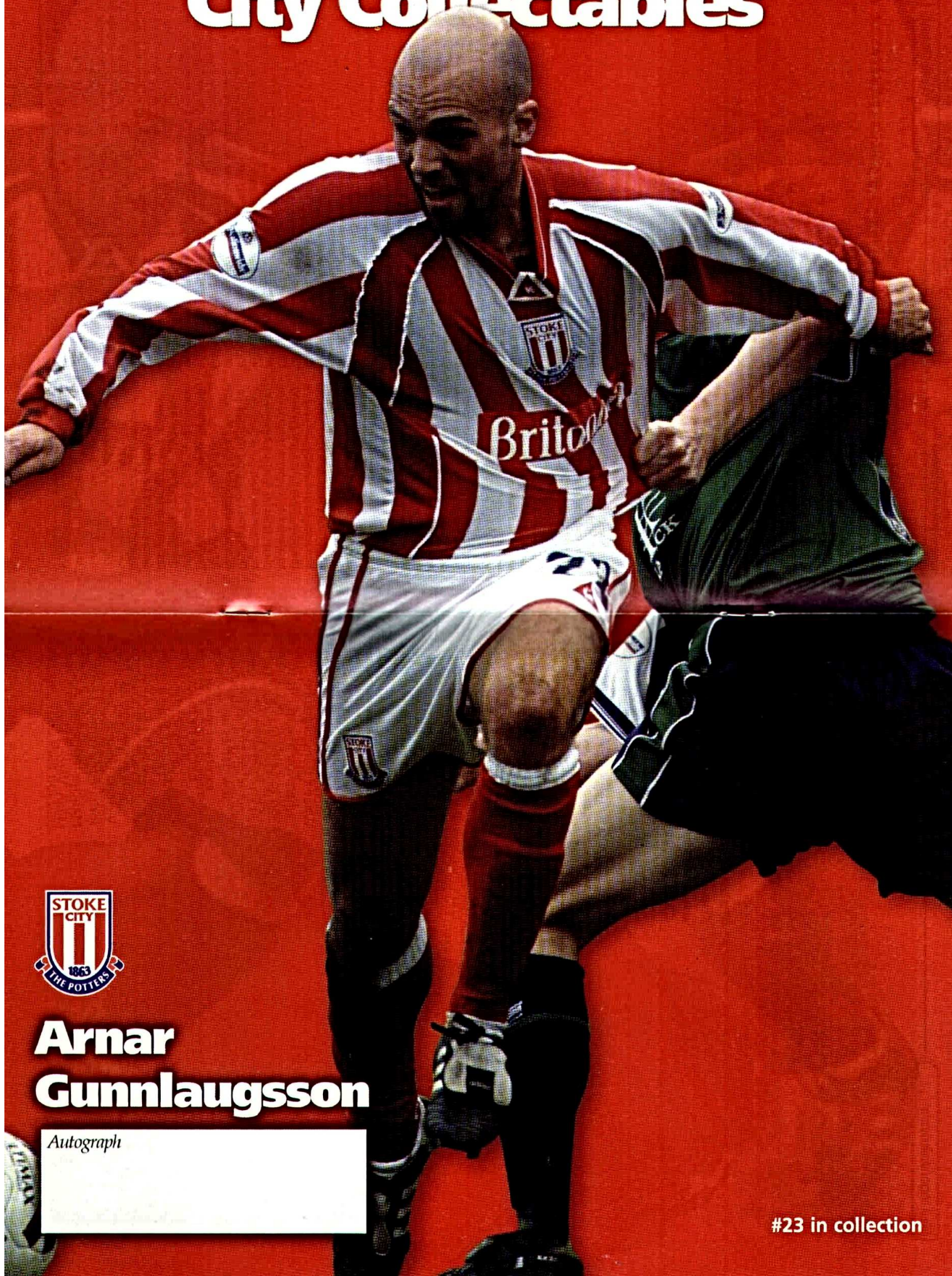
why, come the Summer, I expect one or two to be shown the door.' Many thanks to Lou for his time, now let's just hope, for the sake of both parties, that we don't play Huddersfield in the play-offs.



Lou's Factfile:

- Birthplace:** Edinburgh
- Birthday:** 7th June, 1949
- Career:** As a player Lou won 3 League Championships and two Scottish Cups with Celtic. He won an F.A. Cup Winners medal with Manchester United, and represented Scotland at Schoolboy, U23 and Senior level (24 full caps.) As a manager he's held the hot seat at Swindon (1 promotion, 1 championship,) West Ham, Birmingham (Leyland Daf winners,) Stoke (championship, Autoglass winners,) Celtic and Huddersfield.
- City career:** Managed in 250 games, winning 108
- Hardest opponent:** Graeme Souness
- Best player with:** Kenny Dalglish
- Best player against:** Graeme Souness
- Biggest influence on career:** Jock Stein
- Best Stoke moment:** Both games against Manchester United
- Married:** Yes, to Dale Marie
- Room-mate:** Martin Buchan
- Hobbies:** I don't get a lot of time, but I do enjoy watching sport
- Did you know:** From the age of six months to eleven and a half years, Lou lived in London, so when he moved back to Scotland, he spoke like a typical East Ender. Who would have thought, Lou a Cockney!
- Match prediction:** Stoke City 2 Swindon Town 0

City Collectables



**Arnar
Gunnlaugsson**

Autograph

#23 in collection

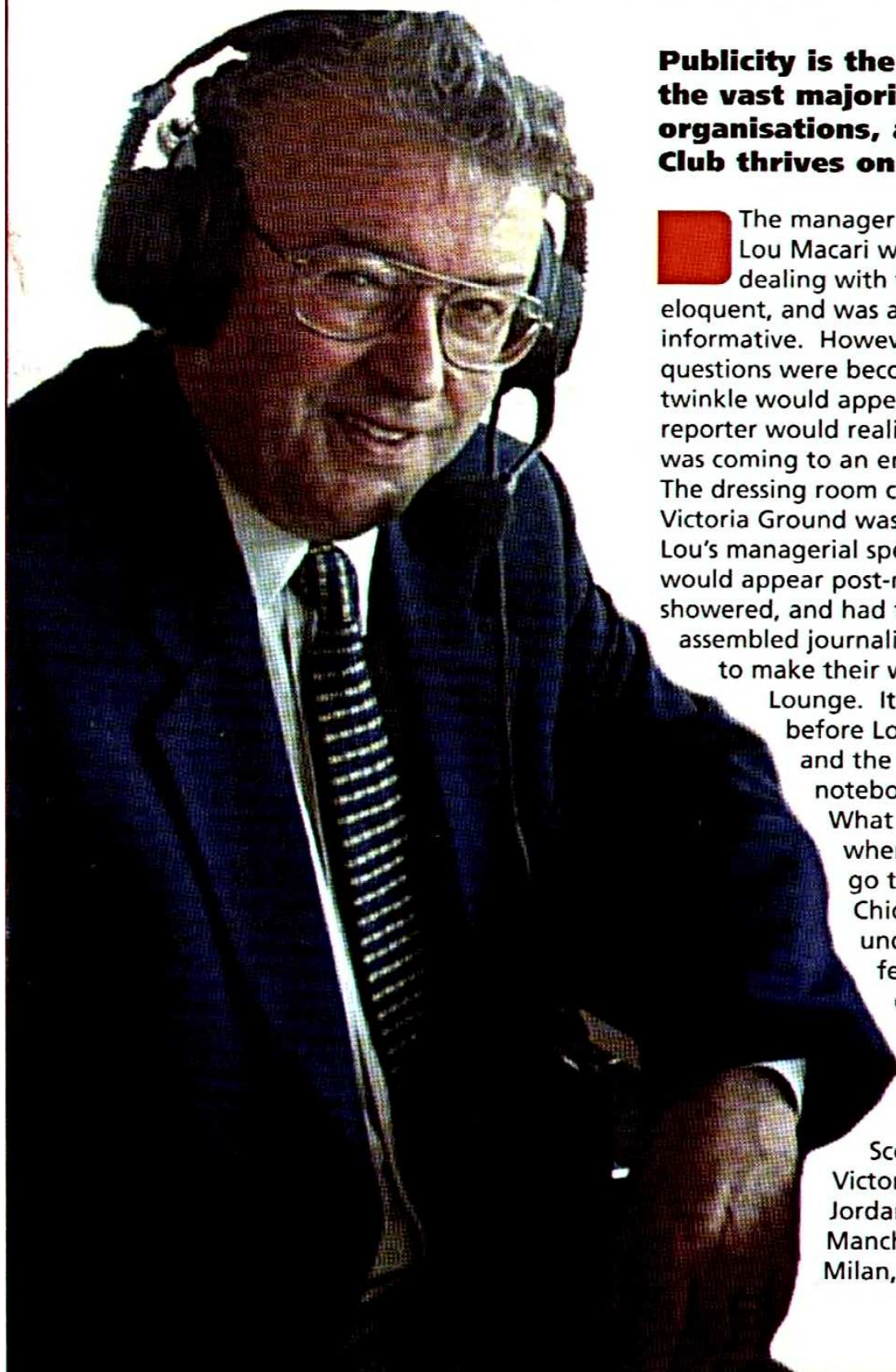
Nigel Johnson Reflects...

Publicity is the lifeblood of the vast majority of organisations, and a Football Club thrives on it.

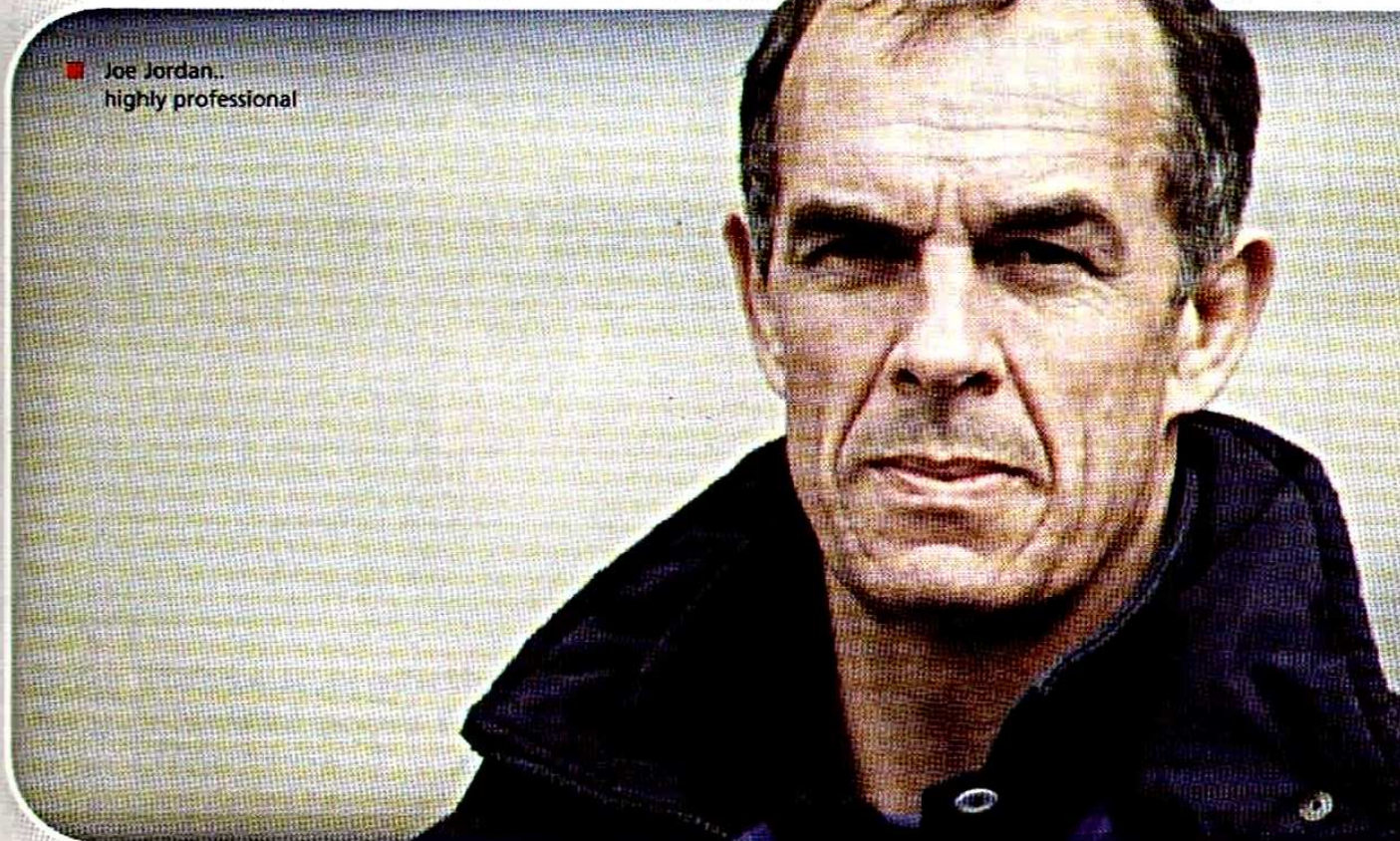
The manager is in the front line. Lou Macari was a master at dealing with the media. He was eloquent, and was always willing to be informative. However, if he felt that the questions were becoming too intrusive, a twinkle would appear in his eyes and the reporter would realise that the interview was coming to an end.

The dressing room corridor at the Victoria Ground was 'open house' during Lou's managerial spells. The players would appear post-match, having showered, and had to walk through the assembled journalists and broadcasters to make their way to the Player's Lounge. It wouldn't be long before Lou was holding court and the pens were filling the notebooks.

What a transformation when Lou Macari left to go to Celtic in late 1993. Chic Bates had an undefeated run for a few games as caretaker manager before he followed Lou to Scotland. That heralded the arrival of another Scot as manager at the Victoria Ground. Joe Jordan, the former Leeds, Manchester United, A.C. Milan, Verona and



■ Joe Jordan...
highly professional



Southampton striker appeared on the scene. Joe's first game in charge was a home fixture in the Anglo-Italian Tournament. Stoke had drawn away at Wolverhampton Wanderers 3-3, beaten Birmingham City 2-0 at home and had taken a home victory over Cosenza 2-1. On the evening of November 10th, 1993 Fiorentina were the visitors. Joe's first sortie in charge of the Potters ended goalless.

However, changes were on the way. Joe's attitude was far more regimented. From the start he put the dressing room corridor 'out of bounds' to the Press. The double doors leading from the entrance foyer in to that area had a steward in charge. Thou shalt not pass

unless you had a ticket! Joe would make his way up to the Press Box for his interviews, and if a player was required, a request had to be sent down to the dressing room. A different approach to management. Joe Jordan was an expert on Italian football and would talk about it at length given the opportunity. However, he was not too keen to say a great deal post-match when a microphone appeared in front of him. His answers were short and to the point. If a question was probing, his eyebrows would rise and

you could sense he was not best pleased. Perhaps he had had difficulties with some media people in the past. But no-one can say that he was not well-organised and highly professional.

His ten month stay was short and it would have been interesting to have seen what might have developed if he had been given a fairer crack of the whip. As it was he vacated the managerial chair for the return of Lou Macari and the dressing room corridor was full of bodies and laughter once again.

Perhaps he had had difficulties with some media people in the past.

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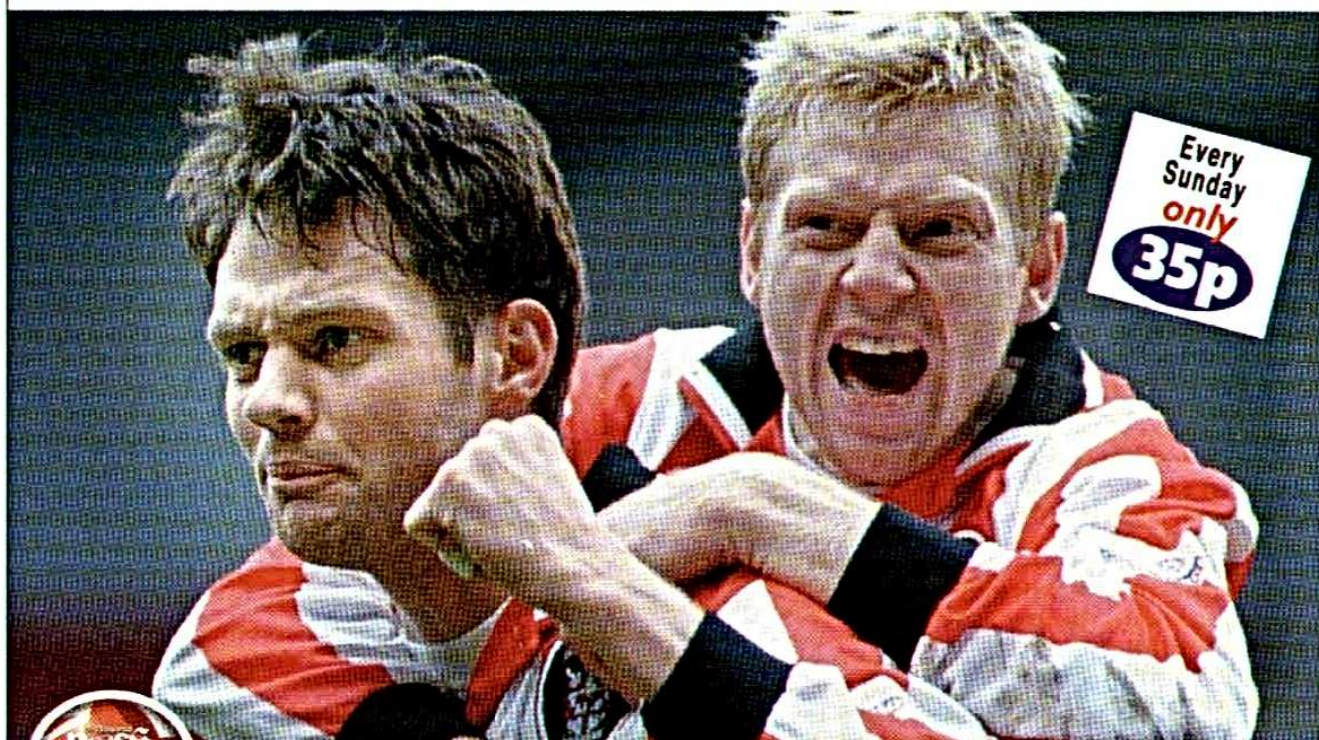
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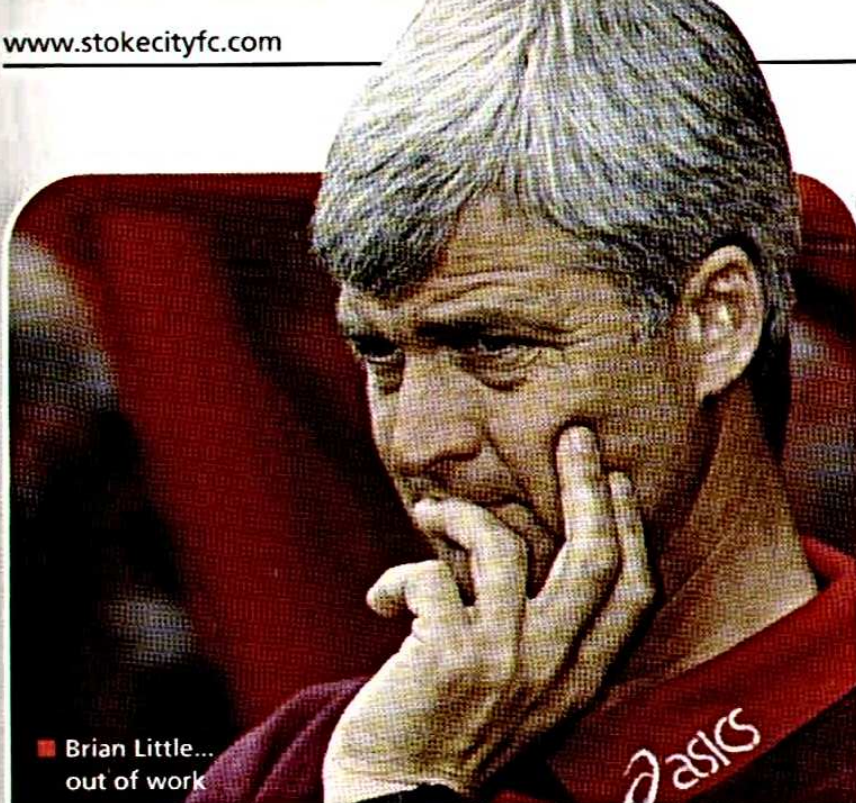
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SUNDAY NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR



■ Brian Little...
out of work

Nicky Mohan is predicting a quick return to the managerial game for ex-City manager Brian Little.

■ Little is out of work again following last month's exit from Hull after a moderate run of results had left the Tigers outside the play-offs.

But Mohan, the former Stoke skipper who left the Britannia to rejoin Little at Boothferry Park last summer, reckons his old boss had rediscovered his zest for the game following his trials and tribulations at the likes of Villa, City and West Brom in recent years. He insists: "He'll be back." It was Little who brought Mohan to the Britannia Stadium on a free transfer from Wycombe in 1999 and he went on to make over 100 appearances for the Potters before his release last season. "I have played under Brian at

four different clubs now," says Mohan, "and this has been the best I've seen him as a manager since I was an apprentice at Middlesbrough. "He was clearly enjoying football again at Hull, joining in the training and getting on with everyone. But it's success or nothing here this season and when we dropped away a bit the club decided on a change.

"But I'm sure he will be back in football again somewhere soon and I wish him every luck and success."

Little left behind a little enclave of former Stokies in Mohan, Ben Petty and Hull skipper Justin Whittle, while Kyle Lightbourne has since moved on loan from Macclesfield to boost their

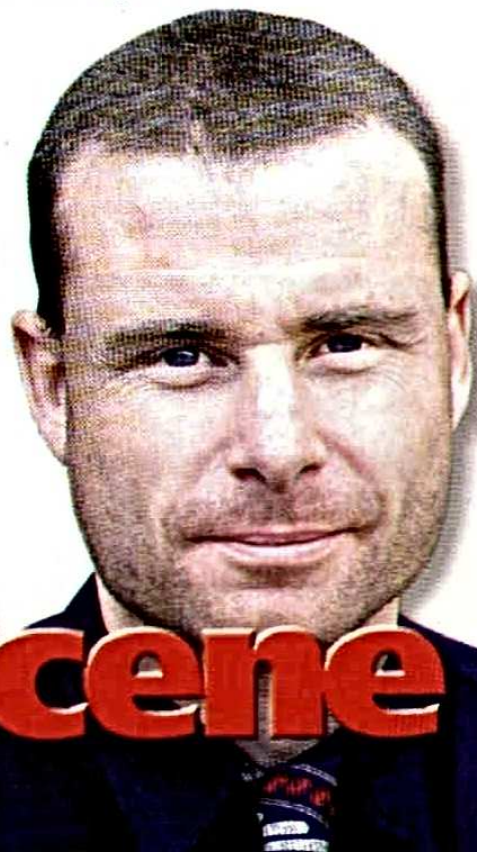
push for the play-offs.

"I think it was the money situation at Macclesfield which was behind Kyle leaving," adds Mohan. "He was on half-decent money there and cash is clearly tight at the moment because of the uncertainty over the ITV Digital contract.

"I think he can do a great job here. Kyle would admit himself he hasn't been a regular and natural goalscorer over the past couple of seasons, but he can be the perfect foil for Gary Alexander by providing the work-rate and winning a few headers for him."

Mohan himself is currently recovering from a slight back injury and took the opportunity of calling in at the Britannia for the recent victory over Chesterfield.

"It was a game just like many I was involved in over the last two years," he says. "Take an early lead and then look edgy before getting the win. I really hope Stoke do it this time and once you're in the play-offs anything can happen - as we know only too well!"



with Martin Spinks

Second Scene



Web Wise



Are you keeping up to date with the everyday goings on here at the Britannia Stadium? Would you like to hear players and members of the management team in audio interviews?

Every City fan is now able to get all the news from inside the club, read comments from their favourite players, hear about goals as they happen and listen to interviews with their City favourites. All this information is available through the official club website and Potters SMS.

The official club website is constantly updated with detailed reports, interviews, comments and important news from inside the Britannia Stadium. The website also emails a weekly newsletter to all supporters who have registered on the site, which highlights all the top stories from the week, with links to the website's breaking news, audio interviews and other exciting stories.

As well as all this, the website has launched Potters SMS. A service only provided by the official website, which brings you breaking stories, comments, goals and inside information straight to your mobile phone! The messages are very low cost and the service is personalised to suit you, so you can choose how many messages you receive per week.

Potters SMS is a sign of how the club is moving forward and wanting fans to keep in touch with exactly what is going on. Each SMS costs no more than 25p and are charged to your mobile phone bill if you are a contract customer, or deducted from your credit if you use pre-pay credits.

To register for this great service,

log on to www.stokecityfc.com and check out the Mobile Zone. Other exciting developments on the official website include the recent launch of audio interviews.

At least three new audio interviews are on the site every week, with news and comments from a player and a member of the management team through the week, and then an interview with a player after the match. The audio interviews are easy to listen to, and great quality and exclusive to the website.

There are more exciting developments to come too. The official website will soon be introducing on-line video interviews with all your favourite players, with comments during the week and after games. This exclusive service will only be available through the website and is yet another sign of how Stoke City Football Club is investing to bring supporters closer to the club and the players.



with Dave Kevan

Reserves

Marc Goodfellow's first-half hat trick inspired us to our biggest win of the season, and really the victory could have been even more emphatic than 1-8!

Darlington had no answer to our young side, which was mainly based on youngsters from the Academy, and the lads were unstoppable. This is our fourth successive Avon Insurance League win, and we have scored 22 goals in those four games.

Goodfellow started the scoring with two early goals, and then completed his hat-trick inside 25 minutes after Lawrence Hall had added a third.

Darlington pulled a goal back just before the break, but the onslaught continued in the second-half through Kris

Commons, who scored 2, Ryan Hutchinson and Hall. I was delighted with both the result and the performance, it was superb, and it's no exaggeration to say that we really should have reached double figures.

We dominated the game and completely outplayed Darlington. The lads played with such enthusiasm, and the football was a joy to watch. This was even more impressive when you consider that we had such a young side out. We now have great quality at the club, they are

making progress and proving they can perform well at this level.

Triallist John Miles from Liverpool impressed in attack and had a hand in two of the goals, he did well and was unlucky not to score, we will certainly be taking another look at him.



■ Marc Goodfellow

Team:

Foster, Cromie, White, Neal, Wilkinson, Wilson, Hutchinson, Commons, Hall, Miles, Goodfellow.

Subs: Swift, Alcock, Humphreys, Rees.



WED	AUG 15	GRIMSBY TOWN	1-1
WED	AUG 29	WALSALL	2-2
MON	SEPT 3	SHREWSBURY TOWN	3-1
WED	SEPT 12	SCUNTHORPE UNITED	0-1
WED	SEPT 19	KIDDERMINSTER	2-1
		(Avon Insurance Cup)	
MON	OCT 1	YORK CITY	1-0
WED	OCT 17	DONCASTER ROVERS	0-3
WED	OCT 24	TRANMERE ROVERS	1-4
		(Avon Insurance Cup)	
MON	OCT 29	DARLINGTON	0-1
WED	NOV 7	LINCOLN CITY	0-1
MON	DEC 10	DONCASTER ROVERS	4-3

MON	JAN 7	GRIMSBY TOWN	5-1
WED	JAN 16	WALSALL	1-3
MON	FEB 4	WREXHAM	2-4
		(Avon Insurance Cup)	
MON	FEB 11	BURY	1-2
MON	FEB 18	SCUNTHORPE UNITED	1-2
MON	FEB 25	BURY	A
WED	MAR 13	SHREWSBURY TOWN	2-0
MON	MAR 18	LINCOLN CITY	5-0
WED	MAR 25	DARLINGTON	8-1
WED	APR 3	STOCKPORT COUNTY	A
MON	APR 8	BLACKPOOL	H
TBA		YORK CITY	A

Home games in **BOLD**

Academy

with Ian Cranson

No game to report on this week, but we have an exciting intake of scholars into the Academy, as we look towards the future of Stoke City Football Club.

**JAY DENNY**

Lichfield based, has come through the Academy system. Strong running midfielder. He has already figured in the U19's this season.

LEE PARSONS

Lichfield based, another through the Academy system. Central defender, strong and with some pace. Another

involved in the U19's side.

WAYNE TEAGUE

Lives in Newcastle under Lyme, and has come through the ranks. Striker/wide midfielder with pace and an eye for goal.

GARY BEARDSLEY

Uttoxeter based midfielder player. Comfortable on the ball. Another lad who has



come through the system.

JERMAINE PALMER

From Derby, tall striker, good build, with pace. Been with the club for 2 years, figured with the U19's.

MARTY ROBINSON

Northern Ireland international, intelligent player, who looks to link play.

MIKE WARWICK

Taken from Bolton Wanderers. Left sided player, who likes to take on players.

RICHARD KEOGH

Taken from Ipswich Town. 6' 2" central defender, comfortable on the ball. Already made his debut in the Reserves v Shrewsbury one month ago!!



SAT	AUG	25	MILLWALL	1-2
SAT	SEPT	1	WATFORD	2-2
SAT	SEPT	8	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	1-2
SAT	SEPT	15	NEWCASTLE UNITED	0-3
SAT	SEPT	22	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	0-2
SAT	SEPT	29	BARNSELY	2-3
SAT	OCT	6	BOLTON WANDERERS	1-0
SAT	OCT	13	CREWE ALEXANDRA	0-4
SAT	OCT	20	LIVERPOOL	3-4
SAT	OCT	27	EVERTON	1-1
SAT	NOV	3	COVENTRY CITY	2-3
SAT	NOV	10	MANCHESTER UNITED	0-0
SAT	NOV	17	WREXHAM	3-0
SAT	NOV	24	BLACKBURN ROVERS	1-5
SAT	DEC	8	MANCHESTER CITY	0-2

SAT	DEC	15	EVERTON	1-0
SAT	JAN	12	COVENTRY CITY	1-2
SAT	JAN	19	MANCHESTER UNITED	1-2
SAT	JAN	26	WREXHAM	H
SAT	FEB	2	BLACKBURN ROVERS	3-1
SAT	FEB	9	MANCHESTER CITY	A
SAT	FEB	16	BOLTON WANDERERS	1-1
SAT	FEB	23	CREWE ALEXANDRA	0-2
SAT	MAR	2	LIVERPOOL	1-2
SAT	MAR	9	LEEDS UNITED	0-0
SAT	MAR	16	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	6-0
SAT	APR	6	SHEFFIELD UNITED	H
SAT	APR	13	DERBY COUNTY	A

HOME GAMES ARE IN BOLD



Girl Power

with Kathy Mather

STOKE CITY 3 DARLASTON 1 Eager for another three points, Stoke's start to the game wasn't impressive.

Straight from the kick-off Darlaston applied pressure with early shots just wide of the goal, and an unlucky free-kick against goalkeeper Sue Marshall saw an ideal chance for Darlaston to open the score, but, fortunately for Stoke, the shot went wide. With increased play in the Stoke half Darlaston were eager for a goal, and with some determined play and a good ball through, they took the lead with a clinical finish.

19 minutes 0-1

Straight from the restart Stoke pushed forward and were awarded a penalty for handball, but Lesley Hall's shot went straight to the 'keeper. Still fighting to grab a goal, Stoke attacked with great determination only to be denied each time by Darlaston's solid defence. Trying to increase their goal tally, Darlaston again looked close to scoring from a cross, but with some nifty 'keeping and defence

skills, Stoke managed to clear the danger.

HALF-TIME 0-1

Maxine Shropshire ON, Diane Lewis OFF.

The beginning of the second half again saw Darlaston dominate play, despite efforts from both Lucy Lutton and Maxine Shropshire to equalise.

Rachel Simcox OFF, Anna Lowndes ON.

Determined to come away with at least one goal, Lesley Hall played the ball forward to Maxine Shropshire, and she fired over a fine cross into the path of Lucy Lutton who knocked it into the back of the net.

65 minutes 1-1

Just minutes later, Stoke were awarded another penalty. Lucy Lutton hit a powerful shot that the 'keeper couldn't handle, and Stoke took the lead.

70 minutes 2-1

Still battling, Stoke were now dominating play with some fantastic skills from Emma Johnson, who denied Darlaston the chance to equalise. Andrea Baddeley OFF. Rachel Blunt ON.

With increased pressure from Stoke, Lucy Lutton saw her shot hit the upright and Maxine Shropshire's attempt was saved by the 'keeper. Captain Paula

Kitts also had a shot on goal.

A through ball from Lucy Lutton saw the Darlaston 'keeper clear it only as far as Lesley Hall, who gathered it up and knocked it in the back of the net.

85 minutes 3-1

With only minutes to go, Darlaston were keen to get another goal, but some great play from Emma Johnson saw them denied their chance of a late consolation.

FULL-TIME 3-1

SQUAD

S. Marshall, A. Baddeley, R. Simcox, L. Adlington, E. Johnson, P. Kitts, M. Harling, L. Lutton, D. Lewis, L. Hall, S. Boreham.

Substitutes:

A. Lowndes, M. Shropshire, R. Blunt, K. Marshall, N. Leighton.

Happy 21st birthday
to **EMMA JOHNSON**
for the 19th March, and
Happy 19th birthday to
LUCY LUTTON for the
24th March.
**FROM ALL PLAYERS
AND STAFF.**

STOKE CITY F.C. LADIES FOOTBALL TEAM - FIXTURES

DATE	OPPOSITION	VENUE	15/12/01	STAFFORD RANGERS (County Cup)	1-2
02/09/01	DUDLEY	4-1	05/01/02	RANDLAY COLTS	Pulled out of league
09/09/01	GREAT WYRLEY	P-P	13/01/02	SANDWELL LIONS	P-P
16/09/01	RANDLAY COLTS or COUNTY CUP	3-0	20/01/02	SEDGLEY WHITE LIONS	0-9
20/09/01	SEDGLEY WHITE LIONS	7-0	27/01/02	T.N.S.	P-P
23/09/01	SANDWELL LIONS	8-1	17/02/02	GREAT WYRLEY	1-0
07/10/01	SHREWSBURY TOWN	1-1	24/02/02	APS RANGERS	AWAY
14/10/01	WOLVERHAMPTON UNITED	5-1	03/03/02	WILLENHALL	HOME
21/10/01	COUNTY CUP	Bye	10/03/02	WILLENHALL	3-0
28/10/01	WEM TOWN	11-0	17/03/02	DARLASTON	3-1
04/11/01	WILLENHALL	P-P	24/03/02	CREWE VAGRANTS	7-0
11/11/01	APS RANGERS	5-0	31/03/02	WILLENHALL (LG CUP 1ST ROUND)	AWAY
18/11/01	WEM TOWN	0-3	07/04/02	T.N.S.	HOME
25/11/01	CREWE VAGRANTS	0-3	14/04/02	GREAT WYRLEY	AWAY
02/12/01	DARLASTON	7-1	21/04/02	SANDWELL	HOME
09/12/01	DUDLEY	1-2	28/04/02	WOLVERHAMPTON UNITED	HOME
			05/05/02		

Fans Forum

with Debbie McDonald



I am sure you will all agree that one of the major success stories of the Fans Forum is the Stanley Matthews statue.

However, this wonderful piece of work is still not fully paid for, and we are unable to move onto the second, and probably most important phase of the project, until the debt is paid in full.

To this end, Potters No. 1 celebrity fan, Nick Hancock, has kindly loaned the 1953 Cup Final Medal to the Sir Stanley Matthews Foundation and anyone wishing to have their photograph taken with the medal will be able to prior to the Wrexham game on Saturday, 13th April (more details to follow shortly.) The F.A. has granted permission for a collection to

be held at the England v Portugal U21 friendly on Tuesday, 16th April, and we ask anyone attending this prestigious match to dig deep and please give generously as every little helps.

All merchandise available to coincide with the unveiling of the statue has now been sold out, and we are in the process of re-ordering stocks of the most successful lines. There will be a significant number of auction items to bid for shortly, including an England shirt signed by both David and Victoria Beckham, an autographed Celtic football, and a Newcastle ball, to name but a few. The committee is

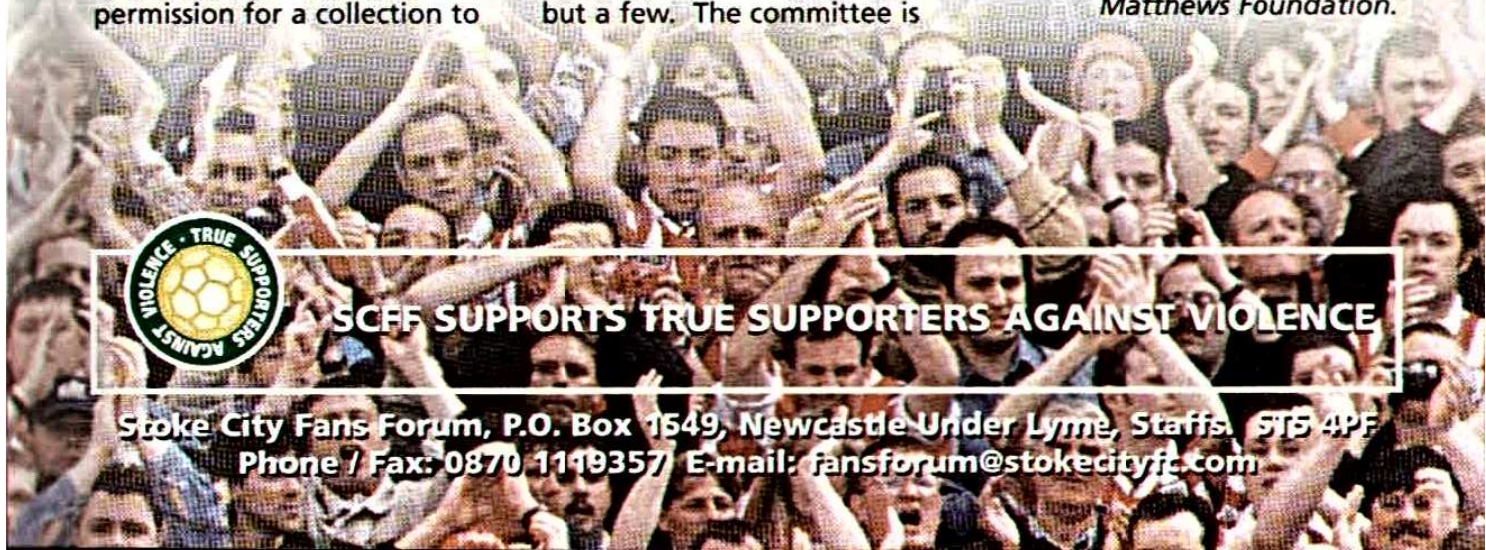
also working hard on an end-of season gala dinner (again, more details to follow shortly.) Maquettes are still available at a cost of £2,000 inclusive of VAT and sponsorship of a bench is now available at a cost of £1,000 plus VAT. Any companies wishing to make a donation to this worthwhile cause, or indeed, if anyone has any suggestions as to how we can achieve our goal, please contact:-
Nigel Johnson,
c/o Julie Cadman
at Stoke City,
Telephone 01782 592120.

Debbie McDonald,
*Vice Presidents'
Representative,
Stoke City Fans Forum,
and Treasurer, Sir Stanley
Matthews Foundation.*



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POTTERMUS &

HIYA KIDS, HAPPY EASTER!

Well, I have enjoyed eating loads of easter eggs - the manager told me not to, but I just couldn't resist.

Anyway, I have been very busy these last few days and have worked off my extra calories. There's loads going at the moment - the Britannia Young Fans Player Of The Year Awards are well underway and we are looking for YOU to design the official certificate.

This week I was joined by Rikki Dadason and Sophie Cope and Marcus Powell, of the Bishop Stamer primary School in Stoke, to publicise it.

So remember, if you are aged 14 and under have YOUR say in who should be Player of the Year.

Then get your paints and pencils out and design the certificate and you could be enjoying a VIP tour of the

Britannia Stadium. The winners and runners-up will have their designs framed and displayed. Entry forms are available from local Britannia branches including Hanley, Leek, Stafford, Stoke and Wolstanton, and our Stoke City club shops. Entries close on April 5, so hurry! Did you watch Big Brother on TV last summer? I did. I was a great fan I was really

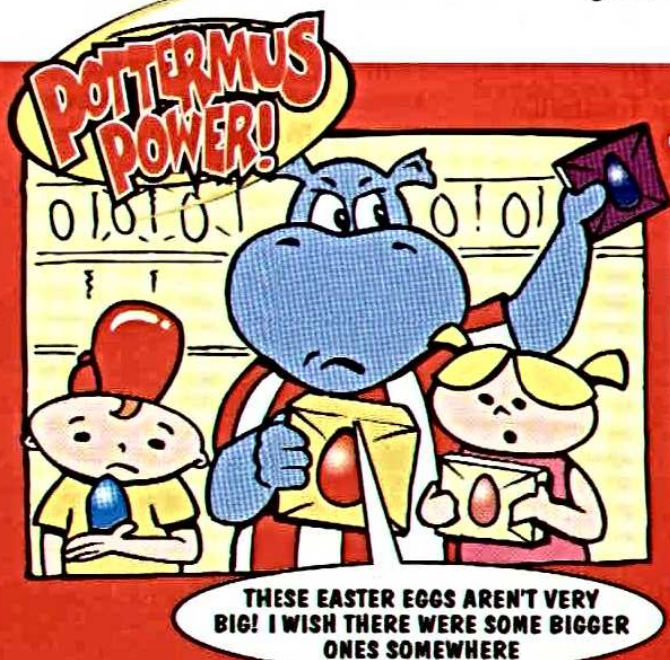


BUBBLE AND DEAN, LEFT.



RIKKI DADASON AND POTTERMUS WITH SOPHIE COPE, LEFT, AND MARCUS POWELL.

excited when two members of the house visited the Britannia Stadium this week - Dean and Bubble. They came along to hand me a copy of their new single 'Standing Tall' - their very own World Cup song ahead of England in South Korea and Japan this summer. I've listened to it and think it's ace! A big Hello to everyone from Bristol Street Ford who have kindly supported us in today's fantastic win-a-car competition. That's right - A CAR. Listen out for your seat number - it could be your mum or dad driving it away!



MAYBE I CAN HELP YOU THERE, MY BIG BLUE FRIEND!



WOW! IT'S AN EASTER BUNNY!

BRITANNIA
I COULD...

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sponsors of the

FAMILY AREA



WARNER
VILLAGE
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Centre.

Don't forget today to vote for your Royal Doulton Player of the season. Please hand your voting form to a member of staff and YOU could present the award to the winner at the last home league game versus Wrexham in two weeks' time.

Enjoy the game

NICKY

D Hello everyone and a warm welcome back to the Britannia Stadium for our Bank Holiday fixture. We also welcome Lucky Bags and Warner Village who are here to wish you all a Happy Easter and support the team. Lucky Bags' great sweet give away in our game against Chesterfield last weekend was very popular – here are some of you enjoying yourselves with Pottermus, who continues to improve his motorcycling skills with the aid of Bryan's Road Safety

POTTERMUS PREDICTS



**STOKE CITY 2
SWINDON TOWN 0**

TODAY'S MASCOTS



Name: CRAIG MARTIN
School: Weston Coyney Junior.
Favourite Player: Rikki Dadason.
Hobbies: Football and Scouts.
Ambition: To play for Stoke.



Name: BEN MASSEY
School: Seabridge Juniors.
Hobbies: Football, cricket and golf.
Favourite Player: Andy Cooke.
Ambition: To play for Stoke.



Name: JOHN STARTIN
Nickname: Turtle.
School: Duffield Meadows.
Hobbies: Football, tennis and golf.
Favourite Player: Wayne Thomas.
Ambition: To play for Stoke.

BRITANNIA STADIUM WAS THE ONLY PLACE
TO LAND MY INTERSTELLAR EGG!
COME ON, JUMP IN!



WOW, COOL!!



125,000,000 LIGHT YEARS LATER
(WELL, 20 MINUTES ACTUALLY!)
THEY ARRIVE AT 'EGGZARUS'...

HELP YOURSELVES,
THERE'S PLENTY!

NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL AN
EASTER EGG!
HAPPY EASTER KIDS!



Football in the Community

WITH ADRIAN HURST

A warm welcome from the Football in the Community Team at the Britannia Stadium, and a very happy Easter to you all.

Last week saw St John Fisher High School represent Stoke City FC Football in the Community in the area finals of the Adidas U13 girls Community Cup.

The girls had never progressed through to the next stage of the competition, so hopes were high. After plenty of tough training sessions with their teacher Louise Moran, and Newcastle Borough Council football coaches, the girls felt they were in with a good chance of doing well.

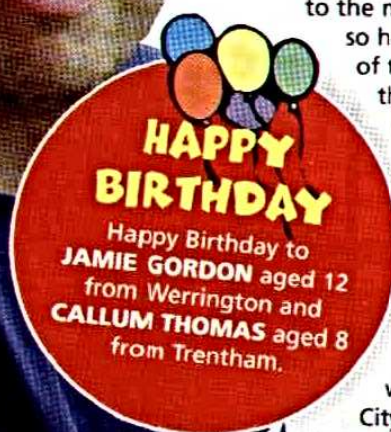
After a great start, with back-to-back victories against Stockport County and Oldham Athletic, they were beaten by Manchester City but picked themselves up straight away and scored another

victory against Wrexham.

With a total of nine points the girls had to hope that Oldham Athletic could beat Manchester City in the last game but they could only manage a draw meaning Manchester City go on to the next stage. The girls conducted themselves very well throughout the day and were a credit to their school.



GIRLS FOOTBALL OFFICER KATHY MATHER IS PICTURED WITH THE GIRLS FROM ST JOHN FISHER HIGH SCHOOL AND THEIR TEACHER LOUISE MORAN.



EASTER SOCCER SCHOOLS

These are the dates for the Easter Soccer Schools. Don't forget that the Soccer Schools start tomorrow (April 2), but if you haven't enrolled you can turn up on the day and if there is a space or two left we will count you in!

Any participating boy or girl who enrolls on an Easter Soccer School will have the opportunity to win a £50 sports voucher courtesy of Sportsland of Meir, Stone, Uttoxeter, and Cheadle – the place to go for all your sporting needs.

Easter Holidays

Two-Day Courses Tuesday 2nd April - Wednesday 3rd April 2002

St Joseph's College Playing Fields.....	Trent Vale
Knypersley First School.....	Knypersley
Hugo Maynell Primary School.....	Loggerheads
Marsh Primary School.....	Blythe Bridge

Two-Day Courses Thursday 4th April - Friday 5th April 2002

Werrington Primary School.....	Werrington
Windsor Park Middle School.....	Uttoxeter
Clayton High School.....	Clayton
Cheadle Leisure Centre.....	Cheadle

Three-Day Courses Monday 8th April - Wednesday 10th April

Power League Soccer Centre.....	Next to Britannia Stadium
Birchall Playing Fields.....	Leek
St Michael's First School.....	Stone
St Filumena's Primary School.....	Caverswall

Two-Day Courses Thursday 11th April - Friday 12th April 2002

Springhead Primary School.....	Kids Grove
Barnfields Primary School.....	Stafford
Draycott Manor Primary School.....	Draycott
Ash Green Primary School.....	Trentham

For further details
on Soccer Schools,
please contact
Simon Bradley
on **01782 592253**.

community



Assistant Community Officer Richard Carter with Amy Jones. Amy was the local winner of the Smoby table football championships. She is pictured here with her winner's medal and £20 book token

Kathy Mather with the prizewinners from the recent Sponsored Penalty Shootout held at St Edwards School. The children had loads of fun whilst raising money for both the school and Football in the Community

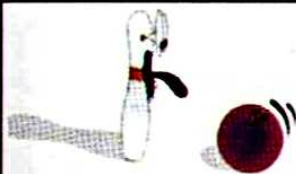


Stoke City Ladies FC star midfielder Lucy Lutton gave a talk to the children of Standon First School, Standon.

Berryhill High School was the venue for the latest sponsored Penalty Shootout. Assistant Community Officer Richard Carter presented prizes to the winners, also pictured is avid Stoke fan and the school's education and welfare officer Shaun Jenkinson.



To two of our staff - **MARK GROCOTT/DEGG** on finally passing his driving test at the fifth attempt, and also a belated Happy Birthday to **JUDO DISLEY** on turning 18 last week!



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it was a **blunder...**

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quoting 'SPE' and you could be watching tomorrow



With the ITV Sport channel, Sky Sports 1, 2 & 3, ITV Digital is the new home of football.

Subject to coverage, status and terms.

Offer ends 30th April 2002 and you must subscribe to the ITV Sport Channel until the end of the season to take up the offer.

Premier League pay-per-view matches are available individually.

REVIEW the Official Man of the Match sponsors to Stoke City Football Club

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HUGO BOSS

STONE ISLAND

BURBERRY

CP COMPANY

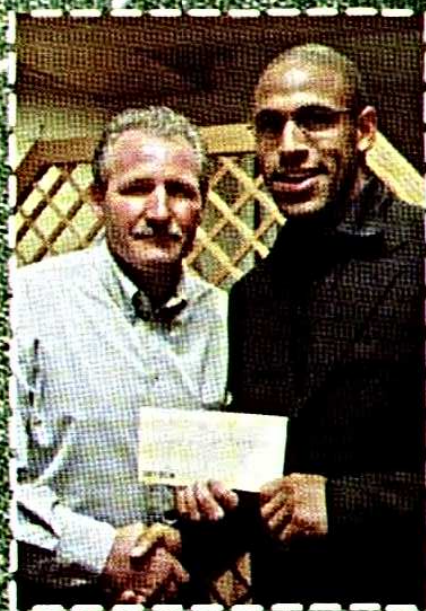
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HACKETT

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MAN OF THE MATCH



The Review Man of the Match versus
Chesterfield, Wayne Thomas

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**Nationwide League
Division Two
v Oldham (A)
Saturday 6th April '02
K.O. 1.00p.m**



WE ARE NOW CURRENTLY SELLING ADVANCE TICKETS FOR ALL HOME LEAGUE FIXTURES FOR SEASON 2001/2002

**THIS IS AN ALL TICKET FIXTURE.
ADMISSION FOR STOKE CITY
SUPPORTERS IS STRICTLY BY TICKET
ONLY.**

Allocation 4272 seat tickets, priced
£15 adults, £7 concessions.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

- a Fans travelling by official coaches - nominated parking areas are available at the ground.
- b Fans travelling by car - there is ample car parking in designated areas at and around the ground.
- c Fans travelling by rail - trains leave frequently from Manchester Victoria, and all fans travelling to Oldham will disembark at Mumps Town Centre railway station **ONLY**.

BEHAVIOUR OF FANS

Fans are reminded that Oldham Athletic is a family club, and as such is intolerant of any abusive or racist language or behaviour. Club stewards and the police will take positive action to eliminate this type of behaviour.

**Nationwide League
Division Two
v Wrexham (H)
Saturday 13th April '02.
K.O. 3.00 p.m.**



**SUPPORTERS ARE STRONGLY
RECOMMENDED TO PURCHASE
TICKETS IN ADVANCE FOR THIS
FIXTURE, AND ARE ALSO ADVISED
TO RETAIN THEIR TICKET STUBS.
THERE WILL BE A PREFERENTIAL
SALE FOR STUB HOLDERS SHOULD
WE PROGRESS TO THE PLAY-OFF
FINAL.**

Normal ticket prices/arrangements
apply and **TICKETS ARE NOW ON
SALE.**

HOW TO BOOK TICKETS

IN PERSON

Britannia Stadium Ticket Office

Opening Times

Monday-Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm
Saturday (Matchday) 9.00 am - kick-off
Final whistle to 5.30pm
Saturday (non matchday) 9.00am -
12 noon, or until away coaches depart.
Evening match 9.00am - kick-off
Final whistle to 10.00pm
On the weekday prior to a home game,
with the exception of Sunday and
Monday fixtures, the ticket office will
remain open until 7.00pm

Satellite Ticket Office

Open matchdays only, 2 hours before
kick-off and from final whistle until
queues subside.

THE STORE, HANLEY

**(Home match and car park ticket
sales only)**

Opening Times

Monday-Friday 9.30am - 6.00pm
Saturday 9.00am - 5.30pm
Except Saturday matchday
9.00am - 12 noon
Except midweek matchday
9.30am - 5.00pm

BY TELEPHONE

24 hour telephone bookings can be
made for home match and car park
tickets by credit card by calling

Ticketmaster on 08705 133221.

Bookings will be accepted up to 2 hours
before kick-off and tickets will either be
posted or available for collection from
the Britannia Stadium Ticket Office on
the day of the game. Please note -
booking fees are charged on all orders.

BY FAX

You may fax your booking to the
Britannia Stadium ticket Office. The
lines are open 24 hours a day. Fax
number **01782 592201**. Please ensure
that your credit/debit card number and
expiry date are clearly legible and
include a daytime telephone number.

BY POST

Cheques and postal orders made
payable to **Stoke City F.C. Ltd.**, are
accepted. In your letter, please state
clearly the match area and number of
tickets required. Please enclose a
stamped addressed envelope for the
return of your ticket, or stipulate if you
require collection on the day of the
game. Postal applications can also be
made with payment by credit or debit
card by quoting the relevant card
number to be charged and expiry date.

N.B. Orders by post, fax and telephone
are dealt with when the queues
subside.

**PLEASE BUY TICKETS IN ADVANCE
TO AVOID QUEUES ON MATCHDAYS.**

**Nationwide League
Division Two
v Bristol City (A)
Saturday 20th April '02
K.O. 3.00 p.m.**



**THIS IS AN ALL TICKET FIXTURE,
AND ADMISSION FOR STOKE CITY
SUPPORTERS IS STRICTLY BY TICKET
ONLY.**

Allocation 3,000 unreserved seat
tickets, priced £16 adults,
£13 NUS/OAP, £11 juniors.
Premier & Legend members may
purchase one ticket from Monday, 8th
April, 2002.
Season Ticket holders may purchase
one ticket from Wednesday, 10th

April, 2002.

Potters Club members may purchase
one ticket from Friday, 12th April,
2002.

Any remaining tickets will go on
general sale on Monday, 15th April,
2002.

Booth Stand tickets purchased in
advance are priced £13 adult, £8
concessions.

Admission to the south car park is
strictly by ticket only.

We now have a special U13's price in
all sections of the stadium, but these
special prices **WILL NOT** apply on
cash turnstiles.

Away Travel

FIXTURE	DEPART	PREM/LEG MEMBER	S/T HOLDER & POTTERS CLUB	JUNIOR/ OAP'S	NON MEMBER
Oldham	10.30 a.m.	£8.00	£9.00	£7.50	£11.00
Bristol City	10.30 a.m.	£10.50	£11.50	£9.50	£13.00

ALL TICKETS ARE SOLD SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS & AVAILABILITY

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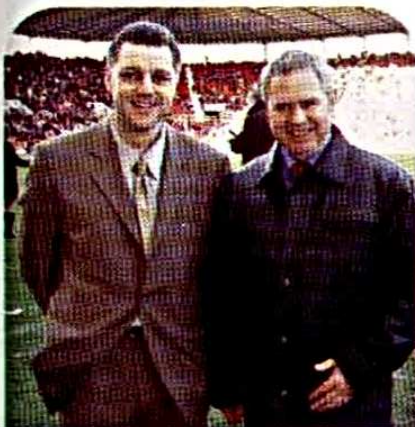
Our matchday guest today is **DANNY BOWERS**, who made his debut along with Peter Shilton, at Wolves in 1974. He stayed at the Victoria Ground until 1977, scoring twice in 46 appearances.

A GREAT CHANCE TO WIN

With the Stoke City Pot of Gold Weekly Draw. It's your lottery. Every week someone wins £1,000. Plus other major prizes of £500, £200 and £100, with many £10 consolation prizes.

For just £1 a week it's also a great way to support your football club. Every single penny is invested into Stoke City Football Club to improve all aspects of the club, both on and off the field, from spectator facilities to youth development.

For further details, or an application form, please call Mick Tunstall on 01782 592288.



Our matchday guest versus Peterborough, John Devine, pictured with Tony Tams.



The £500 holiday voucher winner from the '72 celebration draw, Mr. Robert Matthews from Heron Cross, pictured with Derek Guest from sponsors Tower Windows.

Stoke City Promotions

The Stoke City Matchday Cash Bonanza Draw

Sponsored by Carl W. Holness

1st prize of £530 v Chesterfield
Winning ticket 58425
Helen Boote,
Baddeley Green

2nd prize of £50 v Chesterfield
Winning ticket 57798
M. J. Byrne, Biddulph



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OUR GROWING BAND OF POT OF GOLD MEMBERS AND AGENTS, PLEASE CALL MICK TUNSTALL ON 592288.

Business Draw Members

- Shelton Auto Spares, Shelton.
- Brownsword Associates, Stockport.
- GMR Plumbing, Congleton.
- Woodlea China, Fenton.
- Roy Evans & Sons, Fenton
- Cheshire Bakeries, Congleton
- Acorn Garage, Baddeley Green
- J. & J. Comley News, Fenton
- Norton News, Norton
- Lally Contractors, Sneyd Green
- Kraftkabin, Stoke
- Johnson Walsh Engineering, Norton
- Kirsty Jayne China, Fenton
- Booth News, Bentilee
- Tollgate News, Shelton
- P.K. Ceramica, Tunstall
- G.T.L., Newstead
- S.L. Electrotech, Newcastle
- Swift Signs & Labels, Fenton
- Bargain Booze, Trentham
- Kevin Boardman, Bradeley
- Talk Moore Communications, Alsager
- SIAK Ceramics, Tunstall
- Woolridge News, Meir
- Randall Pace, Hanley
- Sportscene, Silverdale
- Grays Corner, Stoke
- The Hungry Horse
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- Spar Shop, Packmoor
- Parsley & Sage Florists, Longton
- Rachels Health Studio, Stoke

POT OF GOLD WEEKLY DRAW RESULTS WEEK 43 22nd March 2002.

- £1,000** Winning number **B8278**
K. Patrickson, Stanfields
- £500** Winning number **H4664**
K. Williams, Newcastle
- £200** Winning number **H7409**
J. Chorlton, Longton
- £100** Winning number **D4060**
K. Alcock, Basford



College in the Community



In partnership with Stoke City Football Club,
are offering the local community the opportunity to use their IT facilities.

The following programmes will be available week commencing 22nd April, 2002

Monday 22nd April, 2002	1.00p.m. - 3.00p.m.	Introduction to the Internet	Four weeks.
Friday 26th April, 2002	10.00a.m. - 12 noon	Basic IT Taster Course	Four weeks.

Programmes available week commencing 10th June, 2002

Monday 10th June, 2002	1.00p.m. - 3.00p.m.	Introduction to the Internet	Four weeks.
Friday 14th June, 2002	10.00a.m. - 12noon	Basic IT Taster Course	Four weeks.

The first week of each programme will be a tour of the football ground
and introduction to the programme.

Shortly to become available - courses on a variety of subjects:-
First Aid, Referee Training, Sports Trainer.

Want To Know More?

Contact Jenny or Sandy on 01782 341660

Come along to the Information/Advice Session on Friday, 12th April
10.00a.m. - 12 noon
at Stoke City Football Club, in the Computer Room.



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ethnic background - you
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previous experience of
working with children.

Interested - then call us on...

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Off The Pitch

D Hello, and welcome to all our guests and sponsors for today's **Easter Monday game versus Swindon Town.**

A special welcome to our Match Sponsors today, who are John Smiths Ltd. John Smiths have been associated with the club since our move to the Britannia Stadium in 1997. Apart from their sponsorship of the West Stand, John Smiths support the club throughout the season by

associating themselves with various events.

I would like to welcome and thank Gary Kennedy and Philip Walford from John Smiths, and I trust that you will have a good day with us. Our Matchball Sponsors today are Beswicks Solicitors, and I would like to thank Gary Mellor for his continued support.

The Club's annual golf day is fast approaching, and we still have a few team places left.

The first team squad is involved on the day, and we have some excellent prizes on offer. If you would like to take part, then please call Heather Deakin on **01782 592216**. Teams of four are available at a cost of £300 + VAT, to include a meal, buffet evening and on-course refreshments.

Enjoy the game!

BEN HALLAM

Commercial Manager

It's Fiesta Time Today!

One lucky supporter will drive away a brand new Ford Fiesta!!

Every match ticket will be entered into a draw, including season ticket holders. A number of tickets will be selected and the owners will be asked to participate in a competition at half-time.

Competition rules apply and the winner will be required to participate in publicity



Britannia

Bristol Street
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LISA EMERY-HALL, enjoying her birthday at the game versus Chesterfield, pictured with her Man of the Match, Bjarni Gudjonsson.




Match sponsors versus Chesterfield, **DYNO-ROD**, Ian Dale pictured with his guests Man of the Match, Bjarni Gudjonsson.



Matchball sponsor v Peterborough, Mike Bagnall from **JOHN POINTON & SONS** pictured with John Devine.

Player Talk

Gareth Owen was born in North Staffordshire in 1982 and went to St. Giles Primary School in Cheadle, progressing to Painsley Roman Catholic School, where he was head boy.

 "Painsley started me off on the footballing map really. I only ever wanted to be a footballer, but I was quite clever as well, I passed all eleven A star to C grades in my GCSE's, and then went on to pass three A levels as well. I was always quite relaxed in a way, and even though football was what I wanted to do, it wasn't the be all and end all, because I knew I would always have something to fall back on. I played for one season in Cheadle Athletic U12's. I was nine and they had to get special dispensation for me to play because I was so young, and immediately after that a scout from Stoke City came to watch me play and I've been here ever

since, nine or ten years now. Normally training in the Academy starts off with a double session on Mondays, training in the morning and weights in the afternoon. Tuesday mornings we are at college and then train in the afternoon. Wednesday we train all day, Thursday we are at college all day, and Fridays we prepare for the game on a Saturday morning.

This season, though, I have been 'mixing and matching,' sometimes with the Academy and sometimes with the first team. I feel absolutely honoured to train with the first team. There are some great players and they help me all the time, giving me bits of advice, and it was only a couple of

weeks ago in the programme that Peter Handyside said that the lads wished me all the best after I had broken my leg, and it's nice to know that people are looking out for me.

I was a bit down after I had broken my leg, obviously, but my philosophy has always been to take all the positives out of the negatives. I have broken my leg, but it could have been a lot worse. I went in for a tackle, and my left leg got caught in the ground. I heard it crack so knew what I had done straight away, but I suppose if there is a bonus, it's happened at the right time of the season. Obviously, there's never a good time to break your leg, but if I had done it at the beginning of the season, I would have been playing catch-up for fitness. At least now I can do my upper body weights and I'm raring to get back to be in contention for the start of next season. My plaster has got to stay on for another couple of weeks, and then I will have a special pneumatic boot fitted, like the one Dave Rowson has. I hope that we can gain promotion this season, and it won't be for the want of trying, everyone here is doing their best to get up into the First Division, we all feel that that is where this club belongs.

with...
Gareth Owen

I always want to be involved in every game, but I've got to bear in mind that from sitting and watching the first team, I've come a long way since the start of the season, but sometimes I think it can be a good thing to sit and watch, because you can see things differently, and you can pick up on other peoples' mistakes and see where they might be going wrong. I also run an U11's football team, Cheadle Town Juniors. Just come and have a look at them, because I think we've

I was a bit down after I had broken my leg,

obviously, but my philosophy has always been to take all the positives out of the negatives.

got a couple of stars for the future!

My mum and dad are Stokies, and come to most home games, and all of my friends are avid Stoke fans. I've got two brothers, one is a sargeant in the army, based in Wiltshire. The other one had the opportunity to play for Wolves when he was sixteen, but chose the army instead, and he now lives in Kingsley and works at a tyre and exhaust factory. Let's look forward to promotion.





Tales from the...

Treatment Table

Stefan, Chris and Rachel are again busy in the medical rooms. Just when they think they are getting to the end of all the injuries, another one occurs!

Easter printing deadlines mean that these notes are correct on Tuesday, 26th March.

PETER HANDYSIDE

No reaction from his broken toe after the Chesterfield game. He is training with the squad as normal.

GAVIN WARD

Has returned from Lillleshall after a weeks residential doing specific rehabilitation and is feeling much better. He has made excellent progress, and we will carry on with his programme now until he returns to Lillleshall tomorrow for another week to carry on with the final part of his rehab.

OLE ALBRIGTSEN

Ole has had an MRI scan to try and sort out his abdominal problem.

SOULEYMANE OULARE

Has seen a chest specialist, and if he is given the all-clear we will start stepping up his rehab with a view to him doing some ball-work and light training.

RIKKI DADASON

Making real progress. Should have now played in the reserves.

PETER HOEKSTRA

Still getting used to his insoles, they

take quite a bit of time to adjust to. His ankle was slightly sore for the first few minutes after he came on against Chesterfield, but he has had no adverse reaction and we should be seeing more of him.

BRYNJAR GUNNARSSON

Was taken for an X-ray straight after the game against Chesterfield. This proved inconclusive due to the old fracture site being there as well, so he had another X-ray last Tuesday and also saw a specialist. Hopefully the results were good news!

DAVID ROWSON

Still in his pneumatic boot, and unfortunately David's season is over.

PETUR MARTEINSSON

Petur's operation went well, and he will be starting light rehab soon.

ACADEMY

GARETH OWEN

Has seen a consultant and should now be in a pneumatic cast.

DEAN GIBBS

Dean's double hernia operation went well, and he is into his rehab already.

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On The Ball

with

Ladbrokesand
Wayne Ball**STOKE CITY v SWINDON TOWN**

Stoke City entertain Swindon town today and are expected to gain another victory. The last two games at the Britannia have produced two victories without performing to their capabilities, but at this stage of the season, it's only the results that matter. Today, without being disrespectful to Swindon, should be an easier game to win as they have nothing left to play for this season, whereas both Peterborough and Chesterfield were in positions where they could be dragged into a relegation battle. I predict that the Potters will win 2-0, with Deon Burton netting both goals, as he is due to score in front of the home supporters.

IN TODAY'S OTHER FIXTURES:-**COVENTRY CITY v WEST BROMWICH ALBION**

Two Midlands sides that are up there in the table for promotion meet in what should be a close encounter, and I just fancy West Brom to nick it by the one goal, increasing the pressure on Wolves for that second automatic

promotion place.

CRYSTAL PALACE v BIRMINGHAM CITY

Trevor Francis and Steve Bruce face their old clubs today after their mid-season managerial switch, and the match will end in a draw.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS v MANCHESTER CITY

Two weeks ago this was suggested as the Division One title decider, now it's a case of if Wolves can gain a victory to hold on to the second spot from an in-form W.B.A. side. I predict more worrying times for the Wanderers, as Manchester City will gain all three points, and with it, the honour of going into the Premiership as Division One champions.

BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION v BRISTOL CITY

As the pressure mounts at the top of Division Two, like ourselves, Brighton, Bristol City and Brentford, and to some extent leaders Reading, have been dropping points. Ideally, Bristol

City will win this game to enable the Potters to gain ground on Brighton to enhance our chances of automatic promotion, but unfortunately for the Potters, I think Bristol City will come away with a draw.

CARDIFF v PORT VALE

Cardiff are now fulfilling their potential, and if they make it to the play-offs will be a threat to all. Unfortunately, our neighbours are likely not to offer much resistance, so another victory for the Blues looks assured.

HARTLEPOOL UNITED v PLYMOUTH ARGYLE

Plymouth are destined for Division Two football next season, and another victory today looks guaranteed, and so does the Division Three Championship.

Why not try a £10 accumulator on my selections.

GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR SELECTIONS!

Stoke City Supporters Club



Following last week's victory over Chesterfield, today's Easter Monday clash

with Swindon Town is a test of nerves as the Potters enter the final stages of the campaign. It's very tight at the top, with City probably one of the outsiders for that elusive automatic promotion spot, but it's certain that the manager and players will not give up whilst it is still mathematically possible. The chance of gaining a further valuable three points should be sufficient spur to once again ensure 100% effort from players and supporters alike, and with only a handful of games left, there's certainly no room for slip-ups in this season's promotion race.

Formal details of our proposals for a new Supporters Club Programme Shop are to be re-submitted to Stoke City, having previously negotiated

with the Club's former chief executive Jez Moxey at some length without progressing the scheme. This will be done before the end of the season, and these will then be considered by Stoke City Football Club and subsequently the Stadium Development Company. For those many collectors keen to see the Programme Shop return, full details of developments will be published as soon as available.

Voting is now underway to find this year's Supporters Club 'Player of the Season.' The trophy has previously been won by the likes of Peter Fox, Mickey Thomas, Lee Dixon, Steve Bould and last year the name of Wayne Thomas was added to that exclusive list. This season's early front-runners are Peter Handyside, Clive Clarke, Chris Iwelumo, Jurgen Vandeuren and Sergei Shtaniuk, but remember that it's YOUR vote that

counts. All supporters are eligible to vote (i.e. it's not just for Supporters Club members!) and cards are available from the Britannia Ticket Office/Shop, Hanley Store, and on club coaches to away matches. At the time of writing nothing further has been confirmed by Stoke City, having had a provisional date for a proposed ten-pin bowling evening involving Stoke City players and Supporters Club members put forward as this Wednesday, 3rd April. Any supporter who has enquired about the event will be contacted individually by the Supporters Club Secretary.

CLUB CONTACTS

The Secretary,
11, Westland Street, Penkhull,
Stoke on Trent. ST4 7HE
Telephone/fax
01782 744674 - 24 hours



Potters Stats

Stoke City Statistics 2001-2002 Season

Stoke City Roll Call

Career	Nationwide League		Cup Games		Total For Season	
Player	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls
Gavin Ward	10	-	2	-	12	-
Mikael Hansson	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clive Clarke	38+2	1	4+1	-	42+3	1
Peter Handyside	29	-	4	1	33	1
Sergei Shtaniuk	36	2	5	-	41	2
Brynjar Gunnarsson	21+2	6	3	1	24+2	7
Bjarni Gudjonsson	41	3	5	-	46	3
Andy Cooke	25+8	7	2+3	-	27+11	7
Peter Thorne	5	4	0+1	-	5+1	4
Rikhardur Dadason	6+6	4	0+1	-	6+7	4
Peter Hoekstra	18+4	3	3+1	-	21+5	3
Wayne Thomas	37	1	5	-	42	1
Neil Cutler	31	-	4+1	-	35+1	-
Chris Iwelumo	20+15	9	4+1	2	24+16	11
Stefan Thordarson	3+14	4	1	-	4+14	4
James O'Connor	38	2	4	-	42	2
Lewis Neal	6+5	-	2+1	1	8+6	1
Marc Goodfellow	9+9	5	3+2	-	12+11	5
David Rowson	8+5	-	3+2	-	11+7	-
Petur Marteinson	2+1	-	-	-	2+1	-
Arnar Gunnlaugsson	7	3	-	-	7	3
Karl Henry	10+12	-	4	-	14+12	-
Kris Commons	-	-	1	-	1	-
Gareth Owen	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jurgen Vandeuren	35+2	4	5	-	40+2	4
Brian Wilson	0+1	-	1	-	1+1	-
Birkir Kristinsson	-	-	-	-	-	-
Andy Wilkinson	-	-	0+1	-	0+1	-
Laurence Hall	-	-	0+1	-	0+1	-
Allan Smart	0+2	-	-	-	0+2	-
Danny Alcock	-	-	-	-	-	-
Michael Ingham	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mike Flynn	11+2	-	-	-	11+2	-
Souleymane Oulare	0+1	-	-	-	0+1	-
Deon Burton	7	2	-	-	7	2
Jani Viander	-	-	-	-	-	-
Own Goals	-	3	-	-	-	3

Key to symbols and abbreviations

● Team Line-Up ● Substitute/Goal and Player Replaced

■ Booked ■ Booked & sent off ■ Sent off * Own Goal

Date	Opponents	V	F-A	Att	V.Supp	Pts	Pos
Sat Aug 11th	QPR	A	0-1	14,357	2,618	0	13
Sat Aug 18th	Northampton Town	H	2-0	12,845	552	3	9
Sat Aug 25th	Cambridge United	A	2-0	3,336	987	6	12
Mon Aug 27th	Tranmere Rovers	H	1-2	12,031	716	6	12
Sat Sep 8th	Huddersfield Town	H	1-1	13,319	1,158	7	14
Sat Sep 15th	Reading	H	2-0	11,752	925	10	-
Tue Sep 18th	Brighton & Hove Albion	A	0-1	6,627	512	10	-
Sat Sep 22nd	Bury	A	1-0	4,727	2,122	13	10
Wed Sep 26th	Colchester United	H	3-0	9,515	138	16	6
Sat Sep 29th	A.F.C. Bournemouth	H	2-0*	14,803	268	19	3
Sat Oct 13th	Notts County	H	1-0	13,220	513	22	-
Sun Oct 21st	Port Vale (2.00pm KO)	A	1-1	10,344	4,500	23	-
Tue Oct 23rd	Chesterfield	A	2-1	5,141	1,879	26	-
Sat Oct 27th	Bristol City	H	1-0	16,828	1,604	29	-
Sat Nov 3rd	Swindon Town	A	3-0	7,981	2,072	32	1
Tue Nov 6th	Blackpool	A	2-2	4,921	1,040	33	3
Sat Nov 10th	Brentford	H	3-2	17,953	752	36	-
Tue Nov 13th	Wigan Athletic (7.45pm KO)	A	1-6	7,047	3,003	36	3
Wed Nov 21st	Oldham Athletic	H	0-0	11,031	389	37	2
Sat Nov 24th	Wrexham	A	1-0	5,477	2,800	40	2
Sat Dec 15th	Wycombe Wanderers	H	5-1	12,911	527	43	1
Wed Dec 19th	Cardiff City	H	1-1*	14,331	880	44	1
Wed Dec 26th	Tranmere Rovers	A	2-2	12,201	2,300	45	-
Sat Dec 29th	Huddersfield Town	A	0-0	16,041	3,833	46	-
Tue Jan 1st	Blackpool	H	2-0	16,615	943	49	-
Sun Jan 13th	Northampton Town	A	1-1	5,635	1,473	50	3
Sat Jan 19th	QPR	H	0-1	16,725	1,329	50	-
Tue Jan 22nd	Cardiff City	A	0-2	11,771	547	50	4
Sat Jan 26th	Wigan Athletic	H	2-2	13,361	1,267	51	-
Tue Jan 29th	Peterborough United	A	2-1	5,173	851	54	-
Sat Feb 2nd	A.F.C. Bournemouth	A	1-3	6,027	1,123	54	3
Wed Feb 6th	Cambridge United	H	5-0*	9,570	183	57	3
Sun Feb 10th	Port Vale	H	0-1	23,019	3,284	57	-
Sat Feb 16th	Notts County	A	0-0	7,501	3,173	58	-
Sat Feb 23rd	Reading	A	0-1	21,032	2,516	58	5
Tue Feb 26th	Bury	H	4-0	9,635	224	61	-
Fri Mar 1st	Brighton & Hove Albion	H	3-1	16,092	999	64	-
Tue Mar 5th	Colchester United	A	3-1	3,866	444	67	-
Sat Mar 9th	Wycombe Wanderers	A	0-1	7,344	1,464	67	-
Sat Mar 16th	Peterborough United	H	1-0	12,983	453	70	4
Sat Mar 23th	Chesterfield	H	1-0	14,841	870	73	4
Sat Mar 30th	Brentford	A	-	-	-	-	-
Mon Apr 1st	Swindon Town	H	-	-	-	-	-
Sat Apr 6th	Oldham Athletic	A	-	-	-	-	-
Sat Apr 13th	Wrexham	H	-	-	-	-	-
Sat Apr 20th	Bristol City	A	-	-	-	-	-

Nationwide League Division Two

	HOME					AWAY					
Pld	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD Pts
Reading	41	12	5	4	34	18	11	5	4	28	17 79
Brighton	41	16	4	1	40	15	5	10	5	18	25 18 77
Brentford	41	15	4	1	43	11	7	5	9	29	29 32 75
Stoke City	41	14	4	3	40	18	7	6	7	22	24 26 73
Huddersfield	40	12	5	3	31	16	8	7	5	28	22 21 72
Bristol City	41	12	4	4	32	17	8	4	9	28	25 18 68
Cardiff	40	10	8	3	36	24	8	5	6	30	23 19 67
Oldham	41	12	5	3	42	24	4	9	8	29	36 11 62
Tranmere	41	10	8	2	35	13	6	6	9	22	37 7 62
QPR	41	10	9	2	32	16	6	4	10	21	28 9 61
Wycombe	41	11	5	5	34	24	4	7	9	17	31 -4 57
Wigan	41	7	6	8	31	22	6	9	5	26	24 11 54
Port Vale	41	10	5	5	34	23	5	4	12	15	35 -9 54
Swindon	40	9	6	5	24	19	4	6	10	18	32 -9 51
Blackpool	41	6	9	6	31	30	6	5	9	26	34 -7 50
Colchester	41	9	5	6	32	26	4	6	11	26	42 -10 50
Chesterfield	41	8	3	9	32	31	4	10	7	16	22 -5 49
Peterborough	41	9	5	6	42	23	4	4	13	15	29 5 48
Notts County	41	5	7	8	23	28	5	4	12	28	37 -14 41
Northampton	41	7	3	10	23	30	5	2	14	24	43 -26 41
Bury	41	5	9	7	23	29	5	2	13	16	38 -28 41
Bournemouth	41	8	4	9	33	31	1	9	10	19	34 -13 40
Wrexham	41	5	6	9	21	30	4	3	14	27	53 -35 36
Cambridge	40	5	7	8	22	30	0	4	16	14	50 -44 26

WORTHINGTON CUP

Wed Aug 22nd Oldham Athletic (WC 1) H 0-0 5,635 337
Oldham won 6-5 on penalties

FA CUP

Sun Nov 18th Lewes (FAC 1) A 2-0 7,081 946
Played at The Britannia Stadium
Sat Dec 8th Halifax Town (FAC 2) A 1-1 3,335 1,325
Wed Dec 12th Halifax Town (FAC 2 Rep) H 3-0 4,356 483
Sat Jan 5th Everton (FAC 3) H 0-1 28,218 4,893

LDV VANS TROPHY

Tue Oct 16th Blackpool A 2-3 3,561 634

Sidelines



Oldham Athletic v Stoke City

**Saturday 6th April 2002
Nationwide League Division 2
KICK-OFF FOR THIS FIXTURE IS
1.00p.m.**

Club Nickname: 'The Latics'

Two away fixtures remaining, the Potters again in contention for at least a top six play-off finish, so next Saturday it's off to where else but Boundary Park. The second highest ground in England has been the home of Athletic since 1906, although the club had played at Boundary Park on a temporary basis during the previous ten years. Traditionally a Rugby League town, Oldham was some years behind other neighbouring Lancashire towns in establishing its own football club, but Athletic enjoyed great success after the First World War when the club played in the First Division with average attendances approaching 20,000. Oldham was the leading cotton producing town in the world, but a benefactor to invest in the club never became a reality, unlike other clubs in the region. The ground today is all seated on four sides with a capacity of 13,359 - a far cry from the

Latics highest gate of 47,671 for an F.A. Cup tie v Sheffield Wednesday in January, 1930. As in recent years, away fans are allocated the Rochdale Road End with 4,272 seats available. This stand was completed in 1992 and provides shelter from the often freezing Northerly winds. Hopefully, Spring-like weather will accompany our visit. Since last term, Oldham have spent over £500,000 on the installation of a new pitch.

TRAVEL CLUB

Coaches depart the Britannia Stadium at 10.30 a.m.

Prices

Premier/Legends members	£8.00
Season Ticket holders/	
Potters Club	£9.00
Juniors/Senior Citizens	£7.50
Non-members	£11.00

GOING BY CAR?

From the Britannia Stadium take the M6 Northbound to Junction 21A to join the M62 Eastbound (S/P Leeds.) Continue on the M62 to exit at Junction 20 (S/P Ashton, Rochdale, Oldham A627 (M.)) At roundabout follow signs to Ashton, Oldham, Manchester A627 (M) onto the A627 (M.) After 0.5 miles, where the road divides, keep right (S/P Manchester East A663, Oldham, Ashton A627.) After 1.4

miles exit A627 (M) (S/P Oldham, Ashton A627.) At the roundabout (use both lanes on the exit slip-road) take the first exit following signs for Oldham Athletic F.C. (also S/P Royton A663, Rochdale A671) onto Broadway. Take first turn right after 0.4 miles, into Hilbre Avenue which leads directly to the car park. The club car park has plenty of space for visiting fans - pay on the gate for car park. Getting away after the game can be slow so be prepared to sit it out for a while. Also, if the weather is dry, and inevitably windy, the Boundary Park dust storms will no doubt be much in evidence on the car park. Please remember this game kicks off at 1.00 p.m. and takes place on Grand National Day at Aintree - the Motorway will be very busy, so allow yourselves plenty of time for your journey.

DISTANCE - 64 Miles

FOOD & DRINK

Nearby pubs include the Rifle Range in Burnley Lane, Chadderton (a J.W. Lees pub) and the Old Grey Mare and White Hart, both on Oldham Road, Royton. The Blue Bell Inn is on Broadway, just up the road from the entrance to the car park and is a popular venue for away fans. Nearby food outlets include K.F.C. and McDonalds on the roundabout leading off the Motorway, and the Ree Ming (come on Arnie) chippie on Oldham Road opposite the petrol station. In the ground, the club kiosk offers a variety of good pies, burgers and hot-dogs, and is supplemented by a burger van at the rear of the stand.

POTTERS PROSPECTS?

Another vital game and a huge away following will no doubt be present to support the red and whites. Last season a late Rikki Dadson goal won it for the Potters - this season Oldham have fared better in the League under the management team of Mick Wadsworth and Iain Dowie, winning 12 goals at home, and bounced back after that 7-1 drubbing at the hands of Cardiff to win a hard-earned point at Reading. We are yet to score in open play against the Latics this season. This is not the time for the faint-hearted!

See you there!

Teamsheets



Stoke City

<input type="radio"/>	1	Gavin WARD
<input type="radio"/>	2	Mikael HANSSON
<input type="radio"/>	3	Clive CLARKE
<input type="radio"/>	4	Peter HANDYSIDE
<input type="radio"/>	5	Sergei SHTANIUK
<input type="radio"/>	6	Brynjar GUNNARSSON
<input type="radio"/>	7	Bjarni GUDJONSSON
<input type="radio"/>	8	Andy COOKE
<input type="radio"/>	9	Souleymane OULARE
<input type="radio"/>	10	Rikhardur DADASON
<input type="radio"/>	11	Peter HOEKSTRA
<input type="radio"/>	12	Wayne THOMAS
<input type="radio"/>	14	Neil CUTLER
<input type="radio"/>	15	Chris IWELUMO
<input type="radio"/>	16	Stefan THORDARSON
<input type="radio"/>	17	James O'CONNOR
<input type="radio"/>	18	Lewis NEAL
<input type="radio"/>	19	Marc GOODFELLOW
<input type="radio"/>	20	David ROWSON
<input type="radio"/>	21	Petur MARTEINSSON
<input type="radio"/>	22	Arnar GUNNLAUGSSON
<input type="radio"/>	23	Karl HENRY
<input type="radio"/>	24	Kris COMMONS
<input type="radio"/>	25	Gareth OWEN
<input type="radio"/>	26	Ole ALBRIGTSEN
<input type="radio"/>	28	Brian WILSON
<input type="radio"/>	27	Jurgen VANDEURZEN
<input type="radio"/>	32	Danny ALCOCK
<input type="radio"/>	33	Jani VIANDER
<input type="radio"/>	35	Deon BURTON
<input type="radio"/>		



Swindon Town

<input type="radio"/>	1	Bart GRIEMINK
<input type="radio"/>	3	Sol DAVIS
<input type="radio"/>	4	Matthew HEWLETT
<input type="radio"/>	5	Adam WILLIS
<input type="radio"/>	6	Andrew GURNEY
<input type="radio"/>	7	Keith O'HALLORAN
<input type="radio"/>	8	Bobby HOWE
<input type="radio"/>	10	Guiliano GRAZIOLI
<input type="radio"/>	11	David DUKE
<input type="radio"/>	12	Juan COBIAN
<input type="radio"/>	14	Eric SABIN
<input type="radio"/>	15	Richard McKINNEY
<input type="radio"/>	16	Neil RUDDOCK
<input type="radio"/>	17	Daniel INVINCIBLE
<input type="radio"/>	18	Berti BRAYLEY
<input type="radio"/>	19	Matthew HEYWOOD
<input type="radio"/>	20	Paul EDWARDS
<input type="radio"/>	21	Ian HERRING
<input type="radio"/>	22	Alan REEVES
<input type="radio"/>	24	Bryan SMITH
<input type="radio"/>	25	Steve ROBINSON
<input type="radio"/>	26	Alan YOUNG
<input type="radio"/>	27	Paul McAREAVEY
<input type="radio"/>	28	Nathan EDWARDS
<input type="radio"/>	29	James WILLIAMS
<input type="radio"/>	30	Chris COLLINS
<input type="radio"/>	31	Kevin HALLIDAY
<input type="radio"/>	32	Craig FARR
<input type="radio"/>		
<input type="radio"/>		



Match Officials

Referee:

Mr G.B. Frankland

Assistant Referees:

Mr G.A. Aston

Mr A.J. Martin

Fourth Official:

Mr C.D. Sarginson

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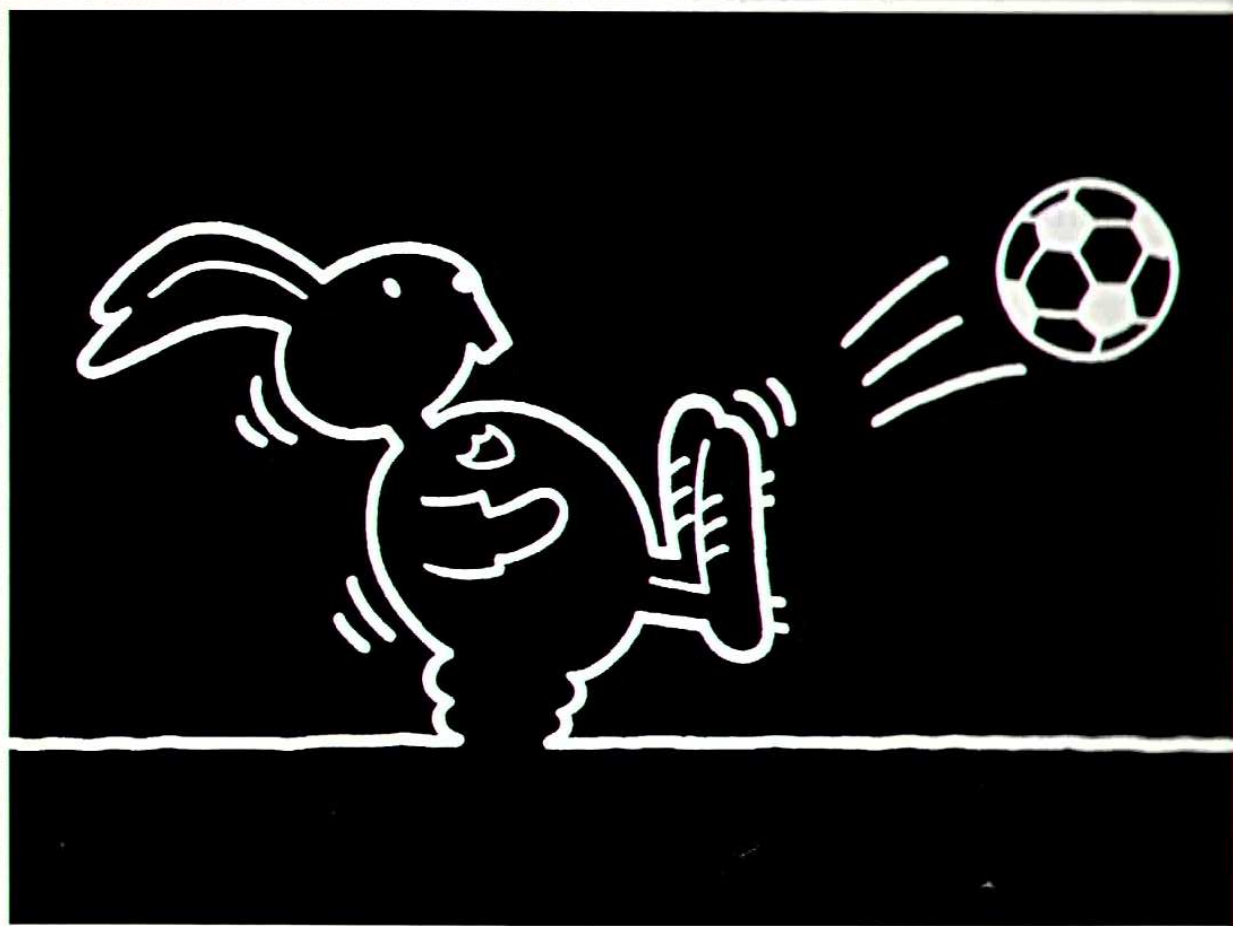
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94.6 FM

1503 MW

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