

THE PIRATE



22/11/08

v Swindon Town

SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2008

PRICE £3.00 No. 10

THE OFFICIAL MATCH DAY PROGRAMME OF BRISTOL ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB

SEASON 2008/09



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BRISTOL ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB

The Memorial Stadium, Filton Avenue, Horfield, Bristol BS7 0BF

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Directors Barry Bradshaw, David Brain, Ron Craig, Geoff Dunford, Rod King, Ken Masters, Edward Ware

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Honorary Vice-Presidents Bob Andrews, Arthur Holmes, Roy Redman, Vernon Stokes

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Club Doctor Dr Tim Jenkinson

Stadium General Manager Ian Holtby

Community Officer Peter Aitken

Safety & Liaison Officer Dave Harper

Club Chaplain Rev David Jeal

Player Liaison/Press Officer Keith Brookman

IT Manager Ian Cole

Public Relations Officer Kirsty Pugh

Photographic Manager Jeff Davis

HONOURS

Football League Division Three (South)

Champions: 1952/53

Football League Division Three Champions:

1989/90

Runners-Up: 1973/74

League Two Play Off Winners: 2006/07

Division Three (South) Cup Winners 1934/35

Watney Cup Winners 1972



The Official Match Programme of
BRISTOL ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB

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Additional & archive photography

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SC Vice-Chairman Ken Masters

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Ralph Shaw

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THE MEMORIAL STADIUM

Ticket Office (Matchdays Only):

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and online @ www.bristolrovers.co.uk

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BRFC Supporters Club

199 Two Mile Hill Road, Kingswood,

Bristol BS15 1AZ

Tel: 0117 961 1772

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Bristol Rovers 1934/35

Back: Pickering, Ellis, Smith (Jack)

Centre: McNestry, Havelock, Wallington,

McLean, Murray, Donald

Front: Capt. Prince-Cox

(Secretary/manager), Hope,

Wipfler, McKay, Smith (Jim),

Prout



Consistency is crucial

GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME TO the Memorial Stadium for our match against Swindon Town.

In recent weeks we have played the top two sides in the league, Scunthorpe and Leicester, and have been unfortunate not to win both games.

Last Friday's defeat against Scunthorpe was frustrating, as we felt we were worth at least a point and that we could possibly have won it.

One of the reasons we came away empty handed is that in the spell after we scored we stopped passing the ball as we had been and made a few bad decisions, which led to pressure from them and, ultimately, to their second goal.

Whilst we can take many positives from our performance, we are aware that it's a results based business and we need to bounce back with a win this afternoon.

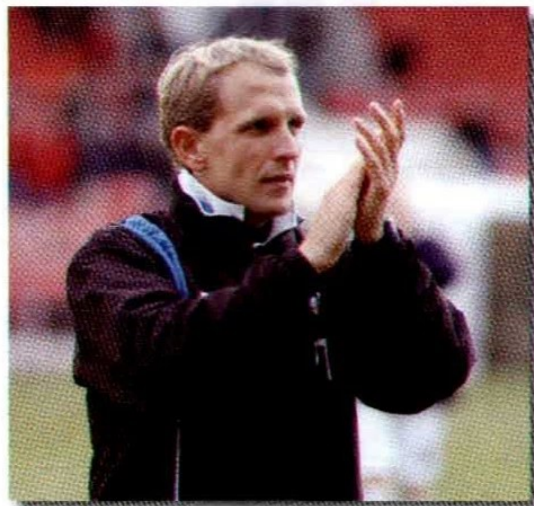
There's very little to choose between teams in this division and we have gained a lot of confidence against the top teams. Maybe they have bits of quality over the others, but mostly it's about making good decisions to win football matches, and that was certainly the case last weekend.

Most teams in the division are capable of scoring goals, but also of conceding them, and we just need to add a little bit of consistency to our play to be able to get the wins we deserve. We feel that we have assembled a good squad and that we are making good progress in how we play, and with our mentality, but consistency over a period of time is crucial to seeing us in the top half of the table.

There are some very good attacking teams in the division, and we have seen many of them at the Memorial Stadium in recent weeks, and we have managed to beat a number of them.

In my opinion, the teams that can defend consistently well will give themselves more chance to go on and win games, and we are happy that we can do that.

We have missed a few defenders, for one reason or another, over the last few months but most of them are now returning, and nearing full fitness, and that



"...TEAMS THAT CAN DEFEND CONSISTENTLY WELL WILL GIVE THEMSELVES MORE CHANCE TO GO ON AND WIN GAMES, AND WE ARE HAPPY THAT WE CAN DO THAT"

will continue over the next couple of weeks.

When players have been close to being fit again after injury, we have arranged reserve team friendlies to make sure they get the games they need. We have already had games against Cardiff, Exeter and Cheltenham and in all of those games we have been able to feature players on their way back from injury.

However it's about getting the right balance between needing a game and getting the right opposition to ensure that the game is a good competitive one rather than us, or our opponents, being too strong because when that happens it's not a worthwhile exercise.

The games we have had so far have worked well in that sense, and we've benefited from them. We have a game against Yate Town, in the GFA Senior Challenge Cup on 9th December which will feature a lot of the younger players but if we feel we need another game before that, for any of the players returning from injury, then we will arrange one.

The number of games we've had equates to the number of games we had in the reserve league at this time last year, but they have been more suitable because the opposition has been of a similar level.

Today's opponents, Swindon, have

appointed David Byrne as caretaker manager, and I saw them in action against Leicester last week when he had them fired up for the game.

After being two goals behind at one stage, they deservedly got back into the game and scored a late equaliser. There was little in the game, and while Leicester had a good spell in the second half, the Swindon players showed a good spirit and togetherness to come back from a difficult situation.

It's always a time of uncertainty at a football club when there is a managerial change, but David is an experienced man and he knows what he wants from his team. He will have worked with his players for a week and will have them fired up again today. We know we are going to have to be on top of our game and be mentally well prepared.

After a good run at home we were disappointed with last week's defeat, and we certainly want to bounce back from that and feel we are ready to do it today.

It's a West Country derby, and I'm sure there will be a good crowd here. Our fans have been terrific and, even in defeat last Friday, they could see the players playing with a pride and a passion for the shirt and producing some good football.

If we continue to do that we are going to win more games than we lose, so we need to continue the performance levels. If we do that, we know that our fans will give us their full support.

I hope you all enjoy the game.

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**CRAIG
DISLEY**

A massive game



**HE'S STILL
LOOKING
FOR HIS first
goal of the
season, but
midfielder
Craig Disley
seems to
have turned
provider this
time around.**

His cross to the far post last Friday night enabled Rickie Lambert to equalise against Scunthorpe, the only disappointment being that we didn't

go on to take something from the game.

"Not scoring is playing on my mind a little bit more than it was, as part of my game is getting in the box and scoring. Still, in the position I'm playing at the moment, it's not always possible to get in box as much as I have been in the past.

"I have to say, though, that I'm enjoying my new role. It's very different for me, as I'm not someone who has been used to taking players on and getting crosses in. It seems to be going OK at the moment and, apart from our last couple of results, we've been doing pretty well. I think our performances, on the whole, have been pretty good and I think if we keep performing to the same level then the results will start coming."

Friday night's defeat by the league leaders was hard to take.

"It was a very disappointing result, because when we got back in the game we were looking very good and I felt there was only one team that was going to go on and win it. But, for ten minutes or so after we scored, we let them back into the game. We gave them a couple of chances and they went in front again and it was always going to be difficult to get back on level terms with them again. We tried, and pushed on towards the end, but couldn't quite get the break.

"I thought that while Scunthorpe looked lively going forward, they also looked like a team that will concede a few goals as well. That said, they are very strong and very

organised and I think they will be there, or thereabouts, come the end of the season.

"It was frustrating that we didn't take anything from the game, because I don't think there have been any better teams than us amongst all the top teams we've come up against. We believe that, as a team, we are as good as anyone.

"I think the teams at the top might have a bit more nous and experience about them, which means they win games and we don't at the moment. I believe it's something that we can get sorted, though. We have the players who can win games, and if we can become a little bit more consistent, there's only one way we can go."

The game against Swindon gives the side the opportunity to get back to winning ways, especially after a couple of seasons when the Wiltshire Robins have won three of the four league games between the two sides.

"We've had some interesting games against them over the last few years, but they got the better of us last season, when they completed the double over us.

"Whether or not they have a new manager in place by the time we face each other this afternoon remains to be seen, but it's bound to be a lively affair and it's a game we need to win.

"We've lost our last two league games and now the teams at the bottom are catching us up and the teams at the top are pulling away a bit, so it's a massive game for us. We really need three points, and we'll be going all out to get them."

With defenders Danny Coles and Joe Jacobson set for a return to the squad, competition for places in the starting lineup is about to hot up.

"Competition for places is vital throughout the team. Steve Elliott came through last Friday's game, having only trained for one day, and he did really well to complete the game but it was good to see him back. With 'Colesy' and 'JJ' back in training now, we are getting back to the strength in depth we had at the start of the season. When everyone is fit, it will give 'Trolls' a selection headache, but I'm sure it's a situation he would like and, as a team, it's something we need.

"Injuries are part and parcel of the game, and we do everything we can to prevent ourselves getting injured, by undertaking stretching and core work. We have a good record of injury prevention, but there's nothing you can do to prevent contact injuries. Fingers crossed that we've had our share of those this season, and that we will soon have a fully fit squad available for selection."

**"...I THINK
IF WE KEEP
PERFORMING
TO THE SAME
LEVEL THEN
THE RESULTS
WILL START
COMING."**

PLAYER FACTS

AGE: 27

PREVIOUS CLUBS:
Mansfield Town

GAS LEAGUE
APPEARANCES:
153 + 22 sub

GAS LEAGUE GOALS:
23

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My body is a temple!



IT'S VERY RARE THAT ANY football player gets married during the season, as it's so difficult to get any time off.

Last weekend, though, Steve Phillips made an honest woman of his now lovely wife Liz. I was fortunate enough to receive an invite to the occasion along with a couple of the other lads. It was a fantastic day and, obviously, everyone was sober at the end of the night!

Once I had checked into my hotel room, my wife and I made our way down to the hotel foyer and I happened to mention to Ian Holtby how nice our room was in the recently refurbished hotel. On hearing my comments, one of the other players said how nice the TV was, and spoke of his plan to take one home with him!

In case you're trying to think who would think that way, look no further than the big man up front! What a typical scouser comment that was from Lambo; and they wonder why they have a reputation! It was funny, though.

Keith, our programme editor was in good form; he was the only one on our table drinking the red wine, so he had a whole bottle to himself. I had to keep an eye on him because of his pacemaker, boy that man can dance!

I've started training now, and things seem to be going ok. In my first session back I felt about as sharp as a bean bag, but sharpness comes with the more I do, and a lot of our training involves quick feet, in and out of ladders and cones, so that's good for me.

'Kitey' says he's missing me in the treatment room, and that it's not the same now that I'm no

longer in there! However I think that his assistant, Steve Bissix, is glad to see the back of me because all I do is abuse him and make his life hell!

I could tell my head was starting to go the other day when I was injured, as 'Kitey' came walking into the room and I was led on the bed with my head all taped up and 'Pipey' was taped to the bed so he couldn't move; we looked like a pair of mummies!

I read in the paper last weekend that our Chairman said we should be going to our new training ground in next week or so, and the boys are really looking forward to it because the facilities down the new place are outstanding, and it's in Bristol.

I read, in last week's programme, that Ryan Green does not like my UGG boots. I can understand that, because they aren't to everyone's taste, but to nominate me as the worst dressed player, I found outrageous.

'Greener', when you have a spare week, come round to my house and I'll show you my wardrobe, pal! Greener likes to buy T shirts that are a size too small for him, because he likes to show off his big muscles and walk round like he has rolls of carpet under his arms; I'm not even going to start on his fake tan!

The boys at our club love a tattoo, and recently Pipey got a new one on his arm; it's a decent tatt, to be honest, and I'm sure you'll see it when he's fit because no matter what the weather is, he always takes his top off at the end of the game! I think he does it because he likes to show everyone his muscles and tattoos, and also to intimidate the other team!

I have one tattoo, which I had done in a moment of madness, and Lescott canes it all the time. If my body wasn't a temple, I'd get more, but I hate to ruin perfection! Haha!

Without a doubt Hints has the best body in the team; he's toned and his partner must feel like the luckiest woman ever. If you believe that, you're too gullible! Apparently he use to look good, but I don't know what's happened to him! Steve Phillips is another imperfect specimen, in that one of his nipples is down level with his elbow and the other up by his shoulder!

I'm looking forward to seeing a few old friends today, who play for Swindon. I'm sure one of them will get a bit of abuse, though, because he used to play for the dark side!

Hopefully, we will get three points and return to winning ways.

"I HAVE ONE TATTOO, WHICH I HAD DONE IN A MOMENT OF MADNESS, AND LESCOTT CANES IT ALL THE TIME"

PLAYER FACTS:

AGE: 27

PREVIOUS CLUBS:

Bristol City, Hull City, Hartlepool United (loan)

GAS LEAGUE APPEARANCES: 29

GAS LEAGUE GOALS: 2

Just a small one, to toast the happy couple!



Start of the celebrations

AFTER AN ABSENCE THROUGH ILLNESS, director Barry Bradshaw is back at the Memorial Stadium to help kick off Rovers' 125th anniversary celebrations this afternoon.

Barry recently spent a period of time in Frenchay Hospital and would like to thank all the fans who sent their best wishes while he was ill. He said; *"It's been a difficult few months for me, but I would like to thank all our supporters for their cards and support while I have been unwell. I was amazed to bump into so many Gasheads working in the hospital, and talking to them really cheered me up when I was feeling low."*

"My time in Frenchay has really made me appreciate the NHS and I would like to thank all the staff at the hospital, especially those on Ward 204 who helped me through my recovery."

"While I was in hospital, I also began to appreciate the great relationship we have with Frenchay Hospital and the surrounding area. Not only do we draw a lot of fans from that area, but former Supporters Club chairman Eric Godfrey was very influential in the set up of the Friends of Frenchay Hospital group. Eric later became the first member of the Supporters Club to gain a position on the board of Bristol Rovers. The Friends of Frenchay Hospital have done great work over the years, and as a club, we still keep this relationship alive by sending the team up to the hospital every Christmas to visit the sick children. This is an important annual tradition for the club. It allows us to bring a bit of happiness to the poor children who are stuck in hospital during the festive period."

Barry has been instrumental in setting up the range of 125th anniversary celebrations, and is looking forward to a good atmosphere at today's game. He said; *"Today marks the start of our 125 celebrations with the players donning the special commemorative Black Arab shirt. Today's match is the closest to the*



Rovers wearing the Black Arab kit that will be in use this afternoon, to mark the club's 125th anniversary

date of the first recorded match against Wotton-under-Edge in 1883, and it just so happens to be a derby against our local rivals Swindon Town. All this makes for a great atmosphere, and I hope we can kick off our celebrations in style with an emphatic win."

"I hope that lots of you have turned out to the game in the new Black Arab strip, but remember it is not too late to buy one if you like what you see out on the pitch today. We have a range of Black Arab merchandise that will be on sale in the shop throughout the rest of the season."

Today's match marks the official start of the celebrations that are set to continue until the end of the season. The club will be holding a special anniversary dinner in April, along with a number of events that will be hosted by the Supporters Club. Barry is also in the process of organising a special darts evening, which will give darts fans the chance to pit their skills against three former World Champions - Eric Bristow, Keith Deller and Cliff Lazarenko.

Barry said: *"We are looking to invite three former darts World Champions down to the Leicester game in February. The night before the match, we are hoping to host a charity darts tournament here at the Memorial Stadium to raise money for the Variety Club of Great Britain. Darts teams will be able to try their hand against three of the best in the world and raise much needed funds for a great cause. This is what our football club is all about*

- putting things back into the community and trying to help those less fortunate than ourselves. This will be a great evening of entertainment, and more information will be released nearer to the time."

Although there are probably not any fans out there who have witnessed all 125 years of Rovers history, we all have our favourite memories, whether we have been supporting the club five years or 50. Barry first joined the board in 1978 and has been involved in the club ever since. He believes the recent promotion at Wembley takes some beating as one of the greatest moments of his time with Rovers. He said; *"So many of my best memories come from Eastville and all the characters I met there. People like Ray Kendall who will live long in the history of this football club. There have been lots of great achievements over the years, but stepping out on the pitch at Wembley after we had beaten Shrewsbury was the most incredible experience. To look up and see all our supporters celebrating was an amazing moment that I will never forget - I wish we could have that every week."*

"It is nice to take some time out to reflect back over our history, but I think it is also important to look to the future. These are very exciting times for Bristol Rovers both on and off the pitch, and I am sure that by the time our next milestone comes around, there will be a lot more memories to add to the list."

SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER OXFORD UNITED 1 BRISTOL ROVERS 5

OUR U-18 SIDE BEAT

OXFORD United 5-1, thanks to an Eliot Richards hat trick and further goals from Neikell Plummer and Ollie Clarke.

Team: Sam Burgess, Rhys Farmer, Mark Cooper, Brian Bowles, Dan Cayford, James Tyrell, Jack McKenna, Ollie Clarke (George Booth), Neikell Plummer (Reeko Best), Eliot Richards, Nabi Diallo.

Substitute (not used): Taiwo Adebawale

SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER BRISTOL ROVERS 1 YEOVIL TOWN 1

ONE WEEK LATER, THE U-18'S were held to a 1-1 draw by Yeovil Town, with Neikell Plummer again on target for Billy Clark's side.

Team: Sam Burgess, Rhys Farmer, Mark Cooper, George Booth, Dan Cayford (Jack McKenna), James Tyrell, Nabi Diallo, Brian Bowles (Ollie Clarke), Neikell Plummer (Eliot Richards), Reeko Best, Taiwo Adebawale.

Substitutes (not used): Tom

Thorpe, Chaz Hemmings

SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER EXETER CITY 0 BRISTOL ROVERS 5

STEWART NAUGHTON HAD THIS TO say about our U-16's win against Exeter City.

"After a couple of below par performances, we got back on track against a side who are no slouches at this age group. We started at a blistering tempo and were three up within 20 minutes, through Nick Lawton, Robbie Maggs and Tyrone Rhoden.

"We increased our lead when Rhoden finished off a well rehearsed free kick move with a shot high into the roof of the net, which seemed to work better in the match than it did in training!

"The display was marred somewhat by a red card for Alex Hoyle, who will need to learn from a moment of indiscipline, but even with ten men we managed to score one more through Maggs."

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE U16's SOUTH WEST - FIXTURES 2008/09

SEP 6	Sat	YEOVIL TOWN	A	4-1
SEP 13	Sat	TORQUAY UNITED	H	5-2
SEP 20	Sat	SWANSEA CITY	A	1-0
SEP 27	Sat	WALSALL	A	3-5
OCT 4	Sat	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H	0-2
OCT 18	Sat	OXFORD UNITED	H	1-1
OCT 25	Sat	READING	H	2-5
NOV 1	Sat	EXETER CITY	A	5-0
NOV 15	Sat	CHELTHENHAM TOWN	H	0-0
NOV 22	Sat	WALSALL	H	
NOV 29	Sat	SWINDON TOWN	H	
DEC 6	Sat	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	A	
DEC 13	Sat	SWANSEA CITY	H	
DEC 21	Sat	HEREFORD UNITED	A	
JAN 10	Sat	CARDIFF CITY	A	
JAN 17	Sat	TORQUAY UNITED	A	
JAN 24	Sat	HEREFORD UNITED	H	
JAN 31	Sat	YEOVIL TOWN	H	
FEB 7	Sat	CHELTHENHAM TOWN	A	
FEB 14	Sat	EXETER CITY	H	
FEB 21	Sat	OXFORD UNITED	A	
FEB 28	Sat	CHARLTON ATHLETIC	A	
MAR 7	Sat	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	A	
MAR 14	Sat	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	H	
MAR 21	Sat	TORQUAY UNITED	H	
MAR 28	Sat	SWINDON TOWN	A	
APR 4	Sat	CHELTHENHAM TOWN	A	
APR 11	Sat	YEOVIL TOWN	H	
APR 25	Sat	BRENTFORD	H	

FAYC = FA Youth Cup

Home KO 10.30am Away KO 11.00am unless stated

Team: Alex Sprake, Alex Hoyle, Tom Seery, Jordan Tillson, Ashley Bowle, Nick Lawton, Ben Campbell (Josh White), Jack Camm, Robbie Maggs, Tyrone Rhoden (Liam Andrews).

SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER BRISTOL ROVERS 0 CHELTHENHAM TOWN 0

OUR U-16'S FOLLOWED THAT RESULT up with a 0-0 draw against Cheltenham Town.

"We had a number of chances to score," said manager Stewart Naughton, "but didn't manage to find the back of the net. However the 4-1-4-1 formation we employed had the desired effect of helping us to keep a clean sheet.

"There were some very good performances from Ashley Bowle, Robbie Maggs and Alex Goodman, while central defender Jordan Tillson was my choice as Man of the Match."

PUMA YOUTH ALLIANCE U18's SOUTH WEST - FIXTURES 2008/09

AUG 16	SAT	SWANSEA CITY	A	1-4
AUG 23	SAT	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	A	0-0
AUG 30	SAT	TORQUAY UNITED	A	1-1
SEP 13	SAT	EXETER CITY PYAC	H	5-1
SEP 20	SAT	YEOVIL TOWN PYAC	A	2-2
SEP 27	SAT	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE PYAC	H	2-2
OCT 4	SAT	TORQUAY UNITED PYAC	A	2-2
OCT 11	SAT	SWANSEA CITY PYAC	H	1-2
OCT 22	WED	HEREFORD UNITED	A	6-2
OCT 25	SAT	CHELTHENHAM TOWN	H	6-0
NOV 1	SAT	OXFORD UNITED	A	5-1
NOV 8	SAT	YEOVIL TOWN	H	1-1
NOV 11	TUE	AFC BOURNEMOUTH FAYC 1	A	1-0
NOV 22	SAT	AFC BOURNEMOUTH PYAC	H	
NOV 26	WED	BRIGHTON & HA FAYC 2	H	
NOV 29	SAT	SWINDON TOWN	H	
DEC 6	SAT	EXETER CITY	H	
JAN 10	SAT	SWANSEA CITY	A	
JAN 17	SAT	TORQUAY UNITED	H	
JAN 24	SAT	CUP R3		
JAN 31	SAT	A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH	A	
FEB 7	SAT	HEREFORD UNITED	H	
FEB 14	SAT	CHELTHENHAM TOWN	A	
FEB 21	SAT	OXFORD UNITED	H	
FEB 28	SAT	CUP SEMI-FINAL		
MAR 7	SAT	YEOVIL TOWN	A	
MAR 21	SAT	A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH	H	
MAR 28	SAT	SWINDON TOWN	A	
APR 4	SAT	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H	
APR 18	SAT	EXETER CITY	A	

PYAC = Puma Youth Alliance Cup FAYC = FA Youth Cup

Home KO 10.30am Away KO 11.00am unless stated

Team: Alex Blake, Alex Hoyle, Jordan Tillson, Alex Goodwin (Tom Seery), Ashley Bowle, Nick Lawton (Lamar Powell), Robbie Maggs, Jack Camm, Josh White, Lewis Parker, Tyrone Rhoden.

SCOUTS REQUIRED

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SAY THAT we should be recruiting youngsters in the five to nine year old bracket, but we don't yet have a network in place to look at boys of that age.

There are so many clubs actively involved in recruiting youngsters from our area, such as Bristol City, Yeovil, Cheltenham, Swindon and Cardiff competing for the most talented youngsters. So, if you would like to help the club out by recommending any potential talent, please contact Stewart Naughton on 01179 522580.

Shop changes hands

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

THE FOOTBALL CLUB IS SET to take over the running of the Pirate Leisure shop from the Supporters Club.

Many supporters are probably unaware that since the start of the new Millennium the Pirate Leisure shop, currently situated beneath the Uplands Stand, has been operated and staffed by the Supporters Club on behalf of BRFC.

In the last few weeks the Commercial sub committee of the Supporters Club has been in negotiations with Football Club Directors to discuss the return of Pirate Leisure back into their direct control. This has now been agreed and will formally take place on 1st December.

This action has been taken in preparation for the ground redevelopment. Both parties had always expected the switch back to Football Club control would take place once the new stadium was completed after our return from exile in Cheltenham. However, with the recent welcome news that the work will take place in stages whilst we remain playing here, the opportunity was taken to advance the shop handover and thus reduce the number of 'jobs to be done' whilst a major project was being undertaken.

The Supporters Club took over the running of Pirate Leisure from the Football Club when it was operating from leased premises on Gloucester

Road during a very dark period in Rovers' history with relegation to the basement division looming and funds in short supply. With the shop, stock and ticketing came the staff too and everything was integrated within the Supporters Club's operation from Two Mile Hill, Kingswood, although both shops retained their separate identities. In order to reduce costs we transferred PL into the stadium when space became available, some six years ago.

I am very proud of what we have achieved by operating the entire commercial operation of a major football club over such a period of time. No other Football League club has, to my knowledge, entrusted its supporters organisation with such a responsibility. Success could not have been achieved, of course, without some incredibly hard work and dedication by a large number of people, but particularly the three full time staff members, Kay Monks, Clare McDonagh and manager Steve Burns, who will all transfer back into the employ of the Football Club.

I would like to thank all three for their loyalty and hard work in less than perfect conditions. Likewise, we have been most grateful for our regular part time volunteers, Ann and Zoe Paramore and Alison Gibson plus numerous others who we simply turn to when we face 'crisis' periods such as two cup finals in one season, promotion play off matches and quarter final cup runs! I sincerely hope and trust that all those

volunteers will continue to support Kay, Clare and Steve and the Football Club in the same way as they supported us.

Treasurer Jane Browne also falls into this category, as she has provided the back up for the Pirate Leisure financial operation throughout the Supporters Club's period of control. We have all become friends, if we were not already, during this time and it is very sad to 'lose' friends although nobody is going anywhere just yet of course. I wish the three staff members and the Football Club every success and happiness during what is sure to be a very exciting period ahead and assure them that the Supporters Club Executive Committee will continue to give every possible support to the Pirate Leisure operation.

I assure all our supporters, there should not be any notable change in the service provided either in Pirate Leisure or at Kingswood where our staff, Berni Clothier, Paul Seaton and Teresa Kolman will continue to offer the same merchandise, ticketing and away travel arrangements as that given by Pirate Leisure. Kingswood is BRSC headquarters and we intend that it will continue to be so. Its location, despite being some distance from Horfield, is nonetheless situated in a hotbed of Rovers' support and so provides a usual and convenient alternative to fans who would otherwise face a long journey to Horfield. I trust that this service will continue to be appreciated by all supporters of Bristol Rovers for many years to come.

Jim Chappell
BRSC Chairman

FAMILY OFFER

WE ARE ALWAYS NEGOTIATING WITH the football club over offers to boost attendances at the Memorial Stadium, the 3 for 2 deal which ran last month, being the latest. A number of people have asked that we look at offers to attract families and especially children.

Family season tickets offer extremely good value for money and, with this in mind, we believed there was the

room to put a deal together for those families who were unable to benefit from season ticket prices – either from a commitment or monetary point of view. As a result I'm delighted to confirm that, through a Supporters Club initiative, there will be a special family offer on for the forthcoming match against Tranmere Rovers (13th December).

The offer, which covers the South Stand, is based on giving discount on juveniles starting at 50% for the first up to 60% for the third, making it progressively cheaper the more juveniles you bring!

Juveniles must be accompanied by paying adult(s) and tickets must be purchased no later than 5pm on the day before the match (subject to availability).

The rates, based on early bird prices (tickets bought on the day will cost a further £2 each) are:

1 Adult / 1 juvenile	£22.25
1 Adult / 2 juvenile	£26.05
1 Adult / 3 juvenile	£28.90
2 Adult / 1 juvenile	£39.75
2 Adult / 2 juvenile	£43.55
2 Adult / 3 juvenile	£46.40



Today will see Bristol Rovers sporting the famous Black Arab shirts as part of the 125 year anniversary and it is pleasing to note that by the end of October sales were already over the 550 mark, providing much needed revenue for the club. Please take the opportunity to pop into Pirate Leisure after today's game to have a look at them for yourselves. Alternatively, you can view and order online at <http://www.brcdirect.co.uk> where you will see all the latest lines, special offers, sale items and even ideas for Christmas – well worth a visit!

Clive Farquhar
Commercial Committee

RESPECT ALL AROUND

THE NAME OF OUR STADIUM and the founding of the ground were brought to mind as we gathered at the Memorial Gates to remember those young men and women who gave there lives in war.

I was pleased to see so many of the players, staff and officials of Bristol Rovers join with our Bristol rugby colleagues. Club Chaplain the Reverend David Jeal was with us and helped to lead the service and two minute period of silence.

I wrote earlier in the season, in my Around Rovers column, about the Respect initiative launched by the Football Association during the summer. It is an initiative seldom off the agenda as the season progresses. To my mind it is respect for the organisation and the laws of the game which cannot be followed in any organised way without an official

Steven Smith of Hanham won £800 on our 50/50 draw at the Scunthorpe game and received his prize from former Rovers boss John Ward. The winning ticket number 47615 was sold by Marc Radford.

and it follows that officials in all sports must be respected but so to must all others involved in our game and that includes supporters.

Without supporters there would not be a professional game and that fact alone is deserving of respect. I have the greatest of respect for those who are working so hard and giving up of their own time to cement the foundations of newly formed branches of the Supporters Club.

The Norton Radstock branch, in North East Somerset, is gaining strength by the day. They did a brilliant job to fill a coach for the trip to Leicester City for our away fixture there. Such a great shame that they and several other official Supporters Club coaches, were pulled off the motorway on the outskirts of Leicester only to be held up for a period of up to two hours.

There are elements of so called supporters at all clubs who may, from time to time, be intent on causing public disturbance. We do not want them in our midst; we do not want to be tarnished by them. The families and older people on our official coaches were held up unfairly and their day out was spoilt to a large degree by their experience at Leicester Forest East motorway services and by the way that they were ultimately escorted to the Walkers Stadium and away from it.

For our friends at Norton Radstock Gas, taking their first trip together as a newly formed branch it was a very regrettable situation. I would like to see respect all around football. I am so pleased that such



is their resolve that they will be organising further trips this season to support our team around the country. Well done to them.

We are working hard to establish a new branch in Yate, and I am planning a mid season forum in January much the same as those around the district over the pre season in July and August. Please watch this space for details over the coming weeks.

Today we are pleased to extend a warm greeting to the supporters of Swindon Town. Like us they support their local football club when others from the North Wiltshire take the train eastwards to support London Clubs in the Premier League or the Championship. Not so very long ago they were greatly concerned for the future of their club. I am pleased for them that they survived and that they are able to be with us today. They campaigned so hard to save The Town and for that they deserve our absolute respect.

Ken Masters
BRSC Director

ORGANISED MATCHDAY PARTIES

TODAY WE WELCOME MANGOTSFIELD UNDER 12's Junior Football Club.

Mangotsfield play their home games at Pomphrey Hill, Mangotsfield and are in Division 3 of the Avon Youth League.

QUIZ NIGHT

OUR NEXT QUIZ NIGHT IS on Thursday, November 27, at 7.30pm in the Bristol Room at the Memorial Stadium.

Come along and join in, £1 per person maximum of 5 per team. The last event was a great success, pit your wits against the best!



MAN OF THE MATCH

Craig Hinton pictured in action against Scunthorpe United last Friday.

TODAY'S MASCOT



ELEVEN YEAR OLD CALLUM GILLARD lives in Melksham and attends the George Ward School.

His hobbies are rugby, football and bike rides and he plays football, as a defender, for his school team.

Callum also plays rugby, for Melksham Rugby Club and is a scrum half for the U-12's. He doesn't love rugby as much as he loves Bristol Rovers, but he does say that his aim in life is to become a professional rugby player.

His favourite players are Darryl Duffy, Steve Elliott, Steve Phillips, David Pipe and Ben Hunt and we hope that he enjoys being our mascot this afternoon.



Ahoy shipmates!

GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME TO the Young Pirates home page.

This afternoon we welcome Swindon to the Mem and would like to give a special welcome to Sharon and the Junior Robins, who are joining us today.

We really hope you enjoy the game (but not too much!). According to Sharon, you are going to try and put a stop to Rickie Lambert's goalscoring run - you can try, but let's hope it's not today!

We are already taking bookings for our trip to Millwall. Places are going fast and, at £20 for children and £25 for adults, it's not surprising! If you haven't already done so, and want to join us, call into the Young Pirates room this afternoon and see Baggie Sue to book your place. Remember, the price includes your coach travel and ticket for the game! With trips also planned to MK Dons and Swindon let's hope we will have plenty to cheer about!

On our recent trip to Leicester, we asked a couple of our passengers to describe their day, and here it is:

Broughs go to Leicester

We got up bright and early for Jacob and Owain's first away game - away to Leicester. We arrived at the Mem and boarded the

Young Pirates Coach. After some songs, banter, a couple of toilet stops and a police escort we arrived at the Walkers Stadium.

We started well, but it soon became clear that the game could get a bit dirty. At times it was hard to concentrate on the game because of what was going on in the stands. It was a worry when Aaron got injured and then went off, but we were happy with JJ coming on. We were ecstatic when Jo Kuffour scored a tremendous goal. But after half time Leicester got even dirtier, just seeming to want to cause injury - they succeeded!

We couldn't believe it when Leicester equalised, but when they scored again after about four minutes into added time we were all deflated.

But we had a lovely time; sitting by Colin, AKA Capt Blackbeard was the best bit!

Jacob and Owain Brough

Finally, don't forget to collect your FREE ticket to the Christmas party. It's taking place on 10th December here at the stadium, so if you would like the chance to meet some of your favourite players, have some fun and maybe see Father Christmas, make sure you collect your ticket today!

Young Pirates signing off ...



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

The club would like to congratulate all the following Young Pirates who have birthdays this month:

NOV 15	ORLA NOONAN
NOV 15	SAM CROSS
NOV 15	JOSH HANNAM
NOV 15	DANIEL ELLIOTT
NOV 18	JOSEPH DUNFORD
NOV 18	ETHAN CLAY
NOV 18	DUBIN HAWKINS
NOV 19	CHARLIE HARRIS
NOV 20	LOUIS ZBIJOWSKI
NOV 20	TJ ALEXANDER
NOV 22	MATHEW GODFREY
NOV 22	MATTHEW LEWIS
NOV 23	JAKE BARBER
NOV 25	EMILY BUTCHER
NOV 25	SAMUEL HARBRIDGE
NOV 25	JOSHUA KEMP
NOV 26	SIMON EDMUNDSON
NOV 26	LEE BARKER
NOV 27	ROBBIE HEDGES
NOV 28	JOSEPH LACY
NOV 28	SONNY MONKS
NOV 29	AMBER MACEY

Left: Our mascot for the Scunthorpe game, Kye Perkins, pictured here with Rickie Lambert

GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE AND WELCOME to our local derby against Swindon Town.

Today marks the beginning of our 125th anniversary celebrations, and the team will be running out today wearing the commemorative Black Arab strip. If you have any pictures of you wearing your Black Arab kit that you would like to send in to us, please see the addresses at the bottom of the page.

EVERYONE AT BRISTOL ROVERS WAS saddened to hear of the death of former reserves player Gilbert Cooper. Gilbert, who passed away aged 97, played for the reserve team in the 1950's.

A regular at Eastville, he continued to follow the fortunes of Bristol Rovers right up until his death. Our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

BRISTOL ROVERS ARE PROUD TO be backing the White Ribbon campaign this afternoon.

Rovers boss Paul Trollope and other members of staff are wearing a white ribbon in support of the campaign against male violence towards women.

November 25th is The United



Nations International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The White Ribbon Campaign

is a global movement to challenge men's violence against women. The focus of the White Ribbon Campaign is to get men and boys to wear a white ribbon for a week, which is a personal pledge never to commit, condone or remain silent about violence to women.

Men's partners, friends, sisters and daughters are damaged by violence and abuse. 1 in 4 women in the UK will experience domestic violence in their lifetime and between 100 and 150 women are murdered each year by their current, or ex, male partner. The White Ribbon Campaign believes that we, as men, can change our behaviour to create a world based on gender equality.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO COLBY AND LEE Barker who are season ticket holders in the Guinness Stand with their dad.

Colby turned five on October 26th and Lee will be seven on November 26th. The boys (pictured above) haven't missed a season since they were born, both of them going to their first match at about three months old. Everyone at the club would like to join mum, dad and Jessica in wishing them both a very happy birthday.

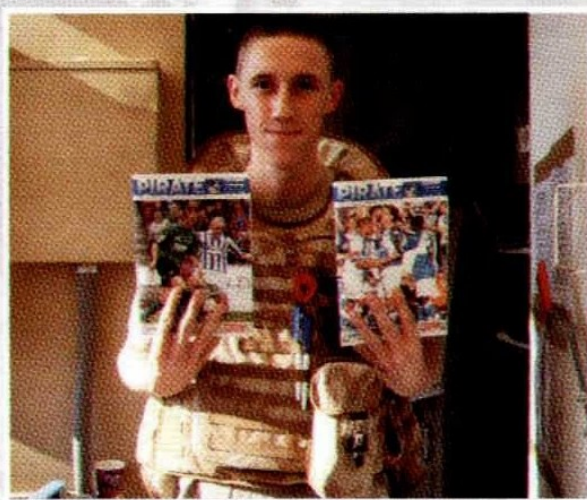
Over to you...

IN A PREVIOUS EDITION OF the Fanzone, we introduced you to Rovers fan Chris Minett- Searle, from Chipping Sodbury, who is currently serving on tour with the Royal Artillery in Iraq.

Chris, 19, contacted the club earlier this year to ask for Rovers merchandise to brighten up his time in the desert.

The club's accountant, Lyn, whose own son spent six months in Afghanistan with the Royal Engineers bomb disposal unit last year, organised for a parcel to be sent to Chris, including a home shirt and a Black Arab flag. The two now keep in regular contact, and Lyn sends him the matchday programme from every home game.

Chris will be home from his tour in December, and will be bringing members of his regiment to enjoy a Bristol Rovers match while they are back in the country. Everyone here at the club looks forward to welcoming him back to the Memorial Stadium, and will do their best to give the troops a fun day out.



THE MARRS FAMILY WOULD LIKE to welcome Maryleigh Roohan from Saratoga, New York to her first ever soccer match.

Maryleigh is visiting England for the first time on a school exchange programme, and the whole family hope she enjoys the match and her stay in the UK.

Print deadlines will mean that items for a Saturday programme should reach us no later than the previous Tuesday lunchtime, and items for a Tuesday night match will need to be with us the previous Thursday. Send any photos or dedications to Kirsty Pugh at kirstypugh@bristolrovers.co.uk or by post to The Memorial Stadium, Filton Avenue, Horfield, Bristol, BS7 0BF.

"E'MON YOU GAS!"



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COUNTRY

Naples flying high again

WHILE THE PREMIER LEAGUE HAS been long trumpeting its status as the best league in the world, the previous holder of that unofficial title, Serie A in Italy, finds itself lagging behind, supposedly a retirement home for Europe's old stars.

That it maybe, but it hasn't stopped the start of the season in Italy being full of surprises.

One of the best of those is the return, after nigh on twenty years of doom, gloom, violence, bankruptcy and poor players, of Napoli to the summit of Italian football. Around twenty years ago they were Serie A title winners twice, both in 1987 and 1990. Maradona was the architect of those two famous titles, before the 1990's brought about the controversial end to the Argentine legend's career.

That the rejuvenated, drug free and rehabilitated Maradona has surprisingly now become Argentina's national coach is a remarkable sideline to Napoli's rise from the dead.

Indeed Maradona's heart attack a few years ago in 2004, due to a cocaine overdose, coincided with Napoli's bankruptcy which saw them later reforming under the regime of film producer Aurelio de Laurentis.

Napoli were playing in Serie C1 just four years ago, as a result of years of financial mismanagement. A lost play off against Avellino saw them condemned to a second year in the Italian third division, but after two successive promotions they found themselves back in Serie A in 2007.

They had performed terribly in both 1997/98 and 2000/01, the last two seasons they

had been in the top flight, so it was to most people's surprise that Napoli secured an eighth placed finish last season and qualification into Europe via the much maligned Intertoto Cup.

Mind you, nothing is surprising where Napoli are concerned. It is a club that is never really out of the news, and with some of the most fanatically passionate yet notorious fans on the continent. 51,000 of them turned up for a Serie C game a few years back, while stadium bans have been common due to fights with the police, rival supporters or anyone for that matter.

Last year that remarkable level of home support gave them victories over Milan, Juventus and Inter. Indeed, their 1-0 win over Inter entered the Champions' 25 game unbeaten run at the start of last season. What made it even more admirable is that experienced coach Edy Reja has overseen the club's meteoric recent rise from 2005 to now. Three years is an awfully long time in a country where managers come in and out through a revolving door, even more so at such a tempestuous club such as Napoli where a few bad results would have the fans calling for the manager's head, which is a trait sadly now prevalent in English football too.

Thankfully, Napoli's owners have had patience and it has been rewarded. Reja

bought European football to Naples for the first time since the days of Maradona. A 3-2 aggregate defeat in a tough UEFA Cup draw against Benfica, another team with a glorious past, saw that journey come to an end this season but there is every chance Napoli could secure European qualification this year, and maybe even sneak into the Champions League.

After all, this season, none of the giants have performed particularly well. The old men's club that is Milan have won games without convincing, much like their city neighbours Inter, who have become the team everyone loves to hate, especially now with Mourinho in charge.

Roma, meanwhile, have been a disaster, languishing in the bottom half, while neither Juventus or Fiorentina have been particularly consistent. It could be the likes of Napoli, Lazio or Udinese, even Genoa, who continue to get the chance to shine this season. Whether this growing competitiveness is a sign of rising or slipping standards is up for debate, but one thing is for sure. Napoli are back amongst the best in Italian football, and it's a refreshing change. Just like their old hero Maradona, they have been given a new lease of life. How long it will last we will have to wait and see.



Maradona will always be remembered for one thing in this country, his 'Hand of God' goal against England in the 1986 World Cup

THEY SAID WHAT?:

"CAREERS ARE ON THE LINE"

Carlisle caretaker boss
GREG ABBOTT

"WHEN WE PUT OUR BEST FOOT FORWARD, THERE WAS ONLY GOING TO BE ONE WINNER"

Orient boss
MARTIN LING

"TO BEAT LEAGUE ONE SIDES AWAY FROM HOME YOU NEED THE RIGHT DECISIONS"

Ebbwfleet United boss
LIAM DAISH

"IN THE SECOND HALF WE SHOULD HAVE BEEN OUT OF SIGHT"

Southend boss
STEVE TILSON

"IT'S BEYOND BELIEF THAT WE DIDN'T WRAP UP VICTORY BEFORE THE INTERVAL"

Hartlepool boss
DANNY WILSON



Left: Stuart Campbell in action at Bournemouth

Christophe scored a last minute equaliser as Southend and Colchester shared six goals in the Essex derby. Chris Palmer scored his first goal for Walsall in their 3-1 win over Northampton.

MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER

JUST DAYS AFTER BEING GIVEN a vote of confidence, manager John Ward parted company with Carlisle.

Greg Abbott took over, in a temporary capacity.

TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

HUDDERSFIELD'S STAN TERNENT BECAME THE second League Two manager to lose his job.

Brighton were beaten 4-1 by Derby in the Carling Cup, while in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy Scunthorpe and Tranmere beat Rochdale and Morecambe 2-0 respectively, Colchester beat Bournemouth by the same score, Leicester lost 2-0 at Rotherham and Walsall were beaten 1-0 by Luton.

FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER

IN THE FIRST ROUND OF the FA Cup, Northampton drew 1-1 at Leeds, in spite of the early dismissal of Giles Coke.

SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

ONLY FIVE OF THE DIVISION'S clubs won through to the Second Round of the FA Cup.

Leicester beat Stevenage Borough 3-0, while three goals in the final 15 minutes, from Lewis Grabban, Neil Harris and Ashley Grimes gave Millwall a 3-0 win at Chester. Clayton Donaldson scored for Crewe, who beat Ebbwfleet United 1-0 while Scunthorpe, despite conceding the first goal beat Walsall 3-1 at the Bescot Stadium with Gary Hooper scoring twice. Jason Demetriou scored Leyton Orient's goal in the 1-0 win at Colchester.

Swindon were beaten 1-0 by Blue Square

SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

SCUNTHORPE'S LEAD AT THE TOP of the table was reduced to a single point after their 3-3 draw against Swindon at Glanford Park.

Falling behind to a Simon Cox goal, they hit back through Grant McCann and Martyn Woolford only for Cox to equalise. Krystian Pearce restored their lead but Cox scored the equaliser to notch his second hat trick of the season.

Luciano Becchio scored the only goal of the game at Whaddon Road, where Leeds beat Cheltenham, while Millwall slipped to a 4-1 defeat against Brighton at the Withdean Stadium. Glenn Murray gave Brighton the lead, but the Lions equalised through Tresor Kandol before the home side scored three more, through Murray, Bradley Johnson and Dean Cox.

MK Dons and Leicester both scored late goals to secure home wins. Substitute Kevin Gallen scored with his first touch to give the Dons victory over Tranmere, while Matt Fryatt scored twice in the last four minutes as the Foxes came from behind to beat Rovers 2-1.

Oldham were beaten 2-0 by Yeovil, for whom Aaron Brown and Paul Warne were on target, while struggling Hereford and Crewe were both beaten.

Craig Mackail-Smith scored twice as Peterborough ran out 2-0 winners over Hereford, while Alex recovered a two goal deficit through Clayton Donaldson on their trip to Huddersfield, before falling to a late winner from Keigan Parker who was later sent off. Leyton Orient ended a nine game winless run with a single goal victory over Hartlepool, thanks to a late goal from substitute Adam Boyd.

Carlisle lost 3-0 at Stockport, for whom Carl Baker scored twice while elsewhere Jean-Francois



Club by club

Premier side Histon, and Rovers also lost 1-0, at Bournemouth.

Huddersfield, leading 3-1 at home to Port Vale, conceded three times in the last ten minutes to crash out 4-3 and MK Dons went down 2-1 at home to Bradford City, Graeme Lee scoring a late deciding goal.

Ten League One clubs will need replays to determine whether or not they make further progress in this season's competition.

Southend required a last minute equaliser from Jean-Francois Christophe in their 2-2 draw at Telford, and Carlisle were held to a 1-1 draw at Brunton Park by Grays Athletic. Hereford and Dagenham & Redbridge played out a goalless draw, as did Tranmere and Accrington.

Three all League One clashes required replays. Stuart Fleetwood grabbed an equaliser for Brighton, who drew 3-3 with Hartlepool, while Cheltenham squandered a two goal deficit in their 2-2 draw with Oldham at Boundary Park. A Terry Skiverton goal rescued Yeovil in their 1-1 draw with Stockport.

SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

PETERBOROUGH SECURED THEIR PLACE IN the Second Round of the FA Cup after Craig Mackail-Smith's injury time goal edged out AFC Hornchurch.

TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

LEEDS LOST 2-1 IN THEIR Fourth Round Carling Cup tie at Derby, while in the league, Leicester regained top spot after their 1-0 win over Yeovil, Lloyd Dyer scoring the only goal.

WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER

BRIGHTON BEAT SWINDON 2-0 IN the Johnstone's Paint Trophy.

Right:
Rovers v Yeovil Town

Far right:
Rovers v York City

YEOVIL TOWN (Part 2)

After many years of trying, Yeovil Town finally gained promotion to the Football League in May 2003, after finishing Conference Champions.

After friendly fixtures against them for a number of years, our first league encounter took place at the Memorial Stadium in December 2003, when Yeovil won 1-0. They completed the double over us that season and finished in 8th place to cap an impressive first season as a league club.

The following year we managed to take a point against them here at the Mem, but the Glovers finished the season as League Two Champions and gained their second promotion in three seasons.

We joined them in League One following our own promotion in 2006/07 and our last league meeting took place in September of this year when we played out a 2-2 draw at Huish Park. Perhaps we may even beat them in a league encounter, for the first time, when they visit the Mem next January!

Y.M.C.A.

In November 1918 Rovers entertained YMCA at Eastville, in a wartime friendly.

YORK CITY

On their formation, in 1922, York City joined the Midland League.

They were admitted to the Football League in 1929, when they replaced Ashington in Division 3 (North), and remained there until becoming founder members of the Fourth Division in 1958.



Their first promotion was achieved in 1959, though were relegated after just one year at the higher level. In 1960 they began another five year stint in the bottom division. Their next foray in the higher sphere came in 1965/66 and, once again, it was only to last just the one season.

This was when our paths crossed for the first time, when we met in a league encounter at Bootham Crescent in September 1965, when York won 5-1. The return fixture that season, at Eastville in February 1966, was a goalless affair watched by a crowd of 8,946.

1971 saw the beginning of the most successful period of City's existence so far. Promotion was secured to Division Three again, when games against Rovers resumed. In 1974 we were promoted to Division Two for the first time in their history, finishing in third place, one behind Rovers and league encounters continued for two more seasons until 1976 when they returned to Division Three.

Whether you are looking for one programme, or lots of them, I can be contacted c/o Pirates Programmes, 199 Two Mile Hill Road, Kingswood, Bristol, BS15 1AZ or via jamiegas@blueyonder.co.uk

There is also our website for you to try, www.bristolroversmemorabilia.co.uk. We have programmes from most league teams, including the Premiership, plus many non league clubs and other sports as well. So try us, you never know!

In sickness and in health

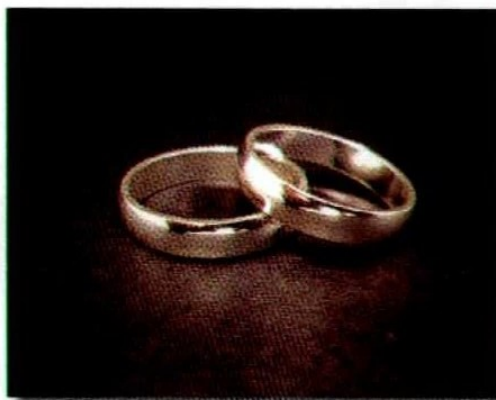
TODAY WE PLAY SWINDON TOWN and celebrate 125 years of Bristol Rovers.

Over those years we have had our fair share of ups and downs... but never so down as to go bust, unlike a poor unfortunate club with a name ending in 1982 plc!

I remember the fear and uncertainty as we left Eastville and moved grounds to Twerton Park. Even though it seemed hard to leave, it wasn't all bad. While we were there we came top of the old Third Division, beating City 3-0 and making them runners up while we went up champions. That match was particularly memorable as my mate, who was a City fan, couldn't get a ticket. He ended up in our end and had to watch the whole match without saying a word, surrounded by celebrating Rovers fans. Sweet as a nut!

I also remember the joy and

excitement of our homecoming in 1996. We came to the Mem and no longer had to endure the taunts of "*there's only one team in Bristol*". Then, in 2006, going to the new Wembley stadium and beating Shrewsbury in the play offs. But no matter how successful or uncertain Rovers' future has seemed, we have remained loyal and committed to our team... Rovers till we die!



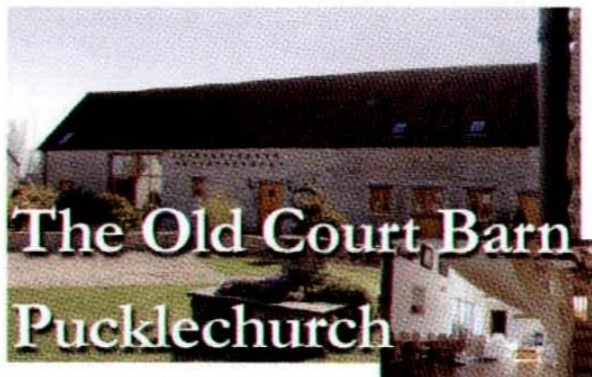
Last Saturday didn't see any action at the Mem, but was still an important day for one of our players, Steve Phillips, who married his lovely fiancée Liz. It dawned on me as I listened to them making their vows to stick together in sickness and in health that commitment to anyone or anything isn't always easy.

If you just think about anyone, or anything, in your life that you're committed to can you honestly say it's easy? Probably not, but when we commit we give of our hearts, almost like giving a bit of yourself.

So as we celebrate 125 years of Rovers and wish Steve and Liz a successful and happy future, I have to say "*praise God*." Over a century of Rovers and no marriage in heaven!

"Marriage is God's way of keeping us from fighting with strangers" - The Rev.

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The service broadcasts live commentaries on Rovers games to hospitals throughout the region.

If you would like to sponsor a season, contact John Kay at the Press Box or on 01225 863116.

We would like to thank the following sponsors:

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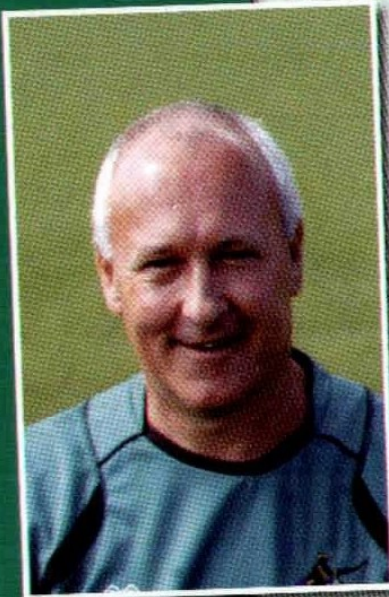
Proper Cornish Pasties

CCTV

The Stadium is equipped with CCTV installed with the help of a grant from a THE FOOTBALL TRUST

SMOKING

Please note that smoking is not permitted anywhere inside the Memorial Stadium.



Paul Molesworth

HI EVERYONE, TODAY WE WELCOME the 'Robins' from Swindon, for a very important local derby.

Hopefully we will not become victims of the 'sacked manager syndrome' again. Any managers due to be playing us in the next few weeks must be feeling a bit twitchy! We have had Swindon watched at Histon, Brighton, and again last Saturday, when 'Trolls' saw them fight back from 0-2 down to grab a late score draw. It shows that they have a good spirit in the camp to be able to come back against a side like Leicester City.

Whether or not they have a new man at the helm for today's game should not make difference, because these types of games always have an extra edge to them anyway. I have been concentrating on

Hartlepool, and have seen them at home to MK Dons and Brighton and I'll be watching them up at Elland Road this afternoon when they take on Leeds.

They will be a tough nut to crack at Victoria Park on Tuesday but, just as I am today, I'm confident that we will get back to winning ways.

We have also looked at some Premier and Championship reserve games with a view to loans in defensive areas, but with one or two of our lads now nearing fitness, we have decided to muddle through it. There is no point loaning players if they are only going to play one or two games at the most. The exception, perhaps, might be a defender who could play in several positions.

Next week I'll be going to watch Millwall or Tranmere on Tuesday night, while you loyal Gasheads are travelling up to Hartlepool. Funnily enough, Hartlepool looked positively scenic last Saturday in the relatively mild and sunny November weather. Unfortunately, by Tuesday night, it was completely the opposite!

Enjoy today's game, and for those hardy souls, good luck on Tuesday night. C'mon the Gas.

Moley back on the road

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We wish every success to
Bristol Rovers Football Club for
the 2008/09 season



Left: Danny Coles met up with our sponsors for the Scunthorpe game and is pictured here with Match Sponsor Alison Ward...

Right: ...a representative of Matchball Sponsor Uplands Construction...



Left: ...and representatives of Programme Sponsor Goldring Yates

Right: Joe Jacobson received his Welsh U-21 cap from Chairman Nick Higgs before the game



Derby day

GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME TO THE Memorial Stadium for our 'derby' game against Swindon Town.

Welcome, also, to the Swindon Directors, staff, players and supporters who have made the short journey along the M4 to be with us today.

Our Match sponsor today is Brunel Professional Risks, who specialise in the placement of Professional Indemnity and Liability Insurance, and act for all types of business from very small to Public Quoted Companies. The head office is based in Bristol and they are the leading broker in the South West for PII. Brunel are committed to providing a high quality professional service, with the aim of developing long term partnerships.

Brunel are also keen to continue their support for Bristol Rovers as a club and develop the relationship. Managing Director Russell Lane is a long standing and loyal supporter, and wishes the team every success this season.

Today's Matchball sponsor is JCW, a local air conditioning company, who

provide work within the electrical, mechanical, heating and ventilation services. Dave Short has been a Corporate Hospitality guest and Sponsor at many of our games, and amongst his guests today are Hills Construction and Postawest, both of whom are also regular guests for our corporate packages. I sincerely hope that they enjoy their day with us, and look forward to entertaining them again soon.

Our Programme Sponsor is BSCL Ltd, a multi million pound turnover owner managed company with over 25 years of experience in the provision and servicing of local communications infrastructures to the voice and data industry.

BSCL offer national coverage employing in excess of 130 staff operating from three strategically placed regional locations. Our design specialists are BICSI RCDD qualified, and works will only be carried out by our own staff, all of whom are product trained, and will have undergone extensive Customer Awareness and Health and Safety training.

I will be going into hospital for a hip operation on 3rd December, and I may

be off work for up to three months. I'm sure things will run like clockwork while I am away, as we have a great team of professionals working behind the scenes here at Bristol Rovers, but if you have any queries regarding Commercial or Corporate Hospitality, please do not hesitate to contact Liz Jack (0117 9524023). If she is unable to help, she will ensure that your query will be dealt with by another member of staff.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you all of the '125 year' Dinner being organised for 24th April 2009 at the Marriott Royal Hotel. Ticket prices are yet to be confirmed, but we will be enjoying the company of several former Rovers managers, and Screen Soccer will be providing archive footage of Rovers matches during the evening.

There has already been a great deal of interest shown in this event, and I expect it to sell out, so please put the date in your diary, and keep an eye out in the programme for details on how to book your place.

Let's get behind the team again this afternoon.

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Ernie Hunt



Don Rogers



Steve White

MIKE SUMMERBEE

Brilliant winger Mike Summerbee was capped eight times by England after leaving Swindon Town. Signing professional at the County Ground in March 1960, he starred in Swindon's 1962/63 promotion success and was leading marksman in 1964/65. He netted 39 goals in 218 League games prior to joining Manchester City in August 1965, amassing a vast collection of domestic and European honours under the Joe Mercer/Malcolm Allison partnership at Maine Road. Subsequently with Burnley, Blackpool and Stockport County, he is a successful businessman and his son Nicky also starred for Swindon Town.

ERNIE HUNT

England U-23 international striker Ernie Hunt was Swindon Town's leading marksman in four successive seasons including their 1962/63 promotion triumph. Born locally, he turned professional at the County Ground in March 1960 and netted 82 goals in 214 League games for Swindon prior to joining Wolverhampton Wanderers in September 1965. He was top scorer as they regained top flight status in 1966/67 and subsequently played for Everton, Coventry City, Doncaster Rovers and Bristol City, featuring in their 1973/74 FA Cup run. He ran the Full Pitcher pub in Ledbury and then became a window cleaner.

DON ROGERS

England U-23 international winger Don Rogers scored twice in Swindon Town's 1969 League Cup final success. Signing professional at the County Ground in October 1962, he featured in Swindon's 1962/63 promotion campaign and was ever present in four successive seasons. He starred as Swindon won promotion again in 1968/69 and the Anglo Italian Cup in 1970, reuniting with Bert Head at Crystal Palace in November 1972. Moving to QPR in September 1974, he rejoined Swindon in March 1976 and netted 148 goals in 412 League games overall for the Robins. He has since run his own sports shop in Swindon.

PETER NOBLE

Goalscoring favourite Peter Noble was ever present in Swindon Town's 1968/69 promotion and League Cup 'double' triumph. Initially with Consett, he joined Newcastle United in November 1964 and played top flight football before moving to the County Ground in January 1968. He scored twice in Swindon's 1970 Anglo Italian Cup final success and netted 62 goals in 216 League outings prior to joining Burnley in June 1973. An FA Cup semi finalist in 1973/74, he was twice ever present for the Clarets and top scorer in 1978/79. He subsequently played for Blackpool and has since run a sportswear business in Burnley.

STEVE WHITE

Ex England Schoolboy striker Steve White was top scorer in Swindon Town's 1986/87 promotion success. Initially with Mangotsfield United, he joined Bristol Rovers in July 1977 and moved to Luton Town in December 1979. He helped win the Second Division title in 1981/82, joining Charlton Athletic as part of the Paul Walsh deal in July 1982. Returning to Bristol Rovers in August 1983, he joined Swindon in July 1986 and starred alongside Duncan Shearer. He was a promotion winner again in 1992/93 and netted 83 goals in 244 League games before moving to Hereford United in August 1994, then played for Cardiff City.

JIMMY QUINN

Northern Ireland international striker Jimmy Quinn was Swindon Town's leading marksman in 1987/88. He impressed with Oswestry prior to joining Swindon in December 1981. Moving to Blackburn Rovers in August 1984, he rejoined Swindon in December 1986 and helped clinch promotion that season. He netted 40 goals in 113 League games overall before joining Leicester City for £210,000 in June 1988, then Bradford City, West Ham, Bournemouth, Reading and Peterborough United. Rejoining Swindon as player boss, he has since managed Northwich Victoria, Shrewsbury, Cambridge United and now Bournemouth.



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For the visitors...

Time to end the trend

EIGHT DAYS AGO THE PIRATES lost to Scunthorpe for the third time running, and our last two meetings with Swindon Town have ended in defeats by single goals.

After three consecutive defeats so far this month, Gasheads will hope that the curse of the October League One Manager of the Month award can finally be dispelled this afternoon.

Rovers' rearguard has been disrupted by injuries, but despite **BYRON ANTHONY's** dismissal at Bournemouth a fortnight ago which added to **PAUL TROLLOPE's** headaches, he avoided having to dip into the loan market as **STEVE ELLIOTT** returned to the centre of defence against the Iron alongside former Kidderminster Harrier **CRAIG HINTON. ANTHONY**, a Welsh U-21 international and former Cardiff defender, completes a two match ban today. **ELLIOTT**, ex Derby and Blackpool, had been missing since the end of September, suffering from a dead leg followed by a trapped nerve. **HINTON** recovered from a knee injury in time to keep his place against the Iron. He earned his 'goal machine' tag with five goals last term, and opened his account for this campaign with the winner against Orient last month. **HINTON's** uncle, **ALAN**, was a hero with Nottingham Forest and Derby in the **BRIAN CLOUGH** era. Another central defender, **DANNY COLES**, ex Bristol City, who arrived from Hull twelve months ago, has been sidelined by a cartilage injury while full backs **DAVID PIPE** (hamstring) and **JOE JACOBSON** (dislocated ribs) have also been ruled out. In their absence **RYAN GREEN**, ex Hereford, and **AARON LESCOTT**, the versatile former Stockport midfielder, have played at right and left back respectively but **COLES** and **JACOBSON** could be back in contention today. Left back **TOM PARRINELLO**, 19, the youngest of five Filton College graduates to be offered a professional contract in the summer of 2006, was an unused

substitute against the Iron. Young central defender **LIAM HARWOOD**, who arrived from Carshalton in August, was on the bench alongside **PARRINELLO** at Bournemouth.

Skipper **STUART CAMPBELL's** deeper role in front of the back four leaves a three man midfield of **CRAIG DISLEY**, **CHRIS LINES** and **JEFF HUGHES. CAMPBELL** was a trainee with Leicester City before signing for **LENNIE LAWRENCE** at Grimsby.

DISLEY, a former Mansfield youngster, scored nine last season but has yet to get off the mark this term. **LINES**, a Filton College graduate, prefers the centre to the flanks. **HUGHES** left Lincoln for Crystal Palace in July last year but did not find favour with **NEIL WARNOCK** and went to Peterborough on loan. A later loan spell here at the Mem was blighted by injury but he came permanently in June.

CHARLIE REECE, 20, a former Aston Villa youngster, has been on the bench for our last two games.

Powerade's League One Player of the Month for October, **RICKIE LAMBERT**, currently at the top of the goal scoring charts, netted for the sixteenth time this season in our last home game. The former Blackpool trainee came south from Rochdale in August 2006 after playing for Macclesfield and Stockport. His partner last term, **RICHARD WALKER**, has scored three goals so far on a season long loan at Shrewsbury Town. **LAMBERT's** partner today could be **JO KUFFOUR**, who started against the Iron and against his former Bournemouth colleagues a fortnight ago, or **DARRYL DUFFY**, a former Rangers junior, who arrived from Swansea in the summer. **BEN HUNT**, a former member of West Ham's Academy, replaced **KUFFOUR** 21 minutes from time against Scunthorpe when **DUFFY**



Steve Phillips

replaced **LINES**. 19 year old striker **JOSH KLEIN-DAVIES** was presented with his Welsh U-19 international cap before the Scunthorpe game.

Former Hereford striker **ANDY WILLIAMS** is one of a number of players to have left the Memorial Stadium on loan. Midfielder **JAMES FRASER** is at Tiverton and striker

MATT GROVES has returned from a loan stint with the Devon side. 18 year old **CHARLIE CLOUGH** and **ADAM MAHDI**, 19, have also returned from loan spells at Mangotsfield and Clevedon respectively. Striker turned winger **LEWIS HALDANE** and central defender **ALEX KITE** have both been at Oxford - **HALDANE** is spending the season at United while College graduate **KITE**, son of Rovers' physio and former goalkeeper **PHIL**, has returned from a loan spell with City. **KITE** has now joined his fellow Filton College graduate **JOE WHITE**, son of former Pirates' striker **STEVE**, on loan at Chippenham. **JOE** earned a professional contract in the summer along with **BEN SWALLOW** and central defender **JAMES TYRRELL. SWALLOW**, a left sided midfielder, has been at Taunton on loan while another College graduate, **SEAN RIGG**, 20, who has spent a month on loan at Grays Athletic, resumed training on Tuesday after injury.

The last couple of months have been memorable for keeper **STEVE PHILLIPS** who made his hundredth League appearance for Rovers at Colchester and was married last Saturday. He had 300 plus outings in all competitions for Bristol City before crossing the river in July 2006. **PHILLIPS** started his career with non league Paulton before spending the best part of ten years at Ashton Gate. His deputy, 20 year old College graduate **MIKE GREEN**, awaits his senior debut.

Swindon Town

Caretaker Manager - DAVID BYRNE

THERE SEEMS TO BE A good chance that whoever is in charge of the Robins this afternoon will have a previous connection with Rovers.

After the departure of Maurice Malpas eight days ago former Plymouth youth team coach David Byrne was appointed as caretaker boss while those thought to be in line for the role on a permanent basis include Ian Holloway, Aidy Boothroyd and John Ward. Byrne, who started his career with Gillingham, made two substitute appearances for the Pirates in the Division Three Championship winning campaign of 1989/90 in which 'Ollie', who succeeded Ward as Rovers' boss in 1996, was the Player of the Year. Previously with Huddersfield Town, Boothroyd left Rovers for Hearts in 1992 and, after what for many was a surprise appointment as Watford's manager, took the Hornets to the Premiership, albeit for just one season, in 2006. Ward, who parted company

with Carlisle last weekend, spent three years as manager of Rovers before taking charge of Bristol City in 1997. He has always remained popular with

Gasheads and was a welcome guest at our last home game. Understandably he refused to comment on the possibility of him taking a job up the M4.

THE ROBINS RESPONDED TO THEIR manager's departure by mounting a late come back against Leicester at the County Ground last Saturday.

Top scorer **SIMON COX** scored his fifteenth goal of the season six minutes from time and after an inspired substitution by caretaker boss **DAVID BYRNE**, **BARRY CORR** equalised with his first of the campaign. **CORR**, back in action after a shoulder operation in the summer, hopes to make his first League start of the season this afternoon. **COX**, suspended for today's game, is hot property after netting his second hat trick of this campaign at Scunthorpe three weeks ago. Fulham, Coventry and Sheffield United are among the clubs reported to be taking an interest in the Reading born striker who signed a permanent deal at The County Ground in January after a successful loan spell. He made nine appearances for his home town club which he joined at the age of nine. Previously on loan at Brentford and Northampton, **COX** first came to Swindon in August 2007, on the same day that **BILLY PAYNTER** arrived from Southend. Two weeks after making his debut for the Robins **PAYNTER** scored the first hat trick of his career in a 4-1 win over Bournemouth. Originally a trainee with Port Vale, he moved to Hull in a £150,000 deal in November 2005. Nine months later he was on his way to Roots Hall and later scored four in fifteen games on loan with Bradford City.

CORR, like **LEE PEACOCK**, has turned out for Bristol City and Sheffield Wednesday. **PEACOCK** cost City £600,000 from Manchester City eight years ago while Corr played four times on loan for the Ashton Gate side before joining Swindon in March last year, initially on loan.



PEACOCK, who returned from a back injury to play in midfield against the Foxes last week, went from Carlisle to Mansfield in a £90,000 deal in October 1997. He spent four seasons with City followed by eighteen months at Wednesday before joining Swindon early in 2006. 19 year old **BEN JOYCE**, signed from Boston in the summer of 2007, made three substitute appearances last season and scored on his debut against Port Vale but has yet to feature this term.

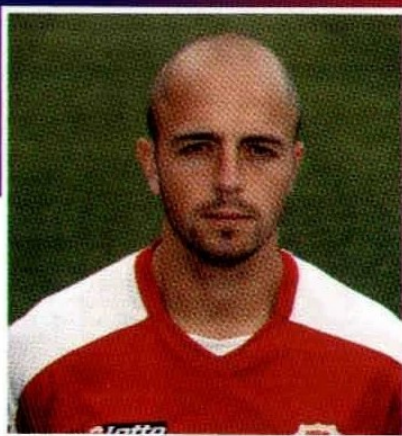
Former Republic of Ireland U-21 international **MICHAEL TIMLIN** turned out for Scunthorpe and Doncaster in 2006 before another loan spell took him to Swindon in November of that year. After helping the Robins to gain promotion from League Two he returned to the County Ground in March and his move from Fulham has now been made permanent. **JON-PAUL MCGOVERN** and **CRAIG EASTON** both have a previous connection with Livingston. **MCGOVERN** was clearly a favourite with former Robins' boss **PAUL STURROCK** having helped Sheffield Wednesday to reach the Championship in 2004/05. **MCGOVERN** left the Owls for Milton Keynes in August 2006 but was re-united with his old boss shortly after **PAUL INCE** took over the Dons in June last year. The Glasgow born midfielder was a junior in Edinburgh with Heart of Midlothian before joining Celtic but had his first taste of senior football on loan with Sheffield United in 2002. He spent two seasons with Livingston before **STURROCK** took him to Hillsborough. **EASTON** joined Livi for a season shortly after **MCGOVERN**'s departure from the Almondvale Stadium. His career, which started with Dundee United, later took him to Leyton Orient for whom he made over eighty appearances before

switching to Swindon in August 2007.

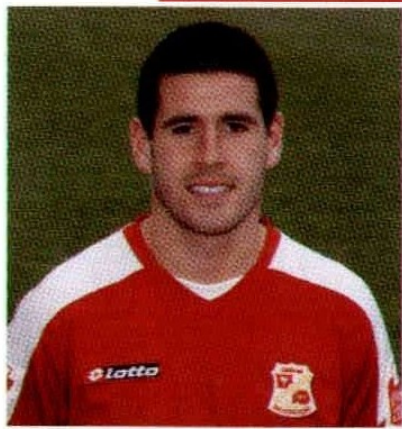
Left winger **ANTHONY McNAMEE** played for the Watford side which won promotion to the Premiership via the play-offs in 2005/06. During the Hornets' season in the top tier he played five games on loan for Crewe. He returned to Vicarage Road to play in the Championship before moving to Swindon in January. The French midfielder **LILIAN NALIS** joined Leicester in 2003 after stints with a number of continental clubs and spent two seasons with the Foxes before moving on to Sheffield United. He went to Coventry on loan before switching to Plymouth early in 2006. A popular figure with the Home Park crowd, **NALIS** left Argyle for the Robins last summer. Blue Square South side Eastleigh seem to make a habit of producing tricky wingers. A month ago we saw Southend bring on **DAMIAN SCAMMELL**, whom the Shrimpers signed in January. We may see another Eastleigh product this afternoon if the Robins introduce **MARK MARSHALL** from the bench, as they have on several occasions since his arrival in the summer. **MICHAEL POOK**, who was born in Swindon and came through the Robins' youth scheme, made his first team debut at Boston United in September 2003. Another home grown midfielder, **CHRIS ALLEN**, came off the bench in the JPT victory on penalties at Aldershot in September.

JACK SMITH played 28 times for his first club, Watford, before switching

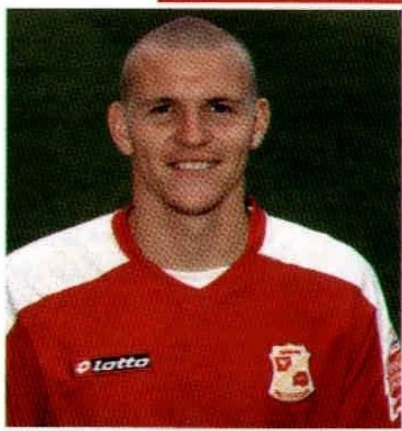
to the County Ground in August 2005. Normally to be found at right back, he has been used on the left as well as in midfield. **SMITH**'s spot kick sealed the Robins' victory over Oldham a month ago after 17 year old centre back **SEAN MORRISON** scored his first senior goal. On his debut at Gillingham in April, **MORRISON**, an academy graduate, played a part in **HASNEY ALJOFREE**'s equaliser. **PAUL STURROCK** signed **ALJOFREE** from Bolton in the summer of 2007 and promptly handed him the captain's armband. The former England youth international, a central defender or left back, made 22 appearances for the Trotters before signing for Dundee United in June 2000. Two years later **STURROCK** took him south to Plymouth before the pair linked up again in 2004 at Sheffield Wednesday, for whom **ALJOFREE** played three games on loan. Before his switch to the County Ground he played three games in a loan spell at Oldham. **JAMIE VINCENT**'s cartilage injury has prevented him from making an appearance so far this season. He can play at left back or as a central defender, as he did in the Robins' victory here last April. **VINCENT** began at Crystal Palace before switching to AFC Bournemouth. He later attracted total transfer fees in excess of £1.2 million in moves to Huddersfield and Portsmouth. After a loan spell at Walsall he left Fratton Park for Derby County early in 2004. His switch to the



Jack Smith



Michael Timlin



Jon-Paul McGovern



Anthony McNamee



Michael Pook



Sean Morrison

Swindon Town



STATS

Ground:
County Ground

Colours
Red shirts, shorts
and socks

Year Formed: 1881

Swindon's league record
as at 15/11/08:
P 3615 W 1339
D 950 L 1326
GF 5208 GA 5200

Today sees the 81st league meeting between Rovers and Swindon, and their win here last April saw them become the first club to beat us at four different venues, Eastville, Twerton Park, Ashton Gate where the 1986/87 encounter was staged, and the Mem.

Our home record against the Robins reads 21 wins, five draws and 14 defeats, whilst away from home we have lost 24, drawn 8 and lost 8.

In Rovers 5-2 defeat at Swindon in march 1982, Timmy Parkin became the second Rovers player to score for both sides in a league match

In our 5-0 win against the Robins, in March 1939, Frank Curran became the second Rovers player to score four goals in a league match.



County Ground came in July 2006 after loan spells with Millwall on either side of a few months with Yeovil. **KEVIN AMANKWAH** has done the rounds of our local sides, from Bristol City to Yeovil via loan stints at Torquay and Cheltenham. The former England youth international went from Huish Park to Swansea in a £200,000 deal in August 2006 but with his senior appearances last term being limited by a hamstring injury, moved to the County Ground last July. **JEREL IFIL** made eleven appearances for Watford and went to Huddersfield on loan before three loan spells with Town led to a permanent move in July 2004. 21 year old defender **YINKA CASAL**, a Nigerian U-20 international, left Fulham's academy for Dutch side Cambuur Leeuwarden in 2007 but was keen to return to

England and prove himself at a higher level. He earned himself a deal at the County Ground before the start of the season after impressing the manager whilst on trial. Congo born centre back **PATRICK KANYUKA** made an immediate impact on his arrival from QPR in January, winning the Man of the Match award in a single goal victory at Luton. Former Reading defender **CALLUM KENNEDY**, 20, can operate in midfield or at left back, where he made his debut in September 2007 against Brentford in the Johnstones' Paint Trophy.

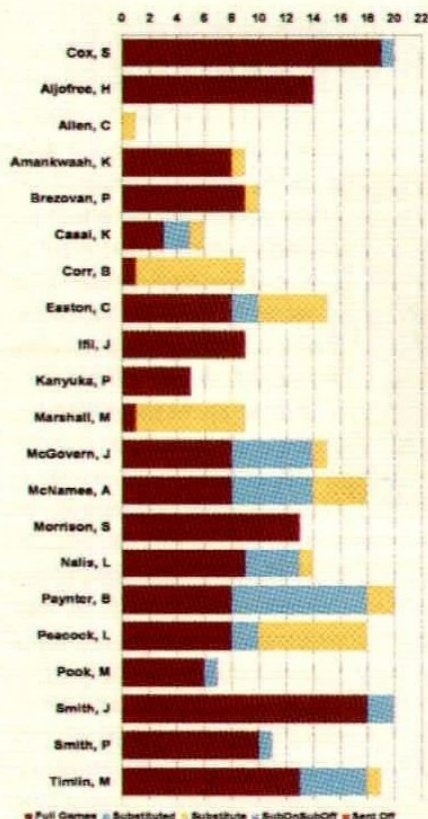
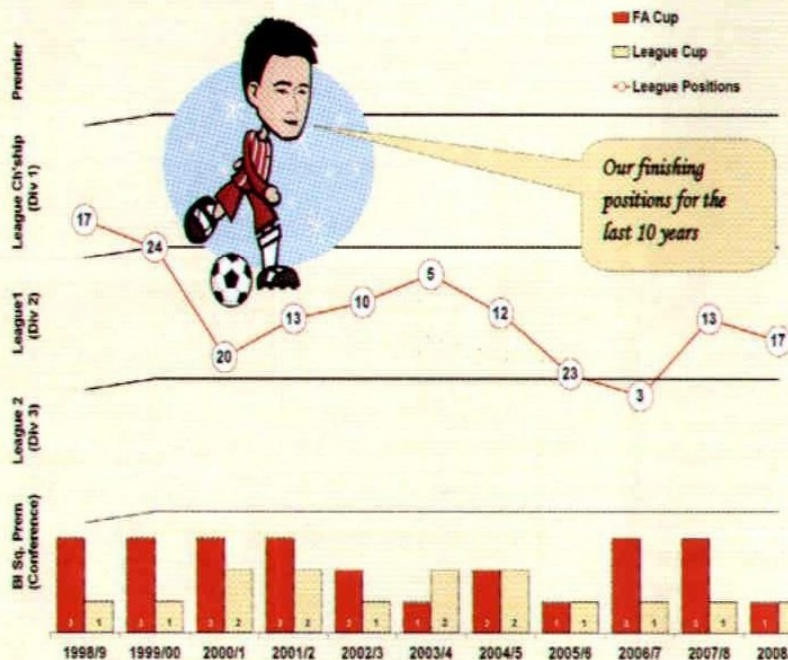
Former Slovakian U-21 international **PETR BREZOVAN** and **PHIL SMITH**, originally a Millwall trainee, compete for the goalkeeper's jersey. **BREZOVAN**'s previous clubs include his home town side PS Bratislava but he joined the Robins from Czech club FC Brno, initially on loan, in the summer of 2006. After saving two penalties on his debut at Hartlepool he broke an arm in October. He had to wait twelve months to regain his place from **SMITH**, currently first choice, who spent two years with Crawley before signing for Swindon a month ahead of **BREZOVAN**. **MARK SCOTT**, who spent six years with Southampton after joining the Saints at the age of eight, joined the Robins from Aldershot in the summer of 2007. He was an unused substitute in the home defeat by Leeds in September when **BREZOVAN** was injured.



1881-1936

Swindon Town fixtures 2008-9

Date	Opposition	Score	Alt	Comp
09-Aug	Tranmere	W 3-1	31-Oct	Lge 1
12-Aug	QPR	L 2-3	17-Oct	LC1
15-Aug	Chelt T	L 0-2	14-Aug	Lge 1
23-Aug	Colch U	L 1-3	01-Apr	Lge 1
30-Aug	MK Dons	W 2-1	20-Mar	Lge 1
02-Sep	Aldershot	D 2-2	18-Dec	JPT(S)1
05-Sep	Hereford	D 1-1	12-Feb	Lge 1
13-Sep	Leeds	L 1-3	05-Aug	Lge 1
20-Sep	Stockpt	D 1-1	26-Feb	Lge 1
28-Sep	Millwall	L 1-2	10-Oct	Lge 1
03-Oct	Hartlepool	D 3-3	31-Dec	Lge 1
07-Oct	Hereford	W 2-1	28-Dec	JPT(S)2
11-Oct	Hudd T	L 1-3	11-May	Lge 1
15-Oct	Southend	L 1-2	21-Oct	Lge 1
21-Oct	North'n T	W 2-1	19-Mar	Lge 1
25-Oct	Oldham A	W 2-0	30-Jun	Lge 1
01-Nov	Scunthorpe	D 3-3	26-Dec	Lge 1
09-Nov	Histon	L 0-1	20-Mar	FAC1
12-Nov	Brighton	L 0-2	11-Feb	JPT(S)OF
15-Nov	Leic C	D 2-2	02-Jan	Lge 1
22-Nov	Bristol R	-	-	Lge 1
25-Nov	Peterb U	-	-	Lge 1
29-Nov	Walsall	-	-	Lge 1
06-Dec	Carlisle	-	-	Lge 1
13-Dec	Crewe A	-	-	Lge 1
20-Dec	Yeovil	-	-	Lge 1
26-Dec	Leyton O	-	-	Lge 1
28-Dec	Brighton	-	-	Lge 1
03-Jan	Millwall	-	-	Lge 1
10-Jan	Stockpt	-	-	Lge 1
17-Jan	Hudd T	-	-	Lge 1
24-Jan	Hartlepool	-	-	Lge 1
27-Jan	Walsall	-	-	Lge 1
31-Jan	Oldham A	-	-	Lge 1
03-Feb	North'n T	-	-	Lge 1
07-Feb	Southend	-	-	Lge 1
14-Feb	Leic C	-	-	Lge 1
21-Feb	Scunthorpe	-	-	Lge 1
28-Feb	Tranmere	-	-	Lge 1
03-Mar	Chelt T	-	-	Lge 1
07-Mar	MK Dons	-	-	Lge 1
10-Mar	Colch U	-	-	Lge 1
14-Mar	Leeds	-	-	Lge 1
21-Mar	Hereford	-	-	Lge 1
28-Mar	Yeovil	-	-	Lge 1
04-Apr	Crewe A	-	-	Lge 1
11-Apr	Brighton	-	-	Lge 1
13-Apr	Leyton O	-	-	Lge 1
18-Apr	Carlisle	-	-	Lge 1
25-Apr	Bristol R	-	-	Lge 1
02-May	Peterb U	-	-	Lge 1



League Sequences

Since Last Away Clean Sheet	5
Since an Away Win	5
Since a Defeat	4
Since a Home Defeat	3
Consecutive Draws	2
Since a Win	2
Since Last Clean Sheet	2
Consecutive Away Draws	1
Consecutive Home Draws	1

The Robins

Best/Worst Stats

Biggest Home Win	3 - 1 Tranmere
Biggest Home Defeat	1 - 2 Millwall
Biggest Away Win	1 - 2 MK Dons
Biggest Away Defeat	2 - 0 Chelt T

Home League Attendances

Average	8196
Highest	13001 (Leeds - 12/09/2008)
Lowest	6653 (North'n T - 21/10/2008)

Away League Attendances

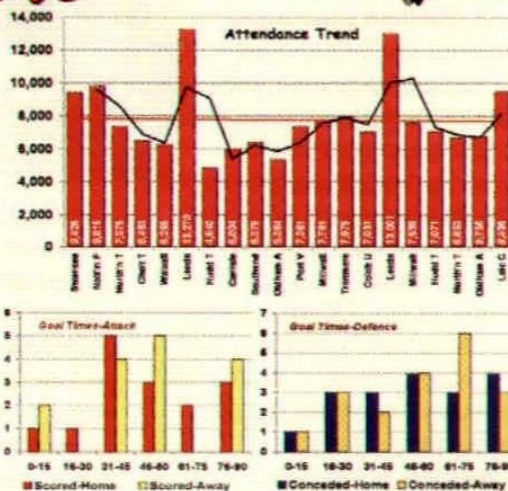
Average	5735
Highest	8846 (MK Dons - 30/08/2008)
Lowest	4918 (Hartlepool - 03/10/2008)

League Record 2006-7

Total	Wins	Draws	Defeats
4	5	6	6
Home	3	1	4
Away	1	4	2

Scorer

Goal Ratio	G	Lge	Cup
Cox, S	1: 1.33	15	12
Paynter, B	1: 3.87	5	4
Easton, C	1: 6.68	2	0
Ifil, J	1: 4.50	2	1
Smith, J	1: 10.00	2	0
Corr, B	1: 6.36	1	0
McGovern, J	1: 14.67	1	0
Morrison, S	1: 13.00	1	0
Peacock, L	1: 15.36	1	0



BRISTOL ROVERS

FOOTBALL CLUB LTD (Founded 1883)
FOOTBALL LEAGUE - THIRD DIVISION



No. 6556

Official Programme 6d

BRISTOL ROVERS

SWINDON TOWN

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th 1965 Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

BRISTOL STADIUM - EASTVILLE

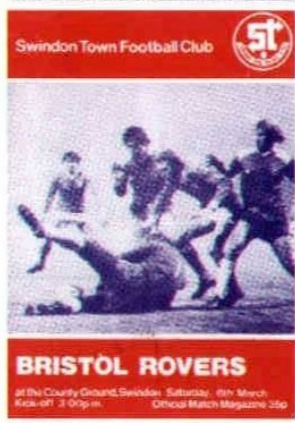
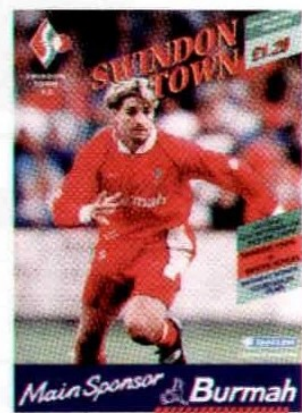
BRISTOL ROVERS 0
Swindon Town 1

Football League Division Three
7th September 1965



Swindon Town 2
BRISTOL ROVERS 2

12th September 1992
Barclays League
Division One



Swindon Town 5
BRISTOL ROVERS 2

6th March 1982
Football League Division Three

BRISTOL ROVERS 0
Swindon Town 0

24th March 2001
Nationwide Division Two



Captain goes training!

CAPTAIN BLACK ARAB WENT FOR a kick about at a local school last week to help the pupils test out their new goalposts.

The popular Pirate visited Fairfield School in Backwell and spent time playing football with the school team.

Leading south west contractor and Bristol Rovers' sponsor Cowlin donated a brand new set of goal posts to the school.

To celebrate the occasion, Cowlin, sponsors of the Rovers for the last 11 seasons, also arranged for the school team to have a special tour of the Memorial Stadium.

Captain Black Arab then followed the children back to Backwell to put them through their paces and try out the new posts.

The salty sea dog had a great day out



and enjoyed meeting all the children. He said; "I hope the children had as much fun as I did! Cowlin arranged for them to come and visit the stadium and we gave them a special behind the scenes tour, including a peek in the player's changing rooms. I couldn't believe how well behaved the kids were, they were a great bunch, who were full of questions for me."

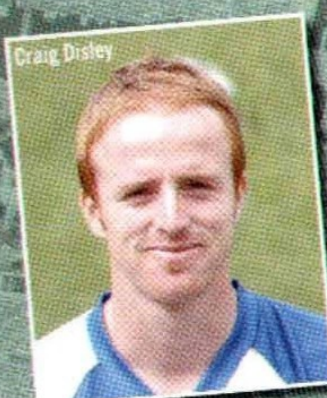
"I then went back on their coach with them to the school and had a kick about

on the pitch. The new goal posts are a great addition to their playing fields, and will allow the children to progress their football skills. I joined in with a few games and was impressed by the standard of football. I think I will tell 'Trolls' to keep an eye on them, as the next generation of Rovers star players may be contained in their team!"

Neil Sherreard, divisional managing director for Cowlin, said; "We think it's really important to have a close relationship with the local community and encourage children to get involved in sport. I am delighted that we have been able to provide Fairfield with some new goal posts."

Captain Black Arab will be switching on the Christmas lights at Kings Chase Shopping Centre in Kingswood on Thursday, November 27th at 6.30pm.

The Gas Press said what...?



PAUL TROLLOPE TOLD THE BRISTOL Evening Post how he accused his players of "letting Scunthorpe off the ropes" after our third defeat in a row last week.

Not surprisingly Iron boss Nigel Adkins told the *Scunthorpe Telegraph* he was "a happy man" as he watched his side put in a professional performance - and move back to the top of League One following their 2-1 victory.

Rovers had fought back from conceding a deflected free kick just before the break with Rickie Lambert's brave diving header early in the second half only to lose another goal shortly afterwards.

Trollope told the *Post*: "We thought we deserved a draw. We had some good bits of play in the first half and it was disappointing to go behind to a deflected free kick, but we got back into it well.

"It was a good cross from Craig Disley and a good header from Rickie. But the little spell after we scored was not good enough. We made some poor decisions, made some poor clearances and gave the ball away on the halfway line, which led directly to their winner.

"We contributed greatly to their second goal. For some reason a little bit of fear crept in. The spell after we scored was our worst of the game. We pushed hard and pegged them back after that, but didn't have the guile to score an equaliser. We must learn from it.

"Credit to Scunthorpe because they are a good side. We have performed well against the top three sides when we have played them and aren't too far away, but there is still a gap to close.

"In boxing terms we had them on the ropes - but then let them off."

Scunthorpe boss Nigel Adkins told

the *Post*; "Credit to Bristol Rovers because they have been on a good run at home and they gave it a real go.

"But we are on a great journey and it's good to be top of the league again. All we can do is keep winning our games and try to get promoted any way we can. I was really pleased with the way we saw the game out."

In the *Scunthorpe Telegraph* Adkins said: "I thought our game management was good."

"Over the course of the first 45 minutes, when we were playing into the wind, we just wanted to keep it level. As it was we were actually one goal up at half time.

"With the elements with us, we wanted to play the game on our terms in the second half.

"Credit to Bristol Rovers, they gave it a go and got themselves back in the game with a good goal.

"But it was a different side to our game we showed tonight, and we proved we can see out a game."

Trollope told the *Telegraph*; "That was frustrating because we were on top and if it was a boxing match I think we would have had them on the ropes" moaned Rovers' head coach.

"But we let them come off and turn the tables on us. It was a little bit of luck for them off the free kick, but the second goal was down to our mistakes.

"We think we probably deserved a point. We knew they were a good side and we knew they had big goal threats."

Iron full back Cliff Byrne told the *Telegraph* "we were back to our resilient best against Bristol Rovers."

United's defence has now only conceded twice in their last three outings.

The away win saw Scunthorpe regain

their place at the summit of League One. Byrne said: "It's another example of how we have cut out the individual errors that blotted our copy book in games against Millwall, Oldham and Swindon.

"We've improved immensely at the back and you need to" said Byrne.

"If you want to achieve anything in any league you have got to be resilient at the back and we're starting to show that again. We will always get goals with the attacking lineup that we have got"

"We had a few bad games a few weeks ago, but that was more down to individual errors rather than problems collectively.

"But even though we were still working hard, you have to cut them out.

"Different individuals on different weeks were making the errors and you've got to concentrate for 90 minutes, which is what we're doing now.

"We're learning how to win games and defend ugly if you like."

It's a strategy the Iron faithful will be more than happy to see if it helps book their side an instant return to the Championship.

The *Telegraph* said that "once Iriekpen had made it 2-1 in the visitors' favour, they never really looked like conceding a second goal, playing out time to seal a professional performance with three impressive points.

"After taking the lead through skipper Izzy Iriekpen after 62 minutes at the Memorial Stadium, Nigel Adkins' side soaked up plenty of Rovers pressure without looking like conceding for a second time on the night."

Funny that. The paper's reporter must have left the Mem before that late flurry of corners and goalmouth scrambles that so nearly brought us the point I thought we just about deserved.

Celebrating 125 years of football part 9

IN 1896/97 ROVERS MADE A successful first attempt to buy a permanent ground and purchased a sixteen acre site on heavy red clay soil, which stretched from the watercress meadows of Eastville along the river Frome to the Stapleton Gasworks and as far as the 'Thirteen Arches' on one of two nearby Great Western Railway branch lines.

Eastville was to remain their home for 90 years before the club's decade in exile at Bath City. Apparently the stench from the gasworks behind what was later the Tote End was a familiar experience to hardened regulars in Rovers' years at Eastville and gave rise to the popular sobriquets 'The Gas' and 'Gasheads', by which the club and its supporters have been called even since Rovers' departure from the ground in 1986. Eastville Stadium, formerly home to the Bristol Harlequins Rugby Football Club, was purchased for £150 from Sir Henry Greville Smyth of Ashton Court, an extensive landowner in late Victorian Bristol.

It was
"a ground surrounded with a gasworks, a railway viaduct and a river that always threatened to swamp the ground" (C.B. Fry, 30th August 1919). The River Frome, or 'Danny' as it was fondly termed locally, was highly susceptible to flooding and there had been terrible damage

Eastville and the thirteen arches, 1899

caused by rising waters in 1607 and 1703. In October 1882, just months before Rovers' formation, the Baptist Mills and Eastville areas were reported to be badly affected by flooding.

More recently, an area of some 200 acres had been flooded in March 1889 as snow thawed. On 8th April 1889 it was reported that a Floods Relief Fund had raised £11,700. There were to be further problems of this nature in 1936, 1937, 1947 and 1968. In addition, there was water seven feet deep on Rovers' pitch on 21st November 1950.

The Bristol Flood Prevention Acts of 1885 and 1890 promised a series of schemes but it was to be the Northern Stormwater Interceptor, incepted in 1962 and completed shortly after the floods six years later, which finally solved the problem.

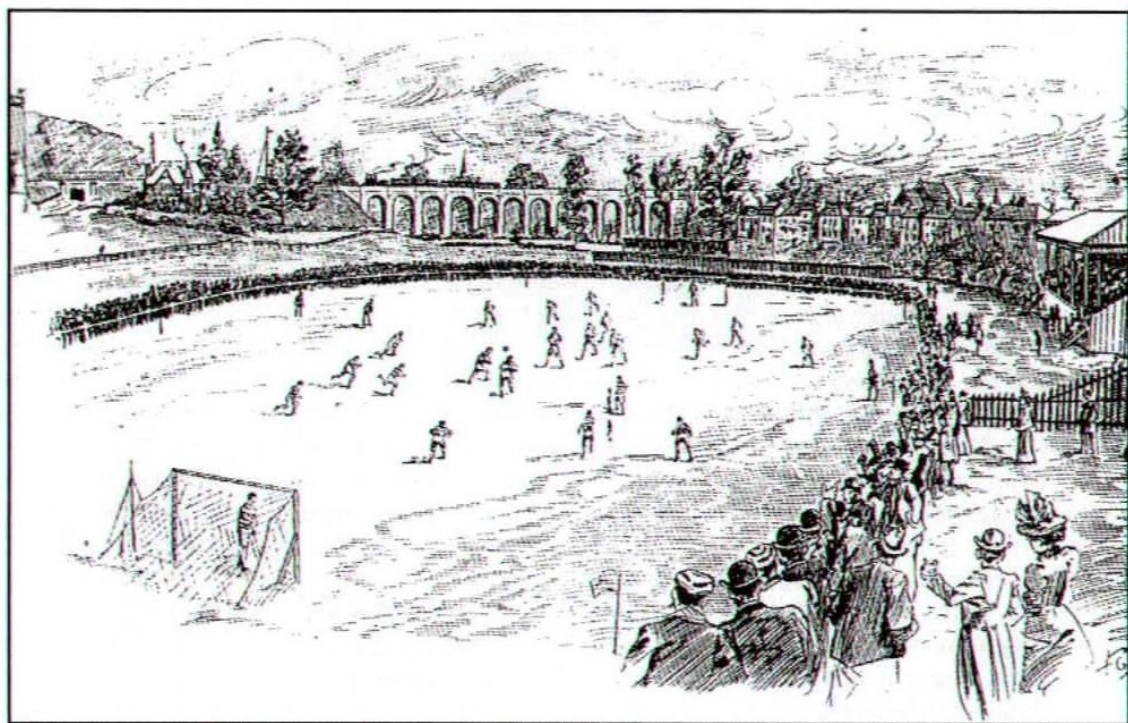
Much of the Frome is now intercepted at Eastville and taken underground to join the Avon at the Portway below Clifton Downs. Rovers thus inherited the 'Stapleton Road Enclosure', or 'Black Swan Ground'

in 1897, a ground smelling of gas and sometimes underwater but which included a wooden stand capable of seating 501 spectators, a press box and a small directors' box with cloth covered seats.

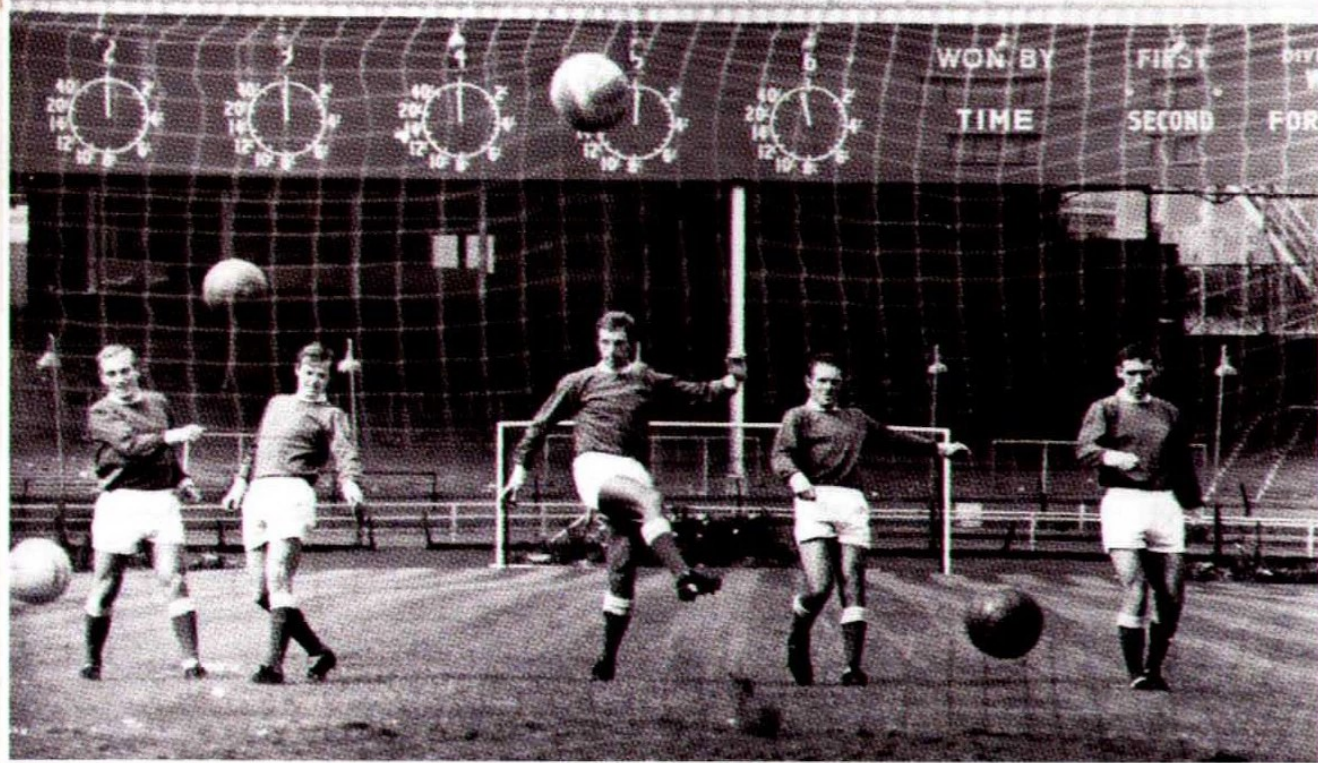
A prompt investment of a further £1,255 ensured cover for the north side, with the stated aim of creating a stadium capable of holding 20,000. Entry to the ground was from Stapleton Road for, parallel to the pitch and the river, was a rugby pitch occupied by the North Bristol Rugby Union Football Club.

In the FA Cup Rovers beat Newbury, in a replay, and St George but, drawn away to Royal Artillery Portsmouth, decided they had no chance of avoiding a humiliating defeat and, saving the relatively steep travel expenses, withdrew from the competition and conceded a walkover.

In the Gloucestershire Cup, victory over St Paul's was followed by defeat at Clifton Association, whilst Rovers went on to beat Clifton but lose to Bedminster in the Bristol Charity Cup.



Five score fifty



MY GUESS IS THAT THIS photo was taken just before the start of the 1969/70 season.

This is based only on the fact that the shirts worn by the players are complemented by white shorts, and socks the same colour as the shirts. At the start of the following season, the club switched to wearing white socks.

It was also the first season that Robin Stubbs, pictured in the centre of the five players, was with the club, following a summer move from Torquay United.

On the extreme left of the photo is Ray Graydon, and next to him is Wayne Jones. Harold Jarman is on the extreme right, with Bobby Jones next to him. The five of them played in the forward line on a number of occasions that season, and scored fifty league goals as between them.

It was a season when Rovers finished third, behind runners up Luton and champions Orient. However, had they won their final two games of the season, they would have gained promotion

themselves, but a 2-1 home defeat at the hands of Gillingham and a 5-2 loss at Tranmere kept them in the Third Division, where they were to remain until 1974.

Stubbs was brought to the club by new manager Bill Dodgin a surprise choice as boss, following Fred Ford's departure to Swindon.

Dodgin was a believer in attacking football, so the signing of a player with an impeccable goalscoring record came as no surprise.

Stubbs had moved to Torquay, from Birmingham, in 1972 and in two spells with the club he amassed a total of 122 goals in 233 league games, finishing as the club's top scorer on five occasions.

He managed that feat twice for Rovers, ending the 1969/70 campaign with 15 to his name and bettering that by two the following season.

The four players pictured with Stubbs, knocking balls into the goal at the Muller Road end at Eastville, with the Tote End in the background, will need no introduction.

Graydon went on to become a League Cup winner with Aston Villa and also played for Coventry. He enjoyed a stint in America, with Washington Diplomats, before embarking on a coaching career with Oxford and Southampton. Following time as manager of Walsall, he returned, in April 2002, for a less than successful spell as manager of the club where it all began for him.

Wayne Jones was already a full Welsh international with over 200 games for Rovers behind him when he was forced to retire from the game in 1972. He subsequently qualified as a physiotherapist and is currently working in that capacity for Yeovil Town.

Bobby Jones was a prolific goalscorer, amassing 101 league goals for Rovers. He scored eight in the near miss season of 1969/70, while Jarman scored 127 in his Rovers career, and notched ten in the season in question.

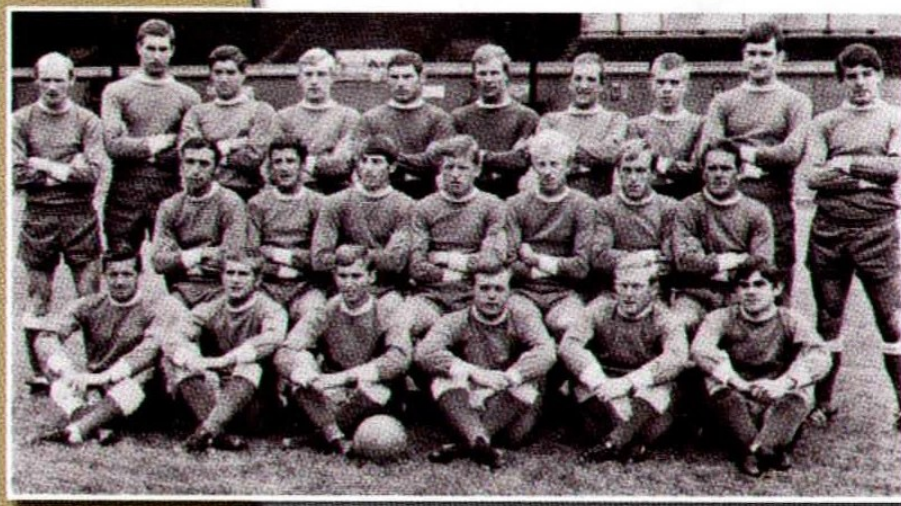
Whatever happened to Bristol Rovers' team?



GOALS BY WAYNE JONES AND Ray Graydon gave Bristol Rovers a 2-1 Third Division victory over Swindon Town in front of 10,364 at Eastville Stadium on 21st September 1968. The Robins were destined to achieve a memorable promotion and League Cup 'double' that season.

Football historian **LEIGH EDWARDS** traces what happened to both teams.

Bristol Rovers 1968/69



RAY WHITE: Ex Southend United goalkeeper who understudied Laurie Taylor, making three League appearances for Bristol Rovers before joining Dave Bumpstead's Brentwood in July 1969. He helped them win promotion in 1968/69, then played for Dover and Tonbridge, running an industrial cleaning business.

LINDSAY PARSONS: Long serving full back who made 358 League appearances before reuniting with Mike Green at Torquay United in July 1977. Later with Taunton Town, Gloucester City, Forest Green Rovers and Yate Town, he was Cheltenham Town's manager before assisting Tony Pulis at various clubs.

RAY MABBUTT: Versatile favourite who netted 27 goals in 394 League outings for Bristol Rovers prior to joining Newport County in September 1969, then played for Trowbridge, Bath City, Clevedon, Frome Town, Mangotsfield, Clevedon again and Keynsham. Now a retired insurance broker, living in Winford.

STUART TAYLOR: Tall, long serving central defender who was ever present in four successive seasons and netted 28 goals in a club record 546 League games. He became Bath City's player boss in May 1980, then played for Cadbury Heath. Rejoining Bristol Rovers as commercial manager, he is now a plumber.

LARRY LLOYD: Central defender who scored once in 43 Third Division games for Rovers before joining Liverpool in April 1969. Moving via Coventry City to Nottingham Forest in October 1976, the England international later managed Wigan Athletic and

Notts County, becoming a publican in Nottingham.

FRANKIE PRINCE: Welsh U-23 midfielder who starred in Rovers' 1972 Watney Cup final triumph and 1973/74 promotion success. Netting 22 goals in 362 League games, he joined Exeter City in July 1980, then played for Gloucester City. He has been Torquay United's Community Officer for the past 16 years.

RAY GRAYDON: Flying winger who starred as Rovers reached the FA Cup Fifth Round in 1968/69. He netted 33 goals in 131 League outings prior to joining Aston Villa in May 1971, then played for Coventry City and Oxford United. After coaching Oxford and Southampton, he managed Walsall and Bristol Rovers.

VIC BARNEY: Midfielder who scored three times in 31 League outings before moving to Glastonbury in September 1969. Later with Trowbridge, Mangotsfield, Clevedon, Taunton, Paulton and Glastonbury again, he spent 29 years with Rolls Royce, then was a local postman. Now a driver for Alliance Unichem.

BOBBY JONES: Fast, skilful striker who was in his second spell at Eastville Stadium, netting 101 goals in 421 League games overall for Rovers before joining Minehead in August 1973. He coached and managed several clubs, including Paulton Rovers, Bath City, Mangotsfield and Yate Town, settling in Kingswood.

WAYNE JONES: Welsh international midfielder who helped reach the FA Cup Fifth Round in 1968/69, then win the Watney Cup in 1972. Scoring 28 goals in 224 League games until injury ended his career, he has since been physio/assistant-manager at Shrewsbury, Rovers, Huddersfield, Notts County, Hereford and now Yeovil.

HAROLD JARMAN: Long serving favourite who scored 127 goals in 452 League games before moving to Newport County in May 1973, then played for Mangotsfield United. He managed Bristol Rovers between December 1979 and April 1980, since holding various posts at other clubs, settling in Westbury on Trym, Bristol.



Whatever happened to Swindon Town's team?

PETER DOWNSBOROUGH:

Goalkeeper who was ever present in two consecutive seasons including Swindon's 1968/69 promotion and League Cup 'double' success. He made 274 League appearances before joining Bradford City in November 1973. Later working at a power station, he has settled in Elland.

OWEN DAWSON: Long serving England Youth full back who featured in Swindon's 1968/69 promotion campaign while John Trollope was sidelined by injury, netting four goals in 202 League outings for the Robins before moving to Folkestone in July 1971. He later played for Berea Park, settling in South Africa.

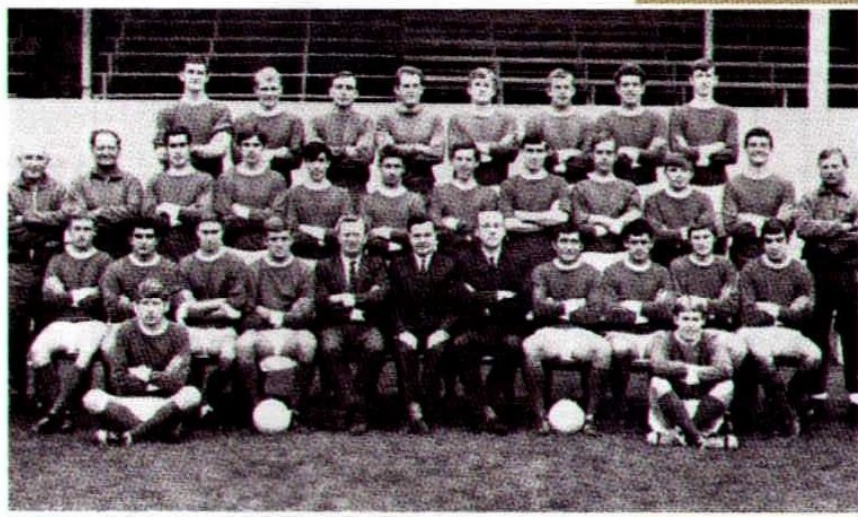
ROD THOMAS: Welsh international full back who scored four times in 296 League games before following Dave Mackay to Derby County in November 1973. He helped win the League Championship in 1974/75, then played for Cardiff City, Gloucester and Newport County, becoming a publican in Stroud.

JOE BUTLER: Versatile midfielder who helped Swindon win promotion and the League Cup in 1968/69, then the Anglo Italian Cup in 1970. He netted 18 goals in 362 League outings while at the County Ground before joining Aldershot in August 1976, then played for Witney and has since run a taxi firm in Swindon.

MIKE BLICK: Young central defender who deputised for the injured Frank Burrows in the featured match and made six League appearances prior to joining Corby Town in July 1971. He became their captain, then player manager for the 1974/75 campaign, before resigning to join the prison service in Gloucestershire.

STAN HARLAND: Ever present captain who netted six goals in 237 League games, joining Birmingham City in December 1971. Later Yeovil Town's player boss, he assisted Frank Burrows at Portsmouth, then managed Gravesend & Northfleet. He ran a delicatessen in Yeovil until his death in September 2001.

DON HEATH: Winger who featured in Swindon's 1968/69 promotion and League Cup 'double' triumph, scoring twice in 88 League games



Swindon Town 1968/69

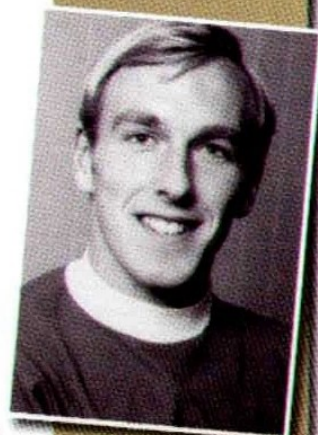
before Oldham Athletic in July 1970. He then played for Peterborough United, Hartlepool, Crook Town and Gateshead. Settling back in Stockton, he became a buyer for ICI.

ROGER SMART: Striker who scored in Swindon's 1969 League Cup final success, netting 43 goals in 349 League outings while at the County Ground prior to joining Charlton Athletic in May 1973. He later played for Bath City, Melksham and Trowbridge Town, becoming licensee of The Plough in his native Swindon.

JOHN SMITH: Former England U-23 international who featured in Swindon's 1968/69 promotion and League Cup 'double' success. Scoring nine times in 84 League games before joining Walsall in June 1971, he became Dundalk's player boss. He managed a social club in Harlesden until his death in February 1988.

PETER NOBLE: Striker who was ever present in Swindon's 1968/69 promotion and League Cup 'double' success, then scored twice in their 1970 Anglo Italian Cup final triumph. Netting 62 goals in 216 League games before joining Burnley in June 1973, then Blackpool, he has run a sportswear business in Burnley.

DON ROGERS: England U-23 winger who scored twice in Swindon's 1969 League Cup final success and reunited with Bert Head at Crystal Palace in November 1972. He moved via QPR back to Swindon in March 1976 and netted 148 goals in 412 League games overall before running a sports shop in Swindon.

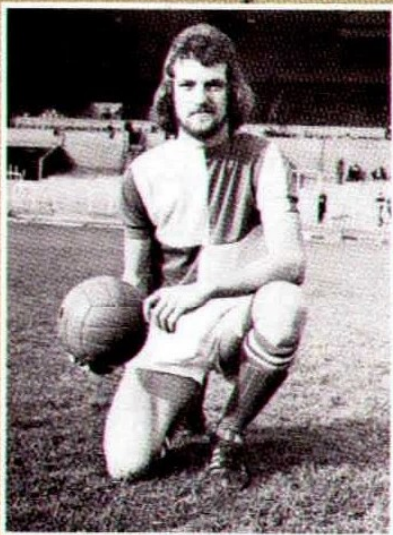


Ray Graydon, who scored one of Rovers goals in the 2-1 win



The matchday programme

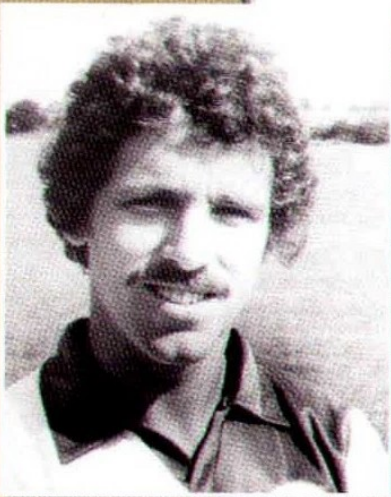
22nd November



Graham Day



Harold Jarman, who scored in the 1-1 draw against Bradford City on this day in 1969



BORN ON THIS DAY... 1953

Graham Day

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN Rovers regularly fielded two very tall, bearded central defenders.

Alongside the ubiquitous Stuart Taylor stood the powerful figure of Graham Day, who was born in Bristol on this day in 1953. A pupil at Speedwell School, Graham George Day played for Hanham Athletic and Bristol St George before joining Rovers in May 1973 for the nominal fee of £100 plus a £500 donation.

It proved money extremely well spent, for he was to play in 129 (plus one as sub) league matches for Rovers, from his League debut against Fulham in March 1975 until the spring of 1979.

A pipe fitter and welder by profession, Day was a Gloucestershire XI player and played for Rovers in their pre season friendly with Weymouth in 1974 prior to his League debut.

Thereafter, he established himself as a key ingredient in a side that was performing remarkably well at the elevated level of second tier football following Rovers' promotion to Division Two in 1974. He was a member of the side, though, that crashed 9-0 at Spurs in 1977 and was sent off at Roker Park as Rovers recorded an unexpected 1-0 win at Sunderland in an FA Cup Third Round tie in 1978.

Day's only goal in League football came in the 2-1 win at home to Fulham in February 1977. For three summers (1976 to 1978) he represented Portland Timbers in North American football, as was a fashion at that time, as players of the calibre of Pelé and Franz Beckenbauer also tried their hand

across the Atlantic; in 1978 Day was the Timbers' player of the season and marked the former Rovers forward Ray Graydon in a championship play off semi final against Washington Diplomats.

In March 1979 he joined the Timbers permanently in a deal worth £40,000 and subsequently joined Forest Green Rovers, for whom he played at Wembley, alongside the former Rovers player Peter Higgins, in the 1982 FA Vase Final. After playing under Don Megson at Rovers, Portland and, from March 1983, Bournemouth (where he won a Hants Cup medal to go with Glos Cup and Somerset Cup medals won with Rovers and Bath), Day was signed for Bath City by the former Rovers forward Bobby Jones.

Later with Paulton Rovers, Patchway, Made for Ever and Longwell Green Abbotonians, his sons Ryan and Matthew both played local football to a high standard; Graham Day has run several local pubs, and is currently mine host of the 'Flowerpot' in Kingswood.



Left: Aiden McCaffery, who also scored in a 1-1 draw, on this day in 1980, against Derby County

Right: David Williams, who scored in the 1-1 draw against Sunderland on this day in 1975



ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY...

Last five matches played on: **22nd November**

1983	FAC	Barnet	H	W 3-1	Holloway, Barrett, Slatter
1986	DIV3	Chester City	A	L 1-3	Morgan
1997	LD2	Southend United	A	D 1-1	Beadle (pen)
2000	LD2	Millwall	H	L 1-2	Cameron
2003	LD3	Lincoln City	H	L 1-3	Carlisle

22nd November 1890

**EASTVILLE BRISTOL ROVERS 3
BATH ASSOCIATION 3**

IN FRONT OF AN ATTENDANCE

described in the ambiguous way that befitted late Victorian match reports as 'fair', Rovers drew 3-3 with Bath Association 118 years ago today in windy conditions at Ashley Down.

Two goals to one ahead at the break, Rovers earned a 3-3 draw through two goals from Fred Yates and one from Archie Laurie. Rovers lined up with Fred Channing in goal, Claude Hodgson and Bill Somerton at full back, Bill Wallace, Bill Brown and Fred Lovett across the half back line and a forward line comprising brothers Archie and Frank Laurie, Fred Yates, Bill Perrin and Bill Taylor.

It appeared that you had to be called Fred or Bill to play for Rovers in those days. Archibald Brown Laurie, who scored one of the goals, was born in Dysart, Fife around 1867 and was one of four brothers to play for Rovers - he scored 23 goals in 76 appearances for Rovers and also spent some time on the books of St Gabriel's.

The other two goals were scored by Fred Yates, whose 16 goals in 39 matches for Rovers included a hat trick against Clifton - he also represented Gloucestershire on at least three occasions.

Inside left Bill Perrin was already a hero at Rovers, having scored the goal that defeated Warmley in the 1889 Gloucestershire Cup Final to bring the first silverware to the club; he was born in Clifton in 1868, the youngest of five children and following in the footsteps of his older brother Walter who also played for Rovers. Their father Edward, a boilermaker, had died in 1879 and the family was brought up by their mother Martha, who had rather enigmatically been born at the Cape of Good Hope and now lived in St George.



OLDNEWS : keithBROOKMAN

24th November 1967



THREE WEST BROMWICH ALBION PLAYERS, Gerry Howshall, Tony Brown and Graham Williams, were pictured on the front cover of this issue.

A move towards establishing a loan system was mooted: "There have been several cases this season of prominent league clubs helping out their smaller counterparts by loaning players on a temporary basis. Why isn't more of this sort of thing done until it becomes more or less a regular custom?"

Third Division leaders Walsall came under the spotlight, though manager Ray Shaw refused to talk about the possibility of promotion to the Second Division: "It's far too early to start banging the drum, let's wait until the end of the season."

A wise man, Mr Shaw, as his team failed to gain promotion, and finished the season in seventh place.

Non league side Arnold announced significant price increases for their First Round FA Cup tie against Rovers: "Arnold have upped their prices from 2s 6d for a Midland League game to 5s for the visit of Bristol Rovers and they will charge 7s 6d for their covered enclosure. They are to erect a temporary, uncovered enclosure at the top end

of the ground, on the cricket section, and the admission to this will be 6s 6d."

The anticipated crowd of 4,500 never materialised, though 3,390 fans saw Rovers win 3-0 to go through to the Second Round.

Future Rovers player, Brian Godfrey, then with Aston Villa, paid tribute to West Ham: "Malcolm Musgrove is a great coach, and comes from West Ham, like Noel Cantwell, Frank O'Farrell, Malcolm Allison and Phil Woosnam - all the good coaches seem to come from there."

There was news of a Rovers revival: "Over at Eastville manager Bert Tann is feeling a lot happier than he was two months ago. The midweek victory over Peterborough meant seven points from four games - their best unbeaten run since last February."

"I mentioned the re-discovery of wing half Ray Mabbutt as a goalscoring forward. Mabbutt continued his exciting comeback by getting the winner against Peterborough. Tomorrow's game at Brighton will be a real test for the improved Rovers side. In 14 post war visits to Brighton, the Rovers have only won twice."

An Alfie Biggs goal the following day gave Rovers a 1-1 draw at the Goldstone Ground.

The results section for the previous week showed that Swindon had picked up a point from a 1-1 draw at Southport while Rovers, in spite of their recent improvement, had slipped to a 2-0 home defeat to Stockport in front of an Eastville crowd of 5,539.

Both clubs were in the Third Division, and after 19 games Swindon were 12th place while Rovers were in 20th place, four points above the relegation zone.



I PROBABLY TALK TOO MUCH!

Q1 If the fashion police paid a visit to the dressing room, who would they arrest?

A First of all they would arrest Craig Hinton because, for some reason, everything he buys is always one size too small. He seems to think he can wear medium, but really he's a large! They would also have to take Steve Phillips into custody, because all he ever wears is his Uhlsport gear.

Q2 Which of your team mates makes you laugh the most – and why?

A I think the joker in the pack is Craig Hinton. He always seems to be messing around and having a laugh and a joke and, to be fair, there are times when the lads need picking up and he's usually the one that does it.

Q3 Assuming it's printable, tell us a favourite dressing room prank.

A The other day, when we came in from training, 'Colesy' and 'Pipey', who were injured, had cut up everyone's socks and laces up and when Craig Hinton opened up his towel they had cut out holes for his eyes and his nose to make a face!

Q4 Who is the hardest player in the squad, or who thinks he is?

A It's probably David Pipe because he likes to think he has the biggest muscles, and he's not shy in telling you about it!

Q5 Who tries the most tricks in training, and do they work?

A I think Jo Kuffour probably does the most tricks and, to be honest, most of them come off as he's probably the most skilful player in the squad.

Q6 Current favourite music/band

A Little Wain, the rapper.

Q7 What was the last website you visited?

A Probably it was my Hotmail account, to check out my email messages.

Q8 Who did you last send an email to?

A My brother.

Q9 Are you a wiz on the Wii?

A Definitely not, even my little sister can beat me!

Q10 What's your most annoying habit?

A I probably talk too much!

Q11 Any pre match superstitions?

A Far too many to mention, but one of them

means that I like to sit in the same place in the dressing room before every home game.

Q12 When you're not eating the healthy option, what's your favourite food?

A Caribbean food and my favourite meal would be chicken, rice and peas.

Q13 Tell us something not many people know about you

A I'm Joleon Lescott's older brother!

Q14 Name a country you haven't yet been to, that you would like to visit and why

A I haven't been to the Maldives and it looks beautiful every time I see pictures of it, so I might go there next year.

Q15 Any phobias you'd like to share with us?

A I hate spiders.

Q16 First car, current car and dream car?

A My first car was an Escort LX, I currently drive a VW Golf and my dream car would be an Aston Martin.

Q17 When was the last time you hand washed your car?

A Probably at least five years ago, I tend to always use the car wash.

Q18 Who was your first manager, and what was he like?

A My first manager was Tony McAndrew, who was in charge of Aston Villa's Youth team. He taught me many good things, though I probably didn't appreciate it at the time and I thought he treated me harshly. As I get older, though, I've realised the things he taught me as a youngster have benefited me greatly.

Q19 Against which team did you make your league debut and how memorable was it?

A It was for Lincoln City, against Plymouth Argyle at Home Park on a Tuesday night when I was 20. I'll never forget it, as it's probably the longest journey I've ever been on! Still, we won 2-1 so it was a good start to my career.

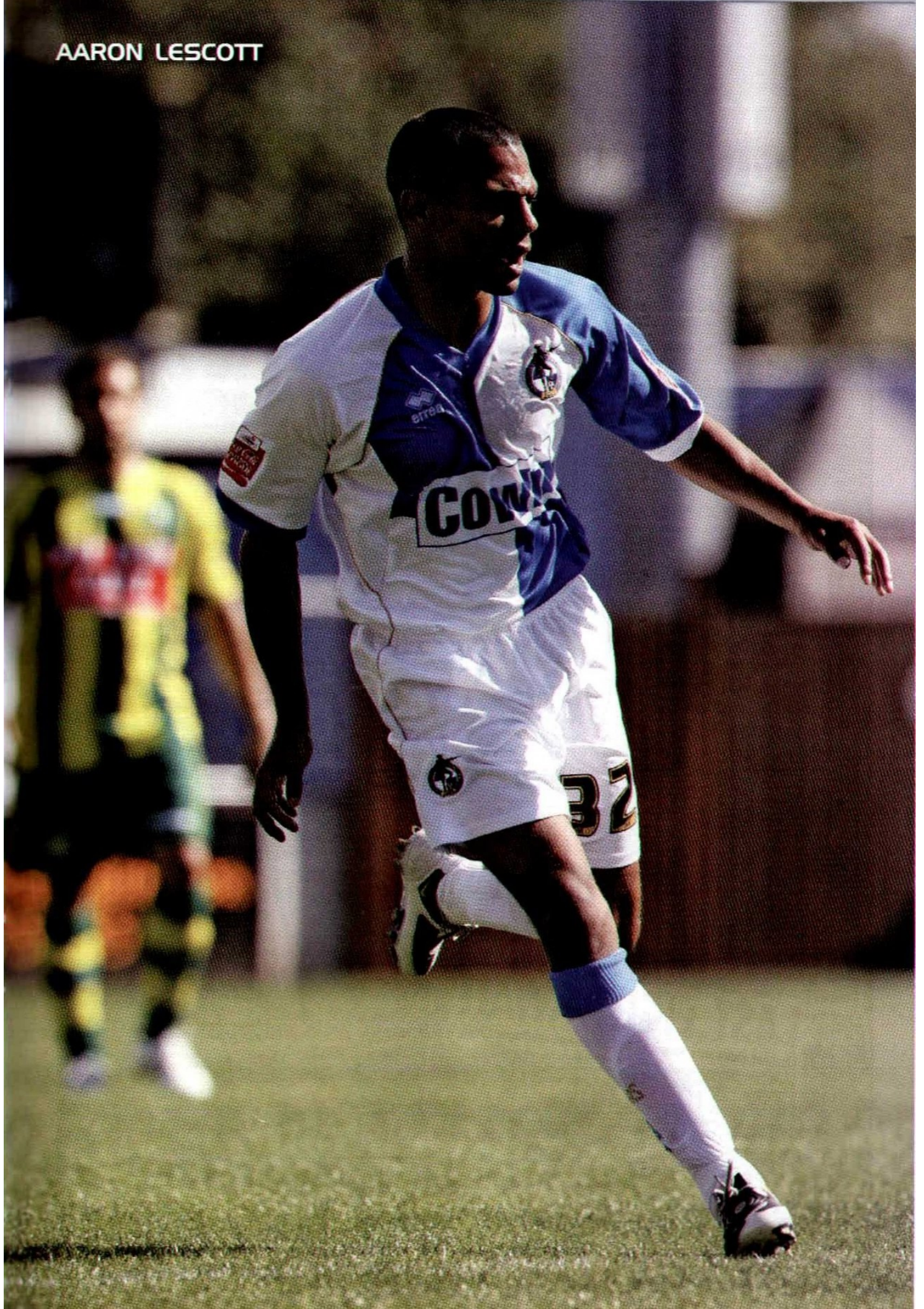
Q20 Who will fill the automatic promotion spots in League One this season?

A I believe that Leicester and Leeds will go up automatically simply because their fan base is so big and, when it comes to the crunch, that will make a big difference. Rovers will finish in a play off spot, though!



"...THERE ARE TIMES WHEN THE LADS NEED PICKING UP AND HE (CRAIG HINTON) IS USUALLY THE ONE THAT DOES IT"

AARON LESCOTT



EVENING POST

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STUART CAMPBELL

Looking forward



HIS APPEARANCES, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT cup ties and games when he's gone on from the bench total over 200, but today skipper Stuart Campbell will be making his 150th league start for the club he joined in the summer of 2004.

Even though it might be an important milestone in a career that has now taken in over 400 first class appearances, it will almost certainly be the last thing on his mind when he leads the team out this afternoon, not that he's taking it for granted that he's even playing!

"It will be nice to reach that total, if selected, but to be honest I don't really keep track of the games I play in. The only time I take notice is when I read our programme or the opposition programme."

"I'm not one for looking back on the highs and lows as that's something I can do when my career is over. I'd rather look forward and, hopefully, between now and when I stop playing I will have appeared in a lot more games."

His most recent appearance, of course, was in last Friday's game against Scunthorpe.

"That turned out to be very disappointing, because although they are top of the league, I thought we more than held our own. They did have a few chances but we were disappointed that, when we equalised, we tended to sit off them a bit. That seemed to give them a lift, but if we had kept going and gone for the jugular I believe we would have won the game."

"We were bitterly disappointed with the result because we did well to get back in the game in the first instance and then, when they scored again, we went chasing the game and we were unlucky not to get a second equaliser."

Results against teams near the top of the table would suggest that Rovers aren't too far short of being a top team themselves.

"As a group of players, we don't think we are far away. It's something we believe and something we have spoken about. We aren't a million miles away from being where we

want to be, but we just have to be a little more clinical at certain times in games."

"For example, we had a right go at Scunthorpe, everyone was up for it, the crowd was right behind us and we deservedly got back on level terms. Then we were disappointed to concede again and that knocked us back a little bit before we went at them again. Had we been a little bit more clinical after equalising, we might well have gone on to take something from the game."

At least there's the bonus of being involved in a derby game as the side look to get back on track.

"It's a great game to be involved in, with it being a derby match. There should be a big crowd, and a cracking atmosphere, and we are all looking forward to it."

"We've had some interesting games against Swindon in the last few seasons and, in terms of results, we'll be looking to redress the balance this afternoon."

At the time of writing, it wasn't known if Swindon would have a new manager at the helm, but if they have, it will be the third time this season that Rovers will have come up against a side who have just experienced a managerial change.

"It wouldn't surprise me if they have a new boss in place for today and, if they have, I hope we fare better than we did against Cheltenham and Bournemouth who changed managers just before we played them."

The return of players from injury should mean that a fully fit squad will soon be available to the management team, thus increasing competition for places.

"Fingers crossed, everyone should be available sooner rather than later and I'm sure that's what the management team will be hoping for. We will shortly be in the period leading up to Christmas and the New Year, the busiest time of the year for us, with so many games in such a short space of time and I'm sure that everyone in the squad will be needed."

Now getting used to playing in a slightly different position, he's full of praise for those in front of him.

"I'm feeling settled there, but it's not just me, because the three midfielders have done a really good job. They have to be extremely fit to do the running they do, while I sweep up behind them."

Up front, of course, 'Lambo' keeps knocking in the goals and the skipper would love to get on the scoresheet again; *"I'm due a goal, I think, as it's been a couple of years since I last hit the back of the net - so maybe today!"*

WE AREN'T A MILLION MILES AWAY FROM BEING WHERE WE WANT TO BE..."

PLAYER FACTS:

AGE: 30

PREVIOUS CLUBS:

Leicester City, Birmingham City (loan), Grimsby Town

GAS LEAGUE APPEARANCES: 149 + 18 sub

GAS LEAGUE GOALS: 2

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OUT NOW

Is it loud enough?

WELCOME, EVERYONE, TO THE MEMORIAL Stadium.

In 'The Pirate' published for the match against Leyton Orient on October 11th there was an article on local band The Chemists. Quite by chance they happen to be supporting Feeder on their current tour and, as I had already bought tickets for the Cambridge Corn Exchange gig, I was in a position to 'check them out'.

The venue is in the centre of the city and is a large hall with standing downstairs and a large seated balcony area. The Chemists came on at around 7.50pm and won over the crowd with their powerful, catchy rock. The volume was surprisingly loud for a support band, and they put on a good light show. They have strong songs driven by powerhouse drumming and driving guitars. The Chemists prove that you can rock hard without being heavy. The only 'cover' they do is a version of Britney Spear's Toxic, which certainly surprised the audience! The standout songs for me were 'Something for the Weekend' and 'Radio Booth'. For further information, to listen to five tracks and download a free one (something I intend to do when I receive my James Bond MP3 player free with The Sun newspaper!) go to www.myspace.com/thechemists.co.uk

Feeder were formed in 1993 and after releasing a number of minor hits they hit the Top Five with 'Buck Rogers' in 2001. The album 'Echo Park' reached No. 5 in the same year and since then the group have consistently proved popular as subsequent album releases 'Comfort in Sound', 'Pushing the Senses', 'The Singles' and 'Silent Cry' have all charted highly.

They started the concert with 'We Are The People', the opening track on their new album, and reeled off a string of hits. It's so easy to forget how many hits the band has had over their 15 year career but the memory was soon jogged with songs like 'High', 'Insomnia' and 'Comfort In Sound'. The sound was superb and the show was augmented by a series of images projected on what can only be described as three iron bedsteads at the back of the stage! (You'll have to see it to know what I mean). They played just one encore consisting of 'Seven Days In The Sun' and 'Just A

Day'. A sign of any good gig is measured in how fast it goes and the 85 minute set flew by. Before we knew it we were back outside queuing in the car park!

One week later... Monday 17th November... and Sue and I are back at the same venue. Sue only knew three songs that Feeder played and tonight she only knew one by the band, 'Ace Of Spades'. Yes it's Motorhead, the world's loudest rock band! Although most people's knowledge of the band starts and ends with the aforementioned song the band have been going strong since 1975 and continue to regularly tour and release albums. The albums carry the titles you would expect from Motorhead, 'Hammered', 'Inferno', 'Kiss Of Death' and 'Motorizer', to name their four most recent.

Support came from Danko Jones and Saxon, who were a big name on the rock scene back in the early 1980's. The only two songs that I remembered from the set were 'Never Surrender' and '747', but that went down very well with the gradually swelling crowd. Motorhead came on at 9.30 and after the immortal words from Lemmy, "We are Motorhead and we play Rock n' Roll" launched into their opening number 'Iron Fist'. "Is it loud enough for you?" asks Phil the guitarist a few songs into the set. "No" is the inevitable reply

from the audience. As the gig progresses I'm sure the music is getting louder and faster! I can't believe that three people could make such noise. The backdrop provided two screens which projected the various album covers from which the songs were taken and close ups of the band as they played; which was good even in such a small venue as I struggled to see through the massed ranks... and why is it that when you finally manage to find a good view someone over seven foot tall stands directly in front of you! The surprise song of the night was a cover of Thin Lizzy's hit 'Rosalie', done in Motorhead's own inimitable style!

The big hits were saved for the encore as the reeled out 'Ace of Spades' and 'Overkill' in a maelstrom of pummelling drums, growled vocals, gut wrenching bass and sonic guitar against a backdrop of flashing strobe lights. It's at this point that I have to remind myself that Lemmy is only five weeks off his 63rd birthday and he's still showing the youngsters how rock should be done. As the last of the noise died down, and as the house lights came up, the hall seemed deathly silent. We shuffled out into the cold night air as the foundations creaked beneath us!

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**TIME JUST SEEMS TO FLY
by in football. The summer
break is very short, particularly
for staff and players.**

Pre season friendly games follow on quickly, the season starts in earnest and our next home fixture following on from today will take us into mid December.

It really doesn't seem one year ago since Rickie Lambert went so close to picking up The Football League and Four FourTwo Award for Goal of the Year 2007. The goal was selected by fans, short listed for its quality and was just pipped by Jermaine Beckford's nomination from Leeds United.

You may recall that the goal put forward last year was for Rickie's wonder strike against Luton Town at Kenilworth Road early in 2007/08. This was our first season back in the third tier and how fortunes can change in a very short period. At that time the Bedfordshire club had just been relegated following a successful spell in the Championship and were being strongly tipped for a quick return. A little over one year later, a massive points deduction and Luton look poised for non league football. Time passes by very quickly and the structure of the game means that change is ongoing and inevitable. There is no doubt that this results in the massive

interest in the professional game and in competitive football, generally, at all levels.

So time marches on and we have once again received the documentation inviting us to nominate for this years awards. Now in its fourth year, the awards event gives the clubs the recognition they deserve for both on and off the field excellence. The ceremony, to be held on Sunday 29th March, will include the unveiling of the Four FourTwo Top 50 Football League players and recognises the Player of the Year in each division. The League hopes that the event can attract at least one entry from each of the seventy two league clubs. The closing date for entries is Tuesday 23rd December.

This year there are eleven awards in total with two of these, the Family Club of the Year and the Apprentice of the Year being divisional. Of the other nine awards there are two which can and should, in our view, include supporter participation. These awards are for the Fan of the Year and for the Goal of the Year. One further award for best Contribution to League Football will be decided by the Board of The Football League.

Bristol Rovers are inviting supporters to nominate for Fan of the Year and for Goal of the Year. A nomination form for Goal of

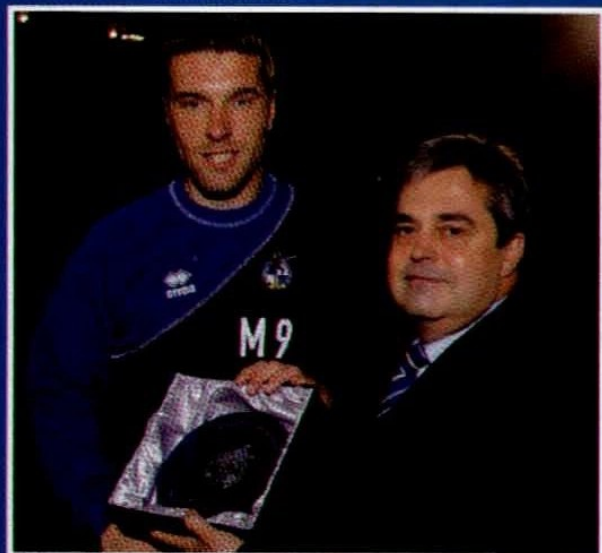
the Year can be found at the bottom of this page. Please complete and return the form to the football club by post for the attention of Kirsty Pugh. Alternatively forms can be handed in at Pirate Leisure. Please send in your nominations for Fan of the Year on plain paper with a supporting text of no more than 500 words. Please include your own name with the nomination. We are also intending entering for the awards of Best Matchday Programme, Community Club of the Year and for the award of Player in the Community.

The club entries will be judged by a panel of experts from football and industries relevant to each category. The judging will be completely impartial with each judge awarding a score for each entry according to set criteria. The winning entries will be made from the cumulative scores for all judges in each category. Judges will be named when the judging is complete.

We have seen so many very fine goals from our team over the past year and especially from the beginning of this season. We have many supporters who contribute so very much to the cause and so on both accounts we can look forward to some really good nominations. Please feel free and we look forward to receiving your nominations very much indeed.

Send in your votes!

Rickie Lambert, seen here receiving a special award from Chairman Nick Higgs, in recognition of his Player of the Month Award for October



GOAL OF THE YEAR

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FIXTURE AND DATE:

WHICH GOAL: (eg Rickie's second)

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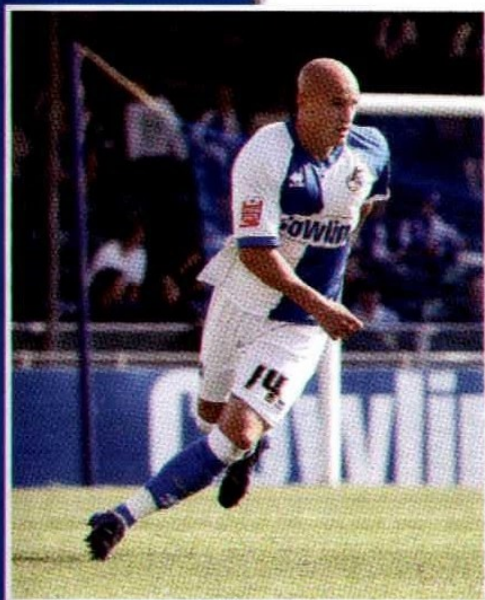
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DAVID
PIPE

Itching to be back



WHILST TWO INJURED DEFENDERS, DANNY Coles and Jo Jacobson are in line for a recall to the squad this afternoon, it seems likely that another, David Pipe, will have to spend at least another week on the sidelines.

Injured at Leicester three weeks ago, when Rovers had to use four players in the left back position, his hamstring strain has yet to heal fully, though

he has started running again.

The injury has seen him miss out on the action for the longest time in his career.

"I've never been out for more than ten days before now, and don't know whether that's down to luck or whether I've looked after myself better than other people

"Everyone knows I go into the gym on a regular basis, and that I do a lot of strengthening work, and that's helped me a lot in my career.

"After this long without playing, it's fair to say that I'm getting very frustrated now, and although I've used my time to undertake strengthening work, and improve my hamstring as much as I can, I don't want to overwork it and it's been a case of doing the right amount of work in order to and try and get back as quickly as I can.

"Unlike a knock, or any other impact injury, it's difficult to know how long a hamstring injury will take to heal. Along with sprained ankles, they are the most common injury amongst footballers, and the last thing I want to do is rush back and make it worse than it was in the first place."

Like most players, he doesn't enjoy watching games, and he could be found venting his frustrations in the stand as he watched last Friday's defeat at the hands of Scunthorpe United.

"I thought we were worthy of a draw, to be honest, though I can't say I enjoyed the experience of sitting in the stand that much!

"All you really want do is to be out there trying to help. Nevertheless, I think the boys deserved a draw. The first goal took a wicked deflection,

although I have to say I think we were at fault in a number of places for their second goal.

"It's easy to say now but if we hadn't conceded then we would have drawn, if not won, the game. While Scunthorpe were a good team, they probably weren't as good as they have been in previous games. I think we more than held our own, and it was so disappointing to lose."

Luck appeared to desert the side during the game as well, and the fortunate goal line clearance from Jeff Hughes and the free kick from Rickie Lambert that rattled the crossbar could easily have turned the game in our favour.

"The clearance from Jeff was really very fortunate. He did really well to chip the ball over their goalkeeper and just as it was about to cross the line, their defender arrived and as he slipped, the ball seemed to hit his head and was cleared. Had he not slipped, it would definitely have been a goal. When you're up there and flying high, those things happen and the luck seems to go your way.

"I think we had a number chances, and it was frustrating as they put men behind the ball and sat back at times. The more men they put behind the ball, the harder it is, and you have to break them down. I still think we created enough chances to get a draw, though."

Whilst he's been hoping that he would be fit to return for the Swindon match, it's very unlikely.

"I have to be realistic, and have to take the advice physio Phil Kite, but I'd love to be out there playing, as I think it would be the type of game I'd enjoy playing in."

Prior to his injury, he was in a good run of form, playing in the right back position, and enjoying his football.

"I think I was playing well and felt that the five games leading up to the Leicester game was probably one of my best spells since I've been here, in that I seemed to be playing consistently well in one position.

"I think my form, since joining the club has been a little bit in and out, and I've alternated between the right sided midfield role and right back, though I'm not using that as an excuse at all.

"However, I'd been able to put in a decent run of games in one position. In my own mind, it was the strongest and most confident I've felt going into games, and I think it was showing in my performances, and I hope it's not too long before I'm back in contention for a place in the team."

"IN MY OWN MIND, IT WAS THE STRONGEST AND MOST CONFIDENT I'VE FELT GOING INTO GAMES..."

PLAYER FACTS

AGE: 25

PREVIOUS CLUBS:
Coventry City,
Notts County

GAS LEAGUE
APPEARANCES:
49 + 4 sub

GAS LEAGUE GOALS:
2



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White Ribbon campaign

WHILST ALL EYES WILL BE on our players wearing the special Black Arab kit during today's match with local rivals Swindon, to celebrate our 125th anniversary, there will also be another change to usual attire; Paul Trollope and his front line staff will be wearing white ribbons to support the White Ribbon Campaign.

The White Ribbon Campaign UK is being supported by a number of football clubs and is helping to highlight International Violence Against Women Week, which begins next week.

Both Rovers and the rugby club are lending their support at other events to mark this campaign. The White Ribbon Campaign is the biggest charity worldwide of men working to end men's violence against women and is reliant on the support of volunteers and that of donations from individuals and organisations and has branches across the world, with the UK division opening in 2004. The charity's website states that: *"Wearing a white ribbon is a personal pledge never to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women. Each year, we urge men and boys to wear a ribbon for one or two weeks, starting on November 25, the International Day for the Eradication of Violence Against Women."* The organisation's main focus is on men's violence against women: *"Comparing violence committed by women and by men, the British Crime Survey notes that women are four times as likely as men to fear for their lives... The WRC is a campaign of men, aimed at men. Wearing a ribbon is a statement of MEN's opposition to violence against women."*

Many of us are probably unaware of the horrific reality of domestic abuse in the UK. I thought I was reasonably well informed, working in the charity sector myself, albeit for an organisation that supports the elderly; yet when I spoke to a friend who volunteers for the Women's Aid charity and did my own research, I was appalled at some of the statistics.

From the time you started my



Bristol Rovers and Bristol Rugby players got together to promote the White Ribbon Campaign

reading my article just now, one woman somewhere has been a victim of domestic abuse: every 6 to 20 seconds in the UK, a woman suffers an incident of abuse. By this time next week, two women will have died at the hands of a current and former partner: a woman dies every three days in this way every week in the UK. This accounts for 35% of all murders.

And one in every four women will be a victim in their lifetimes: when we consider how many female Gasheads and Robins fans there will be here at the Mem today, statistically, there will be a number who will be such victims. By the time the game kicks off today, until the referee blows up at full time, the police will have received 105 reports of domestic violence: that's one a minute. And that's just the ones that get reported: only 35% of incidences of domestic abuse are reported to the police. Then there's the fact that in 90% of incidents, there were children present in the same or next room. And every year there are 13 million separate incidents of physical violence or threats of violence against women from partners or former partners.

These findings are shocking.

One statistic that was especially disturbing was that research has shown that domestic violence increases during major sporting events, often as much as

40 per cent during football tournaments. A study last year by the Wales Domestic Abuse Helpline and Gwent Police saw that there was a significant increase of incidents of domestic abuse during the Six Nations Rugby Tournament. It is awful to think that sports we love can act as a trigger for violence and physical or mental abuse.

Tempers rise during football matches, as we all know, and frustration and anger can simmer away long after the final whistle. But for some men, that, and alcohol, will contribute to them abusing their partner. The fact that statistically, there are men here at the Mem today who could carry out such cowardly behaviour is truly sickening.

So whilst today's emphasis will be on our 125 year celebrations and whether Rovers can get all three points in a local derby, please be aware of the meaning behind the simple white ribbons being worn today and remember that football is only a game.

There are a number of sources I looked at before writing this article - they are: www.whiteribboncampaign.co.uk www.womensaid.org.uk www.refuge.org.uk www.homeoffice.gov.uk www.legalservices.gov.uk



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Students slip up

IT'S PROVING TO BE A somewhat disappointing season for our local non league teams, especially those in the Conference and Southern League.

A couple of sides are struggling to avoid relegation, while the rest seem to be stranded in mid table with little prospect of a real crack at promotion. Consequently, our ex players are not figuring much on the back pages, a possible exception being the evergreen Robbie Claridge who is still a regular goalscorer in British Gas South & West for Paulton Rovers. There he plays alongside a clutch of our former employees including Mike Trought, recently returned from a long term injury.

Team Bath have been the highlight of the season to date. Coached by Andy Tillson and Brian Parkin, they have been making all the non league headlines locally by topping the Blue Square Conference South and reaching the First Round of the FA Cup. Unfortunately things have gone a little pear shaped in the last couple of weeks for the students!

They were unlucky to exit the Cup at the hands of Forest Green Rovers, who survived what seemed a perfectly good early goal for the students being struck off before snatching a late winner at Twerton Park. The prospect of then concentrating on the league and catching up on the other title chasing sides obviously proved too much for Team Bath as they crashed 0-3 at home to Bromley who, only a week before, had also beaten landlords Bath City at their shared home. A 'baying crowd' of just 146 saw the return to league action for the Twerton tenants! The students are now 8 points adrift of leaders Chelmsford who surprisingly lost a five goal thriller at home to City, of all teams, last Saturday. At least that was in front of 1,265, the size of gate not seen for many a long day on Twerton's slopes! Still, Tillo's boys have three games in hand so perhaps we'll still see a title challenge yet.

Meanwhile the landlords are just ahead of Tony Ricketts' Weston-super-Mare in mid table and both those sides look capable of taking some points from

the other top sides to help Team Bath's promotion hopes, not that they would particularly want to do that I imagine!

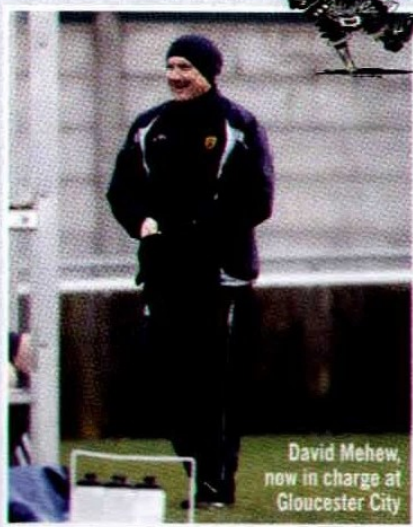
In BGB Southern Premier I had hopes for Dave Mehew's Gloucester City making a bid for the top, but the 'Tigers' were comfortably despatched by title favourites Corby Town in their temporary home at Cirencester last Saturday.

At the same time Chippenham Town, now with two of our young players Joe White and Alex Kite on extended loans, also went down by a two goal margin at leaders Farnborough, where there was another thousand plus attendance. It's interesting that both Joe and Alex are sons of former Rovers' stalwarts Steve and Phil respectively - Phil being our current physio of course. Tiverton Town, with another young Pirate James Fraser on loan, lead the full string of local sides Mangotsfield, Chippenham, Yate and Clevedon, all with ex Gasmen in their ranks, in a mid to low table struggle.

None of them seem to have much prospect of a play-off challenge and Wayne Powell's Clevedon are looking over their shoulders at the relegation battle, which includes Dave Savage's Oxford City. Still, it's 'a marathon not a sprint' and we remember what happened to Rovers two seasons ago!

There being a paucity of exciting news in local non league's upper echelons I hope you will forgive me a somewhat personal and very tenuous link to perhaps the lowest playing level at which Rovers have connections. I can't recall any former Gasman finishing up in the famous Bristol Downs League although I'm sure one or two must have and no doubt someone will remind me who did! The best known Rover to start his career on those windswept pitches, unique in the country as the entire League plays all its games at the same location, was probably Harold Jarman - 127 goals in 440+12 Rovers' appearances.

Some of you may remember a column in this programme a few seasons ago written by my youngest son Mike called 'All in the Game'. Since then Mike has graduated from college and University at Leicester and is now living back in Bristol. Mike watches

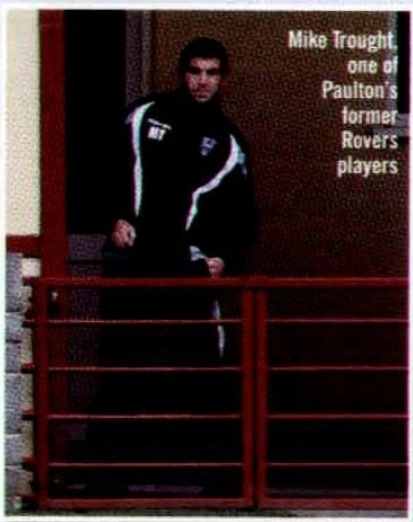


David Mehew,
now in charge at
Gloucester City

his favourite club as often as possible, but spends his Saturday afternoons playing up front for Downs title chasing Ashley FC.

Only the top four Downs teams qualify for the Gloucestershire Senior Amateur Cup and a couple of weeks ago Mike, now Ashley secretary as well as goalscorer, took his side to the Recreation Ground to face Bitton Reserves. He was disappointed not to be facing Michael Meaker, but scored an equalising goal under the Rec floodlights before his side narrowly succumbed to their much higher rated opponents in an excellent game of open, attacking football. As it was Mike's birthday yesterday and he is a former 'Pirate' contributor, (and maybe, who knows, a future one again!), I thought the editor would allow him a mention!

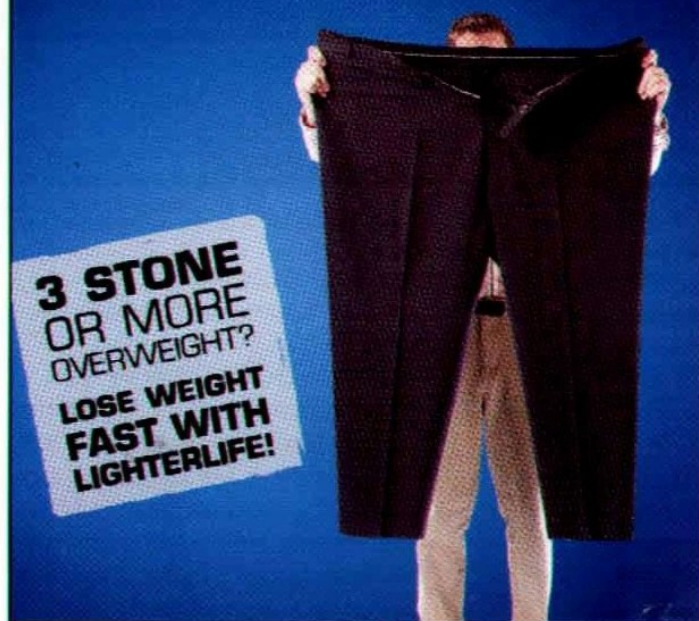
There are former Rovers men everywhere, and next Saturday provides you with a great opportunity to see a few of them in non league action. Enjoy it, wherever you go!



Mike Trought,
one of
Paulton's
former
Rovers
players

**I'm half the man
I used to be...**

...and proud of it!



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THE SKY'S THE LIMIT : keith BROOKMAN

Rovers support appeal

BRISTOL ROVERS HAVE GOT BEHIND the Evening Post's Sky's the Limit appeal to help the Great Western Air Ambulance raise the £1.3m needed to keep the helicopter flying.

The aircraft flies emergency doctors and specialist paramedics to serious incidents to provide A&E care at the scene. But the service relies on charitable donations because the NHS only pay for the paramedics and drugs that are used by the crew.

On Friday 7th November, Jeff Hughes, Rickie Lambert and Darryl Duffy went along to the Great Western Air Ambulance (GWAA) base at Filton Airport to meet the crew.

Since the helicopter was launched in June the air team has flown out to an

average of two to four jobs a day, including road accidents, falls, burns and sports injuries.

It only flies five days a week, and until there is enough money in the charity's bank account they will not be able to run their helicopter service every day.

Because they take hospital care to the scene of incidents the crew can improve people's chances of survival by starting treatment, or sedating patients and transferring them to the most appropriate hospital for their condition, either by helicopter or land ambulance.

Rickie said: "I can't believe the helicopter has to rely on charity. It can get to the scene quicker than a road ambulance and I think if everyone knew that the air ambulance has to get the



money themselves through charity they would be shocked, and I'm sure people will give what they have for the cause."

Darryl Duffy said: "It is basically a flying hospital rather than an ambulance that just picks you up and takes you to hospital. If there was a really bad car crash the helicopter could make the difference as to whether someone survives, and that means it is well worth it."

GAS BACKED TEAM IN FINAL RUN OF SUCCESS

UNFORTUNATELY THIS IS THE LAST instalment from Team 156, and the past few weeks have been pretty intense.

Most members of the team have been on work experience for a week and this has been a great chance to get a feel of real working life. We have undertaken work in various areas such as catering, childcare, administration and equine care. This was a tough, but enjoyable, challenge for everyone and we are grateful to all the companies which gave us this opportunity.

Not long after, we attended a motivational day conducted by Rod Wesson at Bristol Rovers and we all have taken something positive from this.

We have also had the opening of our community project at the Asian Day Centre in Easton. This was a great day, and was attended by many members, Rod from Bristol Rovers and dignitaries from Avon Fire & Rescue Service and Avon & Somerset Police. The ribbon was cut to the sound of drumming, there was great food and many, many speeches! It was such an enjoyable day and we all felt proud to have achieved something like this.

Since then, we have been busy organising our final project in which we have to work with a group in the community. We contacted over 20 organisations and we narrowed it down to three centres. We visited Paul's Place, a centre for disabled adults aged 18-60, and as soon as we felt the warm, friendly atmosphere we instantly knew this



was where we wanted to go. None of us had ever interacted with this particular group and we believed it was a deserving cause.

We had to plan this project by devising a daily timetable of activities and purchasing all the materials we would need. Unfortunately we were unable to plan an outing as we were restricted by time and Health & Safety regulations.

We are currently working at Paul's Place in our penultimate week and we are thoroughly enjoying our experience. We have done various activities, such as having a cake decorating competition and playing games of bingo with prizes to be won. We have also played board games, pool, skittles and boccia - a game similar to bowls, which is played in the Paralympics. We have also assisted with their play 'Acting Up' which you must go and see at the Holiday Inn, Filton on Monday 17th November - it's entertaining and it's free!

This week has been testing for us all but we have been able to draw on our past experiences on the course in order to make it a success. We have met lots of interesting people and we will remember our time here forever. Next week we will be having our presentation at The Royal Bank of Scotland where we will receive our City and Guilds Certificate in Personal, Teamwork and Community skills. We are all looking forward to this even though it will be sad to say goodbye, but we will definitely keep in touch. We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Bristol Rovers for their kind support and all the fans who have followed our progress, The Prince's Trust for this life changing experience and especially to our Team Leader, Len, for putting up with us for 12 weeks!

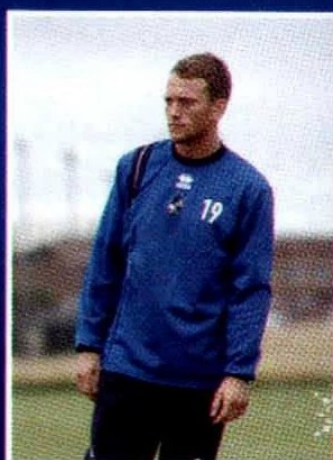
Goodbye from Team 156!

Christmas bargains!

ALL ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE AT
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GO ONLINE at www.brfcdirect.co.uk



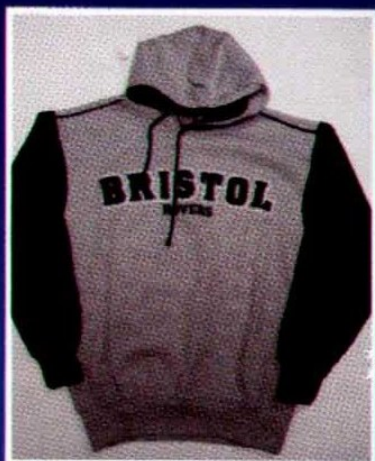
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Errea Sweat Top
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Training T.Shirt (Royal)
Child £14 Adults £18



Hooded Top
Child £19.95 Adults £26.99



BRFC Polo short-sleeved (Navy)
Adults £19.99



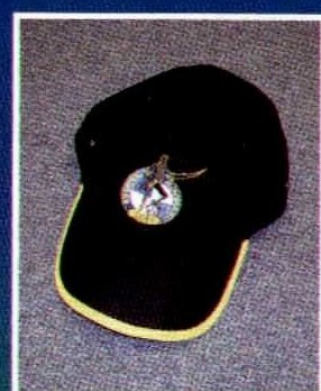
T.Shirt short-sleeved (Petrol)
Adults £15



Black Arab Scarf £6.95



Black Arab Mug £5.95



Baseball Hat
(black with yellow trim) £7.95

* Any season ticket holder producing voucher Y from their season ticket book or a supporter who produces their Swindon match voucher can receive £10 off a Child size Black Arab Shirt (available in small, medium and large child).

It's good to be back

GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME TO this afternoon's match against Swindon Town.

I hesitate to call it a 'west country derby' as some media folk might, but it's definitely a derby match as far as I am concerned.

For some reason I don't regard Rovers v Cheltenham as a derby match, even though Cheltenham is about the same distance from Bristol as Swindon, and I definitely don't regard Rovers v Yeovil as a derby either (unless Gary Johnson happens to be the opposing manager).

So what makes this a derby match when others aren't?

Doubtless you will find elsewhere in this fine, upstanding organ the history of our matches against Swindon. Or at least you would hope to, since there is not the slightest chance of finding it here!

I am assuming we have been playing 'The Robins' for several hundred years and a deep and profound rivalry has evolved.

Perhaps it started in the golden age of steam railways and supporters speculated as to which city had the finest railway yards and maybe the arguments continue now as to who has the best shopping centre: is it Cabot Circus or the niftily named Swindon Designer Outlet?

Or maybe it's just that we've got two relatively local football teams whose fans like to make an awful lot of noise when we play each other? The fact that today's visitors play in red and are called 'The Robins' could also have a lot to do with it!

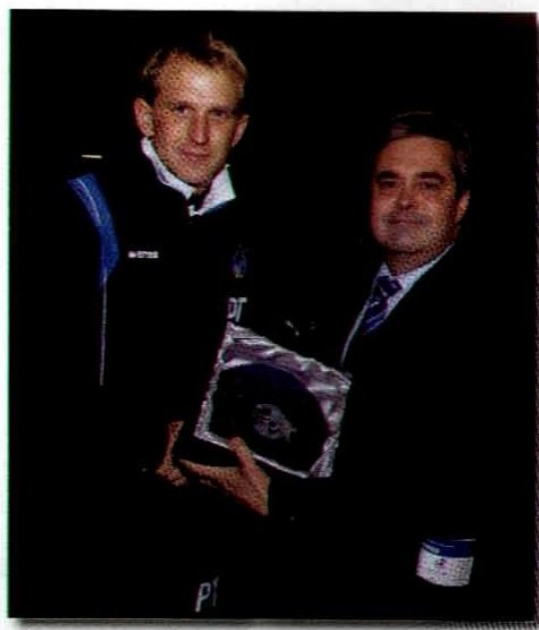
As someone of more mature years, my earliest memories of Swindon revolve around two players; John Trollope and Don Rogers.

The more observant among you may have noted the name 'Trollope' leaping out from the page and of course John, MBE, is the father of our first team coach Paul.

He must have been some player since he played some 770 games for his only club, but I only remember seeing him on the telly. This must have been because, for many years in my dim and

distant past, Swindon were usually a division higher than Rovers. How times change! (Sorry, visiting Swindon fans!)

Perhaps it's a coincidence, but that great belief in loyalty appears to have been passed to the next generation of Trollope here at Rovers where, thanks to Paul, many of our players have remained at the club for long periods and have signed up to stay even longer. That sort of thing matters to your average punter and the players who play the best and stay the longest usually remain heroes for longer too.



Paul Trollope receives a special award from Chairman Nick Higgs in recognition of winning the Manager of the Month Award for October

But, at the risk of incurring a banning order from the Memorial Stadium, I was always more of a Don Rogers man than a John Trollope fan.

Whilst John embodied all the qualities a callow youth could not hope to understand, Don Rogers was everything I wanted to be. A clever jinking winger, who memorably, scored two goals in the 1969 League Cup Final, against a star studded Arsenal at Wembley Stadium. I hasten to add that I was far too young to remember the actual game but I have since seen the goals in numerous football shows over the years (if you believe that, you'll believe anything).

Rogers later grew an alarming 'Jason

King' moustache, as we used to call them, which rather spoiled the image for me.

In fact, Rogers is still so much loved by the Swindon faithful, he even has a stand named after him. This is something that happens with heroes of many clubs. Swindon visit at the worst possible time for Rovers because we are enduring the curse of the 'Manager of the Month' award (why can't they let our man be 'First Team Coach' of the month, instead?) and they have recently axed their manager 'by mutual consent' as

they say these days. We all know what's going to happen, don't we?

Ah, but we reckoned without the effects of the 'local derby' which of course means that 'form goes out of the window' for 90 minutes today.

So we're going to lose because 'Trolls' was chosen as 'Manager of the Month' and because Swindon have sacked their manager, but we might not because it's a local derby. I hope that's clear enough for you all and, hopefully, good football and not superstition will be the ultimate arbiter of today's game.

I mentioned before how Rovers v Yeovil Town was not really a local derby, but four years ago it certainly felt like one when on a chilly October evening nine man Rovers made an astonishing comeback from two goals down to draw 2-2.

Now obviously the players had a fair bit to do with that epic evening but our supporters got behind the team like never before when the game was all but lost.

And looking back, it's good to see that some of the Rovers players who fought for the shirt that night are still here at the Memorial Stadium.

Stuart Campbell and Craig Hinton came from the bench (although Craig Disley didn't) to help us save the game and astonishingly almost win it. It's a funny old game, as Steve Elliott didn't remark as he headed for an early bath.

Loyal servants, local derby.

Old fashioned virtues but who's complaining?

Come on you blues! It's good to be back!

BRISTOL ROVERS 2 OLDHAM ATHLETIC 1



THEY SAID WHAT?:

**"WE HAD A
BIT OF LUCK
AT TIMES,
BUT WE WERE
DISAPPOINTED
NOT TO SCORE
MORE ON THE
COUNTER
ATTACK"**

Rovers First Team Coach
PAUL TROLLOPE

**"WE NEED TO
DO BETTER, BUT
IN THE SECOND
HALF WE
ABSOLUTELY
DOMINATED
THE GAME AND
ON ANOTHER
DAY WE WOULD
HAVE SCORED
TWO OR THREE
GOALS"**

OLDHAM BOSS
JOHN SHERIDAN



Jo Kuffour races clear

TWO FIRST HALF GOALS WERE enough to beat a very good Oldham side, who exerted a great deal of pressure in the second half in an attempt to take something from this game.

In a frantic opening Danny Whitaker twice went close to scoring, but his first effort was blocked and the second flew wide of the upright.

Rickie Lambert then saw his free kick saved by Mark Crossley, but it wasn't long before he beat the veteran keeper with a stunning strike. Picking up the ball some 35 yards from goal he turned and unleashed a stunning low shot into the corner of the net.

At the other end Steve Phillips did well to touch a shot from Chris Taylor over the bar, and the same player hit another effort over the top before Chris Lines doubled Rovers advantage.

Lambert flicked on Stuart Campbell's corner to the back post, where Lines was on hand to volley home from close range.

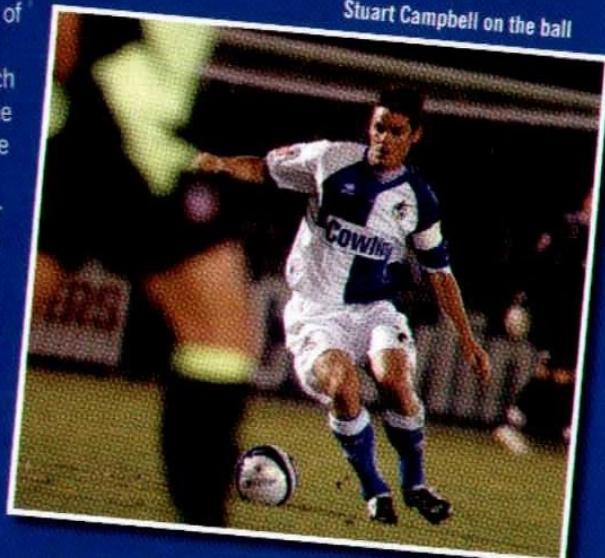
Six minutes into the second half Phillips made a superb save from Reuben Hazell to deny Oldham a goal, and shortly afterwards Campbell cleared off the line following a goalmouth scramble.

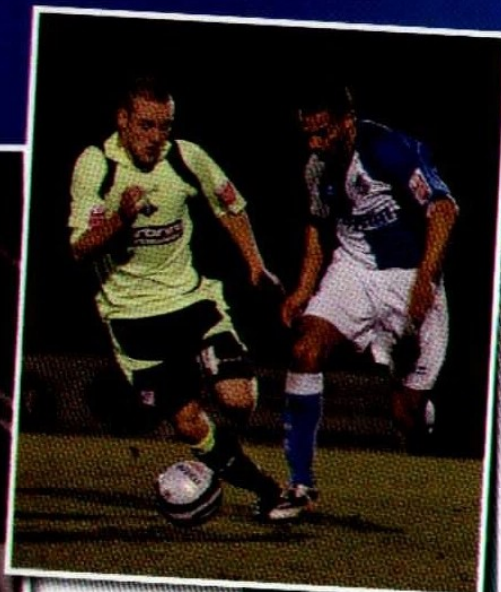
Rovers did manage to break out, and Crossley prevented a third goal when he dived to smother the ball at the feet of Craig Disley.

Substitute Jo Kuffour hit a 25 yard effort wide of the target before Oldham exerted more pressure on Rovers back line. There was no way through, though, as both Byron Anthony and Craig Hinton repelled further shooting opportunities by Lewis Alessandra and Whitaker.

Lines just cleared the bar with a 20 yard shot before Hazell missed a golden opportunity to pull a goal back for his side when he headed wide with the goal at his mercy and Rovers held out to win a hugely entertaining game.

Stuart Campbell on the ball





Above: Aaron Lescott takes on Dean Smalley

Left: Rickie Lambert gets in a cross

REFEREE: Fred Graham

GAS GOALSCORERS: Lambert (16), Lines (35)

GAS MAN OF THE MATCH: Craig Hinton

OLDHAM MAN OF THE MATCH: Danny Whitaker

GAS CONNECTIONS: None that I'm aware of

ATTENDANCE: 6,379

OPPOSITION FANS: 230

ACTUAL TIME PLAYED: 96 minutes

MATCHFACTS...

	Rovers	Oldham Athletic
Shots on target	7	5
Shots off target	4	9
Corners	6	10
Fouls conceded	15	14
Offside	4	1

BRISTOL ROVERS

- 1 Steve Phillips
- 14 David Pipe
- 5 Craig Hinton
- 15 Byron Anthony
- 32 Aaron Lescott
- 4 Chris Lines
- 7 Stuart Campbell
- 20 Craig Disley
- 11 Jeff Hughes
- 9 Rickie Lambert
- 10 Darryl Duffy

Substitutes

- 3 Joe Jacobson 3 (73)
- 13 Mike Green
- 17 Jo Kuffour 10 (64)
- 18 Ben Hunt
- 29 Josh Klein-Davies

OLDHAM ATHLETIC

- 1 Mark Crossley
- 12 Kelvin Lomax
- 14 Reuben Hazell
- 16 Sean Grogan
- 21 Danny Jones
- 24 Deane Smalley
- 8 Mark Allott
- 7 Danny Whitaker
- 18 Chris Taylor
- 28 Brett Ormerod
- 9 Lee Hughes

Substitutes

- 2 Neil Eardley
- 10 Craig Davies 12 (80)
- 13 Greg Fleming
- 15 Kevin Maher
- 25 Lewis Alessandra 28 (66)

Chris Lines shields the ball from Danny Whitaker



BRISTOL ROVERS SOUTHEND UNITED

4
2



THEY SAID WHAT?:

**"AT HALF TIME
I TOLD RICKIE
TO GO OUT AND
GET FOUR OR
FIVE. I THOUGHT
HE WAS
CAPABLE OF
THAT THE WAY
HE'S PLAYING."**

Rovers First Team Coach
PAUL TROLLOPE

**"LAMBERT
WAS THE MAN
WE HAD TO
KEEP QUIET...
AND WE FAILED.
AT LEAST WE
SHOWED A BIT
OF CHARACTER
IN THE MANNER
WE CAME
BACK."**

Southend boss
STEVE TILSON

**"I'VE NEVER
SCORED FOUR IN
A GAME BEFORE
AND CAN'T
QUITE BELIEVE
IT. AS A SIDE
WE ARE VERY
CONFIDENT AT
THE MOMENT."**

RICKIE LAMBERT



Rickie Lambert heads home his first goal of the match

RICKIE LAMBERT GRABBED THE HEADLINES, and the Man of the Match Awards, for his four goals, but this was a fine team performance by Rovers who completely outplayed Southend for the first hour of the game.

Lambert's first of the afternoon came when he met a right wing corner from Stuart Campbell and the striker could have added a second had goalkeeper Adam Federici not denied him with a fine save.

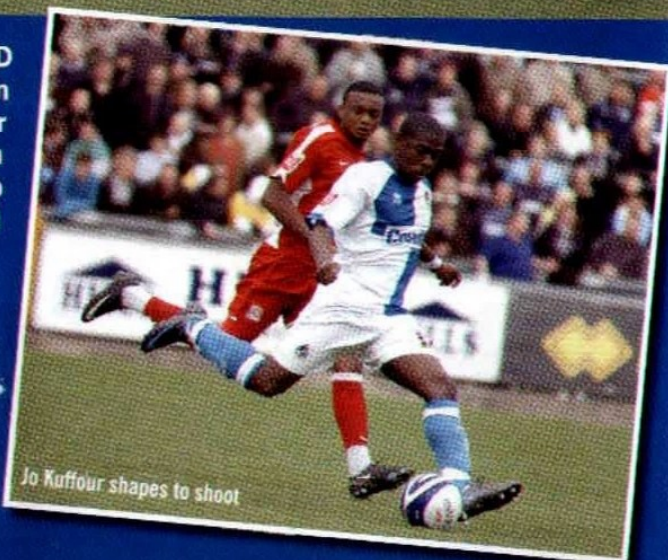
Jo Kuffour also went close before Lambert struck again, sweeping home a low cross from David Pipe from twelve yards out.

Lambert's hat trick arrived in the 33rd minute when Kuffour's neat footwork saw him cross to the striker, who headed home past the hapless Federici.

Craig Disley and Chris Lines went close before the break as Rovers threatened to score every time they attacked, but they had to be content with a three goal lead at the break.

Lambert didn't have long to wait for his, and Rovers, fourth when he headed home Campbell's free kick from the right.

A triple substitution livened up a lacklustre Southend side and two goals inside three minutes



Jo Kuffour shapes to shoot

gave them some hope of an unlikely fightback. The first came following a superb save from Steve Phillips who dived to his left to touch away Alex Revell's header. However the ball travelled only as far as Peter Clarke who ran the ball in from close range.

The second arrived when substitute Francis Laurent found the back of the net from Hal Robson-Kanu's cross, but that was as good as it got for Steve Tilson's side and

Joe Jacobson, Darryl Duffy and Disley all went close to adding to Rovers goal tally before the final whistle arrived.

Craig Hinton
heads clear



Darryl Duffy in the thick of the action



MATCHFACTS...

	Rovers	Southend
Shots on target	13	3
Shots off target	7	4
Corners	4	8
Fouls conceded	13	15
Offside	1	2

REFEREE: Karl Evans

GAS GOALSCORER: Lambert (10, 16, 33, 55)

SOUTHEND GOALSCORERS: Clarke (72), Laurent (75)

GAS MAN OF THE MATCH: Rickie Lambert

SOUTHEND MAN OF THE MATCH: Simon Francis

GAS CONNECTIONS: Southend's Adam Barrett, James Walker and kitman Steve Parmenter are all former Rovers players

ATTENDANCE: 7,055 **OPPOSITION FANS:** 461

ACTUAL TIME PLAYED: 97 minutes

BRISTOL ROVERS

- 1 Steve Phillips
- 14 David Pipe
- 5 Craig Hinton
- 15 Byron Anthony
- 32 Aaron Lescott
- 4 Chris Lines
- 7 Stuart Campbell
- 20 Craig Disley
- 11 Jeff Hughes
- 9 Rickie Lambert
- 17 Jo Kuffour

Substitutes

- 2 Ryan Green
- 3 Joe Jacobson 11 (76)
- 10 Darryl Duffy 17 (76)
- 13 Mike Green
- 18 Ben Hunt

SOUTHEND UNITED

- 32 Adam Federici
- 15 Osei Sankofa
- 5 Peter Clarke
- 6 Adam Barrett
- 2 Simon Francis
- 21 Kevin Betsy
- 20 Jean-Francois Christophe
- 8 Alan McCormack
- 17 Hal Robson-Kanu
- 10 James Walker
- 11 Alex Revell

Substitutes

- 7 Anthony Grant 8 (63)
- 12 Damian Scannell 21 (63)
- 24 Ian Joyce
- 26 Francis Laurent 10 (63)
- 30 Stuart O'Keefe

In case you'd forgotten,
Rickie scored all four goals!



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your chance to win a
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Joe Jacobson, pictured with Presidents Club representatives, collecting the Man of the Match Award on behalf of Stuart Campbell

TODAY'S MATCH NOT ONLY BRINGS together two local rival clubs, but two of the country's leading goalscorers.

Rickie Lambert and Simon Cox have scored half of their respective teams goals so far this season. So, with two strikers in such good form, will we see a high scoring match?

It's interesting to note that Paul Trollope was appointed as manager of the Gas in September 2005, the same week as Iffy Onuora became the Robins manager, but whilst Paul is still here the Robins are looking for their eighth manager since then.

No doubt the Robins players will be out to impress whoever will be taking over and, hopefully, we will see a match of great passion and good goals.

Following today's match there will be another 200 Club draw.

Come to the Cabaret

THE HELPLINE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CABARET will take place on **December 7th** here at the **Memorial Stadium**, starting at **7.30pm**.

We have a very good line up which will be headed by Quo Incidence, a Status Quo tribute band, ably backed up by Milli Munro with her tribute to Diana Ross.

Regular visitors to the Helpline event will know that we always try to get good value for them to enjoy in the run up to Christmas and this year is no exception. Both acts come highly recommended so we expect to start the festive season off with a bang, some might say literally, with Status Quo songs!

We are hoping for a good attendance from players, staff and directors.

Helpline members can get their free tickets from the Helpline office but extra tickets cost £7.50.

If you are not a member of Helpline now is the time to join. Ring Kate on **01454321191** or contact us at helpline@bristolrovers.co.uk

First Team Squad 2008/09

PLAYER	No.	BIRTHDATE	SEE NOTES	ROVERS CAREER										Prev Club
				League					Cup					
				Total	Apps	+Sub	Goals	Ratio	Apps	+Sub	Goals	Ratio		
Byron ANTHONY	15	20/09/1984		67	49	5	1	13	-	2	1: 21.78	Cardiff C		
Stuart CAMPBELL	7	09/12/1977		208	150	18	2	38	2	-	1: 100.70	Grimsby		
Charlie CLOUGH	31	03/09/1990	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-			
Danny COLES	16	31/10/1981		35	29	-	2	6	-	2	1: 8.75	Hull City		
Craig DISLEY	20	24/08/1981		211	153	22	22	34	2	5	1: 7.52	Mansf'd		
Daryl DUFFY	10	16/04/1984		19	12	4	3	2	1	-	1: 5.78	Swansea C		
Steve ELLIOTT	6	29/10/1978		201	167	1	15	32	1	-	1: 13.36	Blackpool		
Ryan GREEN	2	20/10/1980		61	45	6	-	9	1	-	-	Sheffield Wed		
Matt GROVES	27	11/12/1988	2	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-			
Lewis HALDANE	26	13/03/1985	3	173	90	57	15	13	13	2	1: 8.82			
Craig HINTON	5	26/11/1977		174	123	17	3	31	3	3	1: 27.90	Kidd'r		
Jeff HUGHES	11	29/05/1985		18	15	-	2	3	-	-	1: 9.00	Crystal Pal		
Ben HUNT	18	23/01/1990		9	-	7	-	-	2	-	-	West Ham		
Joe JACOBSON	3	17/11/1986		64	43	12	1	8	1	-	1: 59.71	Cardiff C		
Josh KLEIN-DAVIES	29	06/07/1989		10	2	8	1	-	-	-	1: 7.36			
Joe Osei KUFFOUR	17	17/11/1981		12	4	7	2	1	-	-	1: 4.85	Bournemouth		
Rickie LAMBERT	9	16/02/1982		122	86	12	37	22	2	7	1: 2.67	Rochdale		
Aaron LESCOTT	32	02/12/1978		188	147	8	-	31	2	-	-	Stockport Co		
Chris LINES	4	30/11/1985		67	46	8	5	10	3	-	1: 12.67			
Tom PARRINELLO	21	11/11/1989		1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-			
Steve PHILLIPS	1	06/05/1978		132	108	-	-	26	-	-	-	Bristol City		
David PIPE	14	05/11/1983		66	51	4	2	11	-	-	1: 32.34	Notts County		
Charles REECE	30	08/09/1988		1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-			
Sean RIGG	19	04/02/1988	6	64	15	35	2	3	11	-	1: 24.41			
Richard WALKER		08/11/1977	4	173	116	27	46	22	8	12	1: 2.78	Blackpool		
Andrew WILLIAMS	8	14/08/1986	5	57	19	26	5	9	3	2	1: 5.76	Hereford		

NOTES:

NOTES:

1. On loan to Mangotsfield
2. On loan to Tiverton
3. On loan to Oxford Utd
4. On loan to Shrewsbury
5. On loan to Hereford Utd
6. On loan to Grays Athletic

Best/Worst vs The Robins

Biggest Home Win	5 - 0	25-Mar-39
Biggest Home Defeat	1 - 4	29-Dec-28
Biggest Away Win	1 - 5	27-Aug-84
Biggest Away Defeat	5 - 2	06-Mar-82

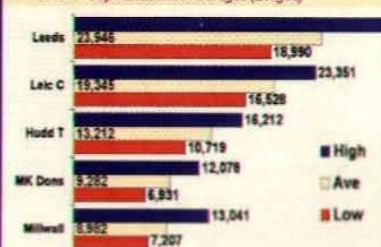
League 2 Hotshots 2008-9

Lambert, R	Bristol R	---	16
Beckford, J	Leeds	---	15
Cox, S	Swindon	---	15
Fryatt, M	Leic C	---	15

Last 8 Home and Away clashes with The Robins

F - A	Home	A - F	Away
0 - 1	22-Apr-08 League 1	1 - 0	24-Nov-07 League 1
1 - 0	28-Apr-07 League 2	2 - 1	16-Dec-06 League 2
0 - 0	24-Mar-01 Div 2	1 - 3	21-Oct-00 Div 2
1 - 4	16-Sep-05 Div 2	2 - 1	24-Feb-06 Div 2
3 - 4	19-Aug-02 Div 1	2 - 2	12-Sep-02 Div 1
1 - 1	12-Apr-02 Div 2 (old)	0 - 2	13-Oct-00 Div 2 (old)
2 - 1	20-Mar-01 Div 2 (old)	1 - 2	04-Nov-00 Div 3 (old)
3 - 4	11-Apr-87 Div 3 (old)	1 - 5	27-Aug-84 League Cup

Top Attendance Averages (League)



Match Stats



KEY

PLAYED: Number indicates goals scored
S indicates player was substituted
Booked Sent off

USED SUBSTITUTE:
Number indicates player replaced
Booked Sent off

All Saturday matches
KO 3.00pm unless stated.

All evening matches
KO 7.45pm unless stated.

FAC = FA Cup
CC = Carling Cup
JPT = Johnstone's Paint Trophy

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES

	CC App	CC Goals	Cup App	Cup Goals	Total App	Total Goals
Byron Anthony	10(1)		3		13(1)	
Stuart Campbell	16		3		19	
Danny Coles	5	1			5	1
Craig Disley	15(1)		3		18(1)	
Darryl Duffy	12(4)	3	2(1)		14(5)	3
Steve Elliott	10	2	2		12	2
Mike Green						
Ryan Green	4(2)		2		6(2)	
Liam Harwood						
Craig Hinton	7(5)	1	1(1)		8(6)	1
Jeff Hughes	15	2	3		18	2
Ben Hunt	0(7)		0(2)		0(9)	
Joe Jacobson	0(4)				0(4)	
Josh Klein-Davies						
Jo Kuffour	4(7)	2	1		5(7)	2
Rickie Lambert	16	16	3		19	16
Aaron Lescott	16		3		19	
Chris Lines	16	2	3		19	3
Tom Parrinello						
Steve Phillips	16		3		19	
David Pipe	14(1)		1		15(1)	
Charlie Reece						
Sean Rigg	0(2)		0(2)		0(4)	
Andy Williams	0(4)	1	0(1)		0(5)	1

DIVISION ONE - LEAGUE TABLE 2008/09

POS	NAME	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Scunthorpe	16	10	3	3	32	20	12	33
2	Leicester City	16	9	5	2	27	14	13	32
3	Millwall	16	10	2	4	26	21	5	32
4	MK Dons	16	10	1	5	31	17	14	31
5	Peterborough	16	8	5	3	29	17	12	29
6	Leeds United	16	9	2	5	27	19	8	29
7	Oldham	16	8	4	4	29	19	10	28
8	Southend	16	7	5	4	27	26	1	26
9	Stockport	16	6	7	3	20	14	6	25
10	Walsall	15	7	3	5	25	21	4	24
11	Tranmere	16	7	3	6	24	22	2	24
12	Hartlepool	16	7	2	7	27	25	2	23
13	Bristol Rovers	16	5	5	6	31	27	4	20
14	Huddersfield	16	5	5	6	24	29	-5	20
15	Brighton	16	4	7	5	21	23	-2	19
16	Northampton	15	4	5	6	20	21	-1	17
17	Swindon Town	15	4	5	6	24	28	-4	17
18	Carlisle	16	5	2	9	23	31	-8	17
19	Leyton Orient	16	4	4	8	13	22	-9	16
20	Colchester	15	4	3	8	25	29	-4	15
21	Yeovil Town	16	3	6	7	14	24	-10	15
22	Hereford	16	3	3	10	11	23	-12	12
23	Cheltenham	16	3	2	11	19	40	-21	11
24	Crewe	16	2	3	11	20	37	-17	9

Date	Day	Opponents	F-A	Result	H Att	A Att	Pos	Referee
AUG 9	SAT	CARLISLE UNITED	H	2-3	8,285	591	16	R. East
AUG 12	TUE	WATFORD CC Rd 1	A	0-1	5,574	213	16	D. Whitehouse
AUG 16	SAT	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	A	1-1	6,210	349	20	T. Kettle
AUG 23	SAT	HEREFORD UNITED	H	6-1	6,735	588	8	A. Hall
AUG 30	SAT	LEEDS UNITED	A	2-2	21,046	1,224	11	K. Wright
SEP 2	TUE	AFC BOURNEMOUTH JPT Rd 1	A	0-3	2,220	197	11	S. Hooper
SEP 6	SAT	PETERBOROUGH UNITED ko 12.15pm	A	4-5	4,876	301	15	A. D'Urso
SEP 13	SAT	WALSALL	H	1-3	6,609	274	19	M. Russell
SEP 16	TUE	CHELTHAM TOWN	A	1-2	4,546	1,418	21	S. Bratt
SEP 20	SAT	YEOVIL TOWN	A	2-2	5,748	1,205	19	R. Shoebridge
SEP 27	SAT	CREWE ALEXANDRA	H	0-0	5,870	183	19	R. Beeby
OCT 4	SAT	COLCHESTER UNITED	A	1-0	4,811	385	15	J. Singh
OCT 11	SAT	LEYTON ORIENT	H	2-1	6,425	274	11	K. Woolmer
OCT 18	SAT	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	A	1-1	13,779	323	13	M. Oliver
OCT 21	TUE	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	H	2-0	6,379	230	12	F. Graham
OCT 25	SAT	SOUTHEND UNITED	H	4-2	7,055	461	11	K. Evans
NOV 1	SAT	LEICESTER CITY	A	1-2	18,941	2,484	13	D. Deadman
NOV 8	SAT	AFC BOURNEMOUTH FAC Rd 1	A	0-1	3,935	381	13	C. Penton
NOV 14	FRI	SCUNTHORPE UNITED	H	1-2	7,173	216	13	D. Whitehouse
NOV 22	SAT	SWINDON TOWN	H					
NOV 25	TUE	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	A					
DEC 6	SAT	MILLWALL	A					
DEC 13	SAT	TRANMERE ROVERS	H					
DEC 20	SAT	STOCKPORT COUNTY	A					
DEC 26	FRI	MILTON KEYNES DONS ko 1.00pm	H					
DEC 28	SUN	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	A					
JAN 3	SAT	CREWE ALEXANDRA	A					
JAN 10	SAT	YEOVIL TOWN	H					
JAN 17	SAT	LEYTON ORIENT	A					
JAN 24	SAT	COLCHESTER UNITED	H					
JAN 27	TUE	CHELTHAM TOWN	H					
JAN 31	SAT	SOUTHEND UNITED	A					
FEB 3	TUE	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	A					
FEB 7	SAT	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	H					
FEB 14	SAT	SCUNTHORPE UNITED	A					
FEB 21	SAT	LEICESTER CITY	H					
FEB 28	SAT	CARLISLE UNITED	A					
MAR 3	TUE	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	H					
MAR 7	SAT	LEEDS UNITED	H					
MAR 10	TUE	HEREFORD UNITED	A					
MAR 14	SAT	WALSALL	A					
MAR 21	SAT	PETERBOROUGH UNITED	H					
MAR 28	SAT	STOCKPORT COUNTY	H					
APR 5	SUN	TRANMERE ROVERS	A					
APR 10	FRI	NORTHAMPTON TOWN ko 3.00pm	H					
APR 13	MON	MILTON KEYNES DONS	A					
APR 18	SAT	MILLWALL	H					
APR 25	SAT	SWINDON TOWN	A					
MAY 2	SAT	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	H					

¹ v Peterborough - Plus one own goal

HARTLEPOOLUNITED

**AT VICTORIA PARK : COCA COLA LEAGUE ONE
TUESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2008 : KO 7.45PM**



**FOLLOWING CONSECUTIVE
HOME MATCHES AGAINST
Scunthorpe and Swindon, a
mammoth 550 mile round
trip to Hartlepool follows
in our next away fixture.**

Suffice to say this is the furthest league match on the calendar for the 2008/09 season and, although a sizeable distance to travel, this has certainly been a memorable contest in the past. Who can forget Rovers' brilliant last gasp 2-1 win against The Pool just a couple of seasons ago, propelling the Gas into the League Two play offs.

To get to the ground, from the A19 take the A689 signposted Hartlepool. Follow the signage directing you to the town centre and eventually you should see Hartlepool College on your right. Continue forward and the next left will take you to Victoria Park, where you will

find a good size car park at the stadium, as well as plenty of street parking in the surrounding roads behind the away terracing. Rail users will be pleased to know that Hartlepool train station is a mere 10 minute walk from the ground.

In terms of local amenities, there are several places to frequent near the stadium. The Jackson's Wharf pub is a short walk away (opposite the nearby Asda store) with real ale and food on offer. Just a few minutes from Victoria Park you will also find The Raglan Club, situated to the rear of the away end. The Corner Flag Supporters Bar is conveniently part of the ground itself, and away fans are welcome. Plenty of choice is on offer, and you could even venture into the town centre, which is just south of the stadium and home to a multitude of pubs, restaurants and shops

**HARTLEPOOL UNITED
VICTORIA PARK
CLARENCE ROAD
HARTLEPOOL
TS24 5BZ**

Estimated time by car: 5 hours

Supporters Club coaches leave Kingswood at 11.00am, Eastville at 11.15am and the Memorial Stadium at 11.30am.

Coach Fare: £30.00

Tickets (All Seats)

Adults: £20.00

Concessions: £10.00

Programme: £2.50

MILLWALL

**AT THE NEW DEN : COCA COLA LEAGUE ONE
SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2008 : KO 3.00PM**



**ROVERS FIND THEMSELVES
NEXT ON their travels away to
Millwall, as the Gas descend
on London for this challenging
League One fixture.**

The Lions have enjoyed a decent start to the season thus far, currently flying high in third place and just a point off of the top spot. Rovers have a decent record against them, however, completing a league double against them last season.

The 20,000 all seater venue for the match can be found by taking the A2 to New Cross, and then by following signs for Surrey Quays into Kender Street. Turn left into Old Kent Road and then a right at the turning signposted 'car pound', into Ilderton Road. Keep count of the turnings, and you will find Zampa Road is the seventh on the right!

Unfortunately, there are no parking facilities at the ground or any sizeable car parks in the surrounding area, so if you have travelled by car it would be best to try on street parking in the small estate just past the ground. Perhaps a better option in this instance would be to travel by coach or, failing that, South Bermondsey train station is just a five minute walk away from the stadium (a walkway link is also available on match days for away fans)

For refreshments prior to kick off, there are bars located around the ground itself and some hot food is also on offer. Alternatively, if you arrive early and have some time on your hands, the London Bridge area has plenty of places to grab a drink or bite to eat before moving on to The Den.

**MILLWALL FC
THE DEN
ZAMPA ROAD
LONDON
SE16 3LN**

Estimated time by car: 2 hrs 35 mins

Supporters Club coaches leave Horfield and Kingswood at 9.30am and Eastville at 9.45am.

Coach Fare: £18.50

Tickets (All Seats)

Adults: £20.00

65+: £13.00

U-16's: £11.00

U-12's: £8.00

Programme: £3.00

Chris Lines pictured in action against Swindon Town on their last visit to the Memorial Stadium, on 22nd April this year. The Robins returned home with a 1-0 win under their belts, courtesy of a Simon Cox goal.



Tranmere Rovers

AFTER TWO AWAY TRIPS AND a free FA Cup weekend we will return to home action in three weeks to welcome Ronnie Moore's Tranmere Rovers.

The 1-1 draw here in February was Rovers first visit to the blue side of Bristol for fifteen years and they will return with many of the same players this time. Welsh international goalkeeper Danny Coyne is considered by his manager as the best in the division so his continued selection is practically guaranteed as is Jamaican international centre back Ian Goodison.

Ian's regular central defensive partner this term has been former Arsenal trainee Ben Chorley who sat the whole match through on the bench in February as Anthony Kay was preferred in his place and responded by heading the visitors

ahead with quarter of an hour to go. Now Kay has been pushed forward into midfield where he has formed an ever present partnership with Young Player of the Year Steve Jennings. That partnership is due to take a break following a red card for Jennings last Saturday but his punishment will probably be completed in time to line up at the Mem.

Tranmere's leading scorer for the past three seasons Chris Greenacre and manager's son Ian Moore started the game in attack last time but in the summer former Ashton Gate free transfer Bas Savage was recruited from Millwall and has become the leading marksman so far. Bas will be expecting to ride the banter that last time was reserved for on loan Jennison Myrie-Williams.

NEXT UP...

ON THE ROAD
HARTLEPOOL UNITED
Tuesday 25th November 2008
Kick off 7.45pm

MILLWALL
Saturday 6th December 2008
Kick off 3.00pm

AT THE MEM
TRANMERE ROVERS
Saturday 13th December 2008
Kick off 3.00pm

TODAY'S OTHER FIXTURES

DIVISION ONE

Brighton & Hove Albion	v	Huddersfield Town
Carlisle United	v	Cheltenham Town
Crewe Alexandra	v	Stockport County
Hereford United	v	Northampton Town
Leeds United	v	Hartlepool United
Leyton Orient	v	Millwall
Peterborough United	v	Colchester United
Scunthorpe United	v	Leicester City
Southend	v	Oldham Athletic
Walsall	v	Milton Keynes Dons
Yeovil Town	v	Tranmere Rovers

The Teams



Bristol Rovers

First Team Coach **PAUL TROLLOPE**

1	Steve PHILLIPS (GK)	
2	Ryan GREEN	
3	Joe JACOBSON	
4	Chris LINES	
5	Craig HINTON	
6	Steve ELLIOTT	
7	Stuart CAMPBELL	
8	Andy WILLIAMS†	
9	Rickie LAMBERT	
10	Darryl DUFFY	
11	Jeff HUGHES	
12	GASHEADS	
13	Mike GREEN (GK)	
14	David PIPE	
15	Byron ANTHONY	
16	Danny COLES	
17	Jo KUFFOUR	
18	Ben HUNT	
19	Sean RIGG	
20	Craig DISLEY	
21	Tom PARRINELLO	
22	Joe WHITE°	
23	Ben SWALLOW	
24	Alex KITE°	
25	James TYRELL	
26	Lewis HALDANE*	
27	Matt GROVES	
28	Adam MAHDI	
29	Josh KLEIN-DAVIES	
30	Charlie REECE	
31	Charlie CLOUGH	
32	Aaron LESCOTT	
33	Liam HARWOOD	
34	James FRASER◇	
35	Richard WALKER‡	



Swindon Town

Caretaker Manager **DAVID BYRNE**

1	Phil SMITH (GK)	
2	Jack SMITH	
3	Jamie VINCENT	
4	Michael TIMLIN	
5	Jerel IFIL	
6	Hasney ALJOFREE	
8	Craig EASTON	
9	Barry CORR	
10	Jon-Paul McGOVERN	
11	Anthony McNAMEE	
12	Peter BREZOVAN (GK)	
14	Patrick KANYUKA	
15	Kevin AMANKWAAH	
16	Yinka CASAL	
17	Lilian NALIS	
18	Mark MARSHALL	
19	Michael POOK	
20	Billy PAYNTER	
21	Blair STURROCK	
23	Ben JOYCE	
24	Chris ALLEN	
25	Sean MORRISON	
30	Callum KENNEDY	
31	Simon COX	
32	Lee PEACOCK	

MATCH OFFICIALS



REFEREE
Mr Keith STROUD
Hampshire



ASSISTANT REFEREE 1
Mr Mike CAIRNS
Somerset



ASSISTANT REFEREE 2
Mr Stephen CHILDS
Kent



FOURTH OFFICIAL
Mr Phil GIBBS
West Midlands



Bristol Rovers Welcomes Today's Sponsors

MATCH SPONSOR:
BRUNEL PROFESSIONAL RISKS

MATCHBALL SPONSOR:
JCW

PROGRAMME SPONSOR:
BSCL

BOX NETS SPONSOR:
ROGERS & TOWNSEND
DECORATORS 01793 827629



top dog for music dvd games



† On loan to Hereford United
° On loan to Chippenham Town
* On loan to Oxford United
◇ On loan to Tiverton Town
‡ On loan to Shrewsbury Town

COVER SHOT:
Joe Jacobson, pictured wearing a Black Arab Commemorative shirt that the side will wear this afternoon, as we celebrate the 125th anniversary of our club

