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### PUBLISHING & MEDIA

The views expressed by individual contributors are not necessarily the views of Sheffield United FC. O Publishing or the editor.







Your applause for our Redtooth Academy youngsters at the weekend was appreciated, UTB brings you up-to-date with their progress this season.





### Nigel Clough Manager

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Welcome to Bramall Lane for the final time this season, it is only a few days since we were all last here but the anticipation for this game has been building for weeks.

It is clear that everyone associated with this Club understands the importance of the next three games. The record books tell us that the play-offs have not been kind, but history means nothing at kick-off and it is hoped that in the early evening of Sunday 24th May, Blades fans will feel very differently about these end-of-season games.

Just over a year ago, we were being told that United never perform at Wembley, had never scored a goal there in open play, but we went and got three, giving a Premiership team a fright in the process, proving that perceptions change.

The simple fact of the matter is that we have three games to achieve what we set out to accomplish at the start of the season. We wanted to make the top two, we didn't make it, but we want to enjoy the fact that we are still in the hunt for promotion. Not many are afforded this opportunity, now we have three games to complete the task.

It has been said, numerous times, that if you do win the play-offs that it is the best way to go up. Let's hope we have that experience.

Another comment that we've heard a lot this week is that you can't win a play-off semi-final in the first leg, but you can lose it.
A strange sentence, but true.

We'd love nothing more than to make a strong start and get in front, like we did on Sunday, but we have to be patient...it may come down to the last ten minutes at the County Ground on Monday evening to decide the tie. If that's the way we book our place at Wembley, then so be it.

We've watched Swindon extensively recently and no doubt they will have done likewise with us. Their strength is keeping the ball and it is highly unlikely that philosophy will change tonight or in the return leg. We extend the welcome to Mark Cooper and his staff.



"It goes without saying that we need the backing of all Blades fans. Not many crowds at League One level can have an effect on a game – here is different."

It goes without saying that we need the backing of all Blades fans. Not many crowds at League One level can have an effect on a game – here is different.

As proved in big games, home and away, the fans can have a major influence. The Southampton and Spurs games at Bramall Lane, for instance, it should not be underestimated for one moment how a positive vibe around this famous stadium is a tremendous factor.

Whilst on the subject of fans, with play-off qualification assured, it was amazing to see the crowd figure for the weekend's fixture with Chesterfield.

In the circumstances, it was always going to

be a difficult game and Chesterfield showed why they have finished in the top six, but we acquitted ourselves well despite making five changes. We deservedly got something from the fixture to ensure we finished fifth.

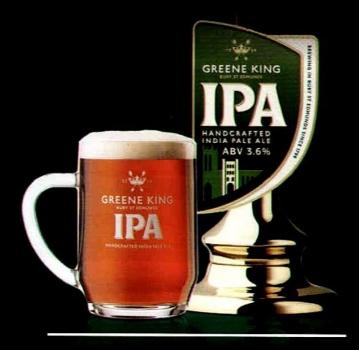
Like Swindon have done recently, we took the opportunity to make changes. Marc McNulty came in and took his goal well, he needed a game to improve his sharpness, as did the likes of Jay McEveley, Stefan Scougall and Ryan Flynn.

On the other side of the coin, we thought a few could benefit from a rest, including Jamie Murphy, who we hope will have an important influence in the play-off games. Congratulations to Jamie, who took the major honours at the Club's Player of the Year dinner at weekend. His contribution to the season was recognised, whilst, also at the awards, it was great to see a lot of the behind-the-scenes staff acknowledged for their long-term contribution to the Club. Well done to the commercial team and all involved in making it a tremendous night.

Finally, as these are my final notes of the season, I would like to thank everyone who has backed us through an action-packed 10 months, my first full campaign as we aim to build foundations for success. From the board of directors, to members of staff, players and fans, the support is hugely appreciated as we continue the journey to get this Club where it wants to be.

CRAFTED FOR THE MOMENT

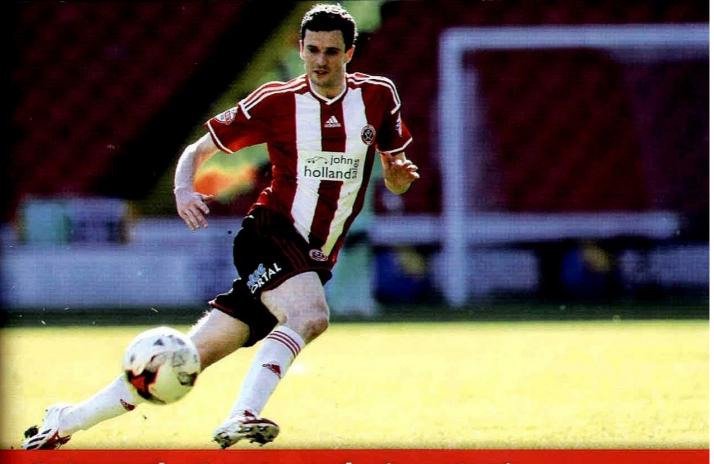
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### 'In it together', says award-winner Jamie

After netting a hat-trick of awards at last week's Player of the Year Awards Dinner at the City Hall, Jamie Murphy says he hopes to be celebrating again at Wembley on Sunday 24th May.

The Scottish forward, who has netted 12 goals in all competitions, in addition to claiming 15 assists this term, has been instrumental in the Blades successes to date this campaign, but insists United must finish off the job this month to make it a season to remember.

Reflecting on the recognition he recently received before looking ahead to this evening's clash against Swindon Town, the 25-year-old remarked: "It is always nice to get the personal accolades but every footballer, and I am no different, will say they mean very little if you don't achieve anything as a team.

"So I will look back on them with fondness in the summer if I know we are returning in pre-season as a Championship club, that's my sole focus at the moment.

"We have been looking forward to the prospect of the play-offs for a while and we are raring to go.

"Our form and Swindon's too has been a bit up and down in recent weeks as we have both prepared for what is now effectively a three-game season. "The Gaffer has planned it very well, like you'd expect, he has given players, including myself, a rest, whilst introducing youngsters like Che (Adams) and Dominic (Calvert-Lewin).

"The mood in the dressing room is positive; we are confident and can't wait to crack on now.

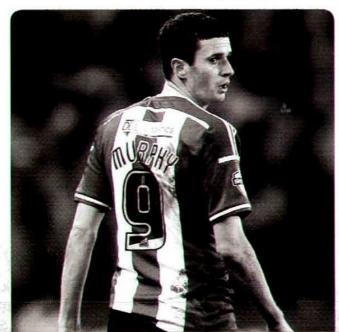
"We have prepared well, the aim to win promotion remains a realistic possibility." Having reached the semi-final of both major cup competitions in consecutive seasons under Nigel Clough, much has been made about United's 'big game' mentality and Jamie is hoping that trait continues throughout the current the month at the very least.

He added: "We tend to perform better in the cup matches for some reason, hopefully that continues to be the case.

"For some strange reason we tend to find that extra 10 per cent in big games and often that can be the difference.

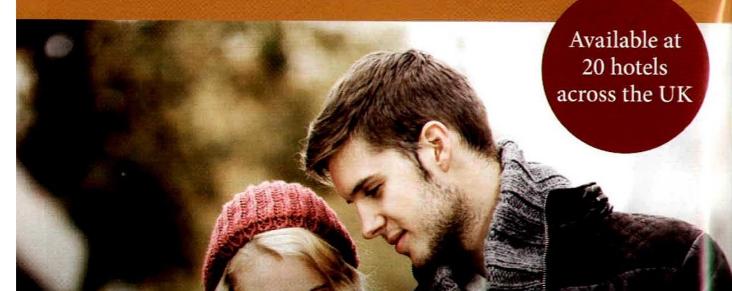
"The fans expect and rightly so, but we as players do too and the staff are no different, we are all in it together striving for the same goal.

"We want to win the first-leg obviously, but we can't afford to do anything stupid because you can't win the tie in the first-leg but you can give yourself a mountain to climb if it goes against you."



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### Experienced Jay wants another play-off success

Jay McEveley, a play-off winner with Derby County in 2007, hopes to be celebrating at Wembley for a second time with the Blades later this month.

Jay is also confident he should be able to play his part in United's promotion push after finally shaking off a troublesome shoulder problem that has hampered him in recent weeks.

And he insists there will be no room for sentiment in United's quest for success, with his former club Swindon Town standing between Nigel Clough's side and an appearance at the national stadium for a second consecutive year.

The former Robins defender says facing his previous employers doesn't make this semi-final tie more significant, saying his focus since arriving in South Yorkshire earlier this season has always been helping the Club win promotion, a scenario that is still very much alive.

The experienced campaigner remarked: "Sunday was a big

game for me personally, I have had a couple of injections in my shoulder in a bid to put talk of operations to bed and thankfully the problems seemed to have settled down a lot.

"I needed to prove my fitness to the Gaffer and myself against Chesterfield and it was good test, I didn't suffer any reaction so that was positive news and I hope to play a part on Thursday night if selected. "Of course when it is your former club everyone thinks it means more to you, but for me the aim is simple, help Sheffield United win promotion to the Championship, that focus hasn't changed since day one.

"We know Swindon are a good side, but they will be saying the same about us, there isn't much between the four sides in the play-offs, there are no easy games at this stage of the

season, but we are ready and determined to achieve what we set out to at the beginning of the campaign."

The versatile defender knows from experience the play-off system is all about the victors and he is urging his team-mates to put in a strong first-leg performance ahead of Monday's return at the County Ground.

"Everybody says the going up through the play-offs is the best way to do it and when you have gone up that way then they are probably right.

"But to get to the final you need to be strong and resolute over two-legs and a positive result at home first up can often be crucial, that's our aim.

"People will say we have done it in cup competitions for the last two seasons under the Gaffer and this is very similar, but arguably the prize at the end of this month is much, much bigger, this Club needs to be back in the Championship as soon as possible."





18/04/15 Sky Bet League One Attendance: 21,879 Referee: G. Scott

### **Sheffield** United Bradford

Holt 57



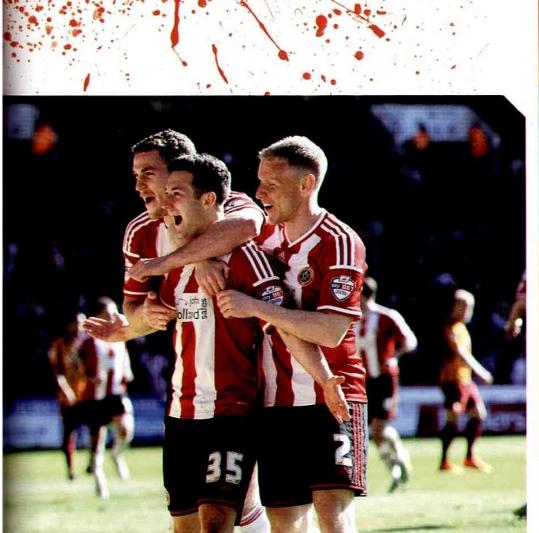


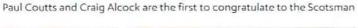
It is Jamle Murphy looking to shake off the attentions of Bradford's number 29 this time

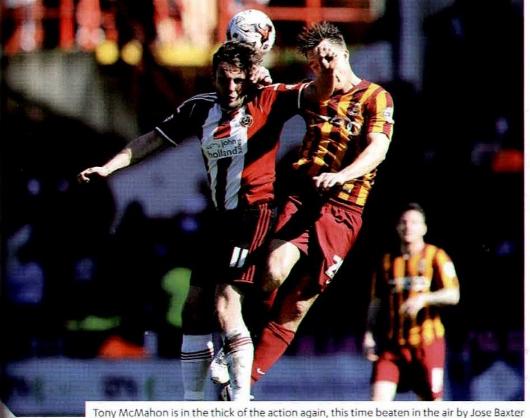


Steven Davies is hauled down by Rory McArdle, who later sees red









### **UTB Man of the Match**

### Chris Basham Handled the threat of James

Hanson very well



### **Blades Stats**

Possession	53
Shots on target	1
Shots off target	6
Corners	5
Fouls	10
<b>Bradford State</b>	S
Possession	47
Shots on target	6
AL STATE OF THE ST	

### Blades line-up

Fouls

Howard, Brayford, Basham, Doyle, Murphy, Baxter (Adams 81), Coutts, Freeman, Kennedy (Alcock 45), S. Davies, Holt. Unused: Scougall, McNulty, Willis, Done, B. Davies.

"We were good in possession at times without doing too much in the final third, although after we had gone in front, for 10-15 minutes, we really looked liked getting that decisive second goal. I thought defensively we looked comfortable throughout, even after losing Terry Kennedy. Chris Basham dealt excellently with James Hanson, but when they put as many balls into the box as they did then one could always drop and it is a soft goal to concede for us."

### The turning point

83mins: Former Blades loanee Billy Clarke's equaliser denied the Blades the win which would have secured their play-off berth. From one of many long balls into the Blades box, Clarke reacted quickest to put his shot beyond Mark Howard's outstretched left arm.



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### Could Sunday's goal be a spark for Marc?

arc McNulty is optimistic that his first experience of play-off football in England can be a successful one and says there is no reason why the Blades shouldn't be the ones celebrating at Wembley later this month.

Marc, who returned to Nigel Clough's starting XI and netted his 13th of the season against Chesterfield on Sunday, believes United's 'cup' experience will give them a slight advantage on their promotion rivals over the coming weeks.

Reflecting on his return to action, before switching his attentions to this evening's semi-final first-leg clash against Swindon Town, the former Livingston marksman has revealed belief in the dressing room remains strong.

He commented: "We got the point we needed to finish fifth on Sunday and now we face a very good Swindon side, who, like us, have struggled a little bit since assuring their own play-off berth.

"But come kick-off we will both be raring to go and what a prize it is up for grabs – a final against either Chesterfield or Preston at the national stadium – with the Championship awaiting the winners, so it is basically knockout football and that might just suit

"We have already had some memorable nights this season, especially at Bramall Lane, Southampton and Tottenham are the stand out games, so with our supporters backing us in numbers again it will be another tremendous occasion.

"The players are confident, I am sure the fans will be right behind us too, albeit slightly nervous, but we have proved before that we can rise to the big occasions and hopefully our cup form over the last 12 months or so will benefit us this time around."

The 22-year-old is hoping his weekend strike, which he described as 'one of my better ones' against the Spireites, can reignite his own form.

On the challenge ahead, both from a personal and team point of view, Marc continued: "It is the business end of the season now and regardless of who has done what to this point, the next three games will be what we are all judged on and to a man we have to be ready when called upon by the Gaffer.

"I have scored 13 times in all competitions, but it has still be a bit stop-start for me at times, not helped by a few knocks, but hopefully the strike against Chesterfield, which was one of my better ones this season, can just spark my form again at this crucial time."

Commenting on tonight's crucial first-leg tie, the Scottish striker added: "We have to be positive and look to get a lead to take into the away leg. But at the same time we know Swindon are a side that can keep the ball for long periods, so we'll have to be patient and take our opportunities when they arrive.

"With the crowd behind us, though, under the lights at Bramall Lane, it promises to be a good night and if we do get a positive result we will put ourselves in an excellent position ahead of Monday's return."



# folklore and fables SEASON IV

Blades Historian **John Garrett's** inimitable account of following the Blades and retelling stories of yesteryear certainly gets fans talking. Where will his mind take us this week...



### Wages day

The first job I ever had, according to my brother, was selling ice cream. Not from a van, I hasten to add, but from the freezer compartment in Mum's Electrolux Fridge.

As there wasn't much money in 'chez Garrett' at that time, she would try and save a few bob where and when she could. One masterstroke was to buy some iced lolly moulds from Bell's Bargain Arcade at Heeley bottom with a pack

of lolly sticks. We didn't have the luxury of Kia Ora either, there were cheaper and more E-number impregnated brews to have you bouncing around the walls.

The first issue was the sticks.

They were a little too small for the holes, this meant an orange leakage in the freezer.

The next was the mix, it made your eyes water it was that tart. It was like sucking a lemon through a tramp's sock! The

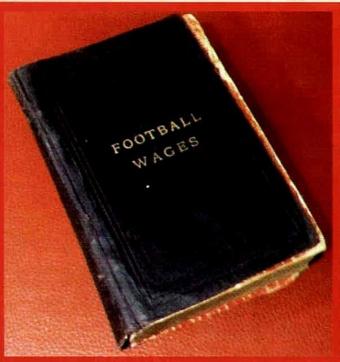
things were so cold that your tongue stuck to them. Vile creations.

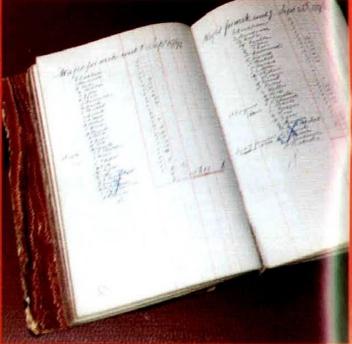
Keith, my brother, knew this and steered well clear. He was, however, intrigued that every half an hour or so I was returning for more.

"He loves them you know," said mum as she filled another mould with undiluted goo and slipped another ill-fitting stick in the specially designed slot

before wiping her hands due to the half pint of mixture that had escaped through the gap. He had gone to get something

out of the car, there was another story kind of involving wages. At that time big brother had a stunning aubergine-coloured Ford Cortina 1600e with full Webasto roof – it was a beauty and his pride and joy. I had spied some Corgi toy that I fancied across the road in Taylors and pursued him for it





like a Mountie.

"Tell you what, wash my car, do a good job and we will see about that Corgi,"- well, I wasn't going to turn that down, was !?

The bucket was filled and I went in search of that stuff that Dad puts in to make the car especially nice and shiny from the top of the cellar. Now, as I learned in later life, the bottle that Stardrops are in is very similar to the one that paint stripper is also in.

Sadly, the two don't actually have the same effect. Stardrops leaves a lovely, deep, clean finish that you can dry and then polish to perfection. Paint stripper does exactly what it says on the tin, or, in this case, bottle. It strips off the paint, and very quickly. Especially when the cap to water ratio is a whole bottle in the bare minimum of water. I mean, it was too heavy to carry the bucket when full. What did you expect me to do?

I remember Keith laid on the sofa listening to the radio when I bounded in, demanding to be paid. Like any employer, he wanted to survey the work before wedging me up. I got the feeling all was not too well when we both walked down the passage and out to Little London Place. I thought the colour scheme was quite impressive, it resembled a purple and pink zebra. It was certainly different. Creative.

Keith clearly disagreed as he chased me down the road. The bucket missed my head and he wasn't quick enough to boot me up the backside. I hid over the wall in Gresham's Timber Yard until it all went quiet. I then went back home.

"I suppose the car is out of the question now then?" was what I chanced. How he laughed as the contents of the living room came my way!

Back to the ice creams. He caught me buying the biggest Devoti's cornet, complete with zoom lolly stuck in the top, fudge stick, sauce, the works. "Where have you got the money for that?" he asked, it was a fair old weapon of an ice cream and would have cost at least 10 pence back in 1976.

"Don't tell Mum but those lollies are rank," was my reply. "I sell them to the other kids and then buy one of these with the money I get."

First rule, get someone else to do the manufacturing cheap and reap the benefits such as child obesity, not bad wages for a young 'un!

Wages in football have changed dramatically too, no doubt there. I knew a former player, sadly no longer with us, who felt aggrieved at the amount their modern counterparts get these days, admittedly, on paper, the gulf is eye watering to say the least.

That said, I think that the maximum the player took home for a week in the 1950s was £20, my Dad was working at Osbourne's on Penistone Road back then and would have done 60 hours to earn three quarters of that amount.

The player also had a car, owned his own house, had a little business and took holidays abroad in Spain at the turn of the 60s. My Dad didn't have a car until he was 38, went to Skeggy for a week with the family and lived in a council house for most of his life.

When you look even further back at the books of Bramall Lane it paints an even more fascinating picture of life in Sheffield for a footballer and the

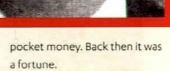
standard of life that was on offer as opposed to a life in the steel works and coal mines of Victorian Sheffield.

The earliest surviving Club wages book in our archive start in 1893, 10th November to be precise. Our Captain then was Billy Hendry, the man credited with bringing

a more professional attitude to the fledgling Club and the biggest influence on 'Nudger' Needham.

Hendry was on £3.10 per week back then. Future first England international Mick Whitham was on £2 as was coach and then reserve player George Waller – he would be one of the backroom powers that would see us win the League Championship of 1898 and play a part in the winning of all of our FA Cups – in fact the only final that he wasn't a part of the backroom staff for was 1936.

When I said Whitham was the first international it is still very much up for debate, on the same day and in a completely different but full England international at a different venue came Harry Lilley, from the same area of Chesterfield as Needham, he obviously wasn't rated as highly as he was only on £1.10 per week. The only full Romany Gypsy ever to play for England, Rab Howell, was on £2. A few future internationals there on what even in my day was



The 1889 FA Cup semi-final and its gate receipts of £500 was enough to finally persuade the ground committee to form Sheffield United FC. Nearly 160 times what the top player a few years later was earning. To realise what, in terms of income, that £3 per week is worth today, it as a potential income wealth weighs in at £3,837.00. Wow. That isn't a bad amount of money for a week's work, is it?

Maybe the life of a footballer even all those years ago was a real cut above in terms of social class and status. A player can have a long career or a short career and I have always thought that they have every right to earn what they can in the time they have, after all, they do not set the wages —

clubs do that.

Imagine what that amount of money could have bought. A fair few purple and pink striped Ford Cortina 1600e's and a whole mountain of ice cream I would imagine!!!





## Inside **Lane**

All the latest news from in and around \$2

### Sleepout United cheque presented to local charities

The money raised from the first ever sponsored sleepout at Bramall Lane has been officially presented to local homeless charities Roundabout and St Wilfrid's Centre.

Sleepout United saw more than 150 people – including manager Nigel Clough – take part by using cardboard and sleeping bags to spend the night in designated areas around the stadium. The event raised a total of £11,000.91 which will now be split between the two charities.

One of the organisers of the event.

Amy Casbolt, fundraising coordinator at Roundabout, said: "Sleepout United was a huge success and the money raised from the event will provide a significant financial boost for both charities and will help to keep our services running. We're extremely grateful to



### Lane set to host Youdan final

Sheffield is set to recognise and showcase its footballing heritage this summer with the launch of an annual international tournament that is promising to bring the global stars of the future to the Steel City.

The Youdan Trophy will celebrate the oldest tournament in the world, the Youdan Cup that pre-dates the FA Cup by four years and was played only once at Bramall Lane in 1867.

Sheffield-based You-Are-The-Ref.com are behind the creation of the tournament that is set to see invited youth teams from as far away as Australia competing.

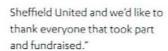
The original Youdan Cup was the brainchild of Thomas Youdan and was played between 12 teams from the Sheffield area, The final was played at Bramall Lane and won by Hallam FC in front of 3,000 spectators.

The Youdan Trophy is set to take place from 27th to 31st July 2015 with the final taking place at Bramall Lane.

Teams at the U14 age group from Rangers, Celtic, United, Wednesday, Charlton Athletic, Brentford, AFA Nerang Eagles (Australia) and FAB Academy are set to compete at the event.

Thomas Youdan's only surviving relative, Dr Glyn Youdan, is set to make the draw for the Youdan Trophy at Bramall Lane tonight before the game.

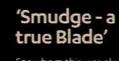
Free tickets for the 31st July final at Bramall Lane are available from www.youdantrophy.com



A cheque was presented to St Wilfrid's Centre's Kevin Bradley and Roundabout's Amy Casbolt on behalf of the Club by Co-Chairman Kevin McCabe, Managing Director Mal Brannigan, Vice President Chris Steer, and Megan Clarkson, daughter of DBL Logistics managing director David Clarkson, who raised more than £2,000 by taking part.

Mal Brannigan, who took part in Sleepout United, said: "We will always pride itself on being a family Club. We enjoy wonderful relationships with the local community and it gives us great pleasure to handover a cheque to these wonderful local charities following a very successful sleepout."

On the picture, from left to right, is Kevin Bradley of St Wilfrid's Centre, DBL Logistics' Megan Clarkson, Co-Chairman Kevin McCabe, Amy Casbolt, fundraising co-ordinator at Roundabout, Vice President Chris Steer, Managing Director Mal Brannigan and Charlie McCabe.



For whom this was always 'Super Downtown Bramall Lane, Centre of the Universe'

Rest in peace, Darren John Preston-Smith = 1965-2015.

You may be gone but you will never ever be forgotten.



### **Senior Blades**

Just a reminder for Senior Blades members that the group continue through the close season with monthly lunch meetings in the Platinum Suite.

They have the AGM in June with a guest speaker and July they will be welcoming back The Bus Pass Buskers, who were very popular at their last appearance.

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Paul Holland searches the popular video-sharing website to find Blades-related movies...

# You Tube

# Blades on film Blades v Nottingham Forest 15th May 2003



### https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= -cspOYNtW4

The play-off battle with Nottingham Forest almost 12 years ago needs no introduction but this match was recently voted as the greatest Blades match ever witnessed!

A YouTube video which lasts 22 minutes and 8 seconds with commentary from Ian Crocker and Chris Kamara can be found online

With United heading into another playoff (a third in four years) some fans may feel that they need a lift in spurring their beloved Blades on. If you are one of those just cast your mind back to this wonderful night of football that will live long in the memory. Who will have forgotten Paul Peschisolido running round like a lunatic screaming 'oh my God, oh my God?'

After trailing by two goals the pivotal moment in the highlights comes six and a half minutes in when a free-kick is won on the edge of the penalty area and Michael Brown swiftly (via a deflection) pulls one back and even after years can still feel the rejuvenation that day stills lives on from that moment.

Steven Kabba (900 minutes) levels the scores in a Gascoigne-like fashion; he lobs Des Walker before volleying into the goal - forcing extra time. The night as a whole was magical but it was the final 30 minutes that will be best remembered.

It all begins on 11 minutes and 10 seconds in when a long throw by Forest is caught by Paddy Kenny and his big kick lands to the pint-sized striker. He brings the ball down before twisting and weaving and his shot slides perfectly into the bottom left. hand corner and he wheels away, shirt off with his most famous celebration.

His goal was hugely celebrated by the thousands of Blades fans who witnessed the match in the ground, at home and in the nearby pubs - so loud that not only it almost lifted the Kop roof off.

The game is won when Walker heads the ball into his own net (13.18) but Forest have the final say and Rob Page's own goal gives the Blades a late scare in what was an unforgettable night at the Lane.

If anyone is needing inspiration then this match captures it all.

Good luck United



### Jamie steals the limelight at Player of the Year awards

Jamie Murphy was the star of the show as the Blades moved into the city centre on Sunday night.

The City Hall's Ballroom was the venue for the glittering Player of the Year awards ceremony just a few hours after the regular season came to an end with a draw against Chesterfield.

BBC's Harry Gration presented the evening, which also saw Nigel Clough, the first team squad and other Blades luminaries such as Tony Currie, Alan Hodgkinson and Eddie Colquhoun in attendance.

Eddie presented the newly-named David 'Shred' Spencer Young Player of the Year award in memory of the Blades super fan who passed away earlier this season.

Co-chairman Jim Phipps made a rousing speech, whilst mindreader Looch and The Bootleggers provided the entertainment.

But Scotsman Murphy was undoubtedly the star of the show, picking up a hattrick of gongs.

He collected the Player of the Year award from Darren Baker of sponsors JB Doors, whilst his strike at Doncaster early in the season won Goal of the Season, which was voted for by the attendees on the

Murphy, however, had to share the Players' Player of the Year with Chris Basham.



### JAMIE MURPHY FACTFILE

Appearances this season: 50 (6)

Goals this season: 12

Assists this season: 15

Total Blades appearances: 101 (18)

Toal Blades goals: 21

FACT: Jamie became a father for the first time in January when partner Nadine gave birth to little Sophie, who is now a regular at Bramall Lane.











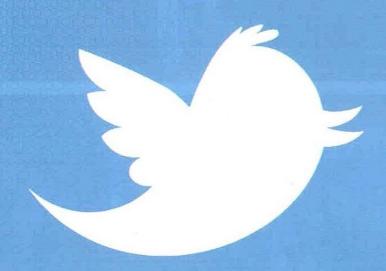








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Long-term programme contributor **Dave Burkinshaw** has covered many subjects on these pages but this season, his 50th following the Blades, we have afforded him the chance to relive some...

### PERSONAL MEMORIES

#### PLAY-OFF CONNECTIONS

As United embark on an eighth play-off campaign, this article looks at how players and managers with Bramall Lane connections have fared with other clubs in play-off finals since 1989/90.

One of the most successful managers in winning play-off finals has been Neil Warnock, who achieved the feat twice with Notts County (1989/90 and 1990/91) and once each with Huddersfield Town 1994/95 and Plymouth Argyle in 1995/96. Unfortunately his luck ran out when he was

the United boss in 2002/03.

Other successful managers with Blades' connections have been Chris Kamara with Bradford City in 1995/96 and Steve Bruce with Birmingham City in 2001/02. One player later becoming United's manager in 1999, Adrian Heath, was a winner with Burnley in 1993/94. An ex-Blades boss with a less successful playoff record was Dave Bassett, who lost finals with Crystal Palace in 1995/96 and Barnsley in 1999/2000.

Blades connected players playing for winning teams against United in finals have been

> i) - in 1996/97 Dave Tuttle, Neil Shipperley and Bruce Dyer, playing for Crystal Palace. Tuttle and Dyer had been members of the Palace team which had lost the 1995/96 final along with Carl Veart. Shipperley and Dyer later experienced defeat playing with Barnsley in 1999/2000.

 ii) - in 2002/03 the Wolves team included striker Nathan Blake, who also scored and Dean Sturridge, who was a late substitute.

A number of Blades connected players have scored for the winning team in a final, namely Clive Mendonca, who notched a hat trick for Charlton Athletic in 1997/98, Geoff Horsfield for Birmingham City in 2001/02, Andy Campbell for Cardiff City in 2002/03, Neil Shipperley for Crystal Palace in 2003/04, Jon-Paul McGovern for Sheffield Wednesday in 2004/05, Darius Henderson from the penalty spot for Watford in 2005/06 and, famously, Dean Windass for Hull City in 2007/08.

Players with United connections to have scored for losing finalists have been Tony Daws for Scunthorpe in 1991/92, Ian Bryson for Preston 1993/94 and Carl Asaba for Gillingham in 1998/99.

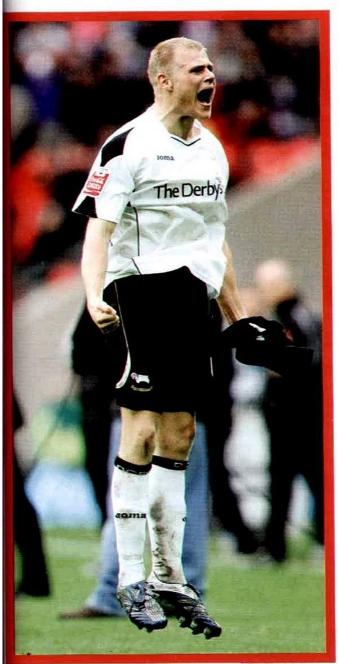
Players who have been final winners on more than one occasion include Craig Short (twice with Notts County, although he did experience defeat with Derby County in 1993/94), Mike Whitlow (twice with Leicester City and once with Bolton Wanderers), Neil Shipperley (twice for Crystal Palace), and Tommy Mooney (once each with Watford and Birmingham City).

Tasting defeat with the Blades but victory with another club are Brian Howard (won with Barnsley in 2005/06), Michael Brown (won with Manchester City in 1998/99), Robert Page (won with Watford in 1998/99) and Carl Asaba (won with Gillingham in 1999/2000). Asaba also experienced defeat playing for Gillingham in 1998/99 and Brentford in 1996/97.

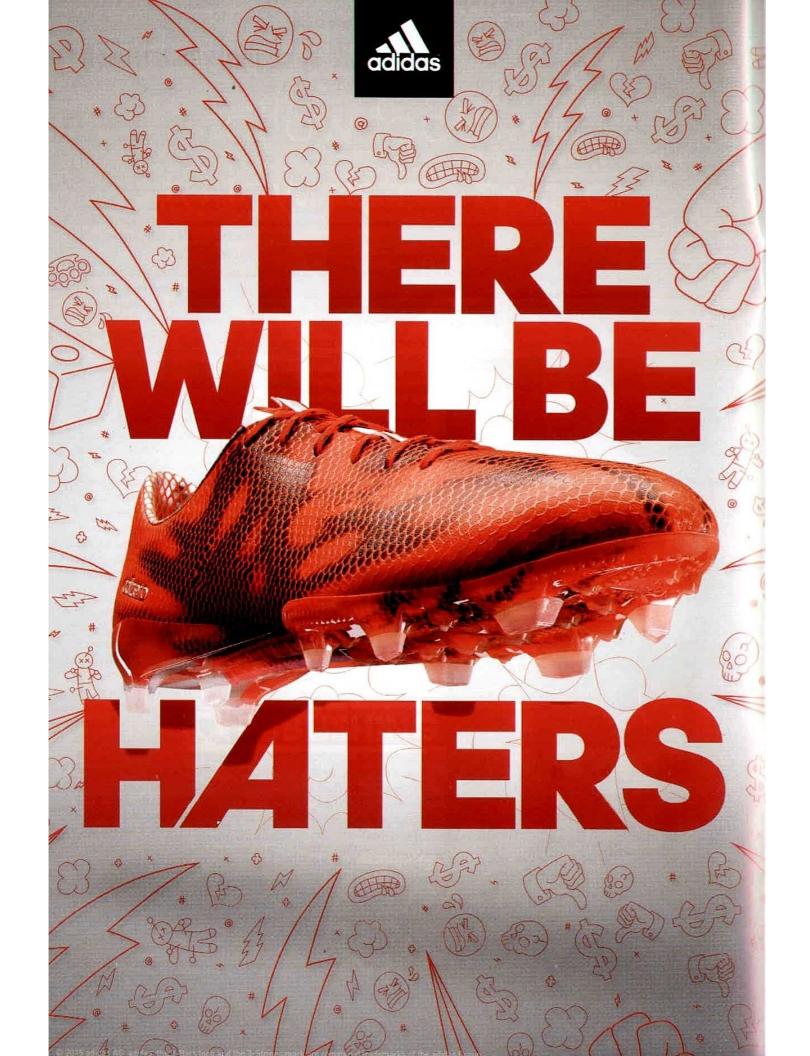
Experiencing defeat with the Blades and another club include Chris Morgan (with Barnsley 1999/2000), John Curtis (also with Barnsley 1999/2000), Mark Rankine (with Preston 2000/01), Richard Cresswell (also with Preston 2000/01 and 2004/05), Matt Kilgallon (with Leeds United in 2005/06), Lee Williamson (with Mansfield Town in 2003/04), Jamie Ward (with Derby County in 2013/14) and Matt Hill (with Preston 2004/05 and Bristol City 2003/04).

The taste of victory and defeat has been experienced by Tommy Johnson, winning with Notts County in 1990/91 but losing with Derby County in 1993/94. Other players to have shared this experience are Blades' current first team coach, Andy Garner, with Blackpool, losing in 1990/91 but winning a year later, Gordon Cowans, winning with Blackburn in 1991/92 but losing with Derby in 1993/94, Colin Hill winning with Leicester in 1995/96 after appearing in two losing finals with them previously, Shaun Derry a winner with Palace in 2003/04 but losing with Leeds United two years later, Mikele Leigertwood who won with Palace in 2003/04 but lost with Reading in 2010/11, Leon Britton who won with Swansea City in 2010/11 having previously lost with City in 2006.

Finally, in the current Blades squad, Jay McEveley tasted victory with Derby County in 2006/07 whilst Callum McFadzean tasted defeat with Burton Albion last season. Michael Doyle, Ryan Flynn and Neill Collins were also members of the Blades team which lost the 2011/12 final with Mark Howard an unused substitute.



Jay McEveley enjoys play-off success at Wembley





### COOKIE'S BLOG...

The Programme Editor gives an offbeat take on Lane life

The thought of the play-offs doesn't conjure up great memories for Blades fans, me included, but it does give me a chance to retell a story from the 2009 play-off final, when we played Burnley, although it wasn't amusing at the time!

You may have heard this before, so-called friend John Garrett has used the pages of UTB to give his take on the ditty I'm about to share, but I lived it, first hand.

Basically, we travelled to Wembley the day before, matchday attire in a suit bag and it was not until the morning of the game when I began to unpack the essentials for the day that it dawned on me that I'd forgotten my shoes.

I'd travelled down in a pair of brown Stan Smith trainers and it looked as though I was going to the game as a Phil Collins look-a-like – ie suit and trainers.

In a panic, I asked all I knew if they had spare shoes, before being helpfully reminded that Wembley is full of retail parks and surely there would be a Brantano. So I off I trotted (well, ambled), almost colliding with a coach full of Blades fans (they had to be from my neck of the woods, Worksop, didn't they?) before doing a lap of the national stadium. 20 minutes later and a shortage of breath confirmed there was no Brantano or shoe shops whatsoever.

I'd given up hope when I returned to the hotel, and was trudging out of the lift on the 11th floor when I spotted Bryn Law of Sky Sports. Between breaths, the conversation went something like this...

Me: "Bryn, you've been here all weekend, how many pairs of shoes did you bring?" Bryn (looking bemused): "Two."

Me: "Gis the other pair, I'll explain later."

Bryn: "They are size 11."

Me: "I don't care."

So Bryn saved me looking like more of a tramp than usual and I'd like to say that they were a good luck charm, but you all painfully remember the outcome of that hot May afternoon back in 2009.

### The **STORY** so far...



#### SATURDAY 25 APRIL Sky Bet League One

LEYTON ORIENT 1-1 BLADES
GOALS: Baudry (71); Harris (77)
ORIENT: Cisak, Omozusi,
Cuthbert, Baudry, Cox, James
(Wright 62), Batt (McAnuff 52),
Clarke, Bartley (Mooney 86),
Dagnall, Simpson. Unused:
Lowry, Woods, Hedges, Taylor.
BLADES: Howard, Harris,
Brayford, Basham, Murphy,
Baxter, Coutts (Doyle 90),
Freeman, Adams (Calvert-Lewin
66), S. Davies (Scougall 66),
Holt. Unused: Alcock, Willis, B.
Davies, Reed.

Attendance: 7,249
Referee: S. Stockbridge
United confirm a place in the
end of season play-offs with
another vital point. With a
game to spare, the Blades
can now make plans for the
May games following this
encounter at Leyton Orient.
After dominating, Mathieu
Baudry gives the home side the

lead but Bob Harris levels with a deflected effort. United go close to winning it late on when Jose Baxter's free-kick strikes a post.

#### **TUESDAY 28 APRIL**

Dominic Calvert-Lewin bags a brace as United's U21s end the season with a fifth consecutive victory, this time beating Barnsley 3-0 at the Look Local Stadium, home of Stocksbridge Park Steels. The clean sheet was also the sixth in as many matches as Chris Morgan's youngsters finish an encouraging season on a high note.

#### **THURSDAY 30 APRIL**

it's a period of milestones for United, this is the latest. Following on from the 125th anniversary celebrations and the centenary of the Khaki Cup Final, Bramall Lane stadium celebrates its own birthday... its 160th.

#### FRIDAY 1 MAY

United's home kit for the 2015/16 campaign is launched in the Blades Superstore, whilst season ticket sales pass the 10,000 mark.

#### SUNDAY 3 MAY

Sky Bet League One BLADES 1-1 CHESTERFIELD GOALS: McNulty (34), Evatt (51) BLADES: Howard, Harris, Brayford, Doyle (Calvert-Lewin 59), Scougall (Scougall 69), Baxter, McNulty, McEveley, Reed (S. Davies 83), Freeman, Adams. Unused: Alcock, Willis, B. Davies,

CHESTERFIELD: Lee, Darikwa, Jones, Hird, Morsy, Gardner (Arivibi 73), Rvan, O'Shea (Gnanduillet 86), Roberts, Clucas, Evatt. Unused: Carter, Humphreys, Raglan, Harrison, Banks. Attendance: 26,078 Referee: K. Wright In the 46th and final league game of the Sky Bet League One season, the Blades record a draw with local rivals Chesterfield. The point, thanks to Marc McNulty's 13th goal of the season, earns a play-off berth against Swindon Town, More than 26,000 are inside the Lane to see United record a third consecutive 1-1 draw at the end of the regular

Jamie Murphy is the star of the night at United's annual Player of the Year Awards Dinner at Sheffield City Hall, scooping a hat-trick of gongs.

# The Sky Difference

It's knowing if you can't make it to the game, the only place to watch the Sky Bet Football League live is on Sky Sports.







The Star's Blades reporter, James Shield, on why the play-offs should not be faced with trepidation and how Nigel Clough's style could prove to be the difference...

### 'The play-off record only becomes an issue if folk are intent on making it one'

hen it comes to the playoffs, Sheffield United have been there, seen it and bought the expensive, ill-fitting t-shirt.

Done everything, as they have frequently been reminded during the build-up to this game, apart from win.

But forget all the talk about footballing hoodoos. Because, unless somebody at Bramall Lane has upset the big guy upstairs, it's a load of old

The race for the Championship will be settled on the pitch. By eleven or so professionals who, with several notable exceptions, have absolutely no connection with those disappointments of the past.

Six times United have tried to gain promotion via the end of season knockouts. Six times they have failed.

So bloomin' what. The play-off

record only becomes an issue if folk are intent on making it one.

Supporters still scarred by the memories of defeats at the hands of teams including Burnley, Huddersfield Town and Wolverhampton Wanderers will understandably approach this latest attempt with a mixture of hope and trepidation. The same conflicting emotions are likely to be swirling around both the home and away dressing room inside Bramall Lane.

But, thanks to the privileged access my job entails, I can report than Nigel Clough's side are well-equipped to cope with high pressure situations. As their recent exploits in cup competitions, where the likes of Southampton and Queen's Park Rangers have succumbed in recent months, demonstrate. Very nearly Tottenham Hotspur

Why? If I knew the answer for certain then there's a good chance I'd be watching from the technical area, not the press box, tonight.

But the name is James. Not

Hazarding a guess, though (ahem), I'd suggest that small details hold the key. Seemingly insignificant things like the decision to perform a Sixty Minute style makeover of the recreation room at the Redtooth Academy, Which means the senior squad now spends a few hours after training eating together and bonding over a few games of darts or pool. Fellow journalists who regularly attend United's pre-match media briefings will testify the atmosphere is pretty raucous. Whereas, in the not so dim and distant past, it was eerily silent.

Ability helps. But it's not always enough to get you through. United would not have negotiated safe passage through any of those fixtures if they weren't tighter than Pep Guardiola's suit.

Clough also has a knack of keeping things pretty low key. A habit which might not always resonate well in the public arena but behind the scenes, where after all his core audience is located, seems to go down pretty well.

The manager and his coaching staff weren't, for example, overly happy when they were forced to stay at a designated

hotel ahead of last year's FA Cup semi-final against Hull City rather than their usual base in the south-east. The residence in question is beautifully appointed. But that wasn't the issue. It represented a break from the normal routine. Which, no matter what the occasion, they like to stay the same.

Footballers know when a career-defining moment is approaching. They don't, according to Clough's school of thought, need a round of golf or 72 hour stay behind the gilded walls of a luxury resort to underline the fact. Better to replicate the things which have proven successful in the past.

Of course, there's no escaping the fact that, over the course of the next three hours or so, a huge prize is potentially at stake. They'll probably be pure torture, barring an early three goal salvo, for absolutely everybody involved.

But better, surely, to be involved in these type of contests than

Yes, one mistake could undermine an entire campaign. Equally, one piece of skill, bravery or creativity could bestow instant hero status on the person concerned.

There are no quarantees. It's impossible to predict, with any degree of confidence at least, what might happen.

But we can all say with confidence that United are not stepping into the unknown.





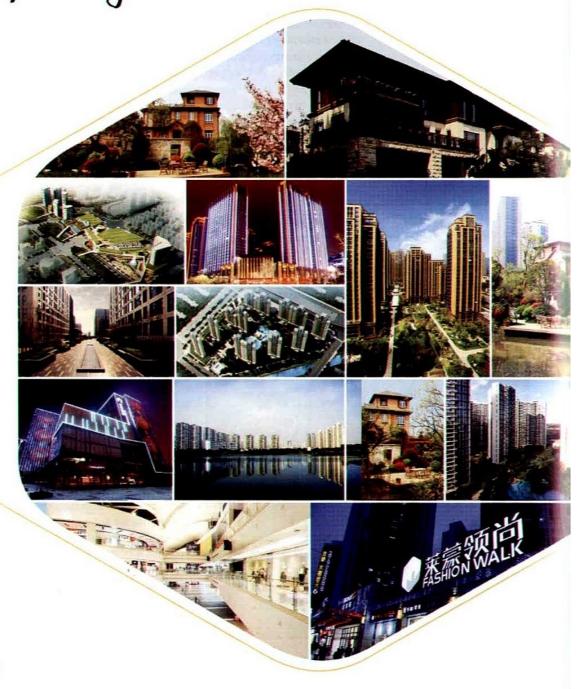


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Headed up by former Blades midfielder, **Mark Todd**, Sheffield United Community Foundation is a charity working in the areas of sport participation, education, health and social inclusion. For more community news, visit: www.sufc-community.com email: community@sufc.co.uk or call: 01142 619883

### A great season for the Foundation

As another season draws to an exciting climax, everyone at the Community Foundation would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone associated with Sheffield United FC and beyond for their valued support.

The last 12 months have proved to be very successful for SUCF and we look forward to building on the work we undertake as part of the Club and Community: United as One.

Here's some of the highlights...



Dur **Social Inclusion** team continues to successfully promote social cohesion across the city with the aim of creating safer, stronger and more respectful communities in Sheffield.



The **National Citizen Service** saw record numbers of young people take the apportunity to develop new skills, encounter new experiences, meet new friends and undertake valuable work in the community with the Community Foundation.



Our work with people who have a disability continues to expand and we are delighted that the Community Foundation can offer services that enable participants to take part in sport and enjoy all that Sheffield United has to offer, such as the **DS Active Group**.



Our **health** strand continues to promote the benefits of adopting healthy lifestyles and the ways that people can enjoy both physical and mental wellbeing.



**Education** has enjoyed a record year for students attending educational courses offered by the Foundation. The Foundation offers scholars the chance to enhance their academic achievement in a unique and inspiring learning environment at Bramall Lane.



The **Participation** team continue to motivate and inspire individuals regardless of their background to achieve their potential.



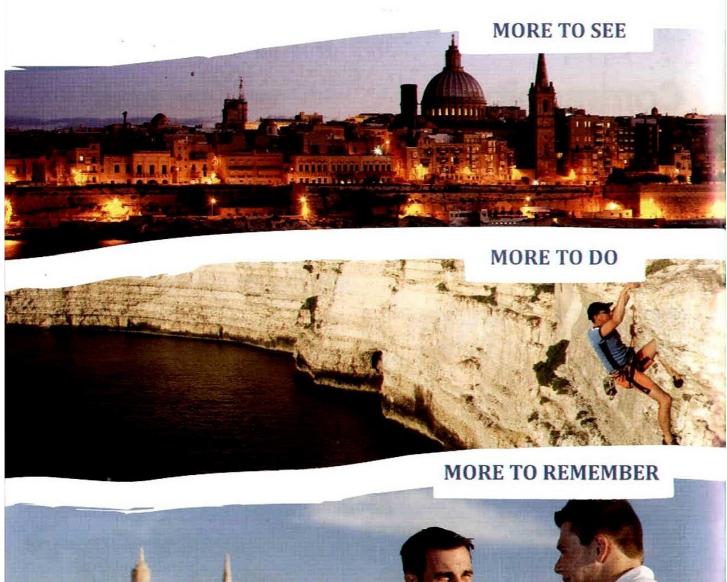














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# CTCSS LLCG Quizzical fun for young (and young at heart) Blades fans





Hard

Three helpful clues which should assist you in identifying a Blade...

1

After a long pursuit, he signed this season 2

He's another of our Scouse brigade

8

Tranmere Rovers and Bristol City are among his former teams

Answers on page 36 www.sufc.co.uk 33



### **OUR SWART UNDER 8s**

It was Academy U8s, this smart bunch, who received arguably the biggest round of applause when they were introduced to the crowd prior to last Sunday's fixture with Chesterfield at Bramall Lane.

Let's hope it isn't the last time we see these lads gracing the hallowed turf at Bramall Lane, let's hope in the future these youngsters can follow in the footsteps of Louis Reed and Dominic Calvert-Lewin, our most recent Academy graduates to feature for the first-team this campaign.

It would be nice to dig this photo out in 10 years time as a few of this get close to the senior team!

Good luck on your journey, lads.



# TC VISIT FOR PATRICK

Tony Currie dropped in on young Blade Patrick Raybould to wish him well after a recent operation in the Sheffield Children's Hospital.

The operation was one of a series Patrick has had to contend with over the years.

Along with his brother, Patrick was mascot away at Yeovil Town before being admitted for what should be the last time.

We all wish you well Patrick!







# MASCOT

#### **GEORGIA MANSELL**

Age - 13

Hobbies - Football

Fave Blade - Bob Harris

School - Chaucer

Score - 3-1 Blades



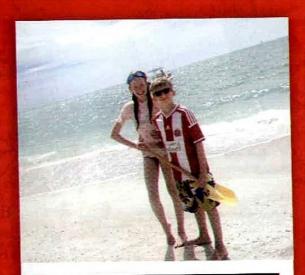
### HOLIDAY SNAPS

**UTB** loves to see Unitedites spreading the Blades message around the world. Even if fans are miles away from Beautiful Down Town Bramall Lane, they love to show off their merchandise...





The South Bank in Melbourne is where we find Joe Shaw's daughter Pam Moran and her daughter Lindsay, who now resides in Oz. Lindsay works as a CP out in Australia and with such a wonderful back drop, this picture opportunity was with their United scarves was too good a chance to let pass by. Joe, of course, is United's record appearance maker and his statue stands proudly in the Cherry Street car park.



Emma and Oliver Todd, the children of former Blades midfielder Mark, are pictured here enjoying the sun, sea and sand at Siesta Key in Florida.



father and son, Simon and Joseph Kent, are pictured here by the beach in Lanzarote proudly showing the Blades colours.

Would you like to see your pictures in a future edition of **UTB**?

Send your photo, complete with a brief description, to **kevin.cookson@sufc.co.uk** 

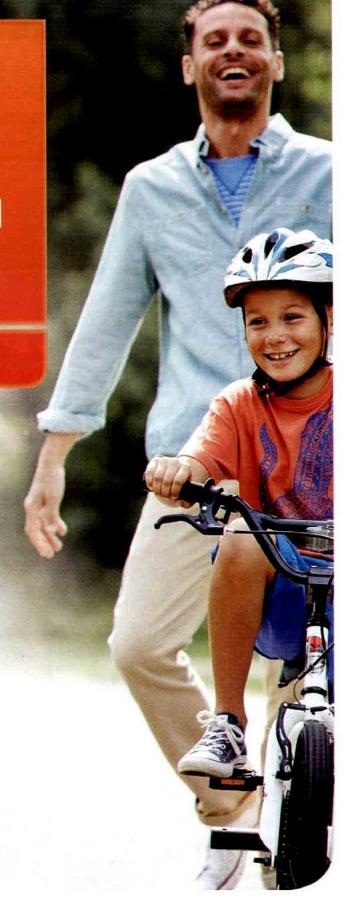
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### Tonight we welcome...



### **Swindon Town**

There was final day drama aplenty in all three divisions of the Football League, yet the two teams doing battle tonight have known for some time that their fate for this season would be decided in the play-offs.

That certainty has given Swindon boss Mark Cooper plenty of preparation time ahead of this trip to Bramall Lane, with his varying team selections over recent weeks confirming his eagerness to ensure his squad is fit and refreshed to perform at their very best as they eye up an end of season trip to Wembley.

While some have questioned the omission of key players in the Swindon line-up during a run of results that saw the Robins fail to win any of their last five League One games this season, Cooper would justifiably argue that his plans will be judged in these two games against the Blades and what he hopes will be a final fixture of the season at the national stadium.

Plenty of Robins players have

been offered their chance to push for a place in Swindon's team for this game and the hope for Cooper is that his team will click back into winning form once the pressure of play-off drama is added into the mix here in South Yorkshire.

The goals of Andy Williams have been crucial to Swindon's progress this season and his strike in the 2-2 draw against Leyton Orient last weekend brought his total for the season to 21, with his sidekick Michael Smith also impressing with a goal haul of 13 that included two goals in the 5-2 win against United back in September.

The attacking threat offered by Jonathan Obika and the scoring contributions of Ben Gladwin and Massimo Luongo could also be factors in what Cooper is describing as a 'a three game season' and he can be confident that his players will find their form when it matters most tonight.

Swindon's form on the road

Swindon's form on the road during this campaign has been

impressive, with 11 victories and 38 goals a record that befits a side that had automatic promotion hopes for many a long month, with their home form also confirming they will be a threat in these end of season games.

This club have fond memories of previous play-off matches as they won promotion to via this end-of-season route in 1987, 1990 and 1993, although the second of those successes counted for little as the club were denied promotion to the top flight of English football due to financial irregularities.

Now they are back in the play-off mix again and on a night when the nerves will be rippling around Bramall Lane, what has gone before over this long League One season will count for very little.

The pressure and drama that goes with these play-offs will add an unpredictable element to tonight's script that make it impossible to forecast the outcome.

### **Squad** list

- Wes Foderingham GK 24 Shepherd's Bush
- 2 Nathan Thompson DF 24 Chester
- 3 Nathan Byrne DF 22 St Albans
- 4 Massimo Luongo MF 22 Sydney, Aus
- 5 Jack Stephens (L) DF 21 Torpoint
- 6 Jordan Turnbull (L) DF 20 Trowbridge
- 7 Ben Gladwin MF 22 Reading
- 8 Yaser Kasim MF 23 Karrada, Iraq
- 9 Michael Smith FW 23 Wallsend
- 10 Andy Williams FW 28 Hereford
- 14 John Swift (L) MF 19 Portsmouth
- 15 Harry Toffolo (L) DF 19 Welwyn Garden City
- 16 Connor Waldon FW 20 Swindon
- 18 George Barker FW 23 Portsmouth
- 19 Louis Thompson (L) MF 20 Dover
- 20 Jonathan Obika FW 24 Enfield
- 23 Jack Barthram DF 21 Newham
- 24 Jermaine Hylton FW 22 Birmingham
- 25 Tyrell Belford GK 21 Nuneaton
- 26 Anton Rodgers MF 22 Reading
- 27 Josue Antonio DF 19 Mweyon
- 28 Tom Smith MF 17 Swindon
- 29 Raphael Rossi Branco DF 24 Campinas, Bra
- 30 Harry Agombar MF 22 London
- 31 Will Randall MF 18 Swindon
- 32 Lee Marshall MF 17 Devon
- 33 Tom Holland DF 18 England
- 36 Sam Ricketts (L) DF 33 Aylesbury
- 37 Cameron Belford GK 26 Nuneaton
- 38 Josh Cooke FW 17 England
- 39 Ryan Wood MF 17 England

### Two to Watch

# andy williams + michael smith



The key to Swindon's play-off hopes may be finding a balance with a collection of attacking players that offers manager Mark Cooper plenty of options in these two games against the Blades.

Andy Williams looks certain to lead the line after his 21-goal haul during the regular League One season, with Michael Smith, Jonathan Obika and Jermaine Hylton offering different options for Cooper to consider as these tense games take different twists and turns.

The opportunity to tinker with his team selection has been a luxury Cooper has taken advantage of as his side has been secure in a play-off position for some time, with his eagerness to offer his strikers a chance to shine vital in his planning.

"I don't think any of the strikers can say they haven't had a chance or a number of games to get that confidence they all

need," says Cooper. "All the players have had runs of games when they have had chances to score goals and it is now my job to pick the best team for these play-off games."

Williams is likely to be a central figure in Swindon's challenge in the play-offs and having been through plenty of ups and downs at the club since his arrival from Yeovil in the summer of 2012, he is determined to do all he can to get the Robins over the finishing line this season.

"I've told all of the lads that the next few weeks is just a time in your life where you've got to sacrifice everything in your life for football, more so than ever," says Williams.

"I don't think it's a massive sacrifice to make for the rewards that are there at the end of it. This is a time that could change a lot of people's lives here. Not just the players but it could do anything around the club to get promoted to the Championship for the first time in a long time.

"We have had chances to go up in the last couple of seasons, but we didn't take them and we have to try and make the most of this opportunity."

Smith and Williams could be the first choice Swindon forward line

tonight and the first of the deadly duo is excited by the prospect of a trip to Wembley and promotion to the Championship.

"I'd be lying if I said I haven't thought about promotion, but the gaffer keeps saying we have to focus on one game at a time," says former Charlton striker Smith. "We are all just looking at the next game and trying not to look too far ahead."

The goals have not flowed as readily as Smith would have been hoping for in recent weeks and he admits he would take any stroke of luck if it allowed him to grab a vital strike in this decisive phase of the season. "I would take anything," he adds. "A goal off my backside, shin, knee, anything as long as it goes in the back of the net and I can kick on from there.

"It weighs on your mind, but if I wasn't in there to be missing them then that's when I would start worrying."



### Manager mark cooper





Swindon Town chief Mark Cooper has suggested his side will play the role of second favourites in tonight's play-off tie at Bramall Lane.

"We are the underdogs aren't we? I am not trying to be clever," he stated, even though his side finished eight points ahead of the Blades in League One this season.

"They are renowned for their cup exploits and I am sure everybody will be tipping Sheffield United to beat us because of their record in knockout competitions. We'll go up there quietly confident and we'll be looking for a good performance."

Cooper has been planning for this play-off date for some time and his move to tinker with his team and ensure his players are at their best for this date that has been at the forefront of his mind has been evident over the last month.

"There have been some question marks about our team selection in the last few weeks, but who is to say what our strongest team is," continues the tactician who has been plotting to lead his club into the Championship since his appointment as Swindon boss in the summer of 2013.

"They say you have to go into the play-offs with momentum, but people have to trust us and believe in what we are doing. Everyone has to wait and judge us in these play-off games and my focus for the last few weeks has been making sure we give ourselves the best possible chance to perform on in this first play-off game.

"A lot of teams have got promoted down the years via the play-offs even though they have not been in great form and we believe we have prepared in the right way and made sure we are ready for this game.

"I have to make sure the team is given every possibility in a home and away leg to get to Wembley, and that we have a team that can then go to Wembley and win a game. I want to make sure we don't go into the first play-off game with no energy, with legs hanging off and not having given ourselves a real opportunity.

"We have a chance to do something brilliant and have three games to do it. We have to make sure we're the best team over three games and if we do that we have a chance.

"I've had a team line-up in mind for the last few weeks now and what we have had in the last few weeks is a chance to give a few other players a chance to stake a claim. All the players have had a chance to impress, so it is up to me to pick the right teams for the Sheffield United matches."



### History of the play-offs





The Football League promotion play-offs were re-introduced after 90 years in 1986/87. Initially the final was a two-legged affair but between 1990 and 2000 it was staged at Wembley Stadium. For six seasons it switched to the Millennium Stadium but returned to Wembley in 2007. **LEIGH EDWARDS** summarises the complete record of the League One play-offs:

1986/	/87				1993/	94			
S/F	Gillingham	V	Sunderland	3-2, 3-4	S/F	Burnley	V	Plymouth Aravle	0-0, 3-1
S/F	Wigan Athletic	V	Swindon Town	2-3, 0-0	S/F	York City	V	Stockport County	0-0, 0-1
F	Gillingham	V	Swindon Town	1-0, 1-2	F	Burnley	V	Stockport County	2-1
Fr	Swindon Town	V	Gillingham	2-0	1994	/95			
1987/	<b>'88</b>				S/F	Bristol Rovers	V	Crewe Alexandra	0-0, 1-1
S/F	Bristol City	V	Sheffield United	1-0, 1-1	Bristo	l Rovers won on away o	poals		
S/F	Notts County	V	Walsall	1-3, 1-1	S/F	Huddersfield Town	V	Brentford	1-1, 1-1
F	Bristol City	V	Walsall	1-3, 2-0	Hudo	lersfield won 4-3 on per	naltie		
Fr	Walsall	٧	Bristol City	4-0	F	Bristol Rovers	٧	Huddersfield Town	1-2
1988/	/89				1995/	96			
S/F	Bristol Rovers	V	Fulham	1-0, 4-0	S/F	Bradford City	V	Blackpool	0-2, 3-0
S/F	Preston North End	V	Port Vale	1-1, 1-3	S/F	Crewe Alexandra	V	Notts County	2-2, 0-1
F	Bristol Rovers	V	Port Vale	1-1, 0-1	F	Bradford City	٧	Notts County	2-0
1989/	/oo				1996	97			
5/F	Bolton Wanderers		Notts County	1-1, 0-2	S/F	Bristol City	V	Brentford	1-2, 1-2
S/F	Bury	V	Tranmere Rovers	0-0, 0-2	S/F	Crewe Alexandra	V	Luton Town	2-1, 2-2
5/1 F	Notts County	v	Tranmere Rovers	2-0	F	Brentford	V	Crewe Alexandra	0-1
F	NOUS COUNTY	·	Hammere Rovers	2-0	1997/	00			
1990	/91				S/F	Fulham	v	Grimsby Town	1-1, 0-1
S/F	Brentford	V	Tranmere Rovers	2-2, 0-1	S/F	Bristol Rovers	v	Northampton Town	3-1, 0-3
S/F	Bury	V	<b>Bolton Wanderers</b>	1-1, 0-1	F.	Grimsby Town	v	Northampton Town	1-0
F	<b>Bolton Wanderers</b>	V	Tranmere Rovers	0-1		-	٠	Northampton rown	10
1991/	102				1998				
5/F	Stockport County	V	Stoke City	1-0, 1-1	S/F	Wigan Athletic	V	Manchester City	1-1, 0-1
5/F	Peterborough Utd	v	Huddersfield Town	2-2, 2-1	S/F	Preston North End	V	Gillingham	1-1, 0-1
5/F	Peterborough Utd	V	Stockport County	2-2, 2-1	F	Gillingham	٧	Manchester City	2-2
г	reterboroughtuta	V	Stockport County	2-1	Mano	thester City won 3-1 on	pena	alties	
1992			1.		1999/	00			
S/F	Stockport County	V	Port Vale	1-1, 0-1	S/F	Millwall	V	Wigan Athletic	0-0, 0-1
S/F	Swansea City	V	West Brom	2-1, 0-2	S/F	Stoke City	V	Gillingham	3-2, 0-3
F	Port Vale	V	West Brom	0-3	F	Gillingham	V	Wigan Athletic	3-2

<b>2000/01</b> S/F Stoke	City	,	Walsall	0-0, 2-4
		,	Reading	0-0, 1-2
F Readir		1	Walsall	2-3
2001/02				
S/F Hudde	ersfield Town v		Brentford	0-0, 1-2
S/F Stoke F Brentf			Cardiff City Stoke City	1-2, 2-0 0-2
	010		Stoke City	0-2
<b>2002/03</b> S/F Cardiff	f City \	-	Bristol City	1-0, 0-0
			OPR	1-1, 0-1
F Cardiff			QPR	1-0
2003/04				
S/F Hartle	pool United V		Bristol City	1-1, 1-2
S/F Swinde	on Town 4-3 on penalties	/	Brighton	0-1, 2-1
F Bright		/	Bristol City	1-0
2004/05				
	eld Wednesday v	,	Brentford	1-0, 2-1
S/F Hartle	pool United v	1	Tranmere Rovers	2-0, 0-2
Hartlepool wo	in 6-5 on penaltie		ch - M-1 day - t	
	pool United v	1	Sheffield Wednesday	2-4
2005/06			11.11.6.117	
S/F Barnsle S/F Swans	ey \	1	Huddersfield Town Brentford	0-1, 3-1
F Swans	ea City			2-2
	4-3 on penalties			
2006/07				
S/F Yeovil			Nottingham Forest	0-2, 5-2
			Blackpool Blackpool	1-2, 1-3
	iown v	/	віяскроої	0-2
2007/08 S/F Southe	end United v		Departure Deven	0.015
S/F Leeds			Doncaster Rovers Carlisle United	0-0, 1-5
			Leeds United	1-0
2008/09				
5/F Scunth	norpe United v		MK Dons	1-1, 0-0
Scunthorpe willwa	on 7-6 on penaltie		Landa Haikad	1011
F Millwa			Leeds United Scunthorpe United	1-0, 1-1 2-3
2000/20				
<b>2009/10</b> S/F Swindo	on Town v	,	Charlton Athletic	2-1, 1-2
Swindon won:	5-4 on penalties			
S/F Hudde			Millwall	0-0, 0-2
F Millwa	II v	1	Swindon Town	1-0
2010/11	urnamouth -	,	Worldon Fold 7	1122
	von 4-2 on penalt		Huddersfield Town	1-1, 3-3
S/F MK Do	ins v	1	Peterborough United	3-2, 0-2
F Hudde	ersfield Town v	1	Peterborough United	0-3
2011/12				
S/F Steven S/F MK Do	age v			0-0, 0-1
S/F MK Do	ersfield Town v		Huddersfield Town	0-2, 2-1
Huddersfield v	von 8-7 on penalt	ies	Shemeid Gritted	0-0
2012/13				
S/F Sheffie	ld United v	,	Yeovil Town	1-0, 0-2
S/F Swindo	on Town v	1	Brentford	1-1, 3-3
	5-4 on penalties		Vocal Tour	1.7
F Brentfe	V DIG	1	Yeovil Town	1-2
2013/14	assumb (Intent		Levine Oder	1110
C/C Date !	prougo libited V	1.	Leyton Urient	1-1, 1-2
S/F Peterb	n North End	,	Rotherham United	
S/F Peterb S/F Presto F Leyton	n North End v	1	Rotherham United Rotherham United	1-1, 1-3 2-2

### **Connections**

Blades Statistician **Andrew Kirkham** highlights a few links between today's teams...

Both United and Town have now been involved in eight play-off campaigns and both clubs have reached the final four times. The similarity ends there because Swindon have managed three victories in their four finals and United none.

Town's victories were in 1987 v Gillingham, 1990 v Sunderland and 1993 v Leicester City. Although Town were 'promoted' to the top flight in 1990 as a result of the play-off win over the Mackems, they were immediately relegated due to financial irregularities and Sunderland were promoted in their place. At the end of the 2012-13

At the end of the 2012-13 season both United and Swindon were involved in the League One play-offs and both lost in the semi-finals, United to Yeovil Town and Swindon to Brentford.

Although both clubs have been in the same number of play-off campaigns and finals the Robins have played 20 play-off games as opposed to the Blades 18 games. In 1987 the final was played over two legs and, after a losing 0-1 at Gillingham, Swindon won 2-1 at home. With the aggregate scores level the clubs met in a replay at Selhurst Park and Town won 2-0.

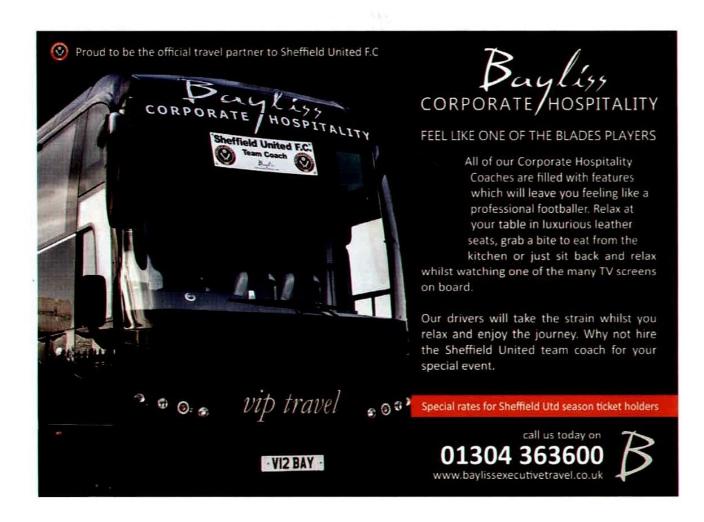
United and Swindon have met 30 times in league games with United winning just twice at the County Ground (1989-90, 1994-95) and Town's one win here was on 9th February 1970, their first league visit to the Lane.

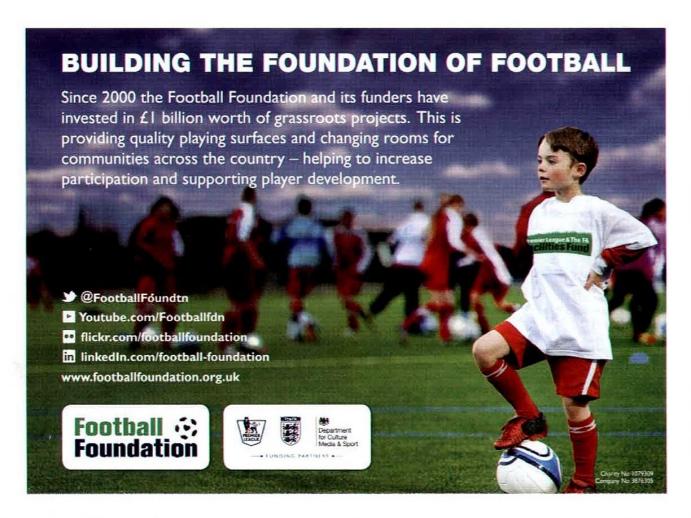
The Robins have triumphed in the two cup meetings, both in the FA Cup. In 1907-08, as a Southern League club, they beat the Blades 3-2 at Bramall Lane after a 0-0 draw at Swindon and in 1920-21, as members of the newly formed Division Three, they won 1-0 at the County Ground.

The one player in the present squads to play for both clubs is Jay McEveley. He joined Swindon on loan, from Barnsley, in March 2012 and made the move permanent in the summer.



Jamle Murphy scored both the goals in the January league victory over Swindon here at the Lane





### Continued success for Redtooth Academy



At Sunday's game against Chesterfield the Club celebrated the success of our youngsters at the Redtooth Academy at Shirecliffe.

A number of different groups of players were introduced to the crowd, all of whom received a tremendous reception during their pitch parade at the interval.

The first group to be introduced was our youngest players, our U8s, who went on to form the guard of honour for the players as the teams emerged from the tunnel (see page 36).

The youngsters who were in attendance were Charlie Booker, Bradley Bellamy, Charlie Outram, Oliver Bointon, Kieren Hawley, Benji Jenkinson, Fabian McLaren, Alex Appleyard, Alex Flanningon, Mason McQuillin, Isaac Gordon, Lewis Chapman, Max Eastwood, and Matthew Ireson.

The second group of players were those who have joined our various age groups from other clubs during the season. our new signings are... U9: Callum Bradbury (Bradford City Tigers); L110: Addison Sorby (Bramley Sunnyside), Tom Roberts (Eckington Boys): U11: Kian Dillon (Ecclesfield Red Rose), Elliott Jasper (Handsworth JFC), Louie Walker (Greenhill JFC), Antwoine Hackford (Sheffield Rangers); U12: Jay McGrath (Doncaster Rovers), Morgan Snow (Nottingham Forest); U13: Angelo Cappelo (Wingerworth); U14: Cameron Foulkes (Wisewood), Harrison Davison (N/A); U15: Sam Graham (Brunsmeer) and Revarnelle James (Mansfield Town).

At half-time players from across the Academy joined us and took the applause of the crowd as they completed their lap of honour, whilst two special groups of individuals were formally introduced to the supporters.

Firstly, the scholars who will join the Club in July on a two-year programme were announced, many of them have been with us through the Academy system, whilst two prospects joining from our links in Ireland.

We welcomed Alex Brown, Keegan Burton, Tom Charlesworth, Joseph Cummings, Jake Ford, Harvey Gilmour, Jordan Hallam, Stephen Mallon, Josh Perryman, Callum Semple, Jack Sharvin, Tyler Smith.

Finally, our six first-years professionals were given a great reception, not to mention the two Academy graduates who featured against the Spireites, Louis Reed and Dominic Calvert-Lewin, who have both signed long-term deals with the Blades this season.

Joining Louis and Dominic are Jake

Eastwood, Kler Heh, Daniel Cockerline, Jake Wright, Ioan Evans and David Brooks.

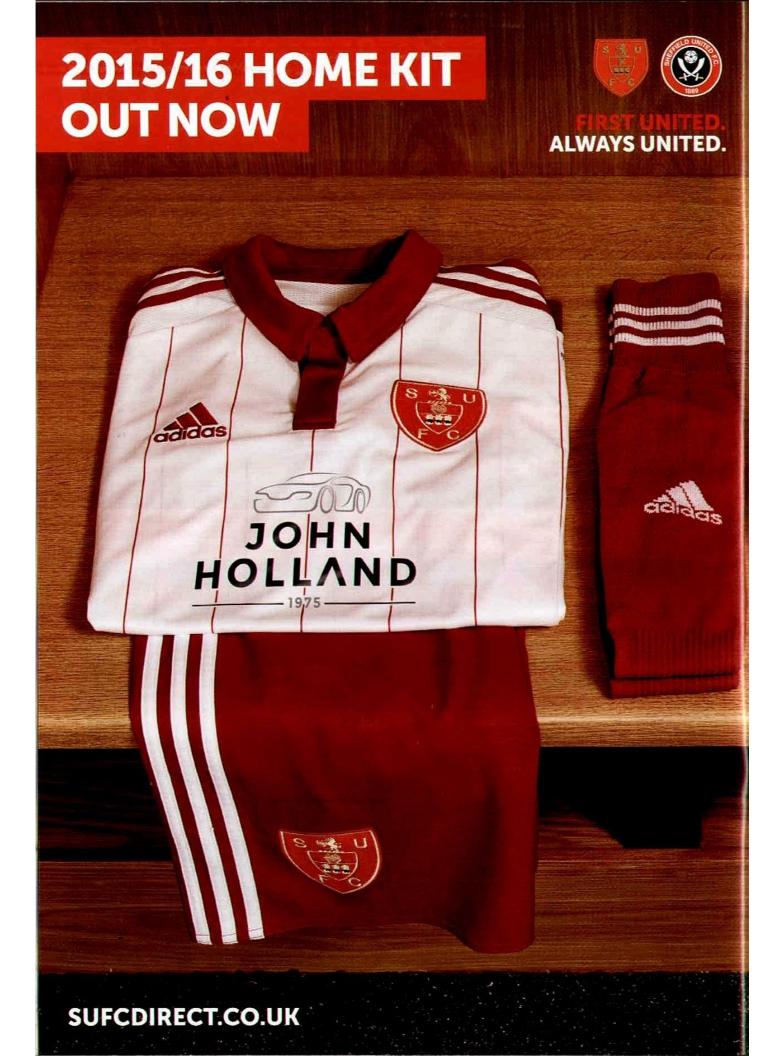
Commenting on another successful year for United's youth system, Academy Manager Nick Cox remarked: "It's been another productive 12 months. Louis Reed is the obvious success story, but we have also seen Dominic Calvert-Lewin and Ben Whiteman make their senior debuts during this campaign.

"In addition we have been well represented in the U21s who have had a very good season under Chris Morgan, whilst several lads have experienced first-team football whilst on-loan at local non-league outfits.

"The United Future team won their league in their first season and several players have worked closely with the youth team, whilst each age group has experienced representing the Club on tour.

"The pitch walk was another opportunity for all our boys to celebrate their own personal success this season, we are immensely proud of everything each individual and each team has achieved this season with that be in way of development or results on the field."





### Inside Lane

All the latest news from in and around S2

### Cup Final appearance for Blade Rachel

Congratulations to Blades fan Rachel Dixon, who will take her place alongside 63 other football fans to sing 'Abide With Me' prior to the FA Cup final between Aston Villa and Arsenal at Wembley later this month.

Rachel secured her place after impressing judges in the BBC Songs of Praise FA Cup fans choir competition to bag a once in a lifetime opportunity and she is certainly in tune with the competition.

And we aren't just talking the high and lows of following the Blades in the competition, Rachel was a student nurse in the Steel City in 1989 and as well as falling in love with United, she also cared for victims of the Hillsborough disaster.

"Although I was born and raised in Surrey, I was on duty in Sheffield and witnessed the tragic events of Hillsborough," said Rachel.

"Yet through the sorrow and pain over the years since that tragedy, the families and people of Liverpool have never given up and that inspires me.

"I have also gone through pain and ecstasy ever since becoming a Blade and we certainly have come close on more than one occasion in the competition.

"When Stefan Scougall scored our second goal in the semifinal with Hull City last year, I honestly thought our luck was about to change, but in the end we fell agonisingly short despite fighting until the last kick of the game.

"So I suppose this is my opportunity to have an amazing memory of FA Cup final day. I love to sing in choirs and to do it at Wembley on a day that captures the imagination of the whole country will stay with me forever!"

Songs of Praise, who teamed up

with BBC Sport as part of their FA Cup programming, asked for people to submit stories that reflect their personal memories and passion of the cup from every level of the game. The winning tales – selected by a panel of judges from the worlds of football, music and journalism – are a combination of amusing and moving stories which capture the spirit of the FA Cup and have a strong thread of family, community and tradition throughout.

Over 1,300 people applied to take part in the unique experience to sing 'Abide With Me', which has become a constant fixture since it was first sung at the FA Cup Final in 1927. 64 were chosen.

All the winners will also meet each other for the first time at Wembley the day before the final, where they will practice singing together.

Rachel, pictured in the first Blades shirt she bought, adds: "The spirit of the FA Cup for me is about never giving up! Look how close we came to reaching the final last season when the odds were firmly stacked against us in each round."



### People. Park. United.

Nearby is a park like no other in the country.

Heeley Millennium Park is being renamed Heeley People's Park because it belongs to the community – paid for and owned by the people who love it. It's run by local charity Heeley Development Trust and they need to raise £45,000 each year just to keep the park going and in community hands.

But the more they all give, the more they get. So they are aiming high and making plans – a café, toilets, new boulders, bike tracks and new playground equipment. They want you to be part of that, to get involved in the life and future of the park.

They are really excited about a brilliant kickstart to the project from United – we have picked them as one of our charities this year.

So will you join too?
You might have walked
through Taggy's Field
to get here today, met at the
Birdnest, taken the kids to the
playground. Whatever the park



means to you, your help will mean everything, and makes the difference between keeping it, improving it and losing it forever. Go to www.heeleypeoplespark.

org to join in – to give, and to get!

Text Park45 £3 to 70070



· 25/04/15 Sky Bet League One Attendance: 7,249 Referee: S. Stockbridge

### **Leyton Orient**

### 1 1

### **Sheffield** United

Baudry 71











### UTB Man of the Match Jamie Murphy

Involved in a lot of the Blades attacking play



Orient Stats	
Possession	47
Shots on target	5
Shots off target	4
Corners	13
Fouls	16
Blades Stats	
Possession	53
Shots on target	5
Shots off target	6
Corners	5
Fouls	7

### Blades line-up

Howard, Harris, Brayford, Basham, Murphy, Baxter, Coutts (Doyle 90), Freeman, Adams (Calvert-Lewin 66), S. Davies (Scougall 66), Holt. Unused: Alcock, Willis, B. Davies, Reed.

#### The Manager's view...

"We created chances, especially in the first-half, when we had some very good opportunities and it wasn't from scraps, for the first 25 minutes we were excellent and the only thing that was missing was a goal. In Orient's situation if we had scored early on we might have gone on and won comfortably, you don't get chances like Jason Holt had and he knows he should be scoring more often than not."

### The turning point

8mins: Had Jason Holt scored when in the clear then the outcome in the capital could have been very different given Orient's precarious position, but O's goalkeeper Alex Cisak denied the in-form Scotsman, who will know he should have scored.

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Ski & Sport

Jake Gormley



#### RYAN FLYNN

HOMEKIT

Hayden Green

Tom Morgan Martyn Jones

AWAY KIT

Rob Jones

AWAY KIT



### MICHAEL

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Harthill Blades

**MAGGIE MAY'S** 



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### 50 Sheffield's Red and White

To discuss how you could benefit from our commercial opportunities to develop your business, please contact Paul Reeves (Head of Commercial) on 07983 425 066 or email paul.reeves@sufc.co.uk

### Commercial Notes

Welcome to tonight's vitalfixture against Swindon Town. As ever we extend that welcome to Mark Cooper and his team along with the visiting directors, supporters and guests who have made the long journey to be with us today.

As always a very special thank you goes to today's match day sponsors for their continued support:



Our programme sponsor today is **Jungle Gym**,

the experts in adventurous, stimulating and fun playground equipment for kids. Having produced outdoor playground equipment for almost two decades, they offer an extensive range of playtowers, playsets, playhouses, accessories and more. Jungle Gym is recognised as Europe's leading designer of safe residential playground equipment and their products encourage children to climb, swing and slide on safe play sets in secure surroundings. Jungle Gym offers a variety of outdoor playgrounds that stimulate a diverse range of physical and mental capabilities. From tactical and problem-solving challenges to balance and agility exercise, Jungle Gym playgrounds combine fun playtime with educational experience.



Cellings and Partitions Specialists Limited

Our matchball Sponsor tonight is 1st Clas Ceiling & Partition Specialists, They specialise in metal fixed ceilings, metal fixed feature works, burgess/metal pan ceilings, grid ceilings, metal stud partitions, dry lining and plastering. Whilst they are based in South Yorkshire, they are able to operate virtually anywhere and offer a large and extensive range of works from small restaurants and bank work to multiplex cinemas.

Finally, on behalf of all the commercial team, I'd like to thank all our corporate clients and guests for their support over the last 12 months – it is truly appreciated and we hope to see everyone back at Bramall Lane in August.

**Paul Reeves** 

### LATEST SPONSOR PRESENTATIONS



Derbyshire Hose & Fittings was the main match Sponsors against Chesterfield last weekend and John Buzzeo is pictured receiving a signed, framed shirt from Jay McEveley and man of the match John Brayford.



Arnold Laver was the matchball sponsors against Chesterfield and David Oldfield is pictured receiving the signed matchball from Jay and Bray.



Sytner BMW was the programme sponsor for the final home game of the regular season and Nigel Marsh is pictured receiving a signed, framed programme from Jay and John.

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### **David Frain**

UTB regularly bumps into local lads who lived the dream and pulled on the red and white stripes – David Frain was one of those and we had a chat with him following the last home game of the regular season.

He chalked up 50 appearances in the mid-1980s before moving on to Rochdale, Stockport County, where he played the majority of his league football, ahead of representing a number of the local teams on the non-league circuit.

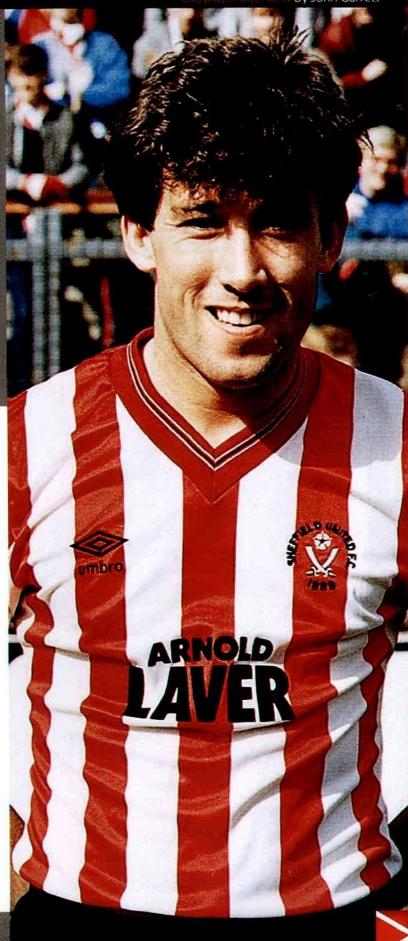
An attacking midfielder David credits Derek Dooley and Danny Bergara with helping his career progress, as he says in his own words in this article...

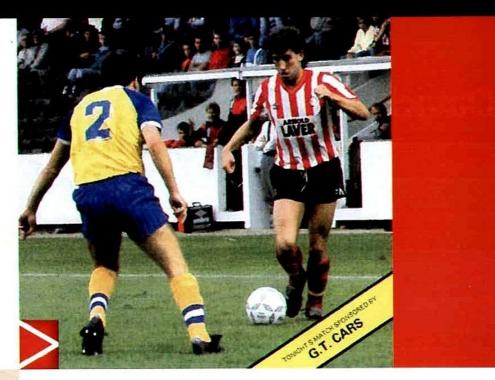
"I was born in Heeley to a family of Blades and grew up very much as one of them. Bramall Lane was like a second home as a kid. I played football at school and also turned out on a Saturday for Dronfield, which was a decent standard and, as a result, I had a fair few clubs keeping an eye on me. I signed schoolboy for Nottingham Forest when Brian Clough was manager, but I was released after two years, it was just one of those things.

Now, the Sheffield United connection and how it worked. I used to play on a Sunday for Rowlinson, who had a pretty good side back then. The manager was Derek Dooley and I got on with him really well. When he knew I was available he managed to organise a six-week trial when Ian Porterfield was the manager, Derek was a big influence in my life, along with Danny Bergara, but more on Danny later.

"I did well enough during my trial to be offered a year. What a dream come true... Sunday football to a chance with the team I loved back then and still do. One of the other lads told me to ask for a signing on fee, I was working as an apprentice electrician at the time and he said to tell the manager that it would give me added security as I would be quitting a steady job.

"To be honest, I would have played for United for nothing, I was that excited. He told me to ask for





...on the front cover of the programme

five grand – I had never even thought of that sort of money, back in 1985 that was a colossal amount and it scared me to death.

"Ian Porterfield offered me £150 per week for a year, I was on £112 in my job, so that was a massive increase over what I was on, but that was immaterial. I bottled it, when I asked for a signing on fee the manager said that he would have to ask the Chairman, who at that time was Reg Brealey, he was away in India. When he asked how much I just said £500, he just said that he didn't think that would be a problem!

"That came back to bite me, at the end of my first 12 months I got another two years and a pay increase, I was also due another signing on fee and it could not be less than my last one, you got it, another £500. I signed away ten grand in a year!

"I scored on my debut v Sunderland, there I was playing in the same team as Keith Edwards, Paul Stancliffe, Colin Morris – my heroes. Incidentally, how much would Keith be worth today? A player with that God given talent should never have to work again.

"Actually, playing for the Club didn't worry me, it was the Sheffield thing that weighed heavily on your shoulders. If you had a bad game family members told you, mates told you, you got it in the pub on a Sunday, on the bus, or shopping in town. It is never the Sheffield way to hold back on opinion is it?

"I would have given an arm to play for the Blades, but I didn't really begin to develop as a player until I went to Rochdale.

"I played in Dave Bassett's first game as manager and I thought I did quite well. I will always like and respect him, he took me on one side and told me that he didn't think that my style of play would fit — fair enough. He also said that he could fit me up with a club in Sweden, but I didn't want to go abroad. It was then that Danny Bergara changed my life by taking me to Rochdale.

"What a man. The thing with Danny was that he was so far ahead of his time as a coach, he also could do everything he preached and more. One of his party pieces was to get a ten pence piece out of his pocket, flick it from his toe to his shoulder, down his arm, the back of his neck etc faultlessly before finally flicking it back into his pocket. Brilliant.

"Now it became a bit more like a normal job. I played for the Dale, enjoyed it and then went home. "Family and friends weren't watching and offering their critique, I found it more enjoyable, a lot easier and, as a result swept the board at the Player of the Year awards.

"Had it not been for a bit of a language barrier at times I genuinely think Danny could have been a top, top coach.

"I followed Danny to Stockport County and, again, we had a fantastic time there. In fact, one of the best in their history. Danny is still celebrated there and quite right too. I captained the Hatters at Wembley twice out of four appearances, in fact I was skipper at Edgeley Park for four of the years that I played there.

"I ended up at Stockport by

"I would have played for United for nothing, I was that excited. He told me to ask for five grand – I had never even thought of that sort of money, back in 1985 that was a colossal amount and it scared me to death."

accident, I was originally off to play for Colin Morris at Scarborough before I bumped into Brendan Elwood in Sheffield, he was the Stockport Chairman and he talked me into the move, what a great stroke of luck that was!

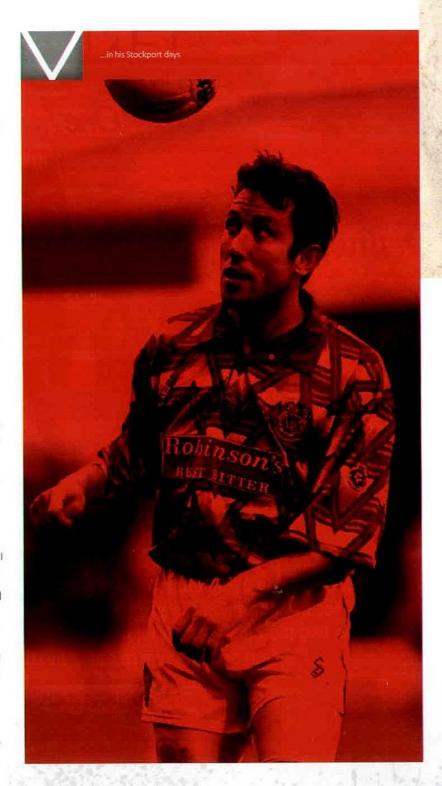
"I never fell out with Danny, but we had a bit of a stand off on a few issues and I was allowed to go out on loan for a spell to Mansfield Town. I did well there and we even beat Leeds United at Elland Road in one of the cups. Danny got a bit awkward about the fee and wanted my signing on fee back as a part of it, a deal couldn't be reached and I returned, it was just one of those things, I never had hard feelings.

"Danny had been good to me and I always considered myself as fortunate to have had a chance in the first place.

"After a short spell in Hong Kong I came home and played non-league... Stalybridge Celtic, Alfreton etc before packing in. I now work as an electrician for Morrison's and am based in Leeds most of the time, as a result I don't get to as many games as I would like, but I am there when I can.

"Before the game against Chesterfield I went in the pub for a few beers and I love listening to the opinions on the game, players and the Club, in fact I join in. The best part of all that is that I got to do it for real – thanks to Derek Dooley I played for Sheffield United.

"I had the chance that many will only ever dream of, I pulled on the shirt, I played for the Club that I love, and for that I count myself very fortunate."





### Inside Lane

All the latest news from in and around S2

### Shred shirt auction gives BHF £5,000 boost

The auctioning of match-worn shirts in memory of Blades fan David 'Shred' Spencer has raised more than £5,000 for the British Heart Foundation (BHF).

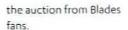
Following the Blades' league game against Port Vale, where fans saw next season's new strip for the first time, the players' shirts were put up for auction on eBay. The unique shirts featured embroidery with the date of the game, name of opponent and BHF logo just above the Club

badge.

The fundraising initiative raised £5,500 in total with all proceeds going to the BHF, the charity that Shred's family support.

Prior to kick-off at the last home league game against Chesterfield, a cheque was presented on behalf of the Club to Carl Jones of the BHF by Co-Chairman Kevin McCabe, Operations Director Dave McCarthy and Training and Development Manager Sue Beeley.

Dave McCarthy said: "We were amazed with the response to



"The match-worn shirts are truly unique and the bidding on them was very competitive. We are delighted that their sale has raised more than £5,000 for a cause that is very close to the Club's heart."

Pictured from left are... Sue Beeley, Sheffield United Training and Development Manager, Kevin McCabe, Co-Chairman, Carl Jones of the BHF, and Operations Director Dave McCarthy. \* John Brayford's shirt was one of the top sellers in the auction and the defender was more than happy to personally hand over his shirt. Here he is presenting to Danny Stone after Danny's dad Paul was the winning bidder.



Co-chairman visits St Wilfs

Kevin McCabe made an impromptu visit to St Wilfrid's Centre last week to meet Director Kevin Bradley and some of the centre's service users.

Vice-presidents Chris Steer and lan Cameron also went along as United's support for the centre remains strong.

St Wilfrid's Centre, located on Queens Road, supports homeless, vulnerable and socially excluded adults in Sheffield, providing essential welfare services including food and clothing, together with personal development activities to develop life, social and employability skills for up to 60 clients every weekday.

### Fans know best!

The inaugural SUFC Prediction League goes to you, the fans!

It was an action-packed last day in Sky Bet League One on Sunday, but Frecheville Blade Shaun Brunt held his nerve to preserve the supporters three point advantage going into the final round of fixtures.

Mick Rooker tried in vain for the

staff who finished second, whilst the less said about the players' effort the better, they get the wooden spoon, finishing 24 points behind the winners and 21 adrift of the runners-up.

Thanks to everyone who has taken part this season and congratulations again to fans!

Final scores, players 63, staff 81, fans 84.

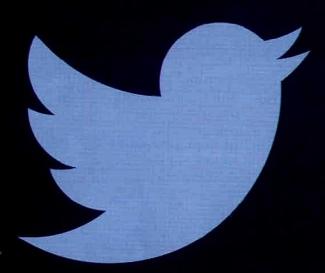
### Oughtibridge win Lane finale

In Oughtibridge's first ever final at Bramall Lane, a crowd of over 600 saw them stop the new League Champions Stannington Village completing a League and Cup double by beating them 2-0.

And it was a former Stannington player that did the damage, with man of the match Tom Fletcher scoring both goals in the first half.





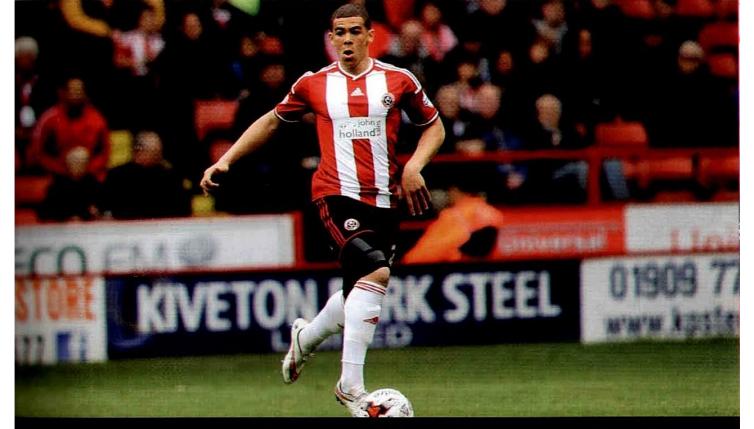


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### Promotion would cap 'unbelievable season' for Che

Che Adams hopes to complete an unbelievable season with an appearance at Wembley in the Sky Bet League One play-off final later this month.

The teenager, who started the season playing in non-league with Ilkeston, joined the Blades on a two-year deal for an undisclosed fee in November and hasn't looked back since, but admits he still has to pinch himself to confirm how far he has come in such a short space of time.

But he says this campaign will only feel like a successful one if the Blades can regain Championship status at the national stadium and he hopes to play his part too.

Reflecting back on what has been a rollercoaster last six months or so, Che remarked: "It has been an unbelievable season for me personally but for the Club there is so much more at stake and I want to be a part of that.

"Every day I reflect on how far I have come, it is a totally different world from Ilkeston, but I have just kept my head down, kept working hard in training and playing regularly for the U21s has also aided my development.

"I have moved away from home, out of my comfort zone, but when I get on the pitch I just try and keep doing the right things that got me this move in the first place.

"It would be easy to overcomplicate things because I am playing in front of thousands, instead of a few hundred, but for me I just try and retain my focus and play to my strengths.

"The Gaffer and his staff have

been fantastic with me and the other young lads since day one. At the start of the season I would never have believed that I would have played against Southampton and scored twice in front of the Kop at Bramall Lane against Spurs, it really has been special but now we have to finish off the job and win promotion."

Looking ahead to the prize that awaits the winners of tonight's semi-final clash, the 18-year-old added:

"Swindon are a good side, but so are we and we did very well to beat them at the Lane in January, I started that game and remember it well, Jamie Murphy scored two excellent goals and another two in this game would put us in the driving seat.

"In a two-legged tie, the first one can sometimes be a nervy encounter, we know Swindon will try and control the pace of the game by keeping the ball, but hopefully we can get a goal or two to give us something to defend in Monday's second leg."

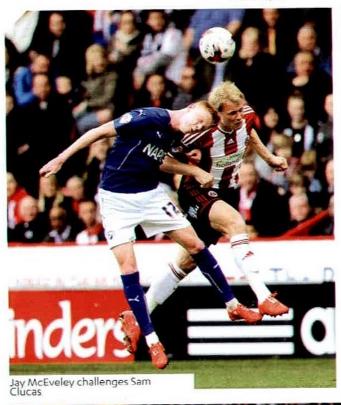


. 03/05/15 Sky Bet League One Attendance: 26,078 Referee: K. Wright

### Sheffield United 1 1 Chesterfield

McNulty 34











### UTB Man of the Match John Brayford

Marshalled the defence well and got forward too



# Blades Stats Possession 47 Shots on target 3 Shots off target 3 Corners 3 Fouls 11 Chesterfield Stats Possession 53 Shots on target 3 Shots off target 7 Corners 4 Fouls 15

### Blades line-up

Howard, Harris, Brayford, Doyle (Calvert-Lewin 59), Scougall (Flynn 69), Baxter, McNulty, McEveley, Reed (S. Davies 83), Freeman, Adams. Unused: Alcock, Willis, B. Davies, Holt.

#### The Manager's view...

"Chesterfield showed why they have finished in the top six, but we acquitted ourselves well despite making five changes and deservedly got something from the game to ensure we finished fifth. We started well and the goal gave us a boost before half-time, but we were disappointed we conceded so early in the second-half."

### The turning point

34mins: With United needing only a point to seal fifth place in the final reckoning, Marc McNulty's excellently taken goal gave some breathing space after an open first-half against the Spireites, the striker latched on to John Brayford attempted effort, before rifling the ball past Tommy Lee.



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# SEASON STATS 2014/15



Place of birth, Date of birth	Apps	Go	sals	Apps		03/5	Apps	- 60	als	Amon R	arrest 3	etali
Adams, Che Leicester, 13/7/96	5	(5)			(2)	2	5	(7)	2	-	1	-
Alcock, Craig Truro, 8/12/87	17	(7)	-	7			24	(7)		3	2	
Basham, Chris Peterborough, 30/5/88	35	(2)	-	11			46	(2)		6	11	1
Baxter, Jose Liverpool, 7/2/92	28	(6)	10	9	(5)	3	73	(20)	21	6	6	1
Brayford, John Stoke-on-Trent, 29/12/87	22	-	1				42	-	3	2	2	-
Calvert-Lewin, Dominic Sheffield, 16/3/97	-	(2)						(2)		-	-	
Campbell-Ryce, Jamal Lambeth, 6/4/83	74	(5)	4	10	(3)	3	24	(8)	7	4	3	
Collins, Neill Troon, 2/9/83	8		1	3	(1)		179	(3)	10			
Coutts, Paul Aberdeen, 22/2/88	19	(1)		-	-		19	(1)		4	3	
Cuvelier, Florent Anderlecht, Bel 12/9/92	1	(2)		1	(1)		8	(5)		1	1	
Davies, Ben Birmingham, 27/5/81	11	(3)	4	5			24	(15)	7	2	2	
Davies, Steven (L) Liverpool, 29/12/87	10	(3)	2			-	10	(3)	2	1	2	
De Girolamo, Diego Chesterfield, 5/10/95			-	3	(3)	1	3	(6)	1	-		
Dimalo, Connor Chesterfield, 28/1/96		-	-	1			3	(1)		-		-
Done, Matt Oswestry, 22/7/88	12	(3)	7				12	(3)	7	3	-	
Doyle, Michael Dublin, 8/8/61	35	(8)	1	12	(1)	-	216	(14)	10	5	g	•
Flynn, Ryan Edinburgh, 4/9/88	18	(14)	1	11		2	127	(37)	16	3	3	
Freeman, Kieron Arnold, 21/3/92	13	(6)	1		-	-	23	(8)	1	2	1	
Harris, Bob Glasgow, 28/8/87	35	(5)	3	14	(1)		62	(9)	3	10	9	-
Higdon, Michael Liverpool, 2/9/83	9	(4)	2	3	(4)	3	12	(8)	5	2	1	1
Holt, Jason (L) 19/2/93, Edinburgh	п	(5)	5	-	-	-	11	(5)	5	1	3	-
Howard, Mark Southwark, 71/9/86	32		-	13			86		-	7	1	-
Kennedy, Terry Barrsley, 14/11/94	10	(1)		2		-	16	(5)		1	3	-
McEveley, Jay Liverpool, 11/2/85	31	(3)	1	9	(1)		40	(4)	ī	*	٥	
McGahey, Harrison Preston, 26/9/95	11	(4)		6	(1)		17	(5)		-	1	-
McGinn, Stephen Glasgow, 2/12/88			-	4	-		32	(10)			-	-
McNulty, Marc Edinburgh, 14/9/92	11	(20)	9	8	(3)	4	19	(23)	13	3	3	-
Murphy, Jamie Glasgow, 28/8/89	41	(2)	11	9	(4)	1	101	(18)	21	15	3	
Reed, Louis Barnsley, 25/7/97	10	(9)		10	(3)	-	20	(13)	-	8	3	
Scougall, Stefan Edinburgh, 7/12/92	20	(5)	7	7	(2)	-	44	(10)	4	1	3	-
Turner, lain Stirling, 26/1/84	11			2		-	13			-		
Wallace, James Fazakerley, 19/12/91	7	(3)	-	1	(2)		8	(5)	-		1	
Wallace, Kieran Nottingham, 26/01/95	2	(2)			(2)		2	(4)	-			
Whiteman, Ben Rochdale, 17/6/96					(1)	-	-	(1)	-			
Willis, George Sheffield, 30/7/95						-	-		-	-		-
Also played							C	thers		3		-
Butler, Andy Doncaster, 4/11/83				1		1	1		1	-		-
McCarthy, Paddy I. Dublin, 31/5/83	10	(1)	1		-		10	(1)	1	-	1	1
O'Grady, Chris L Nottingham, 25/1/86	4	-	1	-	-	-	4		. 1			
Porter, Chris Wigan, 12/12/83		(1)	-	3	(1)		69	(40)	23	1.		

		P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1	Bristol City	46	16	5	2	48	17	13	7	3	48	21	+58	99	
2	Milton Keynes Dons	46	16	3	4	60	19	11	7	5	41	25	+57	91	
3	Preston North End	46	13	9	1	43	21	12	5	6	36	19	+39	89	
4	Swindon	46	12	5	6	38	28	11	5	7	38	29	+19	79	
5	Sheff Utd	46	10	7	6	35	24	9	7	7	31	29	+13	71	
6	Chesterfield FC	46	12	4	7	42	26	7	8	8	25	29	+13	67	
7	Bradford	46	8	6	9	26	33	9	8	6	29	22	0	55	
8	Rochdale	46	33	3	9	36	29	8	3	12	35	37	+6	63	
9	Peterborough	46	10	5	8	27	26	8	4	11	26	30	-3	63	
10	Fleetwood Town	46	8	9	6	78	27	9	3	11	21	25	-3	63	
n	Barnsley	46	11	5	7	41	29	6	6	11	21	37	+1	62	
12	Cillingham	46	11	6	6	37	29	5	8	10	28	37	-1	62	
13	Doncaster	46	7	6	10	24	29	9	7	7	34	33	-4	63	
14	Walsall	46	8	8	7	28	24	ó	9	8	22	30	-4	59	
15	Oldham	46	5	8	7	32	34	6	7	10	22	33	-13	57	
16	Scunthorpe	45	9	6	8	27	28	5	8	10	35	47	-13	56	
17	Coventry	46	6	9	8	25	33	7	7	9	24	27	-11	55	
18	Port Vale	46	8	5	10	31	31	7	4	12	24	34	-10	54	
19	Colchester	46	7	4	12	30	35	7	6	10	28	41	-19	52	
20	Crewe	46	8	7	8	21	28	6	3	14	22	47	-30	52	
21	Notts County	46	5	6	12	24	33	7	8	8	21	30	-18	50	
22	Crawley Town	46	9	6	8	30	33	4	5	14	23	46	-26	50	
23	Leyton Orient	45	5	6	12	30	34	7	7	9	29	35	-10	49	
24	Yeovil	46	5	7	11	17	33	.5	3	15	19	42	-39	40	

20 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	Away Fans at Lane	Blades (Away)	Round Trip (miles)
Barnsley	2961	5322	34
Bradford City	2457	1997	90
Bristol City	655	752	356
Chesterfield	3397	1957	20
Colchester	148	505	366
Coventry	942	931	190
Crawley	155	983	408
Crewe	289	1549	120
Doncaster	1439	4269	44
Fleetwood	255	1285	194
Cillingham	340	781	400
Leyton Orient	599	1338	330
MK Dons	768	1451	230
Notts County	1111	2936	80
Oldham	1234	1862	84
Peterborough	417	1062	190
Port Vale	616	2594	98
Preston	1599	1817	152
Rochdale	791	1677	98
Scunthorpe	745	2106	89
Świndon	1071	873	332
Walsall	462	665	142
Yeovil	155	536	470
Course Can			
Mansfield Town	1250		
West Ham		1385	340
Leyton Orient		715	330
MK Dons		1428	230
Southampton	4037	1 -	
Tottenham	5486	3993	320
	4000	Acres 1	
Hartlepool		361	218
Walsall		342	142
<b>A</b>			
Crewe	-	930	120
Crewe (Replay)	200	-	-
Plymouth Argyle	638	-	-
QPR		2735	318
Preston	1112	2819	152
Total Mileage			6647

		Our	League re	cord		
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	2315	1230	589	496	4287	2559
Away	2315	619	564	1132	2786	4075
Total	4630	1849	1153	1628	7073	6634
The second			<b>Goal Times</b>	No. of Concession, Name of Street, or other Designation of Concession, Name of Street, or other Designation of Concession, Name of Street, Original Property and Concession, Original Property and Concession, Name of Street, Original Property and Concession, Name of Street, Original Property and Concession, Original Property and Conce		
	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
For	6	7	10	14	18	32
Against	3	9	12	11	14	16
For ET	-	4				
Acount ET						

## **BLADES** STATS

GAME BY GAME - 2014/15

SKY BET LEAGUE 1

at 9 Aug Ved 13 Aug	Bristol City	1-2	19	19,889	Howard	Davies	Alcock	McCahev	Hams	Reed	Basham	Scougal
CHICAGO TO THE STATE OF THE STA	Dilistor City								A 1231 3 A.*	1.000	Christian Carrier	OCCUPATION.
	Mansfield (CCRI)	2-1	-	7,929	Howard	Davies	Collins	Butler 1	Harris	Dovle	McCinn	Baxter
		0-1	22	2,279	Howard	Davies	Alcock	McGahev	Hams	Reed	Basham 0	Scougali
et 16 Aug	Coventry				Howard	Alcock	Collins	McCahey	McEveley	Doyle	Basham	Davies 1
ie 19 Aug	Peterborough	2-1	18	6,578		Alcock	Colles	McCahey	McEveley	Covle	Rasham 8	Davies
at 23 Aug	Crawley	1-0	12	18,178	Howard		Collins	McGahey	Hanis	Dovle	Basham	Davies
ue 26 Aug	West Ham (CCR2)	.1-1		28,930	Howard	Alcock			McEveley	Davie	Basham	Campbell-Ry
at 30 Aug	Preston	1-1	12	11,058	Howard	Davies	Colins	McGahey		Doyle	Basham	Davies
at 13 Sep	Rochdale	1-0	9	19,122	Howard	Alcock	Colles	McCahey	McEveley			Davies 2
ue 16 Sep	Colchester	3-2	6	3,084	Howard =	Altock	Colles	McCahey	McEveley	Harris	Doyle	Davies 1
at 20 Sep	Swindon	2-5	10	7,536	Howard	Alcock	Collins	McGahey	McEveley	Doyle	Basham	Carrie Control
ue 23 Sep	Leyton Orient (CCR3)	1-0	4	3,223	Howard	Akock	Colins	McGahey	Harris	Walke	McGinn	Reed
at 27 Sep	Gillingham	2-1	7	18,487	Howard	Alcock	Colins	McGahey	McEveley	Dayle	Wallace	Scougal
at 4 Oct	Chesterfield	2-3	n	9,723	Howard	Alcock	Collins 1	McCarthy	McEveley	Doyle	Wallace	Scougal
ue 7 Oct	Hartlepool (JPTZ)	2-1	-	1,856	Turner	Daves	Basham	McGahey	Harns	Reed	McGinn	Baxter 1
at 11 Oct	Leyton Orient	2-2	10	19,179	Howard	Alcock -	McEveley	McCarthy 1	Harris	Doyc	Wallace	Scougall
at 18 Oct	Bradford .	2-0	7	14,784	Howard	Alcock	McEveley	McCarthy	Harris 1	Doyle	Bahan II	Scougal
ue 21 Oct	Yeovil	2-0	6	19,353	Howard	Alcock	Basham	McCahey	Harris	Doyle	Reed	Scougal
at 25 Oct	Crewe	1-0	5	5,699	Howard	Aleeck	Basham	McCarthy	Harris	Doyle	Wallace 8	Scougall 1
ue 28 Oct	MK Dons (CCR4)	2-1		8,520	Howard	Alcock	McCahev	McEveley	Harns	Doyle	Reed	Scouga
at 1 Nov	Barnsley	0-1	8	24,495	Howard	Alcock	McEveley	McCarthy	Harris	Doye	Wallace	5cougs)
at 8 Nov	Crewe (FACT)	0-0	1-	3,222	Howard	Alcock	McEveley	Basham	Harris	Doyle	Reed	Baxte:
Ved 12 Nov	Walsall (IPTNOF)	01	-	2327	Turner	Alcock	McCahey =	Basham	Hams 8	Dayle	Reed	McGmn
at 15 Nov	Doncaster	1-0	5	11,037	Howard	Alcock	McEveley	McCarthy 8	Harris	Walace	Basham III	Scougal
Tue 18 Nov	Crewe (FACIR)	2-0		5,987	Howard	Alcock	McEveley	Basham	Harris	Doyle	Reed	Scouge
	Oldham	1-1	5	19,767	Howard	Alcock	McEveley	McCarthy	Harris	Doyle =	Basham	Scougell
at 22 Nov		1-1	5	19,385	Howard	Basham	McEveley	McCarthy	Harris	Doyle	Baxter	Scougal
ri 28 Nov	Notts County					Hynn	McEveley	McCarthy	Harris	Doyle	Basham	Scougall
rue 2 Dec	MK Dons	0-1	5	17,030	Howard		McEveley	Basham	Harris	Doyle	Baxter 2P	Scougal
Sat 6 Dec	Plymouth (FAC2)	3-0	•	7,348	Howard	Flynn		McCarthy	Harris 1	Dovle	Baxter'	Walace
Sat 13 Dec	Fleetwood	1-1	- 5	4,269	Howard	Elyon	McEveley			Dovle	Reed	Cuvele:
Tue 16 Dec	Southampton (CCR		-	21,906	Howard	Flynn	McEveley	Basham	Harris		Baxter	Scougall
Sat 20 Dec	Walsall	1-1	5	20,209	Howard	Flynn	McEveley	Basham.	Harns	Doyle	Cuvelier	Scougal
Fri 26 Dec	Port Vale	1-2	6	8,524	Howard	McGatley	McEveley	Basham	Harris	Doyle		
Sun 4 Jan	QPR (FAC3)	3-0	-	12,972	Howard	Flynn	McEveley	Kennedy	Harrs	Doyle	Reed	Scougal
Sat 10 Jan	Preston	2-1	6	19,902	Howard	Flynn	McEveley	Kennedy	Hairs	Datyle	Scougall	Baxter
Sat 17 Jan	MK Dons	0-1	7	9,633	Howard	Alcock	McEveley	Kennedy	Harris	Dayle	Scougell	Baxter
Wed 21 Jan	Tottenham (CCSFI)	0-1		35,323	Howard	Flynn	McEveley	Basham	Harris	Doyle	Scougall	Reed
Sat 24 Jan	Preston (FAC4)	1-1	-	10,770	Howard	Davies	Kennedy 👢	Basham	McGahey	Alcock	Dimaio	Reed 9
Wed 28 Jan	Tottenham (CCSF2)	2-2	-	30,236	Howard	Hymn 8	McEveley	Basham	Harrs	Dayle	Scougali	Baser
Sat 31 Jan	Swindon	2-0	6	19,490	Turner	Brayford	Kennedy *	Basham	Freeman	Reed	K. Wallace	Coutts
Tue 3 Feb	Preston (FAC4R)	1-3		13,161	Howard	Eynn	McEveley	Basham	Harris	Dove	Scougail	Baxter
Sat 7 Feb	Gillingham	0.2	7	5,704	Howard	Brayford	McEveley	Basham	Harris	Reed	Courts	Baxter
Tue 10 Feb	Colchester	4-1		17,162	Turner	Brayford	McEveley 1	Basham	Harris	Doyle	Courts	Baxter 2
Sat 14 Feb	Bristol City	3-1	_	11,767	Turner	Brayford	McEveley	Kennedy	Harris	Dayle :	Basham 👭	Courts
Tue 17 Feb	Notts County	2-1		6,893	Turner	Breyford	Kennedy	Basham	Harris	Doyle	Courts	Reed
Sat 21 Feb	Coventry	2-2	767	20,314	Turner	Brayford 3	McEveley	Basham	Harris	Doyle 1	Courts	Baxter
	Rochdale	-		3,574	Tumer	Brayford 1	McEveley	Kennedy	Hams	Doyle	Basham	Courts
Tue 24 Feb	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	2-1	-	3,320	Turner	Brayford	McEveley	Kennedy	Harris	Doyle	Basham	Coutts
Sat 28 Feb	Crawley	1-1				Brayford	McEveley	Basham	Harris	Doyle	Courts	Flynn
Tue 3 Mar	Peterborough	1-2		18,604	Turner		McEveley	Basham	Harris	Doyle	Courts	Baxter
Sat 7 Mar	Fleetwood	1-2		18,668	Turner	Brayford		Brayford	Harns	Doyle	Coutts	Reed
Sat 14 Mar	Scunthorpe	1-1		5,550	Turner	Freeman 1	McFveley			Doyle	Holt	Reed
Tue 17 Mar	Walsall	1-1	-	3,950	Howard	Freeman	McTueley	Brayford	Hams	Courts	Holt	Baxter 1
Sat 21 Mar	Port Vale	1-0		18,729	Howard	Freeman	Brayford	Basham	Harris		Holt 1	Baxter 2
Tue 24 Mar	Scunthorpe	4-0		19,442	Turner	Freeman 8	Braytord	Basham	Harris	Courts		
Sat 28 Mar	Crewe	1-2		19,672	Howard	Freeman	Braytord	Basham	Harris	Courts	Holt 1	8axter
Sat 4 Apr	Barnsley	2-0	5	17,532	Howard	Freemen	Brayford 8	Kennedy	Halls	Courts	Holt 1	Basham
Tue 7 Apr	Doncaster	3-2	5	20,487	Howard	Freeman	Braytord	Basham	Hams	C0.15	Holt	Baxter 1
Sat 11 Apr	Oldham	2-2	5	5,072	Howard	Blayford	Kennedy	Basham	Freeman	Daye	Holt 1	Reed
Tue 14 Apr	Yeovil	0-1	5	3,841	Howard	Flynn	Brayford	Basham	Freeman	Doyle	Holt	Scougal
rue maps			-		- Changes	Brayford	Kennedy	Basham	Freenisco	Doyle	Holt1	Baxter
Sat 18 Apr	Bradford	1-1	5	21,879	Howard	picholo	100111 0001					
processor and the second	Bradford Leyton Orient	1-1		7,249	Howard	freeman	Brayford	Basham	Harris 1	Couts 0	Holt	Baxter

<sup>\*</sup> Dwn Goo! \*\* Worl 5-4 on pens

Home games in **bold**. Player's name in **bold** denotes number of goals scored. P - Penalty, Yellow and Red block colour denotes caution or sending off.

Key: Booked

Scorer bold1 Subs

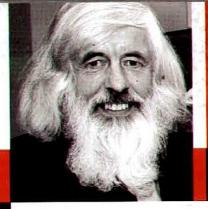
Numbers in brackets denotes player substituted

FACE FA Cup Capital One Curi CC JPT Johnstone's Paint Trophy

Competitions:



9	10	11	12	В	14	15	16	17	18	Referee
Flynn	Murphy 8	Higdon 1	Willis	Collins	Doyle	Baxter (7)	Campbell-Ryce (0)	McNulty (8)	Porter	P. Tierney
Camobell-Ryce		Porter	Willis	McGahey (10)	Basham	Flynn	Murphy (7)	Higdon (11)	De Girolamo	G. Eltringhan
			7400,0-72,0	200			Baxter (8)	Campbel-Ryce	McNulty	G. Scott
Flynn	Murphy	Higdon	Turner	Collins	McEveley (9)	Doyle (6)		The same of the sa		S Duncan
Murphy	Baxter 1	McNully	Turner	Harris	Butler	Reed	Flynn (10)	Campbel-Ryce	Higdon (III)	
Murphy	Baxter 1	Higdon	Turner	Harris (5)	McCinn	Reed (II)	Flynn (10)	Campbel-Ryce	McNuty	.A. D'Urso
Flynn	Baxter	McNuity	Tumer	McEveley (5)	Wallace (10)	Reed	Murphy	Camptell-Ryce (9)		Linington
Murphy	Baxter 1	Higdon	Turner	Harris (6)	Wallace (10)	Reed	McGinn.	Flynn	McNuity (II)	S. Stockhride
Campbell-Ryce 1	Baxter	Murphy	Turner	Harns	Wallace (7)	Reed	Flynn (II)	McNulty (8)	Higdon	G Sutton
Wallace	McNulty	Higdon	Tomer	McCinn	Reed (5)	Basharn	Flynn 1 (1)	Scougall (9)	Porter	O Langford
Scougall	Murphy	McNulty 1	Turner	Harris (3)	Reed (7)	McGinn	Flynn (9)	Higdon	Porter	C. Ward
Flynn 🗵	Murphy	Higdon 1	Turner	McEveley	Doyle (a)	Davies	Scougali	McNulty	Porter (II)	J Adcock
Davies	Murphy 1	McNulty	Turner	Harris (5)	Basham	Reed	Flynn (9)	Higdon 1 (11)	Porter	K Wright
Flynn	Murphy	Higden 🔳	Turner	Harris (5)	Basham	Reed	Davies	Campbell Ryce (9)	McNulty 1 (7)	M Brown
Campbell-Ryce 1	De Girolamo	Porter	Willis	Collins (II)	Doyle	Murphy (10)	McNelty (B)			C. Boyeson
Flynn	Merphy	Easter	Turner	McGahey	Basham (8)	Reed	Davies	Campbel Ryce (7)	McNulty 1 (11)	A. Haines
Campbel-Ayce	Murphy	Baxter	Tumer	McGahey (3)	Reed	Davies	Flynn (9)	Porter	McNulty1(8)	5 Hooper
Campbel-Ryce	Murphy 1	McNulty 1	Turner	Kennedy	McGinn	Davies	Flynn (9)	Baxter (8)	Higdon (11)	D. Webb
Campbel-Ryce	Merphy	Baxter	Turner	McGahey	McEveley (3)	Reed (8)	Davies	McNulty (II)		P. Bankes
Total Control of the				Kennedy	McGinn	Dimaio	Campbell-Hyce (9)		Higdon 2 (II)	R East
Davies	Murphy	McNulty Baxer	Turner	McGahey	Basham	Reed	Flynn (9)	McNulty (7)	Porter (11)	S Mathieso
Campbel Ryce	Murphy				The state of the s			De Girolamo (10		M. Russell
Campbel-Ryce	Flyon	Murphy	Turner	McCahey	Kennedy	McCinn	Scougall (8)	De Groano (10	FULCE	D. Coote
Flynn	De Girolamo	Porter	Howard	Kennedy	Scougall (8)	Campbel-Ryce (IC	Carried All Control	Do Carlone	*****	K HIII
Campbel Ryce	Murphy 1	Baxter	Tumer	McGahey (II)	Reed	Doyle (6)	Flynn (9)	De Girolamo	Adams	
Campbell Ryce	Flynn 2	Multiplay	Turner	McGahey	Kennedy	Khan,	Whiteman (8)	De Cirolamo (II)	THE PARTY OF THE P	C Eluxylia
Flynn II	Murphy	Easter	Turner	McGahey	Kennedy	Reed	Campbell-Ryce 1 ()		Adams	A. Davies
Campbell Ryce	Murphy 1	Higdon	Turner	McGahey	K. Wallace	Reed (7)	Flynn (6)	Adams	McNelby (11)	R. Madley
Campbel Ryce	Murphy	O'Grady	Tumer	McGahey (7)	Reed	Baxter (10)	Adams	McNuity (II)	Higdon	1. Colins
Campbell Ryce	Murphy	Higden	Tumer	McGahey	Kennedy	Reed (8)	Khan	Cuvelier (7)	McNulty 1 (9)	C. Sutton
OfCrady	Murphy	Higdon	Turner	McGahey	Basharri (7)	Adams	Campbell Ryce	Cuvelier (8)	McNulty (II)	A Marriner
Campbel-Ryce	Murphy	McNulty 1	Turner	McGahey	Kennedy	Adams (9)	K. Wallace (7)	Baxter (8)	Higdon	M. Oliver
Adams	Murphy	O'Grady 1	Turner	McCahey (2)	McCarthy	K. Wallace	Cuvelier (9)	McNulty (7)	Higdon	G. Harwaa
Campbell-Ryce 1	Murphy	O'Crady	Turner	McCarthy (7)	Reed (8)	Adams	McNulty (2)	Baxter	Higdon	5 Attwell
Campbell-Ryce 2	Baxter	McNulty 1	Turner	McGahey	Alcock	J. Wallace (10)	Dimaid	Murphy (11)	Higdon (6)	M. Clattenb
Campbell-Ryce 1	Murphy	McNulty 1	Turner	Alcock (9)	J. Wallace (7)	K. Walace (8)	Recd	Adams	Higdon	G Eltringha
Campbell-Ryce	Murphy	McNulty	Long	McGahey	K. Wallace	Dimaio	Adams (2)	Reed (7)	Higdon (TI)	L Mason
Campbel Fyce	Murphy	McNuby	Turner	Alcock	Kennedy	K. Wallace (7)	Adams	Baxter (II)	Higdon	N. Swarbrio
Bexter #	De Girolamo 1		Long	Harris (2)	Doyle	Scougal	Murphy (7)	Campbell-Ryce	McNelty (10)	K Stroud
Billion and a second			Turner	Alcock	Kennedy	K. Wallace	Adams 2 (9)	Reed (6)	Higdon (II)	M. Dean
Campbel-Ryce	Murphy	McNulty	11.000				Sautos (8)	Murphy 2 (11)	McNulty	D Coate
Davies	Adams	Higdon	Long	Alcock	Doyle	Scougall (7)		Cuvelier	De Grolamo (6)	
Campbol-Ryce	Murphy 1	McNulty	Turner	AKOK	Kennedy	Reed (7)	Davies			
Davies	Adams	Murphy	Turner	Freeman	Kennedy	Holt (8)	Doyle	Campbell-Ryce (9)		Williamso
Campbell-Ryce	Murphy	Done 1	Wils	Davies	Kennedy	Holt (9)	Reed	Adams (10)	McNulty (II)	C. Sarginso
Baxter	Murphy1	Done 2	Wils	Freeman (I4)	Holt (9)	Reed	Adams (11)	Campbel-Ryce	McNulty	C Salisbury
Holt #	Murphy1	Done1	Willis	Alcock (V)	Freeman (TI)	Davies	Adams	Campbell-Ryce	- McNulty (8)	D Bond
Сатрые-Русе	Murphy 1	Done	Willis	Kennedy (9)	Freeman (7)	Davies	Adams	Reed	McNuity (II)	D Drysdale
Flynn	Murphy	McNulty 1	Willis	Freeman (9)	Davies	Reed (8)	Adams	Calvert-Lewin	Done (II)	T Harringti
Flynn	Murphy	Done	Willis	Freeman (4)	Davies	Reed	Adams	Calvert-Lewin	McNulty 1 (9)	C Breakspi
Murphy	Done 1	Mchadity	Whis	Alcock	Freeman (10)	Reed (II)	Holt (7)	Adams	Calvert Lewin	O Langfon
Murphy	Done 1	5.Davies	Wills	Alcock	B.Davies	Reed	Wallaco (5)	Adams (8)	McNulty (TI)	D Deadre
Murphy	Done	S Davies	Wils	Alcock (2)	B.Davies	Holt (7)	Baxter	Adams	McNulty	D. Handley
Murphy	Done	Baxter 1	Turner	Alcock	B.Davies (7)	Flynn (10)	5.Davies (8)	Adams	McNulty	R. Lewis
Murphy	Done	5 Davies	Turner	Alcock (7)	B.Davies	Hynn (10)	Doyle (8)	Adams	McNulty	J Simpson
Murphy1	Flynn	S Davies	Wills	Alcock	B.Davies (10)	Done	Doyle (6)	Adams	McNulty (II)	M. Heywo
			- I was a second second second	Alcock	8.Davies (10)		Doyle (8)	Adams	McNulty	J Adrock
Murphy	Flyon	5 Davies	Turner				- DANGE AND			A Madley
Flynn	Murphy	S.Davies 1	Turner	McEveley Mendo(0)	Dayle (9)	Scougal (7)	Baxter	Done (II)	McNulty.	
Flynn	Done1	S.Davies 1	Turner	Alcock (9)	McEveley (5)	Doyle (8)	Reed	Adams	McNulty CO	5 Duncan
Hymn	Murphy 1	McNulty	Turner	Alcock	Scougali (8)	Coutts (3)	Baxter	Done	S.Davies (11)	R. Clark
Care	Done	S.Davies	Turner	Alcock (2)	McGahey	8.Davies	Baxter (8)	Murphy (II)	McNulty.	T. Robinson
Courts		1.72	Wills	Alcock (3)	Scougall	8.Davies	Adams (8)	Done	McNulty	G. Scott
Coutts	Murphy	S.Davies	49100	Proceeding (M)			The second secon			-
	Murphy Murphy	S Davies	Wills	Alcock	Doyle (6)	Scougall (II)	8 Davies	Caled (excil) (9	Reed	5. Stockbrid



### Stats all Folks!

Blades Statistician **Andrew Kirkham** delves into the archives to enlighten Unitedites with topical figures...

#### **TEST MATCHES**

The words 'Test Match' are not usually associated with football but in the 1890s they were.

From the formation of Division Two in 1892-93 to season 1897-98 all promotions and relegations between the two divisions were decided by end of season Test Matches or, as we now call them, play-offs.

#### 1892-93

The three top clubs in Division Two each played a single game against one of the three bottom clubs in Division One, the top club playing the bottom club and so on.

United, second in Division Two, played Accrington (not Stanley) and the 1-0 victory (Jack Drummond being our scorer) meant the Blades, along with Darwen, were the first clubs to be promoted.

The results were as below, with the first named club being from Division One.

22 Apr Manchester United 1 Birmingham City 1 (Victoria Ground, Stoke) 4,000 27 Apr Manchester United 5 Birmingham City 2 (Olive Grove, Sheffield) 6,000 22 Apr Accrington 0 Sheffield United 1 (Castle Ground, Nottingham) 5,000 22 Apr Notts County 2 Darwen 3 (Hyde Road, Manchester) 5,000 Birmingham City had finished top of Division Two but were not promoted!

#### 1893-94

The same format was used and involved four clubs from the previous season.

28 Apr Manchester United O Liverpool 2 (Ewood Park, Blackburn) 5.000 28 Apr Darwen 1 Birmingham City 3 (Victoria Ground, Stoke) 3.000 28 Apr Preston North End 4 Notts County 0 (Olive Grove, Sheffield) 8.000

#### 1894-95

27 Apr Liverpool O Bury 1 (Ewood Park, Blackburn) 5,000
27 Apr Derby County 2 Notts County 1 (Filbert Street, Leicester) 8,000
27 Apr Stoke City 3 Manchester United O (Athletic Ground, Port Vale) 10,000
This season saw Notts County's third failure and Manchester
United's second failure after one success.

#### 1895-96

The format was changed for the following three seasons. Each of the two top clubs in Division Two played each of the two bottom clubs in Division One on a home and away basis.

The top two clubs in the resulting mini league played in Division One, the bottom two in Division Two.

The mini league for 1896 (2 points for a win, 1 for, a draw, Liverpool being top of Division Two and West Brom bottom of Division One, the Division Two clubs in red) was:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Liverpool	4	2	1	1	6	2	5
West Bromwich Albion	4	2	1	1	9	4	5
Birmingham City	4	1	1	2	8	7	3
Manchester City	4	1	1	2	5	15	3

#### 1896-97

Notts County (top of Division Two) finished top of the minileague and were finally promoted. Sunderland (second from bottom of Division One) were second and retained their place. Burnley were relegated and Manchester United failed to be promoted.

#### 1897-98

This season saw the last of the Test Matches. With one game each to play the table stood as below.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Stoke	3	2	0	1	4	2	4
Burnley	3	2	0	1	5	3	4
Newcastle United	3	1	0	2	5	6	2
Blackburn Rovers	3	1	0	2	5	8	2

Burnley (top of Division Two) were to play Stoke (bottom of Division One). It is clear that a draw would mean they would both be in Division One the following season and draw they did! The reports of the 0-0 game highlight the lack of any shots on goal and the total lack of any entertainment. Newcastle won 4-1 but still finished third in the mini-league. Perhaps as a result of the 0-0 draw the Test Match system ended – until the play-offs were introduced in 1986-87.

In the end Newcastle United and Blackburn Rovers did not 'lose out'. Division One was expanded from 16 to 18 clubs and they were the two clubs voted in.



Jack Drummond...scorer the goal that secured United's promotion through the 'play-offs' is pictured front right on this Blades team picture from 1891-92





# **ULTIMATE WEEKEND**

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Crowning of the Premier League Champions Sunday 24th May

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### **Squad** lists



### Manager:

### **Nigel Clough**

- 1 Mark Howard
- 2 Craig Alcock
- 3 Bob Harris
- 4 James Wallace
- 5 John Brayford
- 6 Chris Basham
- 7 Ryan Flynn
- 8 Michael Doyle
- 9 Jamie Murphy
- 10 Stefan Scougall
- 11 Jose Baxter
- 12 Marc McNulty
- 13 George Willis
- 14 Matt Done
- 15 Neill Collins
- 16 Ben Davies
- 17 Harrison McGahey
- 18 Paul Coutts
- 19 Jay McEveley
- 20 Jamal Campbell-Ryce
- 21 Michael Higdon
- 22 Louis Reed
- 23 Diego De Girolamo
- 24 Iain Turner
- 26 Kieron Freeman
- 27 Terry Kennedy
- 28 Connor Dimaio
- 29 Che Adams
- 32 Steven Davies
- 33 Kieran Wallace
- 34 Florent Cuvelier
- 35 Jason Holt
- 36 Dominic Calvert-Lewin



#### Manager:

#### Mark Cooper

- Wes Foderingham
- 2 Nathan Thompson
- 3 Nathan Byrne
- 4 Massimo Luongo
- 5 Jack Stephens
- 6 Jordan Turnbull
- 7 Ben Gladwin
- 8 Yaser Kasim
- 9 Michael Smith
- 10 Andy Williams
- 14 John Swift
- 15 Harry Toffolo
- 16 Connor Waldon
- 18 George Barker
- 19 Louis Thompson
- 20 Jonathan Obika
- 21 Mathew Jones
- 22 Darren Ward
- 23 Jack Barthram
- 24 Jermaine Hylton
- 25 Tyrell Belford
- 26 Anton Rodgers
- 27 Josue Antonio
- 29 Raphael Branco
- 30 Harry Agombar
- 36 Samuel Ricketts
- 37 Cameron Belford

#### **Emergency Procedure**

In the event of any emergency you will hear a safety message over the PA system. Remain where you are and listen carefully to the announcement. Comply immediately if it affects your area. Stewards, Police Officers and Officials will direct you to safe areas, which may be through Exit Doors/Gates to the street, or onto the playing area. If you are disabled or feel unsafe in a large crowd, remain where you are until stewards assist you. Remain calm and do not move unless the announcement affects your area.



### Match Officials



Darren Bond



Martin Coy & Ross Joyce



Tony Harrington



**Scan here** from 45 minutes

before kick-off to view today's confirmed teams



Scan here 15 minutes after the final whistle to see an in-depth match report

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