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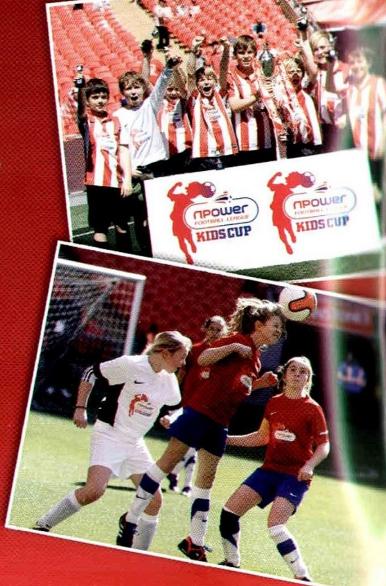


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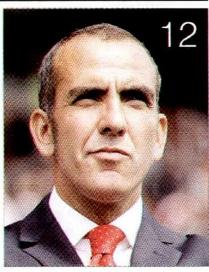
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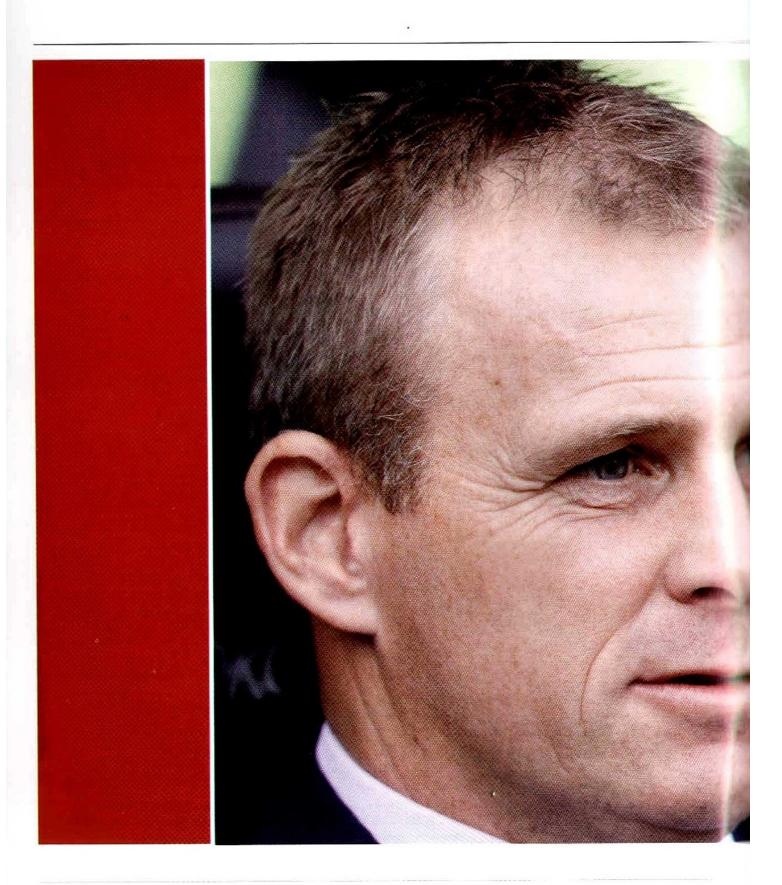
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#### GARY.

## SMITH

Welcome to Paulo Di Canio and his Swindon side for what promises to be another entertaining fixture at The Lamex Stadium.

I'm very pleased with how this week has gone so far with an away victory against MK Dons last weekend followed by the home victory against Portsmouth - two teams that I'm sure will be challenging at the top of the table come next April.

It is always difficult after a first defeat and you need to try and work out what the response will be when you have plenty of new players and new personalities in the group, but I'm absolutely delighted that after a difficult encounter at Colchester, and our first loss on the board, that we've been able to come back with two good victories.'

The away result at MK is one that I don't suspect will happen too often to MK. They're a very good home side and a good footballing team: they've got a fantastic home record so we should be extremely pleased about those three points.

The home fixture on Tuesday night was against an in-form Portsmouth side who have lots of experience in their group.

They are a side that really belie where they are in the table and of course they had four wins out of the last five, it was a very hard fought game and again I was absolutely delighted to come away with all three points.

This is a very competitive league - there are two points separating top to fourth and three or four from top to sixth, and even below that it's close.

A couple of wins really puts you back in the frame again and there are some extremely strong groups and sides that are only going to get better.

I think at the moment that if we can just keep adding points to the board and try to get some sort of run going again, as we did at the start of the season, then we'll certainly be in a positive position come Christmas and that will be much more of a benchmark as to what can be achieved this year.

We're into the middle third of the season and any form that



you might be able to galvanise is starting to show through and I think the shape of our group and the style is starting to become more apparent.

There is a group of players that we can see are starting to piece together as the sixteen or eighteen that are going to take the brunt of the work and of course it is vitally important that those players, along with the fringe players, keep themselves fit and healthy.

They're staying engaged and they're staying mentally stimulated for the challenge in front of them.

Especially with three games in a week, suddenly before you know it you turn a corner and things can change drastically so it's important for us to stay on a positive note and for the players to stay nice and sharp and confident, and at the moment I think we can say that all of those things are apparent in this squad.

It's been a really tough week and the final game of this three game week is probably as challenging as any of them. Paolo Di Canio has put together a very strong side there and I suspect that the budget that he has to deal with is one that is trying to force the issue and gain back to back promotions.

What you find is that not only does he have good players but he has strength in depth and a lot of players to choose from.

At this moment in time I couldn't guess what side he is going to put out as he has rotated those players well and kept everybody under pressure for their position so I fully expect a very competitive game.

The atmosphere on Tuesday night was absolutely fabulous, the Portsmouth fans played their part in it as they brought a good group of travelling fans, but our home fans really got behind the side and I thought it was very noticeable that the side responded to that.

Of course those evening games are different but there was a real sharpness and energy about the whole night whether it was on the field or off it and of course the more often we can replicate that the better it will be for the group.

Enjoy the game









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#### THE CHAIRMAN

### Welcome to this afternoon's game and a warm welcome to everyone from Swindon.

Our opponents today visit us currently sitting in seventh position, they have made some big signings and I'm sure they'll be in the mix come April. I hope everyone from Swindon enjoys the day with us and has a safe journey home.

Another win on Tuesday against a lively Portsmouth side saw us close the gap on leaders Tranmere to one point. Our aim is to get on top of this league for the first time ever and then stay there.

Tuesday's game was everything a night match at The Lamex is all about - great atmosphere, an end to end game and packed full of excitement.

I thought our lads did really well and, as pure entertainment, I thought it was right up there. We played some great football and showed the desire and attitude that the crowd just love to see. That's what is required to drive up our fanbase, so more of the same today please....

In talking about Tuesday night, I thought the Portsmouth fans were outstanding. Apart from being good natured, from the moment they entered the stadium they didn't stop singing.

It's not many times I can remember away fans outsinging our East terrace, but I have to admit



## PHILWALLACE

that they won this battle on the night.... and after having to put up with so much uncertainty they deserve enormous respect. So there's a challenge for our fantastic East terrace fans make sure it doesn't happen again today.

On this subject, somehow or another we have to get the West Stand showing their vocal support more often. We have a tiny stadium by comparison with most in our league and it wouldn't be difficult to make it a very noisy and intimidating place for away teams to come.

Noise from both sides, with some support from the North terrace, would add to the experience for all of us.

Not only is that more enjoyable, but it makes new people come back again for more. There are really not many places you can go to pay to be

entertained and be as vocal as you want, but football is one. It's one of the reasons it evolved originally as a 'working mans' sport'.

I know things have changed in the top grounds now, but football at The Lamex is all about football up close and real.

Let's get the stadium rocking in support of this fantastic team we have. These lads are, without doubt, the best group of players I have ever seen at Stevenage and I have said before on these pages that, once they accept and believe that, they can go on to great things. Really great things.

I believe any element of self doubt that happens in a new group is being swept away with each passing week - we really do have the ability and capability of becoming League One champions. All my life I've adopted an attitude of plan it right, build it right and then go for it. Really go for it.

I want to win every game we play, one game at a time, and I want us to do it with intensity, pace and with a sense of freedom that comes from knowing you are exceptional at your job.

Our lads can do that but they also need your support to encourage them. It's unusual for me to pick out players but on Tuesday I thought David Gray was simply outstanding.

Robbo was right up there with him. Felipe Morais was exceptional. So many good players, so many good performances. I'm really looking forward to the game.

Let's hear you today! Enjoy the game!

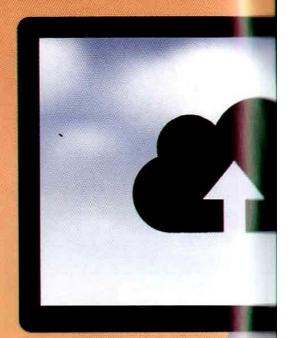


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#### THE CAPTAIN

Today we play our second game this week at the Lamex with the opportunity to go top of the league

Our sole focus is the three points on offer and we know. Swindon will be another tough contest. Confidence is high after Tuesday's tremendous win over Portsmouth and we want to continue our winning run this afternoon.

Looking back to the game on Tuesday I thought it, was an excellent advert for League One football and I'm sure that anyone who was in attendance enjoyed a terrific night of football. In the first half we played some of our best football of the season so far and could have scored more than the solitary goal we mustered.

In the second period we demonstrated all the characteristics that winners have in abundance and put our bodies on the line for victory. As a defender, throwing your body in the way of an oncoming shot is par for the course, but when you do manage to make that last ditch tackle or heroic block the feeling is similar to the one a striker feels when they score the winning goal.

It is inspiring for me as a defender when I see the likes of David Gray and Bondz N'Gala hurl themselves in the way of the ball in such fashion because it's what I love to do myself. It is a fantastic feeling to know your teammates are willing to do whatever it takes to aid our quest for victory. Our two goals on Tuesday were scored by Filipe Morais and although his second was maybe a tad fortuitous, his first one was the finish to a breathtaking move.

Filipe was a constant threat to a much improved Portsmouth side and I thought the aggressive nature of his display drove the team forwards. He is one of a number of match winners we have in our squad with the ability to turn any game on its head Swindon arrive here today on the back of a defeat and I'm sure they will be looking to bounce back in positive fashion.

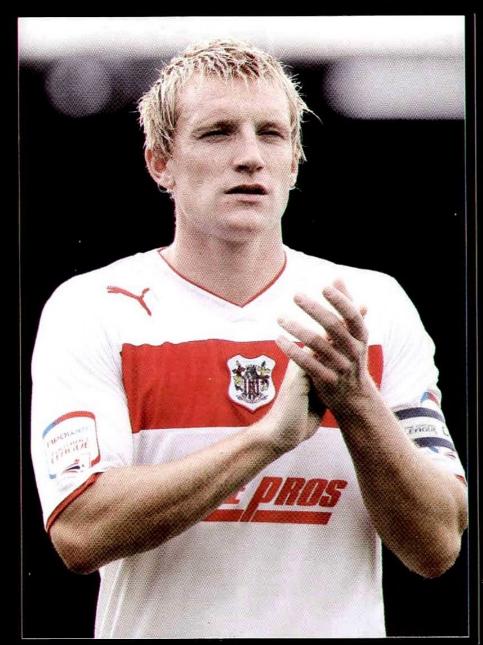
Paolo Di Canio has added some quality individuals to his championship winning side from last season and they are one of the teams in the league with promotion in their sights. He is a passionate manager who wants to get to the very top of the game and he expects the very best of his players.

We have to be ready for that level of commitment with an even greater desire and determination of our own if we want to come out on top. Next week we travel to Botherham United for our first round FA Cup clash at their new stadium.

After the incredible memories of the last two seasons our aim is to begin a journey that will lead to some more this year too.

We want to go into that game following victory today and hopefully that will mean top of the table as well.

Enjoy the game Robbo



## roberts

"We have to be ready for that level of commitment with an even greater desire and determination of our own if we want to come out on top."

#### 

## I AROUND THE Lamex Stadium



### STEVENAGE FACE ROTHERHAM UNITED IN THE FIRST ROUND OF THE FACUP

The draw for the first round of the FA Cup took place last Sunday with Stevenage being paired against League Two side Rotherham United with a 3:00pm kick off on November third at the New York Stadium.

It is that time of the year again when the magic of the FA Cup is in the air as non-league teams look to record giant killings against Football League teams and the dream of lucrative ties against the might of a Premier League team are in everyone's mind when the draw for the third round eventually takes place.

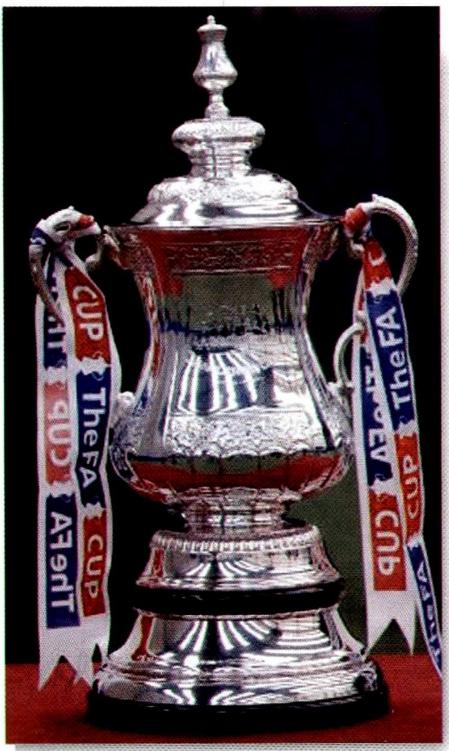
Stevenage will have to see off Rotherham and someone else in the second round before the top tier teams enter the draw and Boro' will be hoping they are in the hat for the third round which brings back some good memories in the past.

Every Boro' fan will remember the heroics of Giuliano Grazioli when he did the unthinkable and equalised against Newcastle United before narrowly losing in the replay at St James' Park.

Boro' then went one better in January 2011 when they welcomed the Magpies once again, this time as a League Two club and they turned them over 3-1 at the Lamex only to go out to Reading in the fourth round.

Local non-league sides have the chance to produce some of their own FA Cup history as Arlesey Town are away to 1987 winners Coventry City while Istmian League side Metropolitan Police are at home to Crawley Town.

Tickets for the game against Rotherham go on sale today and you can get yours from the club shop after the game or alternatively you can go online. See www.stevenagefc.com for prices.





BBC PRICE OF FOOTBALL SURVEY 2012

Trong fin page (AME)

The results of the BBC's survey into the costs of going to a football match in England were published recently showing how much clubs charge for tickets, match day programmes and refreshments.

The study found that the average cost of the cheapest adult ticket in the top four divisions of English football has risen by 11.7% in the past 12 months which is more than five times the rate of inflation.

In League One Stevenage are pleased to say that they provide one of the cheapest days out costing just £23.50 which includes a ticket (£17), a programme (£3), a pie (£2.50) and a tea (£1 - the cheapest in the Football League). This is in line with the club's aim to provide good value for money to our fans at a time when money is tight.

#### KIT MANAGER ROB ROBERTSON RAISING MONEY FOR MOVEMBER

Stevenage's kit manager, Rob Robertson, is helping to raise money and raising men's awareness of prostate and testicular cancer.

He will be growing a moustache all through the month of November and is urging people to do the same to work together in addressing this important issue which affects thousands of people in the UK.

'Please support me in my role as a moustache merchant for Movember and help me to make a difference to the state of men's health.

'Men's health is a cause I am passionate about and I'm committed to make a difference by helping to raise vital funds and awareness for prostate and testicular cancer.'

'I am asking you to help support my personal journey by making a donation.

The size of which isn't important, every little helps Movember to continue its funding of world class programmes.

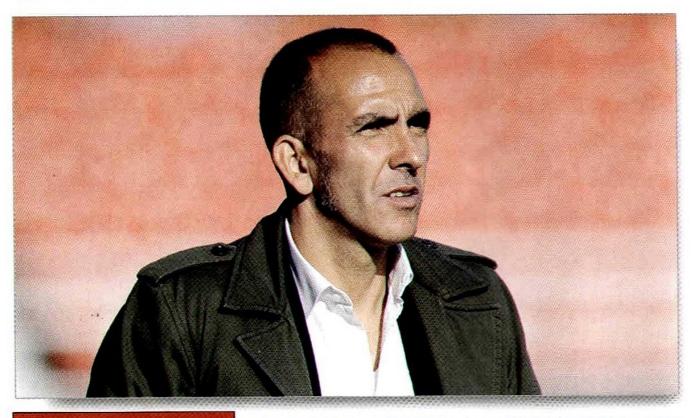
To highlight the importance of what I am doing, take a look at these statistics:-1 in 9 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime. This year 40,000 new cases of the disease will be diagnosed in the UK-47% of testicular cancer cases occur in men under 35 years and over 90% occur in men under 55 years' If you'd like to help Rob change these statistics, please make a donation by either:- Donating online at: http://mobro.co/BigRob77-

Writing a cheque payable to 'Movember,' referencing his full name and mailing it to: Movember Europe, PO Box 68600 London EC1P 1EFIf you'd like to find out more about the type of work you'd be helping to fund by supporting Movember, take a look at the Programs

We Fund section on the Movember website: http://uk.movember.com/about/fundingoverview/ 'Thank you in advance for supporting my efforts to change the face of men's health.'

Please donate at: http://mobro.co/BigRob77

## swindon town



This afternoon we face the second of two very difficult home ties in a few days as we welcome the players, staff and fans of Swindon Town to the Lamex.

Our two clubs share one of the greatest moments in Boro's history as we remember the giant killing match in the FA Cup back in January 1998 which led to the infamous Fourth Round tie with Newcastle.

These days we are both playing League One football and enjoying successful times between us. Swindon are faring well in a new division after their promotion last season under the enthusiastic tutelage of Paolo Di Canio.

The Robins are (prior to Tuesday's games) in sixth place just four points adrift of Boro'. Not surprisingly their recent form is good with four wins and two draws in their last seven games. The next few games are crucial to their season with difficult ties against Sheffield United and Notts County amongst others in November.

This next month could well shape their season, if they can keep consistency in their play and pick up points then they could prove to be contenders this season for a promotion push, if they can't maintain that consistency then their season could easily become one of establishing their club in the division. The one thing that any club wants after achieving promotion is to avoid an instant return to whence they came.

With Di Canio at the helm this is highly unlikely for Town.

Current news and quotes

Paolo Di Canio has confirmed he is staying at Swindon after talking with new chairman Sir William Patey. The Italian was considering his position after Jeremy Wray - the man behind Di Canio's appointment - was replaced by Patey on the orders of majority shareholder Andrew Black. Di Canio insisted he would need 'reassurances' from the board that they were committed to his plans.

After meeting with Patey, Di Canio told BBC Wiltshire: 'The words that he said to me are more than positive.' He continued: 'We spent an hour together, even if I was angry from the

game [against Scunthorpe], I was happy thinking about what he said to me about the future and about me. 'I can't wait. We have to think that from now we can work for the future.'

Swindon were placed under a Football League transfer embargo earlier this month after they exceeded the fixed wage and fee cap, which can only be 65% of a club's turnover.

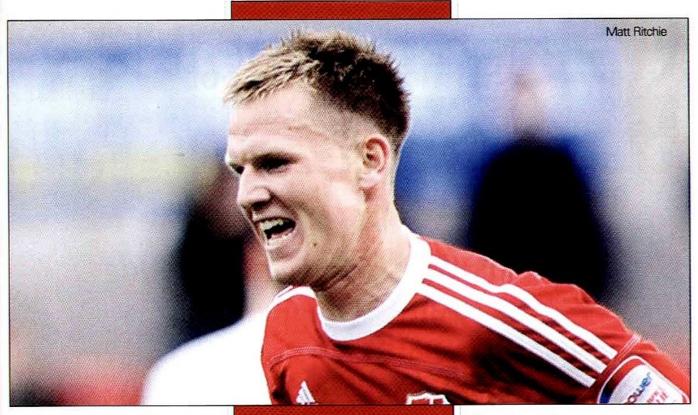
He added: 'I will keep going but I wanted to be sure. I said some words to make

an alert, an alarm about what was going on. Some people can take the lines that I am only loyal to Jeremy, I am loyal to Jeremy but I am loyal to the project he proposed to me on the first day. The new chairman is committed and there is also the environment around me, which is the club and the fars.

With Jeremy I can go out for dinner every day for the rest of my life and say thanks, but there is a job."

The transfer embargo has cost the club at least three points over the course of the last month according to manager Paolo Di Canio, who has

#### SWINDON TOWN



seen his squad plagued by injuries since the Robins breached Football League wage cup restrictions and were subsequently banned from registering new players last month.

And Di Canio feels that not having the flexibility to dip into the emergency loan market to bolster his playing options in trying times has meant Swindon have missed out on at least three and as many as six extra League One points. 'It's clear that my idea of what's happened in the last month under the embargo didn't give me the chance to get - I don't want to say six - but three points that we lost,' he said. The embargo didn't give me the chance to put on some pressure because the players relaxed, some didn't commit like last year, because some players feel 'I can't come out and nobody can come in'.

'I don't know if I would have brought in four players if it wasn't for the embargo but maybe two players to bring in a lift, extra energy for sure because I know what happened last year when I started working in this way. In the end it worked and the regime is exactly the same this year, I am sure that, without the embargo, we should have an incredible situation.'

Nathan Thompson faces several weeks on the sidelines and Federico Bessone has been ruled out for a month after both full-backs picked up knocks over the course of the past week. Thompson hobbled off after 68 minutes of the 1-1 draw with Scunthorpe and left the County Ground with his foot in a protective boot after twisting his ankle early in the second half, while

Bessone sustained a calf injury in training in the build-up to the game:

Thompson was due to have a scan on his ankle to determine the extent of the problem, but manager Paolo Di Canio suggested both players could be out of action for a significant period of time.

'Fede, probably because he wanted to commit, lied because he wanted to stay in training. I saw him limp a bit and I asked him what was up,' he said. 'He said nothing was tight and then I discovered he went at the end of the training session to Paul (Godfrey, Swindon physio) and he had a test. He said he felt okay.

The day after it was the same and he said he was okay. Then he got an injury in a training session. It takes a long time, approximately one month.

"We don't have the subs. Nathan Thompson, is he unlucky? I don't know. Every time he plays he gets something. We thought it was his stomach but the problem was his ankle. During the game he twisted his ankle. He's going to have a scan and we will see the damage.

'He will be out for a few weeks. We will work on it. I hope that a high percentage of the players commit and do not take advantage of the situation in a silly way.'

#### One to watch

The main danger to the Boro' goal may well come this afternoon from the right wing trickery of Swindon's Matt Ritchie.

23-year-old Ritchie is the current League Two Player of the Year as his goals and creativity helped Swindon to the Champions spot last season.

He has now played over 100 times for the Robins after initially joining on loan from financially troubled Portsmouth back in February 2010.

He has thus far continued that great form into the new season in a new league and knocked in a very impressive five goals from out wide as well as eking out chances

for his fellow team mates.

Gosport born Ritchie signed for his local club Portsmouth in 2008 but with the disbanding of their reserve side due to financial constraints he found time spent out on the green stuff at a premium.

He was loaned out to gain first team experience at Dagenham & Redbridge and also Notts County along with Swindon and it has done him no harm at all. Indeed his manager at the Daggers, John Still once said of him: 'He's come in and done very well.

'He's the nicest kid in the world. Come down from a Premier League club. No big time about him. Harry Redknapp and Paul Hart speak ever so well of him. It's a pleasure to have him. He's got a smile on his face in training and loves being here."



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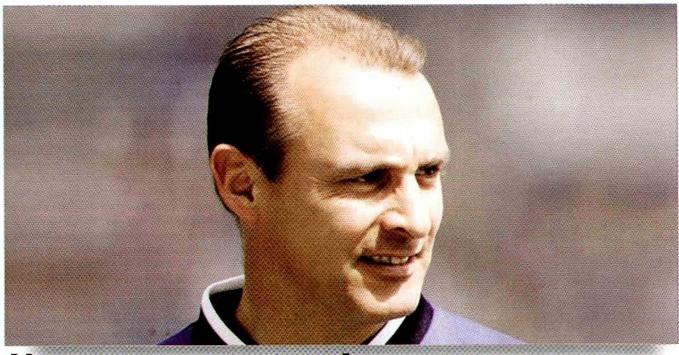


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## blast from the past . . .



## Jimmy quinn

Stuart Govier looks at a star from Swindon's past

Jimmy Quinn was in all senses the archetypal old fashioned centre forward. Big bustling and non-compromising, Quinn would bully defenders all afternoon and was a real challenge for any side to keep quiet. He represented his country Northern Ireland 46 times and carved out a successful career built on knowing exactly where the goal was.

He developed the nickname of Jimmy the Tree in his West Ham days in the 90's due to his immobility on the pitch but still enjoyed a good goal to games ratio.

Unusually it can be argued that his most prolific years in front of goal were when he turned 32-years-old, a time when most players are looking to hang up their boots. During this five year spell at Reading he scored 94 times in 294 games and managed the club as well for three of those years until at the age of 37 he moved to Peterborough and continued in the same rich vein of scoring. A further 25 goals in 49 games for the Posh in the 1997-98 season was an amazing return for the veteran.

Bom in Belfast in 1959, Quinn began his career in non-league football with Whitchurch Alport FC before gradually making his way in the game from club to club on the non-league circuit including a spell at Nantwich Town (the club which he currently manages). Today's opponents Swindon handed the 22-year-old Quinn his first professional contract in December 1981 when they signed him for £10,000 from Oswestry Town. This was the first of three playing periods with the Robins including time spent as player/manager from 1998-2000.

In his first spell of three years from 1981 he scored 10 league goals in 49 appearances and earned a move to Second Division Blackburn Rovers in 1984 for the princely sum of £32,500. Just two years later and Swindon boss Lou Macari persuaded Quinn to return to the County Ground for another two years where he began to find his scoring boots with 30 league strikes in 64 games. During the next four years Quinn's scoring touch deserted him a little and spells at Leicester, Bradford, West Ham and

Bournemouth were less fruitful - until his move to Reading. After leaving Swindon for the last time in 2000 whilst aged 40 he went on to play for a further seven clubs and manage six. You could be fooled into thinking these were the odd game here and there but he actually played 46 league games for Northwich Victoria in the Conference whilst player manager with the Vics from 2001-2003.

Quinn's time managing clubs has proved to be a bit hit and miss with the success he enjoyed leading Cambridge United to the Conference play-off's in 2007-08 and a second place Championship finish with Reading in 1994-95 being the high points. Unfortunately the second place came at a time the Premiership was being streamlined to 20 clubs and instead of automatic promotion, the Royals missed out via the play-offs.

In total, Quinn has played in excess of 789 games in his career which spanned 27 years and scored an amazing 297 recorded goals. The stats for his early days in non-league are not available so it could be an even greater return. Quinn can safely be noted as a man who has enjoyed a varied and fruitful time in the sport of football and it continues to this day. It even seems that he turned out for Nantwich Town last season at the age of 52 when injuries required him to pull on the jersey once more.

## swindon town





#### **WES FODERINGHAM**

Swindon Town signed Crystal Palace goalkeeper Wes Foderingham on a three-month loan deal on Friday 14th October 2011. The former England at Under 19 'keeper first came to the attention of Crystal Palace in a pre-season friendly last season against Bromley where he put in an outstanding performance against the Eagles. Foderingham enjoyed a prolific start to his Swindon career and didn't concede a goal in his first five games.

#### TROY ARCHIBALD-HENVILLE

Town boss Paolo Di Canio swooped for Exeter City defender Troy Archibald-Henville on a two-year deal in late June 2012. The 23-year-old was a regular for the Grecians last term after joining the club in January 2009 on a permanent deal from Tottenham Hotspur. The central defender initially arrived on a one-month loan deal from Tottenham and made his debut in the 2-1 win at Dagenham & Redbridge, He had been at Spurs since signing as a schoolboy and was skipper of the reserve side at White Hart Lane. He made the substitutes bench twice - for the away trip at Wigan and at home to Arsenal.

#### JAY MCEVELEY

Swindon Town signed Bamsley defender Jay McEveley on loan until the end of the season on 22nd March 2012. A former trainee with Blackburn Rovers, McEveley joined Derby County in 2007 after loan spells with Bumley, Gillingham and Ipswich, helping the Rams to the Premier League in 2007. The 27-year-old joined the Tykes on a free transfer from Derby in the

summer of 2010 and has since made 49 appearances at Oakwell. He has over 200 league appearances to his name and has made 31 appearances so far this term in the npower championship.

#### ADEN FLINT

Flint joined Town from Blue Square North side Alfreton Town in January 2011, after having been pursued by Danny Wilson for a considerable time. Flint, 21, had attracted interest from the likes of Colchester United, Derby County and Luton Town with his performances for Alfreton, but chose to move to The County Ground on a two-and-a-half year contract mid-way through the January transfer window. The defender, who has also received two international caps at England 'C' level, made his debut in the 1-1 draw with Rochdale at The County Ground on February 5th.

#### JOE DEVERA

Devera became Paolo Di Canio's first signing as Town boss in June 2011. Devera linked up with the Robins after an established spell with Barnet and will hope to use his considerable experience to help Swindon to success. The 24-year-oid, who is of Venezuelan descent, made 177 appearances during a six-year career with the Bees, and was named the club's Player of the Year in 2008 and 2011. A product of the Barnet youth system, Devera can play at either right-back or centre-back, and will add much-needed depth to the Town defensive line.

#### **ALAN NAVARRO**

Town completed a deal for midfielder Alan Navarro following his release by championship side Brighton & Hove Albion in June 2012. Navarro brings a wealth of experience to The County Ground, having made over 300 senior appearances. He was a regular for Brighton last term making a total of 39 appearances for the Seagulls, and scored a 90th minute winner to beat Leeds United at Elland Road in February. The midfielder began his career with hometown club Liverpool, coming through the ranks alongside the likes of Steven Gerrard, before spells on loan at Crewe Alexandra and Tranmere Rovers.

#### SIMON FERRY

Along with Paul Caddis, Simon Ferry made the permanent switch from Celtic in August 2010, penning a three-year deal. The midfielder had enjoyed a hugely successful season at SN1 in 2009/2010, making 42 starts and scoring twice in Town's play-off campaign. Having joined Celtic at the age of 12, Ferry progressed the ranks at Parkhead along with Caddis and former Town teammate Scott Cuthbert, enjoying much success. However, he was sidelined for nearly two years with a serious ankle injury, and 2009/2010 was his first full season of professional football, a season in which he was agonisingly close to success.

#### JAMES COLLINS

A powerful forward, Collins signed for Swindon on a two-year deal after rejecting the offer of a new contract from former club Shrewsbury Town. Coventry-born Collins started his youth career at Aston Villa where he made his way up through the Villa youth ranks. In October 2009 the forward was loaned to Darlington on a three-month deal, making his professional debut in a 3-0 loss at the hands of Barnet. He went on to make seven appearances for the Quakers scoring twice before returning to Villa. Despite a trial with Scottish club Aberdeen prior to the 2010/11 season Collins remained an Aston Villa player.

#### MATT RITCHIE

After two separate loan spells, Matt Ritchie signed a two-and-a-half year contract at with Town in January 2011. Ritchie made his full debut for the club in the 2-0 Johnstone's Paint Trophy second round win over Torquay United at The County Ground, before going on to make 34 appearances during the rest of the season, scoring 12 times. A bustling, attacking midfielder, the 22-year-old was voted fans' Player of the Year for his efforts in 2010/11.

#### **GARY ROBERTS**

An exciting left-footed winger, Roberts signed for Swindon on a two-year deal after his release from Championship bound Huddersfield Town. Chester born Roberts began his youth career in the Liverpool academy, after his release he spent the rest of his formative years with Denbigh Town and Bala Town before moving to Rhyl where he made his first senior appearances. A move to Welsh premier league side Bangor City soon followed where he registered 22 appearances in his only season at the Nanporth Stadium.

#### **ALAN MCCORMACK**

McCormack signed a two-year-deal at The County Ground in July 2011 and he is now one

#### SWINDON TOWN

of the most senior players in the squad. Following his release from Charlton Athletic, the Irishman trained with Paolo Di Canio's side for a week before putting pen to paper. McCormack started his career at Preston North End, before a series of loan moves preceded a switch to Southend United.

He went on to make 130 appearances for the Shrimpers, scoring 15 times during three seasons at the club between 2007 and 2010. Charlton Athletic secured his services last summer following Southend's relegation to League Two, and McCormack went on to make 24 appearances for the Addicks, scoring once.

#### PAUL BENSON

Swindon Town completed the signing of Charlton Athletic striker Paul Benson on a two-and-a-half year deal on Sunday 1st January 2012. Born in Southend-on-Sea, Benson joined Dagenham & Redbridge in July 2005 after being spotted playing for Essex non-League outfit White Ensign, for whom he scored 96 goals in two seasons. The six-foot hitman struck 28 times in 2006/07 to help Dagenham & Redbridge win the Conference title, and netted 22 goals the following term, scoring in all three play-off matches as Daggers defeated Rotherham United 3-2 in the League Two play-off final to clinch promotion.

#### **NATHAN THOMPSON**

Having been part of a successful youth team set up in 2008-2009, Nathan Thompson signed a two-year professional contract in the summer of 2009. The youngster appeared among the substitutes on a number of occasions in Season 2009/2010, but did not feature for the first team due to the impressive form of fellow right-backs Kevin Amankwaah and Stephen Darby.

Thompson's performances in the youth team had brought interest from Premiership giants Arsenal and Chelsea, and he impressed alongside the likes of Sean Morrison, Kurt Hammonds and Mark Scott.

#### ANDY WILLIAMS

One of Paolo Di Canio's first signings for the 2012/13 season, Williams joined a depleted forward line following the departure of several strikers over the summer. Formerly with Bristol Rovers and Hereford United, Williams joined Town on a two-year deal in the summer of 2012 after an impressive campaign in front of goal with Yeovil Town in 2011/12.

#### TOMMY MILLER

A vastly experienced midfielder, Miller signed for Swindon on a one-year deal following his release from championship newcomers Huddersfield Town. At 33, Miller has over 400 league appearances to draw upon having gained



experience from spells at Ipswich Town, Sunderland and Sheffield Wednesday. The County Durham born midfielder started his youth career at Ipswich Town, following his release at 15 from Portman Road he headed back north signing a youth contract for Hertiepool. It was at Hartiepool that Miller signed his first professional contract.

#### MILES STOREY

The young winger joined the club in the summer of 2010 after spells as a youth player with Coventry City and Wolverhampton Wanderers. He made his first team debut from the bench at the end of the 20010/11 season as a 78th minute substitute against Oldham Athletic on Saturday 30th April. He came off the bench again seven days later in the last game of the season at Tranmere Rovers. During the 2011/12 title-winning campaign, Storey made four appearances off the bench, in League Two using his pace to terrorise opposition defences.

#### **FEDERICO BESSONE**

Federico Bessone joined the Town on a free transfer on Friday 31st August, signing a six-month contract from Swansea City. The full-back joined Swansea from Espanyol in 2008 and was in his second spell at The Liberty Stadium. After a brief spell with Leeds and Charlton, Bessone rejoined the Swans in the summer of 2011 and made just one Premier League appearance. He made his Swindon debut in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy first round clash at Oxford United and produced an impressive performance.

#### **DARREN WARD**

Millwall defender Darren Ward signed a loan deal with Swindon until 1st January 2013, with the option of a permanent move, on Thursday 30th

August 2012. The 33-year-old made his Town debut in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy clash with local rivals Oxford United six days later. Ward arrived at The County Ground with a solid Football League career on his CV.

He started his career as a youngster at Watford making 67 appearances, including a number of Premiership games before then Lions boss Mark McGhee brought him to The Den in a £500,000 deal in 2001.

#### RAFFAELE DE VITA

Italian striker De Vita signed a two-year deal with the Robins in June 2011, joining Town after a spell in Scotland with Livingston. De Vita joined Blackburn Rovers aged 15 and came up through the youth and reserve team ranks at Ewood Park, Despite a hat-trick in a reserve team game against Wigan Athletic, first team opportunities never surfaced and the frontman opted to leave the Premier League side. In July 2008 he moved into Scotland to join Livingston where he spent three seasons. Last term he made 31 appearances, scoring 11 goals.

#### ADAM ROONEY

(on loan from Birmingham City)

Town signed Birmingham City striker Adam Rooney on transfer deadline day in August 2012. The frontman penned a deal on loan until 30th June 2013, with the option for a permanent deal. The Irish striker scored seven goals in 28 appearances for the championship side last term and arrived at The County Ground to bolster Paolo Di Canio's attacking options. Rooney signed for Birmingham from Inverness Caledonian Thistle on a two-year-deal in June 2011.

#### LEIGH BEDWELL

Second year youth team scholar Bedwell came up through the Town ranks and due to injuries to Phil Smith and Mark Scott, the young stopper began the 2011/12 season on the Town first team bench. Bedwell is a Swindon Town fan and is desperate to make a success of his time with the club. The 'keeper was one of two second year scholars awarded a one-year professional deal with the club on Friday 20th April 2012 ahead of the 2012/13 season.

#### JOHN BOSTOCK

(on loan from Tottenham Hotspur)

John Bostock returned to The County Ground on deadline day in August 2012, signing a loan deal from Tottenham Hotspur until January 7th 2013. The midfielder was on loan for the final part of Town's title-winning campaign last year and has rejoined the club on a temporary deal until January. A graduate of the Crystal Palace Academy, Bostock made his professional debut for the Eagles in October 2007 before signing for Spurs in 2008.



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#### N SAFE HANDS

#### Football historian LEIGH EDWARDS profiles leading post-war Swindon goalkeepers

#### SAM BURTON

Long-serving goalkeeper Sam Burton was everpresent for Swindon Town in 1954-55 and 1957-58. Born locally, he turned professional at the County Ground in June 1945 and made his league debut in Swindon's 2-2 draw at home to Reading in November 1946. He contested a firstteam slot with Frank Boulton and Norman Uprichard during the early post-war era. Helping Swindon reach the FA Cup fourth round in 1955-56, he also missed just one match in 1960-61 and played 463 league games until a shoulder injury ended his career in November 1961. He later ran a transport cafe in Lyneham, then retired to Gwerit where he had met his wife.

#### **NORMAN UPRICHARD**

Northern Ireland international goalkeeper Norman Uprichard gained the first five of his 18 caps while at Swindon Town Initially with Distillery, he moved via Arsenal to Swindon in November 1949. He contested a first-team slot with Sam Burton, helping Swindon reach the FA Cup fifth round in 1951-52 and making 73 league appearances prior to joining Portsmouth in November 1952. Starring as they finished third in the top-flight in 1954-55, he moved to Southend United in July 1959 and later played for Hastings United. He became a publican, then ran the Queen's University bar in Belfast. Settling back in Hastings, he died in January 2011.

#### PETER DOWNSBOROUGH

Goalkeeper Peter Downsborough was everpresent in Swindon Town's 1968-69 promotion and League Cup 'double' success. Signing professional for hometown Halifax in September 1960, he moved to the County Ground in an exchange deal involving Bill Atkins in August 1965. He was ever-present as Swindon reached the FA Cup sixth round in 1969-70 and made 274 league appearances prior to joining Bradford City in November 1973. Twice ever-present, he starred as they reached the FA Cup sixth round in 1975-76 and won promotion in 1976-77. He had a testimonial match in May 1980 and later worked at a power station, settling in Stainland.

#### JIM BARRON

Goalkeeper Jim Barron starred as Swindon Town took eventual winners West Ham to an FA Cup

fourth round replay in 1974-75. Initially with Newcastle West End, he joined Wolverhampton Wanderers in November 1961 and had a spell as Peter Bonetti's understudy at Chelsea before joining Oxford United in March 1966. He was an important figure in their 1967-68 Third Division title triumph, moving to Nottingham Forest in July 1970. Ever-present in 1970-71, he joined Swindon in August 1974 and made 79 league appearances prior to joining Peterborough United in August 1977. He managed Cheltenham Town and has since held various coaching posts.

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#### JIMMY ALLAN

Scottish goalkeeper Jimmy Allan starred as Swindon Town reached the League Cup semi-finals in 1979-80. A former apprentice at the County Ground, he turned professional in July 1971 and made his league debut in Swindon's 0-0 draw at home to QPR two months later. He contested a first-team slot with Peter Downsborough and Jim Barron before establishing himself during the 1976-77 campaign, featuring in successive FA Cup runs. Making 371 league appearances, his career was curtailed by a broken arm against Rochdale in October 1983. He had a testimonial match against Chelsea before settling in Devon, working for a box manufacturing firm.

#### **KENNY ALLEN**

Tall goalkeeper Kenny Allen was a key figure in Swindon Town's 1985-86 Fourth Division title triumph. He had spells with Tow Law, Hartlepool and Hellenic prior to joining Bath City in September 1973, staming in their 1977-78 Southern League title success. Moving to AFC Bournemouth in August 1978, he helped win promotion in 1981-82 and reunited with David Webb at Torquay United in March 1984. He joined Swindon in September 1985 and made 45 league appearances before rejoining Torquay in December 1986. Ever-present as they were Fourth Division play-off finalists in 1987-88, he also appeared for them in the 1989 Sherpa Van Trophy final.

#### FRASER DIGBY

England U-21 goalkeeper Fraser Digby featured in Swindon Town's 1992-93 First Division play-off final triumph. Signing professional for

Manchester United in April 1985, he reunited with Lou Macari at Swindon in September 1986 and appeared in their 1986-87 promotion success. He was ever-present in 1988-89, starring as the Robins qualified for the play-offs in consecutive seasons and were Coca-Cola Cup semi-finalists in 1994-95. Also featuring in their 1995-96 Second Division title triumph, he had a testimonial in July 1997 and played 417 league games, moving to Crystal Palace in August 1998, then Barry Town, QPR and Kidderminster Hamers.

#### **BART GRIEMINK**

Big Dutch goalkeeper Bart Griemink missed just one match for Swindon Town in 2001-02. Initially with WK Emmen in his native country, he joined Birmingham City in November 1995 and was a League Cup semi-finalist that season. He followed Barry Fry to Peterborough United in October 1996 and featured in their 1999-2000 promotion campaign, moving to the County Ground in July 2000 after a loan spell. A fine shotstopper, he made a significant contribution to Swindon's improved results and made 124 league appearances for the Robins before joining Southend United in July 2004. His playing career was ended by knee problems in June 2006.

#### **RHYS EVANS**

England U-21 goalkeeper Rhys Evans starred as Swindon Town qualified for the Second Division play-offs in 2003-04. A former Chelsea trainee, he turned professional in February 1999 but failed to make an impact at Stamford Bridge and was loaned to Bristol Rovers, QPR and Leyton Orient before joining hometown Swindon in July 2003.

He missed just one match in 2004-05 and made 118 league appearances while at the County Ground. Moving to Blackpool in July 2006, he featured in their 2006-07 promotion campaign, joining Millwall in January 2008. He returned to Bradford City in August 2008, then Bristol Rovers and Southend United.







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#### SHOOTING STARS

#### 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 Emie 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 finals in 1979-80. Initially with QPR, he joined Watford in November 1974 and helped win the Fourth Division title in 1977-78. He moved to Swindon in February 1979 and formed an exciting partnership with Andy Rowland. Sold to Chelsea for £175,000 in December 1980, he rejoined Swindon in July 1983 and was top scorer in 1983-84, netting 65 goals in 151 league games overall before joining Carlisle United in July 1985. He later played for Blackpool, Wycombe Wanderers and had a spell as Harrow Borough manager.

#### PAUL RIDEOUT

England U-21 international striker Paul Rideout was Swindon Town's leading goalscorer in two consecutive seasons. He was Swindon's youngest League player at 16 years, 107 days against Hull City in November 1980 and netted 38 goals in 95 league games while at the County Ground before joining Aston Villa in June 1983.

Moving via Italian club Bari to Southampton in July 1988, he rejoined Swindon on loan in March 1991. He had spells with Notts County and Glasgow Rangers prior to joining Everton in August 1992 and was an FA Cup winner in 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, Shrewsbury, Cambridge United, Bournemouth and Nantwich.

#### **DUNCAN SHEARER**

Striker Duncan Shearer was capped seven times by Scotland after leaving Swindon Town. He impressed with Inverness Clachnacuddin prior to joining Chelsea in November 1983 and moved to Huddersfield Town in March 1986. Joining Swindon for £250,000 in June 1988 and twice helped them qualify for the Second Division playoffs. He was leading marksman in four successive seasons, netting 78 goals in 159 league outings before being sold



Football historian Leigh Edwards profiles post-war Swindon goalscoring favourities

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.

#### **ALAN MAYES**

Fast striker Alan Mayes was leading marksman as Swindon Town reached the League Cup semi-

1995, then played for several clubs in China and Tranmere Rovers.

#### 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 Chariton 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

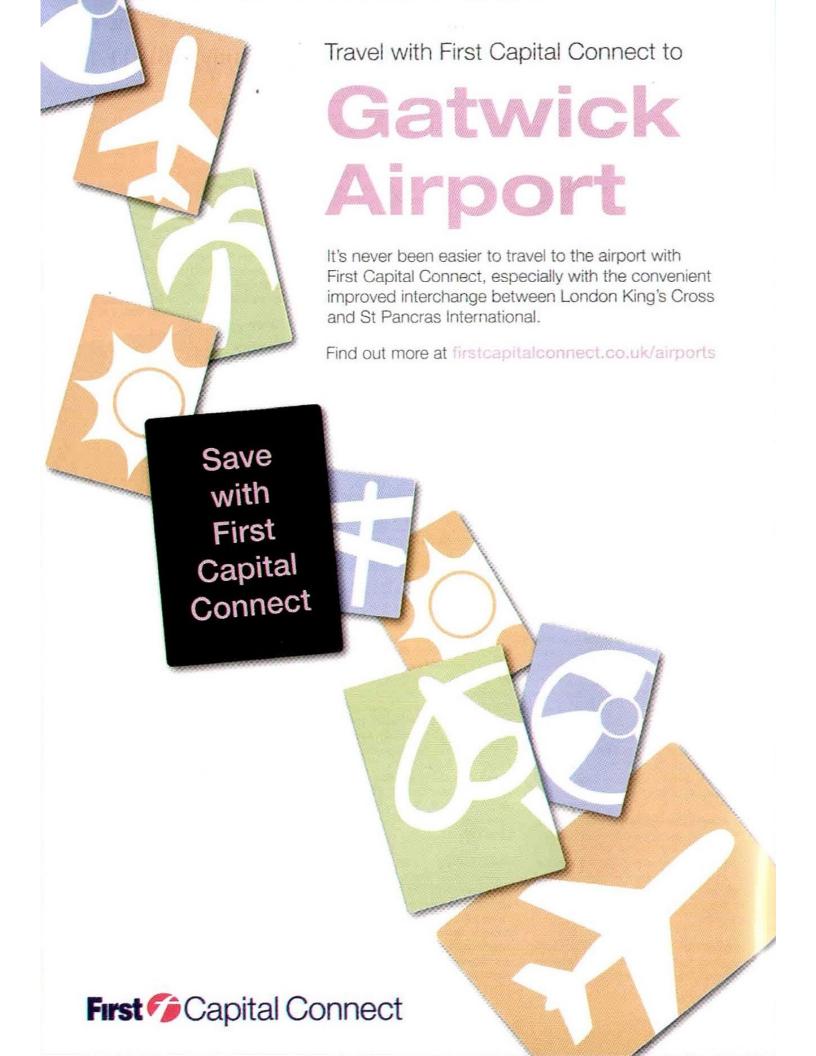
Northern Ireland international striker Jimmy Quinn was Swindon Town's leading marksman in 1987-88. He impressed with Oswestry prior to joining Swindon in December 1981. Moving to Blackburn Rovers in August 1984, he rejoined Swindon in December 1986 and helped clinch promotion that season. He netted 40 goals in 113 league games overall before joining Leicester City

to Blackburn Rovers for £750,000 in March 1992. Moving to Aberdeen in July 1992, he later played for Inverness Caledonian Thistle and was Buckie Thistle's player-manager.

#### SAM PARKIN

Ex-England Schoolboy striker Sam Parkin was Swindon Town's leading marksman in three successive seasons. He turned professional with Chelsea in August 1998 and was loaned to several clubs. Moving to the County Ground in August 2002, he starred alongside Tommy Mooney as Swindon qualified for the Second Division play-offs in 2003-04.

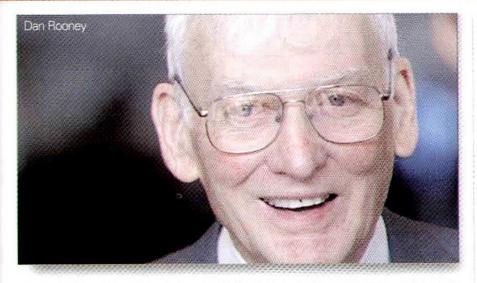
He netted 67 goals in 124 league games prior to joining Ipswich Town for £450,000 in July 2005 and moved to Luton Town for £325,000 in August 2006. Helping them win the Johnstone's Paint Trophy in 2009, he joined Walsall in July 2009, then moved to St Johnstone.



## insideFOOTBALL



Could football follow the example set by the NFL in its quest to encourage more minority coaches, Mark Venables takes a look at the evidence



It seems that the problematic issue of racism in football will not leave the back pages. Even in a week that has seen some disastrous results for English clubs in European competition the racism rows drag on.

Many players have criticised the efforts of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) but they have reacted strongly this week by proposing the introduction of a Rooney Rule as part of a six-point plan to combat racism in the sport. The Rooney Rule was introduced in the NFL in 2003 and has been successful in eradicating the problem.

At the start of the new millennium the NFL was facing a glaring case of inequality in its coaching ranks. Over the previous 40 years, black players had gone from being a distinct minority to a clear majority, but their numbers were far from reflected on the sidelines.

A study in 2002 found that black players made up 70 per cent of the league's player rosters, and yet only two of the 32 teams employed a black head coach. Such was the league's record that the two lawyers who commissioned that report, Johnnie Cochran and Cyrus Mehri, were threatening legal action against the NFL for discrimination.

Pittsburgh Steelers owner Dan Rooney, a white man of Irish descent, had been handed the role of chairman of the league's diversity committee thanks to the Steelers' long history of promoting African Americans into top jobs, and he resolved to do something about it.

The resulting 'Rooney Rule' has proven both simple and effective as an example of affirmative action.

It requires all NFL teams to interview at least one minority candidate when filling a head coaching position. When the rule was introduced, only seven minority coaches had ever been employed in the NFL and only two were active. Within three years, seven teams were employing minority coaches, and by the start of the 2011 season the number was 11.

Rooney's own Steelers hired Mike Tomlin, the franchise's first black coach, before the 2007 season, and he led them to Super Bowl glory in 2009. That same year, the rule was extended to apply to all senior football operations positions within the league. The rule has not been a complete success. In its first season, the Detroit Lions were fined 200,000 US dollars for breaching it in the hiring of Steve Mariucci.

The Lions claimed they had contacted a number of African American candidates, but all had declined an interview as team president Matt Millen had already publicly stated his intention to hire Michigan native Mariucci following his successes in San Francisco. Other teams have

since been accused of carrying out only 'token' interviews to comply with the rule before hiring their preferred candidates, but such cases were largely confined to the early years after the rule's introduction and its effectiveness seems to be growing thanks to the successes of several of the coaches hired as a result.

In contrast, in America's highly popular college football, the percentage of minority head coaches has barely shifted, leading to calls for the introduction of a similar rule there. Rooney himself seems only so proud of the rule which bears his name, happy with the progress made, but also slightly embarrassed by it.

"I really feel and hope," he told ESPN back in 2007, "that we will not need a Rooney Rule very long."

Over this side of the Atlantic, former England striker Dion Dublin believes questions should be asked over the lack of black and ethnic minority managers in the Barclays Premier League. Currently, Norwich boss Chris Hughton is the only black manager in the English top flight.

"The only arguments we have are there enough black and ethnic people applying for these jobs? If there are an equal amount of black and ethnic people applying for these jobs as there are white people, then there is a problem," Dublin said.

"There must be a problem in the decision-making process upstairs somewhere if there are equal amounts applying.

"At the moment, we don't know those stats. If there are equal amounts, then there is a race problem somewhere, but we don't know that, so it is just hearsay - there might only be five per cent of black people wanting those jobs. I think there is a lack of black people as managers and coaches.

"There are so many black and ethnic minority players that may have been good enough to have been managers - but have they applied for these jobs? We don't know. If they have and have not got them, then why? It is either they are not good enough, or there is a race issue?"

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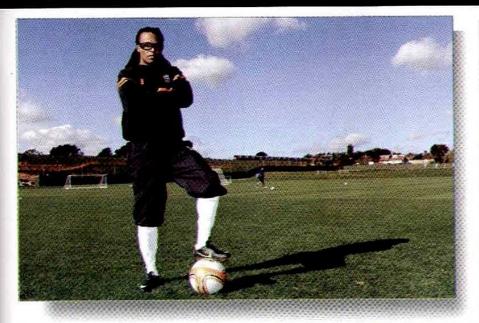


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## beautiful GAME

You go boss. . . Adrian Roberts takes his regular look at the world of football



As fans, we're always a little pessimistic when we hear of a big name taking over the managerial position at a small club. It's normally some kind of publicity stunt to help generate interest in the club and give the fans a buzz which will hopefully be emulated by the players out on the pitch

This does not always come to fruition as we've seen time and time again as the novelty bosses come and go.

The recent appointment of former Holland International Edgar Davids as joint head-coach of Barnet FC will probably turn out to be a typical example of the ex-pro managerial flops.

The terraces at Underhill will certainly not be anything like the sea of orange that Edgar Davids is used to seeing when he turned out for Holland.

Although Barnet do play in orange, it would be difficult to replicate the colourful scenes we've seen on the TV when the Dutch fans pack the stands in International matches.

It could have been worse for the Barnet fans though, they could have ended up with a former England international – that really could have been a curse. Here are just a few ex-England players who failed miserably in football management in recent years.

Although, they commanded respect as players, little can be said about their management roles – other than forgettable and regrettable! No doubt, there will be more to come in the next few years – that's something to look forward to, isn't it?

The charismatic Gazza (Paul Gascoine) was given his crack at management in 2005 at Kettering Town. Although it was October, the Kettering fans must have though Christmas had arrived early as the legend Paul Gascoine took the helm at Rockingham Road.

Sadly, for numerous reasons, Gazza only held the position for 39 days after only 12 games. The Chairman blamed Gazza's personal issues with drink and Gazza blamed the Chairman for interfering too much in team selection.

John Barnes, the player, was a genius and commanded massive respect from fans, not just of the club he wore the colours of but from opposing fans too.

He was a brilliant player. As a manager, it was a different story. His first stint as manager came at Celtic during the 99/00 season working with Kenny Dalglish.

It was a much-hyped appointment as was Gazza's as Kettering. It was a disaster. The

shocked Celtic lost in a Scottish cup game against Inverness Caledonian Thistle. The Sun newspaper went to town following the result with the headline 'Super Cale go balistic, Celtic are atrocious'. Barnes was sacked shortly afterwards. He did however, have a successful bash at management with the Jamaican National team. He guided them to a first place finish in the 2008 Caribbean Championships but his desire to return to league football led him to seeking a league club in England.

Tranmere Rovers announced John Barnes as their new manager for the 2009/10 season, however, the season began in disastrous fashion as Tranmere won only three times during their first 14 games. Once again, Barnes' managerial status came to an abrupt end.

One former England international who stumbled upon football management is Arsenal legend Paul Merson. He was coming to the end of his playing career at Walsall in 2004 when the then Walsall manager Colin Lee was sacked.

Merson was thrown into the manager's role temporarily but was unable to save Walsall from relegation in the short time he was given and they were relegated from Division One to League One?? Yes, you read it right, this was the season that the football league reorgansied the leagues and Division Two became League One and the Championship League was formed.

Despite the 'relegation', Merson was offered the job on a permanent basis but the 2004/05 season didn't go too well for him.

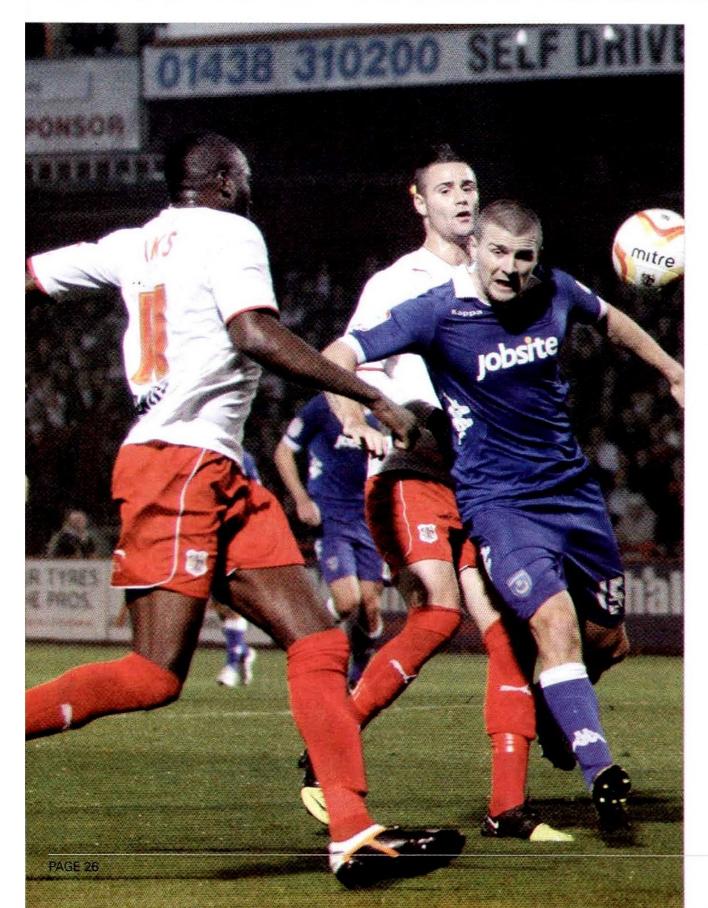
Walsall were knocked out of all the cup competitions early on by lower league teams and where most clubs would then 'concentrate on the league' after early cup exits, Walsall only just narrowly escaped a second consecutive relegation.

Merson's reign as manager came to end in February 2006 when he was sacked with Walsall lying in 19th place.

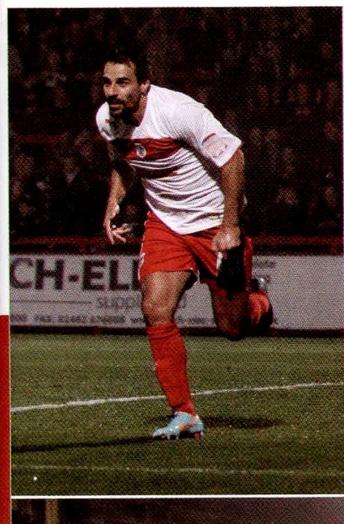
A few things to remember here, firstly, don't put your faith in an ex-England international player to lead the team to glory and secondly, don't wear orange – it's awful! Enjoy the action.

**MATCH ACTION** 

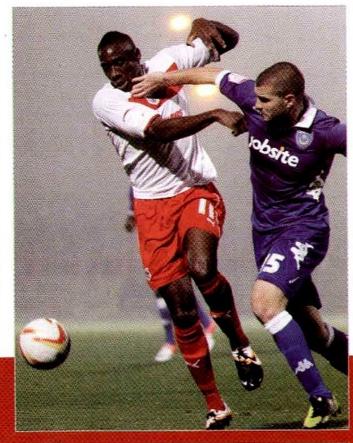
## actionSTATIONS

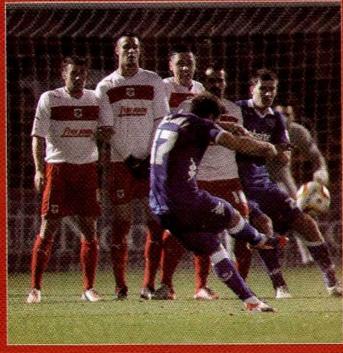


#### Stevenage 2 Portsmouth 1









## matchREPORT





Stevenage closed the gap on Tranmere Rovers to just one point after an excellent 2-1 win against Portsmouth at the Lamex.

Gary Smith stuck with the same side that won away to MK Dons in their last outing and this paid off with a goal in each half for Filipe Morais. His first came from some good work down the right hand side from Lucas Akins who delivered the ball on a plate for Morais who did not think twice about putting it in the back of the net.

Pompey came out quickly after the half time interval and it took a precise effort from Jon Harley at the edge of the box to beat in form Steve Arnold. Gary Smith then urged his team to

pick up the pace and they did just that by showing great enthusiasm to get back in front and it was Morais again when his cross deluded everyone in the box and crept in at the back post.

Michael Appleton's side pressed for an equaliser in the closing stages but a superb performance from captain Mark Roberts thwarted any chances with some last ditch defending to secure all three points.

It was a great result in front of more than four thousand at the Lamex and Smith will be hoping the momentum continues into today's game against Swindon Town.





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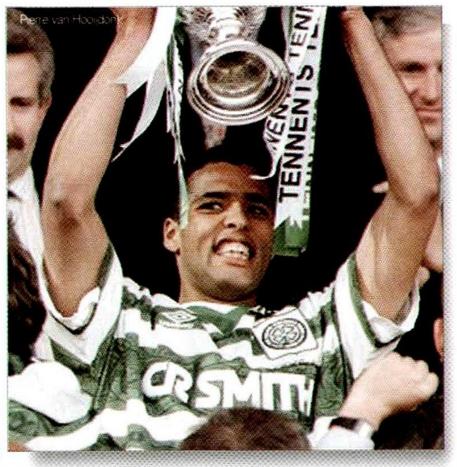
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## THE ONLY PAPER FOR THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FAN



WHAT makes a good free-kick? Some people like to leather it, others prefer a dink, while some like to dip it in front of the keeper for a naughty bounce.

But for me, the best kind of free-kick is the one that hits the back of the net - which is why Cristiano Ronaldo is the most over-rated set piece 'expert' in the world. Time and again we hear commentators and pundits wax lyrical about how 'you can't give him a chance like this' or 'you know how dangerous he is from here'. Well, Ronaldo's dangerous alright - but only to the people in Row Z or the poor sods stuck in the wall.

Like a latter day Roberto Carlos, all he does is hoof the ball as hard as he can and hope for the best. And because it looks spectacular when it works, folk forget the previous 97 failed attempts.

But the fact is, Richard Dunne could crack a ball goalwards and hit the target once every 40 goes, which is about how often Ronaldo scores from a dead-ball situation. So forget the Portuguese hoofer - here are some players who scored free-kicks like they were six-yard tap-ins.

#### PIERRE VAN HOOIJDONK

When people think of van Hooijdonk, they usually picture the stroppy striker who flounced out of

Nottingham Forest in the late 90s. What they forget is that the Dutchman is arguably the greatest set-piece specialist of all time. Precise to a ridiculous degree, the vast majority of his free-kicks went in off the post or the crossbar and were imbued with such vicious dip that they often cleared the wall and went in the bottom corner.

At Celtic in 1995, van Hooijdonk placed one such kick bang in the angle of post and bar. Unfortunately, the referee had already blown for encroachment. Unfazed, the striker strode up and put the ball in the exact same place.

In his first season at Feyenoord, van Hooijdonk scored 18 free-kicks out of a possible 50 - prompting fans to release a song 'Put your hands up for Pierre', that placed in the Dutch charts.

#### JUNINHO PERUMBICANO

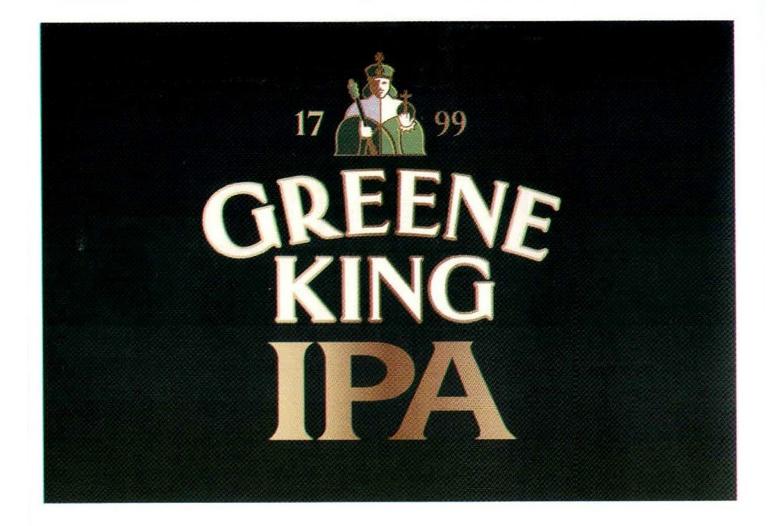
Brazil pretty much invented the free-kick. From Didi to Zico, no country has produced more players capable of sending a keeper flailing. But for sheer, all-out accuracy, none can hold a candle to Juninho, a man picked by Brazil almost solely for his free-kick expertise.

Quite simply, he had it all. He could float one from 30 yards, chip one from 18 or blast one from 40. And he almost always used the instep to create swirl and dip. How good was he? Well, in eight seasons at Lyon, Juninho scored 44 free-kicks and has more in the Champions League than any player in history.

#### SINISA MIHAJOVIC

Nasty man, thuggish player, brilliant free-kick taker. As a kid, the Serbian had just one aim - to kick the ball as hard as possible.

To this end, he spent hours every day just driving a football into his parents' garage door, to such an extent that it needed replacing every few months. Yet without those trips to B&Q, Mihajlovic might never have perfected the dipping mortar that became his trademark - think Ronaldo, only harder and more accurate. To this day, his record of 27 free-kicks is a Serie A record.





Paul Dando, Stevenage FC's sports therapist, brings us the latest news from the treatment

Good afternoon and welcome to today's clash with Swindon Town.

This game represents another first, being our maiden league encounter with the Robins

We came out of the game on Tuesday night with Lucas sustaining an ankle injury towards to end of the second half. He was caught late on his standing leg following a strike on goal, which forced the ankle into inversion and caused some mild lateral ligament damage.

There was diffuse swelling and soreness when we re-assessed him on Wednesday and this is likely to keep him out this afternoon. We will do our best to make him available for

arcast boot and goes

The advantage of the boot is that it enables him to continue cardiovascular work on the bike and to perform weight-bearing resistance such as squats, deadlifts and leg press, whilst still protecting the healing tissue.

Once he comes out of the boot then we should be able to commence loading and progressive stretching exercises.

Miguel has shown steady improvement and the swelling around the back of his knee is now minimal. This allows us to start mobilisation work on the bike as well as body weight, close chain exercises, such as squat and leg press.

> Over the coming week or so we will am to increase the load while course for a return to full training at around the five to six week stage, post injury

Andy Iro has a minor Achilles complaint, some of which may be attributable to his increased workload since joining the club back in September.

We are managing his symptoms with regular stretching and soft tissue work alongside modifying his training regime. Hopefully he won't miss any potential game time as a result

Agy, Hillsy (both thigh), Sincs (harnstring) and Don (ankle) are all edging closer to full fitness following a return to squad training this week

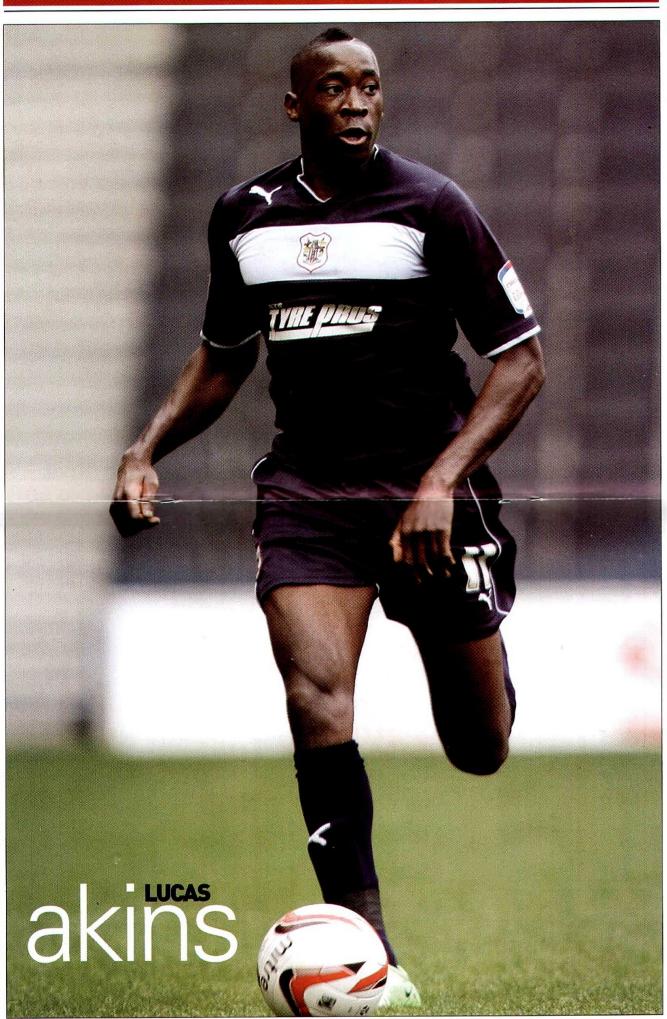
As I have said before, it is now about building the endurance and training exposure in their relevant areas, as well as continuing a regular maintenance regime in the gym. All have a chance of returning to the fold next weekend.

Finally, our scouse number six, Greg Tansey, brings us the 'did you know?' in today's column. Did you know, he has a superstition before every game - and he has a temble phobia of snakes. Northern softy!

Enjoy the game and good health to you all



M



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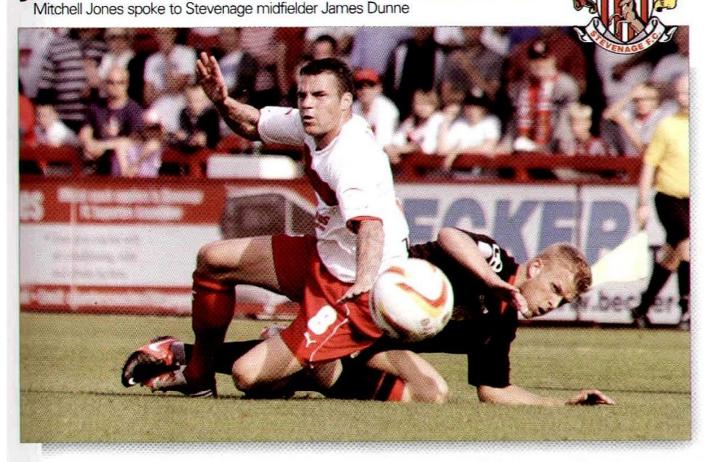








jamesDUNNE



James Dunne joined Stevenage from Exeter City in the summer but the 23-year-old's career stretches back further than that, having previously played for Arsenal and Wimbledon.

Since joining Boro' he has immediately slotted into the midfield and impressed supporters, however he misses today's game due to suspension. Speaking earlier this week he told us about his career thus far.

"I was at Wimbledon for five years and then went to Arsenal, I spent about five or six years there but when my contract finished I opted for a moved to Exeter City.

"I was there for three years and really enjoyed myself because I got a lot of first team football. Unfortunately they went down last season and that was when I decided that I wanted to move back home because I was a bit homesick. Stevenage came along which was really good for me and brought me closer to home."

When Dunne joined his former club, Boro' were a Blue Square Premier side, two promotions in two seasons brought Stevenage to the same level as the Grecians and whilst playing for them last year the midfielder witnessed Stevenage book a play-off place in their maiden season in the league.

A rise of that standard is hard to ignore in football, and Dunne admitted that he knew about the club before coming in.

'I knew quite a bit because we had been playing Stevenage in the league and there was a lot of talk about the moves that they were making in football. Gary [Smith] came in and I knew that they played good football under him, he was someone that I knew from my time at Wimbledon and I knew his style of football so that helped.'

Sixteen new faces joined the fold in the summer but it is already evident that the heart and soul that was part of the club in the past still exists. One theme that ran through Smith's new recruits was a Premier League background, and the former Gunner said he already knew a lot of the new faces as he had played against them at youth and reserve level.

'I already knew Granty [Anthony Grant] because he was with Chelsea, and also Fil [Filipe Morais] because he was there too

'Lukey [Luke Freeman] was at Arsenal and even Pat [Patrick Agyemang] had Premier League experience. All the payers Gary has brought in all have good experience and it is a good mix.

'I think when you are young and at a big club the training is good, but if you're not good enough to get in the first team then it is good for your own progression to try and play in a lower league team because you get the chance to play first team.'

His transfer to Exeter was a move that pushed on the first team career that James spoke about, in three years with the club he became a

# james **DUNNE**

Mitchell Jones spoke to Stevenage midfielder James Dunne

permanent fixture in the side and earned his 'league legs', making over 100 appearances for the side.

It's a time in his career that he remembers fondly, but the time away from his hometown, London was difficult. He told us 'I really enjoyed my time at Exeter and everyone was really good to me but I was just getting homosick.

They were very good to me, they gave me a chance when I went there on trial and they signed me and within six or seven weeks I was making my first start in the league and I owe that to them for putting faith in me.

'It helped me to progress so much further to be in a first team, reserve football is not the same and can only get you so far. It is much more competitive; you're playing for points and aiming for promotion or trying to stay in the league. The first couple of games I found it hard but as I got some games under my belt I improved.'

Stevenage's season has started well, better than many outsiders predicted after such large changes in the summer and Dunne revealed that he has had nothing but enjoyment since making the move.

'I am really enjoying it here; the boys are quality and have got some great banter and I am really enjoying my football. We have been playing well and are doing well in the league so I couldn't ask for any more at the moment.'

One point that all of the new lads have pointed to since coming in is how progressive the club is; the new 42-acre training ground is close to opening and stadium improvements are continuing.

Plans of a new ground have even been thrown around and as a player that is just what you want to be part of, says James.

'Gary made it clear to me that the chairman [Phil Wallace] was looking to develop the club, I knew about the training ground and it is looking really good along with the stadium.

When a club is moving forward off the pitch it makes you want to do the same on it, and



everyone at this club wants to go in the right direction, which is brilliant."

Today Boro' have offered all home supporters under the age of 16 free entry with a paying adult in a bid to boost attendances at the Lamex Stadium and James said that it is just something else that shows the forward-thinking of the club, a growing fan base is integral to sustaining the growth and if fans continue to come and support their local side then that vision is within reach.

I think it is really important that the crowd continues to grow and also that they know how important they are to our results.

They are good to us and really help us when we are not playing as good as we can and they sing and get behind us.

' It really lifts us and hopefully they keep coming and get some more coming along to support us too.'

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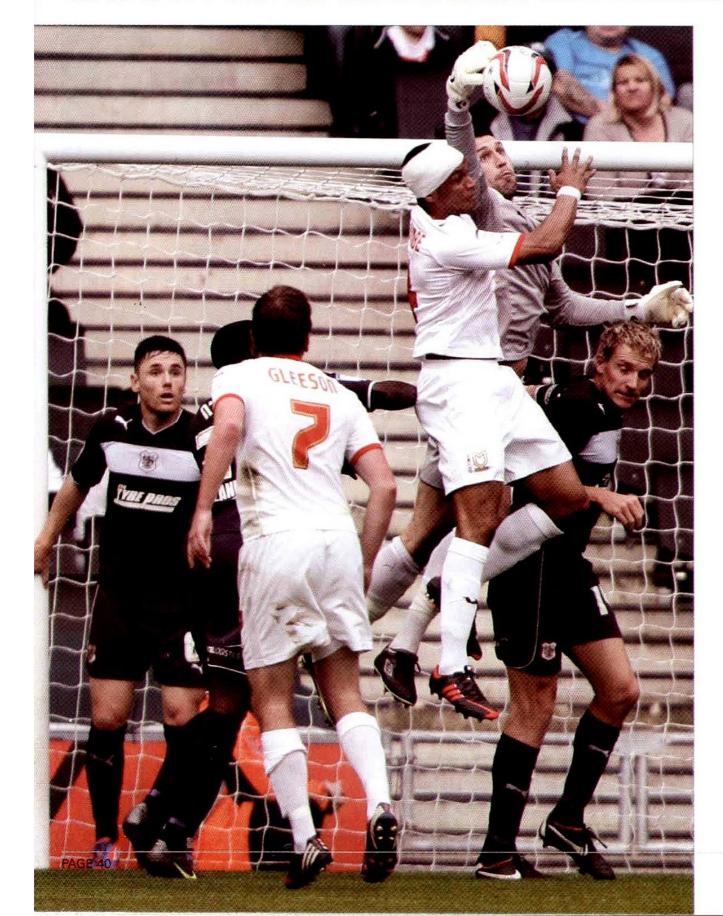


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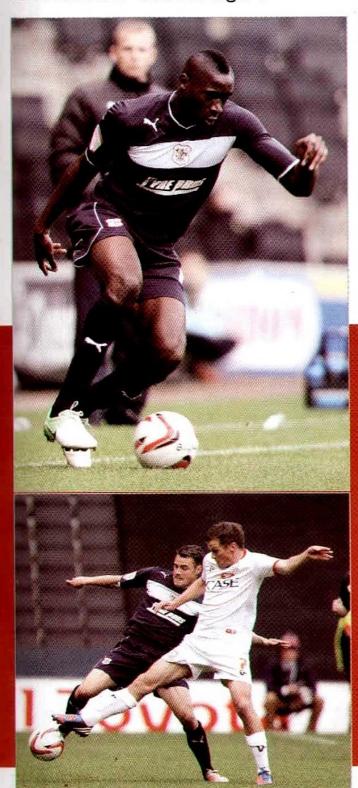
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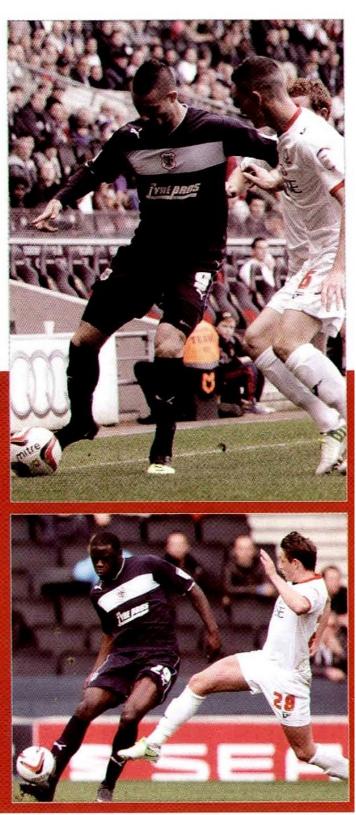


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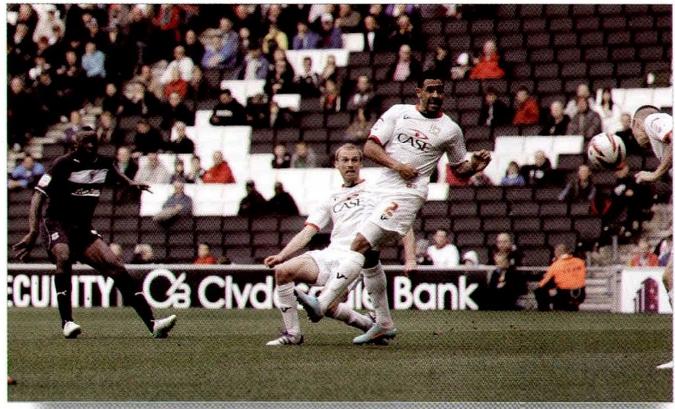
#### MK Dons 0 Stevenage 1





### matchREPORT





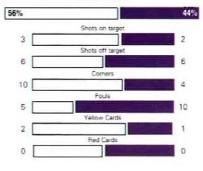
Gary Smith's side did exactly what he was hoping for after their first defeat of the season against Colchester by beating promotion rivals MK Dons on the road.

Stevenage showed their strength of character by putting in a solid performance with Lucas Akins providing the difference between the two teams with a superb curled effort into the top right corner.

Boro' had to shuffle things around due to Anthony Grant missing through suspension so Greg Tansey dropped into a more defensive role with Luke Freeman starting on the wing. The home side began to look more and more threatening in the second half as they pressed for an equaliser, however, goalkeeper Steve Amold continued his rich vein of form by producing some excellent saves to deny the Don's from getting back into the game.

Marcus Haber nearly finished the game off in the closing stages however his header was cleared off the line by Darren potter and so Stevenage held on for a vital win keeping them in second place and closing the gap on league leaders Tranmere to four points.

#### The stats







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#### FOOTBALL LEAGUE



## npower league

#### CHAMPIONSHIP

Aron Gunnarsson headed an injury-time winner to keep Cardiff level-pegging with Leicester at the top of the npower Championship after a dramatic 2-1 win over nine-man Watford in South Wales.

Tommie Hoban had fired the visitors into a shock 28th-minute lead but the game changed after Daniel Pudil was sent off for violent conduct after 63 minutes, and Peter Whittingham equalised from the penalty spot eight minutes later.

Nathaniel Chalobah was also dismissed for the Homets after 71 minutes for a second bookable offence, and the Bluebirds grabbed the points in the dying seconds when Gunnarsson headed home a Craig Noone cross.

Nigel Pearson's Leicester stay top on goal difference after Andy King's 10th-minute strike was enough to give the Foxes a 1-0 win over Brighton, for whom Ashley Barnes had a 53rd-minute penalty saved by Kasper Schmeichel.

Dougle Freedman's departure from Crystal Palace, to become Bolton's new manager, was confirmed earlier in the day. Bolton's Mark Davies struck an injury-time equaliser to rescue a point for the Trotters in a 2-2 draw at Wolves.

Benik Afobe had put Bolton in front after 21 minutes but a double from Kevin Doyle, who scored in the 27th and 30th minutes, looked to have given Wolves the points until Davies slammed home from the edge of the box.

Freedman's former side Palace also had to settle for a point in a 1-1 draw against Barnsley at Oakwell. Glenn Murray put the Eagles in front after 11 minutes but David Perkins equalised from long range four minutes from time.

Paul Jewell's future as lpswich manager looked bleak after his side blew an early lead to lose 2.1 to his former employers Derby at Portman Road

DJ Campbell gave beleaguered Jewell a boost with a 24th-minute opener but Theo Robinson equalised five minutes from half-time then Conor Sammon set up Nathan Tyson to net an injury-time winner for the visitors.

To make matters worse for Jewell, he saw his

side slump to the bottom of the table after Peterborough pulled off a shock 3-1 win over Huddersfield George Boyd's double and one for Kgosi Nthe won it for Posh, before Adam Hammill hit a consolation.

Chris McCann headed the winner six minutes into injury-time as managerless Burnley grabbed a 4-3 win over Bristol City in an extraordinary finish to their game at Ashton Gate.

Charlie Austin's 14th of the season for Burnley was cancelled out by a Steven Davies free-kick, before Austin's second and a strike from Martin Paterson put the Clarets 3-1 up with an hour gone.

Sam Baldock reduced the deficit from the spot, then Paul Anderson snatched what appeared to be a point-earning equaliser for the Robins in the first minute of added time - before McCarin's dramatic intervention.

Marion King scored a hat-trick as Birmingham fought back from 3-0 down to earn a 3-3 draw at Millwall Chris Wood's double and one from Chris Taylor put the Lions 3-0 up inside 18 minutes,

#### **FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

before King started the recovery in first-half injurytime Neil Warnock's Leeds stuttered to a 1-1 draw with Charlton at Elland Road, David Norris putting the hosts in front in the 37th minute before Donan Dervite equalised five minutes into the second half.

Blackpool staged a late corneback to see off Nottingham Forest 2-1 at Bloomfield Road. Billy Sharp put Forest in front but substitute Elliot Grandin equalised after 70 minutes and set up Gary Taylor-Fletcher for the winner five minutes later.

Middlesbrough maintained their solid home form this season with a 2-0 home win over fellow promotion hopefuls Hull. Fans Haroun scored the opener after 58 minutes and Ishmael Miller grabbed the second eight minutes later.

#### LEAGUE ONE

lain Hume fired home a dramatic injury-time winner for Doncaster as npower League One leaders Tranmere slumped to their first home defeat of the season at Prenton Park.

Hume shot low past home keeper Owain Fon Williams to snatch a 2-1 win just three minutes after Tranmere thought they had salvaged a point when Jake Cassidy equalised Billy Paynter's 48th-minute opener.

Tranmere's second straight loss cuts their lead at the top of the table to a single point after two Filipe Morais goals gave Stevenage a 2-1 win over Portsmouth. Jon Harley had briefly equalised for Pompey with a 51st-minute effort.

Sheffield United also kept up the pressure in third place with a 1-0 win over Walsall at Bramall Lane. Dean Holden was sent off for the Saddlers in the 14th minute and Nick Blackman scored the only goal of the game from the resulting penalty Crawley stayed level with the Blades after a 2-0 home win over Milton Keynes Dons. Billy Clarke opened the scoring for the hosts in the 21st minute and added his second in injury time.

Bury grabbed their first win of the season at the 14th time of asking with a 2-1 home success against Hartlepool, who replace the Shakers at the foot of the table. Tom Hopper put the home side in front in the 37th minute and David Worrall briefly settled nerves by making it 2-0 after 55 minutes before Ryan Noble pulled one back for the visitors almost immediately.

Eddie Howe's second game back as Bournemouth boss ended in an exciting 3-3 draw with Notts County at Meadow Lane. Jeff Hughes and Yoann Arquin put County 2-0 up at the break



before Josh McQuoid and a Harry Arter spot-kick levelled matters. Jamal Campbell-Rice put County back in front with an 84th-minute penalty before Matt Tubbs equalised moments after the restart.

Coventry's sad season continued as they fell to a 2-1 defeat at Brentford. David McGoldnok put the Sky Blues in front on seven minutes but Harry Forrester equalised just before half-time and scored the winner with an injury-time penalty.

Paolo Di Canio's Swindon slumped to a 2-1 defeat at Crewe, a brace from Byron Moore in the 29th and 41st minutes cancelling out Raffaele De Vita's 25th-minute opener for the visitors

Nicky Wroe's first-half hat-trick proved enough for Preston to pinch a 3-2 win over Scunthorpe at Glanford Park, despite the home side fighting back after the break with goals from Leon Clarke and Karl Hawley.

Two Paddy Madden goals helped Yeovil ease to victory at Shrewsbury, James Hayter also getting on the scoresheet before a Matt Richards penalty for the home side left the final score 1-3 in Yeovil's favour.

Joe Garner scored twice and Matty Robson also notched in Carlisle's 3-1 win over Oldham, who replied with a late Jose Baxter penalty, while goals from Anthony Wordsworth and Ian Henderson saw Colchester win 2-0 at Leyton Orient

#### **LEAGUE TWO**

Kevin Nicholson's late winner for Torquay sent npower League Two leaders Gillingham tumbling to their first away defeat of the season at Plainmoor

Nicholson fired home from outside the box in the 84th minute to grab victory for the Gulls, who had fought back from behind with Nathan Craig quickly cancelling out Deon Burton's early opener. Second-placed Port Vale failed to take full advantage as they were held to a 1-1 draw at Burton Jordan Chapell opened the scoring for the hosts on 73 minutes but Ben Williamson equalised two minutes later.

Fleetwood Town's impressive progress continued as they grabbed a 2-1 win at Chesterfield Steven Gillespie put the visitors ahead early, and after Tendayi Darikwa's equaliser, Fleetwood won it in injury time when Chris Atkinson scored an own goal from close range.

Cheltenham squeezed home 2-1 against Plymouth after substitute Kaid Mohamed headed the winner in the 78th minute. Conor Hourihane had put the Pilgrims in front on 30 minutes before Steve Elliott equalised

Bradford City's improvement continued with Nakhi Wells scoring the only goal of the game in the 53rd minute to give the Bantams a 1-0 win over Northampton at Sixfields.

At the bottom, there was good news for Aldershot, who pulled off an excellent 2-1 win at Southend thanks to Sonny Bradley's 87th-minute winner. Earlier, Mark Phillips had equalised for Southend after Danny Hylton's first minute opener.

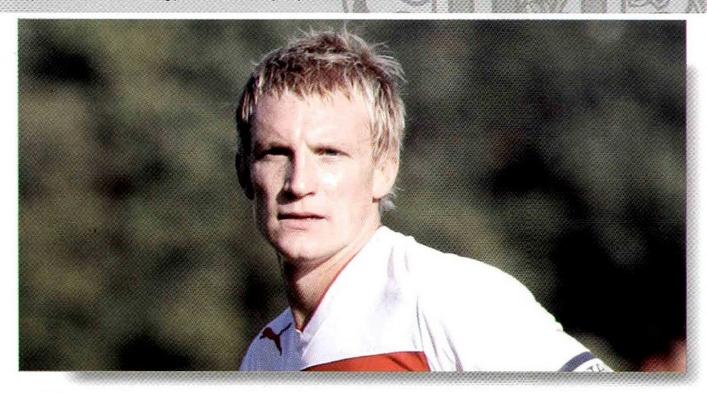
And Wimbledon also had a productive night with a 3-1 home win over Bristol Rovers. A Garry Kenneth own goal set them on their way with further goals from Rashid Yussuff and Will Antw. Rovers replied through Tom Eaves, and had Tom Parkes sent off late on.

Barnet are now four points adrift at the bottom after being held to a goalless draw against fellow strugglers Wycombe at Adams Park.

George Donnelly and Bobby Grant scored in Rochdale's 2-0 home win over Oxford, while a Daniel Nardiello second-half double helped Rotherham come from behind and claim a 2-1 win over Morecambe, who led through Kevin Ellison.

Jason Walker's 83rd-minute goal gave York a 1-0 win at Accrington Stanley, while Dagenham & Redbridge and Exeter drew 1-1, Medy Elito's 37th-minute opener for the Daggers cancelled out by Jamie Cureton on 51.

Captain Mark Roberts is taking part in this week's spooky edition of our usual 'firsts' feature, however this week it's firsts and worsts!





boxes, I turned up at the party and it wasn't even fancy dress! It wasn't a good look.

this unbelievable dinosaur

costume out of cardboard

#### HAVE YOU GOT ANY PICTURES OF IT?

Definitely not, that was a bad time for me.

#### FIRST HORROR MOVIE THAT YOU SAW?

As a kid, and I mean a young kid, I watched 'Ghost', but just the start of it when Patrick Swayze's character dies and I've never been so scared in my life. I remember going upstairs and my mum telling me I couldn't watch the rest of the film so I'd only seen the bit where he died and it traumatised me for years.

#### SO NOW YOU'VE GROWN UP, WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE HORROR MOVIE?

I'm not a massive fan of horror movies, I quite liked the first couple of 'Saw' films but then it got a bit stretched and over the top!

#### WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR HORROR GAME SINCE JOINING BORO?

For Boro, any time we lose. I know it sounds a cliche and cheesy but I hate it when we lose.

#### WHAT ABOUT IN YOUR CAREER?

In my entire career it was a game for Accrington, it's never nice to score an own goal as a defender so even more so when you score one from the half way line. That's not a particularly fond memory.

#### WHO IS YOUR SCARIEST TEAM-MATE?

Scariest team-mate? I suppose most people would say Ash [Jon Ashton aka the Beast]. He can be quite intimidating. I can't think of any banter to be honest, none of them really smell or anything.

#### WHAT IS THE WORST CAR YOU'VE EVER HAD?

I've only had a few cars, I drove a Fiat Panda in Italy this summer which was an experience.

#### WHAT IS THE WORST GROUND YOU'VE PLAYED AT?

Squires Gate for Southport when I was on loanit was literally one man and his dog there.

#### WHAT IS YOUR WORST EVER HAIR CUT? THE BLONDE LOCKS, THE GINGER SHAVED OR THE BUZZ CUT?

I'm not going to go for either of those, I'll say the actual stage when it went dark before the infamous skin head. It was actually Chris Beardsley who cut my hair that way!



# fiveaside



Michael Thalassitis picks his dream five-a-side team



Young striker Michael Thalassitis gave us his dream five-a-side team.

Consisting of a player he's played with, someone he's played against, a retired player, any world player and any goalkeeper.

Michael is the Gaffer, but who is he calling up?

#### Goalkeeper

Peter Shilton

Never saw him play but I've been told he's good so let's go with him. You have to take the little goals into account

#### World Player

Lionel Messi

Better than Ronaldo, he's just unbelievable at football

#### **Player With**

Robin Shroot

He'd be a ledge five-a-side player, he's tippy-tappy and loves that bit of the game

#### **Played Against**

Gylfi Sigurdsson

Played against him in the Spurs preseason friendly, he's a big player who is good at passing and has 'mad tekkers'

#### **Past Master**

Diego Maradona

He won't pass but it's got to be him, he'd just take on the whole team. He'd help if it kicked off too.



#### MANAGERIAL RECORDS

#### **Gary Smith**

Played 32 Won 13 Drawn 15 Lost 4

For 44 Against 30

Av Pts/game 1.69

Biggest Win(s) Yeovil 0 Stevenage 6 (14/04/2012). Biggest Loss(es)

Tranmere 3 Stevenage 0 (06/04/2012).

#### Paolo Di Canio

Played 59 Won 35 Drawn 10 Lost 14

For 93 Against 44

Av Pts/game 1.95

Biggest Win(s) Swindon 5 Port Vale 0

(28/04/2012). Biggest Loss(es)

Preston 4 Swindon 1 (02/09/2012).

#### MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played0	Gary Smith0	Paolo Di Canio0
Draws0	Goals 0	Goals 0

#### Player with the most...

#### shots

Greg

Tansey 21

#### shots on target

Luke

Freeman 10

#### shots off target

Greg

Tansey 11

#### assists

Freeman 3

#### crosses

Luke

#### free-kicks-won

	-			_	
and the same	January 1	(witnesse)	ANTH-MA	NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.	miero
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-/-			UII	v	

### a win

0	a home win	3
0	an away win	0
1	a defeat	3
5	a home defeat	2
1	an away defeat	4
4	a score draw	0
17	a no score draw	15

conceding > 1

scoring > 1

keeping a clean sheet

failing to score

back to back wins

back to back defeats

gaining a point

losing a point

win by > one

a no score draw Luke conceding a goal scoring a goal

3

0

0

Freeman 22

#### fouls

Lucas

Akins 20

Anthony Grant 37

#### Player with the most... shots

2

3

0

0

1

1

2

3

4

9

0

0

5

11

Andy Williams 23

#### shots on target

Andy

#### Williams 14

shots off target Andy

#### Williams 9

assists

Matt

#### Ritchie 2

crosses

Matt

#### Ritchie 21

#### fouls

Alan

McCormack 16

#### free-kicks-won

Andy Williams 20

#### loss by > one SHARP SHOOTERS

Stevenage	FL C	up	Tot	Swindon	FL C	Cup	Tot
Robin Shroot	5	1	6	James Collins	3	3	6
Lucas Akins	5	0	5	Matt Ritchie	5	0	5
Greg Tansey	3	0	3	Andy Williams	2	1	3

#### TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played0	Stevenage wins0
Draws 0	
0-0's0	

Swindon wins .....0 Goals 0 (0 per game) Times failed to score 0

#### Biggest League win at Stevenage for each team:

No wins for Stevenage

No wins for Swindon

#### PRESS **ASSOCIATION** Sport



#### LEAGUE STATS

Position

Played Won

Drawn

Lost

Goals For

Goals Against

**Points** 





		Reco	rd Against	Top Ha	alf of	Table	
W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
3	1	0	2	3	0	1	4
	R	ecord	Against B	ottom l	Half o	f Tab	le
W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
4	4	1	6	3	4	2	10
		Re	cord When	Scori	ng Fi	rst	
W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
5	1	0	6	6	1	0	4
		Rec	ord When	Conce	ding F	First	
W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
2	4	1	1	0	2	3	15

#### **Match Scores**

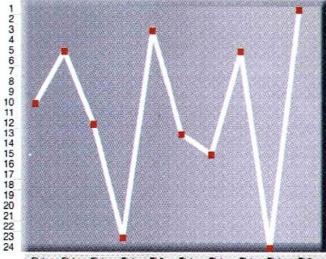
Wins: 1-0[4], 2-1[2], 3-1[1], Losses: 0-1[1], Draws: 1-1[3], 2-2[2]

Wins: 1-0[3], 2-1[1], 3-0[1], 4-0[1], Losses: 0-1[2], 1-4[1], Draws:

0-0[1], 1-1[1], 2-2[2]

#### SWINDON - TEN SEASON RECORD

02/03 03/04 04/05 05/06 06/07 07/08 08/09 09/10 10/11 11/12



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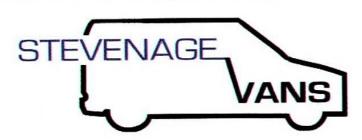


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# from the Country Services

Lloyd Briscoe looks back at the history of Football in Stevenage . . .

#### MAGYAR INVASION

For very many seasons, the average Stevenage fan has been accustomed to seeing a team of home-grown domestic players plying their trade on our turf (and by domestic I include the island of Ireland). One could argue that it's only in recent years that players from 'foreign' lands have arrived in significant numbers.

Take our current squad of players for example. Of the 25 registered, seven of them are from overseas e.g., Filipe Morais (Portugal), Robbie Rogers (USA), Miguel Comminges (Guadelope), Marcus Haber (Canada), Dani Lopez (Spain), Patrick Agyemang (Ghana), etc.

Stevenage has had overseas players in the past - take Barry Hayles (Jamaica) and Lionel Perez (France) for example - but when was the last time a Stevenage squad consisted of such a large contingent of foreign players?

One occasion that springs to mind occurred in 1957. Europe was in the midst of post-war austerity and the 'cold war' between the Soviet Union and the Western alliance was gaining momentum.

In Hungary, a spontaneous peoples' revolt against its leaders and their Soviet-imposed policies resulted in an uprising leading to the downfall of the government.

When the new administration elected to withdraw from the Warsaw Pact, the Politburo in Moscow mobilised a massive Soviet response to crush the revolution by sending troops and tanks into Budapest.

Inevitably, this caused massive unrest and many Hungarians tried to escape the regime by crossing the border into Austria. The majority failed, but some 200,000 managed to get to the West as refugees. The United States took in the majority - over 80,000 - whilst Britain welcomed approximately 22,000.

North Hertfordshire readily accepted its share of the newcomers, with special hostels being opened in Stevenage, Hitchin and Letchworth



to accommodate them. The majority of the Hungarians were fit, young men and strenuous efforts were employed to integrate them into the English way of life.

Inevitably, some of them tried their hand at football. The local clubs relished the opportunity to exploit the new talent which was now on their doorstep, and Hitchin, Letchworth and Stevenage all had their share of Hungarian players on trial at their respective clubs.

During December 1956, Stevenage signed Ora Gyula (forward), Kiss Miklos (half-back) and Nagy Jozsef (goalkeeper).

They were soon followed by two more, Szilva and Sczila. Both Gyula and Miklos were put straight into the Stevenage FC Colts side, playing in the North Herts league.

In his very first game, Gyula impressed. He scored a goal in his debut game against Hitchin Y.C.O.B. at Ransom's Rec and went on to make two more. He was immediately promoted to the reserve team and started playing for Stevenage FC in the Delphian Reserve League.

25-year-old Nagy Jozsef commenced his goalkeeping career with Stevenage, also in the Colts side. In one game, when he was between the sticks against Pirton Social, a local journalist at the time described him as being 'like most continental keepers, as agile as a cat and his saves are spectacular - if somewhat unorthodox at times.'

Letchworth, meanwhile, signed a player called Tibor Pap, but immediately anglicised him renaming him Alec Johnson - due to the fact that to retain his real name might have had serious repercussions and implications on his relatives who still remained in Budapest.

The most successful Hungarian to turn out for Stevenage was Pal Kies. His first game with the club was for the reserves playing away to Aylesbury on Saturday September 7th. Sadly, Stevenage lost that game 8-0 - on account of the fact that the usual goalkeeper (Ray Smith) had to cover for first team duties, and the reserve's manager (Roy Grimwood) had to keep goal.

However, Pal Kies (re-branded as Paul Kiss by the Stevenage faithful) impressed the selectors so much that he was promoted to the 1st XI, Finding a berth on the left wing, Pal's first goal for the club came on November 30th 1957, when in the 16th minute of the second half he slammed home an equalising goal against Hornchurch at the London Road ground.

Sadly, the 'Stripes' lost that game 1-2, but just a couple of weeks later, Kies played alongside another new Stevenage starlet, named Mike Palmer. Mike was a local journelist by trade, and some 40 years later went on to become a director and vice-chairman of Stevenage Borough FC. Pal Kies appeared 27 times for Stevenage during the 1957-58 campaign, scoring five goals for the club in the process.

A new management team consisting of 'Pud' Copeland and Len Bayliss saw a number of players come and go, but signalled the demise of the Hungarian Revolution.



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A number of players will be visiting the STS Tyre Pros Centre in the High Street at Stevenage old town tomorrow between 12-2pm. Why not pop along and say 'Hello' to them?

They will be there to sign autographs as well as having a bit of fun on the day and there will be plenty of goodies for them to give away on the day, including footballs and free tickets for a

match here. There will also be a raffle on the day with all proceeds going to Garden House Hospice. In addition, Continental Tyres will be loaning a state of the art machine to measure the speed of your shot.

The Stevenage Football Club Business Academy was officially launched on Thursday evening in the Broadhall Suite. Over 80 local businesses attended with many of those already meeting new clients and striking deals.

Local MP Stephen McPartland was in attendance and was delighted to see so many local companies represented. It costs nothing to attend so if you would like to gain more business for your company make sure to attend. For more information, please email Clive Abrey onclivea@stevenagefc.com

### CAPTAIN MARVEL COMES TO STEVENAGE

Tickets for our next Sportsman's Dinner are continuing to sell well.

The event will be held at the Holiday Inn, Stevenage, on Wednesday 12th December and the guest speaker will be none other than Bryan Robson.

Tables of eight or ten are available, as are individual tickets, all priced at £60 per head plus VAT to include a three-course roast turkey dinner. To order your tickets please call Clive Abrey on 01438 223223 or email to





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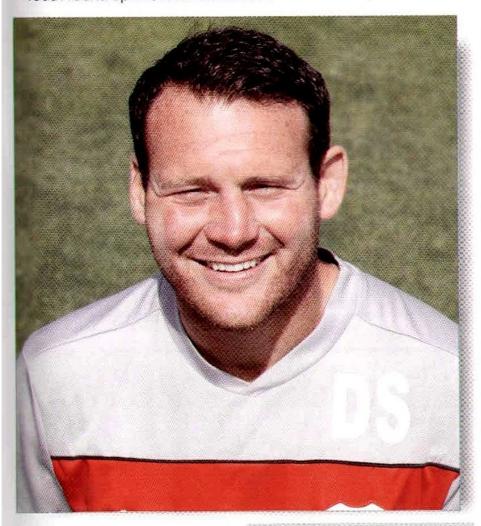
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# stevenageYOUTH



Youth round up with Darren Sarll . . .



A big ten days lay ahead for the Under 18's. We start the weekend - today - by playing Northampton Town at Shephalbury in the Youth alliance League Cup.

It's a game we need to win if we are to move onto the next round from our group stage fixtures. Moving very swiftly to Tuesday night where the FA Youth Cup starts all over again.

Last year Paul Hilton and the boys did really well to face Tottenham in the Third Round and put up such a resilient display. Tuesday we face Luton in the First Round. It'll be a really tough game, we have played them twice already losing and

winning once each 3-2. Luton has a long tradition of player production and always put out strong, talented sides.

Following this game we face Watford at London Colney on the Saturday and then with a bit of luck some of the boys will make the squad for Sawbridgeworth in the Herts Senior Cup next Wednesday.

Back to the FAYC. It's such a marvellous competition and ultimately experience for the boys to be part of. They'll always remember the nights they played in this competition and who against.

For me, it is all about the opportunity. The opportunity to play some terrific football clubs, the opportunity to play as many games as they can in front of the manager and an opportunity to put them all on the footballing map.

If successful on Tuesday we would face Hereford or MK Dons away, another incentive for the boys to progress. Asides from the sparkle of the competition, I've seen it change players.

The atmosphere, playing under the lights, the manager in attendance, it can manipulate the boys thinking and really affect them.

It's a real test of psychological strength and clarity. The youth cup can see some frantic and uncontrollable performances and in my experience if the players can maintain a clear head whilst retaining that fire in t heir belly they will always perform.

In my first stint at the club and the last time I coached a youth cup game at the Lamex (then Broadhall Way) we faced Chelsea in the Third Round. At the time we were a competitive, leading Nationwide Conference side and Chelsea were beginning to assert their dominance on English football.

Chelsea's side that night cost millions to assemble and featured the likes of Gael Kukuta, Michael Woods, Adam Phillip, Frank Nouble, Fabio Borini amongst others who are now gracing professional football. They were also coached by now PSG coach Paul Clement.

The youth cup can open doors and experiences the boys would not receive anywhere in football. It will certainly be a night they will never forget.

It'd be great to see more Stevenage fans supporting the youth, we've tried desperately hard to improve our provision and maybe, just maybe, on the night you'd get the first glimpse of a future first team player.

Enjoy the game,

Darren



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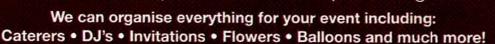
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# BORO IN THE COMMITTY



Alex Tunbridge, head of community and support services, brings you the latest news on Boro's community programmes

Good afternoon and welcome to today's Halloween therned match against Swindon Town.

Attending today's match are participants from this half term's coaching blocks at 20 local schools and joining them on our popular brand new Match Day Pro Packages are Ware Youth and Knebworth Under 7's.

I hope you have a fantastic afternoon here at the Lamex Stadium and if you are here for the first time on our Halloween family promotion we look forward to welcoming you back very soon.

#### HERTFORDSHIRE BUSINESS AWARDS

The scheme received news last week that it has been named a finalist in the 2012 Heritordshire Business Awards for the category of Business in the Community.

The award which is judged on the business's social, environmental and economic impact on the local community will be judged on Thursday 29th November at Knebworth House.

Head of Community Alex Tunbridge stated: 'we are thrilled to have been announced as a finalist for this countywide award and look forward to the awards evening in a month's time'.

#### **HEAD TO KENYA WITH THE BORO**

Stevenage FC in the Community have tearned up with African Adventures to offer Boro supporters the opportunity of a lifetime, the chance to sign up for an African adventure in 2013.

From Monday 27th May - Friday 7th June 2013, the Boro African adventure team will spend 10 days working in schools in Nakuru, a deprived area of South West Kenya. The trip aims to raise £20,000 for Stevenage FC in the Community, whilst supporting African Adventures' partner projects in Kenya, and providing supporters with a life changing experience.

The money raised for Stevenage FC in the Community will help fund the charity's 2013/14 Disability Coaching Programme, in the local Stevenage area, which offers vulnerable adults and young people with disabilities the opportunity to play and enjoy football and sport, creating a level playing field for all.

#### **AFRICAN ADVENTURES**

www.african-adventures.co.uk works with community projects in developing areas of Africa. Volunteers can choose how they help, with project roles ranging from teaching in schools and working with underprivileged children, to football and multi-schools training.

The trip will support African Adventures' Community Development Pledge, which provides resources and micro-finance to all projects it supports.

Volunteers of all ages are welcome but under 16's must be accompanied by a parent/guardian, there is no upper age limit. There will also be an adventure day with a visit to the Rift Valley, which will be included midway through this unique experience.

Alex Tunbridge, Stevenage FC's Head of Community is eager for Boro supporters to enjoy this opportunity and said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for supporters, sponsors and members of the local community to make a difference not just in a deprived area of Africa, but at the same time support disability sport within their local community.

Several members of club staff will be going on this once in a lifetime trip and if you have an interest in football, travel or volunteering we would love you to join us on what will be a fantastic adventure."

Dan Mew, UK Development Manager at

African Adventures, said, 'we are delighted to begin this partnership with Stevenage FC in the Community. Volunteers on this trip will help support our Community Development Pledge, where we have committed to providing schools and youth centres across Kenya with teaching, coaching and community support, as well as development assistance.

Additionally, we are excited at the prospect of supporting Stevenage FC in the Community and their vital work in the Stevenage area.

'Most of all, Boro fans and staff will have a life changing experience and will have positively engaged with over 1000 children who live in extreme poverty.'

All aspects of the trip will be organised by African Adventures and Stevenage FC in the Community including fundraising support.

Anybody interested in finding out more about this exciting opportunity is invited to attend our 2013 African Adventures launch presentation on Monday 12th November at 7.00pm at The Lamex Stadium.

Please email community@stevenagefc.com to register your interest in the trip as spaces are limited.

#### OCTOBER HALF TERM SOCCER CAMPS START MONDAY

Don't forget that our popular Soccer Camps at Stevenage Football Academy start this Monday and run all week.

The camps which are designed for children aged 5-12-years-old are all about learning the game's principal skills whilst having fun and take place between 10am-3pm.

Priced at just £12.50 for one day, £22.00 for two days or £48.00 for the week they are great value for money. To book please call 01438, 368068 or simply turn up on the day of the camp.

Enjoy the match.















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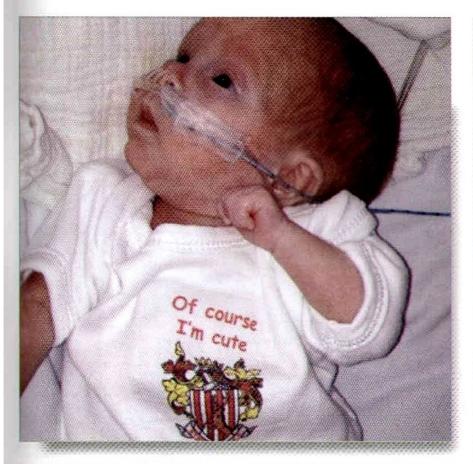
Jack Tasker







#### **SUPPORTERS**



Good afternoon and welcome to this afternoon's League One fixture.

#### BABY BORO

Jack Allder from St Margaret's, Stevenage is member number 2,597 of Baby Boro'.

He was born on 20th August, 11 week's premature and weighing just one pound. He is now home with his proud parents, and is pictured wearing his Baby Boro' baby-grow. On joining Baby Boro they receive a certificate, a badge and a bib, and are sent birthday cards.

The scheme operates until their fifth birthday, when they can move up and join Junior Boro'. Application forms are available at local Registry Offices, the Club Shop or SA website

#### JUNIOR WINNER

Following the recent competition, 11-yr-old Daniel Bucktrout, the winner of the SA Junior competition, will have his photo taken before the game with Boro Bear and his favourite player, Luke Freeman.

#### MATCH DAY TICKET DRAW

Today's lucky ticket winners are Graham Bridgeland from Stevenage and Zac Stimson from St Neots

- We hope you both enjoy your trip to the Lamex this afternoon! At half time today, our secretary, Geoff Gibbs will be drawing two further match day tickets be sure to listen out it as it could be you!

#### SA MEMBERSHIP -BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR

When the SA reaches 900 members, we will hold a draw for two lucky members to experience a behind the scenes tour of the Lamex Stadium.

So if you're not currently members why not join, and if you are a member why not encourage family and friends to join.

#### JUNIOR LOYAL SUPPORTER SCHEME

We've now played nine competitive home games this season and over 30 Junior Boro' members are registering their attendance. For the latest attendance table visit the SA website at sfcsa.co.uk and then visit Junior Boro'.

#### SA MASCOTS - 2012/13

The SA will once again provide two mascots during the season. There will be a draw in December for one lucky SA Junior to lead out the team against Doncaster on the 12th January.

There will be a second mascot draw early in the New Year, for the Hartlepool game in April.

#### JUNIOR MEMBER BIRTHDAYS NOVEMBER

There are a number of junior members celebrating birthdays in the coming days and they include: - Luke Parker, Mabel Barling, Kieren Balston, Joshua Rutherford and Harry Turner.

We hope they all have a very happy birthday. More birthdays in the next home programme.

#### HOLIDAY SNAPS

If you have any holiday snaps of you or your family members wearing Boro' shirts, and would like to appear in a future match day programme, then send them to

#### SA COACH TRAVEL

The SA has arranged for coach travel to be available to the upcoming away games with prices and details shown below. If you interested in booking a seat on one of the coaches then please contact John Carroll, after 6pm, on 01438 814 285 or see him after today's game

#### **ROTHERHAM FACUP**

3 Nov 12 - Depart 10.30am members £15 and non-members £20.

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6 Nov 12 - Departs 15:00 prices: £20 members / £25 non-members

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17 Nov 12 - Departs 11:30 prices: £20 members / £25 non-members

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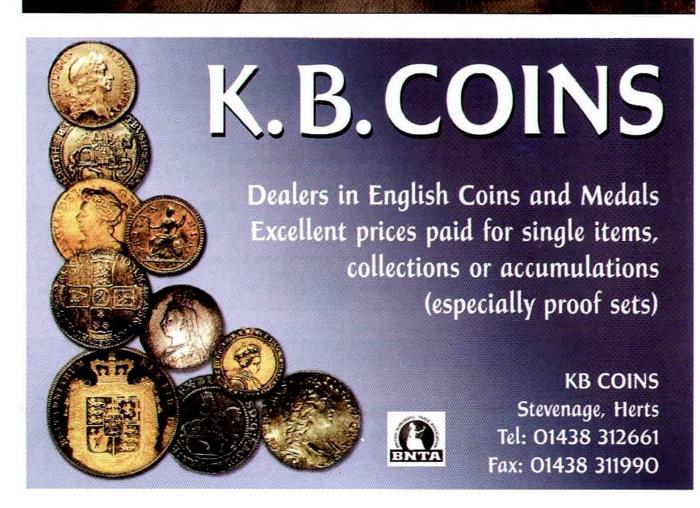
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# Stat Pack

82 goals

21.0%

#### SHARP SHOOTERS

Player	Team	Lge	Cup	Ttl
Izale McLeod	Portsmouth	8	7	9
Jake Cassidy	Tranmere	8	0	8
Andy Robinson	Tranmere	7	0	7
Akpo Sodje	Preston	4	3	7
J Louis Akpa Akpro	Tranmere	7	0	7
Leon Clarke	Scunthorpe	6	0	6
James Hayter	Yeovil	4	2	6
Robin Shroot	Stevenage	5	1	6

#### WHERE TO SEE GOALS (By Ground,

Ground	Home Team	M	Gls	G/Mt
Broadfield Stadium	Crawley Tn	6	23	3.83
Prenton Park	Tranmere	6	20	3.33
Brunton Park	Carlisle	6	19	3.17
Banks's Stadium	Walsall	7	22	3.14
The Lamex Stadium	Stevenage	6	17	2.83
Dean Court	Bournemth	7	19	2.71
Deepdale	Preston	7	19	2.71
Glanford Park	Scunthorpe	6	16	2.67
W H C Stadium	Colchester	7	18	2.57
Fratton Park	Portsmouth	7	18	2.57
Ricoh Arena	Coventry	7	18	2.57
Meadow Lane	N County	6	15	2.50
Bramall Lane	Sheff Utd	6	15	2.50
Griffin Park	Brentford	6	15	2.50
Huish Park	Yeovil	7	17	2.43
Keepmoat Stadium	Doncaster	6	14	2.33
Boundary Park	Oldham	7	16	2.29
County Ground	Swindon	7	16	2.29
Gigg Lane	Bury	6	13	2.17
Victoria Park	Hartlepool	7	15	2.14
stadium:mk	MK Dons	7	13	1.86
Matchroom Stadium	L Orient	6	11	1.83
Greenhous Meadow	Shrewsbury	6	11	1.83
Alexandra Stadium	Crewe	6	11	1.83

#### TEAM LEADERS

Team with the most...

shots on target 79 Crawley Town. shots off target 105 Brentford. corners 93 Milton Keynes Dons. hit woodwork 10 Portsmouth. offsides 48 Shrewsbury. fouls 179 Leyton Orient. yellow cards 27 Scunthorpe. red cards 3 Scunthorpe.

#### PLAYER POWER

Player with the most..

Shots 40 Clayton Donaldson (Brentford). Shots on target 21 David McGoldrick (Coventry). Shots off target 23 Clayton Donaldson (Brentford). Assists 5 Alan Judge (Notts County). Crosses 54 Marc Pugh (Bournemth). Offsides 26 Marvin Morgan (Shrewsbury). Fouls 31 Marvin Morgan (Shrewsbury). Free-kicks won 37 Anthony Grant (Stevenage).

#### PRESS ASSOCIATION Sport

# GOAL COUNTER 391 RIGHT FOOT 211 goals 54.0% LEFT FOOT 89 goals 22.8%

Own goals 8 (2.0%), Other body part 1 (0.1%)

HEADERS

### QUICK-FIRE GOALS From the start of a match

James Collins (Bury vs Swindon)	0:37
By a substitute after coming on	
Evan Horwood (Crewe vs Hartlenool)	0.39

#### DISCIPLINARY



2.8 cards per match

0.2 cards per match

#### QUICK-FIRE CARDS

From the start of a match M Rowlands (Crawley Tn vs Leyton Orient) 2:27

By a substitute after coming on James O'Shea (Walsall vs MK Dons) 2:17

#### SUB TOTALS

Subs used	. 780
Offsides	. 809
Corners	1631

Shots Off Target ..... 1649

#### BEAT THE TRAFFIC

Total number of goals you would have missed by leaving every match ten minutes early

0

7

2

#### 2012/13 SEASON



In the npower

Football League

One this season there have been

1511 shots on

(doesn't include own goals). The

woodwork has come to the

rescue of the defending side

beneficiaries being Colchester

9). There have been 35

success rate of 74.3%).
Hartlepool have been awarded most penalties - 3. Scunthorpe have given most penalties away 4. The team to score the most

penalties is Tranmere 2.

Portsmouth

penalties in the

npower Football

League One this

missed 2

season.

penalties awarded this season and of those 26 have been scored (a

on 81 occasions (the biggest

target, goals constitute 25.9% of all shots RESULTS

How many times each result has occurred this season home sides score shown first

score si first	hown
0-0	8
0-1	8 18 4 3 2
0-2	4
0-3	3
0-4	2
0-5	
1-0	18
1-1	26
1-2	17
1-3	18 26 17 3 1
0-0 0-1 0-2 0-3 0-4 0-5 1-0 1-1 1-2 1-3 1-4 1-5 2-0 2-1 2-2 2-3 2-4 2-5 3-0 3-1 3-2 3-3 3-4 3-5 4-0 4-1 4-2 4-3 4-4 4-5 5-0 5-1 5-0 5-1 5-0 5-1 5-0 5-1 5-0 5-1 5-0 5-1 5-0 6-0 6-0 6-0 6-0 6-0 6-0 6-0 6	1
1-5	
2-0	9 7 12
2-1	7
2-2	12
2-3	
2-4	
2-5	
3-0	4
3-1	1 4 9 4
3-2	
3-4	
3-5	
4-0	2
4-1	2 3 1
4-2	1
4-3	
4-4	
4-5	1 1
5-0	1
5-1	1
5-2	

up to and including 21/10/2012

5-3

5-4

#### STATS

#### **LEAGUE TABLE 2012/13** PWDLFAWDLFA GD PTS Tranmere 14 5 1 1 17 6 4 2 18 30 1 14 7 2 STEVENAGE 14 3 4 0 12 8 5 1 1 8 4 8 29 3 Sheff Utd 14 3 4 0 10 6 4 3 0 8 8 4 Crawley 14 5 0 2 14 11 4 1 2 8 7 4 28 5 Notts County 14 3 1 3 12 9 4 3 14 6 25 Doncaster 13 3 1 2 7 2 11 5 6 24 7 Swindon 14 3 2 2 11 5 3 2 2 8 9 22 8 Preston 14 3 2 2 13 6 3 21 Brentford 14 5 1 1 12 6 0 5 7 9 4 21 10 MK Dons 14 4 2 1 9 4 1 3 3 6 7 20 11 Yeavil 14 3 3 9 8 3 0 15 13 3 19 12 Colchester 14 3 3 1 11 7 2 1 4 9 19 13 Carlisle 14 2 2 3 9 14 3 2 2 8 9 -6 19 14 Portsmouth 14 3 3 10 8 2 2 12 14 0 15 Walsall 14 2 2 3 10 12 3 1 7 8 -3 18 14 3 2 2 7 16 'Crewe 7 3 3 1 7 13 -6 17 7 17 Oldham 13 2 3 2 9 2 1 3 5 18 Leyton Orient 14 3 0 4 6 7 2 1 4 5 10 -6 16 19 Bournemouth 14 2 4 1 11 8 1 2 4 9 17 -5 15 20 Shrewsbury 14 3 1 3 8 7 0 3 4 6 11 -4 21 Coventry 14 1 3 3 8 10 1 2 4 6 12 -8 11 22 Scunthorpe 14 1 2 4 7 14 1 2 4 4 10 -13 10 23 Bury 14 1 2 4 5 11 0 3 4 9 15 -12 8 24 Hartlepool 14 1 3 3 7 8 0 1 6 4 16 -13 7

							A CONTRACTOR OF THE	
	LGE APPS	GLS	CUP APPS	GLS	YC	RC	TOTAL APPS	1
Goalkeepers:								
01-Steve Arnold	5 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	0	0	6 (0)	0
16-Chris Day	9 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	0	0	222(0)	0
Defenders:		20		T.			FF	
02-David Gray	13 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	2	0	16 (0)	0
03-Lee Hills	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	0 (0)	0
04-Darius Charles	12 (1)	1	3 (0)	0	2	0	67 (16	10
05-Jon Ashton	8 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	0	0	159 (6	5
12-Anthony Furlange	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	0 (0)	0
14-Mark Roberts	14 (0)	0	3 (0)	1	0	0	206 (0	23
22-Miguel Comminge	s4 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	2	0	4 (0)	0
29-Bondz N'Gala	4 (2)	0	2 (0)	0	0	0	6 (2)	0
Midfielders:			18					
06-Greg Tansey	9 (4)	3	3 (0)	0	3	0	12 (4)	2
07-Anthony Grant	11 (2)	0	2(1)	0	4	1	13 (3)	0
08-James Dunne	12 (2)	0	2 (0)	1	4	0	14 (2)	1
10-Filipe Morais	8 (3)	2	2 (0)	0	2	0	10 (3)	2
11-Lucas Akins	13 (1)	5	1 (1)	0	1	0	14 (2)	5
15-Luke Freeman	10 (3)	1	2 (1)	0	0	0	40 (8)	8
17-Matt Ball	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	0 (0)	0
20-Robbie Rogers	1 (3)	0	2 (0)	0	0	0	3 (3)	0
23-Dani Lopez	0 (1)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	0 (1)	0
25-Oliver Risser	3 (6)	0	1 (0)	0	0	0	4 (6)	1
32-Robin Shroot	4 (6)	4	0 (3)	1	0	0	19 (28	11
Strikers:		1	JAK.	13				
09-Marcus Haber	11 (2)	1	2(1)	1	1%	0	13 (3)	3
18-Don Cowan	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	2 (8)	0
19-Michael Thalassitis	0 (2)	0	0 (2)	1	0	0	0 (7)	1
24-Pat Agyemang	3 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	0	0	14 (8)	1

# stats12/13

P05

44

3

33333

DATE	OPPONENT	H/A	COMP	RES	ATT
Tue 14	AFC Wimbledon	H	COC1	3-1 og	2018
Sat 18	Carlisle United	H	NL1	1-1	2736
Tue 21 Sat 25	Leyton Orient	A	NL1	1-0	3564
Tue 28	Oldham Athletic Southampton	H	COC2	1-0 1-4	3142 3,062
SEPTEME	BER		5502		0,002
Sat 1	Shrewsbury Town	H	NL1	1-1	2,374
Tue 4 Sun 9	Dagenham & Red	A	JPT1 NL1	2-3	981
Sat 15	Coventry City Crewe Alexandra	H	NL1	2-1 <b>2-2</b>	9,458 <b>2,826</b>
Tue 18	Walsall	H	NL1	3-1	2,634
Sat 22	Doncaster Rovers	A	NL1	1-1	5,910
Sat 29 OCTOBER	Bury	Н	NL1	2-2	2,660
Tue 2	Notts. County	Α	NL1	2-1	4,927
Sat 6	Scunthorpe United	Ĥ	NL1	1-0	2,953
Sat 13	Colchester United	A	NL1	0-1	4,045
Sat 20	Milton Keynes Dons	A	NL1	1-0	9,190
Tue 23 Sat 27	Portsmouth Swindon Town	H	NL1	2-1	
NOVEMBE		п			
Sat 3	Rotherham Utd	A	FAC1		
Tue 6	Yeovil Town	A			
Sat 10 Sat 17	Preston North End Sheffield United	A			
Tue 20	A.F.C. Bournemouth	A			
Sat 24	Tranmere Rovers	H			
DECEMBE					
Sat 1 Sat 8	F.A. Cup 2	۸			
Sat 15	Hartlepool United Crawley Town	A			
Sat 22	Brentford	A			
Wed 26	Coventry City	H			
Sat 29 JANUARY	Notts. County	Н			
Tue 1	Walsall	Α			
Sat 5	Crewe Alexandra		A Cup 3		
Sat 12	Doncaster Rovers	H			
Sat 19 Sat 26	Bury	A			
FEBRUAR	Brentford Y	H/F.	A. Cup 4		
Sat 2	Leyton Orient	H			
Sat 9	Carlisle United	Α.			
Sat 16	Oldham Athletic		A. Cup 5		
Sat 23 Tue 26	Shrewsbury Town Scunthorpe United	A			
MARCH	course or secu	7.			
Sat 2	Colchester United	H			
Sat 9	Preston North End		A Cup 6		
Tue 12 Sat 16	A.F.C. Bournemouth Sheffield United	H			
Sat 23	Tranmere Rovers	A			
Sat 30	Crawley Town	A			
APRIL	Heatles at H. S. J.				
Mon 1 Sat 6	Hartlepool United Portsmouth	H			
Sat 13	Yeovil Town	H			
Sat 20	Swindon Town	A			
Sat 27	Milton Keynes Dons	H			
MAY Sat 11	F.A. Cup Final				
- II	12 L COP I HE				



Disv	Gray	Charles	Roberts	Ngala	Tansey*	Grant	Dunne1	Morais**	Haber1***	Freeman
Day	Gray	N'Gata	Roberts	Charles	Grant	Dunne	Morais**	Tansey*	Freeman	Haber**
Day	Gray	Ashton	Roberts	Charles	Grant	Dunne	Akins 1	Shroot	Freeman	Haber
Day	Gray	Ashton	Roberts	Charles	Grant	Dunne	Akins 1	Morais**	Freeman*	Haber
Cay	Gray	Ashton	Roberts	Charles	Atkins	Tansey**	Dunne	Rogers*	Freeman	Haber***
Day	Gray	Ashton	Roberts	Charles1	Rogers*	*Grant	Tansey*	Dunne	Freeman*	***Akins
Arrold	Grav	Roberts1	N'Gala	Charles	Morais	Grant	Risser	Tansey	Rogers	Agyemang
Day	Gray	Charles	Ashton*	Roberts	Grant	Dunne	Shroot 1*	Akins	Freeman	Agyemang
Day	Gray	Ashton	Roberts	Charles	Akins**	Grant***	Dunne	Freeman1	Agyeman	g* Haber
Day	Gray	Ashton	Roberts	Comminges	Grant	Tansey1	Akins1	Shroot1*	Freeman'	**Agyernang
Day	Gray	Ashton	Roberts	Comminges	Risser1	Akins	Dunne	Grant	Morais*	Haber**
Day	Gray	Ashton*	Roberts	Charles	Grant**	Dunne	Tansey1	Akins	Freeman	Haber1
Amold	Gray***	Roberts	Charles	Comminges	Grant*	Risser	Akins1	Morais**	Haber	Dunne*
Amold	Dunne	Roberts	Charles	Comminges	Tansey 1	Grant*	Akins	Shroot**	*Morais**	Haber
Arrold	Grav	N'Gala	Roberts	Charles	Grant	Tansev*	Akins***	Dunne	Morais**	Haber
Amold	Gray	N'Gaia	Roberts	Charles	Akins1	Tansey	Morais**	Dunne	Freeman'	'Haber
Amold	Grav	N'Gata	Roberts	Charles	Tansey	Dunne*	Akins***	Morais 2	Freeman'	**Haber

Ashton Shroot\* Akins\*\* Thalassitis\*\*\* Amold "Akins" Shroot 1" "Thalassitis" " Tansey\* Morais\*\*Thalassitis Tansey\* Rogers\*\* Shroot\* Grant\*\* Thalassitis 1\*\*\* Amoid N'Gala Furlonge Ball Morais\* Agyernang\*\* Shroot\*\*\*Amold Comminges N'Gala Thalassitis Shroot 1\*\*Freeman\*\*\* Ball Haber\* Comminges N'Gala\* Risser\*\* Haber1\*\*\* Amold Comminges Tansey Lopez Shroot 1\* Tansey\*\*Lopez\*\*\*
Haber\* Dunne\*\*Risser\*\*\* Tansey\* Charles\*\* Risser\* Morais\*\* Shroot\*\*\* Freeman\*\* Shroot1\*\*\* Freeman\*\*Risser\* Ngala\*\*\*



MUSIC



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The leading independent publisher of business magazines, websites and events within entertainment, technology and leisure.

Risser\* Freeman\*\* Shroot\*\*\* Risser\* Rogers\*\*

Risser\*\* Rodgers\*\*\*

Grant\*









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# next up . . .

Dave Toyn takes a look at the forthcoming FA Cup game against Rotherham United followed by a trip to Yeovil a week on Tuesday before returning to face Preston North End at The Lamex in a fortnight's time.



#### Rotherham United

FA Cup – First Round Saturday 3rd November New York Stadium, New York Way, Rotherham, S60 1AH Kick Off: 3pm

#### LAST TIME WE MET

Rotherham slid to a third straight defeat after they were beaten convincingly at Stevenage in February 2011.

Boro opened the scoring through Peter Winn who smashed home a low shot from 20 yards.

Adam Le Fondre had the Millers' best chance, his left-foot shot going wide, before Byron Harrison tapped in Rob Sinclair's cross to put Boro 2-0 up. Scott Laird added a third for the hosts, his well-hit shot giving keeper Andy Warrington no chance.

BORO: Day, Henry, Ashton, Roberts, Laird, Wilson, Bostwick, Mousinho (Sinclair), Bridges (Charles), Winn (Harrison), Beardsley. SUBS NOT USED: Bayes, Foster, Griffin, Daley

#### **KEY MAN**

Daniel Nardiello currently leads the Millers' goal scoring charts with five strikes this season, all of which have come in League Two.

The English-born Welsh international started his career at Manchester United and has gone on to play for seven clubs, most notably Barnsley for whom he scored 29 times in 119

appearances. The 29-year-old joined Exeter in July 2010 and scored 31 goals in two seasons before arriving at the New York Stadium this summer, where he has scored in games against Burton, Port Vale, Rochdale and Morecambe.

#### Yeovil Town

nPower League One Tuesday 6th November 2012 Huish Park, Lufton Way, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 8YF Kick Off; 7,45pm

#### LAST TIME WE MET

Stevenage kept alive their League One play-off hopes with a thumping victory at Yeovil in April. Former Yeovil loanee Luke Freeman put the visitors ahead and the hosts then had Michael Woods sent off.

Patrick Agyemang added a second just before the break and Jon Ashton headed in the third. Freeman then set up Jamaal Lascelles and Mark Roberts, and completed the scoring himself with a tap-in two minutes from time.

BORO: Day, Lascelles, Ashton, Roberts, Laird, Wilson (Myrie-Williams), Long, Bostwick (Mousinho), Freeman, Agyemang, Reid (Slew). SUBS NOT USED: Shroot, Thalassitis

#### KEY MAR

Experienced striker James Hayter has seven goals to his name this season, including five in League One.

The 33-year-old left Doncaster in the summer following their relegation from the Championship, having played 165 league appearances for them since signing for £200,000 in 2007.

The striker still holds the record for the fastest ever Football League hat-trick during his time at Bournemouth where he scored three in two minutes and 20 seconds.

He topped the goal scoring charts five years running at Dean Court, with 107 goals in 407 appearances during his 11-year spell at the club from 1996 to 2007.

#### Preston North End

nPower League One Saturday 10th November 2012 The Lamex Stadium, Stevenage Kick Off; 3pm

#### LAST TIME WE MET

Mark Roberts's last-gasp header earned Stevenage a point as Graham Westley returned to his former stomping ground with new club Preston. Patrick Agyemang threatened early on for the hosts when he cut inside from the right but could only fire over.

lain Hume looked to have won it for North End when he slotted calmly past Boro keeper Chris Day. But Roberts rose highest to head home Michael Bostwick's corner in the fourth minute of stoppage time.

BORO: Day, Henry, Ashton, Roberts, Laird, Wilson, Bostwick, Byrom (Myrie-Williams), Freeman, Agyemang (Slew), Reid (Thalassitis) SUBS NOT USED: Lascelles, Mousinho

#### **KEY MAN**

Midfielder Nicky Wroe is having a storming season, becoming a key part of an industrious midfield for Preston whilst finding the back of the net with regularity too.

The 26-year-old former Shrewsbury and Torquay man certainly has an eye for goal, striking seven times already this season, including one against Huddersfield and two against Crystal Palace, both in the Capital One Cup, and a hat-trick earlier this week against Scunthorpe in the league in a 3-2 win.

## rotherham united

After two home games Boro' make the trip to Yorkshire to face Rotherham in the FA Cup first round

#### WHAT'S THE NEW YORK STADIUM LIKE?

After spending four years at the Don Valley Stadium in Sheffield, the club have returned home to Rotherham. The new stadium, which cost in the region of £20m to build, is located close to their old Millimoor ground where they played for 101 years.

The area of Rotherham where the ground is located is historically known as New York (hence the stadium name) and is built on the site of the old Guest & Chrimes factory. Set beside the River Don, the stadium from the outside looks far larger than its 12,000 capacity and is quite striking in its design. It is totally enclosed and all seated.

On one side is the Eric Twigg Foods Pukka Pies (West) Stand. This is the largest of the four single tiered stands. It is unusual in so much that the middle seated area of the stand is situated at a lower level than either of the wings.

There is an executive area above this with seating outside and yet further above is a television gantry, set into the red panelled wall. The other sides of the stadium are much smaller in size. Both ends are virtually identical, except that the Morrisons (South) Stand has a small electric scoreboard situated at the back of it.

On the remaining side is the Ben Bennett (East) Stand, which is slightly less taller than both the ends. This simple looking stand has two large areas built into the front of the stand for the use of disabled supporters.

The most interesting feature inside the stadium is the roof. This descends down from the West Stand over the ends its large 'steps' eventually meeting the East Stand. A large amount of transparent perspex has been used in the roof to allow more light to reach the playing surface and improve their overall look. On the roof of the East Stand are two futuristic looking floodlight pylons that are supplemented by a row of lights above the West Stand.

#### WHAT CAN BORO' FANS EXPECT?

Away fans are housed in the Morrison Stand at one end of the stadium, where around 2,500 supporters can be accommodated. As you would expect from a new stadium the facilities and views of the playing action are generally good.

The angle of the stand is quite steep, meaning that it is a bit of a hike to get to the top. On the

concourse the food and drink available includes: a range of Pukka Pies (Chicken Balti, Meat & Potato, Steak & Kidney, all £3), Pasties (£3), Jumbo Sausage Rolls (£2.50), Hot Dogs (£3.50), Cheeseburgers (£3.50) and Burgers (£3.50).

These are available from two refreshment kiosks on the concourse. I noticed that most fans tended to head to the kiosk closest to the entrance turnstiles, resulting in queues at this outlet whilst the other had few or no customers. The stewards were generally laid back and friendly and I thought it was a nice touch that smokers were allowed to go outside the stadium for a cigarette at half time.

There is also a large television screen on the concourse showing Sky Sports. The stadium turnstiles are equipped with automatic turnstiles (where you insert your ticket into a bar code reader) but these don't yet seem to be in operation.

My only real criticism was that I could hardly make out a single word that the stadium announcer said and that the bottom of my pie was burnt!

Plus there didn't seem that there were any barriers in place at the front of the away section to prevent away fans entering the home sections. I know that this is normally not a worry, but in a more highly charged game.....Unlike most new stadiums which are situated way out of town in the middle of nowhere, the New York Stadium is located close to the town centre.

This not only means good transport links, but also a fair choice of eating and drinking outlets.

#### WHERE TO DRINK?

There are a number of pubs in the nearby town centre, which are only a few minute's walk from the stadium. These include three Wetherspoon pubs. One of these; the Bluecoat (on the Crofts) is also CAMRA Good Beer Guide listed, whilst closer to the railway station is the Rhinoceros. These pubs though tend to have more a home feel about them.

A better bet may be the Bridge Inn, which is located quite close to the railway station (turn right out of the station and the pub is across the road on the left).

This pub which is listed in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide serves beers from the Old Mill Brewery as well as guest beers and a real cider. This pub was welcoming towards away fans on my visit and it wasn't too bad to get served inside. Alcohol is also available inside the stadium in the form of: Fosters, John Smiths (Both £3 a pint), Bulmers (£3 a bottle), plus Red, White and Rose wines (£3.90 small bottle). If travelling by train and changing at Sheffield station, then on the station itself (Platform One) is the Sheffield Tap which serves real ales and is run by the Thombridge Brewery (please note though that no football colours are allowed).

#### HOW DO I GET THERE AND WHERE DO I PARK?

Leave the M1 at Junction 33 and take the A630 towards Rotherham. After around two miles and crossing over three roundabouts you will reach the stadium on your right.

You will pass the floodlights of Millmoor on your left and at the next roundabout (called the Masbrough roundabout with the Liquid night club on one corner) turn right onto Main Street and the entrance to the stadium is down on the right.

Car parking at the stadium is for permit holders only. However there are a number of pay & display car parks located around the town centre. Otherwise there is some street parking available around the area of the Millmoor ground, which is around a 15 minute walk away from the visitors turnstiles.

There is a multi storey car park located next to the Interchange Bus Station which costs £2.80 for four hours. Post Code for Sat-Nav: S60 1QY (nearby Police Station on Main Street)

The nearest railway station is Rotherham Central which only a five minute walk from the stadium. The stadium is located almost directly behind the railway station.

As you come out of the main station entrance turn right along Bridge Street. Opposite the Bridge Inn is a footpath that goes along one side of the River Don down towards a Tesco superstore. Walk along this footpath and then head towards the Tesco car park entrance. Turn left going up over the bridge across the river and then take the next right into Market Street.

At the bottom of Market Street turn right into Main Street and the stadium entrance is down this road on the left.

# theSQUADS

#### STEVENAGE

Manager: Gary Smith Kit: White & Red



#### SWINDON TOWN

Manager: Paolo D Canio Kit: Blue/Yellow



### theOFFICIALS

REFERE: Darren Deadman ASSISTANT: Paul Kelly ASSISTANT: Andrew Laver 4TH OFFICIAL: Dave Bushel



1.	Steve Arnold
2.	David Gray
3.	Lee Hills

4. Darius Charles

5. Jon Ashton

Greg Tansey
 Anthony Grant

8. James Dunne

9. Marcus Haber

10. Filipe Morais

11 Lucas Akins

12. Anthony Furlonge

14. Mark Roberts (c)

15. Luke Freeman

16. Chris Day

17. Matt Ball

18. Don Cowan

19. Michael Thalassitis

20 Robbie Rogers

21. Andrew Iro

22 Miguel Comminges

23 Dani Lopez

24 Pat Agyemang

25 Oliver Risser

29. Bondz N'Gala

32. Robin Shroot

			E Committee	
				1 Wes Foderingham
		$\Box$		2 Troy Archibald-Henville
$\Box$	$\Box$			3 Jay McEveley
$\Box$	$\Box$	$\Box$		4 Aden Flint
	$\Box$			5 Joe Devera
				6 Alan Navarro
				8 Simon Ferry
				9 James Collins
	П			10 Matt Ritchie
				11 Gary Roberts
				12 Alan McCormack
				14 Paul Benson
				15 Nathan Thompson
				16 Andy Williams
				18 Tommy Miller
				19 Louis Thompson
				20 Miles Storey
				21 Federico Bessone
				22 Darren Ward
				23 Raffaele De Vita
				28 Adam Rooney
				30 Leigh Bedwell
				33 John Bostock
	$\Box$			

#### theFIXTURES

#### NPOWER LEAGUE ONE SATURDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2012

3pm Kick-Off unless otherwise stated

Brentford Hartlepool Run v Walsall Carlisle Bournemouth Crawley Oldham Crewe Yeovil Leyton Orient Coventry Notts County Doncaster Scunthorpe MK Dons Shrewsbury Colchester Stevenage Swindon Tranmere Preston

#### MONDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2012

Sheff Utd

v Portsmouth 19.45



#### **PRESTON NORTH END**

SATURDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 3,00PM

#### TRANMERE ROVERS

SATURDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 3.00PM NPOWER LEAGUE ONE



# 

FOOTBALL FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY AT STS TYRE PROS - STEVENAGE THIS SUNDAY



- Meet the Stevenage FC first team! Challenge them at penalties to see how your skills compare
- Win fabulous prizes in our raffle including:
  - Stevenage FC shirts
  - £50 voucher for STS Tyre Pros Stevenage
  - Match day tickets
  - Continental footballs

- Test your skill on the Bridgestone Racing Simulator
- All proceeds go to the Garden House Hospice

Come and join the fun from 10.30am until 3.30pm. Bring all the family!

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR FOOTBALL SHIRT AND GET YOUR KIT SIGNED BY YOUR FAVOURITE PLAYERS Players will be there between 12 - 2pm to celebrate STS Tyre Pros' sponsorship of Stevenage this season

#### **STEVENAGE**

100 High Street (Old Town) SG1 3DW

Tel: 01438 313333

OPENING TIMES: Monday-Friday 8am-6pm,

Saturdays 8am-5pm and Sundays 9am-1pm





# Every team needs great supporters...

#### Is your office letting the side down?

Did you realise you spend more time in your office chair than on the sofa watching your favourite team? A great chair will help you work smarter so imagine what you could achieve with a great office!

Call us for a no obligation appraisal of your work space and to try out some of our supporters for free.











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an our QR code for more information...